



Lake Region Anglers Association

PO Box 456, Devils Lake, ND 58301

• Sportsmanship • Conservation • Youth Activities • Preservation

Reminder: If dues are not current, this is your last newsletter.

MAY 2012

Prez Sez:

In recent years, service clubs and civic clubs and other community organizations have seen their memberships shrink and age to the point that many no longer exist. Lake Region Anglers Association has managed not only to stay active but has actually increased in membership and viability. A fishing club since 1976 LRAA now has almost 200 members, many who actively attend outings and events, many who help with community activities, many others who are just interested in supporting the Lake Region's fishing. Fishing and boating in the Lake Region would not be what it is today without LRAA. Almost all public boating accesses in the Lake Region are due to efforts of the LRAA leadership at least in part.

In the past few years LRAA has moved into the electronic age. Thanks in great part to Keith Seidlinger's stewardship much of Lake Region Anglers news, announcements and membership feedback is done electronically by email(ETREE). We will continue to move in this direction. Members need to realize that our fishing community extends beyond Devils Lake shores and Devils Lake city limits. Many of our members live in Grand Forks, Fargo, Bismarck and even out of state yet they want keep informed about events, happenings and local information as it becomes pertinent.

Keep in touch with us. Be sure you maintain your membership, be sure we have your email if you communicate that way at all. Stay involved, it's only by your participation that Lake Region Anglers stays the organization that you want it to be. Thanks. Clark

Awards to Game and Fish

Bill Haase and Wesley Erdle with the North Dakota Game and Fish Department Fisheries Project Development Department were presented with awards from LRAA for their efforts in developing and improving access in the Lake Region. Bill and Wes were instrumental in the construction of the new access facilities at Round Lake, Pelican Marina, Esteson's Landing. They developed and constructed the new ramp at Lakewood, raised the access at East Bay Landing and at 6 mile. Without their considerable efforts we would have fewer and poorer quality ramps and facilities than we do now. Thanks Bill and Wes.



DL Area Chamber Member of the Year



Lake Region Anglers Assn was selected as the 2011 Devils Lake Area Chamber Member of the Year. For all the community activities and access promotion, the membership was recognized. Thanks to everyone who helped at all our events to make this possible.

Lake Region Anglers Association

SPRING NORTHERN PIKE & WALLEYE OUTING

Saturday, May 19th, 2012

• **LOCATION**

Pelican Lake Boat Landing

• **ELIGIBILITY**

An eligible fishing team shall be made up of (2) persons. Persons of any age are eligible to compete however one team member must be of age 18 years old or older and be a member of LRAA .

• **REGULATIONS**

All contestants must observe U.S. Coast Guard and ND Game and Fish Dept. rules, regulations, laws and license requirements. Life preservers must be worn when boat is on plane. Boats or vehicles may be boarded and checked at random. All fish must be contained to a live well or cooler. No stringers or baskets allowed. Shore fishing will be allowed. Team members must fish within 100 feet of each other at all times. **All teams are responsible for their fish following the tournament.** Contestants are reminded that the "Spirit of the Rule" will prevail in all judgment cases.

• **Aquatic Nuisance Species**

All boats must be inspected for ANS prior to doing any pre-fishing for or entry into a LRAA tournament or Outing. The Official ANS Boat Inspection check point is located at Ed's Bait Shop in Devils Lake. Ed's will issue an ANS inspection sticker that is to be displayed on the boat. Boats must be re- inspected each time they have fished waters outside of the Devils Lake chain of lakes system. Anglers will be required to sign-off on a ANS questionnaire form during registration prior to fishing in an LRAA tournament or Outing.

• **FISHING AREA**

Outing boundaries will be all navigable waters of Devils Lake or directly connected.

• **FISHING HOURS**

The Outing fishing hours will run from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

• **REGISTRATION – CHECK-IN – WEIGH-IN**

Teams are requested to register and check-in at least ½ hour prior to the Outings scheduled start time. Each team will undergo a boat check and be issued a numbered key tag identifying their team. At weigh-in one of the team members must deliver their team key tag to the scoreboard before the end of the fishing day or they will be considered a late check-in and subject to a weight penalty and or disqualification. The team may then load out their boat then proceed to weigh-in their catch.

