



JANUARY 2010

WALLEYE LINES



Promoting conservation, sportsmanship and education in respect to walleye fishing.



An Evening with Mr. Tiller Pete Harsh

Thursday, January 14th, 2010



Described as **"One of the most successful Walleye anglers to ever to wet a line"**, according to the 2007 FLW Walleye Tournament video, Pete Harsh lives and breathes walleye fishing and promotions 24/7/365 days a year. Dedicated to his sport he has worked hard to promote Walleye Angling at all levels. Pete brings a wealth of knowledge to his sponsors pertaining to the sales, marketing, promotions and development of walleye fishing and boating products.

Join us for an evening "on ice" at the Doublewood Inn of Fargo. Doors open at 6:30pm and the presentation will begin at 7:00pm.

This meeting is FREE and open to the public!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 12th
Board Meeting - 7pm
Doublewood Inn, Fargo

January 14th
Walleye University Class
Doublewood Inn, Fargo

January 14th
Pete Harsh - "One of the most successful Walleye anglers"
Doublewood Inn, Fargo

January 23rd
Dinner Dance - 5pm
El Zagal Shrine, Fargo

February 16th
Board Meeting - 7pm
Doublewood Inn, Fargo

February 18th
Annual Members Meeting
Only - "Will feature a Board Member Round Table outlining what the club has been doing"
FREE CHILI - 6pm
El Zagal Shrine, Fargo

March 18th
Chase Parsons - "Son of Legendary Hall of Fame Angler Gary Parsons"
Doublewood Inn, Fargo
"Angler Night"

ALL MEETINGS AT 7 PM
AT THE DOUBLEWOOD
INN OF FARGO, UNLESS
OTHERWISE STATED.



President's Comments...

Wishing you all a Happy and Good Fishing New Year Fellow Members!

Another new year is upon us, and I for one am very excited about this month happenings in FM Walleye Land. We have a true professional speaking to our club this month, Mr Tiller, Pete Harsh. You will not want to miss this meeting, bring a friend and introduce him or her to FM Walleye's. Also on the 23rd of this month we will be having our Annual Dinner Dance, I know that Tami and her crew have been working hard to ensure a great time for all.

Thanks for being a member and I hope to see you at our meeting this month!

Steve Garten, President

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FM WALLEYE UNIVERSITY MAKING YOUR OWN FISHING TACKLE

Prior to the “Anglers’ Night On Ice” meeting on December 3rd eleven young anglers attended the “Building Your Own Tackle” class through FM Walleyes University. Those in attendance were able to “dip paint” several jigs in multiple colors and create their own designs on metal spoons with paint pens. They were also able to learn how to tie snelled hooks and then make their own custom spinners. Each attendee went home with a certificate of completion and a tackle box with the tackle that they made.

Thank you to the volunteers, including the evening’s featured speaker who helped to teach and assist the students with their projects.



FM WALLEYES UNLIMITED, INC. FM WALLEYE UNIVERSITY

FM Walleye University continues it’s 2009-2010 classes with “Underwater World - Fish Identification”, on Thursday, January 14th at 6:00 p.m. prior to the regular club meeting at the Doublewood Inn, Fargo. This session will discuss the kinds of fish that they might encounter while fishing; both in the bait bucket and the livewell.

Other upcoming FM Walleye University classes include:

- Fisheries Management - February
- Custom Rod Building - March
- Introduction to Fly Fishing - April

To reserve a spot in any or all classes contact Kyle Agre 701-526-0262 or e-mail to: kyle.agre@gmail.com

2010-2011 SPEAKER LINE UP

Pete Harsh

January 14

Doublewood Inn, Fargo



Described as “One of the most successful Walleye anglers to ever to wet a line”, according to the 2007 FLW Walleye Tournament video, Pete Harsh lives and breathes walleye fishing and promotions 24/7/365 days a year. Dedicated to his sport he has worked hard to promote Walleye Angling at all levels. A former National Sales Manager of a major boat company, he brings a wealth of knowledge to his sponsors pertaining to the sales, marketing, promotions and development of walleye fishing and boating products.

