



Blue Water Sportfishing Association Newsletter



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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - TUESDAY,
JULY 5, 7:00 AT MCMORRAN**

THERE IS NO JULY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

HOOKED ON FISHING, NOT ON DRUGS

On May 26th & 27th, seventh-graders from the Chippewa Middle School in Port Huron put their lessons on fishing into practice at the Kimball Township Park. This event marked the eleventh year that our club has sponsored this great event that shows fishing as an alternative to using drugs to have a good time. Over 125 students and twenty-five parent chaperones caught a variety of fish, small mouth bass, bluegill, perch, sunfish, a few frogs and a turtle, during their daylong outing. The fishing trip was the culmination of over six weeks of lessons taught by Erik Barden, Chippewa teacher. Erik's lessons were on fishing ethics, goal setting, making good choices for a successful life, fishing techniques, knot tying, and casting. The students were all very receptive to the program. For some it was their second year of participation, and for those who were involved for the first time, the enthusiasm quickly spread. Many students caught their first fish ever. All learned enough about fishing that they could easily go fishing by themselves or with friends and have a good time. Many students overcame their reservations of handling worms and taking fish from hooks.

Before the trip, each student received a T-Shirt with a great Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs...logo and the Chippewa name on the front. Many had their friends sign their shirts. The group arrived at the park at about 9:30 a.m. and quickly got gear in hand and headed for the shore



or the dock. The best bait was wax worms or corn, though some of the biggest fish came on night crawlers. All were treated to hot dogs, potato chips, and pop for lunch. Later in the day, the students were all presented with a certificate and a packet of items for their own. There was then a raffle drawing with every student getting a prize. Rods and reels, tackle boxes, baits, hooks, bobbers, and sinkers were carried away with pride to end a great day.

Such an event would not be possible if it were not for the help of dedicated club members who give of their time to work this event. Much thanks goes to Fred Witter who coordinated the event with the school and who worked both days at the event. Also Victor Ruehle who helped set up and take care of the rods and reels each day. The lunch was prepared and served by Bill and Paula Hillman and Kay Witter. Frank Rotondi, Sr. and Frank Rotondi, Jr. helped make the Thursday outing a success. Fred Witter, Victor Ruehle, and Ed Bean aided the students with their casting practice. A thank you also to Bill Barden and the Gresley, MacKay

Plumbing and Heating Company for their donation to help us with the event, and to Harold Hastings for his support.

The program will continue at Chippewa next year. Mr. Barden has already committed to having the program again with our support. If you would like to have a good time next spring with taking some kids fishing and seeing them learn to enjoy your favorite hobby, volunteer to help.



JUNE 11 & 12 HARBOR BEACH CLUB TOURNAMENT

Place	Boat	Captain/Angler	Weight
1st (\$100)	Tech Rally	Keith Hieber	76.5 lbs.
2nd (\$50)	In The Red	Jeff Parker	75.3 lbs.
3rd (\$30)	Big Johnson	Jim Laba	58.4 lbs.
4th	Lil Minnow	Don VanSickle	56.2 lbs.
5th	Eveready	P. Schroeder	55.6 lbs.
6th	Polish Viking	Kevin Marcelwicz	54.9 lbs.
7th	No I.D.	Paul Baker	46.7 lbs.
8th	Wave Breaker	Dale Phipps	44.4 lbs.
9th	M&M	Monty Moncher	3.7 lbs.

Big Fish (\$50)
 Polish Viking Kevin Marcelwicz 9.4 lbs Lake Trout

Total Boats – 9
 Total Anglers – 28
 Total # of Fish Weighed-In – 70
 Conditions – Calm, Foggy
 Picnic – Scott Terrello



First Place Sunday



Second Place Winners



First Place Saturday

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the June Board of Directors meeting, the club held its Executive Committee Election. The following people were elected to this board:

Bob Roskey	President
Judy Ogden	1st Vice President
Bob Lane	2nd Vice President
Paul Baker	Treasurer
Fred Witter	Recording Secretary
Bill Lill	Corresponding Secretary

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING REMINDER

There is no General Membership meeting in July. If you are interested in donating fish or volunteering to help in our August Picnic, please contact Debbie Packard at 987-4029. Volunteers are needed to help set up in the morning and for clean up at the end.

FISHING HOTLINE

The club's fishing hotline is available with current reports. The number for it is 810-987-FISH. Joel Anderson from Anderson's Pro Bait is keeping it up-to-date with current reports.



CAPTAIN OF THE YEAR STANDINGS

LATEST STANDINGS AFTER 6/22 TOURNAMENT

Place	Captain	Boat	Points
1st	Jim Laba	Big Johnson	48
2nd	Randy Bugaski	Nev-R-Ending	38
3rd tie	Jeff Parker	In The Red	35
3rd tie	Paul Baker	No I.D.	35
5th	Keith Hieber	Tech Rally	33
6th	Preston Schroeder	Eveready	26
7th	Kevin Marculewicz	Polish Viking	25
8th	Dale Phipps	Wave Breaker	23
9th	Paul Zimmer	Donna Mae	20
10th	Eric Hutchenson	Tickled Pink	18

10 BILLION ROUND GOBIES IN WESTERN LAKE ERIE

Ann Arbor, Mich. —Scientists have estimated the population of round gobies in western Lake Erie to number 10 billion in 2002. Using a remotely-operated underwater video system (ROV), a team of scientists from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and the University of Windsor enumerated round gobies in a variety of natural habitats between June and October to come up with the estimate.

