“A Replenishing Species”

Pre-Pay For 3 Months, Get 4th Month Free

Presque Isle Auto

Fish USA Pro Staff Member Justin DiRado will talk about

“Steelhead Fishing techniques.”

Very Low Rates • Great Location

More than 50 Native Species of Fish

Get $3 off with this coupon

e-mail: captain@tellnotalescharters1.com

On line at http://Tinytimfishing.com

Perch Pirate

$35 Adults • $30 Seniors and Vets

All bait is included

www.tellnotalescharters1.com

www.EdwardJohnPerchFishing.com

www.elkcreekcabin.com

www.anchormarineltd.com

www.lakeshoretowing.com

www.findleylake-property.com

www.silkscreenunlimited.com

www.EdwardJohnPerchFishing.com

www.ParadiseMarine.com

www.GORENCOLO'S.COM

www.365surf.com

www.JakeMarine.com

www.Jakerepair.com

www.AnglerCove.com

www.marinestore.com

www.robbinsmarine.com

www.StrungUp.com

www.boatandbrew.com

www.bobscruiser.com

www.boat.com

www trending.com

www.FlaminGator.com

www.BoatOnTheBay.com
The Bucket

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.

ARWAY GOES FROM EXECUTIVE TO GRANDPA

Former PFBC Executive John Arway finished his last day in that position on November 2, 2016. He was still at work on that last day near Blue Knob State Park while Commission workers and volunteers worked on a bank stabilization project at nearby Bob’s Creek. This was near where he began his career with the PA Fish Commission 38 years ago. There were many friends and family gathered at the creek in celebration of his retirement by holding a picnic luncheon in his honor at the park. SONS Pres. Jerry Skrypzak, VP Ed Kissell, and Director Jack Bock traveled to the site to join in honoring John. We presented him with some SONS memorabilia to show our gratitude for all that he has done for the SONS and the Lake Erie Fishery. We had a lengthy conversation with John during which we said that he plans to do nothing but relax, fish, and hunt for at least a year. We wish him a long and happy retirement.

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Names Tim Schaeffer as Executive Director

HARRISBURG, Pa. (October 18) – During a special meeting today, the PFBC Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to appoint Tim Schaeffer to the role of Executive Director. Schaeffer will assume his duties beginning November 13, 2018.

"I'm extremely honored and grateful to the board of commissioners for the opportunity to lead such a great agency," said Schaeffer. "I'm excited to get to work."

As executive director, Schaeffer will return to the PFBC where he previously served as Director of Policy and Planning from 2008-2017. Currently, he is Deputy Secretary for the Office of Water Programs for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. He resides with his family in New Cumberland, Cumberland County.

"Tim's experience speaks for itself and it gives us great pleasure to present him with this opportunity," said Eric Hissar, PFBC Board President. "We look forward to seeing him lead us into the future and advance our mission."

Schaeffer will replace Executive Director John Arway, who retired effective November 2nd.

FOR SALE:


WANTED:

Unwanted bicycles donations to Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network to be repaired and refurbished by volunteers to distribute to those who can’t afford them. Call Margarita at 814-454-7814 ext 301 to donate.

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.

COTTAGE FOR SALE

on Crooked Creek in North Springfield, PA Call David at 814-882-2927.

FOUND:

Floating in Misery Bay, a remote control for an electric trolling motor by Sheriff’s Dive Team. Call 814-453-2270

REMINDER-MANDATORY COLD WEATHER LIFE JACKET WEAR

Q. Why are waterfowl hunters and late fall/early spring anglers being singled out with this regulation?

A disproportionate number of fatalities occur during the months of November through April. Coldwater immersion is one of the primary reasons for these fatalities, based on Pennsylvania’s boating accident data. That’s why the chance of a boating accident resulting in a fatality is significantly higher from November through April than during the rest of the year.

Waterfowl hunters in small boats are at a greater risk. While hunting, you often reach overboard while setting decoys, retrieving decoys, retrieving downed game, and may have dogs entering and exiting your boat. Worse yet, waterfowl hunters in small boats are at a greater risk. While hunting, you often reach overboard while setting decoys, retrieving decoys, retrieving downed game, and may have dogs entering and exiting your boat. Worse yet, waterfowl hunters in small boats are at a greater risk. While hunting, you often reach overboard while setting decoys, retrieving decoys, retrieving downed game, and may have dogs entering and exiting your boat. Worse yet, waterfowl hunters in small boats are at a greater risk.
**PFBC AWARDS GRANT FOR HOLLAND STREET FISHING PIER PROJECT**

A conceptual rendition of the Holland St. Pier handicapped Accessible fishing platform.

