



LB Sportsman

May 2007

Volume 1

The 2007 fishing season opens this weekend and we are ready to hit the water. First of all, we would like to thank our 2007 sponsors for their generous donations. We were ecstatic to receive so much support and would appreciate your help in making purchases from our other sponsors. In addition, let us know if you have supporting materials such as: business cards, flyers, ECT that you would like us to make available.

There have been many changes to our 2007 schedule. Southwest Minnesota Fishing League cancelled their yearly tournaments, however, we gratefully accepted to be a part of the 5 Buffalo Ridge Fishing league tournaments.

We decided to pass on the Minnesota Walleye Trail this year, and put our focus on area fishing events. Please turn to the inside of the newsletter for our season schedule.

We would love to have sponsor support at the tournaments. If you hear of a "hot bite" or have a favorite tactic on an upcoming tournament lake please let us know. We will keep your fishing secrets a secret, but use them to capitalize on our competition. Thank you again for your contribution to the team. Let the games begin!

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Thank you to our 2007 Sponsors

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Finding Fish in Structure-less Lakes

Fish inhabit only about one-tenth of a lake so finding concentrations of walleye in the Southwest Minnesota prairie lakes can be a tremendous challenge. The lakes are round, shallow, lack timber, rocks, and have an abundance of, for lack of a better word, muck! Everything that makes fishing easy is hard to find in these lakes.

The quickest way to find walleye is trolling with crank baits. While trolling use your electronics to identify bottom transitions. A tight solid bottom line on your fish finder will indicate a solid bottom, which could be sand, gravel, or rocks. Walleye will typically hold to these bottoms vs. the muck bottom which will be indicated by a thick fuzzy bottom line on your fish finder.

Once you find the walleye, mark the spot on GPS. Focus again on the bottom, is there a spring, rocks, gravel, or a change in depth that the walleye are holding too? If you are not showing suspended fish on these marked spots use a larger jig that will get you to the bottom fast, and then slowly work the bottom. Chances are the walleye are lying on the bottom and not showing up on the fish finder. If you are showing suspend fish, try a slip bobber, or jig at the depth the fish are showing up at on the fish finder.

After several trips to the lake you should have several points marked on your GPS. Use these points as a guide to narrow your search. Every time you mark a new point be



sure to add the date. You can narrow your search with a cluster of points that have a long history. However, walleye may or may not be at any given point, due to natural concentrations of bait (baitfish, insects, etc). Concentrations of bait seem to roam in lakes with little or no structure. The walleye follow these concentrations. This just reinforces why trolling is the quickest way to find walleye. By trolling, you cover a lot of water looking for “structure” and bait concentrations.

To recap, troll and cover as much water as possible. Once you find a walleye, mark the spot and work the marked point. Pay close attention to the bottom material and answer the question, “why was this fish here?” If you are able to answer that question with anything other than, “following a concentration of bait” then you will have a target for future fishing endeavors.



Written by Jeromy Lyons

Camp-Style Grilled Walleye

- 3-4 Fish Fillets
- onion, chopped in rings
- green peppers, chopped finely (optional)
- 4 T butter
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp pepper
- 3 T lemon juice



Place 2 sheets of tin foil on top of each other. Place fillets on tin foil leaving a 2 inch border. On top of the fillets place onion rings, butter, salt, pepper and lemon juice. Place another sheet of tin foil on top. Seal top and bottom sheets together so no air can escape. Cook on the grill for 20-25 minutes. Absolutely Delicious!

Netting Monster Walleye

First, make sure you have a net with a hoop big and strong enough to handle the fish you're targeting. Second, always net fish head-first. I visualize a spot six inches to a foot in front of the fish's head, then I put my net there. That way if the lure or jig falls out, the fish will swim straight into the middle of the net. I also like to get the net well under the fish, especially in clear water.

Sometimes it best to net a fish as soon as it breaks the surface. That way you know exactly where it is. I've had partners misjudge the depth of a fish in super-clear water and smack it on the head. Of course, if the fish isn't going to break the surface, then you have to get your net down.

-Tips from Ted Takasaki;
North American Fisherman



Our Schedule

May 13 – Wood Lake – Buffalo Ridge Fishing League 4:30pm – 9:00pm.

May 19 – Lake Shetek – 16th Annual Lake Shetek Walleye Fishing Tournament
7:30am – 3:00pm Awards Ceremony 3:15pm.

May 20 – Dead Coon – Buffalo Ridge Fishing League 4:30pm – 9:00pm.

May 27 – Perch – Buffalo Ridge Fishing League 4:00pm – 9:30pm.

June 2 & 3 – Green Lake – 28th Annual Little Crow Anglers Walleye Tournament-Spicer
7:00am – 3:30pm Awards Ceremony following final weigh-in Sunday.

June 3 – Lake Sarah – Buffalo Ridge Fishing League 4:30pm – 9:00pm.

June 10 – TBA – Buffalo Ridge Fishing League 4:30pm – 9:00pm.

June 11 – Fish Lake – 18th Annual SW Police Officers Asst.-Windom 7:00am – 3:00pm.

June 23 – Lake Benton – 10th Annual L.I.F.E. Walleye Fishing Tournament 7:30am – 2:30pm
Awards Ceremony following final weigh-in.

Sep. 15 & 16 – Lake Minnewaska – Fall Walleye Classic–Glenwood; Saturday 7am – 3pm,
Sun. 7am – 2:30pm; Awards Ceremony following final weigh-in Sunday.

Our Families



Sandy, Arianna, Jeromy & Connor



Jenn, Adam and Madison

Did you know?

Try thawing frozen fish in milk.

WHY? The milk draws out the frozen taste and provides a fresh-caught flavor.

When freezing fresh fish in water, add a small amount of lemon juice

WHY? Lemon juice preserves the flavor.



Special Thank-you

Thank you Ben Olsem for creating our Team Logo.