

LAKE ST. CLAIR WALLEYE ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 130

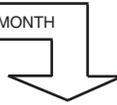
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OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LAKE ST. CLAIR WALLEYE ASSOCIATION



WALLEYE WORLD

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

January 2016

<http://www.lscwa.net>



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Richard Benson

Happy New Year! The year has just begun and we are already at our second event for the year as of this printing! On Jan. 2nd the LSCWA was at Bass Pro Shop in Auburn Hills to help man the indoor "ice" ponds and help the kids learn how to fish with a chance to catch a rainbow trout. The Ultimate Fishing Show is in full swing as well, with the LSCWA again as one of the clubs representing some of the most dedicated anglers this state has to offer. Our next two events, Cold as Ice II & the LSCWA kids ice outing, are in serious danger of being cancelled due to lack of cooperation with Mother Nature. Please see the website for further info on both events.

Now with all that being said, you can see we are a busy club at times!and it won't happen without volunteers. Volunteering not only gets you involved in the activities, it also gives you a chance to talk to other members, fisherman, sometimes a member of a pro-staff, might even lead to new fishing opportunities, friendships, etc. Get involved, I'm glad I did! See any board member to learn more.

We have one heck of a year coming up, get out there and join some of the derbies or tournaments coming up this year.

See you on the water soon, Rich.

BOARD MEETING MOVES

By: Jim Lease

Starting January 26,2016 the monthly Board of Directors meeting will now be held every 4th Tuesday at the Rose Clair Eagles Club on Little Mack south of 13 mile. The meeting will start at 7:30 as always.

LAKE ST. CLAIR WALLEYE ASSOCIATION

(586) 778-0480

LSCWA EXECUTIVE BOARD

President – Richard Benson
Vice President – Jerry Comfort
Financial Secretary – Bob Barnes
Recording Secretary – Tim Muir
Membership Secretary – Don Murray

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Lease (16) Charles Estep (17)
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ALTERNATES – Paul Imbrunnone (16)
John Francisco (17)
Eugene Ramin (17)

Field Rep – Stan Bydlos

OB Motor Raffle – Jerry Comfort

Merchandise – Mike Smith

Derby Weigh-Ins – Tim Muir

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan 7-10.....Ultimate Fishing Show
Jan 20th..... Next General Meeting
Keith Krych will do a seminar on how to use crank baits.
Jan 27th..... Get-2-Gether at South Side Grill
2769 Nine Mile Warren @ 8:30am
Jan 30th.....Cold as Ice II Metro Park
Jan 31stKids fishing event Metro Park
Feb 17th General Meeting with Jerry Fox Sr.
doing his planner board seminar and tune up shop.
Feb 25-28 Outdoorama

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

WEDNESDAY ~ 7:30 P.M.

JANUARY 20, 2016

FOR ALL MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING

(Walk-ins Welcome)

LAKELAND BANQUET & EVENT CENTRE

21801 Nine Mile Rd. (East of Harper) St. Clair Shores, MI 48080

Next Reg. Meeting February 17, 2016

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

www.lscwa.net

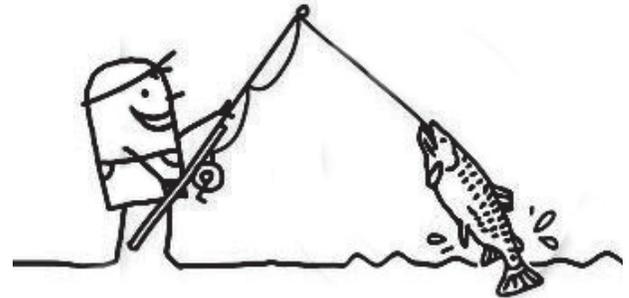
The **WALLEYE WORLD** is the official monthly newsletter of the Lake St. Clair Walleye Association (a 501c3 non-profit organization). We welcome all written/photo contributions from the members. Written/photo contributions can be submitted to jlease357@hotmail.com. All written or photo contributions 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. 900 copies printed each month (1,200 for Jan. & None for Nov.)

EDITOR: Jim Lease. Email or phone me with your articles. jlease357@hotmail.com or phone 586-722-3330.