Annual Members Only Meeting

February 18th

El Zagal Shrine, Fargo

Will feature a Board Member Round Table outlining what the club has been doing” - FREE CHILI - 6pm

Chase Parsons

March 18

Doublewood Inn, Fargo, Anglers Night



Following in his father’s footsteps, Chase Parsons, son of Legendary Hall of Fame Angler Gary Parsons, entered the professional walleye fishing game in 2005 at the age of 22. Still being the youngest “Full-Time” walleye tournament angler, Chase has had numerous top finishes in the PWT and AIM circuits. He has just come off of a season placing second in the AIM (Anglers Insight Marketing) Angler of the Year standings, which includes most of the top name walleye fisherman in the country. Chase is a frequent host of “The Next Bite” television show and works with his sponsors in many aspects of the fishing industry.

9TH ANNUAL YMCA ICE FISHING TOURNAMENT

**INDOOR FAMILY EVENT
AT THE YMCA DOWNTOWN BRANCH
Saturday, January 23, 2010
1:00pm to 3:00pm**

Weighted fish draw, sleigh rides, casting contest & more!
Sponsored by the Y Service Club, F-M Walleyes Unlimited & Scheels.

Door prizes, special drawings and cash prizes for 10 largest fish drawn will be given.

Adult prizes:

1st \$500 Scheels Gift Card
2nd \$250 Scheels Gift Card
3rd Hand-Held GPS

Youth prizes:

1st \$200 Scheels Gift Card
2nd Mountain Bike
3rd \$50 Scheels Gift Card

Cost is \$5 for Youth, \$10 for Adults

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Contact Jerry Thoenke at (218) 790-3067 or Dave Harman at (701) 364-4116.

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Dinner @ 6pm

Dance from 8pm to 12am

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Contacts:

**Tami Stillwell 701 367 6741 or stillwelltami@ideaone.net
Sahrs Sudden Service, Ron Sahr 293-1918**

FM WALLEYES UNLIMITED DINNER DANCE - SEEKING PRIZE DONATIONS-

The FM Walleyes Unlimited Dinner Dance, scheduled for Saturday, January 23, 2010, starting @ 5 p.m. is approaching fast. The planning committee is working to secure sponsors who are willing to donate door prizes to be raffled off at the event. Proceeds generated from this event will be used to support FM Walleyes Unlimited club functions promoting conservation, sportsmanship and education in respect to walleye fishing. Please consider a donation of cash or merchandise to be used toward this event.

As in the past, "theme baskets" will be included in the raffle prizes. Wicker and plastic baskets are now being collected for the assembly of these prizes. If you have unused baskets of any kind that can be recycled for this purpose please consider donating them to the planning committee.

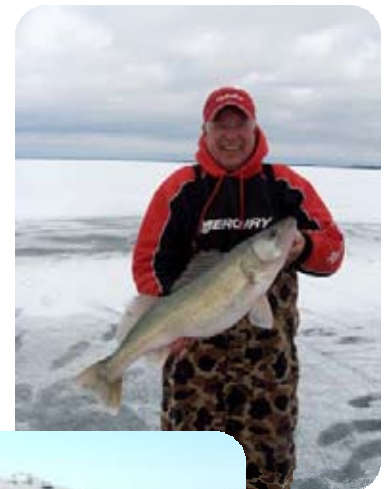
If you are interested in donating cash, a prize, or a basket please contact Tami Stillwell at 701 367 6741 or you can email her @ stillwelltami@ideaone.net.

2010 LAKE WINNIPEG - ICE FISHING EXCURSION MARCH 26TH THROUGH 28TH, 2010

Members of FM Walleyes Unlimited are invited to join members of the Walleye Anglers Association of Manitoba in a weekend of ice fishing for trophy greenback walleyes on Lake Winnipeg.

A block of rooms have been reserved at a special rate for FM Walleyes members at the Selkirk Inn & Conference Center for Friday and Saturday night. Call 800-930-3888 to reserve your room. The rooms will be released on February 28th and open to the public. A fishermen's social will be held at the conference center both Friday and Saturday evening, providing an opportunity to meet fellow fishermen, discuss fishing strategies & tell fish stories.

To register for further updates and trip information contact Kyle Agre 429-1242 or e-mail kyle.agre@gmail.com.



SPOONIN' ICE WALLEYES

by Ted Takasaki and Scott Richardson



Dave Genz, the recognized father of modern ice fishing, gets excited when he talks about ice fishing for walleyes. Just below the hard surface lies one of his favorite winter fish, even if his reputation was built on chasing down big bluegills.

