LUDINGTON AREA CHARTERBOAT

ASSOCIATION - NEWSLETTER -



VOL XXVII NO. 77

5300 W. U.S. 10, LUDINGTON, MI 49431

December 2012

LACA DIRECTORY

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6474 N. Arrowhead Ludington, MI 49431 269-217-9845 Cell

3:30

Adjournment.

January Sea Grant Seminar January 12, 2013

New this year: The location of the January Sea Grant Seminar has been changed. The new location is the Comfort Inn & Suites, 7576 S. PM Highway, Pentwater, MI 49449. The new location is approximately 12 miles south of the US-10 & US-31 intersection in Ludington. Take US-31 Freeway to the Pentwater exit 158, Oceana Dr., then turn right on old US-31, now called S. Pere Marquette Hwy. It is on the right.

8:30	Coffee & Registration:
9:00:	Welcome & Introductions , Dan O'Keefe - SW District Educator, MI Sea Grant
9:15	Chinook Salmon Stocking Strategy and Tactical Plan Jay Wesley - SLM Management Unit Supervisor
9:55	DNR Management Updates Jay Wesley - SLM Management Unit Supervisor
10:15	Break.
10:30	Great Lakes Water Level Forcasts. Mark Breederland - NW District Educator, MI Sea Grant
10:50	Status of Lake Michigan Forage Fish Charles Madenjian, Ph.d - Research Biologist, USGS
11:30	Natural Reproduction of Chinook in Lake Michigan Randy Claramunt - Fisheries Research Biologist, MDNR
Noon:	Lunch & LACA Tackle Raffle
1:00	Great Lakes Observing System Jennifer Read, Ph.D - GLOS Executive Director, U of M
1:30	Who's fishing and catching in Lud/PM River Tracy Kolb - Statewide Angler Survey Program, MDNR
1:50	Fishing for Extinction: Netting of Asian Carp Brian Ross, Ph.d - Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries, MSU
2:30	Great Lakes Basin Charter Fishing Study Dan O'keefe, Ph.D, MI Sea Grant
3:00	Big lake Fishing Tips & Techniques Capt. George Freeman -Ludington - Free Style Charters

December 2012

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY Jim Fenner (seasonal) 806 W. Loomis Ludington, MI 49431 231-843-3586 (winter) 4685 Chapel **Troy, MI 48085** 248-689-3487

LACA DIRECTORY:

Office and Committee

information:

SAVE OUR SMOLT: Dave Lindberg

MUCC Delegate: Ed Stowe CVB Delegate: Dave Even

Chamber Delegate: George Freeman NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Jim Fenner SPONSOR APPRECIATION DAY:

Committee: TBA

LACA Office: LACA 5300 W. U.S. 10 **Ludington MI 49431**

Membership Dues Reminder:

Most of our membership renewal campaign is over, but not all. If you have not yet renewed your membership for the 2013 season, PLEASE do as soon as possible.

Your officers would appreciate it very much if we could complete the renewal process as soon as possible.

Every renewal reminder we send reduces the amount of funds we have for the programs of the Association.

> Please send in your dues today if your are not renewed

Check your Listings: LACA constantly updates the member listings and the websites as the membership changes. Go to the LACA website and review your own listing frequently. Let us know if there is an error.

LACA Supports Ice Fishing Tournament:

For the fourth year in a row there will be an ice fishing tournament scheduled to be held on Hamlin Lake. The tournament will be February 1 - 3. (weather permitting: the tournament had to be cancelled in 2012, due to poor ice)

The Tournament is being presented by the Ludington Chamber, and has been named: "The Michigan Ice Open"

LACA has made a financial contribution is support of the tournament. For additional information contact the Ludington Chamber of Commerce or go to the website: http://icefishludington.com/

Tournament Donates \$1,000

In August, we received word that the Chamber of Commerce would donate \$1,000 from the proceeds of the Ruboy Thursday Tournament Event. This continues the tradition which has been in place since the beginning of the Current Tournament Arrangement in 2002. LACA is greatly appreciative of the support for LACA by the Chamber of Commerce, and for its support for the Tournament, which was started in it's current form in 2002. And finally, for its generosity to LACA with its annual donation from the Ruboy Thursday event. Thanks again

Docking your charterboat in Ludington

As you make your plans for dockage for the next season and if you will be docking in a private Marina, please consider first the Marinas who belong to the Association. It's no secret that things have been tight and they need your business: The listed marina are members:

> **Abrahamson & Starport Marinas** (under the management of Duke Colegrove)

Ludington Dock (Tamarac) (founding members of the Association)

Thompson Marina

(now being managed exclusively by Ed Thompson) (Thompson Marina is a long-time members of the Association)

All of these Marinas cater extensively to charterboats. All of these Marinas are making Special offers for new and returning members. Check with our Member Marinas first.

> Do you know today's Secret Word? .98b9lwonx & 11

LACA SUSTAINING MEMBERS

ABRAHAMSON'S MARINE INC.

Abrahamson & Starport Marinas

(AKA: STARPORT LEASING, LLC)

BEST CHOICE MARKET

Best Western Splash Park Inn

BIG JON TROLLING SYSTEMS, INC.

