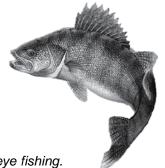


#### **NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2011**

# Walleye Lines



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

# FM Walleyes Unlimited, Inc. is proud to present

# ANGLERS NITE "ON ICE" WITH "TONY ROACH"



# Seminar Title: Power ice fishing: Fast action

presentations to put more fish on the ice.

Tony Roach grew up in northern Minnesota where he has been fishing professionally for over a decade. He has guided on a wide variety of lakes including Mille Lacs, Winnibigoshish, Lake of the Woods, and many more! Roach, a professional walleye angler, competes in tournaments across the Midwest. Tony offers a vast knowledge of multi-species fishing on a wide variety of waters. Tony enjoys guiding and loves to teach everything

from the basics of fishing to the subtle adjustments anglers can make to put more fish in the boat.

Come and join us Thursday Dec. 1st, at the Kelly Inn on Main Ave, Fargo, ND. The doors open at 6:00pm and the Seminar starts at 7:00pm.

This meeting is free and open to the public.

Hope to see you there, bring a friend!!!

FM Walleyes Unlimited, Inc. would like to thank the following sponsors for making this event a success:









## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2011 MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE FEBRUARY 28TH, 2012

Thursday, November 10th Board Meeting – Kelly Inn Fargo 6 pm – 7 pm All Members are welcome

December 1st General Meeting Angler Nite "On Ice" with Tony Roach

**Tuesday, December 6th**Board Meeting – Kelly Inn Fargo
6 pm – 7 pm
All Members are welcome

Tuesday, January 3rd Board Meeting - Kelly Inn Fargo 6 pm - 7 pm All Members are welcome

January 19th, 2012 General Meeting Panel of experts from Brainerd Area

**Tuesday, February 7th**Board Meeting – Kelly Inn Fargo
6 pm – 7 pm
All Members are welcome

SAVE THE DATE 2012 Dinner Dance Saturday, February 4th, 2012 Kelly Inn – Fargo, ND (more details on pg 4)

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

#### President's Comments...

It's that time of year again to put my boat in storage and dust off the Ice fishing gear. I'm hoping to get out on the hard water a few more times this season than last year.

I would encourage you to start your Ice fishing season out a little early this winter by attending Angler's Nite "On Ice", December 1st. Tony Roach will be our guest speaker. You can always pick-up new fishing techniques. Please bring a friend.

I received a number of positive comments on last month's meeting. Dave Randash lead a panel of local professional tournament Anglers, Don Denning, Chad Maloy, Corey Heiser and Troy Morris as they revealed their tips and techniques used on Devils Lake to put walleye in the boat.

Great seminar guys!!!!

See you on the hard water, Gary Sawagean President

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

NANCY KAUP. JERAMY POEHLER. DAVID D. JOHNSON, **DUSTIN SHEPHERD.** KEITH HOY, JIM & LIZ KIRKEBY. RICHARD IHLAND. **RICK LUDWIG** 















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### FM WALLEYES UNIVERSITY KICKS OFF IN OCTOBER!



By Scot Johnson

Our youth Walleye University was held on October 20th before the general meeting. We had a tremendous turnout with 32 kids showing up ready to build their own tackle. Cub Scout Troop 236, with leaders Jerry Kallod and John McTighe, said their scouts were "all over the board" when it came to prior fishing experience. Some kids had never fished before and were excited to try out their new lures while others were looking to add to their existing tackle boxes.



Most of the kids had a chance to make a couple lindy's with spinners and beads while everyone was able to make one blade lure. The kids were able to create their own design and use the colors they wanted to create the "hot spoon" for catching the next big fish.

At the end of the class, all participants were presented with a "Certificate of Completion" and had a chance at winning prizes through the raffle. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make this class possible.





















# ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

Entertainment provided by "Work Release"

# SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Doors open @ 5pm Dinner @ 6pm Dance from 8pm to 12am

# **Kelly Inn on Main**

3800 Main Ave Fargo ND

# Tickets are \$25 each

## **Contacts:**

Tami Stillwell 701 367 6741 or <a href="mailto:stillwelltami@ideaone.net">stillwelltami@ideaone.net</a>
Scot Johnson 701 238 0967
Sahr's Sudden Service, Ron Sahr 293-1918

## A STELLAR NIGHT WITH FIVE GREAT FISHERMEN

By Scot Johnson

The FM Walleyes club had a wonderful opportunity on October 20th to hear five great fishermen lay out their secret details for fishing Devils Lake. Dave Randash, Troy Morris, Corey Heiser, Don Denning and Chad Maloy came to share their tactics and secrets to catching more and bigger fish on a huge and unique body of water.

Dave got the meeting going by getting Chad and Don talking about casting for walleye and list their preferred bait. From tossing Tattle-Tale baits with single hooks to Mimic minnows and just using them bait-less!!! Casting near ambush points like bridges, bluffs or cattails seems to be where the 'eyes' like to hide. Some of their favorites include #5 Shad Raps, blue/chrome and Firetiger. Most of the guys say Fireline is their preference.

Jigging for walleyes was another topic that was covered. Where rock meets mud is the area you should be looking for. Also using the current near bridges allow you to try vertical, dragging and ripping jig to see what is going to entice the "eyes" to bite. All agreed that it varies day to day on hard jig versus soft jig. Corey also suggested that if you are missing with live bait, try switching to artificial.

When it comes to slip bobbering, this is Troy's "go-to game plan". He has two rods at the ready with one set up for heavy brush (used about 90% of the time) and one for light use. Troy looks for walleyes in shallow water and concentrates on those ambush points as well. Fireline is what Troy is using and generally ties right to the hook.

For Corey, trolling is the way to get walleye. The "golden road" has been heavily traveled by Corey. Corey is looking for the rock along this stretch and where rocks meet the mud also. The speed that he sticks close to is between 1.7mph and 2.2 mph. Corey is constantly changing sizes and colors until he finds the right combination. Firetiger, Red Hot Tiger with white and orange are some of the most common colors.

Thanks again to these guys for coming and sharing their experiences and strategies. They have all had great success and truly enjoy sharing their secrets with others. Keep your rod tip up and good fishing!!!





















## NEW WAVE FISH FINDING TACTICS ON ICE

by Tony Roach



#### **Search and Destroy**

When you spend your winters guiding on a huge lake like Central Minnesota's Mille Lacs, doing all the things it takes to find biting fish can test your resolve. There's only one way to the fish drilling lots and lots of holes. My guides and I sometimes spend entire days doing nothing but searching one guy drills, another dude scans with an underwater camera. Often, we'll grind out three or four hundred holes in the space of a 9 hour day. It isn't always pretty, and more often than not, the best way to find fish isn't the easiest way. But man does it pay off. We can usually stay well ahead of the crowds, keeping big schools of untouched fish to ourselves for days at a time.

While most of our time goes toward the pursuit of walleyes and perch, the things I'm going to tell you apply to pretty much any fish swimming below the ice.

I mentioned the pay off, and wanted to share a little snapshot from last winter's fishing. During a particular 9-day stretch in January, I'd been quietly picking away at a huge flock of walleyes on a spacious deepwater hump. The fish were there, but every day was different. The fish made little daily movements around and over the hump, based mostly on baitfish location, light level, and more than likely, fishing pressure exerted by our own group.

Fish like walleyes and perch move in the winter, in fact, they move a lot. Thing is, though, they're not traveling from one end of the lake to the other. Still, on big water like Mille Lacs, daily movements can certainly span several hundred yards to perhaps a mile. And of course, schools move to different depths and locales several times within a 24-hour period.

So we'd begin each day picking up where we'd left off the previous day. My guides and I would drill in opposite directions, each zigzagging up and down from the deep edge, to the drop off, to well up on the shallow flat. After banging out 20 to 30 holes in one direction, which would take about 10-minutes, we'd go back, grab rods and begin quickly fishing through each hole. We jigged Northland Buck-Shot Rattle Spoons for no more than 5 minutes per hole before moving on down the trolling path. If we were working an individual walleye on our flasher, we might stay a few extra minutes to trigger that fish. Still, having laid down entire path of holes, it was so much more efficient to keep moving and search for biters.