Especially in the early-ice period, and on the fringes of the Ice Belt, walleyes can be aggressive, willing to swim a fair distance for something to munch on. As a result, Genz is aggressive in his approach, and recent spoon design advances allow him to be even more aggressive in his fishing than the traditional methods he once relied on. For example, the Rattlin' Flyer Spoon by Lindy Legendary Tackle lends a vertical look, flash and sound plus the ability to "cast" under the ice that's deadly when walleyes are nearby, he said.

Other baits are effective, but they peak in performance during the golden hours around sunrise and sunset. While those are still the best hours to have bait in the water, spoons help him catch winter walleyes all day long.

Here's how he does it.

Location

There is no such thing as a magic lure that will catch fish anywhere, anytime. You must still drill holes in their neighborhood.

In natural lakes, first ice finds walleyes near the steepest breaks on shoreline structure. "The rule of thumb is that if you study a map and look for the fastest drop-off to the deepest part of the lake, that will usually produce walleyes," says Genz.

Nearby creeks and rivers are pluses. Target the mouths. But, beware of current that can make ice thin.

Early ice is often the time to visit those shallow prairie lakes that were too weedy to fish effectively in summer. Focus on hard-bottom spots like rock piles and even small structural features. "A slight rise off the bottom can be a holding point for walleyes," he said.

Stick with the shoreline structure on bigger lakes like Mille Lacs or Lake of the Woods, too, says Genz. Check out spots where reed beds stick up through the ice.

"The edge of those," said Genz, "will attract the walleyes."

As always, points are the prime real estate in reservoirs, but look for the ones with the sharpest breaks into the old channel, which will be the deepest water in the system.

Gear

Genz's setup for spoons centers on a rod with a stiff tip. If it's too limber, you can move and jiggle it all day long and little of the action will be transferred to the bait. You also must be able to shake a Rattlin' Flyer Spoon hard enough to make it give off noise.

"The tip must be stiff enough so everything your rod tip is doing, the lure is doing," Genz said. Use low-stretch mono in 6- to 8-pound-test. In deeper water, use superlines of the same diameter as the mono to increase your sense of touch. A nice bonus when using braided lines is that you also have a much stronger line holding the fish.

GPS helps locate spots you hopefully programmed in during open-water season when moving around to scout was much easier than during the frosty weather.

SPOONIN' ICE WALLEYES CONTINUED

A flasher or electronics is critical. They offer the ability to detect walleyes that move close to your bait. You can also watch as the color changes as they move ever closer. Gauge their mood and the action they want by whether they continue to move to the center of the hole and take the bait or veer off. Too many near misses are an invitation to change jigging action or spoon color.

Genz keeps color choices simple with the Rattlin' Flyer Spoon. "My story doesn't change," he says. "In low-light periods, red Techni-Glo is my favorite because red glows brightest. When you charge it with a Tazer, fish can see it the farthest away, and in the golden hour (around sunrise and sunset), they will be attracted from long distance.

"Blue glow keeps glowing longest, so it's a good night color when bigger fish are more apt to bite. Daytime colors vary according to water color. Chartreuse is always a good choice, but play with greens, oranges and yellows. I adjust the color to what the fish are telling me.

"Using my electronics, I know when fish are coming by and not biting. Then I make changes. A camera helps if you aren't moving around a lot."

Dress your spoon with a minnow head. Genz will use a bigger piece of fathead or shiner minnows if he wants to bulk up the bait or add more scent.

Fishing a Spoon

The design of the Rattlin' Flyer Spoon mimics its predecessor, the Flyer. Both glide when dropped down the hole, allowing ice anglers to 'cast' a 6-foot radius around their hole.

What Genz does next is critical.

"Don't lift it and let it pendulum back below the hole," he explains. "Drag it. Twitch it as you drag it. Now, you're almost fishing like you would in summer."

Walleyes often inhale a Rattlin' Flyer Spoon right off bottom. But, if you don't get a bite by the time you drag the spoon directly below you, the next step is to pound it into the bottom over and over.

That puts the puff factor on your side.

