

LAKE ST. CLAIR WALLEYE ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 130

ST. CLAIR SHORES, MI 48080

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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)

July 2018

<http://www.lscwa.net>

MUCC AFFILIATE CLUB OF THE YEAR

The Lake St. Clair Walleye Association has been named the MUCC affiliate of the year! This was a goal set by our President Rich Benson back at the beginning of the year and we have achieved that goal. Last month President Rich Benson and Vice President Tim Muir accepted the award on behalf of the club during MUCC's annual convention. A big part of the reason why we received the award this year was our

contributions to help get the crafts building repaired at the MUCC kids camp. Between our donations and those we raised from various clubs and from individuals we were able to donate \$8,000 to MUCC for the much needed repairs. In addition to that we also sent 12 kids to camp this summer, our fish stocking with the MDNR, our college scholarship program, and donations that we have made to the camp like worms, fishing rods, and other items, MUCC recognized us for all we have done.

We will have a plaque in the craft building once the renovations are done which will also mention Stan Bydlos for the work he has done for not only us, but with MUCC, the DNR, Lake Erie fisheries committee, and so much more. This is a thank you to Stan for all his dedication to not only the LSCWA, but the State of Michigan and outdoors enthusiasts everywhere.

None of this would be possible though without the support we have gotten from membership and our bingo fundraiser. So another big thank you goes out to our members and the bingo players for their continued support and the workers who make that possible.



LAKE ST. CLAIR WALLEYE ASSOCIATION

(586) 778-0480

LSCWA EXECUTIVE BOARD

President – Richard Benson
Vice President – Tim Muir
Financial Secretary – Bob Barnes
Recording Secretary – Rick Okerhjelm
Membership Secretary – Don Murray

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2016-2018	2017-2019
Jim Lease	Eric Lenz
Mike Smith	Mike Demanski
Steve Sharon	Rob Barnes
Jeff VanTorre	Richard Koch
	Shawn Elliott
	Charles Henderson

ALTERNATES

John Roodbeen Dan Schmidt

Field Rep – Tim Muir

Field Advisor – Stan Bydlos

Merchandise – Mike Smith

Derby Weigh-Ins – Don Murray

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

WEDNESDAY ~ 7:30 P.M.

JULY 18, 2018

FOR ALL MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING

(Walk-ins Welcome)

AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 4

401 Groesbeck Hwy. | Mt. Clemens, MI 48043

586-840-7582

Next Reg. Meeting: August 15, 2018

**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.)

EDITOR: Tim Muir. Send articles or photos to editorlscwa@gmail.com

ADVERTISING EDITOR: Steve Sharon

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

July 18th General Membership Meeting
July 24th Board of Directors Meeting
July 20th-22nd July Derby Lakeside 3-4PM
July 29th Kids Summer fishing outing
Aug 15th General Membership Meeting
Aug 21st Board of Director Meeting
Aug 17th-19th Aug. Derby Metro beach 3-4PM
Aug 19th Club Picnic Metro Beach

CUT OUT COUPON & MAIL

APPLICATION FORM AND CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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How did you hear about us? _____

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
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Sundays

Doors open at 4PM • Play at 6PM
*We are always looking for volunteers.
See Rich at our meetings or events.*

THANK YOU

by Don Murray

Well guys I know you have heard me say in past articles that LSCWA is a great club. To help support this idea of a great club, is members helping at events or making donations. Nelson Caldwell is an example of how to make a great club. Nelson, at the June meeting handed me a check for \$1100.00. The donation can be used anyway that will help the club in many ways.

This is the second donation made by members this year. Who knows maybe the next donation will be higher than the last donation, if not both are appreciated. These are two great examples of why you hear me say from time to time the LSCWA is a great club.

The board would like to say thank you to Nelson for his generous donation.

