



# The Angler's Journal

## July/August 2008

MICHIANA  
WALLEYE

Since 1993

### St Joe river Walleye Stocking

PNA #83 Fishermans Club, Michiana Steelheaders and Michiana Walleye Association has joined the Indiana DNR in raising funds to stock the St Joe river ( Twin Branch Impoundment ) with 6"-8" walleye fingerlings. Michigan hasn't been able to produce the fingerlings for our stretch of the river lately because of the VHS ( viral hemorrhagic septicemia ) disease. So Neil Ledet from the IDNR contacted the MWA for help in raising funds for the stocking. Right away the PNA jumped on board and then the Michiana Steelheaders. Also helping raise money is the local Bob Evans Restaurants, Parkers Central Park Bait and Midway Bait and Tackle. At each location you can contribute money toward the walleye stocking or send a check to:

Michiana Walleye Association  
13040 Day Road  
Mishawaka, IN 46545  
Memo = walleye stocking fund

To do this right Neil says we could use about 10,000 fish for each impoundment ( Twin Branch & Elkhart ) at a cost of around \$1.56 each. At this time we have raised a little over \$3,000 and the INDR has \$5,000. So we have plenty of work ahead of us, and we can use everyone's help in spreading the word and in raising the money. One other way is to save all your aluminum cans and drop them off any Tuesday night at the club between 4:30 and 6:30 pm or when ever

you see the gates open. While the river has some natural reproduction, it's just not enough to support the fishery. So it's up to us, we can help sustain this quality walleye fishery or let it go by, it's future is in our hands. If you have any questions or idea's on how to help, please contact: Rick Nichols-574-282-1916, Barry Ukele-574-259-6212, Doug Burkhead -574-524-0824



### **The Need for Speed—By Ted Takasaki and Scott Richardson**

Some brilliant marketing expert who never wet a line is probably to blame for fishing's image as a calm, placid sport. 'Patience' probably became an angling buzz word about the same time.

From our point of view, patience is sometimes the last thing anglers need. There are few times on the water that call for sitting around on your hands doing nothing while waiting for a hungry walleye, musky or panfish to swim by.

Fishermen can approach the challenge of finding and catching fish as if they just spent three hours drinking espresso at Starbucks. The attitude of a NASCAR driver is better suited for success on the water more often than that of Ralph Waldo Emerson on Walden Pond. Sometimes, there is a need for speed.

Just try telling FLW 2006 Angler of the Year, Tom Keenan, to slow down.

"I want to fish fast," Keenan says. "I have a tendency to troll faster and faster, and I'm catching more fish."

Choosing faster approaches over slower ones makes sense for good reason. A fast lure or spinner rig may be ignored by lethargic fish during tough bites, but all fish aren't in the same mood at the same time. Active fish attack. Don't waste time trying to convince one uncooperative fish to bite when a faster presentation will find the one in 10 fish that's primed and ready to play.

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More on page 9

## Michiana Walleye Association

[www.michianawalleye.org](http://www.michianawalleye.org)

Contact:

### Officers:

<u>President</u>	Rick Nichols	574-282-1916	<u>Vice President</u>	Les Bontrager	574-862-2517
<u>Treasurer</u>	Dewayne Moss	574-277-5516	<u>Sergeant At Arms</u>	Don Shelton	574-532-3271
<u>Secretary</u>	Barry Ukele	574-259-6212			
<u>Building Superintendent</u>	Dave Hayes	574-276-0254			

### Board Of Directors

Les Bontrager	574-862-2517	Barry Ukele	574-259-6212	Will Young	574-259-6118
Ron Hipsher	574-257-8327	Colleen Gaines	574-291-7922	Rob Burns	574-360-5083
Kathy Jones	574-272-9966	Rick Nichols	574-282-1916	Doug Burkhead	574-524-0824

### Tournament Committee

Randy Gaines	574-291-7922	Mike Rhodes	574-273-0587	Dwight Jones	574-272-9966
Barry Ukele	574-259-6212	Dave Hayes	574-276-0524	Don Shelton	574-532-3271

### Club Events Committee

Vacant

### Membership Coordinator

Zoe Burns 574-674-6690

### Club Enhancement Committee

Les Bontrager	574-862-2517	Bob May	574-299-8096
Bob Wasowski	574-233-5095	Bob Niece	574-255-4188

### Membership Care Coordinator

Irene Laudeman 574-259-5015

### Web Master

Doug Burkhead 574-524-0824

### Scholarship Committee

Roh Hipsher	574-257-8327	Ruth Crofoot	574-295-5333
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### Newsletter Committee

Doug Burkhead	574-524-0824	Rick Nichols	574-282-1916
Barry Ukele	574-259-6212	Will Young	574-259-6118

To submit articles or other information please email it to [support@michianawalleye.org](mailto:support@michianawalleye.org)  
Or give it to a newsletter committee person in electronic form: CD, Floppy disc, ETC...  
All information must be submitted by the deadline on page 3.

