



FISHING SCHOOL



WALLEYE

FEBRUARY 16-18, 2024

NIAGARA FALLS CONVENTION
CENTER



WALLEYE SCHOOL

THE GREATER NIAGARA FISHING EXPO IS EXCITED TO BE OFFERING AGAIN THE WALLEYE SCHOOL DURING THE EXPO WHICH RUNS FROM FEBRUARY 15 – 18, 2024. THIS UNIQUE SCHOOL IS MEANT FOR THE EXPERIENCED WALLEYE ANGLER WHO WANTS TO INCREASE THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE SKILLS AND LOCATIONS TO HELP THEM CATCH MORE WALLEYE IN THE EASTERN BASIN OF LAKE ERIE FROM EARLY SPRING THRU LATE FALL. THE WALLEYE SCHOOL, COMBINED WITH THE ADDITIONAL WALLEYE EDUCATION AND EXHIBITORS, MAKES THE EXPO A "MUST ATTEND" WINTER EVENT FOR THE THOUSANDS OF WALLEYE ANGLERS IN THIS REGION.

THIS IN DEPTH CLASS WILL BE TAUGHT BY CAPT. LANCE VALENTINE (TEACHIN FISHIN FOUNDER, LAKE ERIE WALLEYE AND MARINE ELECTRONICS GURU), AND CAPTAIN CRAIG SLEEMAN (EASTERN BASIN WALLEYE PRO TOURNAMENT ANGLER) AND CAPTAIN DON RUPPERT (SUNSET BAY WALLEYE SHOOTOUT FOUNDER AND HIGHLY EXPERIENCED EASTERN BASIN WALLEYE ANGLER). ALL THESE INSTRUCTORS ARE NOT ONLY TOP END WALLEYE ANGLERS BUT ALSO HIGHLY EXPERIENCED EDUCATORS. THEY EACH BRING WITH THEM THEIR OWN VAST AMOUNT OF WALLEYE ANGLING EXPERTISE AND UNIQUE EDUCATION STYLE THAT WILL PROVIDE EVERY ATTENDEE WITH NEW KNOWLEDGE THAT WILL HELP THEM BE MORE SUCCESSFUL ON THE WATER IN 2024.



LANCE VALENTINE



DON RUPPERT



CRAIG SLEEMAN



THE SCHOOL IS FOR THE AVID WALLEYE ANGLER WHO WANTS TO IMPROVE THEIR CATCH IN 2024 BY INCREASING THEIR KNOWLEDGE IN ORDER TO:

1. DEVELOP A SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO CONSISTENTLY CATCH MORE WALLEYE IN THEIR TIME ON THE WATER
2. TARGET AND CATCH LARGER WALLEYE
3. MAXIMIZE THE USE OF THEIR ELECTRONICS (INCLUDING LIVE SONAR) TO CATCH MORE WALLEYE
4. UNDERSTAND THE IMPACT THAT WIND, CURRENTS, BAIT, WATERCOLOR, WATER TEMPERATURE, AND LIGHT CONDITIONS HAVE ON CATCHING WALLEYE
5. UNLOCK THE SECRETS TO CATCHING SPRING AND FALL WALLEYE DURING THE DAY
6. EFFECTIVELY UTILIZE BOTH TROLLING AND CASTING TECHNIQUES THROUGHOUT THE SEASON

LANCE, CRAIG AND DON WILL DO A "DEEP DIVE" INTO THEIR SPECIFIC THOUGHT PROCESSES, SPECIFIC TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES THEY UTILIZE TO MAKE THEM CONSISTENTLY SUCCESSFUL CHASING WALLEYE ON LAKE ERIE. THE FOCUS WILL BE ON THE 3 MAIN LAKE ERIE FISHING PERIODS (SPRING, SUMMER, AND FALL) AND DIVE INTO THE MORE TECHNICAL ASPECTS FOR EACH OF THESE TIME FRAMES. THE INSTRUCTION WILL INCLUDE SOME DETAILED VIDEO FOOTAGE WHICH SHOULD HELP THE LEARNING PROCESS.

OUR INSTRUCTORS BRING SUCCESS-FILLED RESUMES TO THE WALLEYE SCHOOL INCLUDING GUIDING, TOURNAMENT SUCCESS, DECADES OF SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS, AND COUNTLESS HOURS OF ON-THE-WATER EXPERIENCE ON SOME OF THE PREMIER WALLEYE WATERS IN THE COUNTRY.

