



## Captain Walt's Log

### Local Area Fishing Reports

This issue covers our fishing activities during September and October.

The **Fox Chain O' Lakes** continued to suffer from the area drought this fall.. We finally got some much needed rain in September/October and the water levels began to rise, but current was still very low. We had a few outings on the Chain during this period and caught the typical mixed bag, but walleye fishing was poor.

We fished **Lake Delavan** several times during September and October and caught predominately largemouth but nothing remarkable.

We made a couple of trips to **Lake Geneva** during the same period mostly fishing for smallmouth bass. We used the usual live bait rigs with sucker minnows and perch and caught a few nice fish.

I took some personal time & with my friend Mel we ventured north to **Door County, WI** in late October to fish for BIG smallmouth bass. We were not disappointed and caught numbers of fish in the 3-5 pound class. At this time of year we fish with large minnows, suckers and chubs. It was cold and windy, but catching those big fish made the trip well worth it!



### Fishing & Boating Tips For Late Fall

Late fall fishing can be exciting. Some of the biggest fish of the year are caught at this time. Safety is always important when fishing in cold weather. Never fish alone in the late fall. If you venture out, please be careful. I usually fish through the end of November, trying to catch a couple more big fish before I put the boat into winter storage.

November is a good time to winterize the boat and fix those little issues so your rig will be ready to go in the spring. Your local marine dealer can help you prepare your boat for storage. Proper preparation is the best insurance for next years fun!

### Fish of the Month Contest

The **Fish of the Month Contest** allows our guests to judge the quality of the fish they catch. The fish caught are rated against the National Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame record for that specie. The fish with the largest point value based on the specie specific formula is our **Fish of the Month**. There are separate contests for **Gamefish** and **Panfish**. Gamefish species eligible include Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Walleye, Northern Pike and Muskie. Panfish species eligible include Crappie, Yellow Perch, Bluegill/Sunfish, White Bass and Rock Bass. A score of 100 pts. would equal the National Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame world record.

**Gamefish of the Month** was this 17 1/2" largemouth bass caught from Lake Delavan on October 2 by Fred from Libertyville, IL. Fred was fishing with his son Dan, who was home on leave from the US Navy. Fred caught this nice bass on a Chatterbait in 10-15 FOW near some weeds.

Fishing was tough that day, but we did manage a few other bass. No pike or walleye.

This bass scored 53 points and was Gamefish of the Month. Congratulations Fred!



**Panfish of the Month** was a 12" white bass caught on the Fox Chain O Lakes by Chester from Chicago on September 26th. We caught the typical Fox Chain mixed bag that day including walleye, crappie, white bass and other fish. We used live bait rigs and jigs.

This 12" white bass scored 57 points and was the panfish of the month.

Congratulations Chester!