A Cool Story Submitted by Mike Roush

A recent fishing trip to Au Gres confirmed my hope for mankind. As I was turning off US-23, my brake pedal went to the floor board. An old timer cutting grass directed me to the nearest repair shop. He also let me drop my boat off in his yard. I explained my problem to the mechanic and that I was an out of townner up for fishing. At the time, the shop was quite busy, but he said they could get right on my job and be done by days end. Better yet, he let me use his truck to get our days fishing in.

Anyone traveling in the area and has vehicle problems, I would highly recommend:

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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

by Richard Benson



Well, we did it. In August of 2017 I came up with a goal for the club, I wanted to earn the MUCC Affiliate of the Year award, and with all our efforts towards conservation, education, fish stocking and our contributions towards the MUCC kids camp we accomplished that goal. On the evening of June 23, 2017 Vice President Tim Muir and I accepted the award at the annual MUCC convention in Clare, MI. Earlier that day Tim was able to get private individuals and other MUCC clubs to donate a further \$1750 dollars to the kids camp helping us secure the \$8,000 needed for repairs to the art center. When the repairs are completed the art center will be re-dedicated in honor of the LSCWA and Stan Bydlos. Stan has long been our voice in not only MUCC, but Lansing, the DNR, Lake Erie Advisory Committees and more. It is with great pleasure that we dedicate this award to Stan and hope that it inspires other clubs and individuals along the way to become more active in the outdoors, preserving, protecting and promoting them for generations to come.

It's hot, no it's really hot, wait....it's cold, now it's back to hot. Living here in southeast Michigan these days, you don't know if that's the weather report or the fishing report, well....it's both! While Mother Nature has gone from one extreme to the other, fishing has remained steady most days and fantastic others. The Detroit River bite has slowed some, the St. Clair River is steady and the lake has given up some great catches this year. A heavy mayfly hatch may start slowing the bite some, forcing some guys to change tactics. More and more anglers are using crankbaits these days with growing confidence and success. Bandit walleye deep, Rapala DDHJ's and Berkley flicker minnows in stock and custom colors have really been hot this year. JT Customs as well as our own member, John Latham, all paint successful schemes for LSC and Lake Erie.

Our July membership meeting we will once again have nominations for Executive and Board of Director positions. You can be nominated or nominate any member who is good standing (dues paid) and is in attendance to accept the nomination. Exec positions are for a one year term, Board positions are for a two year term. You DO NOT have to be a board member to belong to or head a committee, volunteers are always welcome and appreciated. We will be having a fishing seminar as well.

Board member Eric Lenz has started a weekly fishing league, Tuesday nights at the Crocker Access Site, 5:30-9:30 every week. Biggest three walleye takes home the weekly purse of \$20/angler. While this is not a LSCWA event, it is open to all members and the general public alike, participation is very welcome. Special challenges may be a part of the weekly fun as well as getting out in the lake when it might not be so crowded as on the weekends.

Our annual picnic is coming up in August and I really want to make it memorable, not only in having a good time, but also in what's going to be served....lol. I will need a few volunteers this year as we are going to step away from the whole pig we have had the past three years and prepare a special feast you're not going to want to miss. Please see me at either of the next two meetings to volunteer, thank you.

The LSCWA has really upped our game the past couple of years, lots of men and women pitching in to make our meetings, charitable efforts and events successful. While it always seems I am busy with running functions, ten different conversations at once, burning both ends of the candle at times, I want to let each and every person know that they are appreciated for everything they do. Without YOU, this wouldn't be possible.

This is YOUR club, be part of it.