Club Reporter: David A. Wilemski

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.



CUT OUT COUPON & MAIL

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How did you hear about us? _____

MASSACRE ON THE GREAT LAKES AND WATERSHED

by Joe Delaney

(Part 1 of 4)

Introduction

In the past 30 years a major ecological and economical problem has developed on the Great Lakes. Only a few people recognize this problem and fewer still seem to care about it. The invasive Asian Carp situation is very important and it needs to be dealt with urgently, but that is not the problem of which I write.

Currently, I believe the protection of the Great Lakes and all the connecting and inland waterways is now a two front war. The endangerment of our seven billion dollar a year fishing industry and the welfare of our fresh water eco-system should be the concern of every person. Its final outcome will affect everyone. Note, that the status of all the minnow stocks of all species is the very foundation of all the adult game fish in the Great Lakes.

What's the Problem

All the young fish of the Great Lakes and in all the connecting waterways are under a potential major attack in 2012, beginning with ice out. All of the surrounding inland lakes, streams and ponds are likewise under siege by multiple species of severely overpopulating fish eating birds. This infestation not only includes America but Canada as well. At a recent fly fishing show, a professional fly fishing guide and tackle manufacturer from London, England told me that some European countries have the same problem. It is documented that in Michigan at least, that when fish hatchery trucks deposit their load of trout, salmon, steelhead, etc., the DNR personnel quickly leave the scene. (Plantings are usually done at the river's mouth at the entrance to the lake.) After the planting no one stays or looks after the vulnerable fry to protect them. This has got to stop! At least several days (or longer) of residence, at the shallow water entrance way of the

rivers are required; for the recently planted young fish to be imprinted with their "home waters" location. Only after this location imprinting can the fish run to the "big water" to grow and develop. They will return in several years to do their spawning runs, usually at maturation. When first planted these fry are easily caught. Predators can and do massacre these fingerlings with ease. Undoubtedly, at this time the fry of all game and non-game fish alike are under serious potential danger by any predator. The ultimate number one villain of the Great Lakes is the piscivorous waterfowl commonly called the Double Crested Cormorant. Note that it has been observed and documented that mobile flocks of Cormorants patrol the mouths of many rivers on the Great Lakes and will quickly decimate the plantings of any game fish whenever possible. It needs to be understood that Double Crested Cormorants, *Phalacrocorax auritus*, are an invasive species with an enormous appetite. They will usually target the young of game fish and only then go after miscellaneous minnows. CORMORANTS LOVE PERCH!

While doing research for this story I found out that numerous species of birds, not usually considered predators by most laymen, will prey on any type of minnows. They are opportunistic hunters. These predators basically fall into two categories: those who feed primarily on fish "piscivorous" and those who supposedly only occasionally feed on fish.

However the many texts books in my personal library and the public library fail to list the latitude of food preference of some fowl under certain circumstances. Sometimes even puddle ducks like Black Mallards will eat minnows. I know this because I have found them in the gullets of East coast black ducks that I have hunted. Note that I have been an active, licensed, water fowler since 1956. There are other ducks, especially divers (23 species in North America) who also probably, at least occasionally, become fish eaters. The three mergansers; the hooded, the common and the red breasted are listed as piscivorous water fowl but are probably of minimal consequence, to the current situation. If you review the other species of winged fowl who primarily feed on fish you need to list the Osprey, a true raptor. Include also the Herring Gull, the Black Tern and the Bittern. But even these birds are probably not the immediate problem. The two species of concern are: the Double Crested Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax auritus*, as previously mentioned and the Great Blue Heron, *Ardea Herodias*.

Look for the February issue of the Walleye World and the second part of Joe's article.

BINGO

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

Sundays

Doors open at 4PM • Play at 6PM

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

The Art of the Triple Header

by Rob Barnes

Being part of the walleye club helps us all improve our fishing skills. By learning and fishing with some of the best walleye anglers on Lake St. Clair, I have learned how to read electronics better, pattern fish, and manipulate multiple lines in trolling sessions. I'm sure many of you would agree, fishing with the LSCWA is a good thing! Our members help each other refine technique specific skills and thus increase competition within our Masters, Open, and Youth fishing derby divisions. In addition to this, the skills we learn as a fishing community carry over to angling for other species as well. For example, I am able to apply concepts of where walleye hold in current breaks on rivers to float fishing for steelhead and salmon on our state's northwestern rivers.