"I call it 'puffing' the bottom," explains Genz. "There's always sediment on the bottom. When you shake or pound the bait on the bottom, it puffs the sediment up. It looks like small baitfish feeding on bloodworms and larvae. It can cause a feeding frenzy of perch and then the bigger fish come in to feed on the perch."

The next step is to jig the bait aggressively to make the sound work for you. It's like a dinner bell for a curious walleye. That's what will often bring walleyes in to eye up your bait. A major mistake many anglers make is to lessen the intensity of their jigging when a walleye shows up on the flasher.

"Don't freeze up and hope they bite," Genz said. "Keep that rattle working."

If a walleye comes in close to the spoon but then begins to leave, that's the time to try modifying your presentation.

So, again, here's the classic sequence: drop the spoon to bottom, then drag-and-twitch it directly below you, then jig it aggressively to get that rattle working.

If you like putting out a few tip-ups, and feel confident you're in an area holding walleyes, no problem. Just leave one hole for actively jigging the Rattlin' Flyer Spoon. There will be times when you'll use a spoon and get nothing, then quit a moment and the flag of the nearest tip-up goes. It's not hard to figure out what happened. You called the fish in with the spoon, but the fish wanted a dead-stick bait, so it moved over and ate the minnow on the tip-up line.

The Rattlin' Flyer Spoon is available in four sizes from 1/16-ounce to 1/4-ounce, in 6 colors.

If spoons don't do the trick, Genz tries a larger Genz Worm or Fat Boy dressed with several colored maggots (spikes). He puffs the bottom with them, too, pounding the jig to send sediment into the water to attract perch and walleyes.

"Same deal," Genz said. But spoons remain his first choice for aggressive ice walleyes.

"It looks so good, I want to eat it myself," Genz said, laughing.

TAKING OPEN WATER LESSONS TO THE ICE

by Jason Mitchell



I have often felt that it is much easier to learn a lake during the open water period. Structure and bottom contours can be broke down quickly when using a boat equipped with good sonar and GPS. Often during the winter (just like during the open water period) the sweet spots that attract fish are often subtle. Subtle changes like openings and lanes in weed beds, changes in bottom composition where the basin transitions to sand or gravel, rock piles where larger rocks form inside turns and fingers... the details make the difference for dialing into fish locations all year long.

Now these small details can be dialed into once there is ice but these spots can be discovered and saved much easier with a boat months before the lake freezes. I find myself relying on these open water recon efforts more and more each season. GPS mapping and detailed contour maps found on map chips have been a huge aid for learning water quickly regardless of time of year. Remember however that these spots, this information is available to anybody with a hundred dollar bill. Humps, sunken islands and points that used to sit deserted all winter now often have anglers because more and more anglers are utilizing this technology. The key now is learning the spots in more detail, becoming more intimate with the structure that is revealed on the map chips and most of all, finding spots that hold fish that won't show up on a chip.

Changes in bottom composition won't generally show up on most contour maps or map chips. Subtle bumps and depressions on flats are also often

lost. Depressions found on flats are probably one of the most productive structural elements an angler can look for when attempting to find fish running large basins. Small depressions or pockets often seem to funnel fish. Small depressions or pockets in shallow weedy flats are also usually good if fish are in the area. These subtle depressions often don't show up on a chip in detail because the change in depth is often subtle, a foot or less.

Transition areas where silt or muck transitions to gravel or sand are also key areas particularly for walleye and pike. The best sonar I have ever used for determining bottom content is the Vexilar Edge LC507. By turning up the range, I can look for second and third echoes which indicate a harder bottom. These transitions are than saved as icons or waypoints on my GPS.

Like many anglers, I use different icon and GPS symbols to indicate different things. I might use one specific color of diamond to indicate the actual weed bed and use another color to indicate openings, lanes or edges so that I can essentially map out the weed bed. I use one particular symbol to mark the top of the rock pile or hump and use a different symbol to mark a sweet spot on the deep edge where fish have been caught, etc. I than try and make a point to keep this information organized and logged so that when the ice covers the lake, I am ready and can quickly hit key spots without wasting any more time than necessary.

