



## Captain Walt's Log

Vol. 8, Issue 4, Apr 2015

### Local Area Fishing Reports



**W**ell, winter has finally left and spring is here. During April, when we could get out, we have been fishing for walleye and crappie on the Fox Chain O' Lakes. Fishing has varied from day to day and the weather played a big role in April. The walleyes have been biting on minnows and night crawlers on jigs and live bait rigs. We caught walleyes in the north & south Fox River, Lake Marie, Fox, Bluff & Petite Lakes.

The crappie's wanted minnows, and we used several presentations. First was a #8 light wire hook with 4# test line and a small float. Also a small ice jig/minnow combo and small float worked too. Depending on the day, one presentation or the other was best. We are finding the crappie in back channels where the water is warmer. We did not fish on Geneva or Delavan in April.

We made two out of town fishing trips recently, fishing Lake of Egypt in Southern Illinois for crappie and Sturgeon Bay, WI for walleye. First road trips of the year. Road Trips are always fun!

### Fishing and Boating Tips For May

May is a great month for fishing. Many fish species are becoming active after a long winter. Some fish species conduct their annual spawning ritual during May. The game fish season opens in Wisconsin, so we can fish for bass and walleye on Geneva and Delavan. Remember that in cold water you must fish slowly. Look for the warmest water to find active fish. May is also a good time to get your boat ready for the fishing/boating season. Remember to check all your safety equipment. Consider getting a courtesy inspection from the Coast Guard Auxiliary. There is no charge and they are glad to conduct the inspections.

### 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.

#### Game Fish of the Month



This nice 17" walleye caught from the Fox Chain O Lakes on April 14 by Don from Huntley, IL,

He using a jig and minnow. We caught a mixed bag of fish that day. This walleye scored 47 pts. on our rating scale to become the best game fish caught during April.

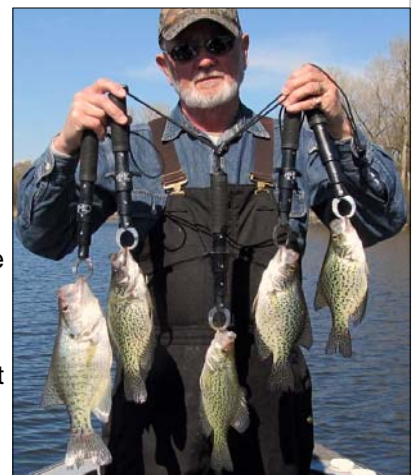
Congratulations Don!

#### Panfish of the Month

This 13" white crappie (far left) caught April 27 by John from Libertyville, IL.

It was caught on a hook/minnow under a float. We fished in several locations on the Chain that day and caught the **Chain Slam** - bass, walleye & black & white crappie. This is the largest white crappie caught by a client from the Chain. It scored 72 pts. & was the best panfish caught in April.

Congratulations John!



Questions or comments, please email us at: [captainwaltkoch@comcast.net](mailto:captainwaltkoch@comcast.net) or call 847-710-5453

Thanks for your feedback!