



Reel News

August 2019

Upcoming Events

- **Sept. 14th**
5th Annual
Border Battle
Lacrosse, WI
- **Sept. 21st**
Annual Fundraising &
Awards Banquet
Maple Grove, WI
- **Oct.3-6**
Fall Trip
Spider Lake

**WE'VE
GONE
DIGITAL!**



In an effort to conserve printing costs and materials, your quarterly newsletter will now be delivered in electronic format!

You can now find your newsletter here:

1.) Email. A link to view the newsletter will be e-mailed to members.

2.) WAM Website
(and in the soon-to-be members only section)

3.) Facebook
Members-only group in the files section

The President's Pen

by Kristen Merwin

As we come to the end of summer, I start to think about all of the great events that start for WAM in the Fall and go right through the winter! I personally hope that each of you will be joining us for the Annual Banquet. This year's theme is Carnival and Theresa Jones and Sara Spiering have worked their butts off to bring you an amazing evening of fun. Tickets are only \$20 and bring a guest or two or three! Anyone is welcome but the minimum age for this event is 12 years old. I hope those that have not had a chance to get to an event can come to this, it is the perfect place to meet these fabulous members and we promise you will have a great time. Then we have the fantastic St. Paul Ice Show that WAM has booth at, the Holiday Party, the Trout Trip to Milwaukee, Ice Fishing 101 and Winter Trip! Lot's of fun upcoming, make sure you go to the website and the Facebook Page to stay updated on all of the happenings!

Last, but certainly not least, I am really excited to share some exciting news. Some of you may have heard that MN Fishing Museum and Hall of Fame is in trouble. They keep their doors open from donations and admission fees to the Museum of which about 85% come in the summer time from tourists running by it in Little Falls. This year the road that goes by the Museum has been closed and people do not drive by it

to know it is there and it has taken a significant toll on the Museum. A Go Fund Me Page was created and they raised \$13,000 in donations. As an organization, we are currently sitting with over \$50k in our savings account. We heard the call and we made the largest donation in the history of WAM of \$10,000 to the MN Fishing Museum and Hall of Fame. The importance of this donation is significant to the fishing history of Minnesota and through this donation WAM will be a Benefactor of the Museum and was the driving force to keeping the doors open to the Museum and Hall of Fame. We are proud to leave this mark on Minnesota Fishing and to allow our future generations to see the history of fishing in our great State of Minnesota. I would encourage all of you to make a trip up to Little Falls to support them and see what a gem we have and how important it was for us to help save.

- Kristen



Open Water Tournament - Recap!

by Erin Murray

Saturday, June 1st marked another successful open water tournament...42 years and counting, to be exact! This year's event drew high numbers with a nearly sold out event at 142 participants (capacity is 150) and a record-setting 56 boats. We couldn't have asked for better weather on tournament day, which made up for the severe weather we had last year. It takes a village to help pull this event together and it would not have been possible without the help of the planning committee, product donors, and my fellow board members. I would also like to thank all of the members who took time out of their schedules to participate and support this event! It is always a pleasure being able to bring this flagship event to our membership, and to see all of the smiles, hear all of the laughs, and experience all of the unforgettable memories being made throughout the weekend. Congratulations to all the winners who took home money and some hardware for the wall!

2019 Tournament Results

(continued on next page)

Grand Prize Winner:

Congratulations to Deb Delgado on her 5.56 lb. Walleye that took home \$2000.00 for this year's Grand Prize!



WALLEYE CATEGORY WINNERS:

- 1st Place: Becky Jobe
- 2nd Place: Karen Calvin
- 3rd Place: Wendy Foster (not pictured)
- 4th Place: Kari Palashewski
- 5th Place: Carly Huls



Tournament Results

(cont. from previous page)

BASS CATEGORY WINNERS:

- 1st Place: Heather Norton
- 2nd Place: Mary Thurnau
- 3rd Place: Roberta Haight
- 4th Place: Julie Lane
- 5th Place: Erin Murray



NORTHERN CATEGORY WINNERS:

