



THE SMALLMOUTH HORIZON

Helping to Protect and Preserve Quality Smallmouth Bass Fishing

January 2011

New Year - New Opportunities

Welcome to 2011.

While it's a bit too cold and too early to think about actually fishing for smallmouth, there is much you can do to prepare for the great summer ahead. It will come, it always has.

The best place for you to start is at our first meeting of the year on Tuesday, January 18th. Club member Andy Davidson, who is a talented woodworker, will show us how to make our own wooden bass plugs. It's fun and there's nothing like catching a fish on a lure you made yourself.

This is also the night that we elect the officers for the coming year. And, don't forget to renew your membership in the Wisconsin Smallmouth Alliance by paying your dues.

For those of you who are fly fishers, our friends in the Badger Fly Fishers are putting on their annual show in February. It features two great speakers, commercial exhibits, fly tying demonstrations, and more.

Details on all these events will be found in the pages of this newsletter.

New kayak designed for river fishing

Could this be the boat of your dreams?

Those of us love who to fish for smallmouth in one of our state's excellent rivers use a variety of smallcraft to that end. Canoes, pontoon boats, drift-boats, and skiffs are some of the options that you are likely to see.

For some, the kayak is their favorite. Now there is a kayak specifically designed for river fishing and (get this!) you can even stand up in it. It also features a seat design that offers both a high and low position.

It is the Coosa model made by the Jackson Kayak Company, and Rutabaga in Madison is a dealer.

You can check it out here:

<http://jacksonkayak.com/jk-kayaks/kayak-fishing/coosa/>

I expect to see some of these on the river soon.



**It's Time To Renew
Your Membership! See page four.**

Cool calculations

From *In-Fisherman* magazine
and used with permission

In-Fisherman Contributor Jeff Matity suggests this formula for estimating the weight of pike and muskies, from known length and girth measurements.

Called “The Crawford Method,” it was developed during Dr. Robert Crossman’s and Dr. John Casselman’s research on muskie aging, often called “The Cleithrum Project.”

Twelve hundred muskies from 6 to 60 pounds were used to arrive at the formula, which we find highly accurate for estimating pike and muskie weight.

If you wish to calculate beyond what we have here, the formula is $Weight = (Length \times Girth) \div 25$, minus 10, where weight is in pounds and length and girth are in inches.

Length (in)	Girth (in)	Weight (lbs)	Length (in)	Girth (in)	Weight (lbs)	Length (in)	Girth (in)	Weight (lbs)
42	14	13.5	45	17	20.6	48	17	22.6
42	15	15.2	45	18	22.4	48	18	24.6
42	16	16.9	45	19	24.2	48	19	26.5
42	17	18.6	45	20	26	48	20	28.4
42	18	20.2	45	21	27.8	48	21	30.3
42	19	21.9	45	22	29.6	48	22	32.2
42	20	23.6	45	23	31.4	48	23	34.2
42	21	25.3	45	24	33.2	48	24	36.1
43	15	15.8	46	17	21.3	49	17	23.3
43	16	17.5	46	18	23.1	49	18	25.3
43	17	19.2	46	19	25	49	19	27.2
43	18	21	46	20	26.8	49	20	29.2
43	19	22.7	46	21	28.6	49	21	31.2
43	20	24.4	46	22	30.5	49	22	33.1
43	21	26.1	46	23	32.3	49	23	35.1
44	16	18.2	46	24	34.2	49	24	37
44	17	19.9	47	17	22	50	17	24
44	18	21.7	47	18	23.8	50	18	26
44	19	23.4	47	19	25.7	50	19	28
44	20	25.2	47	20	27.6	50	20	30
44	21	27	47	21	29.5	50	21	32
44	22	28.7	47	22	31.4	50	22	34
44	23	30.5	47	23	33.2	50	23	36
			47	24	35.1	50	24	38
						50	25	40
						50	26	42



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Articles, photos, information, 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. Word files sent to: johnson7@tds.net are most appreciated.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

In accordance with the articles of incorporation for the Wisconsin Smallmouth Alliance, LTD, a ballot is contained below for election of officers. If you elect to write-in a candidate other than yourself please make sure they are willing to serve.

The terms of the positions are from January 1, 2011, through December 31, 2011.

You may either print and mail your ballot to the address below or bring it to the January meeting to be held at the Maple Tree in McFarland. All ballots MUST be either received by the January meeting date OR completed at the January meeting to be counted for the election.

WSA
2701 Gust Rd.
Verona, WI 53593

2011 WSA Ltd. ELECTION OF OFFICERS BALLOT

1) PRESIDENT:

___ **President: Nominated – Steve Winters**

___ **President:** _____
Write-in your choice

2) VICE-PRESIDENT:

___ **Vice-President: Nominated - John Pritchard**

___ **Vice-President :** _____
Write-in your choice

3) TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP:

___ **Treasurer/Membership: Incumbent – Mike Simon**

___ **Treasurer/Membership:** _____
Write-in your choice

4) SECRETARY:

___ **Secretary: Nominated – Gerry Zingg**

___ **Secretary:** _____
Write-in your choice

It's Time To Renew Your Membership!

Our membership year runs from January 1 through December 31. We rely on membership dues and our bucket raffles to fund our speakers and our newsletter. Now is the time to renew for the coming year! Please support the Smallmouth Alliance. You can renew at the next meeting, or use the form enclosed in this newsletter. Be sure to include your email address. Thank you for your continued support!

YES, I WANT TO RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP!

Individual \$20

Family \$25

Name _____

Phone _____

Street _____

email _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Make checks payable to: WSA

Mail to: Wisconsin Smallmouth Alliance, Ltd.
2701 Gust Road
Verona, WI 53593



Decals of our club logo (shown at left) are now available. They can be purchased at the meetings. The cost is \$5.

Our Next Meeting:

**Tuesday,
January 18th**

Making Wooden Lures

Andy Davidson

Andy will tell you everything you need to know to get started making your own great looking, custom lures.

Including: Wood selection, shaping, sealing, painting and finishing. Also how to install eyes, hooks and hardware, and where to get supplies and parts.



Upcoming Events

Tuesday, January 18th
Mapletree Restaurant, McFarland

Monday, January 24th
Mapletree Restaurant, McFarland

Saturday, February 12th
Radisson Hotel, Madison, Wisconsin

WSA Monthly Meeting
Andy Davidson - Making wooden bass plugs

BFF Monthly Meeting
T.B.A.

BFF Spring Opener
Gary Borger, Bill Sherer speakers
Fly tying, exhibits, raffles, auction
<http://www.badgerflyfishers.org/>

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