I want to share a special skill set I have learned while fishing with some long time masters division anglers. These tips are tailored for trolling sessions but the concepts can carry over to other angling techniques. My hope is that this helps you land more fish.

1. Bring multiple landing nets

Bring at least two nets. When you are trolling dead center into an active pod of feeding walleye, with the right presentation you should be hooking up on both sides of the boat. When this happens your chance for hooking multiple walleye at the same time is much greater than



if you are clipping the side of the pod with lines on one side of the boat. When multiple hookups happen, use one net to land the first fish and the other net to land the other. The reason behind this is that if you only have one net on the boat you force yourself to clear it after each fish is landed, robbing you of time to monitor your other lines and support your co-angler(s).

2. Clear your landing nets as opportunity allows

In a multiple fish situation, if one fish has been landed and you or your co-angler is retrieving another fish with the inline planer board still attached, there may only be a short window of time to clear the fish and lure from the net before assistance is needed. Therefore, use your best judgement before deciding to clear the first net. Should you do decide to clear a net, I recommend you support your co-angler first as needed and then clear the fish from that net. Ask your co-angler what the count is on their line counter reel. This will give you an idea of how far the fish is from the boat. Your secondary landing net should be "readied", meaning it is within reaching distance to grab and land the next fish. When the moment of truth arrives, land the second fish.

3. To land the triple header you must be bold

If both of your landing nets are full and another rod indicates a hit, one of you must get to that rod and start bringing in the fish. Remember, support your co-angler first. You may not have time to clear either of the two nets. If there is no opportunity to clear one of the nets, prepare to dip a net again. Yes, one with the fish still in it. Open the bail on the corresponding reel so it will free spool and allow you to perform the following tasks. Pick up one of the nets. As you pick it up, allow the weight of the fish to fully expand the netting; gravity is your friend. When the time comes, carefully deploy the net behind the fish which needs to be landed. Your trolling speed will hold the previously landed fish to the back of the netting and allow you an opportunity to scoop up the other. Be bold and make the scoop. Two fish, one net; the rewards of being a gutsy walleye angler.



Ice fishing event at Bass Pro shop

The ice fishing event at Bass Pro shop was a ton of fun. The looks on the kids faces cannot be explained without a camera. I really did not have room for more than 4 pictures but you can see what I'm talking about. I think the club members who came out enjoyed helping the kids.



I would like to thank Bob Barnes for running the show as well as Richard and Joann Koch, Charles Estep, Jim Jumbo Bartz, Jerry Comfort, John Roodbeen, Ray Waters, Don Murray, John Francisco, Charles Henderson and Jerry Formella. I hope I didn't miss anyone if so I am sorry.

Thanks again, Jim



Why should you join the LSCWA?

by Rich Benson

I joined the LSCWA about 8 years ago, learned a lot more about fishing than I'll ever remember, had some great times and made some good friends. But now you may ask, "what's in it for me?"

For starters, you will belong to a club that is dedicated to the preservation of not only Lake St. Clair, but fishing everywhere. We have a trade-a-trip every spring with the St. Joe Steelheaders, club derbies, fish fry's, monthly meetings with seminars, kids fishing outings and more.....and it's all free! Yes, we do ice fishing, summer fishing, we even send members children and grandchildren to the MUCC summer camp. We also have just added a \$1000 scholarship program available to members as well! Yet another perk for being a member, starting this year the club is going to mount the largest fish caught and entered in the club derbies and present it to the lucky angler at our Christmas meeting and use it for promoting the club during the show season. These and many more benefits are available to you, just for joining the best fishing club in Michigan!

Kid Fishing: Panfish Fun on Fourth of July!

by Shawn Elliott

Last summer, we decided to camping over the Fourth of July weekend in Lake City, MI. Our group included my wife and boys, Joey, age 9 and Davy, age 6, as well as, my brother-in-law, his wife and son, Jack, age 6. The campground was packed and the weather perfect with high 80's temperature and low wind. My version of camping is actually sleeping in a tent, which is not that popular these days. Ironically, the boys love to sleep in a tent. My brother in-law towed his restored aluminum Grumman boat and a bunch of fishing gear. My oldest son loves to fish, so I brought a bunch of fishing gear as well.

