



## **ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**

2018 January Newsletter

### **2018 Kansas Walleye Association Tournament Dates**

In less than four months you will be firing up your outboard motor for the first tournament of the year. Yes, that may seem crazy as temperatures hover around the 30's in January, however the season is right around the corner.

With the passing of long time KWA angler Ray Urbanek a memorial tournament will be held at Wilson Reservoir on June 10th. Our two day tournament will be held at Glen Elder on June 16th and 17th with a potluck dinner at 5:30 pm on Saturday June 16th, so bring a dish!

#### **2018 Tournament Dates**

- May 6th El Dorado Reservoir
- June 3rd Milford Reservoir
- June 10th Wilson Reservoir Ray Urbanek Memorial
- June 16th-17th Glen Elder Reservoir
- July 1st Marion Reservoir

### **Early Boat Entry Deadline**

Deadline for early boat entry is:

**March 1st**

Tournament forms are included in this newsletter.

### **Cabelas NTC, Regional and TWF Registration**

The Cabelas NTC will be held on the Mississippi River this year May 16th-19th in Moline Ill. For more information check The Walleye Federation website or see link [www.walleyefederation.com/cabelas-ntc](http://www.walleyefederation.com/cabelas-ntc).

You can qualify for the NTC by winning one of the TWF side pots or by taking 1st, 2nd or 3rd place for the year. You must be a member of The Walleye Federation (TWF). To register, please sign up at [www.walleyefederation.com/register-rules](http://www.walleyefederation.com/register-rules). It is preferred that you sign up before the tournaments.

The regional will be held this year at Harlan County Reservoir in Nebraska July 21st-22nd. The rules meeting will be Friday July 20th. A meeting site will be announced a later date.

### **2017 Season Member Survey Results**

This year 73 surveys were returned. The surveys are a great way for anglers to voice their opinions on how to make the KWA a better organization to fish in or just to tell the KWA they are doing a great job.

Continued page 2

**2017 Season Member Survey Comments**

Listed below are the results (not edited).

Cedar Bluff is going to 21” and still believe in the seasons to come it would be a great add on to the schedule. Likewise, would like to thank Ted and Shandi for doing an outstanding job!!

Not sure why Hillsdale is on the schedule did we forget how bad the parking was and the amount of idiots on the lake during the tournament not to mention how bad the fishing was. Why would we go back to Milford hasn't been a limit caught there in how long and with the new 2 over 21 forget that lake. Wilson and Glen Elder need to be on all the choices and then we have half a schedule I am interested in fishing. The tournament at Harlan is very intriguing now put that with Glen Elder and Wilson and a couple others that don't include Hillsdale and you have something worth fishing. Glad to see we don't have to go back to Cheney again after 2 horrible years there. Just my thoughts you do what you want and we will all decide if we fish a few or any tournaments. Best of luck and hope to see everyone this summer

**2017 Season Member Survey Comments**

Ive never fished a tournament for walleye...but because of the success I have had on clinton, I would suggest adding it to your tournament. There were alot of fish in that lake..just hard to catch. I would like to learn some more techniques as I LOVE walleye fishing. Any help for me would be great.

I believe in order to have a good number of fish weighed In at glen elder, the tournament needs to be one of the first tournaments of the season.

Love the idea of the July tournament at harlan great lake and will be a lot of fun. With the exception of Hillsdale on Schedule 6. The lake was terribly crowded, parking was bad, and hotels there from my experience really dont like boats. Wish wilson was the first lake on schedule 6.

#4 take Clinton out and put Milford in

First, thank you all for running a great circuit. It really is top notch compared to the others I've experienced. 2nd, kudos for thinking outside the box per se on the schedule. I would have voted sched 6 if not for alterior motives (MWC schedule).

Comments Continued

Start tournaments in April rather than taking up the entire month of June and into July.

Cedar Bluff needs on the schedule at some point. Like the idea of including the regional. Thanks for all you do.

With kansas fishing so tough (2018 isn't looking much better than '16 and '17), perhaps the schedule can be amended 7 or more days out from a tournament. It's really brutal to have to fish a tourney where the majority of the field zeros. It really makes our state look bad. My suggestion would be to make a schedule now, but if lake conditions are known to be bad, send an email announcement at least 1 week prior that says the tournament will now be held at "X" location due to better chance of weighing fish.

Should Hillsdale even be an option considering they are not "camping" friendly? Must leave your campsite before tournament is over. Where would one put an RV for the day? Doesn't seem logical to pay another night because they won't make exceptions. The boat ramp was a circus with no place to park after loading. At ALL lakes, people crowd in line and make those already in line waiting, wait even longer. Maybe courtesy could be discussed in pre-meetings. Courtesy doesn't mean letting someone who just got to their vehicle butt into the line. Going to the back of the already existing line is the courteous thing to do!

Thanks for all your hard work!!

Thank you & great job

would like to see less back to back weekend tournaments in June. Hard to get off work and money!

I think it will be very tough to get a lot of boats to Nebraska the last tournament of the year, unless they are in top 10 in points. Look at Hillsdale last year, people out of points race did not travel very well to a new lake.



