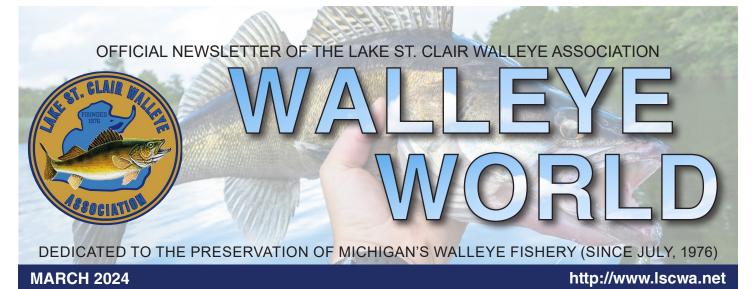
LAKE ST. CLAIR WALLEYE ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 130 ST. CLAIR SHORES, MI 48080





DUES EXPIRE BEFORE DERBY, OR END OF MONTH



Captain Dan Chimelak



"Hey Richie boy, this is your buddy Captain Dan".....I wish I still one of those voicemails. For quite a few of us Lake St. Clair fisherman Captain Dan Chimelak recorded his Lakeside fishing report and you could call the hotline and he would give you the latest reports for LSC and other areas around the state & beyond. On Thursday, February 29th, we lost Captain Dan, and pretty much a local legend.

Captain Dan and Lakeside Fishing Shop have long supported the LSCWA and our activities, and most importantly, our kids activities. Even when construction on 10 & Jefferson was hurting his business for 18+ months he asked me what we needed for our kids outings. His generosity extended beyond material things as well, he gave a lot of us a priceless gift, the gift of his time, wisdom and knowledge. Some people only got to know him as

the owner of a bait shop, others as a charter captain and the lucky ones....we got to call him our friend.

On behalf of the LSCWA and myself, we sincerely extend our condolences to the family and friends of Captain Dan. Rest In Peace my friend.

LAKE ST. CLAIR WALLEYE ASSOCIATION



LSCWA EXECUTIVE BOARD

President – Rich Benson Vice President – Dan Schmidt Financial Secretary – Bob Barnes Recording Secretary – Rick Okerjhjelm Membership Secretary – Don Murray

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2023-2025

2022-2024

Richard Koch Jim Lease Mike Roush Tim Muir Tim Schwark Joe Gimpert

Dr. Kirk Cleland **Rob Barnes Dick Benson** Mark Buckman Pete Kohnen

ALTERNATES

MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS

March 20, 2024 at 7:30

American Legion Post 4 401 N Groesbeck Hwy, Mt Clemens, MI 48043

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 Walleve 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 - SPRING 2024

March 20thGeneral Membership Meeting Guest Speaker Eric Stuecher.
March 27th Bod Meeting
April 6th Trade-A-Trip Going To Steelheaders
April 13th Trade-A-Trip Steelheaders Are Here
April 17thGeneral Membership Meeting Guest Speakers Mark And Jake Romanack.
April 19th-21stApril Derby. Weigh In At Lakeside
April 24th Bod Meeting

CUT OUT COUPON & MAIL

APPLICATION FORM AND CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Make check or money order payable to: LAKE ST. CLAIR WALLEYE ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 130 St. Clair Shores, MI 48080 PLEASE PRINT

CHECK HERE IF THIS IS AN ADDRESS CHANGE

NAME

ADDRESS _____

CITY ______ STATE ____ ZIP _____

PHONE

EMAIL

□ Senior Citizens \$30.00 □ Single Membership \$40.00 □ Family Membership \$45.00 Includes Spouse & Children

to 16 years

Renewal

□ Senior Family \$35.00 Includes Spouse & Grandchildren to 16 years

Includes Spouse

Junior \$15.00 Children up to 16 Years Old

Referred By:

How did you hear about us?

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

Temperature was dropping as the seniors were coming to Country Inn for breakfast. Those attending are Dave Wilemski 81 today, Dave Lozier, Doug Batty, Dan Schmidt, Ron Pisarski, John Sulkowski, Bob Barnes, Bob Peterson, Curtis Patton, Jerry Comfort, Dale Billings, Mark Carlson, Frank Gosiewski, Joann Koch, and Richard Koch. Topics discussed were ocean fishing for marlin, perch fishing in the Clinton River, buying electronics for boats and also fishing from brown trout. Our next breakfast will be at Strawberry fields restaurant, March 27th 51070 Foster rd. Chesterfield M-29 or 23 mile 8am. Come join the gang.



