

Thunder Bay Walleye Club

Newsletter

December, 2008

P.O. Box 812 Alpena, MI 49707

Officers		Board of Directors
President	Jim Leeseberg	Bill O'Neil
Vice President	Dave Birmingham	Richard Hubert
Finance/Recording Secretary	Dennis Burns	Eric MacKenzie
		Kevin Cosbitt

**** Club Activities ****

- ***Troy Walwood***

Along the way, he has refined his open water techniques and found things that work for him. Lucky for us, he is willing to share his thoughts, ideas and philosophies. One of his presentations deals with open water & structure trolling using leadcore. Leadcore is yet another technique we can add to our arsenal, yet not many of us do. From a quick straw poll of sorts, many in our club were interested about hearing more. For those in our club who use leadcore, please add your thoughts to Troy's to help everyone have a better understanding of this additional way to put fish in the boat. Troy is a great guy and also a good speaker - someone who truly is a good communicator.

Due to the travel requirements, we're going to have to have Troy here on a Friday night in Jan...so please pay attention to the January newsletter for the latest details. Personally, I'm really excited about this year as we have some new and some old friends of the club lined up to talk to us. Should be a great 1st quarter and this first session with Troy is one not to be missed.

- ***How About a Garage Sale? Anyone interested? Come to the meeting and learn more***

Would it make sense to have a "garage sale" or "tackle swap meet" some Sat in late Jan or Feb? If our group is interested, we could partner with the bass and Steelheaders for a fishing day at ACC. Have it open to the public, charge \$2 or something to get in, or join one of the clubs and get in free. We all could use it as a fundraiser. Bob is checking with the bass folks and will report at the meeting as their thoughts. If you have any thoughts on this matter, please speak up at the meeting. If you not able to be at the meeting, please feel free to contact Bob or Jim regarding your thoughts to the project.

- ***Ice Fishing Tournaments***

It is getting real close to ice fishing season and Dave Birmingham put together lists of various tournaments that would be of interest for club members.

- December 20, 2008 Above the 7 mile- Sponsor Norway Resort
- January 18, 2009 TBWC and Side Door Bait & Tackle Hubbard Lake
- January 24, 2009 Burton's Last Resort Long Lake
- February 14, 2009 Long Lake- River Center Extravaganza
- February 21, 2009 Grand Lake Association Tournament

- ***River Center- Sportsman's Island***

If you have not heard, there is a group of individuals spearheading a project aimed at Sportmans' Island and the hope to build an extravagant complex to provide numerous resources to the community. We will have a spokesperson from the group attend the December meeting to discuss all the details about the project and share their hope for what the club can provide for assistance. They are currently planning on fundraising event for February 14, 2009 with an ice fishing extravaganza tournament slated for Long Lake. They are requesting our assistance with the event.

**** Club News ****

- ***Big Bite Baits- Plastics of Every Flavor***

In talking with John Gilman, he shared that he is now the Michigan Representative and ProStaff for Big Bite Baits. He made a trip north a few weeks ago and checked in with our local fishing vendors and found that they were not interested in carrying the product; therefore, he was given an OK to work directly with our club and the Alpena Bass Club. He will be able to offer all products at cost for our clubs only. I will bring catalogues to share with all of us at the December meeting. I am also hoping that we can book him for an upcoming meeting to share any news on the product, his fishing season, and any new techniques to share with the group. It's not hard to listen to John for any length of time when talking about walleyes. If you have a specific tactic that you would like for John to address, we can request that he hit a particular area more so than general discussion. He is open to any venue, but I would like to book a time to make sure that he is available. I am waiting to hear back on what works for him and will report at the meeting.

- Denny sent this to me, and we thought that it was a suitable piece to put into the newsletter with the holidays upon us:

I know I needed this reminder since Sears isn't always my first choice. Amazing when you think of how long the war has lasted and they haven't withdrawn from their commitment. Could we each buy at least one thing at Sears this year? How does Sears treat its employees who are called up for military duty? By law, they are required to hold their jobs open and available, but nothing more. Usually, people take a big pay cut and lose benefits as a result of being called up. Sears is voluntarily paying the difference in salaries and maintaining all benefits, including medical insurance and bonus programs, for all called up reservist employees for up to two years. I submit that Sears is an exemplary corporate citizen and should be recognized for its contribution. I suggest we all shop at Sears, and be sure to find a manager to tell them why we are there so the company gets the positive reinforcement it well deserves.

Decided to check this before I sent it forward. So I sent the following e-mail to the Sears customer Service Department because I was skeptical:

I received this e-mail and I would like to know if it is true. If it is, the Internet may have just become one very good source of advertisement for your company. I know I would go out of my way to buy products from Sears instead of another store for a like item, even if it's cheaper at that store.