• **ENTRY FEE**

Entry fee shall be \$25.00 per two – person team. Checks should be made payable to the Lake Region Anglers Association. **In the event of cancellation due to inclement weather the outing will be held on Sunday May 20nd.** If the Outing is cancelled all entry fees will be refunded. The Tournament field is limited to 49 teams.

• **SCORING**

Team standings shall be determined by a total weight of 6 Northern Pike and 5 Walleye. **The minimum length requirement for Walleye is 15 inches and for Northern Pike 20 inches.** Any TIES will be decided by the team weighing in the largest Northern Pike.

Any team that returns within 15 minutes after the scheduled check-in time will be penalized ten (10) percent of their total weight and be disqualified for largest fish prize. Teams checking in over 15 minutes late will result in a disqualification. All fish will be weighed in on the LRAA official scale.

• **PRIZES**

One plaque per team member will be awarded to the top five (5) teams plus plaques the largest northern. **"TEAM of YEAR QUALIFYING EVENT."**

• **WEATHER**

Listen to the local radio stations for cancellation and rescheduling information.

• **Plaques are provided courtesy of:**



Application for the Spring Northern Outing May 19th, 2012 * Pre-registration is Requested

TEAM MEMBER # 1	TEAM MEMBER # 2
NAME _____	NAME _____
ADDRESS _____	ADDRESS _____
CELL PHONE _____	CELL PHONE _____
Signature _____	Signature _____

The Tournament - Outing Committee and Lake Region Anglers Association assume no responsibility for injury to persons or damage to property.

Mail the entry form and \$25.00 per team entry fee to LRAA P.O. Box 456 Devils Lake, ND 58301

Al Freidig presented with the 2011 LRAA Sportsman of the Year and Lifetime Achievement Award.

For the first time in the 36 year history of the Lake Region Anglers Association a member is recognized by receiving both the Sportsman of the Year and the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Al Friedig, past president and current member of the Board, brought his expertise as a fisherman, his knowledge of the community as past Director of the Devils Lake Chamber and as owner of Real Estate 7 and his dedication to improving the community to helping develop ramps and access facilities, staying ahead of the rising waters. Without Al's constant help Game and Fish would not have been able to accomplish half of what they did in 2011. For his efforts Al is recognized as 2011 LRAA Sportsman of the Year.

As a member of Lake Region Anglers since 1990, Al has served as a Board Member and President. Al actively participates in most club functions and is always there when the club needs something or when a community contact is needed to accomplish some important project. But more than that Al is always there even if he has no responsibility to do so. He comes to Board Meetings even when he is not on the Board. He volunteers to help when help is needed. For years of valuable and unselfish service to LRAA and to the Lake Region, Lake Region Anglers proudly awards Al Freidig their Lifetime Achievement Award.

Congratulations and thanks Al.



Team of the Year Competition

The Spring Walleye-Northern Outing is the first of the three events required to qualify for LRAA Team of the Year. The competition won by Ryan Boline and Chris Rainsberry is an award to the team that fished all three events: the Spring Northern-Walleye, the East Bay Earlybird and the DL Open and finished highest based on a points formula (available on our website). The winner is recognized as

the LRAA Team of the Year complete with plaques for both team members and the winning team qualifies for an invitation and paid entry for the Cabela's National Team Championship the following year (a \$300 value).

If you are interested, mark the dates on your calendar (see out events calendar) and plan on fishing all three.

Annual Meeting News

Lake Region Anglers held its Annual Meeting on March 23rd at the Eagles Club in Devils Lake. Members attended and enjoyed a light meal, raffle, comradie and participated in awards ceremony and club business including elections. We enjoyed a light meal of

subs, chips and salads. Everyone enjoyed the change of pace. Plaques were awarded for the 2011 Team of the Year Ryan Boline and Kris Rainsberry. Al Freidig was awarded the 2011 Sportsman of the Year as well as the LRAA Lifetime Achievement award. The club was recognized as the 2011 Devils Lake Area Chamber Member of the Year. Memberships were collected by those attending for 2012-13. Lots of raffle prizes were drawn for, to the delight of those who won.

