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DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF MICHIGAN'S WALLEYE FISHERY (SINCE JULY, 1976)

February 2021

http://www.lscwa.net

SPOT ON THE SPOT WALLEYES

By Jared Roe:

It's almost that time to start chasing walleyes through the ice this year. We can all agree that this year it's going to be a short season, make sure you everything ready to go when its "safe" enough to get out to where the walleyes roam during

the winter period months. One of the best things to think about when chasing walleyes to make yourself more successful on such a short season like the one we are having right now is looking for the spot on the spot when on the ice. Here are a few things to think about when trying to accomplish this during ice fishing season.

When heading out on the ice to chase walleyes the number one tool you need to be more successful is a gps unit with contour mapping that shows the body of water you are on. Start out by looking for major breaks between depths. I like to start out by looking for the bigger depth breaks and then when getting to those areas, simply zoom in on that area you are on and try to find to find the sharpest points if any are there or humps that will show a difference as small as a one foot contour in that area. Those are the areas you want to try first as the walleyes will chase bait most in those contour areas. What needs to be done next is exactly what part of the depth break are the walleyes going to mostly use throughout the day.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

As of now we would like to have an in person meeting but it looks increasingly likely that we will not be able to meet in person. Look for some kind of online meeting like we have been doing if an in person meeting is not possible. Hopefully we will be able to get back to meeting in person soon. Stay tuned to our Facebook page for updates.

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.)

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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 2021

Feb 17thgeneral membe	
Feb 23rd	BOD meeting
March 17thgeneral membe(capicity lir	
March 23rd	BOD meeting
March 25th-28thUltimate Fishing Show (tentative)	

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SPOT ON THE SPOT WALLEYES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Sometimes you do get lucky and land right on them but most of the time you have to put in a little bit of work for the big reward of putting a pile of walleyes on the ice in a hurry. Early in the morning you want to start out by working on the shallowest part of the point or depth break and work your way out a little deeper as the sun is coming up for the day. If you have a buddy on the ice with you a good way to achieve this as the morning goes is a method I like to call leap frog on the ice. Pick a spot and your partner will go down the break line deeper than you and you hop over him after about 20 min if you are not seeing anything. Keep doing this method until somebody lands on the walleyes. Once you have landed on them that's when you ask yourself why this spot more than the others? This is what I like to call SPOT ON THE SPOT. There is typically a reason why those walleyes are in that one spot whether it be a small rock pile, sand/muck to rock transition or a small patch of dead weeds that are laying on bottom. It could be as simple as a one foot contour that comes to a sharp point and that's what the walleyes are using as their "highway" to chase bait all day. Once you find the reason why this small little area is better than all the others you fished in morning, that's what is called spot on the spot and you will be more successful in achieving success on the ice in a short amount of time. In closing I would like to add that you should always use caution when using this method because to most great depth breaks and points usually have a lot of ice heaves or pressure cracks in the area which is why they form because of all the breaks in the area. Always use extreme caution no matter what and use that spud bar at all times even if you think the ice is more than safe. Ice thickness can change overnight. Tight lines everyone and stay safe. See you all out on the ice very soon.

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

Winter has arrived late this year and as of this writing anglers are finally getting on the ice locally. Just this past weekend our Fall Derby champ Nick Markowski continued his streak with a win in Anglers Point's local



fishing contest with 10 nice bluegill. Locally, the ice is iffy at best, protected bays and canals are your best bet for what is probably going to be a short lived ice season.

So what's a fisherman to do?....get ready for the soon to be here late winter/spring jigging season. How about going through those tackle boxes and gear, fix what's broke, pick up some new jigs and plastics from our sponsoring tackle shops. What about shop for a new boat out at Rose Marine? Check out the ads throughout the Walleye World and support the people that support our club.

February we are going to have a meeting at the American Legion hall, 7:30 pm on February 17th. We will be limited to 35 people, masks must be worn when you are not seated at your table. These are the rules we must follow, whether we agree with them or not. We do plan on conducting sign-ups for May Madness and we will be issuing numbers to people, they will not be your start number, as we are planning an outdoor sign up party later in the month where we will be raffling off the # 1 & 2 starting spots.

We are also seeking sponsors for this event, please contact any board member for more information.

