



## Captain Walt's Log

### *Customer Appreciation Raffle*

We had another successful guiding season last year. A nice mix of returning clients and some new ones kept us pretty busy. Our sincere thanks to everyone that fished with us last year. We truly appreciate your trust and support and we hope that each of you will return in 2012. To show our appreciation to our customers, we conducted a random drawing from our list of 2011 clients for a free half day trip for two anglers. The winner was Ed S. from Wheaton, IL. Ed and his son Brian have been fishing with us for several years now and that will continue in 2012. Congratulations Ed, looking forward to our trip!

### *The Best of 2011*

Despite the unusual weather patterns during the year, our clients caught some very nice fish in 2011. The big surprise was the quality of the walleye fishing on the Fox Chain O Lakes during May and June. As you can see from the photos below, our clients caught several nice 4-6 pound walleyes from the Fox Chain. All these fish were caught using live bait (either leeches or night crawlers). Some were caught on jigs and some on live bait rigs. Other techniques we used to produce walleyes included trolling crank baits and Slow Death live bait rigs.

We always expect to catch nice bass from Geneva and Delavan during the June and July timeframe and they did not disappoint in 2011. Shown below are some of the best bass caught by clients. Our most productive technique continues to be the drop shot rig. The style, size, and color of the baits varies day by day, but this technique produces a lot of bass and nice ones all year long. We finally had a client top the 6 pound bass mark on August 8<sup>th</sup>. This 6 lb. 6 oz. monster was caught on a drop shot rig. I knew it was a big fish, but when it bottomed out my 6 lb. scale I was overjoyed. The father (Dan) and son (Mike) team from Lake Villa, IL produced two nice fish that day. Mike caught a 4 lb. 9 oz. bass to balance out dad's whopper. Nice job!

The northern pike fishing is usually dependable on Geneva and Delavan during the summer months. In 2011, the pike did not cooperate. We caught some including the 7½ lb. fish shown below, but I was disappointed with the pike fishing last summer on both Delavan and Geneva. Perhaps the cycle will be better in 2012.



5-13 - Fox Chain - 4.00 - 22½"



5-20 - Fox Chain - 5¾ lbs. - 25¾"



6-5 - Fox Chain - 5.00 lbs. - 23½"



6-17 - Geneva - 4.125 lbs. - 20"



7-8 - Delavan - 7½ lbs. - 33"



8-8 - Delavan - 4.57 lbs. - 19½"



8-8 - Delavan - 6.375 lbs. 21"



8-11 - Delavan - 3¾ lbs. - 18½"

Questions or comments, please contact us at: [captainwalt@redrockguidingservice.com](mailto:captainwalt@redrockguidingservice.com) or call 847-710-5453.

Thanks for the feedback!