Our organizers of our weekend had plenty of things on the agenda over the next few days with many involving shopping and restaurants. Some of us had other aspirations of fishing and going to the beach. On a perfect Saturday, the Fourth of July, everything that floated was on Lake Missaukee along with huge crowds on the beach. Somehow, I ended up with the three boys and we were going fishing, while the rest were off to visit some relatives.

Fishing with three little kids can be a huge challenge, as there are no electronics to keep them occupied. My oldest son and I fish a lot, about 50 to 60 times a year, and the boat is a electronic free zone - no Ipad, Nintendo DS, or Kindle. My brother in-law dropped the boat in the lake and we were off.

Lake Missaukee was packed with people and boats everywhere and of course those great jet skis zipping around. We have never fished this lake before and I wanted to get the boys into some fish. After having fun zipping around the lake and skipping the boat over waves, I needed to find a spot to fish. We stopped near some lily pads, tossed out the anchor, then I hoped for a quick bite to keep the kids interested. The boys baited and flipped out their panfish rigs with pieces of worms. Wham! Fish on and the kids were squealing with delight. It was a small panfish, maybe 5 inches, which was as big as a pike in the kids eyes.

For the next three hours, the boys hammered a school of panfish, catching over 80 fish and we never moved the boat. Every time the bait hit the water, the boys had a bite and that kept me busy as ever baiting the hooks. We filled the live well and took some pictures and tossed them all back. I don't recall catching a fish myself, however, this was one of the best fishing days of my life - panfishing with kids!

Take time to going fishing with kids. Get them away from the electronics and make memories that will last a lifetime for you both!



This is how it starts with Lincoln Dolson and his winning fish from last August at the Kids Fishing event at Metro Park. He caught a 16 1/2 inch bass and the club had it mounted curtesy of St. Clair Flats Taxidermy. It ends with Brian Feuer winning the first Koch award for the largest fish caught during a derby this year. He caught a 9.23 lb. walleye. In between start and finish is the middle, our Masters Division. Hard fisherpersons all from L to R they are Scott Hunt, Dan Austin, Keith Krych, Rich Benson, Theresa Shue, Rob Barnes, Joann Koch, Bob Barnes, Richard Koch, Dennis Strohbeck, Mike Smith, Geoff Regulski and Ron Pisarski. Cograds to all and good job.



2016 LSCWA DISCOUNT CARD

This year we have a new fund raiser for the club. It is a discount card and will sell for \$10. This card is designed to help give awareness to the merchant as well as more customers and at the same time give a discount to the purchaser.

There are 20 different merchants on the back of the card, all giving various discounts. This card can be used multiple times all year long. It expires December 31, 2016. Use the card and you will get your \$10 back plus more.

To make this fund raiser a success I need help with distribution of the tickets. If every member sells 5 to 10 tickets that would get the job done. Anyone selling 20 tickets gets a \$20 gift card.

These cards will make great gifts. You can use them for Christmas gifts (stocking stuffers), a thank you to a friend, birthday, etc.

See me at a meeting for tickets or call me and I can mail them to you. 586-482-0026