Rich Benson, President LSCWA

272 CURRENT MEMBERS

2018 Life Handicapped Outdoors *By Shawn Elliott, LSCWA Board Member*

The 2018 Life Handicapped Outdoors Event at Brandenburg Park, in Chesterfield Township, held on Saturday, June 23, 2018, was a huge success! Although the weather was challenging in the morning with heavy downpours and dark clouds, it cleaned up just in time for the start of the event. The weather didn't deter the volunteers from setting up the food and fishing gear for the eager anglers. Over 125 participants came from as close as Chesterfield and from as far away as Holly Michigan to cast a line in this unique event. Each participant received breakfast, lunch, use of fishing equipment, bait, and a door prize. This was all made possible by event founder and coordinator, Louis Caloia, and Shorewood Kiwanis Club, located in St Clair Shores, Michigan. Secretary of Sherwood Kiwanis Club, Colin Casey works with event director Louis throughout the year, on the many behind the scenes details of the event. Other organizations that support the event where; the Alhambra; Knights of Columbus; Meijer's United Food and Commercial workers Local 951

(UFCW); Meijer's - Harper and Little Mack; Kirk Ritchie, LPL Financial; Tom Peck, State Farm Insurance; Shorewood Kiwanis; Lake St. Clair Walleye Association (LSCWA); Macomb County Sheriffs; Lakeside Bait Shop; Mackie Baits; and Chesterfield Township. It was great seeing fellow club members Dan Schmidt and Tim Schwark that volunteered for the event with myself and Tackle Box Joey.



BOATING SAFETY *by Rich Benson*

May 18th, 2018 will forever be stuck in my mind. It's the day I and two of my fishing partners nearly died from hypothermia on Lake St. Clair. We were pre-fishing for the May Madness event, in rough water with a strong NE wind. Conditions changed drastically in a few minutes time, the wind speed increased, the waves seemed to have gotten big almost instantly. We needed up taking a few waves in succession over the transom, capsizing the boat in about 20 seconds time.

20 seconds....it's taken you longer to read this far already, much less be prepared to ditch in mid-50 degree water, but there we were in 4-5' waves clinging to the side of the capsized hull for our lives. It happened so fast that no distress call was able to be made, no flares grabbed, and unlike the other two fisherman who were wearing automatic inflatable PFD's, I was in the water without a life vest. Only through luck and a waterproof cellphone case was I able to call 911 and get through to help. The rescuers were able to triangulate on my cell signal to locate us. The Canadian Coast Guard responded and after nearly 90 minutes in the water were we rescued. A huge thank you goes out to the members of that Crew who saved us, we were all treated for hypothermia in Windsor or Chatham area hospitals and released.

There is not a day that has went by that I haven't thought about what happened, what could have happened and furthermore, what precautions I can share as I relive and analyze that day.

First, in the type of situation we were in we could not self rescue. There would have been no swimming to shore as we were too far out and the cold water would have taken us before long. You need to be heard and then seen, how you accomplish that can be in many ways. Epirbs are one, when activated they send a distress signal that is picked up and alerts rescue crews to your location. They are available in both manual and automatic operations. Ship to shore radios, while we had a fixed mount with 4' antenna, we were unable to get to it fast enough to send a mayday. My answer is a handheld VHF radio, I recently upgraded to a GPS transceiver radio. When I make a call, my location is now instantly sent with every transmission to radios equally equipped. Take in mind a few things, the range on a handheld is limited, especially in receiving incoming transmissions....that being said, your transmissions may be heard further away than you can receive from as well. Floatation/waterproof....some radios will only float with their rechargeable battery packs in them, if your using disposable batteries they may be too heavy to float, check specs before you buy. Cell phones, here's a tricky one. Some areas of the lakes we fish may or may not have cell service, or your provider may not have coverage or you may not have accessor roaming enabled. Luckily, I had not only a waterproof case, but international calling. Check your own personal plans. The last part about being heard is about horns and whistles. Handheld horns are recommended not only because they are portable, but also as a backup in case of electrical malfunctions. Whistles are good to attach life vests as an aid to locating you in low light or nighttime conditions when help is nearby.