Prizes were donated by the following: Ed's Bait Shop including a \$350 depth finder, Matt Taylor a \$500 G Loomis rod, Tim Rutten a Bushnell Spotting Scope, Mac's Hardware, Gerrell's Sporting Goods, Pete's Bait Shop, Salmo Lures, Johnnie Candle, AYA and FM Walleye's, Woodland Resort and Home of Economy. Thanks to all. Please be sure to recognize and thank them when you see them. Without their support Lake Region Anglers could not do what we do for you.

Devils Lake Walleye Status Update

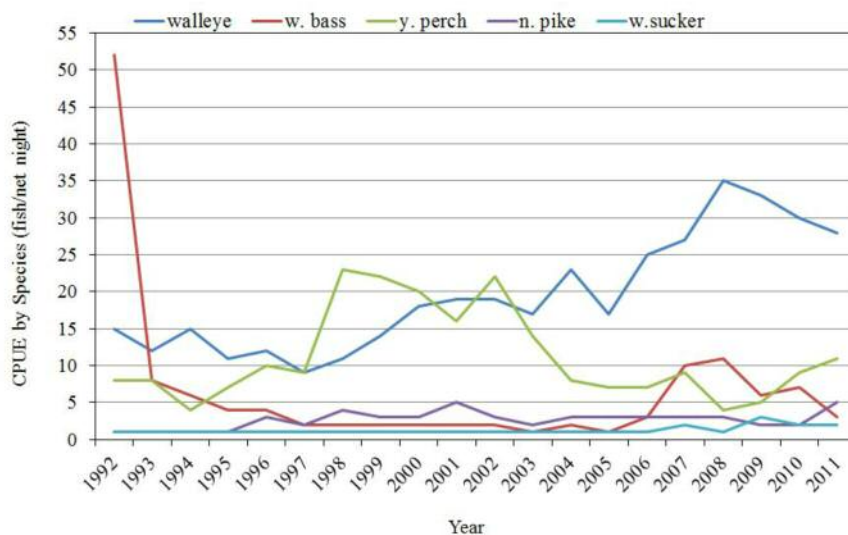
by Randy Hiltner; NE District Fisheries Supervisor

Before open-water fishing gets going full speed, I thought a quick update on the walleye population would be in order (of course individual results may vary!). As many ice anglers noticed last winter, there were numerous small, young walleye under 14". Most of these are from the very strong 2009 year-class (hatch). The 2011 walleye net catch rate (number of) was the fourth highest in the past 20 years and well above average (graph 1). However, much of the sample were the younger fish mentioned above. The current walleye population is comprised of primarily younger fish, which is normal. Looking at the net catch rates for the 15-20 inch walleye size group over time, the current level is similar to 2005 (see graph 2). The catch rate for this size group has been trending down from the high levels of 2006 and 2008 but is still at the long-term average. Net catch rates for greater than 20 inch walleye have remained fairly stable over the years. However, it should be mentioned that our gill nets do not do a very good job of sampling the larger fish because of mesh size limitations. So why has the net catch rate for 15-20 inch walleye been going down since 2008? Certainly the lake acreage has increased dramatically in the last 3 years, which did spread out the existing older/larger fish and lower their densities. Also, the 2003, 2004 and 2005 year-classes were not very strong. These fish comprise some of the larger walleye that are available today. These years were sandwiched between three previous strong year-classes (2000-2002) and followed by several strong year-classes since. It is normal for the reproductive success to be up and down over time because of suppression from previous strong hatches and other factors. It looks like the size structure should improve in the next few years as the 2009