Catching more fish through the ice always boils down to fundamentals and efficiency. This information allows me to fish through an area and determine that fish aren't on the spot quickly which is crucial so that I can be on the move to the next location. Hitting the general bull's eye isn't necessarily good enough, a much better strategy is to have a detailed picture of the spot in your head and be able to hit the key "spot on the spot" locations effectively by using GPS. By incorporating this information, I waste fewer minutes fishing areas that are generally much less productive.

Now obviously this strategy of open water research isn't possible when traveling to new bodies of water and we often find ourselves hitting new lakes each winter chasing hot bites. For home water however that you know you will be spending a significant amount of time on come winter, you will be amazed at how many more fish you will catch by spending time in your boat getting a better understanding of the structure you will be fishing. As a guide for the Perch Patrol on Devils Lake, the information I can gather over the summer is crucial for my success during the winter.

Editors Note: The author, Jason Mitchell earned a reputation as one of the region's top ice fishing guides spending most of his career on North Dakota's Devils Lake (Perch Patrol Guide Service). Mitchell also manufactures and designs a series of extremely high quality, application-specific ice fishing rods that bear his name, the Jason Mitchell Elite Series Ice Fishing Rods (www.jasonmitchellrods.com). Mitchell also hosts the outdoor television show, Jason Mitchell Outdoors airing on Fox Sports North and is credited for pioneering many of today's advanced ice fishing concepts and tactics.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES – Tuesday, December 15, 2009 @ Doublewood Inn, Fargo ND

- Meeting was called to order @ 7.08pm by President, Steve Gardon.
- Absent Board Members: Steve Meyer, Steve Hall, Scott Brewer, Ed Liberda & Kyle Agre.
- General Board Members in attendance: None
- Review of last month's board meeting minutes. Motion to approve minutes was made by Barry Chouinard, second by Gary Sauvageau. All in favor, motion passed.
- Treasurer's Report: Current balance ... \$7,536.46. Motion to approve balance was made by Brian Dahlin, second by Don Marty. All in favor, motion passed.
- Current Membership: 270 paid members.
- Last meeting attendance: November General Meeting (held on December 3rd): 104.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Dinner Dance, Tami Stillwell: Scheduled to be held on Saturday, January 23, 2010 @ the El Zagal Shrine in Fargo. Doors will open @ 5pm, Dinner to be served @ 6pm, and the Band (Work Release) will play from 8pm to 12pm. Tickets are currently available; cost is \$25 per person. NOTE...THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, SO IF YOU HAVE FRIENDS AND/OR FAMILY THAT WOULD ENJOY THE EVENING PLEASE INVITE THEM. You can contact Tami @ 701 367 6741 or Ron Sahr at Sahr's Sudden Service for tickets. We are currently in the process of requesting and receiving donations of cash/merchandise for the event. If you would be interested in volunteering or making any kind of a donation, please let Tami know. We will be setting up for the event on Saturday, January 23rd, starting @ 10am.
- Annual Election Nominating Committee: Scott Brewer, Brian Dahlin & Gary Sauvageau. Terms expiring in 2010 are: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary and 2 board at large positions (Steve Hall's & Steve Meyer's). The election is set to be held at the Annual Meeting/Chili Feed that is scheduled at the El Zagal Shrine in February, 2010. If anyone is interested in joining the board or knows anyone that is, please contact one of the committee.

- Annual Meeting, February 2010. Chili feed, annual meeting and election of officers to be held at the Shrine again this year.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Distinguished Member Award, Tami Stillwell. We will be accepting nominations for this year's distinguished member award to be given out at our March meeting.
- Parson's Contract, Lisa Gibson. Barry will check with Lisa to confirm that contract has been completed for our March meeting.

ROUND TABLE:

- Gary Sauvageau** discussed possible changes with the Calcutta on the Classic Cup tournaments starting next year. Would like to get some ideas from the general membership.
- Tami Stillwell** Few thoughts brought up to me by the general membership: 1) Tournament ideas: It would be helpful to get yellow vests for the tournament volunteers to wear so that it is easier for participants to be able to identify them during the event. 2) Board member designation: Also would be helpful to get the members of the board to wear FM Walleye's clothing with board member designation and their name on for easier identification. 3) Ticket sales @ general meeting: If we could get some of the general membership to man the raffle tables at the general meeting so that the board members could take the time to mingle with the membership and meet the new members (good for the public relations of the club).
- Barry Chouinard** Spoke of timing for the 2010 sponsorships for the upcoming tourneys (Classic Cup and AYA). Also mentioned the possibility of adding some tech tools to the club website; for purchase of merchandise, pay membership dues & tournament entry...Pay Pal possibly.
- Steve Garten** Talked about the 2nd annual ice fishing outing in Canada with the Winnipeg club (WAAMU) in March, 2010. Timing in March was discussed, looks as if the last weekend in March will work the best. The committee with double check things and get more information out the the general membership soon, so that people have time to work this event into there schedules.

