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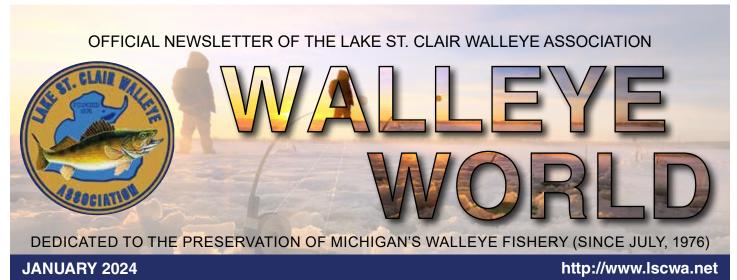
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Kids Outing Winner

Maverick was all smiles as he was awarded his catfish as the LSCWA's 2023 kids fishing contest winner. He caught his fish at the event held in cooperation with Lake St. Clair Metropark & the LSCWA's kids fishing day.

Mount donated by St. Clair Flats Taxidermy....the picture does not do this mount justice, it's almost a 3 dimensional mount, with great depth, detail and whiskers sticking far out on both sides. Fantastic work once again by St. Clair Flats Taxidermy!



Big Fish

At our annual Christmas party, Nicole Benson was presented the mount of her 29 1/8", 7.33 lb walleye which was the largest walleye entered in the LSCWA's regular derby season, also earning her the Richard & Joann Koch award.

The LSCWA has mounted the largest fish entered in our derbies and presented it to the lucky angler for quite a few years now, just another perk of being a member of the club.



LAKE ST. CLAIR WALLEYE ASSOCIATION

(586) 778-0480

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Vice President – Dan Schmidt
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ALTERNATES

JANUARY 17, 2024 at 7:30

Log onto our website to find out what is happening in and around the Club

www.lscwa.net

The WALLEYE WORLD is the official monthly newsletter of the Lake St. Clair Walleye Association (a 501c3 non-profit organization). We welcome all written/photo contributions from the members. Written/photo contributions can be submitted to editorlscwa@gmail.com. All written or photo contributions are the property of the LSCWA Walleye World and subject to edit. We reserve the right to refuse any material. Views and opinions expressed in the Walleye World are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views and opinions of the LSCWA, its members, or its advertisers. The LSCWA, the Walleye World or its publisher assumes no liability with respect to the use of information contained herein. 700 copies printed each month (1,200 for Jan. & None for Nov.)

EDITORS: Tim Muir & Isabelle Vanarsdale Send articles and/or photos to editorlscwa@gmail.com

CONSERVATION PLEDGE

I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully defend from waste the natural resources of my country, its air, soil and minerals, its forests, waters and wildlife.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS WINTER 2024

Jan 11-14thUltimate fishing show
Jan 17thGeneral membership meeting
Jan 24th BOD meeting
Feb 18thKids ice outing
Feb 21stGeneral membership meeting
Feb 28thBOD meeting
March 20thGeneral membership meeting
March 27th BOD meeting

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BINGO

EVERY SUNDAY

Prizes are mounting every week.
Come on out give it a try and support
your club. Prizes total **\$2200** every night
or more!

20791 E. 13 Mile Rd Roseville, MI 48066 Doors open at 4 PM • Play at 6 PM

We are always looking for volunteers. See Rich at our meetings or events.

Treehouse Breakfast

By Richard Koch

Just a nice 50 degree morning at the Lake Breeze Restaurant for breakfast during this winter day. Topics of discussion were on the warm winter temperatures along with fabulous walleye fishing on Lake St. Clair.

Mark Carlson, Bob Peterson, John Sulkowski, David Wilemski, Dale Billings, Francis Gosienski, Curtis Patton, Dan Schmidt, Joann Koch, and Richard Koch are story tellers. Next breakfast will be at Benvenuto's 39539 Jefferson, 9 AM January 24th.



MEMBERS: DUES MUST BE CURRENT TO FISH ALL DERBIES!

