

Spokane Walleye Club

General Meeting: February 23, 2022. 7:00 PM at INWC

Officers Present: Smiley Hatcher (President), Ken Shatzer (Vice President), Allan Walker (Secretary), Mark McFall (Secretary)

Board Members Present: Larry Quaintance, Travis Scholten, John Calkins

Absent: Stan Judd

Members Signed-in: 29

Treasurer's Report

Checking	Project	Club	Total
\$954.17	\$12,646.59	\$9,004.61	\$22,605.37

Our liability insurance policy renewal is due next month, the premium is \$600. Allan will need to know the dates and locations of our planned fish days and campouts to get them included in our policy.

Allan has filed our federal tax return, which has been accepted by the IRS.

He has also paid our state sales tax bill of \$2.70.

Since we will be having a membership meeting in July, dropping the one in November, and adding the catered Christmas banquet in December again, Allan will get these changes added to our insurance policy and schedule the additional (December) meeting with the INWC.

Guests and New Members

Our guest speaker, Shelby Ross of Ross Outdoor Adventures
Eric _____

Welcome!

Fishing Reports

None. It has been too cold.

Blade Baits

Travis Scholten brought some of his custom blade baits, which were passed around. They look and work well. Contact Travis if you are interested in obtaining some. They are \$60 for a set and can be had in 1/2, 5/8, and 3/4 ounce weights.

Big Horn Show — March 17-20, 2022

Larry Quaintance has been making calls and has the volunteer roster filled. *Thanks, Larry!* We could still put some additional volunteers to work on the busiest shifts. Additional sign-ups are available, so please contact Larry if you can help. Volunteers will also receive free admission for the entire show.

We will also need to obtain the raffle tickets if we don't already have them.

Ken Shatzer is coordinating the booth set-up and tear-down and is looking for members who have extensive previous experience with this. We will need about six volunteers and some trucks to haul all the parts. Set-up will be on Tuesday, March 15th. Tom Fischer and Mark McFall have volunteered. Contact Ken if you can help.

Kids Fishing Trailer

Randy Osborne (WDFW) has been the lead on the Kids Fishing program at Clear Lake for years and has done an outstanding job. The challenge, and chronic difficulty he has had, is with storing and transporting all of the necessary equipment. Randy has been working on raising funds for an enclosed trailer dedicated to that specific purpose to eliminate these ongoing problems. The trailer will be decorated with graphics of the event and the logos of the organizations that have donated to its purchase.

Earlier this month the board voted to donate \$5,000 from our project fund, which completed the purchase of the trailer and the graphics. Randy is working to get this all done so that he can have the trailer on display at the entrance to the Big Horn show. *Well done, Randy, and thanks for all that you do for Kids Fishing!*

Spring Fishing Seminars at Mark's Marine

Member Merlin Thykeson, owner of Mark's Marine (Hayden ID, 10 miles north of CdA on Hwy. 95), advised that their series of weekly fishing seminars will begin on the first Thursday in March, from 6:30-8:00 PM, and will run for six weeks. The speakers are always top-notch in their fields of expertise. Our own Greg Koch will be doing a presentation on Walleye fishing. See Mark's Marine's website, <https://www.marksmarineinc.com>, for further details on the topics and speakers.

Computer Support

Smiley introduced one of our new members, Gary Sweigert, as having extensive computer experience and willingness to assist Greg with our website. He has already made some changes. Greg has a full plate and Gary is retired. *Thanks, Gary!*

Inside Club Promotion and Name Tags

Also, Gary has made — and donated — very nice name tags for each member! These will help us get to know one another better, help with remembering names, and will come in handy for members working the Big Horn show. They will be available at the sign-in table at each meeting and should be turned in after the meeting rather than taking them home. *Thanks again, Gary!*

Smiley noted that our efforts have been in promoting the club to the outside and that we need to do more on promoting the club *inside*, make the extra effort to welcome guests and new members, and to invite them fishing — and to help them learn Walleye fishing — which is why we, and they, all joined in the first place.