BLU MOON BISTRO

BLUE SPUCE INN

Brenda's harbor house

Bud's Tap Room
Capt. Chuck's Great

Outdoors, Inc.

Collier's Creek House

CREATIVE CANVAS

Cutting Edge Image & Design, LLC

Dreamweaver Lure Co. Dune Side Auto Glass

FOXBROOK KENNELS, LLC

The Grand Restaurant

Great Lakes Ford & Lincoln

GREINER MOTEL & GIFT SHOP

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS

House of Flavors Soup &

SANDWICH SHOP

Jamesport Brewing Company

KIBBY CREEK TRAVEL PARK

Kwik Print Plus

LUCIANO RESTAURANTE

LUDINGTON BEVERAGE BUDWEISER Ludington Docks & Marina

(AKA: TAMARAC SPORT FISHING)

LUDINGTON PIER HOUSE MOTEL

Mac's Rod Shop

Magee Insurance Group

Mancino's Pizza & Grinders

McDonald's Bakery

Michael's Bar & Grill

Nader's Lakeshore Motor Lodge

Northern Classic Auto Sales

Northside Market

Nova Motel

OLD HAMLIN RESTAURANT

P.M. STEAMERS RESTAURANT

Ramada of Ludington

Sanders Meats

SCOTTY'S RESTAURANT

Snyder's Shorline Inn

Sportsman Restaurant & Irish Pub

Thompson's Marina

VACATION STATION RV RESORT

VENTURA MOTEL

VIKING ARMS INN VISTA VILLA MOTEL

Waddell & Reed

SUPPORT OUR SUSTAINING MEMBERS

You can thank our Sustaining members by remembering them when you do business in

All the businesses listed above are helping us and our association by their substantial financial support. They would appreciate our support for their businesses also.

Remember those who support us when you refer your customers for service in

The Ludington Area. Please look this list over carefully. For various reasons the list has changed in several ways since last season.

The businesses listed above are supporting you.

You can return the favor by doing business with our sustaining members and encouraging your clients to be their customers, too.

A hearty Welcome to new members over the summer:

New regular members: Capt. Micah Schmidt, Capt. Ken Davis, Capts Mark & Matt Trowbridge. Sustaining member, Sonja Collier, Collier's Creek House, and to sustaining member Derik Heimgerdinger, moving from Edward Jones to Waddell & Reed Investments. If you get a chance to meet these new members, be sure to thank them for joining or remaining in the the Association

Thanks to Myron Gilbert, Tom Thomas, & Mark Williams for their Donations to LACA

Copy your documents:

Registration, documentation, inspection, front & back of license, drug card, etc. Every year, or when new a new one is issued. Keep at least one copy of each in a safe place at home.

A Message from President Dave Even:

2012 was a banner year for the salmon fishery on Lake Michigan. The port of Ludington was no exception. The fish were very cooperative on most days. It was nice to see healthy fish all summer long. I believe that the vast majority of the charter boats on the lake saw charters up from the past few years. The fish seemed to spread out between the points and it was nice having room to fish. It was also a great year for local fishermen to dominate the Offshore Classic. Our own Captain Doug Strzynski put it all together and dominated both days. Congratulations to Doug and his crew for a great job.

Fishing season ended with plenty of rough seas. The area experienced plenty of blow days after the first week of September and the winds never left. In my memory I don't recall such an extended period with all the heavy seas. I hope the nasty winds of this past fall are not a sign of the upcoming year for our fishery.

The fish were plentiful but were down in size from 2011. Many, including myself, are very concerned about what the future holds for 2013. LACA believes our DNR is taking the correct path to reduce the number of planted fish in the lake. Research has proven that natural reproduction is substantial and the lake cannot support the numbers of fish that are planted when combined with the natural reproduction. The reduction in plants will aid in controlling the numbers of salmon that are surviving on the limited alewife population. This past year many of us experienced seeing large schools of bait in the area on many days, and some are questioning the research population profiles. Hopefully, the 2012 recruitment class of Alewives are successful in surviving the winter. The DNR fisheries division needs a break. The fishery has many issues besides bait, including invasive species, water levels and the DNR's ability to do to research with limited funds is a concern. Hopefully, the future of the fishery is in good hands; the decisions are based on the best information available and politics are not involved.

As an organization LACA has plenty of issues to address for 2013. As 2012 is quickly coming to an end and the holidays are here, it is time to be with family and friends and be thankful for the great resource we are so fortunate to enjoy.

On a personal note: 2012 was a tough year for our family, after a long battle. we lost our father on November 16. Thanks for all the kind words and prayers many of you expressed.

Merry Christmas to all and have a great New Year.

See you at the Sea Grant January 12, 2013.

LACA Meeting Immediately Following the Conference

After a brief break following the Adjournment of the Sea Grant Workshop the Ludington Area Charterboat Association will hold its Annual January Meeting in the same room.

Don't forget to file for your Fuel Tax Refund:

If you have never applied for this credit, contact the Michigan Dept. of Treasury at (517) 636-4600 for the required forms and information.