



The Angler's Journal

Sept/Oct/Nov. 2008

MICHIANA
WALLEYE

Since 1993

St Joe river Walleye Stocking



Michiana Walleye Association

13040 Day Road

Mishawaka, IN 46545

Memo = walleye stocking fund

10/14/08 Michiana Walleye Association & its supporters worked with the IDNR to stock 9,8006"-8" walleye fingerlings in the St Joe River.

Thanks to the PNA Fishermans club # 83, Bob Evans Restaurants, John Fraley, Micheal Beachy DDS, River Valley Sportsmans Club, Michiana Steelheaders, Central Park Bait & their patrons, Shelby's Machine shop, Marathon station, Wylands Marine, Midway Bait & Tackle and their patrons & Timar construction for helping the MWA to raise the funds needed to do the 2008 stocking.

This years goal was \$5,000.00, our 2009 goal is \$15,600.00

Thanks to the St Joe Valley Bass Masters for putting on a benefit tournament that will be held on October 26th. A portion of the proceeds will go to the 2009 stocking.

If you would like to contribute to the 2009 stocking fund, please send a check to the above address. 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

For more pictures or to watch the video check out our website:

www.michianawalleye.org

Michiana Walleye Association

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
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Vacant

Membership Coordinator

Zoe Burns 574-674-6690

Club Enhancement Committee

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Bob Wasowski	574-233-5095	Bob Niece	574-255-4188

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Irene Laudeman 574-259-5015

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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
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 and ask to be put on the newsletter email list.

Thank you for your support.....



12 lb 6 oz walleye

Member Rob Burns lands a big walleye trolling on Lake Erie. Fishing out of Huron on Saturday October 11th.

Saturday Rob, Dan Hoffman and Doug Burkhead land 11 nice walleye's. But on Sunday, they land 18 walleye in 2 hours and 15 minutes that averaged 5.5 lbs. Harness's proved to be what the eye's wanted.....

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 6th

February 2rd

March 1st

April 5th

May 3rd

June 7th

July 12th

August 2nd

September 6th

October 4th

November 1st

December 6th

Have you visited our website lately?

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

New information and a lot of pictures and slideshows

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

[Look for our video of the 2008 walleye stocking](#)

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.



1st annual perch outing

On Saturday 8/16/08 the MWA held it's 1st annual Perch outing and cookout we fished Lake Michigan out of New Buffalo. 26 fisherpersons gathered for a day of fishing for the elusive perch.

A big fish pot worth over a \$100.00 was the prize. Beautiful weather greeted everyone as they left the channel mouth, 2-3 foot rollers perfect perchin' chop. We fished from 8am to 2pm then everyone trailered their

boats and headed to Kris and Meredith Blouir's house in LaPorte for a cookout.

While the food was being prepared the fish were brought in to measure . Samantha Hughey's 11-1/2" perch took 1st place while Harley Hough's 11-3/8"perch was 2nd. Oh by the way Samantha is 9 yrs old, talk about getting schooled. Congratulations to Samantha and Harley.

Then it was time to eat, drink and be merry. We enjoyed brats, potato salad, macaroni salad, chips, salsa and way to many different desserts. There was plenty of BS and beverages shared by all.

Thanks to everyone that came and to those that donated food and drinks. I look forward to the 2nd annual outing next year. I cannot thank Kris and Meredith enough for hosting this event. Hope to see you at the next one.

Rick Nichols

Pictures are on www.michianawalleye.org

Upcoming Events

Oct 26th—St Joe Valley Bass Masters benefit walleye stocking tournament

Nov 1st— Open Meeting 6:30pm—Speaker Chris Kreuger

Nov 8th— Annual Fishing banquet

Nov 17th—Board meeting

Dec 6th—MWA Christmas party

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 Grainger, IN 46530
 Phone: 574-220-9936
 Website: www.peffleyscamp.com
 Email: info@peffleyscamp.com

2008 MWA Tournament news

For those of you that don't already know the Michiana Walleye annual fishing banquet is at 7 pm November 8th. This year it will be held at the banquet hall next door to Pat's Bar in Lapaz In. Meet and Greet starts at 6 pm. beverages will be available. Dinner is Polish style and it's only \$10.00 per person. There is a sign up sheet at the club house and for you out of town members just mail your checks to:

MWA
 13040 Day Road,
 Mishawaka, In. 46545.