Jerry Comfort
Vice President LSCWA

2016 TREE HOUSE SCHEDULE

Date	Location	8:30 AM	Bring a Friend
Jan 27	South Side Grill 2769 Nine Mile Rd	Warren, MI 48091 586-754-2940	Coney Island Advertiser, Etc.
Feb 24	Strawberry Fields 51070 S. Foster	E of I-94 on 23 Mile 586-949-7740	Chesterfield 48047 Dave's B.D. week
Mar 30	Charlie's Restaurant 22315 Harper	SCS West side of Rd.	Voted Best
April 27	Amore's Grill & Spirits 53100 Gratiot, @ 24 Mile	Chesterfield 586-749-9262	On East Side Rd. New Place
May 25	Country Inn (NEW) 51292 Romeo Plank	Macomb, N.of 23 Mi 586-786-7599	One of Three Near ACE Hrdwr.
June 29	K's Family Restaurant 5347 Pt. Tremble	Algonac 48001 810-794-9075	Past Colony Marine Very Good Food
July 27	Bill Houcks Home 39443 Camp St.	Harrison 586-413-1078	South of S.Rvr Rd West off Jefferson
Aug 31	Bob Evans', Chesterfield 45140 Corners Ct. 48047	West along I-94 East of Gratiot	On Hall Rd, Nr. Walmart Near Menards
Sept 28	Gus' Coney Isle Gratiot just S. of 23 Mile	Chesterfield Good Food	On West Side/Gratiot Fun Waitresses
Oct 26	Rose's Fam Dining 31301 Harper Ave	SCS West Side; N of 13 Mi	Always a Great Time Special Prizes
Nov 30	Cracker Barrel, Rsvl. 30750 Little Mack Rd.	Just S. of 13 Mi. 586-293-5066	48066 Big Meals
Dec	No Tree House for December.	See You in 2017 (I hope)	Suggest some New places - '17

MAN OVERBOARD!

by Tim Muir and Shawn Elliott

Life Jackets save lives! I know because recently it most likely saved mine. Normally, I am very nonchalant about wearing one. They are inconvenient, can be uncomfortable, and “not cool”. For whatever reason on Friday, May 15th, I had one on. Thank God I did. This is both my account and my fishing partner for the day and friend Shawn Elliott’s account of the almost unthinkable happening to me that morning.

Shawn and I were out fishing in the lake pre-fishing for the May Madness tournament over in Canadian waters far from shore. The air temp was in the 60’s water temp a cool 56 degrees. We had just set up and had only been fishing for a short while. My memory is a bit fuzzy, but what I do remember is that a rod was trying to escape the boat. As I reached out to grab it and somehow I either slipped, lost my balance, or whatever, but my momentum carried me right over the stern and head first into that 56 degree water! It happened so fast. I know it sounds cliché, but it was the absolute truth. I went from standing on the deck, to being in the lake, in a blink of the eye.

After the holy crap moment of realizing I was in the water, I begun to panic for a second or two, until I surfaced. At that that point, I knew I had a life jacket on and it was doing its job. Thank God for that because after the course of the next minute or two, as my clothing became heavier and heavier by the weight of the water, I was unable to really make any type of life saving swimming motions. My arms and legs were so heavy it was nearly impossible for me to swim. I was able to talk to Shawn and tell him I was alright. I could see the fear in his eyes, as he feverishly tried to reel up the lines and turn the boat around to get me. Once I was within reach of the boat, I became scared when I was having trouble getting up onto the swim ladder. After about a 5 minute swim in cold water and heavy wet clothes, I had real trouble getting onto the ladder. It took every ounce of energy I had to get up there and back onto the boat.

Once safely back aboard I think a little shock set in. I really wasn’t that cold and was more mad at myself for putting me and Shawn in a terrible spot. I feel extremely lucky to have survived and would like to thank Shawn for saving me and pulling me out of the water. I can’t imagine the fear he had going through him during that time...

I knew that the weather was going to be a challenge that morning, as the forecast called for increasing winds every hour and rain. With that, I felt real confident having an experience boater like Tim on the boat, as my regular fishing partners are 9 and 6 years old. With the kids, we all always wear our life jackets. We ran to our first way-points and didn’t see a boat since leaving the ramp in Algonac, stopping in the massive “Stoney point” area. Then we setup and weren’t fishing long. I was adjusting something on the graph and out of the corner of my eye, Tim flies off the back of the boat as we are trolling. I was shocked and it happened so fast. My first thought is he has his jacket on and then quickly remembered not to take my eyes off of his location. Then I threw my safety personal floatation device, and the wind took it the other way. After Tim climbed back on the boat, I had enough gear to get him dry and we kept fishing. Always wear your life jacket, in this case, it gave the extra time to get Tim safely!