## About Us

The Michiana Walleye Association was founded in 1993 to enhance the St. Joseph River and its surrounding waters in northern Indiana and southern Michigan. We currently have near 200 members dedicated to walleye fishing, preservation, and conservation. We support the Indiana Wildlife Federation, helping to protect our land, air, and waters. MWA is non-profit organization, continually looking for members and sponsors who share our beliefs. MWA also supports the IDNR and its stocking program combined with the cooperation of the state of Michigan DNR. Education of the youth and preservation of the future is our primary goal.

Monthly meetings are held the first Saturday of each month at 6:30 pm on our public grounds. All members and non-members are welcome to attend. 13040 Day Road - Mishawaka, IN. 46545

Please help us with our costs !!!!!

If you have an internet connection and can receive your newsletter by email, please email us at [support@michianawalleye.org](mailto:support@michianawalleye.org) and ask to be put on the newsletter email list.

Thank you for your support.....

**2008 Newsletter deadline****Publication - Deadline****July/August - June 24th****Sept/October - August 26th****Nov/December - October 28th**

If you have anything for the future newsletters,  
please submit them by the above dates.

**2008 MWA dues****Memberships run from April 1st to April 1st.****Single—\$25.00****Family—\$40.00****Outdoor restrooms**

The outdoors restrooms are now available for use, the combination is the same as the gate. Please keep them tidy.....

**Have you visited our website lately?**

[Www.michianawalleye.org](http://www.michianawalleye.org)

Thanks to a lot of hard work our message board is back up and running. We have installed more security features and bells and whistles. This should help keep the spammers out. Please take advantage of the hard work our forum administrators put in to the website, and message board. It's a great place to chat, post fishing reports or ask questions about fishing or other things related to the club. You can also see what hot news might be happening at the club that you would like to be involved with. It's also a place where a bunch of us make plans on fishing a body of water together for fun.

Your MWA message board administrators are:  
Rob & Zoe Burns, Rick Nichols and Doug Burkhead

**Wanted Aluminum**

The club is looking for aluminum. If you have any unwanted aluminum that you would like to donate to the club, please drop it off at the club grounds after 5pm on any Tuesday. This money is used to help support our walleye stocking efforts.

**2008 MWA****Meeting Schedule:**January 6<sup>th</sup>February 2<sup>rd</sup>March 1<sup>st</sup>April 5<sup>th</sup>May 3<sup>rd</sup>June 7<sup>th</sup>**July 12<sup>th</sup>****August 2<sup>nd</sup>**September 6<sup>th</sup>October 4<sup>th</sup>

November 1st

December 6th

**MICHIANA****WALLEYE****PLEDGE**

- To preserve and protect the waterways and fish there in.
- To provide a future for generations yet to come.
- To educate those generations so that this tradition may be carried on.

### **MWA Annual Community Yard Sale - Reminder**

Have you got those things out of the closets, basements and of course the garage you guys yet? We will be having the MWA Annual Community Yard Sale on July 26 from 8am – 4pm. There will also be a variety of baked goods for sale as well and we are looking for any donations here as well.

So that we can make this experience a good time for all here are some of the guidelines that we would like to follow if possible for donated goods.

Donated items should, if possible be price marked prior to bringing to the club – if this is not possible, we will try and mark the items when they arrive so that we can just set things up with out having to worry about getting things marked the day of and before the sale. Price tags and a general price guide will be provided to those who ask for them – see Zoe Burns.

All booth rentals this year will be outside spots, to allow for eating and bake sale to be in the clubhouse, also a table about who MWA is will be inside as well. Booth rental fee is \$15 for an approximate 12x12 spot. This is space rental only does not include tables, canopies or chairs – renter is responsible to furnish their own.

Sale time 8am – 4pm

Breakfast(donuts/coffe) and Lunch(Pizza slices) will be for sale.

We will be advertising this sale again this year in both local newspapers along with WNDU morning agenda on Saturday morning.

If anyone has any suggestions, please feel free to bring them to me and we will discuss them to see if they will work. We want this to a positive experience for not only the club but all involved as well.

We are looking for volunteers to help with the sale in various aspects. There will be a sign up sheet posted at the July meeting. Please help support our club in this event.

The last thing - wish for SUNSHINE – even with the rain last year we did have a decent flow of traffic and the club did make \$750.

