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Official Publication of the S.O.N.S.

# THE Bucket

VOLUME 22 • ISSUE 8  
AUGUST 2025

S.O.N.S. PHONE NUMBER 814-453-2270 (ALSO FAX NUMBER)  
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## ANOTHER BOAT RUNS AGROUND ON GULL POINT

This picture shows a boat aground on Gull Point. This happens periodically at night. The lights of the city make it hard to see the low level profile of Gull Point. According to a spokesman from Lake Shore Towing, thankfully no one was hurt and they were able to get the vessel off of the beach the next day. Be careful running at night.



## correction

## THANK YOU SIX PACK HOUSE OF BEER AND STRAUB'S BREWERY

On June 18th 2025 the Six Pack House of Beer 847 Pittsburgh Ave, hosted a fund raiser to benefit the SONS of Lake Erie. Straub Brewery offered to donate \$2.00 for every pint of beer raised at the event to the SONS. There was live music and good food.



Shown above are SONS Officers and Directors Jerry Skrypzak, Chuck Miller, Tom Nichols, Jack Klapthor John Krupinski and Ed Kissell accepting a generous check with proceeds from the event from Six Pack of Beer owners, Alice and Dave DeGeorge and Penn Beer Rep. Brandon Bertelo. **Six Pack House of Beer donated \$150 and Penn Beer donated \$150.**

## LIFE JACKETS SAVE LIVES

If life jackets save lives why are we reluctant to wear them?

This summer has seen too many watercraft incidents that resulted in fatalities that could have been avoided by simply wearing a life jacket. One incident put four anglers in the water when their boat capsized. They, too, were not wearing life jackets but were lucky and they were rescued even though one was trapped under the capsized boat. Why don't we wear them is it a macho thing or a false belief that accidents could not happen to you. **WAKE UP, BOATERS!**



*This photo above, posted on Facebook, shows a Lake Shore Towing tow boat towing a boat that capsized on Lake Erie and the picture below shows it righted on its trailer.*







## SONS 2025 MEMBERSHIP BUTTON

is a depiction of a crappie this year. This is in keeping with featuring a native species fish on the button. You can pick up the 2025 pin at anyone of our events or meetings or you can get one by sending \$3.00 to SONS of Lake Erie, PO Box 3605, Erie, PA 16508

## JOIN A FRIEND TODAY!

MAIL TO: S.O.N.S., PO BOX 3605, ERIE, PA 16508



### RECORD OF MEMBERSHIP

2025

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## NORTH EAST UP AND RUNNING



Above photo of the North East Marina shows the docks in place and boats moving in. According to Ed Mascharka, the Treasurer of the North East Marina Authority, the dock wall that collapsed is to be repaired shortly. The Authority is currently seeking financing to cover other Marina updates.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

These are all of the events we have scheduled from now to September 8th.

Please check your newsletter for more as they are added or check our web page at [sonsoflakeerie.com/schedule](http://sonsoflakeerie.com/schedule).

**Wed Aug 20th** 10-1 Liberty Pier Our West Bayfront Kids (Added)

**Sat. Aug 23rd** 8:30 -1 Gem City Outdoorsmen Club 6701 Van Camp Rd Youth Field Days

**Tues. Aug 26th** 5-8 Liberty Pier 8 Great Tuesdays Free Family Fishing no license required

**Mon Sept. 8th** 10-noon The Residence at Presque Isle Bay 1012 W Bayfront Pkwy.

## VETERANS GO FISHING

On July 29th thirty one veterans went out onto Lake Erie aboard the Edward John head boat for a morning of fishing sponsored by the SONS of Lake Erie. This annual event has been sponsored by the SONS of Lake Erie for over 20 years now. The funds to finance the event are donations from local veterans clubs who participate in the Small Games of Chance program offered by the State. The program allows social clubs to raise money by having small games of chance like raffles, tip boards etc. The clubs must donate 60% of the games proceeds to non-profit organizations such as us. We set these donations from the veterans clubs and other donors into a fund where we take military veterans fishing free of charge. The vets had a great day and 30 walleye were caught.