This is their answer to my e-mail:

Dear Customer:

Thank you for contacting Sears. The information is factual. We appreciate your positive feedback. Sears regards service to our country as one of greatest sacrifices our young men and women can make. We are happy to do our part to lessen the burden they bear at this time.

Bill Thorn

***Sears Customer Care
webcenter@sears.com***

Please pass this on to all your friends. Sears needs to be recognized for this outstanding contribution and we need to show them as Americans, we do appreciate what they are doing for our military!!!

- ***MWC Coming to Town- not for 2009***

Dave spoke to Christine Houghman who is in charge of setting the tournament schedule for the group and she reported that Thunder Bay would not be on the schedule for the 2009 season however, she would like to visit the club at a monthly meeting to discuss the opportunity in person. She has hopes that we could see a tournament during the 2010 tournament series.

- **Walleye Club jacket orders**

If you are interested in getting a Walleye Club jacket, please give Steve Hubert a call @ 379-4614, so he can make it worthwhile to put orders together. It is really not a cost saver to order one jacket at a time. If you plan on getting one, call ahead, so he can plan for orders. Steve will have hats, t-shirts etc. at the monthly meetings for you to purchase.

✓ *Now is the time to look out for that nice Christmas gift-
Thunder Bay Walleye Club jacket- to help Steve out when
calling for an order, please do so in time for the holiday rush.*

Upcoming Activities –

1. December Meeting: River Center Speaker, Tonya Byzewski
2. December 20, 2008- Ice fishing tournament above the 7 Mile- sponsor Norway Resort
3. January 18, 2009- Ice Fishing Tournament on Hubbard Lake—sponsor TBWC and Side Door Bait and Tackle
4. January 24, 2009- Ice Fishing Tournament on Long Lake—Sponsor Burton's Last Resort
5. February 14, 2009- River Center Ice Fishing Extravaganza on Long Lake—Sponsor River Center Committee
6. February 21, 2009- Ice Fishing Tournament on Grand Lake—Grand Lake Association
7. Troy Walwood- Pick a January Date
8. John Gilman - TBA
9. March- Annual Club Banquet

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Brad Radel Alpena

Brown Trout

Received our payment \$1,500.00 for the clubs help at the 2008 Brown Trout Festival. BT is looking at ways to further reduce expenses as well as increasing revenue.

OTHER STUFF

The Mich-Ohio Sportfishing Expo in Monroe MI will be held February 14th 9AM-8PM & February 15th 9AM-5PM. Over 102 tables of local vendors and professional charter captains with deals on tackle, demonstrations, and information in a family oriented ALL outdoor related fishing expo. Kids participating in building crawler harnesses, the free fishing seminars (walleye, salmon, musky, bass) demonstration of a taxidermist doing a deer mount, the fishing simulator, 16 free door prizes (\$50 to \$400 value) just to name a few activities.

I have two free tickets for those who go. If more than two want the tickets we could raffle them off. See Denny Burns.

Montmorency County Conservation Club

The month of June found a handful of club members back at a tree planting site along County Road 624. Cherry, hawthorn and nannyberry saplings, good for Partridge, had been “tubed” at this sight at the turn of the century, and it was time for them to move to the next phase – wire cages. Many of the saplings had done very well and some were popping out of the tops of the tubes. Within just a few hours, tubes were stripped and collected, wire cages were crafted and staked into place and the saplings

were free to sway and grow unhampered. Thanks to Jim Supina, Tom Carlson, Al Wohllart, Glen Reed and Carol Rose for their work.

River Report

The river restoration work crew wrapped up another successful season on the Thunder Bay River, Canada Creek and the Upper Black River in August. The five man crew was led by Tavis Elowsky and assisted by Nico Tucker, who is now with NEMCOG. The river rats installed numerous in-stream structures, cleaned up some old structures, removed lots of beaver dams which can be problematic for water temperatures and fish passage, and improve the habitat for fish and the aquatic insects and invertebrates on which they depend. Donna Hardies of the MCD put together a before and after Power Pont presentation highlighting the crew's accomplishments for the summer and showed it at a recent Upper Black River Watershed Restoration Committee meeting. The results are remarkable.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, December 10th @ 7:00 pm

- **Besser Tech Room** - Room 112 in the BTC

Meetings are the second Wednesday of every month

AGENDA:

- Guest speaker: Tonya Byzewski from the River Center Committee
- Old Business
 - Troy Walwood
 - Web Site update- Todd Krueger- call Romeo to advise
- New Business
 - River Development project- club's participation
 - Big Bite Baits- John Gilman (January Meeting?)
 - Ice Fishing Tournaments: Burton's, the Clubs, ...