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PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE LAKE ST. CLAIR WALLEYE ASSOCIATION



# WALLEYE WORLD

DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF MICHIGAN'S WALLEYE FISHERY

January 2009

<http://www.lakestclairwalleyeassociation.com>

## CHANGES TO MICHIGAN FISHING REGULATIONS

*By Terry Picard*

At the Nov. 6, 2008 Natural Resources Commission meeting in Lansing, Department of Natural Resources Director Rebecca Humphries signed fisheries orders that changed Michigan fishing regulations in several areas.

One of the changes extends the spearing season through the ice for pike and musky in certain waters to Dec. 1 thru March 15 (there is no musky spearing on Lake St Clair, Lake Erie, the Detroit River or the St. Clair River). Another change opens up whitefish spearing on the Great Lakes and connecting waters to a year-round season. These orders took effect immediately.

The director also signed orders establishing a two-gallon limit on smelt designed to prevent waste during periods of high abundance and offer some protection to smelt as an important forage and sport species. The new limit on smelt, a first of its kind for Michigan, applies to dip-net and hook-and-line anglers alike and takes effect April 1, 2009.

Another change beginning April 1, 2009 which is being given overwhelming support in a recent DNR survey, allows anglers to fish with three lines. This covers the pursuit of all species on all Michigan waters. Anglers have been able to troll the Great Lakes and some connecting waters for salmon or trout using three rods since 2000 but have been limited to two lines for all other fishing.

The same orders that will allow three lines per angler also increase the number of hooks per angler from four to six. On Michigan waters, each lure counts as a hook whether there's one or three hooks attached to it. Remember that in Ontario each hook counts as a hook.

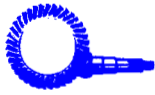
It's always best to make sure you know the regulations



*"Paul Driggers with a nice 3 pound Walleye caught the last weekend of November. He and his partner trolled for walleyes with cranks in Anchor bay. They made one pass from the SANG to the Clinton River and back and stayed in 8-9 fow. The speeds were at 1.5 mph. Some fish came off in-line boards and were just 25 feet behind the boat. The water was 38° and clear enough to see the props. The also caught a decent sized Pike and three small Muskies that day."*

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**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
 WEDNESDAY ~ 7:30 P.M.  
 January 21, 2009  
 Next Meeting February 18, 2008**

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**ALL FISHERMEN WELCOME!**

Log onto the website to find out what is  
 happening in and around the Club  
**www.lscwa.net**

**Walleye World**

The WALLEYE WORLD is the official newsletter of the Lake St. Clair Walleye Association, and welcomes all contributions from the members. These can be news items, articles, photographs, and art-work. We reserve the right to edit material for length, etc. All signed articles appearing in any issue reflect the opinions of the writer and are not necessarily the policy of the organization or its members.

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**CALENDER OF EVENTS**

Jan. 21 .....General Membership Meeting  
 Feb. 14 & 15 .....Free Fishing Weekend  
 Feb. 15 .....Kids Ice Fishing Outing  
 Feb. 18.....General Membership Meeting  
 Feb. 21 .....Bowling Fund Raiser  
 Mar. 18.....General Membership Meeting  
 Apr. 4 .....FLW Qualifier in Port Clinton, OH  
 Apr. 15 .....General Membership Meeting  
 Apr. 17-19.....LSCWA Derby  
 May 3 .....Walleye-Palozza  
 May 9 .....MUCC District 8 Walleye Tournament  
 May 17 .....Rose Marine Tournament  
 May 20 .....General Membership Meeting  
 May 22-24 .....LSCWA Derby  
 Jun. 6 .....LSCWA/Gilbert's Walleye Tournament  
 Jun. 17 .....General Membership Meeting  
 Jun. 18-21 .....LSCWA Derby  
 Jun. 20 .....FLW Qualifier in Monroe, MI  
 Jul. 26 .....Kids Summer Fishing Outing  
 Aug. 22 .....FLW Qualifier in Au Gres, MI  
 Sept. 17-19 .....no-entry-fee Walmart FLW  
 Walleye League Finals in Chippewa Falls, WI

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## GET YOUR TEAMS TOGETHER!

by David A. Wilemski

Saturday, February 21st will be our Walleye club's 4th Annual Bowling Fundraiser. See the flier inside this month's newsletter.

