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THE Bucket

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Fishing Report: Fishing this Summer has been phenomenal. Catches of walleye and perch have been great. (See story below about the EPSFA tournament.)

September 27th General Meeting program will be a highlight of our Summer's activities. Dave Frew and Jerry Skrypzak will be on hand to sign copies of their book "Fortune and Fury" which will be offered for sale at the meeting.

AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER BUCKET COMBINED

The Erie Times News is preparing a supplemental to their newspaper that will feature the S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie. The special supplemental is being published in honor of our thirtieth anniversary. It will highlight our history, our accomplishments and our goals.

It will be mailed out sometime in September. Rather than having two issues of the Bucket we decided to delay this issue by a week and follow up with the Times's Supplement.

LAKE ERIE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MET IN ERIE

The Lake Erie Percid Stakeholder Advisory Group met in Erie at the TREC center on Friday, July 29th. The group is composed of representatives from fishery management units as well as scientists, commercial fishermen and sportsmen's groups from Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, Michigan and Ontario. The purpose of the advisory group is to work jointly to develop a fisheries management plan for walleye and yellow perch on Lake Erie.

The formation of the group offers stakeholders a formal role in the decision making process for establishing regulations to manage the stocks of walleye and perch in the Lake. The process will include the study of data, scientific predictions through the use of computer models and finally a review of options by the committee. The recommendations of the committee will be made to the standing Lake Erie Committee.

The group will meet in London, Ontario in September, Ohio in November and finally in Michigan in February where recommended harvest levels of percids in Lake Erie will be established.

The S.O.N.S. were asked to provide a representative to the advisory group.

EPSFA HOLDS TOURNAMENT

The Erie Pennsylvania Sportfishing Association held their "Summer Slam 2011" annual fishing tournament on August 5,6 and 7. Fifty-five teams of amateur and professional teams participated. All of the teams fished in Lake Erie. The weigh-in was held at the Sloppy Duck Restaurant on Presque Isle Bay. The S.O.N.S. participated in the tournament by providing manpower to help with the weigh-in.

The Open Division teams were permitted to enter 12 fish, and the amateurs 8 into the contest. Scoring was based on the total fish and their combined weight. The winning team of the tournament was "Team Wolfman" which submitted 12 fish each day. They weighed in 89.35 pounds on Saturday and 89.15 pounds on Sunday. They won over \$5000 in cash and prizes. Team "Ditch Chicken" was the winning amateur team with entries of 58.8 pounds on Saturday and 54.3 pounds on Sunday. They also caught the largest walleye, which weighed in at 10.6 pounds. The largest steelhead weighed 14.3 pounds and was caught by "Team Heartbeat".

A total of 982 fish were entered weighing 5,598 pounds. The average weight of the submitted fish was 5.7 lbs. If you take the 3,234 lbs and divide it by the 596 fish that were caught by Open Division (Pros) teams the average weight was 5.4 pounds. The amateurs, on the other hand weighed in 386 fish that weighed in 2363 pounds that produced an average of 6.1 pounds per fish.

Many of the participants donated fish to the S.O.N.S. for our annual outreach fish fry.

Top - SONS Saturday Weigh-in team

Bottom L- "Team Wolfman" ; Bottom R Dr. Ferraro with his 14.3 lb steelhead



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.

NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER 27th

(Note: The September General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 27th instead of Monday because the PA Fish and Boat Commission will be meeting in Erie on September 26 & 27.)

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Ninety-four S.O.N.S. volunteers came to the Lawrence Park fishing club for our annual Volunteers' Picnic on August 8th. There were 132 members who were eligible to attend the picnic. Attendance is based on the criteria that anyone who helped out at least once at one of our events could come.