MEMBERS: DUES MUST BE CURRENT TO FISH ALL DERBIES! Please see membership secretary

President's Corner



As spring approaches I always feel invigorated, it's hard to describe other than to say I get excited....what's next, what's new, what will we do now? I guess you would have to say its optimism, because maybe as a fisherman you are always hoping for a good day on the water, maybe

a livewell full of fish or possibly the big one for the wall. I think that's why, as fisherman, we are always trying to improve our skills or add to our tacklebox. That's also why the LSCWA continues it's mission to educate anglers, young & old, rookie or old hand, we can always learn something new and that's why it's always worth listening to different seminar speakers at our meetings. One speaker just might be that one that you feel like they gave you that missing piece to put it all together because no two teachers teach the same lesson.

Coming up this spring our trade a trip weekends are the first two weekends of April, we go there the 6th& 7th and they come here the 13-14th with a fish fry at the American Legion on the afternoon of the 13th. Our April Derby on the 19th-21st will be held at Lakeside Fishing Shop, the weigh in will be from 3-4pm on Sunday April 21st. We will also include some time to honor Captain Dan after our derby weigh in, even if you don't fish the derby we invite you to come up.

Preparations for the 2024 Lake St. Clair Classic are underway and we will be announcing our sign up day shortly as we continue to plan and prepare for our future events this year as well.

This is YOUR club, be part of it.

Rich Benson, President LSCWA

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.

The Importance Of Calibrating Line Counter Reels

Mark Romanack - Fishing 411 TV

With the spring walleye trolling bite about to kick in full thrust, this is the perfect time to talk about the concept of "calibrating" a line counter trolling reel. Those who believe that "calibrating" is unnecessary and that "close is good enough" when it comes to monitoring and replicating your trolling leads, clearly don't understand the dynamics that trolling leads plays on the diving depth of popular crankbaits and other trolling gear.

Varying the line out or trolling lead even just a few feet can and does impact dramatically on how deep that particular lure is diving. Just as important, the angler who ignores the value of calibrating his trolling reels is fishing with four, six, eight or more reels that all have a different amount of line on them and all will read differently on the line counter. In this case, it's virtually impossible to replicate a productive lead length with other trolling rod/reel set ups in the boat.

Successful trolling is all about figuring out what are the most productive lead lengths and then replicating those lead lengths precisely to maximize trolling success.



OLD SCHOOL METHODS

In effect, anglers who don't calibrate their reels are fishing blind in that they have no practical means of determining how deep their trolling gear is fishing. While it's not necessary to hit fish on the head to catch them, the ability to put your gear close to, but not below fish that are found using modern sonar is hugely important.

The only other way to determine which lead lengths are the most productive is to experiment widely with trolling leads until a pattern starts to emerge. This process is time consuming, especially considering that with phone apps like Precision Trolling Data, it's easy to deploy just the right amount of line to get your baits diving exactly where they need to be in the water column. Knowing this, why would anyone opt to fish "old school" when we have the technology to control precisely where our gear is running in the water column?

WHAT EXACTLY IS A CALIBRATED REEL?

Line counter reels are factory calibrated, but unfortunately they are calibrated using just one line diameter which in most cases is 20 pound test line. When other line diameters are used, the reel calibration is impacted because mechanical line counter reels function by predicting how much line will play off the reel spool for each rotation of the spool.

When thinner diameter lines are used, more line is loaded onto the reel compared to the line used in factory calibration. So each time the reel spool rotates, it lets out a different amount of line than the reel was calibrated at the factory to deploy and record with the mechanical line counter.

Simply stated, a trolling reel is calibrated when just the right amount of line is loaded onto the reel that when the line counter reads a certain number, that's exactly how much line has been played off the reel. By adding or removing line on the reel and then measuring lead lengths against known distances, it's possible to calibrate a reel so it delivers precise lead lengths time and time again.

The best way to calibrate a trolling reel is by first measuring off a set distance and marking that distance by driving two stakes in the ground. A distance of 100 feet is ideal because this is roughly in the middle of common lead lengths used by serious trollers.

With a known distance (100 feet) as a reference point, simply attach the line to one stake using a planer board line release, zero out the line counter, open the reel bail and then walk to the other stake. When the rod tip is at the second stake, the line counter should read 100 feet if the reel is calibrated.

Typically the line counter is going to read a number that is less than or more than 100 indicating that either too much or too little line has been spooled onto the reel. If the line counter reads a number less than 100, then the reel has too much line spooled on and line must be removed from the reel. If the line counter reads a number larger than 100 the reel is under spooled and line must be spooled onto the reel.

DON'T CUT THE LINE UNTIL THE CALIBRATION IS COMPLETE

The best way to calibrate a trolling reel is to fill the reel using a bulk spool of line until the reel spool to just below capacity. Don't cut the line from the spool as it may be necessary to add or remove line from the reel.



Attach the line near the rod tip to one of the stakes, zero out the line counter and walk away to the second stake. When you reach the second stake look at the line counter. The line counter should read 100 if you have measured off 100 feet as your reference measurement. Again, if the number on the counter is less than 100 the reel has too much line on the spool. If the line counter reads greater than 100, the reel doesn't have enough line on the spool.

