

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

YOUR DUES EXPIRE AT THE END OF THIS MONTH



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE LAKE ST. CLAIR WALLEYE ASSOCIATION



WALLEYE WORLD

DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF MICHIGAN'S WALLEYE FISHERY

MAY, 2007

<http://www.lakestclairwalleyeassociation.com>

NEW MEMBERS

These are the new members to the club who joined over the past several months. Hopefully, we did not forget anyone. A very warm and heartfelt welcome is extended to all of them.

Andrew Sawicki • Jacob Benson • Jerry Pankowski
Bob Sajdak • Gary Fox • Michael Demanski
Gregory J. Dawson • Jerry J. Davidson
Larry Miracle • John Gesing

MAY GUEST SPEAKERS

from Dave Champine

This months guest speakers will be Border Patrol agents Jeff Gottwalt and Ron Boyd.

They are going to discuss how to achieve the 168, Nexus card, and other types of alternative identification or necessary documents. Some of these may soon be mandatory in order to travel to and from the U.S. by land or by sea. Applications, brochures, and other helpful information will be available. They will also be answering any questions club members may have.

Hope to see you there



Several members went to Port Clinton on a fishing trip for some monster Walleye. Here is Tom Hall with a 10.5 pound Lake Erie fish.

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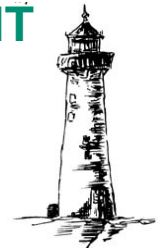
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ALTERNATES

Joe Gentz, Richard Gentz,
 Dave Champine, Larry Osmulski

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

WEDNESDAY ~ 7:30 P.M.
MAY 16, 2007

Next Meeting June 20, 2007

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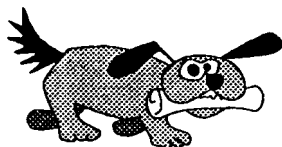
ALL FISHERMEN WELCOME!

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.

CONSERVATION PLEDGE

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CALENDER OF EVENTS

MAY 11 - 12, 200714TH ANNUAL MUCC DISTRICT 8
 WALLEYE TOURNAMENT
 MAY 16, 2007GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
 MAY 18 - 20, 2007DERBY 2 WEIGH IN AT BLUE WATER
 BAIT AND TACKLE IN FAIR HAVEN
 MAY 18 - 20, 2007BLUE WATER CLASSIC
 800-255-0508 FOR INFO
 JUNE 20, 2007GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
 JUNE 22 - 24, 2007DERBY 3 WEIGH IN AT LAKESIDE
 FISHING SHOP
 JULY 18, 2007.....GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
 JULY 20 - 22DERBY 4 WEIGH IN AT PROFESSIONAL
 FISHING CENTER
 AUGUST 15, 2007GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
 AUGUST 17 - 19, 2007DERBY 5 WEIGH IN AT AMVET'S
 AUGUST 19, 2007LSCWA'S SUMMER PICNIC - AMVETS'S
 SEPTEMBER 19, 2007GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
 OCTOBER 3-6, 2007MWC WALLEYE WORLD
 CHAMPIONSHIP, DUNDEE, MI
 OCTOBER 17, 2007GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
 NO NOVEMBER MEETING
 DECEMBER 19, 2007GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
 MEETING

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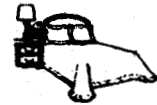
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NEW PERSON NEEDED TO HEAD UP THREE DIGIT RAFFLE

By Marilyn Krych

The club needs a person to take over as the Three Digit Raffle chairperson. This is a must fill position or the club will be in serious trouble. Remember, this is where the bulk of the money to run the club comes from; it is not from dues.

The chairperson co-ordinates the distribution of tickets and keeps track of them. There are four raffles per year and they are for the months of January, April, July and October. Please contact Marilyn Krych for more details by calling the club phone at (586).

BY LAWS VOTE

This is a reminder to all members that we will be having a vote on the LSCWA's by-laws at the May meeting. All members of record were notified last month of the two additions and one change to the by-laws. This move is needed in order for the Association to meet and satisfy the needs of the Michigan State Lottery Commission's Charitable Gaming Division. A vote in support of these additions and change is urged by the Executive Board and Board of Directors.

MEMBERSHIP INFO

One very common question we hear at the membership table is "What is the difference between a single person membership and a family membership?"

The single person membership covers the member and allows them to take part in all club functions and special events unless it is otherwise expressed.