## FISHING REPORT:

To say fishing this year has been outstanding would be an understatement, especially for walleye. Reports are posted daily on Facebook with anglers bragging about catching their limits. There was even a post that one of the anglers bragged that his freezer was full but fished anyhow because it's fun.





# Fish Pictures!

## "KING" OF THE ISLE

The 2nd annual month long King of the Isle walleye tournament, hosted by Presque Isle Fish and Farm Market with Poor Richards Bait and Tackle and East End Angler as sponsors and the official weigh in stations. The largest walleye and the overall winner was caught by Brenda Miller and weighed 9.14 lbs. Congratulations, Brenda! Nice fish!



Brenda Miller with her 9.14 lbs Walleye

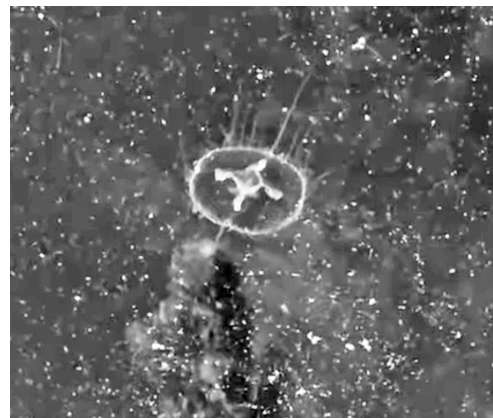


## Another Lady with Luck

Kelly Hazeltine holds this 15 lbs Lake Trout she caught on July 19. Nice fish Kelly.

## FRESHWATER JELLY FISH SPOTTED IN PRESQUE ISLE MARINA

The PA DEP posted on Facebook that Presque Isle intern Ray Walter spotted an extremely rare organism a freshwater jellyfish aka as a Craspedacusta Sowerbii. The organism is quite small about the size of a penny. It can have between three and seven tentacles which helps it capture food. The jelly fish can be found in lakes, reservoirs etc. The tentacles can sting their prey but they are not able to penetrate the skin on humans.



## The Fly Shop at Follys End Campground presents: •The Third Annual• Steelhead Kickoff Party

Sunday, October 19, 2025 from 11am until 3pm  
under the pavilion at Follys End Campground  
8600 Rt 98 • Girard, PA 16417

### This is a FREE event open to the public!

Please join us for a fun filled day with DJ music,  
Food Truck, Micro-Brew Truck, Fishing Experts  
willing to share their knowledge, and of course, fishing!

#### Galen Westman

- Owner of Shenandoah Valley Fly Fishing
- Past President, Winchester TU
- Virginia Trout Stream Sensitivity Study member
- Earth Sciences Teacher, John Handley High School, Winchester VA

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## DISCOVER PRESQUE ISLE ATTRACTED FAMILIES

For about 20 years now the SONS have participated in the Discover Presque Isle celebration by offering a fishing opportunity for kids and their families to try some fishing. About 90 kids were accompanied by parents on Saturday July 26th. For more pictures check our web page at [sonsoflakeerie.com](http://sonsoflakeerie.com).



## LAKE ERIE TURNED OVER CAUSING A FISH KILL

On August 1st Shana Krivonak posted a picture of dead sheepshead on the beach at Shade's Beach. This scene was repeated on beaches surrounding Lake Erie. After several days of cold North winds, the upper water layer cooled from 80 to 72 degrees, causing the upper layer to drop down, forming areas of depleted oxygen, and therefore killing the fish.



## THE NORTH EAST MARINA BAIT AND TACKLE SHOP NOW OPEN

J T Fuller is the proprietor of the NECM Bait and Tackle shop. This well stocked store will help support our East Erie County fishery. Stop in say hello.