PLEASE SEE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

350 CURRENT MEMBERS

MISSION STATEMENT

To protect, preserve, and promote the walleye fishing in Michigan through conservation, education, and enhancing fishing opportunities for all; celebrating our tradition since 1976.

President's Corner



Happy New Year! It's time to start planning your fishing adventures and there's quite a few on the LSCWA's Calendar.

Starting off the year we will be at the Ultimate Fishing Show in Novi, MI. Here you can find many deals on tackle, gear and boats but please try to buy local if you can. Many of the yendors at the show are

local, along with lots of familiar faces as well. MUCC will be there, our friends from the Downriver Walleye Federation, Fishing 411 and more.

Ice fishing, oh boy....who knows what Mother Nature has in store for us, but we are planning on our annual kids ice fishing outing on February 18th. Please follow our Facebook page for updates.

As Spring approaches we are planning the annual trade-a-trip on April 13th and our first regular derby the weekend of April 19th-21st. The weigh-in locations are vet to be determined.

The Lake St. Clair Classic will be held June 8th, with a \$5,000 prize for first place along with a few other fun categories like the heated competition in last year's smallest legal walleye.

Lake St. Clair Metropark is teaming up with us once again for our kids summer fishing outing on July 28th. Last year we had over 160 kids signed up for a day of fishing, arts & crafts, education and free fishing gear. This is just a few of the events on our schedule, building on a very fun and successful year we had in 2023.

Looking back at '23, our perch 'n pig had a record basket brought in by team Fish-n-Addiction besting the record field of 23 boats. The Classic was also brought back and we will be building on that as well as continuing our partnership with our local sponsors.

MUCC youth camp is returning to its regular schedule and the LSCWA is hoping to send a bunch of our members kids this year, look for more info shortly.

Finally, I would like to personally thank all the volunteers who make everything we do possible, from the Bingo crew to the members who help with derbies & tournaments and our sponsors who help make everything we do that much more fun, exciting and rewarding for those involved.

This is YOUR club, part of it! Rich Benson, President LSCWA



AOY

Congratulations to Glen Mahron on his angler of the year win for the 2023 season.



The Ultimate Walleye Derby is a four weeklong derby taking place on the beautiful waters adjacent to Michigan. It spans the entire length of the Detroit River, through Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair River, then reaching into

Lower Lake Huron, Saginaw Bay and the Saginaw River. The four weeklong event is unique from the perspective that the leaderboard resets every week. This gives all anglers an excellent chance at winning prizes throughout the derby as opposed to winnings being concentrated to the heaviest fish migration windows. These prizes include "A boat per week" and prizes awarded down to the top five places each week. With over \$200k in prizes there is plenty to go around! And it doesn't end there, we have weekly prize sweepstakes drawings (valued at \$250 each) that are awarded for 48 weeks of the year so buying your ticket early really pays off.

This derby is created by fishermen for fishermen, where catching BIG FISH brings BIG PRIZES. Our founders have been participants and winners in multiple derbies and have recognized that the spring walleye run needs a derby of it's own. They are passionate about this derby and thrilled to bring it to you all.

There are many other tournaments and derbies out there, but none that can be compared to this one. This derby provides an EQUAL playing field where FAMILIES and the WEEKEND Angler can compete to win BIG! High value prizes plus numerous opportunities to win equal derby success. The Ultimate Walleye Derby gives you over sixty (60) chances to win prizes year-round. They say happiness is a big fish and a witness... so let our derby boost your pride and bragging rights.

Ultimately, you must be in it to win it. Get your fish on!

LSCWA Raffle Time

Our club raffle honoring Ron Sharp is upon us again. Dan Schmidt and I have been working hard to make this raffle one – if not the best – ever! This year there will be a choice of four prize packages. The first ticket drawn gets first choice, the second ticket drawn gets second choice of remaining packages and so on for remaining 2 tickets.

In addition, everyone that sells or buys 10 tickets gets a chance to win \$100 for each 10 tickets they sell or buy.

