

## Captain Walt's Log

### *2009 Season Wrap Up*

Well, the open water fishing season is over for Captain Walt. The boat is winterized and resting quietly in the storage barn. Looking back on the 2009 season, we were surprisingly busy, given the state of the U. S. economy. The weather was a huge factor in this year's fishing success or lack thereof. The whole season seemed very cool. As I talked with other guides and fishermen around the upper Midwest region, everyone was experiencing the same patterns. The fish spawned late or not at all, and fishing patterns were delayed by weeks. Month after month, the weatherman was remarking how the weather was setting records for how cool it was. Even my tomatoes could not adjust to the cool temps. This is the first summer since we moved to Lindenhurst in 1983 that we had such a poor crop of tomatoes. I missed those home grown tomatoes!

Our season ended as a dud. Normally we catch nice pike, walleyes, and smallmouth bass in November. The fishing reports I received from fellow guides and the results of our scouting trips in November were not favorable, so I cancelled several of your trips in November. As a result, this issue will be devoted to a review of the largemouth bass fishing success we experienced this year. I hope that you enjoy the review.

I want to thank all the folks who took the time to fish with me during this past season. We truly appreciate your trust, confidence, and support. Hopefully you will return for another go in 2010.

### *2009 Largemouth Bass*

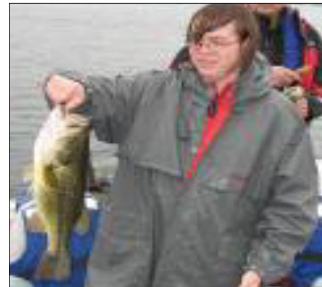
During the 2009 fishing season, clients, friends, family and even Capt. Walt caught hundreds of largemouth bass. Below are some of the more memorable. All these fish were at least 19" long and/or weighed 4 pounds or more. Of course all these fish were released. They were caught using a variety of techniques, including wacky worm, drop shot, jig and plastic and live bait. We expect that the bass fishing in 2010 will be even better, since the unusual weather pattern from this year should not repeat. As you can see from the pictures, the bass fishing is good on Geneva and Delavan in May and June.



**Lake Delavan**  
5-08-09  
19¾" 4 lbs. 12 oz.



**Lake Geneva**  
6-09-09  
19½" 4 lbs. 00 oz.



**Lake Geneva**  
6-13-09  
19¾" 4 lbs. 00 oz.



**Lake Geneva**  
6-22-09  
19½" 3 lbs. 10 oz.



**Lake Geneva**  
6-24-09  
19" 3 lbs. 12 oz.



**Lake Geneva**  
6-25-09  
19½" 4 lbs. 02 oz.



**Lake Delavan**  
7-23-09  
19" 4 lbs. 06 oz.



**Lake Delavan**  
8-25-09  
19" 4 lbs. 04 oz.