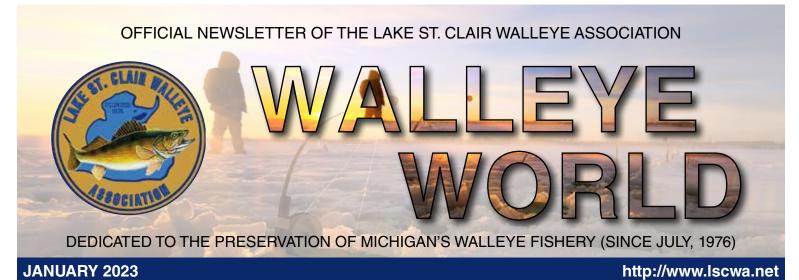
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Dr. Kirk Cleland 2nd Place Masters Division



Eric Lenz 3rd Place Masters Division

OPEN DIVISION WINNERS



Glen Marohn Open Division Champion



Chad Beardslee 2nd Place Open Division



C.J. Gibbons Open Division Third Place

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Mike Roush	Dick Benson
Tim Muir	Mark Buckman

Past President (1 year) Jeff VanTorre

ALTERNATES

MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS

January 21 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 & Jeff Vantorre 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 2023

Jan 12th-15thUltimate fishing show Novi	
Jan 18thGeneral membership meeting	
Jan 24thBOD meeting	
Feb 15thGeneral membership meeting	
Feb 19thKids ice outing	
Feb 21st BOD meeting	
Mar 15thGeneral membership meeting	

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BINGO

EVERY SUNDAY

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

Treehouse Breakfast

By Richard Koch

Breakfast was served at two different restaurants. Lake Breeze at 8am and Benvenuto's at 9am. Food was delicious. Attending were Dale Billings, Curtis Patton, Richard Koch, Joann Koch, Ron Topolewski, Dave Wilemski, Mark Carlson, Don Murray, Francis Gosiewski, Bob Barnes, John Sulkowski, Dan Schmidt, and Rich Benson.

Fishing and hunting were discussed at this senior breakfast. Our next get together will be at Benvenuto's Jan 25th at 9am.



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



"Celebrate endings for they precede new beginnings". A fitting quote to end & begin the year as we say goodbye to 2022 and look forward to 2023. The recent Christmas party was nice night at the American Legion Hall that's been our home for quite a few years now and I'd like to thank Rich & Sharon for the

hospitality & flexibility they've shown us over the years.

2023 will once again start with the LSCWA attending the Ultimate Fishing Show in Novi, Jan 12-15. Everything fishing related from rods 'n reels to boats or even a trip of a lifetime can be found there! I enjoy reconnecting with friends and other fishermen I've met over the years. Many of our Michigan businesses will be represented there, please support them and our sponsors.

Our first meeting of the year will be the Wednesday right after the show, Jan 18th, 7:30pm. We will have guest speakers and more, remember those raffles to help support the club. We will also be doing the Christmas Lure Tree raffle; it was overlooked during the party! Please bring in a new or gently used lure, piece of tackle or other useful fishing item to add to the tree. Remember, those 50/50 raffles also support the August picnic's blind draw.

Our annual raffle will feature three charter fishing trips along with cash prizes, tickets will be available at the Novi show and at club meetings. Prizes are offered for the top & winning sellers!

Speaking of support, our Bingo at Rosemack Hall on Sunday's continues to be the best fundraiser we've ever had. Started in 2014, it has allowed us to operate and maintain one of the largest fishing clubs in Michigan (if not the largest) for the past few years. Its success has allowed us to do things as adopt families for Christmas, support MUCC, lobby the MDNR, send kids to camp- also renovating the art center at camp, scholarships and more. I'm personally thanking Richard Okerjhelm, Dan Schmidt, Tim Muir, Pete Kohnen, Ron Koscielski, Tim Covert, Don Murray, Bob Barnes, and others including longtime worker Heather Jackson.

Our February meeting, we will host the award presentation for the fall derby, which new member Glen Mahrohn added the championship to his Open Division title from the spring & summer derby. To participate in our club derbies all you need to do is be a member of the LSCWA in good standing (dues current the Friday before a derby). Weigh in locations will be finalized in the next few weeks.

We are always looking for help or input to the club. If you have an idea or topic, you'd like to learn more about the board of directors would love to hear from you.

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

Finding Winter Walleye

Captain Brandon Stanton Team Gunsmoke Sportfishing

So, you're going ice fishing for walleye tomorrow? Where are you going to start? Well, you have a couple different options to pick from. The first is word of mouth or what I like to call "strung out leads". Maybe your buddy, bait shop, or even Facebook might have pointed you in a certain direction. Or you might be one of those guys that try to figure out where someone is fishing by a picture they posted. The bad news is that most anglers take their pictures in a different location than they catch their fish.