### **Upcoming Events**

<b>JULY 12</b>	<b>OPEN MEETING</b>
<b>JULY 19</b>	<b>MWA CLUB TOURNEY @ ST JOE RIVER – NILES, MI.</b>
<b>JULY 26</b>	<b>YARD SALE</b>
<b>AUG 2</b>	<b>KIDS FISHING DERBY OPEN MEETING</b>
<b>AUG 10</b>	<b>MWA/PNA CHALLENGE</b>
<b>AUG 24</b>	<b>CABELAS TOURNEY @ WINONA</b>
<b>SEPT 6</b>	<b>FUN TOURNEY @ PIKE LAKE</b>

*Slick Stick*



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Summer: General Delivery  
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Winter: 5715 Town Center Drive, #1  
Grainger, IN 46530  
Phone: 574-220-9936  
Website: [www.peffleyscamp.com](http://www.peffleyscamp.com)  
Email: [info@peffleyscamp.com](mailto:info@peffleyscamp.com)

## 2008 MWA Tournament news

<u>April 12th &amp; 13th</u>	Detroit River Big Fish "FUN" Tournament.
<u>April 20th</u> (Bremen)	Lake Of The Woods (Cabela's Qualifier).
<u>May 17th</u> (Warsaw)	Winona (Club Point Event)
<u>June 29th</u> (Benton Harbor)	St Joe River, (Cabela's Qualifier).
<u>July 19th</u> (Niles)	St Joe River, (Club Point Event).
<u>Aug 24th</u> Warsaw	Winona (Cabela's Qualifier).
<u>Sept 6th</u> Warsaw	Pike (Family multi species WATCH FOR DETAILS"
<u>Sept. 13th</u>	Maxi ( Club Points Event).
Nov TBD	MWA Annual Tournament Awards Banquet

## 2008 MWA Tournament News

### MWA Tournament

Winona results

Mike Rhoades / Chris Rhoades.5 fish 9.57--- 1st

Shawn Kintigh/ Angie Kintigh.5 fish 7.42----- 2nd

Randy Gaines/ Colleen Gaines. 5 fish 6.35-- -3rd

Rick Nichols / Don Shelton . 2 fish Big fish3.4 4.96 ---  
-.4th

Barry Ukele / Carl Chupp. 3 fish 3.34----5th

Dave hayes / Adam Hayes. 2 fish 2.04-----6th

Kristopher Blouir/ Meredith Blouir. 1 fish 1.2---7th

Bill Long / Joe King 0 fish 8th

Jay Walter/ Dale Wienke 0 fish 8th

Dwight Jones/ Dewayne Moss 0 fish 8th



### **MWA supports Oceola Days Parade**

**Pictures provided by Colleen Clayton Gaines  
More pictures available on our website.**

### Planer Board by Colleen Clayton Gaines

Last weekend, my husband took our nephew, Kolten, to one of the big box sporting goods stores to shop for fishing tackle. Kolten is kindergarten age but he has no idea who the popular action figures are and never plays Xbox or other video games. His favorite bedtime reading material is the Cabela's or Bass Pro fishing catalog. This particular weekend, his mom had some real leverage to keep Kolten on the straight and narrow before the big shopping trip.

Now I recognize that Kolten is not the typical young boy, but when I watch him I can only imagine that this was my husband as a child. It is often easy to look at today's youth and think, "Kids these days." But these "kids" will become the keepers of the environment and the MWA in the not too distant future. So the time we spend planting seeds of the love for the sport of fishing and nature in a child takes on a bigger meaning than simply the individual enjoyment that each of us gets by sharing this special time with them.

I would bet that someone spent this kind of time with Brandon Gerig (the MWA scholarship recipient) when he was youth. And it probably helped to inspire his passion for the outdoors and fishing. Just look at what an excellent steward he has become.

Not all of our daughters, sons, nieces, nephews, or grandchildren will become as consumed with fishing as Kolten or my husband has. That's ok too. There will be varying degrees of passion but we can hope that they all will develop a strong respect for the conservation our natural resources and the preservation of our favored sport.

### MWA Members at the Cabela's NTC



Top Left—Dan Hoffman & Don Shelton  
Middle— Bob May & Dwight Jones  
Bottom Left—Randy Gaines & Mike Rhoades  
Bottom right—Dave & Adam Hayes  
Middle right—Field

Pictures by Colleen Clayton Gaines  
More pictures available on our website.

Stories by our anglers will be provided in our upcoming issues.



Out of the corner of its eye, even a neutral fish may strike at something it sees moving by quickly. They are used to a 'snooze you lose' world. Fish have adapted to take advantage when opportunity knocks.