A family membership allows not only the member but also his or her family to take part in many club events. It allows children (up to age 17) to take part in the Kid's

Division in the derbies during the summer months. The children under a family membership who enter fish during these derbies are eligible for the summer camp program drawing. A family membership also allows the spouse of the member to be able to enter fish in the monthly derbies.

To check what type of membership you have look at your membership card. The appropriate box will be checked off at the bottom. Or, look at the label on your newsletter. It will be indicated there. The first sets of numbers are the months and then the year that your membership expires. The letter or letters that follow indicate your membership type. A letter of "F" is for family and a "SrF" is for a senior family membership.

APRIL DERBY

It has been several years since the weather was just about perfect for the weekend of our April derby. Last month the whole derby weekend was nice and by Sunday the clear sky and bright sun made for warm temperatures even on the shores of the lake.

Over 40 members weighed in fish in the Open and the Master's divisions last month. Six children were out fishing that weekend and they weighed in some nice walleyes of their own for the Youth Division.

The May derby is going to be held at Blue Water Bait. They are located next to the DNR launch site in Fair Haven. The weigh-in hours are the same as usual; from 4pm till 6pm on the derby Sunday.

YOUTH DIVISION

1st	Rachel Schnell	5.45 lbs.
2nd	Derek Austin	3.20 lbs
3rd	Sarah Schnell	3.15 lbs
4th	Nicole Austin	2.60 lbs
5th	Izac Davidson	2.35 lbs
6th	Zach Champine	2.30 lbs

OPEN DIVISION

1st	Ron Sharp	4.90 lbs
2nd	Kim Aiken	4.75 lbs
3rd	Jeff Regulski	4.75 lbs
4th	Thomas Arczynski	4.00 lbs
5th	Bill Hess	3.95 lbs

MASTERS DIVISION

1st	Keith Krych	6.85 lbs
2nd	Skip St.Aubin	6.40 lbs
3rd	Dan Austin	6.30 lbs
4th	Richard Koch	6.00 lbs
5th	Dave Champine	5.85 lbs

CLEAN UP TRIP TO OUR CABIN

By Dave Wilemski

Camp for Kids at Cedar Lake Outdoor Center is a beautiful place; located in Chelsea about twenty minutes west of Ann Arbor along I-94

It was founded in 1947. Many years ago our club, the LSCWA agreed to sponsor one of the cabins, #3A. Each year we drive the 70 easy miles to the camp and do our duty.

On Saturday April 27th we met at Apple Annie's at 7:00AM for breakfast. Unfortunately, out of 270 club members we only had a crew of 7 to make the trip. Myself and my 11 year old grandson Ryan Wilemski; President Jeff Regulski and his wife Debbie, Joe Gentz, Richard Gentz and Richard's lady friend Dawn.

We could have used twice that many.

We took 3- vehicles and after enjoying a few orange barrels along I-94 arrived at 9:30 AM.

Joe and Richard Gentz picked up maybe 8- pick-up truck loads of large pine branches that an ice storm knocked down all around the cabin. Most of the other cabins also had large branches down. The camp had two big wood chippers devowering the branches as fast as we could get them the 200 yards.

The rest of us stripped the 11 double bunk beds, removed the mattress covers and took the mattress outside for airing. Debbie drove into town and washed the zippered mattress covers at a coin laundry matt.

We swept, vacuumed, dusted, cleaned windows, washed down the knotty pine walls and ceiling, washed the mattress (plastic) covers, and made a few repairs

Jeff and I made a list of other items that have to be taken care of on a follow up trip. We could use the club's help on this.

- (6) 10" x 16" window panes (safety glass) require replacing.
- Outside of cabin requires staining; 10- gallons, dark stain.
- (2) Peak triangular vent screens require rework.
- Stone foundation requires tuck-pointing, two bags ready mix mortar, light green dye, 40 baseball size stones.
- Require (2) new 10" x 6" crawl space vents. (none there now)
- New window screens, (17) 36" x 36" pet proof type would be nice.
- (2) Pc's of black gutter 3' long each. Above doors only.
- (2) Home-made screen doors, different sizes, see Dave-W.
- New Bunk Mattresses; (22) required. All same size. If

each 'group' at monthly meeting tables bought and donated one we would be home free. Size 76" x 34" x 3 or 4" thick, water proof covering type.