Fish Days

Smiley noted that our fish days have spotty participation, little coordination, and leave a lot to be desired in terms of organization. Members showing up at different times, then scattering, is nothing more than club members all fishing individually on the same day and in the same general area. This does nothing to promote camaraderie, welcome new members and guests, or improve fishing skills.

Larry Quaintance suggested advance sign-up sheets, scheduling a meeting time at the ramp, making sure that new members and guests are welcomed aboard host boats, then returning for lunch. This was done at his suggestion before and it was a big improvement.

John Calkins suggested using radios and cell phones to better communicate and coordinate while on the water.

Tom Fischer suggested specifying a particular spot to concentrate on while fishing rather than scattering. Also, that some members are averse to weekend fish days due to the typical congestion at the boat ramps on those days.

Allan Walker suggested that we need a fish day coordinator.

Chuck Dunning suggested doing sign-ups in advance for seasoned members willing to host a guest on their boat and for the guests and new members. Then, everyone meeting at a specific time and location.

Merlin Thykeson suggested that we should have our club's banner raised at the meeting location to aid guests and new members in getting to the right place. Merlin also suggested that we could do the willing member / interested guests and new member sign-up lists on line.

John Carruth suggested signing-up the members willing to host a guest and the interested guests and new members at the club meeting prior to the planned club fish day

Chuck Dunning also mentioned previous successful experiences he had at Bear Lake for kids Trout fishing wherein advance posts were made announcing that club members would be at a specific location, date and time for instruction. The turnouts were always good, and rewarding.

Proposed Bylaw Change

Mark McFall noted that there are some awkward points and conflicts in our current procedures for selecting annual awards recipients and has proposed the following changes:

Changes would remove the restrictions that 1.) the Special Appreciation award go only to a board member, 2.) the Member of the Year award go to only general members, and 3.) to remove the requirement that the board approve the awards. We have already bent these rules in the past by awarding a Special Appreciation Award to a non-board member.

These changes give us more flexibility and removes the awkward necessity of having the board approve awards for which a board member is a candidate. The Membership / Awards Committee would be given the authority to make these determinations and if a member of that committee is a candidate, then he/she will be recused by the other members of the committee.

Proposed changes are ~~lined through~~ for deletions and shown in *italics* for additions and replacements. Smiley read these aloud (#1 of 2) at tonight's general membership meeting.

Existing Bylaws with proposed changes

Appendix 3 — Awards The Membership Committee shall administer all membership awards per criteria as established for such awards, which are:

- Member of the Year (up to two annually)
- Special Appreciation (up to two annually)

The Membership Committee shall *make these determinations and have the awards made for presentation at the Annual Awards Banquet in December.* ~~submit a list of candidates for each award to the Board of Directors at the November board meeting. The committee shall, upon approval of the Board of Directors, order the plaques for presentation at the Annual Awards Banquet.~~

If a member of the committee becomes a candidate for an award, he/she will be recused for purposes of these decisions by the other members of the committee and the President will name a temporary replacement.

AWARD REQUIREMENTS

Member of the Year

Any member in good standing *who has served the club with distinction* ~~except an Executive or Member of the Board of Directors~~ may be eligible for consideration of this award.

The award shall be a plaque inscribed as follows:

Spokane Walleye Club

Name

Member of the Year

Year

Special Appreciation

The club may approve two awards annually. ~~Members of the Board of Directors, only, are eligible for consideration of this award.~~

The award shall be a Plaque inscribed as follows:

Spokane Walleye Club

Name

Special Appreciation

Year

Guest Speaker

Mr. Shelby Ross, of Ross Outdoor Adventures, 6713 RD 8.8 SE, Othello, WA 99344 (509) 750-7763, was our guest speaker tonight. He gave an excellent presentation — which was very well received — on the four techniques he successfully uses for Walleye fishing: bottom bouncing, crank baits, jigs, and blade baits and displayed the gear that he uses.

Mr. Ross clearly knows his business, is a guide, and primarily works the Potholes and Moses Lake areas.

Adjournment

8:30 PM

Next Meetings

Wednesday, March 30, 2022 at the INWC

- Board meeting at 6:00 PM
- General Membership meeting at 7:00 PM