The second option, one that I despise, is to find someone or a group of fishermen already fishing and run up on them. There are those who will move in real close to them and make a bunch of noise on an already established angler. This behavior is likely to spook all the fish away and then nobody gets any. Some will say that the lake isn't very big and "it's not his lake", implying that this type of behavior is acceptable. In my opinion it is extremely unsportsman-like.

Your third option is to break the lake down, find some fish, and have them all to yourself. I consider this to be the optimal choice because it not only trains you to hone your own skills and knowledge, it also eliminates your dependence on anyone else. The first thing you must do is look at the contour lines and lake bottom. A Navionics chip in your sonar or Navionics app on your phone is a great place to start. Walleye like to hold up on structure and what I call structure would be holes, hills, rock piles, fingers, etc.; anywhere they can lay and wait to ambush prey. Fingers are my favorite; they are rock piles or bottom contours that extend out either into deeper or shallower water. This itself should find you some fish.

Now lets go a few steps farther in our breakdown. Wind is a major factor in my decision on which side of the finger I pick to set up on. Wind will dictate your current, which in turn dictates which direction the bait they are feeding on moves. Current will push the bait fish around so the walleye seem to sit behind whatever structure they are hunting. Walley want the bait to come over the top of them, so they can shoot up from underneath and eat in an ambush fashion similar to sharks.

The next step I put into the micro breakdown of my lake breakdown is migration. Walleye are a fish species that if given enough room, will migrate from place to place, season to season. The same time at the same place every year. This just takes time and years of fishing to figure out. So if you are familiar with your lakes' walleye migration you will have a significant advantage. Now you can pick a finger, hump, or hole in the migration route. This in turn will give you more fish moving

through the spot you picked. Keep in mind that the bait they are feeding on migrate also.

Now let's breakdown the bait the walleye are feeding on. I myself do not ask other fishermen where they are fishing at, but instead I ask what they found in their fish's stomachs. This is usually all the info I need. If they say emerald shiners, that indicates that the bait is most likely a little shallower and around gravel. If they tell me shad or perch, I'm going to look towards some sandy structure. If they say blood worms, I know that particular bait type is only found on our mud flats and that is where I will start looking.

Out of all the steps, the absolute most important step in my opinion is time. Put in the time, and you will find the fish. This breakdown system is what I use, but each individual angler breaks the lakes down in a similar fashion. Each fisherman will tweak it and customize it to create their own routine that works for them.

The more effort and time you invest in learning tips and tricks to ensure more successful fishing, the more you will want to explore other factors and possible reasons that contribute to successful fishing. I hope this helps and gives everyone perspective on where to start. Good luck and tight lines.

Harrison's Big Bass

Bob Barnes



My Grandson Harrison Rose caught the biggest fish in the Lake St Clair Walleye Associations annual summer kids fishing outing last July, a 16 ½ inch Large Mouth Bass!

The mount was done as always by St Clair Flats Taxidermy and it looked fabulous! They donate the

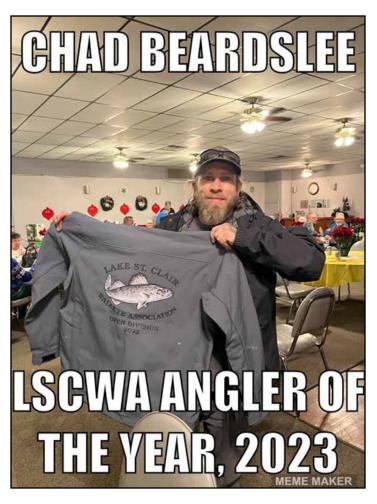
mount to the club each year. A big thanks to them for their continued support.

"I like fishing with Grandpa and Dad. At first I caught small fish but I waited and waited and got a big one" -Harrison age 6

"We appreciate the club putting on special community events like the kids' fishing outing for so many reasons. Our kids get to spend a day outside meeting new people and learning about fishing and the outdoors. This event is so accessible and inclusive, we're really grateful for LSCWA for their investment in our community and future fishermen like Harrison!"-Niki Rose, Harrison's mother

No greater joy they seeing kids fishing.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the 2023 summer kids outing July 30, 2023 at Lake St Clair Metro Park.



Adopt A Family



We had a family for Christmas. We gave the presents to the family on December 22. They were very appreciative for the gifts. We would like to thank Kim from Dick Huvaeres for

her help for our club. These are pitchers that we took of club members and the mother of the family.

CLASSIFIEDS

Attention!

- The Lake St. Clair Walleye Association will be hosting a bargain sale for fishing related gear. Further details will be announced in upcoming Lake St Clair Walleye Association newsletters. Any and all sales will be first come first serve, as well as all sales being final.
- Looking for youth shotgun 410 or 20 gage, call john Delaney 586-549-2779
- Call Rico for used gear or text him and let him know what you are looking for.

Five Dollar Fishing Trip

Hey club members, would you like to fish with other accomplished anglers in the club? You can if you would buy a five dollar raffle ticket. The tickets will be sold during club meetings by Mike Demanski. Mike had an idea of trying to get club members fishing together and maybe learn a few tricks in the process.

