



Blue Water Sportfishing Association Newsletter



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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 4, 7:00 AT MCMORRAN**

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING - WEDNESDAY,
FEBRUARY 12, 7:30 AT MCMORRAN**

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

The club would like to thank Gary Ehmcke and Josh Marks from Gander Mountain for putting on a great ice fishing seminar at the January general membership meeting. They brought a lot of equipment with them and did a great job. If you were lucky enough to attend, they also gave 10% off coupons to be used at the Port Huron store.

February's guest will be Purdy's Fishery from Sarnia.



NEW MICHIGAN RECORD

The International Game Fish Association (IGFA) announced in November that Al Gaulin, BWSA member, had set the new 12lb (6kg) test state line class record with a 10 pound 0 ounce walleye. Al, a resident of Port Huron, caught the record walleye in the St. Clair River on June 18, 2002. Al's fish also won the walleye division of our Big Fish Contest. Congratulations Al.



WHOPPER BROWN SETS STATE MARK

It took Larry Curtis nearly an hour to land the new state record brown trout while trolling in ten feet of water off Arcadia April 5.

The 40.5-inch brown weighed 34.62 pounds. That tops the old record of 34.45 pounds, also caught in Manistee County water, in 1998. The last three state record browns have come from Manistee County.

Curtis, 51, of Reed City, was trolling a chartreuse No. 11 Rapala.

from North Woods Call

2003 IMPORTANT CLUB DATES

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Feb. 8-16 | Detroit Boat Show |
| March 27 | Fishing Forever Banquet |
| April 26 | River Crab Salmon Stakes |
| May 16, 17, 18 | Blue Water Classic |
| June 6-8 | Sarnia Bay Marina Tournament contact 519-862-2291 |



BIG FISH CONTEST

Here are the final standings for the Big Fish contest. If you have any questions or comments about the contest, please direct them to the Big Fish Chairman John Brennan at 982-0678.

Adult Division

KING

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| Brian Meredith | 25.1 lbs |
| Dan Owen | 24.2 lbs |
| Blake Hutchinson | 23.5 lbs |

COHO

None were entered

STEELHEAD

| | |
|---------------|-----------|
| Al Gaulin | 15.02 lbs |
| Robert Roskey | 12.5 lbs |
| Al Gaulin | 10.0 lbs |

BROWN TROUT

| | |
|-----------|----------|
| Dan Owen | 17.4 lbs |
| Al Gaulin | 13.5 lbs |

LAKE TROUT

| | |
|-----------|---------|
| Al Gaulin | 6.8 lbs |
|-----------|---------|

WALLEYE

| | |
|---------------|----------|
| Al Gaulin | 10.0 lbs |
| Dan Dobson | 9.4 lbs |
| Steve McKinch | 8.3 lbs |

Junior Division

KING

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| Taylor Kuehn | 18.10 lbs |
| Billy Ogden | 16.5 lbs |
| Alissa Ogden | 13.1 lbs |
| Luke Dewey | 12.15 lbs |
| John Decker | 10.0 lbs |

WALLEYE

| | |
|---------------|---------|
| Hunter Kuehn | 8.6 lbs |
| Clare Gilmore | 3.1 lbs |

If you were one of the lucky anglers to be listed here, you need to attend the February general membership meeting to receive your trophy.



Brian's big fish. 25.1 lbs out of Ludington last August

2002 MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Bob Lane presented Dan Dobson with the 2002 Member of the Year award. Dan is on the Board of Directors and is involved with running all of the club's raffles. Dan also is known for catching quite a few Coho and Steelhead on the Manistee River.



NEW THINGS IN 2003

There are quite a few new products to look for in 2003. Most of them can be seen at the spring fishing shows, like the one at Ford Field.

Daiwa has discontinued both of its 47LC and SG47LC model reels. A lot of stores still have these models stocked; you can find them for discount if you search around, but the supply is running out. The 47LC is being replaced with the new Accudepth models, which I feel is a step down. The SG47LC model is being replaced with the new SG47LCA, which is a step up. The SG47LCA will have 2 ball bearings (instead of bushings) and has an aluminum spool. I am planning on getting 4 of the new SG47LCAs this spring.

Cannon is producing two temperature probes. They both give speed and temp at the ball, along with light intensity at the ball. You need to be careful which one you purchase though. One is a stand-alone unit that will work with any downrigger; the other will only work with a Cannon Magi 20 downrigger and certain bottom line fish finders.

Penn has two 320 models out now. One has a regular star drag (which most anglers are used to), and a new model with a lever drag system. I was not that impressed with the new lever drag model, but it is worth taking a look at.

Mike Rymar



TOURNAMENT WINNERS

Winning captains and crew members of last year's club tournaments picked up their trophies at last month's general membership meeting. Pictured from left to right are: Scott Bugaiski, Dan Fenner, Mike Rymar, Brian Meredith, and Ken McNutt.



CILER RECEIVES GRANT TO STUDY BALLASTING

ANN ARBOR — The Cooperative Institute for Limnology and Ecosystems Research (CILER) has received a \$1.12 million grant from the Great Lakes Protection Fund that will help researchers study the risks of transoceanic vessels and their water ballasting practices.

