



More Monster Pike & Wow It's HOT!

From cool spring to hot summer... In a flash!

Fifty-one trophies now in the '07 Master Angler list ... Only four walleye.

In this part of Canada it rarely reaches 90 degrees. When it does, it's usually in the dog days of August. Well, Mother Nature proved again this week, she has a wacky sense of humor. From the cold harsh rains of a week ago...to...would you believe?... 93 degrees last Wednesday.

And the fish?...they're liken' all the developing weeds for shallow water feeding. For those anglers who are going shallow too, it's a bonanza. This past week we registered two big pike that will likely be among Ontario's best in 2007.

From our [Striker's Point Lodge](#), Sarasota Florida's Dan Bennett and brother Mike each scored a trophy pike with Mike's 48" water wolf topping his brother's 44 inch. And Mike told us they had over a dozen fish in the 36" plus category. Their pike were caught and released from the Ogoki River watershed's Whitewater Lake in the heart of the Wabakimi Park. Both were caught on Johnson weedless spoons. The Bennett brothers like to put a tail on them just to "make them dance" a bit. The action all happened east of Strikers Point - "up the river."

Brett Toberman of McGregor, Iowa caught and released a 49" pike from [Ogoki Lake](#), another lake coughing up a lot of trophy pikes in 2007. His bait? A Wally Diver.

The Bennett and Toberman pics are on film cameras...and coming to us soon.

And speaking of water wolves...these photos say it all. It's Ben Chouinard of Grayling, Michigan in the top photo from his trip to an outpost cabin on Ogoki Lake

And look at the fat

girl in the arms of Michael Doerner of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Ben's 44" Northern was caught on a Mepps Green and Yellow in-line spinner.

Michael wrestled in his 44" from [Dawn Lake](#) using a Silver Rattle-Trap. *(Yes, we think it's bigger too and we're having the relative "man height" to "fish length" size analysis done.)* Michael's fishing partner, David Hudiberg, also had a 41 last week.

The Shallow Angling How To:

Look for developing cabbage weeds or pencil reeds...and tie on those big profile weedless lures. Also try top water stick baits or Slug-o type soft baits with the hook buried so you can cast into the trash.

These big pike will roam areas so shallow the water barely covers their backs. Best technique? Long cast-splash-wait ten seconds-quickly jerk a couple of times-rest.

Wham! Hook-up and Hang-On.



So, Where are the Big Walleyes?

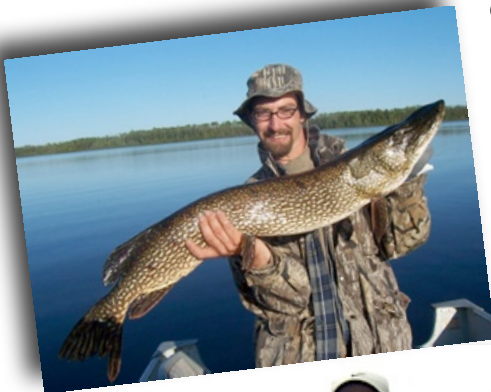
Probably having babies... or in "fish talk" they're in the post spawn.

A quick check in the *North American Fishing Club's Walleye Secrets* book reminds us that the Walleye bite is strongly influenced by "lake type."

For example, at 50 degrees north, the post spawn big fish bite doesn't really happen until June 18th or later.

Our walleye live in "Canadian Shield" lakes where the waters stay colder longer, thus delaying, to some extent, the spawn and post spawn.

After the spawn the larger female Walleye face the problem of not enough good size bait fish. This year's fingerlings are too small, while last year's off spring are fewer in number due to both Walleye and Pike predation. So that means longer feeding periods for these big gals.





FAREWELL TO JACK MARK - GOOD FRIEND. GOOD PARTNER. - BY ALAN CHEESEMAN

It is with heavy hearts that Krista and I share with you the passing of our partner and dear friend "Jack" Mark.



Born in Milwaukee Wisconsin in 1925, John J. Mark, a successful real estate developer, fell in love with the Canadian Wilderness in the early 60's.

And though he is gone, and though we are saddened...we choose to celebrate his life in this story.

Jack Mark was a quiet, unassuming person, who avoided the spotlight. However, those who

knew him well will tell you that he was a 'fighter' for what he believed in. Jack always had a special twinkle in his eye and a love for the Ontario wilderness. In a recent video taped interview, he described his love like this:

"There just isn't a finer place to be than the pure Canadian lakes and streams of Northwestern Ontario. And it's not just the fishing. With family... with friends... once here, you can leave the cares of everyday life behind and experience total relaxation and a total connection with the land."

His remarkable passion for the Ontario wilderness drove him to build and buy lodges and outpost cabins that today are known as **Wilderness North**.

We met Jack as he was building this new enterprise. His very personal vision was clear. *If we build it, they will come...* and "it" was to be a company that opened up the vast Canadian wilderness to anglers, campers, and explorers from around the world.

His steadfast determination, his good business sense, and his genuine personal love for nature deeply touched us.

He was a decorated WWII and Korean Air Force pilot. However, it was his unique skills at the controls of a variety of float planes that led him to explore the Canadian and Alaskan wilderness, by flight, long before the GPS. In the video, he fondly recalls a few of the planes he's flown and the trips he's taken.

As our friend and as our business partner, we will miss Jack...and today we pause and recall fondly the "trips" on which he has taken us along. We will never forget them.

His video interview will be available this fall at our website... so he may remain a living part of the Wilderness North heritage that began with his remarkable passion.

Farewell ... Jack.

TACKLE TIP OF THE WEEK:

BIG FISH FROM TINY BUBBLES

So you like to troll? Most successful anglers do. A tactic called "long lining" is a common trolling system in which 100 feet or more of line is slowly dragged behind a moving boat.

But wait there's another way!

"Short lining"... Use 50 feet or less, even just 20 feet, so the bait is actually still in the bubbling wake of the motor...and speed up about 20% ...AND...don't use a leader.

Here's what to do: First use a long billed deep diving lure. Second by removing the steel leader the bait actually emulates live bait the way it was designed and tested to do. And third, by speeding up the boat, the pursuing fish must swim faster and only the strong ones can catch up. So your large fish to small fish ratio goes up. Plus you'll be surprised how few of the fish you catch have the bait deep in their mouths. Of course a barb-less hook set up also aids in a quick release.