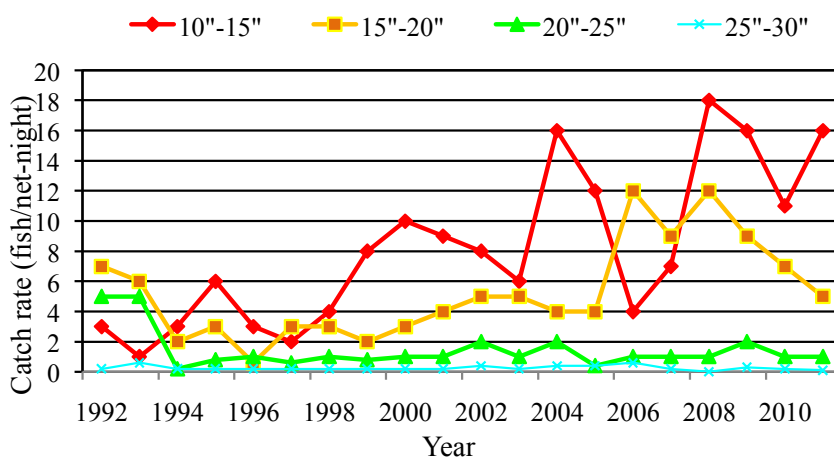
year-class (and other recent hatches) grows into the 15-20 inch size group and beyond. However, and expanding pike population will put predation pressure on the smaller walleye. As for this open-water season, anglers will typically catch lots of small walleye and have to search and sort to find fish above 14 inches. A few other 2011 netting notes: The adult white bass net catch rate continues to go down, peaking in 2008; pike catch rates are increasing; the perch catch rate has been higher the past two years and was the highest since 2003. Four of the past five

years have produced above average walleye young-of-the-year (YOY) net catch rates. The 2011 YOY perch net catch rate was the highest since 2007. Thankfully, boat access issues at Devils Lake this season will be minimal compared to the mess last spring! Enjoy the multispecies fishery at Devils Lake and be safe on the water.

Graph 1. Net catch rates for the primary gamefish species and white sucker from 1992-2011.



Graph 2. Walleye net catch rates by size group for 1992-2011.



New Board of Directors

We had our elections at the Annual Meeting. Four Board of Director positions were up for election. Past Board members Jay Hagen and Allan Nord chose to run again and were re-elected. Keith Seidlinger and Ralph Gardner chose not to run again. Cory Anderson and Matt Taylor were elected to two year terms. Congratulations Cory and Matt. Thanks Keith and Ralph for your dedicated service.

Membership

Lake Region Anglers dues are due NOW. The 2012-13 LRAA season starts at the LRAA Annual Meeting and you need to keep your membership current. We urge you also to maintain a membership in the North Dakota Sportfishing Congress (only \$5), your fishing representative on the statewide level with other clubs, the North Dakota Game and Fish Department and the Legislature. Please include your current email address if you have one, we are cutting back on the number of newsletters and will continue to emphasize our ETREE for distribution of important information to members.



**ANS:
You will be
inspected**

Your club and leadership has been vigorously emphasizing to the North Dakota Game and Fish Department the importance of preventing the spread of Aquatic Nuisance Species throughout North Dakota and particularly within the Lake Region. Game and Fish have been moving slowly in their inspection and enforcement efforts, too slowly in our leadership's position. Last year only 4 citations for ANS violations were written in the

DL Chamber Walleye Tourney

The 36th Annual Devils Lake Chamber Walleye Fishing Tournament, June 22-24, still has openings. Devils Lake's signature fishing event looks to be a challenge this year. With no big regional or national tourna-

ments coming to DL this year, local anglers need to test their skills against each other. Applications are available on line at devil-slakend.com, at the Chamber offices or by request 701-662-4903.

ETREE & Keith

Keith was instrumental in the past two years in developing and refining Lake Region Anglers ETREE. As many of you know Keith saw that we all got information weekly on club happenings and other information pertinent to area fish-

ermen. Keith chose not to run for the Board again but stays active and helps with club activities. Keith also was heavily involved in the past two years in revising and streamlining LRAA By-laws to make them more readable and accurate. If you see Keith, tell him thank you. Thanks Keith.

Lake Access: 2012

Four Season Cleaning Station: LRAA, the City of Devils Lake and the DL Access Committee has been approved for funding to develop a Four Season Cleaning station south of Ed's Bait Shop. The indoor facility will be under construction this summer and if all goes well should be open for use by next winter's ice fishing season. It will be only for fish cleaning, no ducks or geese and will have security to ensure no vandalism occurs. Thanks to the City and especially Mike Graffsgard, City Engineer for stepping up to the plate on this project.