**Harrisburg – October 16** – The PA Fish and Boat Commission approved a grant for an Erie Access Improvement Program grant in the amount of $382,400 to the Erie-Western Pennsylvania Port Authority. Grant dollars generated through the sale of special Lake Erie fishing permits will fund the construction of a 130-foot handicapped accessible fishing platform at the Holland Street Pier. Another grant in the amount of $200,000 was also approved by the Commission to assist the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy with a streambank stabilization and habitat improvement project along Elk Creek.

In 2014 the Erie Western Port Authority completed construction of new sheet piling facing and other improvements are nearly complete at the docks at the foot of Holland Street. This $5,000,000 project opened up an area that was absolutely unsafe for any activity. With its completion the project has opened up about 900 ft. of fishing access. The North end of the pier was not improved however. We saw this as an opportunity to join in a partnership with the Port Authority to finish off the end of the pier. In 2016 we began a dialogue with the authority and thanks to a grant from the Friends of Fish Foundation we commissioned the Krech Ojard Engineering Co, to develop a conceptual plan to build a handicapped accessible fishing platform on the pier. It was recommended that the platform be built in a cantilevered manner to avoid building into the waters of Presque Isle Bay thereby avoiding long and drawn out permitting processes. This design would also be at a lower cost. The concept drawings were submitted to the PFBC along with a grant application by the Port Authority requesting a distribution of funds from the Lake Erie Stamp monies to finance the project.

Now that the grant has been approved the project will begin with a completion of the engineering and subsequent study and hopefully we could see construction underway in 2019. The Holland St. Pier has been a great area for fishermen with lots of room and available parking. The fishing platform will only enhance an already great area. We thought that the pier should be named “The Fishermen’s Memorial Pier”, It would be dedicated to those commercial and sport fishermen who have lost their lives fishing. The designation would be dependent on the approval of the Fish Commission and the Port Authority.

**SPRINGFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHOOSES SONS AS SPONSORED CHARITY**

Springfield Elementary School would appreciate your help. They could use our votes for their “Cool School Video that they entered into the Erie News Now Cool School Contest. The theme this year was, “How Green is Your school?” You can vote once a day. They won the first round and now it’s down to popular votes. If they win this second round they are donating their $5000 in advertising to the S.O.N.S of Lake Erie.. You can learn more and vote on line at [here](http://wicu.secondstreetapp.com/How-Cool-Is-Your-School-2018/gallery/)

**SONS MERCHANDISE AND MEMBERSHIPS MAKE GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS**

If you need a nice Christmas Gift we have nine different styles of hats ($10), T shirts (3 styles) ($10), fishing vests ($8), license plates ($5), ¼ zip long sleeve shirts $25- $30 depending on size and plastic insulated mugs ($6). We also have some sweatshirts ($20) in limited sizes. SONS director John Kroupinski will be bringing our inventory to our meetings where you can pick them up or call 814-453-2270 to order.

SONS memberships are a great gift for friends and family members too!

**SONS JUNIOR MEMBER A YEAR LATER**

Above are two photos of Cole Maloney, the great grandson of SONS Director Rich Smith. The one on the left was published in the Dec 2017 issue of the Bucket. The one on the right was taken by Abbey Lynn Photography.

**OHIO DNR PERCH AND WALLEYE FALL SURVEY INDICATE GOOD SPRING REPRODUCTION**

COLUMBUS, OH – Early data gathered by wildlife agencies in the western basin of Lake Erie indicate great news for Ohio anglers. The Ohio DNR says the 2018 walleye hatch appears to be exceptional, the second highest in the history of the Ohio survey, and the yellow perch hatch was strong, well above its long-term average.

Each year in August, wildlife agencies from around the western basin of Lake Erie sample the waters using bottom trawls in search of young-of-the-year walleye and yellow perch, with biologists from the ODNR conducting bottom trawls at nearly 40 sampling locations. Data from these bottom trawl surveys are combined into a basin-wide index, and fisheries biologists compare the figures to previous years to estimate the success of the walleye and yellow perch hatches. These data provide biologists with an initial estimate of how many young fish will enter the fishable population two years later.

The PA Fish and Boat Commission’s Lake Erie Unit conducts similar surveys but the results are still being compiled at this time.