Ron Lubak acted as picnic chairman. Food was provided by Langer Catering. Twenty-two of our volunteers were honored for their outstanding service. Gerry Vollentine, Don Tombaugh, Larry Lipinski, Rich Smith, Jim Mattson, Ralph Corvaglia, Jack Klaphor, Kyle Grabinski, Bill Henderson, Connor Grabinski, Bob Luce, Mike Felege, Cas Haraburda, Ray Halt, Frank Kuzma, John Krupinski, Gary Heubel Jr., Ron Bolash, Terry Pfeffer, Frank Burbules, Vic Kraus, Paul Holtz and Bob

Zawadzki participated in over nine of our events from July 1, 2010 to July 1, 2011. Each one of these individuals were presented with a S.O.N.S. commemorative thirtieth anniversary sweat shirt.

Special thanks were given to all of the S.O.N.S. officers and directors for their service and dedication especially Vice Pres. Ed Kissell for his tireless vigilance protecting and maintaining our public access, Secretary Ralph Corvaglia for his help organizing our events, Treasurer, Terry Pfeffer for his management and recording of our funds, Hatchery Manager, Bob Zawadzki for his dedication to the hatchery and his organization of our annual "Fin and Fur Raffle", Membership Chairman, Frank Kuzma for recording and maintaining our membership roles. Lastly the

S.O.N.S. wives, especially my wife, Alma Jean for her patience and support, Mary Kissell our unofficial secretary and office manager, Joyce Covaglia and Linda Pfeffer for answering the phone for Ralph and Terry, Elaine Kuzma for help with our memberships, Kathy Klaphor for the gallons of Greek sauce that she has made and all of the other director's wives who so generously support their husbands.

Lastly, Thanks to all of our 2030 members who have helped make the S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie the great organization that it is.

S.O.N.S. 2011 Volunteers' Picnic Group Picture. To see more picnic photos visit our web page at sonsoflakeerie.org. Kyle Grabinski acted as our official picnic photographer.

STURGEON ARRIVE AT T.R.E.C.

Two young lake sturgeon are now living in the Aquaponics Lab at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center thanks to the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. The fish were originally provided by the Wisconsin DNR to the Cleveland museum. Space restraints in Cleveland forced the transfer to the Ridge Center. There is a female and a smaller male in tanks at the Erie Lab. The Regional Science Consortium and DCNR Naturalists will be studying the fish. They are expected to be available for public display after they become acclimated to their new home sometimes in September.

Top L- PISP Naturalist Ray Bierbower shows sturgeon Top R - Young sturgeon

TREC Aquaponics Lab



PA FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION TO HOLD MEETING IN ERIE

PFBC Commissioner, Ed Mascharka, has announced that the quarterly meeting of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission will be held on Monday and Tuesday, September 26-27, 2011, at the Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel located at 55 West Bay Drive, Erie, PA 16507. Commission committees will meet on September 26 beginning at or about 10:00 a.m. and on September 27 beginning at 8:00 a.m. Various PFBC committee meetings will be held on Monday and Tuesday with the general commission meeting beginning at 11:45 AM on Tuesday. All of the committee meetings and the general meeting are open to the public. The executive sessions are not. See our website- sonsoflakeerie.org for the meeting schedule.

THANK YOU!

Ken Anderson, PFBC Habitat Manager, asked us to pass on his sincere thanks to those S.O.N.S. Volunteers who helped out on the Cassidy Park habitat improvement project in Millcreek Township.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday September 17th 10:00-3:00 The L.E.A.F. festival at Frontier Park. Need a few volunteers to teach kids how to cast.

Tuesday September 27th 7:30 PM General Membership Meeting at the Polish Falcon's Club

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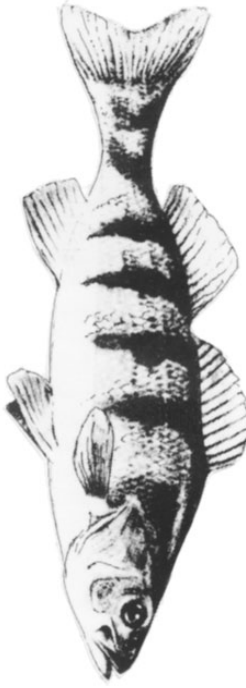
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