Pelican Marina: Creative interaction between LRAA, Jim and Diane Yri and the Game and Fish resulted in the Pelican Marina. North of

Hwy 19 across from West Bay Resort, the facility boasts a large parking facility a nice poured double wide ramp, a skid dock and tie up dock and a protected harbor. For those unfamiliar with that area of Pelican, be careful when leaving the channel, bear left through the cattails, there is a submerged roadbed to the right and a number of unfortunate boaters have already damaged their boats and motors by striking the submerged road.

Lake Alice: LRAA is working with Fish and Wildlife to opening the Lake Alice Refuge to winter fishing, hopefully by next winter. Keep looking to more information. Wish us luck.

state. Many of the major threats such as common carp and zebra mussels are literally within miles and in some places yards of Devils Lake's drainage. Once it's here, it's too late.

Be sure to remove all vegetation, drain your livewell and bilge every trip. Carefully clean and disinfect your boat when returning from other waters before putting into Devils Lake or other North Dakota waters. Assume all waters east of Devils Lake to be contaminated including the Red River, Lake of the Woods and all Minnesota waters. Also help police our waters, over 60% of the boats on Devils Lake last June were from out of state, usually coming from waters with a high degree of contamination. **BE PART OF THE SOLUTION, NOT PART OF THE PROBLEM.**

Ed's Bait Shop is now our certified ANS Inspection Station and all participants in Lake Region Anglers Outings and Tournaments are required to be inspected before participating.



LR Anglers: "What We Do" 2012-2013

"WHAT WE DO" is a brief overview of some of the activities that your Lake Region Anglers Association is involved in. We welcome all persons who enjoy the benefits of "WHAT WE DO" to become members of LRAA.

Your membership in LRAA helps us to advance the objectives of the Association.

The objectives of the Association are the Conservation and Preservation of our natural resources, enhancing recreational and fishing opportunities through our work with Lake Access projects, creating an environment that promotes a spirit of Sportsmanship and Fellowship amongst our members and supporting Youth Education and Youth Activities.

FELLOWSHIP-SPORTSMANSHIP

- Spring Northern Outing
- East Bay Outing
- Devils Lake Open – open to the public
- Devils Lake Angler Young Angler (AYA) Tournament in partnership with FM Walleyes – open to the public
- Adult-Child Outing
- Walleye Widow Outing

Association Newsletters - 3 per year – updates on club activities, how to fishing articles, topics of local, regional and statewide significance, legislative concerns related to fishing and our natural resources

LRAA Website <http://www.ndsportfishing-congress.org/LRAA.htm> - Everything LRAA

E-Mail Tree -- Regular e-mail communications to the membership and interested parties on upcoming events, items of interest, and provide a way for members to contact the memberships elected Board of Directors and Officers of LRAA through our e-mail contact address of lraa@gondtc.com

Community Activities -- Provides Equipment, technical assistance and volunteer support to:

- Flyway Fish Fry
- Devils Lake Area Chamber of Commerce Fish Fry
- North Dakota Telephone Company Fish Fry
- Law Enforcement Fish Fry

- Devils Lake Chamber Fishing Tournament
- Devils Lake Volunteer Fire Department Ice Fishing Tournament
- Kim Barstad Memorial Fishing Tournament
- Host of ND Game & Fish District 3 Advisory Meetings
- Lure Em' for Life - Youth Camp (funds 5 full scholarships for member youth)
- Fishing Has No Boundaries - Anglers with Disabilities
- North Dakota Teen Challenge - Fishing Qwest
- Fishing Rummage Sale

Support's Become an Outdoors Woman through scholarships – Week long camp where focus is on learning in 28 different outdoor activities

LAKE ACCESS

Member of Devils Lake Access Committee - cooperative committee of City, County, DL Park Board and Lake Region Anglers to provide for improved access to Devils Lake both summer and winter.