So if we flashed a fish in one hole, but couldn't trigger it, we made a little sign in the snow next to the hole, and return later to hopefully catch it. Really, this is as close to trolling on ice as it gets, and you'd better believe that it's every bit as effective for contacting active fish, especially during those otherwise tough midday hours.

Having iced close to 40 fish the previous day, I approached the spot and saw a group of shelters stationed off the tip of the hump. As I talked to these anglers about their lack of success, it was interesting to note their six augers, lying unused on the ice. Obviously, the school had moved, but I figured they'd still be close. The guys told me how they'd drilled a bunch of holes all over, but the fish just weren't here.



Moving a little ways down the break,maybe 150 yards, I popped 20 more holes. On my second drop, I connected with a 29-inch walleye. With a peek over my shoulder, I slipped the fish back and bailed, saving the spot for later that afternoon. Still, I couldn't help thinking about that group of fishermen, if only they'd kept drilling and not given up.

Which just goes to illustrate an important point regarding ice trolling: while it certainly is a systematic game, more often than not, the only way to find fish is to just keep drilling and scanning with electronics. My motto is, enough holes are never enough until fish are found.

The ice trolling system begins with my GPS. Following contours on my LakeMaster mapping software, I lay down a trolling route in the snow first running the edge with a snow machine or on foot, tracing out the boundaries of the structure. Then, I simply

go back through, following my tracks, snatch the StrikeMaster, and cut more holes.

Most often, when drilling-out a new piece of structure, a partner is following behind with a MarCum VS380 underwater camera. It's the other half of my fish-finding gameplan. Anglers like cameras because they offer a n entertaining way to watch fish react to lures. But the truth is, the camera is even more valuable as a fish-finding tool. The VS380 is compact and lightweight, making it easy to carry on the fly. The picture on the 380 is incredibly clear, too, showing an amazing amount of detail all the way down to individual mayfly larva, even zooplankton. Really, it's like having HD-TV on ice.

The viewing angler who drops the lens into each new hole sees the big picture bottom terrain, the presence or lack of baitfish, walleye size, numbers and their position relative to bottom. Even their activity level can be gauged simply by observing fin movement and distance above bottom (active fish are usually one or more feet above the substrate and their pectoral fins fan a little more quickly). When the viewer spots a fish, he'll trace certain symbols on the snow for reference. To keep other anglers from discovering our fish, we've devised our own code for instance we might trace a 10-4 for walleye, 50-0 for big walleye, or 1-1 for two walleyes. The goal is to fine-tune our ice trolling program as much as possible again, it's a system, no different than a strategic open water trolling approach and not just a bunch of holes drilled to impress people with our endurance.

Soon, we begin fishing back through each hole in sequence. We'll leapfrog over one another, again, rarely fishing any one hole for more than 5-minutes. Once we reach the end of the trolling path, It's time to start the drilling/camera viewing process again. Cut and view thirty holes, then fish. After a few hours (usually less), it will become pretty apparent whether the active fish are off the deep edge, directly on the drop, or on top of the flat.

Some days, rather than using portable shelters, we simply set a large pop-up style house, such as a Frabill Headquarters, which serves as basecamp. From here, a bunch of anglers can formulate gameplans, eat lunch, and just get a blast of warm air. Really, though, if you're outfitted with something similar to my Snosuit, you'll never even notice the cold.

It's sort of funny, but one of the biggest objections to ice trolling comes from anglers who say that all you need are a few wisely drilled holes placed in key spots at peak times. This is true if you're setting up for an hour or so of fishing at dawn or dusk. But even then, I'd still rather have the luxury of working through an entire network of 30 to 100 holes along a particular structure.

What I like to tell people is and this is absolutely true once you start ice trolling, systematically exploring entire structural complexes with an auger and a camera, you'll start catching a lot of walleyes and other species during all the supposed off-peak hours during the middle of the day. Each new hole holds the hope of a big fish and if you ask me, that's about as good as it gets.