## PFBC BOARD MEETS – STEELHEAD ANGLERS, HEAR THIS

At their July meeting the PFBC Board voted to give final approval to a change to special regulations applicable to Lake Erie tributary streams. Under this change, the permitted hours for angler access and fishing on Walnut Creek from Route 5 downstream to the Manchester Road Bridge will be limited to one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. Walnut Creek from Manchester Road Bridge downstream to Lake Erie and Elk Creek north of Route 5 will maintain no time restrictions for fishing. This amendment will go into effect upon publication of a second notice in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

### On other business

The Board voted to consent to the acquisition of a property easement in Girard Township, Erie County. Under the proposed agreement, the PFBC will pay \$170,000 to MJS Improvements for approximately 7.52 acres, which includes 410 feet of stream footage along one side of Elk Creek, and 125 feet along the other side. The PFBC owns fishing easements along the creek in this area, although it does not have sufficient access for parking. The PFBC plans to remove all structures on the parcel and intends to develop additional parking on the site. Public access to Elk Creek will be significantly increased with the addition of this parcel, as anglers will be better able to access the easement corridor.

### Board Elects New Officers

The Board elected John Mahn, Jr., of Charleroi, Washington County, as President. Mahn, who serves as District 2 Commissioner and is the outgoing Vice President, replaces Daniel Pastore of Fairview, Erie County, as President.