**Sales\*Service\*Accessories**  
**Lowrance depthfinders**  
 Lund\*Triton\*Hurricane\*  
 Ebbtide\*Stingray\*Bayliner\*Godfrey\*

517 East 4<sup>th</sup>                      1114 W. Hwy 54  
 Hutchinson, KS 67501        Andover, KS 67002  
 620-665-0396                      316-733-9889  
 1-800-625-0396                      1-800-721-9889  
[www.boats.com/midkansasmarine](http://www.boats.com/midkansasmarine)



**LOWRANCE**



**WACONDA**  
 BOATS & MOTORS

**BEAVER CREEK**  
 TAXIDERMY

Kacie Shellito, Owner  
 117 E. Kansas  
 Smith Center, KS 66847      785-282-0907  
 kshellito@beaverctaxidermy.com

**SCHEELS**  
 gear. passion. sports.

## KWA Membership Meeting and Awards Banquet

March 10th, 2018 Salina KS.

Come join us as we congratulate the top 20 finishers of the 2017 season! Join other KWA members, alumni members and guest for food, award and memories. Advanced registration is required. If you plan to attend please register by March 1st. Advanced registration allows the KWA to plan for the correct amount of food and seating for all members and guests. Please return the form included along with your registration fee.

Date: March 10th (please return your form by March 1st)  
 Time: 5 pm social hour, 6 pm dinner with meeting to follow  
 Where: Knights of Columbus 115 N. 10th Street Salina KS.  
 Cost: 13 dollars per plate, (bring your own beer).



### 2017 Top Three Finishers



2017 KWA State Champions  
 Bryan and Angie Zerger



2nd Place Steve Meyer and Corry Brewer



3rd Place Marlon Tribble and Jerry Hackney

#### Door Prizes Donated By The Walker Family

A good number of the door prizes for the 2017 season were donated by the Walker family. Please make sure to show your appreciation to the Walkers at this years tournaments.



#### In Memory of Ray Urbanek - He loved Life

by Gaylord Anderson

Ray Urbanek was killed in an automobile accident on December 10, 2017. Ray served as a KWA Director for nearly two decades as was always among the first to arrive in the pre-dawn hours of tournament weekends to set up all of the equipment and get the weigh-in trailer ready. Typically, he was one of the last ones to leave after the tournament was over, staying to help put away equipment and get the trailer ready to haul to the next lake. If there was a job that needed to be done, Ray would be sure he was in the middle of helping to get it done.

However, perhaps Ray's informal title should have been 'Director of Fun.' Wherever people gathered at the KWA tournaments, Ray could usually be found in the middle of it all. He didn't occupy people's time; he just tried to make sure that others were enjoying themselves. His friendship and helpfulness to others was his trademark to everyone who knew him. He was always encouraging and always upbeat - willing to laugh and see the positive side of every circumstance. He saw humor in every situation.

Ray loved to camp and he always enjoyed sitting around a campfire. In fact, he had somewhat of a passion for building campfires... LARGE camp fires - in any type of weather. One hot July tournament held at Melvern Reservoir, Ray was having trouble finding firewood for his campfire. His helpers were not producing enough wood to suit Ray, so he jumped in his pickup and left the area. Soon he could be heard returning. In fact, he could be heard returning to the camp site from quite a distance because he was dragging a small tree behind his pickup.

It has already been said that Ray enjoyed helping people. Perhaps that's why he enjoyed his job as a Lawrence, Kansas police officer. He helped anyone in need and often looked for ways to find someone to help. Ray was also a good fisherman. One particular tournament season, Ray perhaps erroneously interpreted this ability to do a good deed into a theory that the 'Walleye Gods' were favoring him - as long as he found some way to do a good deed on the way to or during the weekend of a fishing tournament. So that season, he started keeping an eye out for someone to help before or during every tournament and that year Ray and his partner Chris Ogburn had a very successful KWA season. Therefore, Ray thought he had proven his theory that the more "good deeds" he could do, the more fish they would catch.

Another thing about Ray is that he liked dogs and dogs liked him. Any stray dog that ventured into his area was quickly drawn to Ray. It has been said that a dog is seldom fooled by a person's character. The dogs that Ray befriended during all the KWA tournaments he fished were not wrong in their judgment of him.

Ray is survived by his wife Kerri, his brother Barry and sister-in-law Carla Urbanek of Lawrence and his mother Lois Urbanek of Carbondale. Many other friends and relatives also mourn Ray's passing including his cousin, best friend and KWA teammate Chris Ogburn, and Ray's beloved dog, Bella.



## 2018 KWA Pre-Meeting Sites

### **May 6th El Dorado Reservoir**

**Pre-meeting:** Attendance required Saturday, May 5th

**Registration:** 6:00pm - 6:45pm

**Rules meeting:** Immediately following registration

**Meeting location:** Blue Stem Beach Shelter House

### **June 3rd Milford Reservoir**

**Pre-meeting:** Attendance required Saturday, June 2nd

**Registration:** 6:00-6:45pm

**Rules meeting:** Immediately following registration

**Meeting location:** Eagle Ridge Shelter

### **June 10th Wilson Reservoir**

**Pre-meeting:** Attendance required Saturday, June 9th

**Registration:** 6:00pm - 6:45pm

**Rules meeting:** Immediately following registration

**Meeting location:** Sylvan Park Group Shelter #1

### **June 16th-17th Glen Elder Reservoir**

**Pre-meeting:** Attendance required Friday, June 15th

**Registration:** 6:00pm - 6:45pm

**Rules Meeting:** Immediately following registration

**Meeting location:** Osage Shelter

### **July 1st Marion Reservoir**

**Pre-meeting:** Attendance required. Saturday, June 30th

**Registration:** 6:00pm - 6:45pm

**Rules Meeting:** Immediately following registration

**Meeting location:** Cottonwood Shelter Point A