



# THE SMALLMOUTH HORIZON

*Helping to Protect and Preserve Quality Smallmouth Bass Fishing*

January 2013

## We have a new website!

Here is the new URL and a link:

<http://wisconsinsmallmouth.com/wordpress/>

Please change any old links that you may be using. Bookmark it, and - check it out.

## Members input requested for 2013 trips

Last year's trip was to the Bittersweet Lakes and six club members went along. We had some rain, but most of the members stuck out the rainy weather and caught a huge number of largemouth bass. All six who went along were eager to have a trip again in 2013, so we would like to put forth several options for the club this coming year.

OPTION #1. This trip would be to the Sylvania Wilderness Area in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The "free fishing weekend" for 2013 is June 8 and 9, so you would not have to purchase a Michigan Fishing License. Sylvania has thirty-four lakes, and all but one are totally catch and release for bass. Smallmouth are the predominate species in most of the lakes although walleye, northern pike, largemouth bass, panfish, and a chance to catch a rare Lake Trout are available.

You can drive directly to the boat ramp on the Clark Lake (820 acres maximum depth 74 feet) which is the largest lake in Sylvania and the only lake with Lake Trout. Some of the largest smallmouth are in Deer Island Lake, and that is accessible by portage from Clark to Loon (.22 mile portage) and from Loon to Deer Island (.24 mile portage).

There are some very strict regulations in Sylvania, and one to be especially aware of is that only artificial baits are to be used, and no salt or flavored baits are to be used. Realize that means that any plastics used



Continued on next page

must be scent and salt free. Six of us did this trip two years ago and we stayed at Lac Vieux Resort and Casino in Watersmeet Michigan which is only a ten minute drive to Sylvia.

Rooms were standard motel rooms, reasonably priced, and an excellent restaurant is on site at the Casino. Watersmeet, Michigan is located twenty-four miles straight north of Eagle River, Wisconsin on US Highway 45. There are campsites at Clark Lake as well as back country primitive sites accessible by watercraft. No motors or wheels for portaging are allowed.

OPTION #2. This trip would be to the Minocqua Area. This year we would fish a variety of lakes, but probably concentrate on the Northern Highland Fishery Research Area which would be Escanaba, Nebish, and Palette. Escanaba is 293 acres and has musky, pike, walleye, largemouth, smallmouth (although the Wisconsin Lakes book does not acknowledge this, Rick Reese and myself have first hand experience) and panfish.

Palette is 173 acres and has pike, smallmouth, and panfish and is accessible by a .31 mile trail. Nebish is 96 acres and has smallmouth (rated ABUNDANT) and panfish. There are boat ramps on Escanaba and Nebish. A free fishing permit is obtained at the Fisheries Station on Escanaba Lake and catches must be recorded and deposited at the station.

Another interesting lake close by is Lost Canoe Lake which is outside of the Fisheries Area but is close. Lost Canoe is a very clear lake, 279 acres and has musky, pike, walleye, largemouth, smallmouth, and panfish. It accessible by a short, steep portage. Lodging as well as restaurants are plentiful in this region.



OPTION #3. A trip down the Wisconsin River somewhere between Wisconsin Dells and Lone Rock. Since this is close to most of our members, it could be a day trip.

OPTION #4. A trip down the Flambeau River. There are numerous trips available down this river for smallmouth and musky. Dan Johnson and I fished here last summer and did quite well. To show you how good this river is, three different guiding companies provide trips on this river. The river varies from placid to minor rapids to riffles to rapids that can scare you.

We will be careful in planning this trip to avoid any dangerous sections. Lodging would probably be in Park Falls which has numerous facilities.

Please call Andy Davidson (608-338-2639) or [buroakakd@gmail.com](mailto:buroakakd@gmail.com) or Jerry Pasdo (608-345-2198) regarding interest in any of these trips.

## Wisconsin Smallmouth Alliance Ltd.

2701 Gust Road  
Verona, WI 53593  
(608) 843-3770

<http://wisconsin-smallmouth.com/wordpress/>

Jerry Pasdo  
President  
(608) 233-2774  
[japasdo@gmail.com](mailto:japasdo@gmail.com)

John Pritchard  
Vice President  
(608) 877-0344  
[john\\_pritchard@sbcglobal.net](mailto:john_pritchard@sbcglobal.net)

Mike Simon  
Treas./Membership  
(608) 848-3770  
[madisonmike@tds.net](mailto:madisonmike@tds.net)

Gerry Zingg  
Secretary  
(608) 233-7348  
[zingger@charter.net](mailto:zingger@charter.net)

Andy Davidson  
Board  
(608) 338-2639  
[buroakakd@gmail.com](mailto:buroakakd@gmail.com)

Articles, photos, and calendar events for the newsletter are encouraged and should be submitted by the 1st day of the month to: Dan Johnson, 426 Glenway St. Madison, WI 53711. Send to: [johnson7@tds.net](mailto:johnson7@tds.net), editor.

Steve Winters  
Board  
(608) 524-6348  
[swinters@jvlnet.com](mailto:swinters@jvlnet.com)

## Our Next Meeting:

**Tuesday  
January 15<sup>th</sup>**

### **Sonar, Fish finders & Marine Electronics**

*Latest technology & Operation by Greg Fitch*

Greg will present an in depth presentation of fishing locators, side and down imaging, plus information on how to access your locators data card into your computer for amazing mapping and recording capabilities.



## Upcoming Events:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m.</b>  | <b>WSA Monthly Meeting, Greg Fitch, Locators, down and side imaging, plus mapping using your PC</b>  |
| <b>Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m.</b> | <b>WSA Monthly Meeting, Mike Jacobs, "Fly Fishing Overlooked Waters for Trophy Smallmouth Bass."</b> |
| <b>Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m.</b>    | <b>WSA Monthly Meeting, Ron Barefield, "Fishing the Madison Chain"</b>                               |
| <b>Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup></b>              | <b>WSA Monthly Meeting, Annual Fundraiser Auction</b>  |

Wisconsin Smallmouth Alliance meetings are normally held on the third Tuesday of each month. The Badger Fly Fishers meet on the fourth Monday.

Both groups meet at the Mapletree Restaurant on Highway 51, in McFarland, Wisconsin. Programs begin at 7:00 p.m., dinner at 6:00 p.m. **Visitors and guests are always welcome!**