Despite tighter regulations, nonindigenous species are still being introduced into the Great Lakes. Studies show current requirements for ballasted ships to exchange their ballast water while in the deep ocean is insufficient to prevent further introductions. Current regulations do not address the fact that more than 80% of the vessels that enter the Great Lakes declare they have no-ballast-on-board, or are NOBOBs.

Researchers will focus most of their studies on NOBOB vessels. CILER's director, Tom Johengen, heads the new research project along with David Reid of NOAA. Researchers will assess the effectiveness of ballast water exchange, the unpumpable sediment and water residual left over in ballast tanks from previous ballasting, and work with the shipping companies and vessel crews to get history of the ship's ballasting and management operations.

CILER, with administrative offices at the University of Michigan, is a joint institute formed in conjunction with the U-M, Michigan State U, NOAA and the Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory (GLERL). The three-year project began July 1.

from Great Lakes Basin Report

WEIGH YOUR DIPSY DIVERS

Did you know that some dipsy divers can weigh more than others? Each dipsy diver has a lead weight inside of it; you can take a look at it by taking your diver apart with a screwdriver if you want. From year to year, Luhr Jensen has made changes to that weight. Some will weigh more than others. Where this becomes important is in the spring or fall. In the spring, you will want to use your lighter-weighting divers. That way you can get your diver away from the boat more and it will not sink as fast. In the fall, you will want to achieve greater depths with your dipsy and have the least amount of line out as possible. In this case, you should use your heavier divers to get to deeper depths.

from Great Lakes Angler

SALMON CHOWDER RECIPE

Several people enjoyed this recipe at the Christmas Party. This version will serve 4.

- 1/4 lb Bacon
- 1 Med Cooking Onion
- 1 Small Yellow Squash
- 1 Small Zucchini
- 1/2 Red Pepper
- 1 8 oz Can of Mushrooms
- 3 Stalks Celery
- 3 Carrots
- 2 Med Potatoes
- 1 Pint Canned Salmon (fresh can be used, but it should be poached)
- 1 Can Condensed Milk

Dice bacon and onions; then sauté.

Dice carrots, celery, and potatoes; then boil in saucepan till tender.

Dice yellow squash, zucchini, and pepper; then boil in separate saucepan till tender.

Add mushrooms to sautéed onions and bacon.

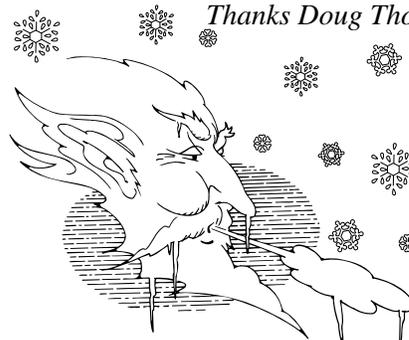
Add entire contents of both sauce pans (inc. liquid)

Add canned salmon (simmer)

Add condensed milk (simmer)

Season as needed

Thanks Doug Thornsberry (Good Squaw)





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FISH \$ TO PARKING LOT

Twenty grants, totaling \$197,788, to improve inland fisheries have been awarded by state officials.

The matching grants go to organizations and government agencies and vary from \$1,000 to \$30,000.

This year's two largest grants have been pegged as political, rather than fisheries, decisions. The city of Lansing will get \$30,000 for a boat launch and paved parking lot. The city of Jackson will get \$27,115 for a similar project.

Conservationists and fisheries managers fear this will set a precedent to divert the \$200,000 available annually from angler license dollars from the Inland Fisheries program to political payola.

Other projects funded - \$12,856 for promoting and implementing natural vegetative strips around Long Lake.

- \$1,274 for fish cribs and spawning habitat in Gulliver Lake.

- \$10,000 for upper Manistee River trout habitat restoration.

- \$9,300 for removal of beavers and beaver dams in Iron and Dickinson county streams.

- \$12,000 to eight local schools to establish coaster brook trout rearing-education programs for the Little Carp River.

- \$20,652 for habitat restoration and protection in Antrim County's Cedar River.

- \$20,000 for habitat restoration and protection in the North and South branches of the AuSable River.

- \$5,276 for a walleye rearing program for Beaver Island's Lake Geneserath.

from North Woods Call

ROVING NET

When a fisherman reported losing his downrigger cannonballs on a submerged, unmarked net, COs responded to remove the thing from about 90 feet of water five miles north of Elk Rapids.

They called for more muscle. Before they gave up, Sgt. Jeff Gaither and COs Jim Gorno, Marc Pomroy, Dick Bonner and Steve Huff, plus a tribal CO, were hauling on the darn thing.

They couldn't budge it. Never met a net like that. Must be something else.

But it clearly was an unnatural obstruction that needed to be removed.

State Police divers - who are not familiar with nets - were called in. When the first diver came up he exclaimed, "There's something down there as big as a house!"

Turned out to be a huge weed and slime-covered trap net that a tribal fisherman had reported losing a long distance from its final resting place four years ago. The tribe has told him to retrieve it.

How could the net have traveled that far?

Underwater currents can do it, according to lead Lake Michigan fisheries researcher Dave Clapp.

from North Woods Call