



# The Marker Buoy<sup>1</sup>

**November 2023**

**This Month's Meeting:** The next club meeting will be held on Wednesday November 8th at 6:30 pm at the Hoffman House. This month's speakers will be Jim Kopjo. Jim was scheduled for our August club meeting, but unfortunately had to cancel last minute due to a knee injury. He is back in action and will be discussing panfish techniques for Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin.

Jim Kopjo, known as the "Crappie Professor", has over 30 years of on-the-water experience and over 20 years experience in running a very popular guide business in northern Illinois. Through his aggressive style of fishing, he is able to quickly establish patterns which makes for informative seminars. Jim travels over most of central and northern Illinois presenting fun and information packed seminars to fishing clubs and outdoor shows. He has participated in the open water Crappie USA tournament trail and the North American Ice Fishing Circuit. Jim also enjoys volunteering with several local biologists in the designing, placement, and preservation of habitats. The Crappie Professor carries a boatload of professionalism and technical skill and enjoys sharing with others his knowledge and craft

**November Special Table Raffle Items:** A \$50 Farm and Fleet gift card.



# The Marker Buoy<sub>2</sub>

**October Fish of the Month:** The October fish of the month is a black drum caught by Steve Hohlfelder on 10/21/23 in the Myakka River in Florida.





# The Marker Buoy<sup>3</sup>

**Club hats:** We will be selling Rock Valley Anglers baseball hats at club meetings. Adult size hats will be \$15 and youth hats will be \$5. The number of youth hats is limited. Please contact Gary Vosberg for information.





# The Marker Buoy<sup>4</sup>

## Members Only Fishing Contest

### Best of Breed: Standings As of 11/1/2023

<u>Species</u>	<u>Angler</u>	<u>Length (in inches)</u>
Smallmouth	Greg Sterwald	21.5
Largemouth	Bruce Youngberg	23
Northern	Briam Vogrinc	38.5
Muskie	Frank Sondgeroth	45
Catfish	Chad Riesen	31
Walleye	Chad Riesen	30





# The Marker Buoy<sup>5</sup>

**Angler of the Year: As of 11/1/2023**

	Largemouth	Smallmouth	Walleye	Bluegill	Crappie	Total Length
Chad Riesen	18	19.75	30	10	11.75	89.5
Chris Olson	19	20.75	26	10.25	12	88
Kerry Schaible	19.5	19.75	22	9	11.5	81.75
Tom Wesseln	19.25	19.5	20.5	9.75	11.5	80.5
Therese Wesseln	19.75	18	13.75	10.25	12	73.5
John Rassmussen		21	29			50
Greg Sterwald	18.5	21.5				40
Gary Vosberg			24		12.5	36.5
Scott Campbell	16			9.5	10.5	36
Robert Woelky			28.5			28.5
Dave Matranga			28.5			28.5



# The Marker Buoy<sup>6</sup>

	Largemouth Bass	Smallmouth Bass	Walleye	Bluegill	Crappie	
Bria Vogrinc			24.5			24.5
Bruce Youngberg	23					23
Russ Maxwell			20			



# The Marker Buoy<sup>7</sup>

**Pan Fisherman of the Year: As of 11/1/2023**

<b>Angler</b>	<b>Perch</b>	<b>Bluegill</b>	<b>Crappie</b>	<b>Total Length</b>
<b>Chad Riesen</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11.75</b>	<b>36.25</b>
<b>Chris Olson</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10.25</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>35.25</b>
<b>Tom Wesseln</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9.75</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>32.25</b>
<b>Kerry Schaible</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Theresa Wesseln</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>10.25</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>29.75</b>
<b>Gary Vosberg</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>21.5</b>
<b>Scott Campbell</b>		<b>9.5</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>John Rasmussen</b>	<b>15</b>			<b>15</b>



# The Marker Buoy<sup>8</sup>

## Members Only Fishing Contest Rules

**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 winning



# The Marker Buoy<sup>9</sup>

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.



# The Marker Buoy<sup>10</sup>

**Submitting fish for the contests is very easy. Just copy/paste the email template below. 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)**





# The Marker Buoy<sup>11</sup>

## Recent Member Catches



**Tom Wesseln recently caught a 19 inch Channel Cat out of the Rock River in Illinois.**



# The Marker Buoy<sup>12</sup>

## Recent Member Catches



**Scott Campbell caught this 9.5 inch bluegill on a redworm on 10/21/23 in Acme Quarry in Venice, Florida**



# The Marker Buoy<sup>13</sup>

## **RVA Board Members:**

**President: Joe Caruana phone: 815-985-9388 and email:  
jac3311@gmail.com**

**Vice President: Open position**

**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**

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

**Outing Coordinator: Open position**

**Marker Buoy Editor: Jason Thompson: phone: 815-298-8717 and email:  
jthom98@msn.com**

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



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