This ongoing pandemic has changed much in everyone's daily lives, but as it continues we are finding ways to follow the guidelines and still conduct our tournaments and derbies. 2021 will present us with these continued challenges but with a few small steps and slight changes we have found we can still do most of our club functions. When we do hold derbies and tournaments we ask that everyone follow the applicable guidelines, as it could negatively impact the locations we hold them at or reflect bad upon us as a club.

This is our 45th year we are heading into and we have faced challenges in the past, from commercial netting, invasive species, VHS and more....we will continue on and come back stronger than ever once again.

Let's all try to make 2021 our best year yet, this is YOUR club, be part of it!

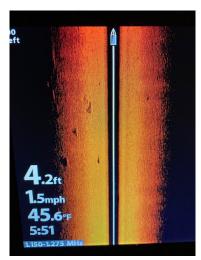
Rich Benson, *President*

350 CURRENT MEMBERS

SIDE IMAGING

"You can run, but you can't hide."
The importance of using side imaging
by Vice President Eric Lenz

The advances over the past several years in electronics technology is staggering and often under-utilized. Since the introduction of Side imaging, anglers are now given the ability to not only see what is below them like in traditional 2D sonar but also the ability to broaden the view looking out left and



Example of fish scattered on shallow 4 foot flat

right up to 100 plus feet each way. In a relatively shallow lake like St Clair, side imaging is my most valuable tool offered on my humminbird unit. Consider this, late fall and early spring walleyes often move up onto shallow sand flats to ambush bait. using the "skinny" water to their advance. Using traditional 2D sonar in this application is virtually useless in this shallow of water (5fow or less for example) with such a narrow cone signal

from your transducer. Side imaging on the other hand gives you a detailed view looking out each direction from your boat. Fish literally have nowhere to hide. I will often idle around these flats looking fish long before setting lines. This gives me the



Hard bottom, transitions to soft bottom. Notice fish scattered throughout the soft bottom

confidence in knowing fish are present without any wasted time, once I locate a pod of fish I continue to use my side imaging whether I am casting or trolling to better understand the positioning of the fish. You can often while trolling mark a fish or group of fish on your side imaging and if you are quick enough either bring in, or let out your board to literally put that bait directly over top of the fish you just marked. Side imaging is also an extremely valuable tool in locating underwater structure. Boulder fields.

rock piles, weed lines, timber, bottom hardness transitions, etc. One thing you will begin to notice while idling around looking at these different structures is the way In which fish position themselves on a spot. Very often walleyes will sit just off of a rock structure, using the softer sand bottoms as a place to lay and rest between feeding up on top of structure. Noticing these things will give you a huge advantage of understanding where and how you need to position your boat and lures to catch those fish.



ARMADA FISHING CLUB

Recently, the Armada High School Fishing Club held an ice fishing tournament and fundraiser. President Rich Benson and I spent some time at the event and we donated some ice fishing set ups and scoops to the event. They were very grateful and appreciative of our donation and participation in their event.

There is a small approx. 1 acre pond on the school grounds which is stocked and was the location for the tournament. It was a cold, sunny morning but all the participants had a great time. Rich walked around and handed out some of the rods we had brought and gave out some tips. I spend my time measuring the fish that were caught.

It was a good event and we are looking forward to helping the Armada Fishing Club grow and be successful in getting kids away from the electronics and outside.

Tim



"HEY FATBOY!!"

By: Roy Miller

There is a difference. Never in a million years did I want to be standing on the dock of the Detroit River and have somebody yell "Hey FatBoy." But here we are and I couldn't be more honored.

What started as a joke among friends, due to the serious lack of a good jig head in the Saginaw River area or Lansing area, where I currently live, has grown well past anything I could've ever expected. Through long nights of trial and error of lead temperatures, paint mixtures, curing process, color combos and quality components, this is what I believe sets me apart. There is a difference between a custom painted jig head and a \$.25 jig head you can purchase at the dock.

It all started a few years ago, when I was asked to bring some product to the Ultimate Fishing Show in Novi, Michigan by Ed Beckley from Beckley's M 65 bait shop. There we shared a small booth and had a memorable weekend. Through that opportunity I met many good and resourceful people.

I was somewhat shy the first year, due to thinking I didn't belong, amongst all these great people. I was surrounded by the JT Custom Tackle prostaff, of whom were guys I had looked up to for many years. The next year the booth quadrupled in size and so did my display. This year there was no way I was going to be shy again and I really got to know some of the other guys, as they were helping with other pro staff obligations.