- Bed coil springs and zigzag support springs: see Dave-W.
- (2) Wipe your feet porch mats, plain brown type. See Dave-W.
- (6) 100 watt bug lights. (Yellow).
- (4) Cans flat black outdoor spray paint. (To paint white drip aluminum shingle trim black).

If you cannot donate your time, maybe you can donate some of these items above to help us out.



Debbie Regulski wipes down the mattresses during the clean-up at the MUCC camp.



The May derby is going to be held at Blue Water Bait right next to the DNR launch in Fair Haven. Brian has been a long time employee at Blue Water and is looking forward to this month's derby.

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JIGGING THE MIGHTY DETROIT RIVER FOR WALLEYE

by Derek Laporte

For as long as people have lived on the Detroit River, the most sought after freshwater game-fish in North America, the Walleye, has been flourishing here. In 2006 the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources reported a whopping sixty million walleye in the Detroit River and Lake Erie.

This species is named after its uniquely large, cloudy eyes. The eyes of this species are extremely light-sensitive, and although walleye tolerate a wide range of environmental conditions, they do best in large, shallow, turbid lakes. Walleye avoid the light, and in lakes that are clear, walleye inhabit deeper waters and feed at sunrise, sunset and during the night. A closely related species of fish called the blue walleye, formerly inhabited Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. Sadly this species was heavily over-fished to the point of extinction. The abundance of these fish in our river system makes it easy for anyone with a little instruction to have many successful days of fishing throughout the season.

My intention throughout this article will be to share with you my knowledge and personal experience jigging the river. So, let's get started!

First and foremost safety is always top priority!

PLANNING YOUR TRIP.

The Mighty Detroit River can be your best friend one day, and your worst enemy the next. Planning ahead is essential to having a safe successful day on the water.

Keeping your eye on the forecast is very important. Thunderstorms can roll-up out of nowhere. I've been out on the calmest of days having a great time and within a matter of minutes the sky to the West turned pitch black. If that happens to anyone, the best advice I can give is pack-up and get off the water as quickly as possible.

Wind forecasts are the most crucial part of your planning. There are three parts of the river that are affected differently by various wind directions. 1). Between Lake St. Clair and the Western tip of Belle Island favorable wind conditions are predominant North and South winds. East or West winds exceeding 15 mph can produce significant waves. Four footers with white caps are not uncommon

throughout this stretch of the river. 2). Between Lake Erie and the Eastern tip of Fighting Island the most favorable wind conditions are predominant East and West winds. North and South winds here can also produce some extremely rough water. Last but not least, 3). The stretch between Fighting Island and Belle Island. This can be the most dangerous spot on the river regardless of the wind direction. Because of the sharp turn in the river, strong winds tend to push large waves around the bend in the river. In turn these waves will bounce off the adjacent seawalls and proceed to crash into the waves coming from a completely different direction. This can, and usually does create a dangerous cross-chop. The final step in planning safe day on the river is to study your charts.

Navigational marine charts are not usually found in the storage compartment of the average fishing boat. The general consensus is that these charts are normally found on a pleasure-craft type boat. This is a false statement as navigating charts if read properly can put you precisely on any sub-marine point, hump, or hole. Not only are they useful for locating bottom transitions to find fish, but at the southern portion of the river, the deeper channels can be tricky to navigate in any larger size boat. I've been in this position myself. One minute you're in Thirty feet of water, blink and you're in three. A well planned trip on the Detroit River is a safer trip on the Detroit River.

LOCATING THE FISH.

Finding fish on the Detroit River is generally easy during the months of April thru the end of June. I'm not going to complicate this any more than it needs to be. If you know the river, you have your favorite spots. If you don't, you can find Walleye pretty much everywhere.

There isn't a spot on the river that doesn't hold fish during these months. Generally anglers hug the shorelines as there seems to be a little more rock structure there. Just look for the boats and follow their drift. The key is to be courteous and not fish too closely to another boat. It's a great big river and there is no need to crowd another angler's space.

GETTING SET UP

There are many tackle options to choose from. Various weights and shapes for jig-heads. Live-baits such as minnows, worms, and leeches. Plastic baits such as twister-tails or soft plastic crawlers, Gulp baits, or my personal favorite, Finn S minnows. I personally recommend a bait that closely resembles a natural baitfish such as a minnow, as this is what Walleye naturally will feed on year round.

