FISH HABITAT PROGRAM CONTINUES FOR 24TH YEAR

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Unlike most other years, the PFBC purchased 60 pre-built vertical plank habitat structures which were already staged in the parking lot. The completed structures cost $90 each and were paid for through our Lake Erie Stamp monies. Our job was to attach brush piles to the top of the structures using banding tools. The brush was cut by DCNR personnel in Presque Isle State Park and transported to Misery Bay. When that operation was completed the Habitat Crew used two specially equipped boats to transport and deploy the 360 plus pound structures after they were loaded by the DCNR high lift operator.

All of the 60 structures were placed in Misery Bay. See shaded area on the included drawing for their rough location. A map showing all of the locations where structures have been placed since 1995 and their GPS coordinates can be seen on the PFBC web site at https://www.fishandboat.com/Resource/Habitat/Documents/lakePlans/presque_isle.pdf. There is also a link on our web site - sonsoflakeerie.org. A lunch was served when the work was completed and we had fun in spite of the rain.

The Habitat Team from the PFBC recently posted videos that they took around the fish habitat structures in Presque Isle Bay. On the right are screen grabs taken from those videos. To see them go to YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7IGRoEOeXx8 There is another video that was taken at Beltzville Lake in Pennsylvania in 2018. It can be seen at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XXVgwr3bmxo You can see that they are obviously working by attracting fish.

2018 MEMBERSHIP PIN

If you would like to have a 2018 S.O.N.S. member pin, you can pick one up at one of the upcoming events or our meetings. If you would like one mailed to you, send $3.00 to the S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie PO Box 3605 Erie, PA to cover mailing costs.

FISH HABITAT BUILD – OCTOBER 2, 2018

Photo #1 Our habitat crew stop for a group picture on Oct 2, 2018 Photo #2 Crew hard at work preparing vertical plank structures for deployment Photo #3 Brush piles were attached to the top of the structures using banding tool Photo #4 DCNR back hoe placed structures on PFBC boats Photo #5 Close up of a vertical plank fixture

The November General Membership meeting will be held one week early on Monday, November 19, so our members may participate in the First Day of Deer season

VIDEOS OF FISH HABITAT STRUCTURES ARE ON YouTube

Videos of Fish Habitat Structures can be seen at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YXGvaV3r3mxo

STRUCTURE MAP OF MISERY BAY

To the left is a section of the habitat map showing Misery Bay on Presque Isle State Park. The shaded area shows a rough approximation where the 60 vertical plank fixtures were placed on Oct. 2nd, 2018. Go to the Fish Commission web site for the full size map including GPS readings-https://www.fishandboat.com/Resource/Habitat/Documents/lakePlans/presque_isle.pdf.

GUN RAFFLE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you would like to volunteer to sell raffle tickets and SONS memberships at gun raffles please contact Director Rich Brine at our October 22 meeting or call Rich at 814-833-5007.

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THE SONS BENEFIT FROM THE GENEROSITY OF DECEASED MEMBERS AND LOCAL SOCIAL CLUBS

Over the last year we have received donations from the following social clubs totaling nearly $19,000. Most of the donations were made as a result of the State’s small games of chance licensing programs. All of the money that was donated by veterans’ clubs was applied to financing our vets fishing trips.


Many of our deceased members and their families stipulated in their final wishes that donations to the SONS of Lake Erie be made in lieu of flowers. We received memorial gifts in the memory of following individuals: Don Bartos, Linda Ferrick, John Fry, Frank Gerlach, Mike Janikiewicz, Dick Learn, Jim McMurray, Larry Nicoles, Bernie Novotny, John Rzodkiewicz, Nelson Schaffner and Francis Szczuzutkowski. These memorials totaled over $2000.

In addition to the above we were named in the will of deceased member John Clemens. We also received a grant from the Friends of Fish foundation and another from the General Electric Employees Community Service fund. We also received a memorial from the will of deceased member John Rzodkiewicz, Nelson Schaffner and Francis Szczuzutkowski. These memorials totaled over $14,000.

Your hard work and dedication has given us the reputation as an important part of our community worthy of the community’s support.

For Sale:


Canoe: Old Town Discovery solo canoe, 11 feet 9 inches, 32.5 inch width, weight 50 lbs, capacity 500 lbs, polyethylene hull color red, molded plastic foldable seat, Purchased 4 years ago, minimally used. Current new price $700. Will sell for $300. Contact Bob at 814-397-4949

SONS PUT ON FISH FRY AT THE EMMAUS SOUP KITCHEN

On Friday September 14th twenty five SONS of Lake Erie volunteers gathered at the Emmaus Soup Kitchen in Erie where together with the Emmaus staff under the direction of Sister Mary Miller prepared and served fish dinners for over 220 people. This is the fourth year in a row that we have provided this fish dinner. The fish for the event were donated by fishermen who participated in the Erie PA Sport Fishing Association Summer Slam Walleye Tournaments. On the right are some photos from that day. Note out of respect for the individuals that receive their meals at the Emmaus Soup Kitchen, we do not publish photos of them.

ERIE SPORT STORE CLOSES ITS DOORS

The Erie Sport was founded by brothers Jack and George Weber in 1951 at 709 State St. Even in the early days, the store catered to athletes and outdoormen. On February 18, 1969, construction next door caused the collapse of 709 State Street, and damaged buildings at 713 and 715 State St. Six employees were inside the Erie Sport Store when it started to crumble on February 18, 1969. A construction worker ran inside to warn John "Jack" Weber to get out of the building. "I yelled back one last time for anybody inside to get the hell out of there," Weber told the Erie Daily Times, "then I got out. Minutes later the whole thing came down..." In 1970, a new Erie Sport Store emerged from the rubble in downtown Erie, PA at 701 State Street where it operated as its flagship store and the premier place to buy sporting goods in the area. The Erie Sport Store continued to grow and expanded to various locations throughout the area. After the late 80’s and early 90’s, the Erie Sport Store had 4 locations: downtown at 701 State Street, Liberty Plaza shopping center, West 8th Street across from the Colony Plaza and a Golf Pro Shop on East 8th Street across from what is now the Erie Insurance Arena.

The business climate caused the closing of the satellite stores. In later years the Sport Store moved to Keystone Drive off of upper Peach St and closed the downtown store, but sadly in spite of the last move, the current owners Rich and Jack Weber found it necessary to close this last location.

The Weber family and the Erie Sport Store has been a staunch supporter of the SONS of Lake Erie as well as many other organizations in our community. They have consistently sponsored events, door prizes and service to the Erie area. We will greatly miss them not only because of their great support over the years but we will miss them as friends and hope that they enjoy prosperity and happiness in their future endeavors.

As a group we have to support our remaining local businesses, especially those who have supported us by placing ads in our newsletter. Historically we have received most of our support from locally owned businesses.

NORTH EAST TOWNSHIP AND PFBC BUILD HANDICAPPED FISHING PLATFORM AT TWENTY MILE CREEK

A project was recently completed on Twenty Mile Creek at North East Township Community Conservation Park that provides a handicapped accessible fishing opportunity near the mouth of Twenty Mile Creek.

WANTED:

Boat: 18 foot inboard or outboard. Call 724-504-7561

WANTED:

Old photographs of Erie’s Waterfront - Ships, Boats, Buildings, Fishing and Fishermen, Railroads, etc. Call Jerry at 814-452-6291. I would like to borrow and scan them for my slide presentations.