LSCWA PHOTO PAGE



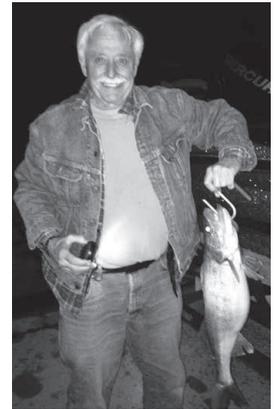
Joann with a nice stringer of perch



Mike Smith's wife Terri with her beautiful 5 point buck



Keith with his dogs



John Roodbeen with a nice fat walleye



Lets just call them the Four Horsemen. Nice pile of late season Ohio walleye.



The Elliott boys with Santa at the Christmas Party

2015 year in review and why join the LSCWA

by Tim Muir

I can sum it up in one word. WOW!! Started in April with catching my first 10lb walleye. I just received it back the taxidermist. It looks awesome. Next i caught what might of been a bigger one had she not spawned out. Then came the ugly incident of falling out of a boat. WEAR YOUR LIFEJACKET!!! The rest of summer/fall was one of the best in terms of walleye fishing in my life. we caught 10lbbers right up until 2 days before Christmas.

There is one common denominator in my entire 2015 season. Being a member of the LSCWA. If it not for that, most likely none of the above would have. If you are looking to become a better fisherman and want to make a few new friends in the process come check out our club. Not only have I learned so much and feel like I have become a much better fisherman, I have made many friends which would not have been possible without joining the club.

The friendships I have made are more valuable to me than the walleye I catch. This club is about more than catching walleye. it is about a common interest between fisherman and the camaraderie just like being part of a sports team.

We also do some very good things. We send kids to camp, raise walleye to be stocked around the state by the DNR, and this year will be having a scholarship fund. We really do give back.

If you are looking for something to do every 3rd Wednesday of the month, come check out a meeting. I guarantee you will learn something. The people are friendly, beverages are cold, and it is just a good time.



Tim's Trophy Mount

January Seminar & Video

by Keith Krych

With this no ice El Nino winter were having, we will have a seminar on how to choose what style of Crank Baits to troll with. There are several basic styles of crank baits on the market and we'll discuss which ones to use in the cold water, cool water, warming water and the summer periods. We'll also talk about the effects of speed and lastly color preferences by daily conditions. We'll also have a video on Fall walleye fishing out of Huron Ohio. See you at the Meeting.

Calling for Help

by Keith Krych

March is coming up fast and that means the mini-seminar night is right around the corner. We need volunteers to demonstrate your angling talents to other club members. If you make your own equipment, do some painting, tie your own harnesses, make your own shanks or want to demonstrate anything at all fishing related, please let me know at the next two meetings. We'll get a table for you, so you can do your thing for the rest of the club members. Remember this is YOUR CLUB and YOU have to participate to get the most out of it.

Super Bowl Sunday

by Rich Benson

Super Bowl Sunday, we're having a party at our Bingo fundraiser. Special games and prizes will be taking place that night with a new large, flat-screen TV being one of the top prizes for the night!

Come on out and play, support the club and take a chance at one of the many prizes available!

February 7, 2016
Rosemack Bingo Hall
20791 E. 13 Mile Rd., Roseville, MI 48066

All Club members are invited to submit pictures and/or articles about fishing, boating, and club activities anytime to this editor. You are all reporters for our Walleye World. Send to the Editor.

LSCWA Annual College Scholarship

by Shawn Elliott

The LSCWA club is in the process of establishing a annual scholarship, starting with the graduating class of 2016. Through some conversation with the board members, I volunteered to conduct the research needed to get the project off the ground. At the October general membership meeting, I presented some initial research and ideas on the scholarship. At the next board meeting, I presented a draft and recommended the establishment of a committee to support the process. At that meeting, I gladly accepted an appointment to lead the committee, that consists of LSCWA board members Bob B, Rich O, and John R. Together we have moved the draft into an application as well as set an initial timeline, all with keeping to the high standards that correspond with the club. The LSCWA application will be available to the membership via the club website sometime in January. Finally, I must mention that this concept would not be feasible without the weekly Bingo fundraiser!

The hard work of club members Rich B and his family, Keith and Marylyn, Tim M, Curtis, and many other members who have volunteered a few hours on Sunday night at the Rosemack bingo hall and have greatly benefitted the operations and goals of the club - Great job!

LSCWA SPECIAL EVENT!



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