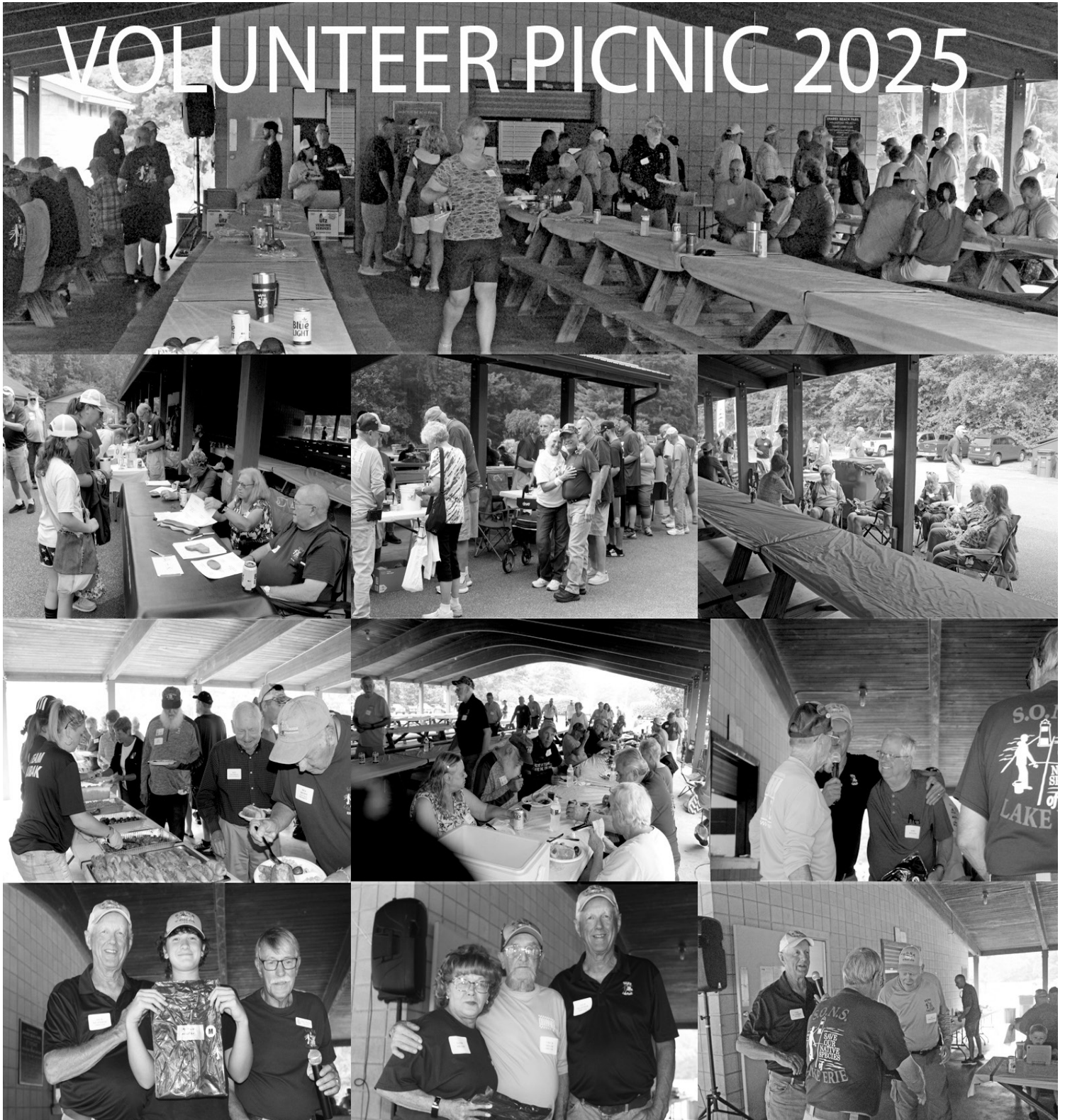


# VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PICNIC WAS HELD AUGUST 4TH

Our SONS Volunteer Appreciation picnic was held on Monday August 4th, 2025 at Shade's Beach. This picnic is our way of thanking the over 100 volunteers for volunteering over a total of 1000 times at 50 separate activities that we have organized and sponsored since July of 2024. If you consider that each volunteer donates about four hours' time at each event, that's 4000 hours total which according to standards is worth \$25.00/hr. calculates equivalent to \$100,000 worth of volunteer effort. All of these efforts by

all of our volunteers who make our club a success that it is. The weather was ideal. Only 110 of our invited guests attended and each was given a new SONS of Lake Erie long sleeve T-shirt.

There was our usual door prize raffle with over 30 door prizes for the winners. Thanks to all of our SONS directors and officers that spent hours planning, preparing and executing a great event.







## THANK YOU, TEAM LUBAK



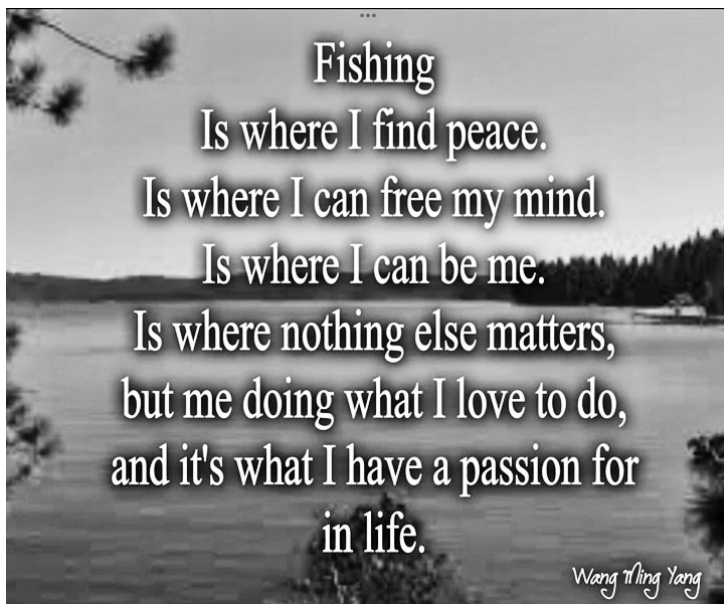
*Kevin Lubak III*

Team Lubak, under the direction of SONS director Kevin Lubak, followed the tradition started by his father, Ron Lubak, who acted as the caterers again this year, their planning and efforts again made for plenty of good food which was supplied by the Odis 12 restaurant. It was outstanding. For dessert we had cake and cupcakes.

Sadly, Leslie Lubak, Kevin's wife passed away this year. She will be highly missed.

## SPECIAL RAFFLE

Jack Klapthor and Tom Nichols organized a free raffle for a volunteers only fishing trip aboard the Waterbok captained by Tom Macharka and Steve Skrypszak. A drawing was held and volunteers Mildred Kightlinger, Bob Doug Lubak, Mildred Kightlinger, and Wayne Cunningham were the lucky winners of the raffle.