Every year has been better than the one before. Just ask any club member who has participated. This year we will be at a new bowling establishment. Here are some of the changes from years past:

- We will only bowl 2-games and get done earlier.
- Shoe rental is free.
- Unlimited Pizza to eat.
- We do not have to have six on a lane. Whatever you wish- 4, 5 or 6 are OK! We have lots of lanes to fill.
- We will have more prizes to raffle off.
- We will have Strike ball and Mystery games.

This fundraiser is very important to the funds required to operate our club. Your dues are low because of these fundraisers. Please help us out by signing up your team at the January meeting. Thank you.



Geoff & Debbie Regulski were instrumental in making the Kid's Christmas Party such a huge success. Bob Bretheaur (bottom photo) not only helped Geoff & Debbie at the Christmas Party but he donated a lot of his time and energy to make the December Pot Luck Dinner fun for everyone.



## MUCC WORKS TO STOP RAID ON NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

by Robert M. Borchak, Region 4 VP, MUCC

The Transportation Funding task force authorized by P.A. 21 of 2007 recommended the redirection of all or part of our Natural Resources Trust fund to Transportation.

On behalf of the 40,000 members and 400 affiliated clubs of the Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) we must strenuously oppose this redirection of OUR dedicated funds. These funds are intended for recreation and conservation purposes and this unconstitutional attempt to circumvent the public will is outrageous and will not be tolerated. Michigan voters in 1985, 1994 and 2002 strengthened the Fund with amendments that were approved overwhelmingly. Just last week, \$48.5 Million in grants were awarded to entities throughout the state for the 2008 Trust Fund Grant cycle. Yes, Michigan needs transportation infrastructure funding but PLEASE look elsewhere and leave the sportsman and their money alone.

### Other important news includes:

- Michigan Congressman/Conservation Champion John Dingle Loses Chairmanship of Energy and Commerce Committee.
- Michigan Wins Ballast Water Lawsuit.
- It's Official---Great Lakes Compact Now Law!
- Participation License for Bear/Bobcat Hunters Removed
- Crossbow Expansion Talks Continue.
- 2008 Fisheries Conservationist of the year award presented to Bill Taylor.

For more details go to: [www.mucc.org](http://www.mucc.org)  
Yours in Conservation.

## LSCWA MEETING LOCATION ??

by Bob Barnes

As mentioned at our club's Christmas Party on December 17, 2008 we are in the final stages of negotiations with Gino's Surf. We are considering whether to move our membership meetings from the present location to a larger one. Gino's Surf is located at 37400 Jefferson Avenue, Harrison Township, MI 48045.

Many of the board members involved in the negotiations are excited to have such an outstanding meeting facility and to have it located on the water is an extra bonus; what a view. This location will meet all our current and future needs. We tentatively plan on February 18, 2009 to be the first meeting.

Nothing has been finalized at this time. The executive board will have more information at the January membership meeting.

Get A Kid Hooked  
on Fishing  
NOT DRUGS

## THANK YOU HARBOR HILL MARINA

At the December general meeting LSCWA President Keith Krych gave a plaque to Ron Sharp for the continuing support Harbor Hill Marina has given our club. Later in the week Ron presented the plaque to Tony DiPiazza, the manager of Harbor Hill Marina and the St. Jean Ramps Debbie Addy, manager for Trinity Land Development Company (owned by John Carlo, Inc.), was also in attendance. This plaque was in appreciation for their hosting of our spring 2008 LSCWA Walleye Derby at the St. Jean Ramps. They had also hosted our promotional open to the public weigh-in held in 2007. They have also donated ramp passes to the association to use for fund raising over the years.

When you see Tony at the boat ramp say Hi and give him a big Thank You for helping out the club.

The ramps are located right on the river at the foot of St. Jean Street and are commonly known as the St. Jean Ramps. These ramps, along with the ramp at the foot of Alter Rd., are the only public boat access sites on the Michigan side of the upper Detroit River. Harbor Hill Marina has worked hard over the last few years to improve the ramps and to answer concerns with lighting and security. The St. Jean ramps are open from April till the end of October. From late spring until fall the ramps are open 24 hours. The ramp at the end of Alter is open 24 hours from ice out till ice in.