Coordinate new access projects, fish cleaning stations in partnership with North Dakota Game and Fish Department

Provides consultation, money and volunteer labor to maintain Lakewood Landing, East Bay, Estesons Landing, Henegar Landing, 6 Mile Bay, and Pelican Lake landings – Help purchase, install, maintain, clean-up Docks, Ramps & Fish Cleaning Stations

Fundraising - Calendar Raffle - funds used to support Lake Access Projects

LEGISLATIVE - CONSERVATION - PERSERVATION

Member of North Dakota Sportfishing Congress (NDSFC) - The NDSFC is the fisherman's independent representative at the state and federal level. We offer support to the NDSFC who represents the interests of fisherman at local, state and the federal meetings. LRAA helps to support an independent lobbyist to work for the fisherman's interests at the State Legislature each biennium. Currently the President, the Vice President, one Board member and two delegates of NDSFC are LRAA members

First Outing of the Year

The first outing of the year will be the Spring Walleye Northern Outing, Saturday May 19th, which will be held out of the new Pelican Marina off Hwy 19. We have added Walleye's to the outing at anglers request. An outing entry form is included in this newsletter, they will also be available at local bait shops and at the outing headquarters at Pelican Marina. You can pay your dues there. This should be a fun time, Pelican is an outstanding fishery for those of you who haven't fished there and Hwy 19 is now paved and drivable.

BE SURE TO HAVE YOUR BOAT INSPECTED FOR ANS COMPLIANCE BEFORE CHECKING IN FOR THE OUTING. ALL PARTICIPANTS IN ALL LRAA OUTINGS WILL BE REQUIRED TO HAVE THEIR BOAT INSPECTED AND DISPLAY THE STICKER BEFORE THEY WILL BE ALLOWED TO COMPETE.



2012 SUMMER OF EVENTS

May 19, 2012

LRAA Spring Northern & Walleye Outing
Pelican Marina

June 2, 2012

LRAA East Bay Outing
Esteson's Boat Ramp, Dead Cow Bay

June 9-10, 2012

Casino Classic
Spirit Lake Casino

June 16, 2012

LRAA Devils Lake Open
6 Mile Bay Ramp

June 22-24, 2012

Devils Lake Chamber Walleye Tournament
Grahams Island State Park

July 14, 2012

Angler Young Angler
Lakewood Beach

July 21, 2012

LRAA Adult Child Outing
Lakewood Landing

August 18, 2012

LRAA Walleye Widow Outing
Henegar Landing

August 30, 2012

Community Fish Fry and Corn Feed
Bill Jerome Arena

All Tournament and Outing Entry Forms are available at ndsportfishingcongress.org on the Lake Region Anglers Webpage.

LAKE REGION ANGLERS ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 456
DEVILS LAKE, ND 58301

Prst. Std.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 52
Devils Lake, ND 58301

Lake Region Anglers Association Officers

Board of Directors

President:.....Clark Williams
Vice President:.....Johnnie Candle
Secretary:.....Cathy Nord
Treasurer:.....Brenda Barstad

Board Members: 2012-2014

Jay Hagen, Matt Taylor, Cory Anderson
Allan Nord

Board Members: 2011-2013

Lynn Schlueter, Tim Rutten, Ben Mack,
Bob Gibson, Jon Dircks

Current Resident or

• *Sportsmanship* • *Conservation* • *Youth Activities* • *Preservation*

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION TO LAKE REGION ANGLERS ASSN.

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

(CITY) (STATE) ((ZIP)

TELEPHONE NO. _____
(HOME) (WORK)

E?MAIL ADDRESS: _____

LIFETIME
MEMBERSHIP
o Ages 18-59 \$350.00
o Ages 60 & Over
\$250.00

SHIRT SIZE____

INDIVIDUAL
/ FAMILY
MEMBERSHIP
\$20.00

I wish to add my support to the North Dakota
sportfishing Congress. \$5.00 is enclosed for
my membership to the Congress.

ENCLOSE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER AND MAIL TO:
Lake Region Anglers Assn.
PO Box 456, Devils Lake, ND 58301