The prize packages are:

- 1. Custom boat canvas (\$1400 value) plus rain gear and boating safety gear.
- 2. Open water trolling package (Rods, L.C. reels, spinners, plugs, landing net, planer boards, rain gear, bottom bouncers).
- 3. Jigging package (St. Croix Rod, reels, jig box with assorted jigs, stinger hooks, artificial baits [plastic], landing net, rain gear).
- 4. Night fishing with Dan Schmidt (whipping rod with L.C. reel, assorted night fishing plugs, whip fishing accessories).

We tried to incorporate some of the suggestions you members noted on the cards passed out a few meeting ago. One suggestion we couldn't honor was the new boat. We ran about \$42,000 short of that!! We spent quite a bit of money on above noted prize packages and it would be much appreciated if you members would support this raffle by buying and selling as many tickets as you can.

Tickets and posters will be placed at various boating and tackle shops in the area.

REMEMBER....this is YOUR club, support it as best you can!

Thank you, Mike Roush

Late Season Walleye Fishing

By Joann & Richard Koch



Walleyes are schooling up in Lake St. Clair for the winter. Just bring your boards and favorite baits. One of our last outings was on December 22nd when we had a 6 board bite at once. All the walleyes were landed and all the 6 and 5 pound fish were released. This is the first time we had all the boards with fish on and fighting. We released 30 walleyes

that day all over 4 pounds. We only kept 4 walleye that were under 4 pounds. 2 pike were caught that day, one over 40 inches and were released.

2024 LSC Classic

The LSCWA is once again hosting the Lake St. Clair Classic. This year's Classic will be held on June 8th, from 6am to 2pm and is limited to the first 50 boats. The tournament is scheduled to take place at Harley Ensign Memorial Boat Launch.

The top prize is once again \$5,000, with additional places paid based upon number of entries. Continuing the fun from last year and judging by its popularity, the smallest legal walleye category is back along with the big fish captains pot.

Cost will be \$225, optional captains pot of \$25. This year \$25 from every entry will go towards the fish cleaning station to be built at the Clinton River Cut Off access site.

We will post an official sign up date on our Facebook page. For more details please see one of our board members as we finalize the details. We are looking for sponsors or donations, if you would like more information on sponsoring or the history of our tournaments, feel

free to ask our tournament committee members.

Annual Kids Ice Fishing Event

By Bob Barnes

The Lake St Clair Walleye Association's annual kid's ice fishing event is February 18, 2024 at Lake St Clair Metro Park North Marina Picnic Shelter L from 9 am – 2 pm, check our website for updates (LSCWA.NET). This is Michigan's free fishing weekend so no fishing licenses are required.

The LSCWA Kids Ice Fishing Event is a free (park entry fee is required) and open to all children, prizes for all the kids, food and soft drinks too. Children must be accompanied by a parent. Fishing poles and bait will be supplied. So dress warmly and bring your children and grandchildren out for a day of fun in the winter sun.

Event is contingent on safe ice conditions. Please check our website LSCWA.NET and Facebook for updates on ice conditions.



Membership Dues For LSCWA

As your club membership person I'm writing this article to help members keep current with your dues. We are starting the 2024 year derbies with the April derby. You have to be a current member per derby rules to enter a fish. Before the start of a derby.

At the top of your monthly newsletter is an arrow pointing to your expiration of dues. The message of the arrow is a two prong notice of expiration for derbies, and membership. The derbies notice is a reminder to be paid before the derby in that month, per derby rules. The second part of the notice is for general club dues expiring at the end of the month.

An example of the expiration information under the arrow is month, year, type of membership such as 04,2024, S. This translates to April 2024 Single membership that will expire in that month.

You can renew a few different ways. One way is face to face meetings now that we have regular meetings. Second, the club web page, third, mailing a check to the post office. The club address is Lake St Clair Walleye Association PO BOX 130 St Clair Shores MI 48080. Hopefully this reminder will help members stay current with dues.

My Story About The LSCWA

By Pete Kohnen

It was not by mistake that I found and joined the club. i was living in Pompano beach fl.at the time, which is a fantastic place to fish, with all the different species of fish (fresh and saltwater), the cost this was really expensive, there are the piers and beaches which are pretty cool. The day came that i had a job offer to move back to Michigan which is home for my wife and myself .which I accepted.