We look forward to seeing everyone there this year. Rick Nichols



Winona lake walleye outing:

1st to congratulate Ed and Steve on their win. Good friends, great weather, good lake. Thanks to everyone that came. There were 17 walleyes brought to the scale. The results are as follows:

1st-- Ed /Steve, 2nd--Dwight/Mike
 3rd--Barry/Don, 4th--Kris/Uncle
 5th--Shawn/Ron, 6th--Scott /Himself
 6th--Les/Shawn, 6th--Rick/Jeremy

Rick Nichols

Planer Board by Colleen Clayton Gaines

As I sit on my couch enjoying the 2008 Olympics, I can't help but smile at the similarities to the Cabela's National Championship Tournament in South Dakota this past June. Well yes, of course, the scale is a much smaller but emotion for the angling athletes and the spectators is much the same. After being able to attend a couple of the Cabela's sponsored tourneys, I thought it would be appropriate to share some of the sights and sounds of the event as a spectator.

There are two key points that the spectator can participate in during a fishing event. The first is the morning take off which is just a spectacular sight. The officials have clearly prepared for this part because everything from the boats launching and line up, to the playing of the national anthem, happens like clock work. Then comes the synchronized take off of the boats. At a much more precise time intervals than you would expect from a field of nearly 250 boats, each in turn powers up and quickly reaches plane. The sound is powerful and the sight of the boats in the water glistening with the morning sun, fanning out to different directions is just beautiful.

The afternoon weigh in is a stark contrast to the serenity of the morning. At the center of a festive and busy atmosphere, there is a huge stage that each team takes a turn at walking onto to weigh their catch. A large lighted billboard shows portrait photos of each team while they are on stage and what club they represent. (It was so exciting to see and hear Michiana Walleye Association announced on so many times in South Dakota this year!) As the MC discusses the day's ups and downs with each team, their genuine thrill of being able to participate such a spectacle is clearly evident. Audience members now are intent on keeping score, "who is in first now," "what the weight of the current Big Fish," all the while cheering for every team but a little louder for their favorites. Just as watching the Olympics live must be so much more impressive in person that on TV, it is hard to capture the excitement and emotion of seeing the MWA teams representing our club so well among so many excellent anglers. So if the opportunity ever arises to attend one of these events (even as a spectator), be assured that it will be an awesome experience

Oh To Be a Kid Again



Our annual Kids Fishing Derby was held this year on August 2, 2008. We had a great turn out and hosted 59 children. It's not often I think I would like to be a "kid" again, but I would not have minded being one of these young people for this fishing day. Every child had a chance to play games, learn or show off some casting skills, make a souvenir picture frame, and best of all the chance to catch some fish. Prizes were given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place as well as for big fish. We had a great Hot Dog roast and it was fun to see everyone eating and enjoy-

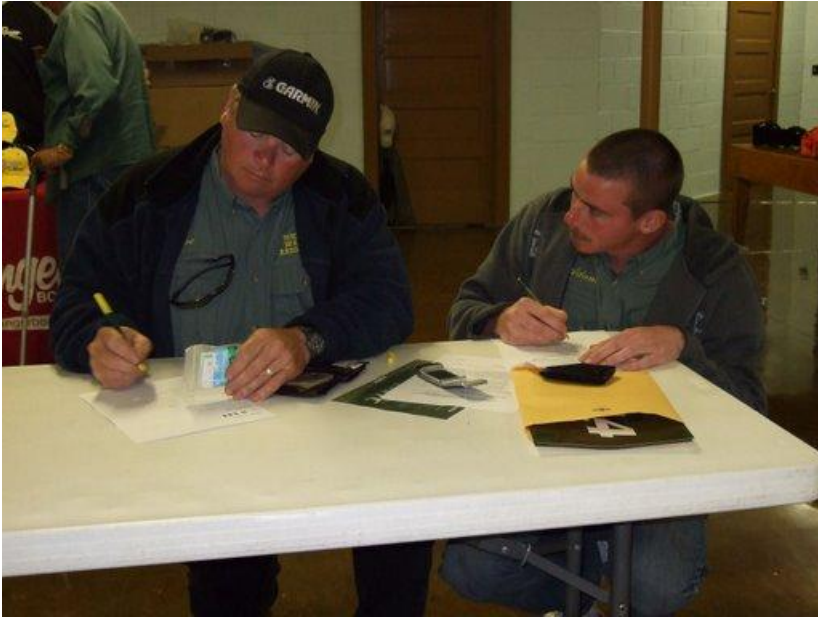
ing their day.

After the day of fun, games, fishing and eating it was time for the prizes, and just so ever child knew they were a winner, every child got a prize and a great bag of goodies to take home. Yes, I would not have minded being one of the kids for the day. The winners of the event were: Taking home the Big Fish prize was Zoe Long with a 13' Bass. 1st place went to Kolton Kaser who had a total of 59 3/4 " of fish. 2nd place went to Jill Vargo with 51" and 3rd place to Joseph Martin with 48 1/4". Great job to all of you and we hope to see you all back again next year.

