

Spokane Walleye Club

General Meeting: October 27, 2021 7:00 PM at the INWC

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

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

Absent:

Members Signed-in 19

Treasurer's Report

Checking	Project	Club	Total
\$888.38	\$17,640.71	\$9,001.55	\$27,530.67

The \$4,500 proceeds from the sale of our tournament trailer have been added to the project fund.

Big Horn Show — March 2022

Smiley advised that volunteers will be needed to staff our booth. The shifts are two hours each and it is easy, fun duty interacting with members of the public to discuss the club and Walleye fishing — and to sell raffle tickets, our biggest and most important fundraiser of the year. Volunteers will receive free admission to the show, and parking is free.

Our staffing roster needs to be completed by the January club meeting at the latest.

November Meeting Cancellation

Our scheduled November meeting is cancelled. November club meetings have typically been poorly attended, especially when they fall on the night before Thanksgiving.

December Banquet — Awards and Elections

Smiley has identified a caterer (*A Catered Affair*) and obtained a quote and menu from them. The menu looks good and the price is reasonable. The cost for members and their guests will be \$12 each, with the club covering the difference. The banquet will be held at the INWC on Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

It is important for members to RSVP as soon as possible so that the caterer can get an accurate headcount. RSVPs and payments can be mailed to the club's post office box. Also, additional RSVP instructions will be posted on the club website and will

be forthcoming by e-mail. *Thank you, Greg!* Larry Quaintance has also volunteered to make phone calls to members. *Thank you, Larry!*

We will also have our usual lure Christmas tree. Members are requested to bring at least one fishing lure to hang on the tree and will receive a raffle ticket for each lure. The winning ticket holder takes the tree and all the lures.

Elections

Our annual elections will be held at the December meeting and members are encouraged to attend. We still need to identify a Nominating Committee, as specified in our bylaws. And we need to get the word out, on the website and by e-mail, seeking volunteers to serve on the board.

The four officer positions are one year terms and all expire at the end of this year. Ken advised that he is willing to serve again as Vice President. Mark would like to take a break, but is willing to serve again as Secretary if no one else steps up.

Travis and Stan each have another year on their two-year board terms.

John and Larry have completed their two-year board terms. Larry advised that he is willing to serve another term.

Since 2020 was a “dead” year due to Covid, all terms were moved ahead one year as a result.

Attendance & Stimulating Club Interest

Smiley reported that we have had a good year attendance-wise. The advertising efforts in the newspaper and in the Exchange have been productive. Shirley Calkins also mentioned the Nickel Nik for Idaho coverage.

Smiley asked members to promote the club in their one-on-one contacts with friends and acquaintances and to invite them to come to a meeting. He encouraged members to hand out our business cards, which contain an invitation and the meeting location and time.

Spring Picnic — June 11-12, 2022 — Locust Grove group campground at Kettle Falls

We will reserve both sites “A” (larger) and “B” (smaller). Our preference is site “A,” which is currently closed due to state Covid restrictions. If “A” becomes available, we will cancel our reservation for “B” (which is the site we used this year).

Check-in will be the previous Thursday and check-out will be on Monday.

George Allan again volunteered to handle the food and to cook the turkey. *Thank you, George!*

Fishing Reports

Allan Walker recently spent three nights at Texas Rapids and fished until moonrise. He caught a 25" 5 lb. 12 oz. Walleye and cleaned six nice eaters. He was successful using plugs and blade baits. The Walleye were eating shad, which were plentiful. Allan also caught Catfish and Bluegill.

Greg Koch also fished the Snake River recently and caught two Walleye, one 10.5 lbs., and one 18." He trolled crank baits and used colored metallic blade baits, which worked best. Greg also caught 5-6 Perch and 20-30 Smallmouth Bass.

Greg recently fished Porcupine Bay (which was almost at full pool) and was successful at Blue Creek and the bottom of the narrows at 40,' 50,' and 65.'

Vince recently fished Ft. Spokane and caught 37 Walleye, keeping 29. He was also successful fishing deep at 50-60.'

Smiley fished Long Lake after our last club meeting and found the water level to be low. He got skunked.

Smiley also reported low water level at Potholes Reservoir, where he was successful with three Walleye and seven Smallmouth Bass.

Membership Renewals

Allan advised that he will be sending out membership renewals in November, which will include the club website password for the members only section, and our new membership card, which will be needed for discounts beginning January 1, 2022 (see below).

Argonne Ace Hardware Fishing Hole and General Store Discount

John has contacted the General Store owner and Fishing Hole manager (father and son) regarding the discounts for members that were previously offered, but have fallen by the wayside. John reported that they were receptive to restoring this program and look forward to doing business with us. They have requested that our members show a current membership card in order to receive a 10% discount on fishing gear only at both stores.

John collected the bucket from the Fishing Hole containing our club members' purchase receipts for prize drawings at tonight's membership meeting. They also generously donated several nice fishing gear prizes for those drawings.

Interstate Battery Discount

The Interstate Battery store in Spokane Valley also offers a 10% discount to SWC members. Ask for John or Travis.

Club Project Possibilities

Allan advised that our project fund is now pretty substantial and that it has been a long time since we have done a project. Our methods of doing a project would be to make a monetary donation and / or to provide labor, via club member volunteers.

Allan has been in touch with the Bureau of Reclamation (BoR) regarding Snake river projects, specifically at Texas Rapids as the marina needs dredging due to milfoil. Allan was advised that the Bureau of Reclamation cannot accept monetary donations but can accept labor. The BoR has identified 23 sites that need dredging and will be scheduling those. They will also be clearing the brush and weeds around the Texas Rapids campground and planting foliage.

George advised that Mike Meesburg at MarDon Resort is still building fish habitat and could likely use both money and labor to help move that project along.

Speaker Presentations

Allan gave a presentation on bobber fishing and drop-shotting.

Tony Bentley gave a presentation on the plug lures that he has been successful with and discussed his downrigger techniques — he favors using a ten bound ball. Tony also recommended not being hesitant to let out plenty of line when long-line trolling plugs (depending on whether going up or downstream) in order to regulate the depth that the lure will run.

Travis Scholten discussed that he predominantly trolls with “Bandits” on the Snake River (Texas Rapids and Lyons Ferry) and will let out as much as 240’ of line when trolling upstream. He uses the “Reef Runner” and Berkeley “Flicker Net” plugs as well as his own custom painted lures. However, he has had the best success on the Snake using plugs he has purchased from *Wicked Custom Lures and Spoons* in Iowa. They run \$12.50 each. Contact Travis for further details.

Travis uses 15 lb. braided line with a 15 lb. monofilament leader. He constantly pumps the rod to give the bait better action and has had better success doing this than holding the rod steady or having it in a rod holder.

Smiley presented the “Ned Rig” jigs and “Z Man” plastic crawdads that he has had success with.

All excellent! *Thank you Allan, Tony, Travis, and Smiley!*

Adjournment

8:36 PM

Next General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at 6:00 PM at the INWC. Banquet and elections!
Please get your RSVPs in!