- 1st Place: Dar Heino
- 2nd Place: Karen Calvin
- 3rd Place: Heather Massie
- 4th Place: Julie Stace
- 5th Place: Maddy Ogg



SUNFISH CATEGORY WINNERS:

- 1st Place: Carly Erickson
- 2nd Place: Kristina Ringold
- 3rd Place: Dawn LaVigne
- 4th Place: Mary Thurnau
- 5th Place: Bethany Stepanek



CRAPPIE CATEGORY WINNERS:

- 1st Place: Sandra Wheelcor
- 2nd Place: Emily Schnick
- 3rd Place: Hailey Soukkala
- 4th Place: Rebecca Lake
- 5th Place: Mary Walsh



PERCH CATEGORY WINNERS:

- 1st Place: Mary Thurnau
- 2nd Place: Dawn LaVigne
- 3rd Place: Lori Schwemin



Thank You and Save the Date!

by Erin Murray

Save the Date!

43rd Annual Open Water Tournament

Saturday, June 6 · Horseshoe Chain of Lakes
Riverside Resort · Richmond, MN

More Info Coming Soon at www.womenanglersmn.com

We have received many questions regarding the 2020 tournament location, fishing area, etc.

Tournament location is researched and decided by a small committee of members and is based on many factors, including state/quality of the fishery, adequate resort accommodations, and several DNR qualifications such as number of boats, etc.

Legal fishing areas of the lake pertaining to this tournament will be identified in early 2020 when the official tournament rules are released.

We will share more details when the information is available. If you have any questions in the meantime, please e-mail the Tournament Director at

THANK YOU 2019 TOURNAMENT VOLUNTEERS

Points Technician: Byron Westphal

Recorder: Diane Westphal

Weigh-In Official: Mike Smith

Emcee: Daniel Shaw

Photographer: Chanda Gebhardt

Shore Crew Captain: Alex Lauer

SHORE CREW

Barry Williams, Mike Johnson, Steve Dwyer, Scott Merwin, Daniel Shaw, Autumn Peterson, Wyatt Peterson, Violet Peterson, James Hentilla, Konnor Berg, Tonett Pardun, and Nash Pardun

BOAT CREW

Steve Laska, Kail LaVigne, Roman Widmer & Dick Jecha

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Susan Peters, Stephanie Lawson, Kasey Wilson, Susan Warkel, Patty Johnson, Tanya Doyle, Kasey Straw, Dallas Shoutz, Britane Peterson, Theresa Jones, Jody Virnig, Patti Mercier and Amy Munsinger

Border Battle - WAM vs WWF!!

by Katie Stockton

Border Battle Rescheduled

Saturday, September 14th, 2019 9:00am to 3:00pm

Cost is \$18 per person – paid upon arrival at the float.

This will be the 5th Annual Border Battle between WAM and WWF. The battle will take place on the Best Dam Fishing Float. It is an opportunity for both groups to make new friends, learn new fishing techniques and have a friendly competition. This is a Family Friendly Event, they just can't participate in the competition.

To signup please go to the WAM website and got to Events! Lets bring home the trophy this year ladies!



Mille Lacs Launch Recap

by Angie Fasbender

This years Mille Lacs launch was held at Appeldoorn's Sunset Bay Resort. We had over 40 ladies join us for a beautiful evening of fishing. We had perfect weather to be out on the water. The launch is a great opportunity for you to fish with other WAM members you may not know. Meet new people and gain new friends and even maybe a new fishing buddy! TONS of fish were caught! We caught walleyes and some nice smallmouth bass. A few caught a master angler walleye. The staff at Appeldoorn's were great and put us on some good fishing spots. Thank you to all the ladies who were able to join us on the water! If you haven't joined us for a launch we do it once a year and it's a blast! Come join us for the next one!