Lari Helgren



### **MEMBER PHOTOS:**

If you would like to submit a picture of your trophy or just a good memory please e-mail your photo to:

bdahlin62@gmail.com



Dominick Beckman (Rick Olek's Grandson)
27" Walleye caught & released in Golden Lake
August 28th, 2011









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## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

#### BOARD MEETING MINUTES – 6pm Thursday, October 7th, 2011

@ Kelly Inn on Main Avenue, Fargo ND

Meeting was called to order @ 6.05pm by President, Gary Sauvageau.

Absent Board Member: Steve Meyer, Steve Hall, Barry Chouinard, Bill Carr, Scott Brewer

General Members Present: None

Review of August board meeting minutes. Motion was made by Rick Mohan to approve the September meeting minutes as submitted.

Ron Sahr 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report. N/A Current Membership:** Members paid; 304. Total memberships; 373.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Speaker Update: Scotty Brewer:

Month Name

October A panel of 3 speakers maybe, Dave Randash, Corey Heiser, Don Denning, Morris, & Chad Maloy

December Tony Roach January Brainerd Panel

February ?

March Tom Neustrom

April TBD May TBD

Brian has most of the bio's for the up coming speakers.

Chad Maloy is going to helping the club with promoting our up coming speakers throughout the year. Thanks Chad!!!

Walleye University: Scot Johnson and Bill Carr have a number of kids already signed up the youth tackle building class for our October meeting. This will begin at 6pm before the general meeting. Please forward this on to all family and friends who would have youth interested in this Great Class!!!! Please contact Scot or Bill to sign-up. Classes can fill up.

**Dinner Dance:** Tickets have been printed and Tami is starting to get the word out. Tami has Flyers for this event and would like to get these posted out around town. If you would be willing to display one of these, please let Tami know. The date is set for February 4th, 2012. Contact Scot Johnson or Tami Stillwell for more information.

**Cormorant Classic:** Gary Sauvageau gave a brief re-cap mentioning that we had 80 teams entered this year. For this year, a lot of young guys and gals in the tournament, this is great to see. A lot of fish were caught and the weights were up. Thank you to all the volunteers that helped pull this off. Set-up, weigh in, take-down and clean up is a big time commitment and a lot of work. Thank you to all those who helped!!!!

**FM Walleye Web-Site:** Brian Dahlin gave a quick report that we are very close to bring the site live. A lot of work by Brian has gone into this and will have going very soon. Thanks Brian!!!

Nominating Committee: Ron Sahr said nothing to mention now.

**Credit Card:** Nothing to report now.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Tournament Trailer (Winter Home):** Gary brought up that he needs to find a place to store the trailer for the winter. Ron Sahr said that we could store this outside at his ranch. Thanks Ron!

**Merchandise:** Rick Mohan brought up the idea about doing something new and different for this year's merchandise. Ron suggested that maybe we have a "Fire-Sale" to get rid of what we have and then look into it. We will have the merchandise at our next meeting.

Weigh Scale: Barry mentioned that we need to get the scale looked into and maybe fixed. Follow up for more details.

#### **ROUNDTABLE:**

**Kyle:** Sponsors and sponsorships are coming together great and am looking to recruit for "Anglers Nite on Ice"

Kyle spoke to the general manager at the casino in Winnipeg too talk about a room and meal package for the Winnipeg Ice Fishing Excursion. Kyle will have more info on this once the manager has put something together.

Brian: Please get all Walleye Lines info to Brian ASAP so there is time to proof and to get out on time.

Motion to adjourn by Gary Sauvageau, 2nd by Brian Dahlin, All in favor, motion passed.

The next board meeting will be @ 6pm on Thursday, November 3rd, 2011 @ the Kelly Inn on Main, Fargo ND. Please remember that all general club members are welcome to attend board meetings.

Respectfully submitted by Scot Johnson, Recording Secretary.



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E-mail:	-	1
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Richard Mohan (exp: Feb., 2012) (701) 840-7792 rgmohan@cableone.net

Articles for the
2012 JANUARY Issue
of the Walleye Lines
will be accepted through the
16TH of DECEMBER

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: bdahlin62@gmail.com





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