



# The Marker Buoy

## July 2021

**Next Meeting:** The next monthly meeting will be July 14<sup>th</sup> at the Hoffman House at 6:30 pm. Socially distancing and wearing a mask will be mandatory for all non-vaccinated attendees. This month's speaker will be Phil Piscitello and he will be speaking on fishing on Lake Geneva and Lake Delavan in southern Wisconsin.

Phil was introduced to the sport of fishing at the young age of 7! His 1st fishing experience was on the Fox Chain fishing on Channel Lake out of Barney's Channel Lake Boathouse. Phil grew up reading Fishing Facts Magazine and articles about the infamous Buck Perry were his favorites! His first graph was a Lowrance Green Box, and at an early age he learned how to read it and use it effectively. After Phil graduated high school, he went to a Fox Chain Bass tournament weigh in. He was in awe at all of the Bass that were weighed in. He signed up to fish the tournaments as a non-boater and fished the Bass circuit on the Chain for several years. Through meeting folks at Ed Shirley's in Morton Grove, Phil got hooked into fishing the Walleye tournaments on the Chain. He also joined several fishing clubs including Muskies, Inc. Chicagoland chapter, North Shore Rod & Reel club and Walleyes Unlimited. Phil has been a Walleye Unlimited member for over 27 years! In the 80's Phil fished for mostly Bass, Walleyes and some Muskies. Later he picked up pan fishing to round out his fishing portfolio. Phil fished the PWT and MWC circuits and also the Sturgeon Bay Open for Smallmouth Bass for several years. Phil's good friend Spence Petros suggested that he get more serious about Musky fishing. Phil took Spence's advice, and Phil was hooked. He traveled to Canada twice a year to fish Eagle Lake and Lake of the Woods. He also attended the Musky Hunter School on LOTW for 4 years straight. Since then, Phil has fished for Muskies throughout MN & WI. He's also fished Green bay and Lake St. Clair. His local waters include the Fox Chain, Shelbyville, Shabbona and many southern WI lakes as well. Phil owns and operates Borderline Fishing Line Guide Service and specializes in Walleye, Bass, Musky and Pike! He really loves this sport, and is a phenomenal teacher! His clients have boasted about his teaching abilities on the water and his patience with beginners.



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**Upcoming meetings and speakers:** Club leadership is researching potential speakers for subsequent monthly meetings. If any members have any ideas or recommendations for upcoming speakers, please contact president Joe Caruana. The speaker for our August meeting will be Shawn McCarten from It's a Keeper Bait and Tackle in Janesville Wisconsin. He will be discussing fishing on the Madison Chain and the Janesville area. Our September meeting will be the Rockford All City Musky in a joint meeting with the Flatlanders Musky Club.

**July Raffle:** The large table raffle item for July will be a 6-foot 6-inch medium light spinning rod and reel combo.

**Club News:** In very sad news, long time club member Jerry Fisher unexpectedly passed away on July 7<sup>th</sup> after a short illness. Jerry was a true gentleman and an incredibly knowledgeable multi-species fisherman. He was a member of the Rock Valley Anglers basically since the founding of the club in 1976. Through the years he was a featured speaker at numerous Rock Valley Anglers meetings. Most recently he serviced as the outing coordinator for the club. He also taught a class titled "Successful Walleye Fishing" at Rock Valley College for many years. Jerry competed in many Masters Walleye Circuit tournaments against some of the legends of professional walleye fishing. He was very generous with fishing information and mentored many club members through the years. Our recent Pierce Lake fish habitat improvement project would not have been possible without Jerry's hard work and dedication.

## Upcoming Club Outings:

**September 25-** Pierce Lake evening outing- Bass and Crappies -This will be discussed at our August meeting. Joe has offered to grill up some brats and hot dogs again so guys can stop in and have a quick bite to eat while out on the lake. RVA members who chose not to fish can stop in and have a bite to eat. Launch anytime you want, and Joe will be grilling in the pavilion next to the boat launch.

**September 11 and September 18** – Rockford Speedway Raffle nights. Please contact Joe Caruana for details. As a club we need to pitch in and help cover these nights as this is one of our primary fund raisers for the year.



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**June Fish of the Month Winner:** Gary Vosberg caught a 26-inch Walleye in Lake Erie in Ohio on a deep walleye bandit on 6/3/21.