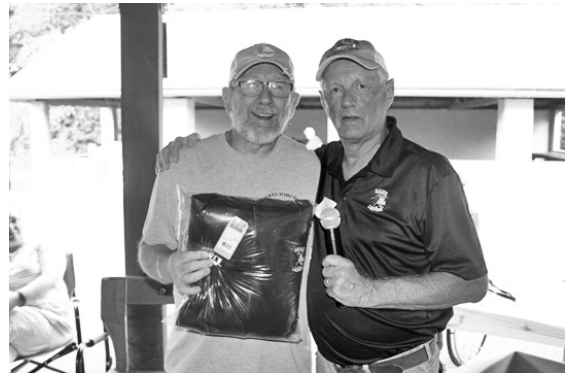


## TOP GUNS RECOGNIZED

Every year there is a core group of SONS volunteers that consistently continue to help out and keep things going. This year there were about 100 active volunteers. As there is in every group, there are a few individuals that go above and beyond the rest. This year we would like to recognize Jim Christensen who volunteered at 52 SONS activities, also chosen to get top gun recognition was given to our treasurer John Krupinski who not only helps keep track of our funds, but is a volunteer on the hatchery committee and a frequent event volunteer. Don Tombaugh our former secretary was recognized for his ten years of service as club secretary. He too is a member of our hatchery committee and also a frequent volunteer.



*Top Gun Jim Christensen*



*Top Gun John Krupinski*

We would like to also recognize Jack Bock and Joe Springer, who each spent nearly hundreds of hours each in their capacity as part of our hatchery crew. Jack is our hatchery manager and Joe is the jack of all trades that keeps the hatchery running in addition to their time they spend working at our many activities. Also we would like to recognize Larry Lipinski who has spent countless hours refurbishing hundreds of donated fishing rods and reels which were distributed free of charge to different agencies as well as always being at our other activities.

From July 7, 2024 to July 6, 2025 one hundred and thirty three individuals answered the call to help out at our events. Of that number forty nine were frequent volunteers and they too were presented with a special appreciation gift.

We would like to thank Jack Klapthor and Tom Nichols for all their work organizing the volunteer recognition awards.

Dom Tombaugh was sick the day of the picnic.

For more pictures check our web page at [sonsoflakeerie.com](http://sonsoflakeerie.com).



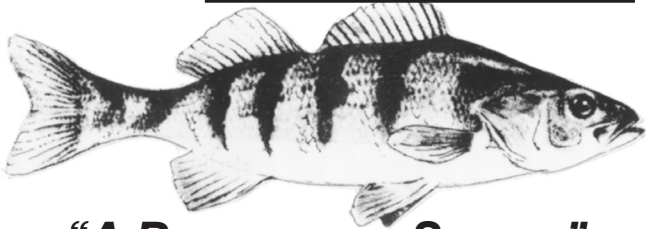


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VOLUME 22 • ISSUE 8  
AUGUST 2025



**"A REPLENISHING SPECIES"**

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET YOUR SONS NEWS LETTER BY EMAIL?

If so, send us an email to [sonslakeri@aol.com](mailto:sonslakeri@aol.com) list your name, address and note that you would like to change to the electronic version. So far we have about 760 members who have requested the change so far. You can always read the current and past issues of the Bucket at our web site, [sonsoflakeerie.org](http://sonsoflakeerie.org) at any time.

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BE SAFE

### EAST DOBBINS LANDING DOCK WALL REPAIRED

As part of the Erie Western PA Port Authorities efforts to improve its property the south wall of the east arm of Dobbins Landing (Public Dock) is undergoing the installation of new sheet piling. Hopefully the project will make this real estate more attractive to potential developers. We can only hope that a much needed bait shop or boat supply and repair shop or other maritime businesses will be part of the development.



### BLUE WALLEYE CAUGHT

On July 29, Craig Tolnay emailed the photo of a blue colored walleye he caught thinking it might be a blue pike. Extensive research was conducted on blue pike in the 1990's in order to possibly find some blue pike still alive. It was reported in the *Bucket* last month another fish, the cisco now gone from Lake Erie was found existing in Crystal Lake in Eastern Pennsylvania. The Erie Hatchery would send eggs to other parts of the country as in the case of the cisco, and blue pike were among these shipments. The studies conducted by fisheries biologists concluded that blue pike were nothing but a blue colored walleye. That is the current belief.



I forwarded the email to PFBC Lake Erie Unit biologist Mark Haffley who replied that it was probably the case with this fish.