The Journal of Great Lakes Research reports round gobies are an invasive fish that arrived in the Great Lakes basin in 1990 and quickly spread to all five of the Great Lakes and many connecting waterways. These fish compete with native fishes for food and habitat, consume eggs and young of native fishes, and have altered energy pathways (feeding relationships) including the movement of contaminants.

A number of research studies have been undertaken or are presently underway to evaluate some of these impacts, but to date scientists have been challenged to estimate the actual number of round gobies because of the bottom dwelling nature of these fish, including their preference of rocky areas that are hard to sample.

To address this challenge, these scientists combined the use of an ROV with substrate maps to describe habitat preference and seasonal movements of different ages of round gobies which, when combined, provide a comprehensive estimate of the total number of round gobies in western Lake Erie.

Description of this technique for estimating the abundance of round gobies in natural habitats will enable scientists in western Lake Erie and elsewhere to provide better predictions of the impact of round goby populations on native fish and other biota.

Great Lakes Sportfishing Council

POTENTIAL LINE CLASS WORLD RECORD WALLEYE

A 15.4 oz ‘eye caught on 6 lb. test fishing for perch Scott Ruiter of Muskegon, Michigan and a member of the Michigan Anglers Association, has a walleye record pending with the IGFA. He landed his fish through the ice on Muskegon Lake this winter using 6 lb. test line. The walleye weighed 15 lbs. 4 oz. Using live minnows, Ruiter landed a dozen perch from the Muskegon Lake. On his next hook set, he thought he had snagged a log. The log turned out to be a 15 lb. 4 oz. walleye which took 30 minutes to land and is now a pending record on 6-lb. line class.

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OCEANGOING SHIPS WILL NEED MICHIGAN PERMIT BY 2007

Governor Signs Legislation to Protect Great Lakes from Aquatic Nuisance Species

LANSING, MI -Oceangoing ships will need a state permit to enter Michigan ports starting in 2007 under a state law aimed at protecting the Great Lakes from exotic aquatic species. Governor Jennifer Granholm on June 6 signed legislation requiring oceangoing ships to prove they will NOT discharge ballast water or are equipped to treat it.

Granholm commended representatives Kathleen Law (D-Gibraltar) and Matt Gillard (D-Alpena) and Senators Ray Basham (D-Taylor) and Liz Brater (D-Ann Arbor) for their work on this issue. Each has introduced a resolution calling on the Coast Guard to join in this fight by eliminating exemptions that allow many ships to enter the Great Lakes without inspection under federal law.

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GAME AND FISH FUND EXHAUSTED BY 2006

The Game and Fish Fund (restricted funds) will be exhausted by 2006 even with the one dollar (\$1) increase for the 2005 licenses. There are many reasons for this, but the leading cause is the payment in lieu of taxes which since 2001, has cost the restricted funds approximately \$25 million over the last five years. In 2004, a bill to protect these funds was passed by the legislature and signed by the Governor to be placed on the 2006 ballot.

This did not stop the politicians from removing 4 million this year at PLU. This money goes to support revenue sharing with counties and municipalities that have state-owned lands in their areas.

The second reason is 242,070 senior citizens licenses that are sold yearly. The politicians that started this program (to get seniors' votes) agreed to expend general fund money to make up the difference. However, this lasted for a very short time and then the general funding was terminated.

In the late 1990s the total Fish Division Budget was shifted to Game and Fish Funds for its total budget. As the economy has declined, the legislature used the restricted funds to balance the state budget. As we applauded the 2004 bill protecting restricted funds, we soon learned that there may be no restricted funds to protect. At this time, the legislature and executive branch will not look at a complete funding package until after the election in 2007.

Ken Merkel, Thumb Chapter - MI Steelheaders

WEEKLY GREAT LAKES WATER LEVELS FOR JUNE 17, 2005

Lake Level Conditions:

Lake Superior is currently 2 inches above June 17, 2004's water level. The remaining lakes are 3 to 5 inches below the levels of June 17, 2004. The spring of 2004 was significantly wetter than the spring of 2005. The dry conditions this spring are the main reason that water levels are lower than last year. Looking ahead, Lakes Superior and Michigan-Huron are expected to rise an inch over the next month and be slightly lower this summer than the summer of 2004. Lakes St. Clair, Erie and Ontario are expected to fall up to 2 inches over the next month, while this summer's levels are forecasted to be lower than 2004.

Current Outflows/Channel Conditions:

The Lake Superior outflow through the St. Marys River into Lake Huron is projected to be near average during the month of June. Flows in the St. Clair and Detroit Rivers are anticipated to be below average during June, while flows in the Niagara and St. Lawrence Rivers are both expected to be above average in June.

Alerts:

Users of the Great Lakes, connecting channels and St. Lawrence River should keep informed of current conditions before undertaking any activities that could be affected by changing water levels. Mariners should utilize navigation charts and refer to current water level readings.

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