*This past December the club presented plaques to the supporters of our association to show our appreciation for the many things these people and businesses do. In the photo above Bob Barnes (right) presented a plaque to Doug Phillips, Promotions Manager at the Bass Pro Shops in Auburn Hills.*

## JANUARY GUEST SPEAKER

*by Dave Marcelewski*

The guest speaker for our January general Membership Meeting will be Joe Raymer. Joe is running an ice fishing for walleye guide service on Saginaw Bay. He will point out the good fishing spots, the access points, the lodging, and the gear used to catch fish. Plus he will cover the hazards.

With the price of gas going down Saginaw Bay is a World Class Fishery at an affordable price. Fish of 10 pounds plus are caught every year, and are fairly common. It is only a 1 1/2 to 2 hour drive from Detroit. You can fish the southern or northern part of the bay.

This is a lengthy presentation so be ready. Joe Raymer will be one of the best ice fishing pros you have heard in quite awhile. This will prove to be an interesting seminar.

## LSCWA HONDA 8 hp MOTOR RAFFLE

*by Ron Sharp*

Tickets are printed!! The LSCWA is kicking off the sale of the tickets for the Honda Motor (donated by Rose Marine Service) at the 2009 ULTIMATE FISHING SHOW. I will have tickets available to all to help sell through out the 2009 season with the prizes being given away at our August 23, 2009 derby weigh-in. Please help to make this the biggest fund raiser ever for the LSCWA.

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## THANK YOU

*by Ron Sharp*

I think we should all give Keith a thank you for a great job presenting the December 2008 membership meeting and pot luck dinner. Do not forget the work Bob and Shelby Bretheaur did in making the arrangements and getting it set-up. And we have to remember all those who brought in food dishes and deserts. THANK YOU to everyone who helped make the December meeting a success.

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# HOW, WHEN AND WHERE TO FISH LAKE ST. CLAIR

By Keith Krych

So you just purchased a boat and want to know if there are any fish in the lake. Well the answer is a resounding YES!!! Lake St. Clair is a world class fishery for walleye, small mouth bass, muskie, and panfish. If your preference is for trout and salmon, the St Clair river and North Channel are the places to be. Let's look at how, where, and when to go after these fish.

Starting just after ice-out walleyes move into the Detroit River and into the lower part of Lake St Clair. Jigging, handlining and trolling in the shipping channel using minnow imitating baits work very well. The fishing in these areas will remain great until June.



Keith has been fishing Lake St. Clair and its surrounding waterways his entire life. He never hesitates to share his ideas and experiences with all club members.

Around June the walleyes disperse into the lake. Trolling or drifting crawler harnesses just above the weed beds becomes the best bet at putting some of these tasty fish into your cooler. My best spots have been in Anchor Bay, the Dumping Grounds, and around the 400 Club Tower. You can also troll crankbaits like Hot-N-Tots, Shad Raps, Reef Runners And Wally Divers in the deeper open waters for suspended fish.

In July the night fishing takes off. Casting Bomber 15A's at night over the weed beds in the North, Middle, And South Channels turns on. This night pattern will continue through the fall.

From August through the fall, drifting or trolling crawler harness in the channels puts a lot of fish in the livewell. The best color combos are red beads with a silver blade, chartreuse beads with silver or gold blades, and a perch combination of chartreuse, green and orange beads with a gold blade.

Lake St. Clair is also the home of a world class Muskie fishery. The Muskie season opens the first Saturday in June, so all the "ski" heads should head to the dumping grounds or Anchor Bay. Muskie trolling is different than any other type of fishing. First the baits are about the size of good size panfish and you troll them at a very fast pace of four to five mph. The rods have to be stout to hold up to the weight and trolling speed of these large baits. Later in the season the Muskies head to the southern shoreline and the fishermen follow them. Fishing off the Belle River hump, Stony Point, and over to the Thames River really takes off. The fall is trophy time on Lake St. Clair! The Thames River and the mouth of the South Channel are the best spots from September until the season closes.

Smallmouth bass fishing is so good on Lake St. Clair that several major tournaments are scheduled each year. If you find a weed bed you found the smallmouth. Spinnerbaits, tube jigs and small crankbaits are all effective on these members of the sunfish family. The weed beds off the mile roads from 9 Mile up to 15 Mile are outstanding for numbers of two to three pound smallies. You can also try the weed beds the whole length of the shipping channel, Old South Channel, Middle And North Channels. Anchor Bay smallie fishing in the spring is very good too. Try by the Clinton River entrance, by the A and B markers, and by Grassy Island.