Motion to adjourn @ 8.20pm by Gary Sauvageau, second by Barry Chouinard. All in favor, motion passed. **The next board meeting will be @ 7pm on Tuesday, January 12th @ the Doublewood Inn.** Please remember that any general club member is invited to attend any or all board meetings.
Respectfully submitted by Tami Stillwell, Recording Secretary.



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Membership Application and Renewal

F-M Walleyes Unlimited, Inc. - An area sportsman's club, dedicated to the preservation and improvement of walleye fishing, invites you to join and actively participate in our fishing club New Renew
Application for Membership: \$20 Jr. Member (under 18) - FREE

Name(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home (____) _____ - _____ Work (____) _____ - _____

Do you own a boat? Yes No Would you like to fish with other club members? Yes No

E-mail: _____

Membership requirements: Persons desiring membership must be those who can act in a sportsmanlike manner and will be a credit to the organization. Receipt of this application, yearly dues and approval of the Board of Directors are required for membership.

Mail application to:

F-M Walleyes Unlimited, Inc., PO Box 1017, Moorhead, MN 56560.

Signature of Applicant: x

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RENEW ASAP
Membership Ends Feb. 28th, 2010

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Barry Chouinard, Treas. (exp: 2010) (218) 790-4762 bchouinard@magnumlog.com	Kyle Agre (exp: 2011) (701) 526-0262 kyle.agre@gmail.com
Tami Stillwell, Rec. Sec. (exp: 2011) (701) 367-6741 Tami_Stillwell@ml.com	Scott Brewer (exp: 2011) (218) 233-0494 scottb@NorthernPipe.com
Brian Dahlin, Corr. Sec. (exp: 2010) (701) 371-4083 brian.dahlin@randscasework.com	Ed Liberda (exp: 2011) (701) 235-4993 edward.liberda@gmail.com
Chad Maloy, Past President (701) 271-0577 chad.maloy@gatecitybank.com	Gary Sauvageau (exp: 2011) (701) 235-5804 garysauvageau@msn.com

*Articles for the
2010 FEBRUARY Issue
of the Walleye Lines
will be accepted through the
31ST of JANUARY*

Any photos, articles that you have written or printed articles that you have obtained permission to have reprinted will be accepted.

For more information please contact
Brian Dahlin, Editor of the Walleye Lines at:
brian.dahlin@randscasework.com



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**F-M Walleyes Unlimited, Inc.
Distinguished Member Award
Nomination Form**

Award Objectives:

- **For Extraordinary contributions toward achievement of goals and objectives of the club.**
- **To further the fishing education and enjoyment of the membership.**
- **To propose the growth of the membership.**
- **To advance the importance of resource conservation and to encourage involvement in club activities by all members and their families.**

This award to be presented annually to the member who best displays the ability to unselfishly work toward the club goals in a spirit embodied by the membership of F-M Walleyes Unlimited, Inc.

To nominate a person please write as much information s you can about the nominee.

All nominations will be reviewed by the distinguished member committee. All information will be kept in confidence.

Nominee information: *(Please attach extra sheets if needed)*

Nominee name: _____

Pertinent Information:

Signature (not required) _____



Annual Election of F-M Walleyes, Inc. Board of Directors and Officers

Here is a list of the positions that are open this year. If you have recommendations or would like to submit yourself as a candidate for any of these positions please contact any of the board members and they will get it to the election committee

Officers:

President:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Vice President:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Treasurer:

- Barry Chouinard (Incumbent)
- _____
- _____
- _____

Correspondence Secretary:

- Brian Dahlin (Incumbent)
- _____
- _____
- _____

2 Board of Directors Positions:

- Steve Hall (Incumbent)
- Steve Meyer (Incumbent)
- _____
- _____

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____