You will need a quality medium-action rod with your choice of spinning reel or bait-caster. 4-6lb Fireline is my personal preference for a quality fishing line. No-stretch

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my personal preference for a quality fishing line. No-stretch super-lines make it easier to feel light strikes. These lines also provide the strength you will need to boat a monster fish if you hook into one. Jig color depends on the water clarity. Often there will be distinct mud-lines that can be very productive when jigging right along side of them. Bright colors such as chartreuse and orange are used in murkier water. Subtle colors such as white, blue, black, or even a plain lead jig-head are usually more productive when the water is very clear.

Another big help for me when the water is very clear has been to use a fluorocarbon leader. Fish are less likely to take the bait when your line is visible. Leaders should be a minimum twelve inches. The river varies in depths ranging from two feet all the way down to fifty feet with the average depth somewhere in the 35 foot range. The current can range from five to seven mph.

If you're a newcomer and are not familiar with the technique of vertical jigging, I would suggest a heavier jig-head to help you feel the bottom. As you become a more experienced jigger you can lighten-up if you want to. I know people who use nothing but 1oz jigs. Some of these guys have been fishing the river longer than me but it makes it that much easier to stay vertical. I will get into staying vertical in the next section. I generally use a 2 oz or 5/8 ounce ball jig with a variety of minnow-imitating soft-plastic baits.

LET'S GO FISHIN!

So you've found your spot and ready to get started. Wind vs. current play key roles in staying vertical. Staying vertical is keeping your jig directly underneath you at the same speed as the boat drift. Sounds easy right? Only if you've done it before.

The key factor is always the wind. Wind will almost always overpower current on the Detroit River. I generally look for flagpoles on shore to determine exactly how to position the boat to begin my drift. I fish from a 14ft aluminum with a 15hp outboard. No electric. When I stop the boat I point my transom directly into the wind and slide into neutral. Now the motor only needs to idle unless the line is no longer vertical and you shift into reverse or you're ready to run back for another drift. Let out a few feet of line and watch your jig. Now is the time to determine your drift speed and direction. Your boat will be dominated by the wind, but your jig will always go with the current.

Now pay attention! Open your bail and start letting your jig drop to the bottom. This is where most people get into trouble right off-the-bat.

You need to watch your line carefully to know when you're on the bottom. The second your line hits the bottom, flip your bail and start snapping your line in a vertical motion keeping constant contact with bottom. If you let out too much line, you will never feel your jig bouncing off the bottom, only dragging. Then you'll spend the next ten min-

utes trying to find it again. When this happens, just bring it back to the surface and take another run at it. The key is to watch your line at all times. If your line is drifting faster than the boat, slide the motor into reverse until the boat catches up. All the while, keeping your eye on your line. One hand on the motor, one hand with your jigging stick.

When using a bow-mount power source, the methods remain the same. The only difference is you keep the bow into the wind. Drift and jig the area you want. At any sign of resistance on your rod-tip, set the hook without hesitation. I've missed many, many hook-sets when not paying attention. Ask any experienced Detroit River angler and he'll tell you that focus is another key element in having a successful day on the river.

I have only one last piece of advice for anyone out there who is new to this area. Bring an ample supply of gear. Extra rod, lots of jigs in a variety of colors.

The mighty Detroit River has some extremely rocky structure down in its depths. Be prepared to lose some jigs. And be prepared to catch some fish. I've been jigging for Walleye on this river for 20 years.

I hope that my experience and knowledge of this great river can help you to put more fish in the boat, more pictures on your walls, and more delicious meals on your tables. After all...Who doesn't like walleye?

SON SHOWS UP DAD

By Dave Wilemski

So what if I have a big 20 foot fancy boat with all the bells and whistles, auto pilots, etc?

My son Bryan has a very old, beat up aluminum fishing boat worth 1/10'th what I have invested in mine.

While I was at the Kids Camp clean-up with his son Ryan, Bryan went out fishing by himself on the North Channel and used a different color jig than I suggested and also a night crawler. Walla! He brings home a few walleye, the largest 28" and 6.1 pounds.

I guess I will not offer him any more suggestions on catching walleyes.

TRADE-A-TRIP

By Dave Wilemski

We had a great time going to St. Joes / Benton Harbor the first weekend in May to catch lots of Salmon. Sorry we could only accommodate 33. We will have a video on this 2007 trip at Mays meeting.

The weather was as expected. All boats and passengers returned to the harbors safely.