THIS DIVERSITY WILL PROVIDE INFORMATION, DETAILS, AND INSIGHT THAT NO ONE SINGLE PRESENTER COULD PROVIDE. ALL ARE SKILLED COMMUNICATORS AND ARE WELL KNOWN IN THE FISHING COMMUNITY FOR NOT ONLY THEIR SKILL IN PRESENTING, BUT THEIR ABILITY TO CONVERT HARD-TO-UNDERSTAND CONCEPTS EASY TO UNDERSTAND AND APPLY ON THE WATER AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY, THEIR WILLINGNESS TO SHARE WHAT MAKES THEM SUCCESSFUL ANGLERS.

EACH BRINGS THEIR OWN UNIQUE SET OF LAKE ERIE WALLEYE SKILLS, TECHNIQUES, AND KNOWLEDGE TO THE CLASS. GIVEN THE DEPTH OF THE KNOWLEDGE BASE OF THESE INSTRUCTORS AND THEIR PROVEN ABILITY TO EDUCATE ANGLERS, WE EXPECT THIS SCHOOL TO BE A HIGH-QUALITY, COMPREHENSIVE, IN-DEPTH, INFORMATION-PACKED EVENT.

EARLY SIGNUPS ARE ENCOURAGED TO GIVE THE INSTRUCTORS ENOUGH TIME TO BUILD THE CURRICULUM FOR THE DESIRED TOPICS AND MAKE SURE YOU GET A SEAT BEFORE THEY SELL OUT.



LANCE VALENTINE



DON RUPPERT

LET'S MEET THE INSTRUCTORS

CRAIG SLEEMAN



LANCE VALENTINE

AS THE FOUNDER OF TEACHIN FISHIN, CAPTAIN LANCE VALENTINE HAS SPENT THE PAST 3 DECADES DEDICATED TO TEACHING ANGLERS WHAT THEY NEED TO KNOW TO CATCH MORE AND BIGGER FISH. USING KNOWLEDGE GAINED THROUGH CLOSE TO A DECADE AS A TOURNAMENT ANGLER ON THE PROFESSIONAL WALLEYE TRAIL (WITH 2 VISITS TO DUNKIRK, NY!), MICHIGAN WALLEYE TOUR, AND OTHER CIRCUITS, LANCE COMBINES WHAT HE HAS LEARNED ON THE WATER WITH A SYSTEMATIC, EASY TO FOLLOW THE WAY OF "TEACHIN FISHIN".

LANCE FELL IN LOVE WITH FISHING AS A 5-YEAR-OLD ON THE WORLD-FAMOUS "FLIES ONLY" STRETCH OF MICHIGAN'S AU SABLE RIVER CHASING STREAM TROUT, AND SINCE THEN HAS FISHED FOR WALLEYE ACROSS THE UNITED STATES. STARTING IN 2005, LANCE DECIDED TO FOCUS ON EDUCATION AND HAS SPENT HIS ON-THE-WATER TIME AS AN "EDUCATIONAL" CHARTER CAPTAIN ON THE DETROIT RIVER, SAGINAW BAY, AND LAKE ERIE, RUNNING CLOSE TO 180 TRIPS A SEASON, USING AN ON-THE-WATER, HANDS-ON APPROACH TO FISHING EDUCATION. WHILE LANCE IS ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE FISHING WORLD, HIS FOCUS IS ON TEACHING ANGLERS A SIMPLE-TO-FOLLOW SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO ATTACKING ANY FISHING CHALLENGE BY APPLYING HIS "8 STEPS TO FISHING SUCCESS". LANCE STICKS TO TEACHING THE SIMPLE THINGS TO MAKE ANGLERS BETTER; LIKE PRE-TRIP PLANNING, UNDERSTANDING HOW CONDITIONS AFFECT FISH, INTERPRETING ELECTRONICS PROPERLY, HAVING A SYSTEM FOR ANALYZING FISHING DATA, PICKING THE BEST PRESENTATION FOR THE CONDITIONS AT HAND, AND QUICKLY RECOGNIZING AND DIALING IN A PATTERN. LANCE IS FORTUNATE TO REPRESENT SOME GREAT FISHING COMPANIES SUCH AS POLARKRAFT AND ANGLER QWEST BOATS, SUZUKI OUTBOARDS, OFF-SHORE TACKLE, TRAXSTECH, FISH HAWK ELECTRONICS, LOWRANCE, MOTORGUIDE, WARRIOR LURES, SMART-TROLL, REC LENDING, PRO-CURE BAIT SCENTS AND MORE.