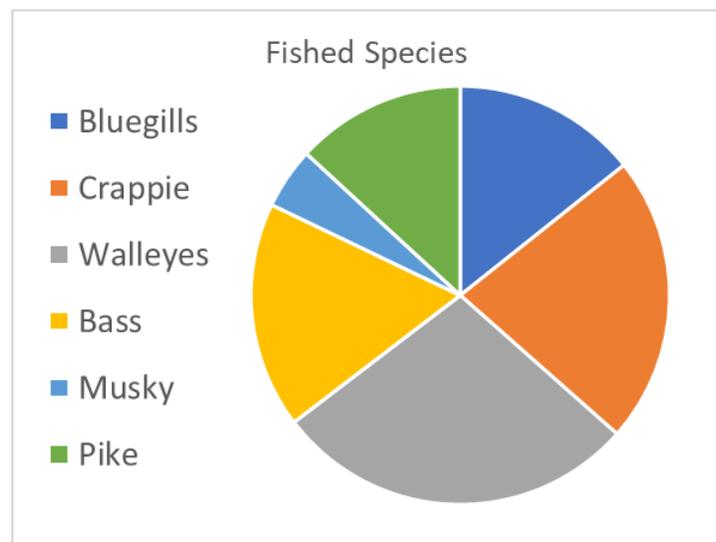
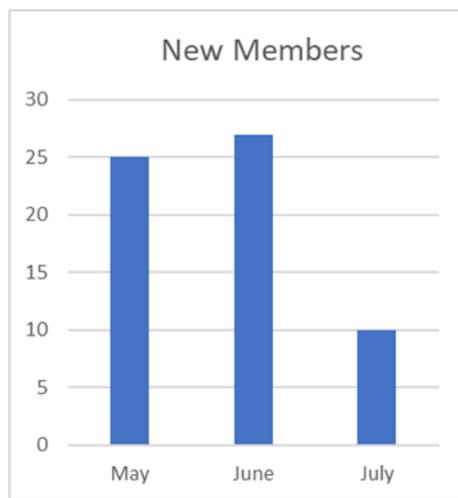


Membership News

by Pat Hauslien

Well our new membership and website software has been working slicker than a leech in a smallie's mouth. Sure there were some bumps along the way but most of the functions are up and running. As posted by Michelle Morey there is now a Master Angler Submission form. With all those beautiful fish being registered the submission form will keep things organized and your catch recognized quickly. And for a quick FYI, just since June there have been 25 Master Anglers awarded. The wall-eye catch has been amazing with 14 awards so far.

So, speaking of numbers our family keeps growing steadily. Our total membership has reached 715. Did you read that right? We are 715 members strong. Think of the impact that number is having on the fishing industry, conservation efforts and bringing fishing opportunities to more kids. Because we have asked you to answer some questions in your PROFILE we can also see what species people like to fish for, if they have a boat and where they like to fish.



Speaking of boats, from the **Member Profiles** I can tell you how many people have a boat and how many fish from a kayak.

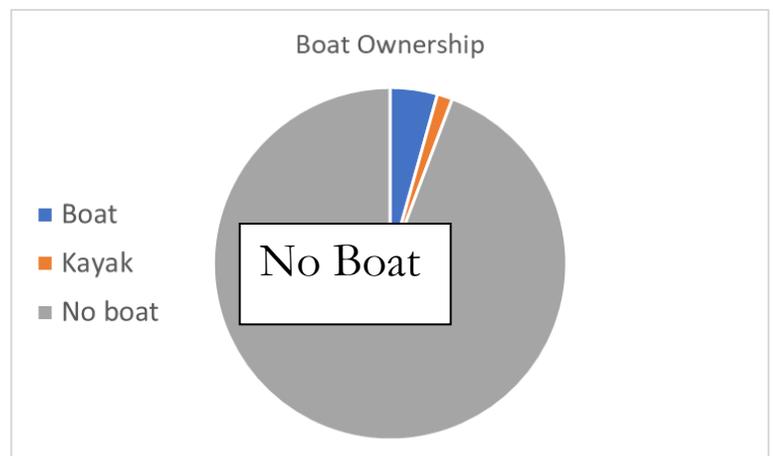
Hmmm...Does something feel off about this graph? Is it true that 94% of our members have NO BOAT!!

I know more members have a boat but unless your MEMBERSHIP PROFILE IS UPDATED we will never know the truth.

