



Compass Rose

Erie Pennsylvania Sport Fishing Association Monthly Newsletter

Edition 40

November 2018 Issue

Message from the President

Dear Members,

This newsletter will act as a combined November/December newsletter since we do not normally meet in December. However, we did hold a rather informal meeting last month.

January is our first public meeting of 2019. The meeting will be held at the American Legion 4109 West 12th Street. Just a reminder that food and beverages are available on the west side of the facility for all EPSFA members and guests. You are also allowed to dine on that side until the meeting begins. Our meeting starts at 6:30 and we will be conducting a board meeting prior to that on the east side

Reminder: This upcoming year, we will be selling tickets for a charter with Black Top Charters with Captain Ken Nulph. Also, this winter, we will be raffling off a cooler tackle prize package all winter and spring. The value will be announced soon.

The Lake Erie Percid Management Committee rescheduled a November meeting until January 2019. The models we reviewed were not correct and I requested that a 20% plus/minus governor be placed on the yellow perch models like we have established on the walleye model. A follow up meeting to review more data will be held in the very near future.

The BOD has decided to eliminate the traditional June event and host 3 tournaments. Our very successful Kids Fishing Day will occur in May again.

Christmas and New Years have come and gone already, and we will be preparing our boats before we know it. Last year at this time, we were buried in snow. This year, we could be doing landscaping if we wanted to. That is Erie weather for you!

Sharp Hooks and Happy New Year,

Captain Pete Alex

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Compass Rose

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Current Events:

The EPSFA will be doing some club fundraising this next year:

Raffle #1: 5 person Lake Erie fishing charter aboard the **Black Top** with Captain Ken Nulph. Value \$800. \$10.00 per ticket

Raffle #2: Tackle prize package. Value to be determined. \$5.00 per ticket

Tickets will eventually be available at: FishUSA, EPSFA tourneys, EPSFA.com, and from BOD.

- **Spring Trout Challenge: April 14th, 2019**
- **Pro AM: August 10th and 11th, 2019**
- **Fall Trout Challenge: October 20th, 2019**
(there will be an overall Trout Cup Champion)

Member News

- Memberships are up for renewal for many of you. They can be renewed on our website. By becoming a member, you become part of a larger voice and are supporting the activities and agenda we represent and stand for. Remember----**NO MEMBERS=No Voice**
- Want to donate? EPSFA is accepting donations through our membership registration page on our website.
- The EPSFA website has been given a recent uplift recently. Check us out www.epsfa.com
- The EPSFA has a face book page. Do you? If not, you can still find us and read what we have to say and look at our events-even though you do not have a FB page.
- The BOD has decided to cancel the traditional June Walleye tourney primarily due to low interest and lack of EPSFA volunteer efforts. The BOD has decided to invest their efforts into one event and combine it with a FishUSA weekend event at their facility located in Fairview, PA.

MEETING SCHEDULE:

Location: 4109 West 12th Street

Meeting at American Legion

January 2019

**Note: all of our winter meetings are open to non-members as well as members. We also welcome spouses and children.*

**Food and beverages are available, and folks can dine in on the member's side (west). Please stay on west side (bar/dining room) until 6:15 or so. The BOD will be meeting on the east side prior to our public meeting.*

EPSFA Speakers, Activity & Events:

Guest speakers for our public meetings will be posted in future emails and newsletters. TBD

Lake Erie's 2018 Western Basin walleye hatch a record-setter!

The Ohio Division of Wildlife has confirmed what many veteran Lake Erie anglers already knew. The walleye fishing around the Western Basin has been outstanding, and the data on this year's walleye hatch is exceptional, rating the 2018 hatch as the second highest on record.

Only the tremendous 2003 walleye hatch was larger. However, the 10 spawning seasons following the 2003 hatch were generally poor to fair.

Since the spring of 2014, walleye have experienced wonderful reproductive success around Lake Erie. This year's hatch was more than icing on the cake. It is a formula for great fishing for years to come around the Walleye Capital of the World.

The ODOW determines walleye spawning success by using bottom trawls to net young-of-the-year walleye in August around the Western Basin, a time when the baby fish have grown large enough to be caught in those style of nets. About 40 traditional locations are sampled.

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources has reported similar success in its Lake Erie studies this year. The ODOW trawl surveys in the Central Basin were done in July and August. Estimates of spawning success will be available in September.

Yellow Perch:

The ODNR Division of Wildlife's August western basin trawl survey found the 2018 yellow perch hatch to be very good at 511 yellow perch per hectare. This is above the 20-year average of 316 yellow perch per hectare in Ohio waters of the western basin. This above average yellow perch hatch should help bolster the yellow perch population in the western basin and maintain quality yellow perch fishing.

The yellow perch hatch was good in both the Ohio and Ontario waters of the western basin of Lake Erie. It was the fourth-best hatch since the interagency survey began in 1987.

EPSFA Mission Statement:

The EPSFA was formed to educate, enhance and protect the sport fishing in Pennsylvania, especially in Lake Erie, Presque Isle Bay and its tributaries. To that end, we have established goals which we believe will define our organization's activities by their significant diversity. We welcome and invite you!