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## Members Only Fishing Contest

Best of Breed: Standings as of: 07/07/2021

Species	Angler	Length (in inches)
Smallmouth	Jerry Fisher	22
Largemouth	Kerry Schaible	20
Northern	Chris Olson	39
Muskie	Kerry Schaible	37
Catfish	No Entries	
Walleye	Rod Bondele	30



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## Angler of the Year: Standings as of 07/07/2021

	Largemouth	Smallmouth	Walleye	Bluegill	Crappie	Total Length
Kerry Schaible	20	20.5	25.25	9.5	13.5	88.75
John Rasmussen		19	27.25	9	13.5	68.75
Tom Wesseln	18	18		9	15	60
Jerry Fisher		22	29.5			51.5
Gary Vosberg			26		15	41
Rod Bondele			30			30
Scott Campbell					12	12

## Pan Fisherman of the Year: Standings as of 07/07/2021

Angler	Perch	Bluegill	Crappie	Total Length
Kerry Schaible	10.75	9.5	13.5	33.5
Tom Wesseln	9	9	15	33
John Rasmussen	11	9.25	12	32.25
Chris Olson	14.75	10		24.74
Gary Vosberg			15	15
Scott Campbell			12	12



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**General:** Only fish caught from waters accessible by the general public are eligible.

## **Contest #1: Fish of the Month**

All entries caught during a calendar month will be evaluated by the Board of Directors to determine a winner. Entries must be received by the 1st Wednesday of the month following the catch to be considered. A \$15 gift card will be awarded to members catching the winning fish. **Each member can win only once per year.** Species considered—Smallmouth Bass, Largemouth Bass, Northern Pike, Muskie, Walleye, and Catfish.

## **Contest #2: Fisherman of the Year**

Fish will be judged on length accurate to 1/4 inch. The lengths of each member's best individual fish of 5 different species will be added to determine a total length. A \$100 gift card will be awarded to the longest total length. A \$50 gift card will be awarded to the second longest total length. A \$25 gift card will be awarded to the third longest total length. In the event of ties, the winnings will be split evenly. Contest Species—Smallmouth Bass, Largemouth Bass, Walleye, Bluegill, Crappie.

## **Contest #3: Best of Breed**

Fish will be judged on length accurate to 1/4 inch. A \$20 gift card will be awarded to members catching the longest fish of each species. In the event of ties, a \$10 gift card will be awarded to members catching the longest fish of each species. Each member can win only once per species. Contest Species— Smallmouth Bass, Largemouth Bass, Northern Pike, Muskie, Walleye, and Catfish.

## **Contest #4: Pan fisherman of the Year**

Fish will be judged on length accurate to 1/4 inch. The aggregate lengths of each member's best individual fish of the 3 different species of panfish will be added to determine a total length. A \$50 gift card will be awarded to the member with the longest total length. In the event of ties, the winnings will be split evenly. Contest Species— Bluegill, Crappie, and Yellow Perch.



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Submitting fish for the contests is very easy. Just use the copy/paste the email template. Paste the template into an email, complete the questions, attach picture(s) of the catch, and send to: [rockvalleyanglers@gmail.com](mailto:rockvalleyanglers@gmail.com)

## **Copy/Paste Email Template for Electronic Fish Entries:**

- 1) Name:
- 2) Date Caught:
- 3) Species:
- 4) Length (inches to 1/4 inch):
- 5) Lake/River:
- 6) State:
- 7) Picture: [Yes or No]
- 8) Date Entered:
- 9) Witness:

\*Remember to attach picture(s) to email prior to sending.

\*Send to [rockvalleyanglers@gmail.com](mailto:rockvalleyanglers@gmail.com)



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## Recent Member Catches







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## **RVA Board Members:**

**President:** Joe Caruana phone: 815-985-9388 and email: [jac3311@gmail.com](mailto:jac3311@gmail.com)

**Vice President:** Augie Borchardt phone: 815-742-7509 and email: [baborchardt@yahoo.com](mailto:baborchardt@yahoo.com)

**Secretary:** Stu Sondgeroth: phone: 815-233-0964 and email: [billies@comcast.net](mailto:billies@comcast.net)

**Treasurer:** Bruce Youngberg: phone: 815-871-8142 and email: [bay37@comcast.net](mailto:bay37@comcast.net)

**Raffle/Mountain of Tackle:** Ron Lund: phone: 815-222-0758 and [thelunds2@comcast.net](mailto:thelunds2@comcast.net)

**Outing Coordinator:** Open position

**Marker Buoy Editor:** Jason Thompson: phone: 815-298-8717 and email: [jthom98@msn.com](mailto:jthom98@msn.com)

**Web Master/Tech:** Gary Vosberg phone: 815-262-2239 and email: [gvosberg66@gmail.com](mailto:gvosberg66@gmail.com)



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