I would love to see us host 100 children next year. Our chance to impact more children to teach them about fishing and a love of nature is a wonderful thing, I encourage each of you to think of ways you might help to make next year bigger and better.

I get a lot of credit for making this a good (or is that GREAT) event, but I want to say a special thanks to everyone who helps make this event so great every year. If it was not for each and every one of you this event would not be the success that it is. So from me to all of you.....THANKS!!!! Ruth (Bubbles) Cox-Crofoot

Sponsor's list: Quality Woodwork, Elkhart, IN, South Bend Silverhawks, Slick Stick Custom Rods for Big Fish, Zoleman Tire, Hoffman Sharpening, Elkhart Express, Central Park Bait, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, U.S. Marines, and Chief Cox with the U.S. Navy. Also a special thanks to the club members who gave of their efforts, time and money. Pictures available www.michianawalleye.org



Our Venture out West

After driving 1120 miles we finally arrived at our Destination. Lake Oahe, Mobridge, South Dakota. What a sight, rolling hills and valleys with Lake Oahe going down the center. My son Adam and I were there to fish the Cabella's National Team Tournament along with three other boats from the Michiana Walleye Assn. After a few cocktails and supper we called it a day. Sun. morning we woke up at 9:30 and everybody was gone, Oh well we were on vacation and wasn't going to get up early if we did not have to, the fish weren't going anywhere. We finally arrived at the lake but where do you start?

We started fishing and caught fish every where we went. We were looking for the big ones, You would look at the top of the bluffs and there would be mule deer looking back at you. There were pheasants everywhere. We got rained on every day, some days were worse than others. Talk about wind it never stopped. We even saw a tornado way off to the west and it went south of us. On Wednesday night we had a storm from the East that lasted 2 hours with 60 mph winds and hail. All week we found new places with better fish. Where you had 13 ft of water on Sunday you had 18 ft on Friday. The lake was rising from all the rain and they had the Dams downstream closed because of the flooding.

Day one of the tournament started with a stiff wind from the northwest. What a sight to see 250 boats in a bay with wind blowing 30 mph. We got to the main lake and what a sight, 3 to 4 ft waves. We had to go 8 miles downstream to get to the bay where we found the best fish with the wind conditions. We had four anchors out and still going back at 1.3mph. We tried trolling but with the wind we had to use the big motor and trolling motor just to go against the wind. I told Adam we should go towards the launch and find a spot closer. By then the waves were 4 to 6 ft. high. We would crest a wave and spear the next, our bilge pump never shut off the whole way back. All the spray from the boat was coming in the boat. There was not a dry spot on either of us. I told Adam its better safe than sorry we were heading in. We got in and called the tournament director told him we were done and he said he didn't think we would last as long as we did. Come to find out the wind was constant at 40 with gust to 45mph. We went back to the resort took a hot shower and went back for the weigh in. What a show. We supported the other three boats when they arrived to weigh their catch. We stayed there until a storm came through and chased us back to the resort.

Day two of the tournament started out bad. I woke up feeling terrible. I woke Adam and he could not talk very well. I ask him if he wanted to fish and he said no. I knew he was sick. Come to find out he had tonsillitis so we gathered our things, told the others good luck and headed east. It took us longer to get home because of all the detours of roads due to flooding. We arrived Home early Sunday Morning.

What a trip. If anybody wants to go to a place and catch Walleyes at will, Lake Oahe is the place to go in Mobridge South Dakota. That's all Folks.....

By Dave Hayes

My Experience in South Dakota



Everyone else can talk about the fishing, I'm going to talk about the people and South Dakota.

Randy and I pulled in to a little bait shop and restaurant to get gas and bait our first day in Ataska. We pulled up to one pump and it had a little note on it saying \$4.15 a gallon and to go inside and tell the attendant how much gas you pumped. So we filled up the boat and went inside. We told the lady we wanted 2 dozen leeches and 3 dozen minnows, she said we don't sell minnows by the dozen but by the scoop. While we were talking to her we

mentioned that we were there to fish the Cabelas National she immediately got out a map and started to tell us her favorite spots on the river. We talked to her for 15 to 20 minutes, I reached for my wallet to pay for the bait and she said we could run a tab for the week if we wanted to. I told her thank you but no, we'd pay as we went. Before we left 2 or 3 other local fishermen also marked spots on our map.