This event started last year and the board thought it would be helpful to try another year, Mike is willing to manage the details. All you have to do is buy chances to pick who you would like to fish with, and make arrangements for a fishing trip of your choosing.

All the monies raised from this event will be put into the club's bank account, this is a win, win for everybody.

Christmas Party

We had a great Christmas party. Lots of food everybody had a nice time. Nice stuff at the raffle table to.







Rigging Your Ride

Capt. Brandon Stanton
Team Gunsmoke Sportfishing



As I unload my machine for a day of fishing on Saginaw Bay, the landscape looks almost Martian-like with the mixture of jagged ice shoves and desolate terrain basking in the red glow of the morning

sun. It's a beautiful sight and I love it, but it takes many unseen steps to get me to that point. The big water of Saginaw Bay, when frozen over, is very unforgiving and treacherous. There are times that myself and my clients will run 20 miles in one direction across Saginaw Bay, and proper equipment and maintenance is a necessity. This beautiful landscape will also try to demolish and tear your equipment apart without even thinking twice. I have destroyed many thousands of dollars of equipment and gear in my years on that bay trying to perfect my routine in the most safe and efficient ways possible. Many years of trial and error have honed my routine to what it is today, but I still continue to learn better ways to do every part of my job as a charter captain and ice guide. It's a good idea to always be open to learn and evolve. Along my lifetime I have met and continue to meet other fishermen who have good ideas that I never thought of. Good sportsmen and women will continually teach and learn along the way.

Attention should be given to the quality of the products you use and how good of a fit they are to your needs and routine. It's okay to price shop and look for a more cost-effective way to do things as long as you're not sacrificing safety or too much quality to save a buck. Being on the ice in the middle of the lake presents many instances where the quality of your equipment and products will make the difference between a great day and a bad and potentially unsafe day. This being said, it does not mean that all your gear needs to be the most expensive, newest, and top of the line. It does mean that your gear should be able to handle the task it is intended for and be maintained to its best operating potential. Even the best quality equipment will break down but starting out with below par or poorly maintained gear will have you at a disadvantage from the start.

The first thing on my list are my snow machines. It is of the utmost importance to have a dependable machine to get you out and in safely. It is a bad and potentially dangerous experience to be broke down and stranded miles off shore. Always make sure that your machines are full of fuel. You never know how many unforeseen miles you may need to put on. My snowmobiles are always equipped with ice scratchers and studs. Studs will get you out of a lot of trouble and jams while on Saginaw Bay. I also carry rear tire chains for the back

axle on the quads for the same reason...when you need to go, you need to go.

I use poly truck boxes or OTTER Monster Boxes on the back of my machines. Make sure whatever you use, it has a good locking latch. This will ensure that it will not look like a yard sale behind you when you get to your destination. They are supported with solid welded custom (preferably aluminum) framework that is bolted to my machine and made to be easily removed if necessary. All electronics, augers, bait, and tackle ride on the machine so it's on suspension. Never put anything you can't afford to break in a shanty tub for the ride. It's literally an oversized popcorn popper. I run a Digger Auger Mount on the front bumper of all my machines. It's just a personal preference because snowmobiles and quads can buck like mules on the way in and out. I've lost and found many augers over the years and I like to keep a keen eye on something that pricey. My Digger Auger Mount is equipped with 2 hooks I fabbed up myself for the most important piece of equipment...your spud! When in doubt, spud the ice... always.



GPS is fixed to my machine and always hardwired to the battery. Never plug your GPS into a DC outlet. Most DC outlets go off when the key is turned off and you will lose your trail. Put a GPS hardwired

on your machine, don't just rely on whatever GPS might be integrated into your fish finder. Mapping on your fish finder isn't the way to go, in my opinion. I don't want to carry my fish finder in my lap on the way to follow the GPS. Your GPS doesn't have to be brand new and expensive, as long as it will take your Navionices chip.

A cell phone is a no brainer...it is your lifeline in case of an emergency. Another must for me on every trip out is a mini jump box. A lot of machines do not have a pull cord start anymore, and a charged phone could be the difference between life and death. The cold weather can quickly drain your phone's battery, and a jump box will save the day. All my machines are also equipped with hand held radios (ship to shore) and an apparatus rigged with a rope as a throwable device to someone in need. I carry a little ammo box with extra nuts, bolts, hitch pins, rope, and tools such as pliers, adjustable wrench, screwdriver with bits, and the mini jump box. Another good add on is switching to LED headlights or a light bar. The farther you can see in front of you, the safer the journey.

Ice fishing Saginaw Bay can be one of the best experiences of your life if you go into it properly prepared. A little preparation and a willingness to adapt and adjust will make a huge difference in your overall experience.



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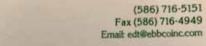
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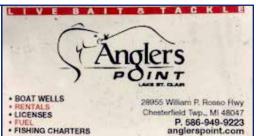
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