LINE DIAMETERS AND TYPES

A trolling reel can be calibrated using any line type or line diameter. Since most line counter reels are factory calibrated for 20 pound test line, any line larger or smaller in diameter than 20 pound test is going to change how the mechanical line counter reads. This is why a walleye angler who loads his reels with 10 pound test is not experiencing a reel that is closely calibrated simply by filling the reel to capacity.

WHAT ABOUT REEL BRANDS AND SIZES?

Any brand of line counter reel can be calibrated using the directions here. Anglers who have a few of these and a few of those can still calibrate their reels effectively.

The thing to avoid when buying line counter reels are those with very small line capacities such as the 15, 17 or 100 size reels. All of these smaller reels have such limited line capacity they are not capable of replicating lead lengths accurately, especially when longer trolling

leads are required.

The mechanical line counter used on all trolling reels is based on how much line plays off the reel for each rotation of the spool. When the reel only holds a modest amount of line, the diameter of the spool changes rapidly and the amount of line played off the reel spool becomes less with each rotation of the spool.

This is why small line counter reels are a poor choice for serious trolling applications. While many anglers love the smaller and lighter trolling reels, they are handicapping themselves with reels that do not replicate lead lengths accurately. The size 20, 30, 40 and 50 class reels are the best investment for most trolling applications.

SUMMING IT UP

Trolling is about paying attention to details and then replicating what works again and again. The only practical way to accurately replicate trolling leads is to take the time to calibrate each and every line counter reel on the boat. Not counting the time to spool line onto the reel, the calibration process takes about five minutes per rod/reel. This is time well spent for anyone who takes their time on the water seriously.



Proposed Bylaw Amendment

A proposed amendment to our bylaws in the event that there becomes a vacancy on our board of directors and there is no alternate to fill that vacancy. Its proposed that there be an emergency election held to fill that position. If a vacancy occurs then at the following membership meeting nominations will be taken, approved an discussed followed by a secret ballot to elect a new board member. If no one person accepts a nomination then the current president will appoint a board member and the membership will elect by a majority vote to accept the nomination. Notice of the election will not be required and nominees must be present to accept the nomination. The elected board member will serve on the board until the next scheduled general election is held in the prescribed manner.

What Lscwa Means To Me

By Jim Lease

I joined the LSCWA in the mid-eighties and at that time my only walleye fishing experience was whipping in the SCR with friends from work. My oldest daughter's father in law was a member and talked me into joining. He had a boat and I fished with him for a couple of years and did fairly well. Since then, I have learned many different techniques for catching walleye as well as fished with many of our members and learned a wealth of fishing information. I have made several good friends at the club and receive updated information on fishing trends and upcoming fishing events. I have learned more from seminars and just talking about fishing with members than I would have ever learned on my own. Being involved in the club and its activities has been not only fun it has been rewarding as well. I hope our club continues to grow and brings in new members that appreciate it as much as I do.

Listing Of Donors To Our Club Raffle:

Grosso Trucking & Supply, monetary donation. Rose Marine Service, monetary donation. Hook One Bait, Tackle, Charters Lakeside Fishing Shop **Offshore Tackle** Rob Hoover West Marine **Richard & Joann Koch**

Listing of Businesses Selling Tickets For our Club Raffle:

Lakeside Tackle Shop Anglers Point- 2 stores Sportsman Direct Michigan Marine Sports Center, New Baltimore Coastline Electric, Fair Haven John's Canvas Shop, Ira Township **Rose Marine Service** Prior Plumbing, Algonac Bracketts Auto, Algonac West Marine, Algonac Algonac Liguor, Algonac Hook One, Marine City Grosso Trucking, Marine City Hwy, Ira Township Zimmer's Sales & Service, St. Clair Hwy, China Township

Stop by these businesses, tell them you are from the Walleye Club and thank them for their support. Then buy some tickets to show "your" support!

Thank you, Mike Roush

Dues Increase

The annual dues for membership in the LSCWA are going up by \$5.00. This is effecting all the various membership selections. The dues are reflecting the raising costs of everything such as, stamps, paper, etc.

This notice will be in the newsletter for 2 months as the by laws require. When a change is made to a bylaw like raising the dues. A notice will be in the newsletter.

Belanger Boat Launch Pass Raffle

Bob Barnes

Spring is in the air and April in the D is almost upon us. The city of River Rouge has once again donated an annual launch pass for Belanger Park. This pass will be raffled off at our April General Membership meeting. This pass would cost \$100 if you were to purchase it; daily fee to launch is \$15. Please buy some extra tickets for a better chance to win.

Thank you to the city of River Rouge for your generous contributions to the LSCWA.

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FISHING REPORT (586) 777-7008 Email: info@lakesidefishingshop.com