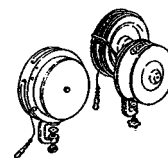
Perch and panfish are also located in the weeds. Try drifting a perch rig with a small piece of crawler or minnow for these tasty treats. Perch rigs are sold in almost all the local bait shops around the lake.

If you want to learn more about the local fishing opportunities, please contact the Lake St Clair Walleye Association at 586-778-0840. Good fishing and keep your lines in the water.

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## 2009 TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

*Geoffrey Regulski*

I know it's the beginning of January and most of our members are thinking about ice fishing; however I would like to get a jump start on what is ahead for the Fishing Tournament Schedule for 2009. I am not going to go into full detail at this time but would like to introduce to you what to expect as far as tournament fishing goes. The L.S.C.W.A. club is involved in five tournaments this coming year.

The first tournament will be held at Jigger's Bar & Grill located in Fair Haven, Michigan. The weigh-in is on Sunday, April 26th, from 2:00 p.m. till 4:00 p.m. A fish fry starts at 3:00 p.m. Chantel will be the gracious hostess, as always. Also, please keep in mind this is the LSCWA Trade-A-Trip weekend. This event will be happening there as well. So, let us all come out and support Jiggers and our club at the same time.

The second tournament will be the Walleye Palooza 2009 contest hosted by 'Sinbad's at the River' in Detroit, Michigan. The weigh-in is on Sunday, May 3rd. This weigh-in will run from 2:30 p.m. till 4:40 p.m. with a fish fry starting around 3:30 p.m. This is a new location for our club's weigh-in crew. I am looking for a lot support from our club members to help make this tournament a successful event.

The third tournament is the MUCC District 8 Walleye Tour. This is the one tournament that started it all. This year the tournament will be held on Saturday, May 9th, at the St. Clair Hunt and Fish Club. The weigh-in will be from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m., with a fish fry starting at 4:00 p.m.

The fourth tournament will be held at Bill Rose Marine located in Algonac, Michigan. The weigh-in is on Sunday, May 17th, from 2:00 p.m. till 4:00 p.m. Bill Rose and his wife Kandy will be hosting the tournament and fish fry starting around 3:00 p.m. This will be his second walleye tournament. This tournament is the only team event that the L.S.C.W.A. weigh-in crew are involved in. Since this is a one day event and is limited to 60 boats I would suggest to register early, well before the May 9th deadline date for entries, because I expect it will fill up faster than last year.

The fifth tournament will be the L.S.C.W.A. 8th Spring Classic Walleye Tournament. It is hosted by Gilbert's Sportsmen Club located in Ray Township. The weigh-in is on Saturday, June 6th, from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m., with a fish fry starting at 3:00 p.m. This is a joint effort between L.S.C.W.A. and Gilbert's Sportsmen Club. We are asking all club members from both clubs to make this tournament a success.

As I said in the beginning, this is just an overview of dates and tournament times for the upcoming year. There will be more information in the club newsletters. In February I will focus on the first and second tournaments which are Jigger's and Walleye Palooza with more information on the other three tournaments.

## HOW I FIND NEW CLUB MEMBERS

*by David A. Wilemski- Past-President*

Whenever I go shopping, pick up new eyeglasses, visit the dentist, take my dog Seger for a walk at the park or other trips outside of my own yard, I usually wear a LSCWA hat, shirt or sweater. More often than not I meet a stranger who notices the club's Walleye emblem and I get a comment like "Hey! Are you a Walleye fisherman?" This opens up a dialog. "Sure!" I respond. "I belong to the Lake St. Clair Walleye Association."

Then if we both have a few extra minutes I give them a quick thumbnail pitch about our club. I usually reach into my wallet and pull out a LSCWA business card and tell them to check us out on the Web.

Eight out of ten people, both men and women, are very receptive to hear about a family fishing club that is located close to their home and that we have monthly events for the entire family.

Last month I spoke to the wife of a laid off auto worker who said her husband loves to fish but is just moping around the house with nothing much to do (getting under her skin). She thought the group would be great a way to get him to take his mind off being unemployed at this time.

I hand out 5 to 8 club business cards each month. It is not difficult to do. Maybe more of our club members can get and keep a few of our business cards on their person and help our club to grow.



*Joe Raymer is going to present ice fishing tips at the January meeting. Be sure to mark your calendar for this seminar; it's going to be a great presentation.*