Being seen is next, in a situation like we were in, we only had the pitching of the seas throwing the boat up and down as an aid to the rescuers in finding us. Visual distress signals such as aerial flares, hand held or the automatic electrical flare would have been extremely helpful. Smoke flares are for daytime use only, but in the conditions we faced in strong wind, they would have been dispersed immediately....and they are recommended only when help has been seen as an aid to locating you. Mirrors to signal search helicopters or planes are also available. In most flare kits there is also a large orange distress flag, deploying it may done by using a boat antenna, fishing pole, mast etc. Now here's something that some of you might laugh at, but I actually know of a case on Lake Huron where swim noodles saved lives. Yes, those cheap foam swim noodles for use in swimming pools by kids can actually save lives. How? Instant floatation aid, a reach stick, hold above your head for an easy distress signal (brightly colored I suggest)...many uses can be imagined. Personal lights and or beacons on life jackets are also a wise addition, they are available in manual and automatically activated as well.

PFD's.....I am lucky to be here still, if your PFD is within arms reach it is still useless, they should always be worn. Comfortable and in good shape are not only recommended, but in my eyes should be mandatory. The big orange uncomfortable ones are in my opinion a poor choice. Not only will they discourage wear, they make mobility in the water a bit more difficult than a properly fitting vest. Throwable cushions are required on boats and they should be instantly accessible, which is the next bit that I'm going to touch on.

Accessibility, if you cannot access these items, you cannot use them. In our situation we had a radio, we had flares, we had extra PFD's in addition to the one I wasn't wearing, we just had no time to get to any of those items. Which is why I have purchased a rapid ditch bag. I now have a floating rapid ditch bag containing extra visual distress aids, first aid, lights and tethers to tie not only the bag down, but also to tether other members of the crew together in a survival situation. These items are in addition to the required safety items on my boats, they are now immediately portable and will be stored near the bow outside of any compartments so they can be accessed in an emergency including a capsizing. If you are involved in something like this, DO NOT LEAVE THE BOAT HULL as long as it floats.

In closing, I acknowledge I made a huge error in not wearing my PFD, but through luck and keeping a bit of calm in our situation, we are here to share with you some of the things we have learned. Please, review your own gear and emergency preparedness plans before you hit the water next.

POND UPDATE *By Jim Lease*

Another year of raising walleye has come and gone. In June the DNR came and extracted this years walleye harvest which was a little disappointing. In past years you might remember that if the DNR is able to remove half of the fry they placed in the ponds in April they consider that a good harvest. As in past years they placed 300,000 fry this year; 150,000 in each of our two ponds. This year the south pond did not produce well at all. A low figure of 5,913 fish. 2.2" average size. were removed and transported to Big Lake in Oakland County.

Out of the north pond, which is the one we had trouble with losing water, the DNR removed a more respectable 57,858 fish at an average length of 1.6" in size. The following lakes received fish.

White Lake in Oakland county33,928

Stoney Creek Impoundment in Macomb county23,930

We put on a great fish fry as in past years. We served 142 people on a warm but mostly sunny day. I was very lucky to have had as much help this year as in any previous year. Eighteen helpers showed up including Larry Adamek and Calvin Sherwood who did the cooking. These two guys come out every year and manage the cooking, moving fryers, get out the supplies and clean up the grills at the end. Without these two guys. I don't know what I would do. Joann and Richard Koch more or less run things at the ponds. Joann gets all the fixings out and on the tables for our guests and that is after her and Richard haul most of the supplies up to the base. They help me buy the groceries and make this lunch happen. Bob Barnes, Richard Okerhjelm, Charles Henderson, Dan Schmidt, Dale Billings, Gary Rowoldt, Eugene Ramin and his wife Judi and Jim Gimpert were there for the whole event. Setting up tents, doing all the heavy lifting and taking care of the numerous small details is no small feat. Jerry Comfort helped set up and then sold motor raffle tickets for the event. Don Murray is always there when you need him doing whatever is asked of him with no complaints. Richard Benson (no not the Prez) loaded up and drove the trailer out and returned it to storage. Sarah McNichol was no help at all. Just kidding, she helped the DNR harvest the fish. The DNR guys told me she was a great help and would welcome her back any day. All the people mentioned are members who through their hard work the event would not be possible. Thank You all for your support and fine job. If I forgot to mention anyone's name who came out, my sincere apologies.