In addition, speedy tactics are great search tools. Move quickly, find an active fish, and maybe others can be plucked out of the school by using finesse approaches. True, there are many times of the year when species like walleye are grouped up, and precision tactics may be the key. This is true when walleyes are tightly schooled to spawn in spring or later in fall when they begin to migrate back to spawning areas. But at other times, they spread out to reduce competition for food. In most situations, covering ground is critical.

Huge waters with vast basins, such as what you find in the Great Lakes, almost demand fast tactics that cover lots of ground in a hurry. On most days, using a jig in a place like that is like fishing in a space the size of a bathtub in the middle of an ocean.

**The Hard Sell**—Live bait limits speed options even with quicker presentations like spinner rigs and 'crawlers. If there's a choice, go with hard baits first. Slow down later if you must. Lures let you move fast and offer precise depth control. "You always know where your lure is," Keenan said. An added plus: you can catch bonus species, like muskies, which is always fun – unless you're in a walleye tournament.

**Choosing Crankbaits**—"There are so many different styles, it's confusing," said Keenan. "How do you pick the right one?" In general, stick with stickbaits for neutral fish in colder water. They have small, narrow lips and move with a tight wiggle. Rogues and Husky Jerks are an example. As water temperature rises, fish may prefer more active, deeper diving baits with a wider lip that is more active in the water. Bombers, Shad Raps, and Wally Divers are just a few that fit this bill. The important thing to know is what depth each lure runs at. The book "Precision Trolling – The Troller's Bible," is the tool to use. Each lure runs at a predictable depth based on amount of line you let out. The authors have created specific dive curves for common crankbaits to take the guesswork out of the process. The curves are based on 10-pound-test monofilament line. Use thinner, braided line, like Power Pro, to go deeper. Try different depths until you find the one that works. Never overlook the possibility of shallow fish, even over deep water. If over structure, set your lines to run just over the top of the highest point. Then you can speed along making S-turns over the top and the breaklines. When a structure is heavily pressured, move off to the sides where walleyes will move to avoid the boat traffic, but continue fishing at the same depth. Once other boats leave, gradually slide over the top again.

A guy can go broke trying to buy every color of crankbait made. Stick with naturals like perch and shad for clear water; chartreuse and firetiger for dingy water; and purple/pink, blue/silver, and gold for the Great Lakes. Vary them with other colors and metallics. After dark, try black/silver and blue/silver and up-size the bait. Keep changing colors and styles until something works, then change some more. If a bi-colored lure is catching fish, try using solid lures of one color or another to see which is triggering the action. If one color emerges as better than others, change up a couple of your other lines to match it, but always keep a line or two open for experimentation. Notice how deep the crankbait is in a walleye's mouth when you remove it. If the lure was T-boned or down in his throat, you're getting close to the right color. Move fast—1.4 to 1.6 mph is a good place to start. Go faster if action continues. Even 3 mph is not too fast.

Precise trolling on breaks can be accomplished by using leadcore and/or braided lines. Use leadcore on the outside lines and braided on the inside to avoid tangles on sharp turns. Speeds of 1.4 to even 4 mph are doable. Faster is better. "If you make a mistake," says Kennan, "make it by going too fast." If targeting water less than 5 feet deep, cast moderately active baits like Shad Raps or Wally Divers that dive just deep enough to tick bottom every once in a while, not all the time. Keenan aims for that depth where the lure just disappears from sight. Rigging with spinners and crawlers can be an alternative if hard baits don't work. Slowing down a little is typically necessary. Usually 1 to 1.5 mph is fast enough to make a Colorado blade spin. Willowleaf and Indiana blades have to be trolled at faster speeds.

Use big blades like #4 or #6 for trophy waters, 3s and 4s for places where walleyes tend to be smaller. Vary your snell length from 36 to 42 inches. Fluorocarbon works great for spinner leaders.

Whatever you have on the end of the line, keep the pedal to the metal. Keep in mind that, when it comes to consistently catching fish, often there is a need for speed.

Michigan Walleye Association  
 13040 Day Road  
 Mishawaka, IN. 46545  
 Visit us online:  
 Ww.michianawalleye.org



**PLEASE TAKE YOUR “FREE COPY” OF *THE ANGLER’S JOURNAL***

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**PRESIDENTS CORNER**

**Finally, our Porta-Pit chicken fundraisers are over for 2008. These sales have helped us meet our goals to operate the club. But with the rising costs of the chicken and containers our profits are being reduced dramatically. These prices have been raised twice in 2008. On another subject the number of volunteers that have helped in the past is dwindling. Those that do help are asked to stay longer which is unfair to them. The chicken sales, Open house, Lunkers Extravaganza, garage sale and raffles are all held to raise money to operate the club, not because we like to but because we have to.**

**We need your help if the MWA is to continue.**

**Rick Nichols**