During that particular show, two names that truly stand out are



Erich Carlson and Jeff VanTorre. Upon talking with them, they both asked for special requests, Erich's being a little bit harder than Jeff's. Jeff's request I was able to go home that night, modify a mold that I already had and was able to come up with something he could utilize on Lake St. Clair. Erich's request was a swim jig. I started pulling pictures up and we started looking at common molds and we decided on one head that he felt would really work. I had that mold ordered before I got in my car to leave that night. As soon as it arrived I put everything I had to do to the side and poured two dozen jig heads and started sending pictures. It was going to be exactly what we thought. I started working with Erich and Jeff on

some colors they thought they could use in the Alpena area as well as other lakes that offer casting opportunities for walleyes. It was obviously more successful than I had ever anticipated it to be. Erich always talked about the possibility of changing a few things with that particular jig head and to be honest I was scared to spend the money. But once I started seeing this same jig head start popping up I knew I had to set myself apart once again. So through some lengthy phone conversations, lots of pictures and a few FaceTime call we were able to get something that we felt would work. I shipped it to Erich where he put the final touches and added a little flair. I sent the one and only prototype out to have it turned into a mold and in short order the dream was a reality, the Destroyer was born.

Through the fishing shows the friendships that you make can last a lifetime. After following Jeff on social media for a few years and watching what he does on the lake, I wanted to learn more about Lake Saint Clair and possibly participate in some of the derbies. After chatting with him, I knew the right thing to do would be to join the Lake Saint Clair Walleye Association and start attending monthly meetings. I drive an hour and a half one-way, on the third Wednesday of every month to come to meetings. And I don't miss many. I have made several friends, a few I would consider close. I fished LSC more than Saginaw bay this last year just so I could put the things I learned into play and be more successful.

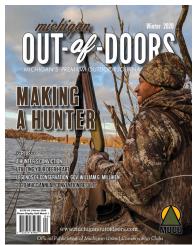
So if you see me on the dock this spring give me a shout "Hey FatBoy" or Roy works as well.

Roy Miller, FatBoy Jigs

MICHIGAN OUT-OF-DOORS MAGAZINE

By: Tim Muir

MUCC affiliate club members are able to get Michigan out-of-doors magazine at a discounted price by being a member of the LSCWA. If you would like to sign up for the magazine for \$20 a year and are a club member please reach out to me and I will get you the information.



MUCC KIDS CAMP

The MUCC education team announced plans to reopen the Michigan Out-of-Doors Youth Camp this summer. However, the summer of 2021 will look much different from past summer camp programs. Having spent the past several months deciding what we believe is the best course of action. After consulting with other camp programs and state licensing official, the safest option is to operate exclusively as a day camp program for this year. We believe this to be the best course for our staff, campers and their families.

ULTIMATE FISHING SHOW

The Ultimate fishing show that was scheduled for Jan 7th - 10th has been rescheduled for the weekend of March 25th – 28th. We are still planning on having a booth there if the show is still going to be held. Hope to see you all there.

Don and Cookie out trying not to fish very hard.





VENISON PIE

Filling

1lb ground venison

2 whole carrots (chopped)

2 celery stalks (chopped)

2 medium potatoes (cubed)

1 medium onion (diced)

2 cloves garlic (diced)

1 Brown gravy seasoning packet

Cook the vegetables in 1 tablespoon olive oil until tender and translucent, add salt and pepper, remove vegetables and brown venison until done. Drain any fat from venison. Add in vegetables to ground venison, mix in brown gravy packet and water, beef stock or half of your favorite beer. Make sure the mixture isn't to wet as it will not help up well inside of the pie. You can also add in any of your other favorite vegetables to the mixture. Use any pie crust of your choice, I use a simple store bought crust. Place crust in pie pan, add in venison mixture, place second pie crust on top. Make sure to put a few fork holes or knife slits to allow the top crust to vent. I usually make a large batch of filling and make several pies at once and freeze them. Thaw before cooking and brush with egg wash for a golden crust. Bake at 375 for a half hour or until inside is hot and top and bottom crust are browned.









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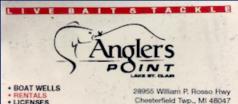
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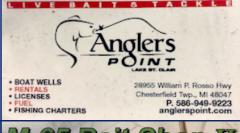
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