PAUL MAGNAN *By Rich Benson*

Over the years a great many members of our club have come and gone, a lot you or I may or may not have known, but it seems the LSCWA leaves an impression on people in one way or another. One such member was Paul Magnan, who was a member in the early 2000's for a short while. According to his sister Elaine, Paul retired early and moved out near the north channel and lived in his dream house for nearly the past 20 years, fishing right out his back door and on the lake and river nearby. This past April, Paul passed away, leaving his fishing gear to the LSCWA. The gear will be used for our kids outing and some will also make its way to the raffle table with the proceeds going to our scholarship fund.

The LSCWA wishes to extend our gratitude and our condolences to Paul's family, Rest In Peace.



June 2018 TREE HOUSE Anglers GET – 2 – GETHER

By David A. Wilemski

June 27'th at 8:15 AM was a Great turn-out for our monthly breakfast club get-together. We had 11 hungry individuals participate. **South Side Grill** on 9 Mile Road in Warren has a great selection of **tasty** meals. Waitress '**Tina**' was excellent at serving our meals. The place was packed even on a rainy day.

Attending the **casual** meeting get-2-gether were Myself, Curtis Patton, Captain Jerry Comfort, Bob Peterson (*who may sell his boat some year*), Francis (**New Guy**) Gosiewski, Dan Schmidt, (**Regular-**) Dale Billings, **Walleye Experts** Joann & Richard Koch, John Sulkowski and Mark Carlson.

Curtis won the free raffle **prize** of a one of a kind "**Blinding**" ball-point pen.

A quick survey was taken about Fish Finder Brands: (7) Lowrance, (2) Humminbirds, (1) Garmin & (1) Raytheon. (**Captain** Jerry only counted one of his three electronics). Topics were fun & different. Everyone **enjoyed** the break.

See you all July 25 at **Mack Ave Grille**, Grosse Pt. 1- mile N. of (big) St. John's Hospital.

JUNE DERBY RESULTS

June Derby was held at Lakeside this Month. As usual Capt. Dan and the crew did a great job of hosting and as always the big THANK YOU to them.

Masters division: 1st place Jake O'Hara 6.06lbs 26 3/4", 2nd place Ken Vanarsdale 4.04lbs 22 1/2", 3rd place Brandy Vanarsdale 3.39lbs 22 1/8, 4th place Ted Stehney 3.03lbs 22 1/2 and 5th place Charlie Boyce 2.93lbs 21 3/4

Open Division: 1st place Fred Vore 4.59lbs 24 5/8, 2nd place Matt Orlando 3.95lbs 22 1/4, 3rd place Josh O. 3.85lbs 24 1/8, 4th place Mike Demanski 3.69lbs 22 1/2 and 5th place Joe Julian 3.30lbs 22 1/2.


Youth Division: 1st place Isabelle Vanarsdale 3.15lbs 22", 2nd place Paige Vogan 2.63lbs 20 7/8" 3rd place Hunter Markowski 1.35lbs 16" 4th place Makayla Markowski 1.31lbs 16 3/4" and 5th place Joey Elliott 1.14lbs 16"

Super six: 1st place O'Hara/Orlando/Orcechowski 24.85lbs, 2nd place Vogan/Demanski/Vore 20.57lbs, 3rd place Boyce/Stehney 18.73lbs, 4th place Lenz/Vantorre 15.79lbs, and 5th place Markowski 10.68lbs.


AOY standings after 3 derbies: 1st place with 15 points Jake O'Hara, 2nd place with 9 points Matt Orlando, 3rd place with 8 points Ken Vanarsdale, 4th place with 7 points Fred Vore, and 5th place with 3 points Josh O.



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