CRAIG SLEEMAN

CAPTAIN CRAIG SLEEMAN IS A PROFESSIONAL WALLEYE ANGLER ON THE NATIONAL WALLEYE TOUR AND COMPETES IN THE TOURNAMENTS IN THE EASTERN BASIN OF LAKE ERIE INCLUDING BEING A PAST GRAND PRIZE WINNER OF THE PRESTIGIOUS SUNSET BAY WALLEYE SHOOTOUT.

CRAIG BEGAN HIS CAREER IN THE FINGER LAKES REGION OF NEW YORK AND CONTINUES TO TACKLE COMPETITIVE YELLOW PERCH TOURNAMENTS IN THE SPRING. THIS EXPERIENCE HAS IMPROVED CATCHABILITY, DECISION MAKING, AND PRE FISH PLANNING WHICH HAVE PAVED THE WAY FOR HIS CONTINUED SUCCESS.

WITH THE CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT IN TECHNOLOGY, CRAIG WILL SHARE THE LATEST CUTTING-EDGE TIPS ON TROLLING, JIGGING, AND FORWARD-FACING SONAR YOU WILL NOT WANT TO MISS! CRAIG'S FAVORITE TECHNIQUE FOR CATCHING WALLEYE IS JIGGING WHICH HAS BECOME AN INTEGRAL COMPONENT THROUGHOUT THE YEAR FOR FISHING WALLEYE IN THE EASTERN BASIN. A LOCAL SPIN ON THE WHERE AND WHEN WILL PRESENT EACH CLASS MEMBER WITH UNIQUE INFORMATION TO ENHANCE THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE EASTERN BASIN!

CRAIG IS FORTUNATE TO PARTNER WITH DOUGLAS OUTDOORS, DOC'S TACKLE, TORPEDO FISHING PRODUCTS, I-1BAITS AND 5/0 LURE COMPANY, FISH HAWK ELECTRONICS, WALLEYE NATIONS CREATIONS, OFF SHORE TACKLE, AND TORPEDO FISHING PRODUCTS. DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN AND IMPROVE YOUR GAME ON LAKE ERIE!

DON RUPPERT

CAPTAIN DON RUPPERT IS A PROFESSIONAL CHARTER CAPTAIN AND TOURNAMENT ANGLER WITH HIS HOME PORT BEING IN SUNSET BAY, NEW YORK ON LAKE ERIE.

WITH OVER 30 YEARS' OF EXPERIENCE FISHING THE NEW YORK WATERS OF LAKE ERIE AND BEYOND; DON AND HIS TEAM HAVE DEVELOPED SEVERAL SUCCESSFUL TROLLING PROGRAMS FOR EARLY SEASON SHALLOW WATER WALLEYE TRANSITIONING INTO A PROVEN DEEPWATER PROGRAM AS THE SEASON PROGRESSES. DON WILL BE EXPLAINING THESE TECHNIQUES IN DETAIL. CAPT. RUPPERT WILL BE PROVIDING ACTUAL AREAS TO TARGET WITH SPECIFIC DETAILS INCLUDING GPS NUMBERS, WHAT LURES (COLORS / STYLES) TO RUN UNDER CERTAIN LAKE CONDITIONS, VERY SPECIFIC TIPS ON HOW TO SET UP YOUR SPREADS (BOTH RODS AND LURES). DON WILL ALSO BE SHARING SOME UNIQUE, UNDERWATER FOOTAGE OF WALLEYES TRAILING BAITS AND BITING BAITS.

DON AND HIS TEAM ARE PROUD TO HAVE GREAT LONGEVITY AND RELATIONSHIPS WITH MANY PREMIER COMPANIES WITHIN THE INDUSTRY. WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OKUMA, GARMIN, YALEYE LURES, FISH HAWK ELECTRONICS, OFFSHORE TACKLE AND TRAXSTECH SYSTEMS. BRING A NOTE BOOK AS DON WILL BE SHARING THE DETAILS THAT KEEP THEM CONSISTENTLY FINISHING IN THE TOP OF THE TOURNAMENTS.

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