Please update your Profile.

Its easy:

- 1, Login to the website.
- 2, Click on your name in the upper right corner
- 3, Click Edit Profile



See you on the water. Tight lines!

Social Team updates

by Sara Spiering & Theresa Jones

Hi ladies! We hope you're all doing well and onto fish! We have a few important things to share with you! We worked super hard to not be long winded so you wouldn't skip over this portion!



WAM's Upcoming Annual Fundraiser

Sept 21st 5-9pm Sundance Golf & Banquet in Maple Grove

Indoor Carnival open for anyone and everyone 12+, so if you know them invite them to join you!

- Carnival Food and Games, Annual Awards, Door Prizes, Silent Auction, Raffle Baskets, 50/50, Special Drawing for the first 100 registrants, Cash Bar and
- A chance to visit and laugh with your WAM friends from near and far!

SAVE with Discounts on Gear!!! Be sure to check out the [Discounts](#) page! Many of our discount providers are also our sponsors and this is a great way to give back to them! You MUST be logged into WAM's website to see the discounts we receive! If you haven't logged in before, simply use the reset password function and follow the instructions emailed back to you. But wait, before you go look! Finish reading first!!!

We wanted to share some excerpts from letters received from Volunteer Opportunities and Donation Requests WAM has the privilege to be a part of!

Fishing Clinics For Kids @ Buffalo Days in June "Sooo great to see so many kids enjoying the outing, and, especially enjoying fishing!! All in all, it was exhausting but exciting to see the interest in fishing, and, so many fish caught too!!!"

Moms and Minnows on Lake Mille Lacs in June "The Moms and Minnows program was very successful! We went above and beyond my initial plan for the program because of an amazing support from several different groups including the Princeton Cub Scouts, the Boy Scouts of America Central MN Council, Classic Bass, WAM Women Anglers of MN, and the MN DNR. Help from all these groups lead to one amazing program! All of the participants surveyed indicated that they had learned something during the program and were very likely to continue fishing. Everyone felt that they had the knowledge and equipment needed to continue fishing on their own. Furthermore, they would all participate in the program again and would recommend it to a friend in the future."

Minnows 44th Annual Gary Carlson Memorial Rotary Kid's Fishing Contest Thank again to WAM for the donations! You helped make The 44th Annual Gary Carlson Memorial Rotary Kid's Fishing Contest a huge success! We had just over 325 kids this year! The contest is held on Silver Lake right in the middle of our city. For some of the kids it is the only time they get out on a lake for the whole year. It has been a great way to get many kids into the lifelong sport of fishing. Every kid went home with lunch, a t-shirt, and several took home a nice prize. I hope you guys will consider us again in the future!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE SOCIAL TEAM

Ladies, it is with some sadness that we officially announce we're both stepping down from the board of directors as of September 22nd. We have thoroughly enjoyed serving the club this year in the Social Director role. We realized we're much like Batman and Robin as a team by complimenting one another and balancing each other's weaknesses with a strength for a KAPOW effect!

However, due to new developments in both of our families, we're both finding we need to spend more time, dedication, and devotion on them. We thank you for the opportunity to serve you this past year, and we look forward to seeing all of you at future events!

With Love,

Sara Spiering & Theresa Jones

We re delegated the following for the remainder of the year:

Discounts - Kristen Merwin - President@womenanglersmn.com

Logowear - Chanda Gebhardt - Secretary@womenanglersmn.com

Donation and Volunteer Requests - Patti Mercier - Publicity@womenanglersmn.com

Holiday Party - Erin Murray - VP@womenanglersmn.com

P.S: Board Election is coming up in December for the 2020 Board Members! We're really hoping to see a "race"!!

2020 Board Elections

Do you enjoy being a leader and have free time to spare?

If so, a board position with WAM may be the perfect opportunity!

If you would like to run for a position, please e-mail WAM Secretary Chanda Gebhardt indicating the position you would like to run for, or if you have specific questions about what each position entails!

secretary@womenanglersmn.com



THANK YOU

TO OUR
2019 SPONSORS!