I wanted to be involved with a fishing club ,not one filled with guys that to sit around and talk about days gone by. So I started looking on line reading about all the clubs .the one that interested me the most. was L.S.C.W.A. with the videos like perch king carl and Richard and Joann Koch vidos on hand lining. After moving up here I went to my first meeting and was made to feel welcome, they did not pressure me to join. I really like the free exchange of knowledge is grate and most of actively fish.

Now I am on the board of directors for a couple of years. I really have been in the L.S.C.W.A. and have made real good friends.

Blast from the Past

By Bob Barnes

This is the first in a series that publishes articles from past Walleye Words. Enjoy...

January 1987

The Difference

By Alex Vitek

A constant question asked by area fishermen is what is the difference between the Walleye and the Pickerel, if there is any actual difference. If the truth is to be known, there is one major point that makes these two separate types of fish, and that is that they are two species. If one of each were placed side by side they would not even look close except that both are obviously fish.

Even the Latin names are different. The Walleye is known by 'Stizostedion vitreum' and the Pickerel is I Esox niger I and I Esos americanus I . The Walleye is a member of the same family as the Perch, which also includes the Sauger. The similarities can be seen if a fish of each are seen together. The Pickerel is related to the Northern Pike and the Muskie, and all three have the same body shape and fin distribution fact, the body markings on the Pickerel will look very similar to those on our common Northern Pike.

In my opinion, the confusion goes back at least 50 years. The natural range for both the Walleve and the Pickerel includes the Great Lakes area of the North American continent and at one time both fish were abundant in this area. It would not have been so unusual for a sport fisher to have a mixed creel of both fish. However, due to increasing population and the slow destruction of spawning areas the Pickerel started to disappear except for an occasional catch. But, by the time this happened, the calling a Walleye a Pickerel had become so ingrained in the fisher t s vocabulary that it stayed. In fact, go to the fish market and look at a pile of Walleye on ice and the sign will say Pickerel. Or, go to a fancy fish restaurant and order a Pickerel dinner and the waiter will bring you a dish covered with cooked Walleye.

Unlike the Perch, the Walleye prefers large bodies of water, and are rarely found in lakes less than 100 acres in size. They need large, shallow spawning areas

over rubble or gravel, and like to forage for minnows and other bait foods in waters well over 10 feet. Good fishing waters are fairly clear and have hard clay or sand bottoms or large patches of gravel. They do well in lakes that will have large areas that will remain below 85 degrees in the summer. During the hot months the best fishing can be found at depths where the water temperatures are in the low 60 I s. (My own records indicate that some of the best early season fishing will start when the water temperature starts to hit the mid to upper 50 1 s and will last till the temperature gets into the mid 60's. this will usually be in May and early June.

The Pickerel will prefer to spawn in open patches of shallow, weedy backwaters, and no nest is made. The young fish will linger in or near the spawning area for the first year of life. As young fish they will eat naturally occurring worms, yet as adults they rarely will hit on the most universally seductive bait, the night-crawler. Adult fish will rarely cruise the water in search of food. They will lie in wait, and at the first signs of hunger will strike out at the first moving target. This is a habit similar to the Pike. Incidentally, the Pickerel will rarely reach 9 pounds in weight as they do not often live to the 9 OF 10 years necessary. To put it another way a 3 foot Pickerel would be an old geezer and a trophy on top of that.

So, those of you who are wondering now know the difference between the two fish. Next time you come into the dock with a day's limit catch of tasty Walleye and someone walks up to you and asks how many Pickerel you caught you can answer, "None". But, I got some nice Walleye." He might think you gave him some type of 'smart I answer, but then tell them the difference.

Help Wanted

Comfort Zone charters is in need of a part time 1st mate for the walleye run this April and May. You must be able to run and electric trolling motor.

You get paid to go fishing!

Captain Jerry Comfort 586-482-0026 / jercomfort@aol.com



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