So off to the ramp we go, get to the ramp and it was nice, 2-3 times the size of Maggie's Landing and 3 times as steep. We launched the boat and I pulled up to the ramp and looked around and could only see maybe 2 buildings as far as you could see in any direction. I've never seen so much land in all my life.

We spent 10 days in South Dakota I never heard 1 cross word spoken at any time at any place we went. The place where we stayed was nice but way off the main drag by about 15 miles, up and down hills all the way.

We were going to have trouble for 1 night's stay at the hotel because so many of us were there. While we were at the bait shop in Ataska we told the lady about our problem and went fishing. By the time we got back she had called our hotel to tell us she had found a house that we could rent, that the owner would stay in one of his out buildings and we could use the house. The hotel was able to come up with a room so we didn't have to take the house.

While we were there we saw lots of pheasant, deer, eagles and a couple of antelope, besides an awesome fishing hole.

P.S. If you ever get a chance to go to South Dakota you should go and look up " NANCY " at the bait shop in Ataska.

Mike Rhoades

Pike lake fun outing



If your not attending our functions, your missing a lot of fun!!!!



PNA / MWA Challenge

PNA wins again The PNA wins by 2.5 points to again take home the trophy. I'd like to thank Jack, Jim, & Ruth for helping with the measuring of fish, and Donnie & Marcia, Nicholaus, Will, Dave & Rick for the food preparation. And also a big thank you to Barry for being in charge of the derby and getting everything around....Great Job Everyone Thanks to those who came out and watched the measuring and shared the food & drink. Thanks to the PNA for being such a great group, and Frank

for suggesting to have the event in the first place....Doug Burkhead

Here is how things came out: PNA - 28.5 POINTS...MWA - 26.5 POINTS

Walleye: 1st - mwa - Bob & Carl - 19" - \$50.00, 2nd-mwa-Ed & Steve - 16 1/2", 3rd- pna-Joe Briggs - 15 3/4"

Bluegill: 1st - pna-John Michael - 8 1/2" - \$50.00, 2nd - pna - Frank Wasielewski - 8", 3rd - Tie, pna-Tom Moleman - 7 7/8"
mwa-Zoe Burns - 7 7/8"

Crappie: 1st - mwa-Mike & Don - 14" - \$50.00, 2nd - mwa-Mike & Don - 13 1/2", 3rd - mwa -Mike & Don - 11 1/2"

Pike: 1st - pna - Ryan Evans - 33 3/4" - \$50.00

Largemouth bass: 1st - pna-Ted Wasielewski- 17" - \$50.00,

Perch: 1st - mwa - Ed & Steve - 8 7/8" - \$50.00 , 2nd - pna - Bill Briggs - 8 1/4", 3rd - pna - Doc - 8 1/4"

Smallmouth bass: 1st - pna - Bill Briggs - 15 3/4" - \$50.00, 2nd - mwa - Les Bontrager - 15 1/2" , 3rd - mwa - ROB Burns - 15"

Side pot - Catfish Winner - Les Bontrager \$90.00

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



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

Inside this issue

<i>Stocking</i>	<i>Cover</i>	
<i>St Joe stocking</i>		1
<i>Contact Info.</i>		2
<i>12lb 6oz walleye</i>		3
<i>Upcoming events</i>		4
<i>Perch outing</i>		4
<i>MWA Tourney News.</i>		6
<i>Planer Board news</i>		7
<i>Winona lake outing</i>		7
<i>Kids fishing</i>		8
<i>Venture out west</i>		9
<i>South Dakota</i>		10
<i>Pike lake</i>		11
<i>PNA Challenge</i>		11

PRESIDENTS CORNER

First let me tell you that I’m proud to be a member of the MWA. To be associated with a group of people that in 1993 had the foresight to stock walleyes in the St Joe river, their vision of a walleye fishery right here in our back yard was something that many people thought wasn’t possible.

Since that time the IDNR has stocked the St Joe but in the last 3 to 4 years the stockings haven’t been very successful. With the inability to trade for fish with Michigan because of the VHS disease, budget cuts, ect. there probably wouldn’t have been a stocking in 2008. Neil Ledet of the IDNR contacted Doug Burkhead to see if the MWA would be able to help.

To make a long story short, with the help of the IDNR and many others on Oct.14 9800 6-8 inch advanced walleye fingerlings were stocked in the St Joe.

Many thanks go to Doug Burkhead for all his efforts in making this happen. We’ve already started working on the 2009 goal of 10,000 fish but we will need everyone’s help if we are going to succeed.

HELP US SHINE IN 2009 Rick Nichols