



1998-2008

A Legacy of Innovation  
Since 1969



# WESTERN OHIO WALLEYE NEWS

FEBRUARY 2009

CRIPPLE CREEK  
BAIT AND TACKLE —  
TAPPEN LAKE

**SPORTSMAN'S**  
connection

www.sportsmansconnection.com

**BUGKEYE**  
OUTDOORS  
**MARINE**

E I-70 East 1298 1/2 Mile North  
Corner of S.R. 79 and S.R. 40  
740-928-FISH



**Reef  
Runner**  
FISHING LURES



937-222-2224



**FISHERMAN'S QUARTERS**  
WHERE FISHERMEN SERVE FISHERMEN  
9-6 M-F  
9-5:30 SAT.

142 S. KEOWEE ST.  
DAYTON, OHIO 45402



**VIBE**<sup>TM</sup>

INDIAN LAKE/ ICE/ VIBE'S  
MAKE A DEADLY  
COMBINATION THIS WINTER...

**ROD  
BENDER'S**  
Tackle, Inc.

PETE AND LAUREN HANGING OUT. LAUREN CAUGHT THIS FISH WHILE HOPPING HOLE TO HOLE (MUST BE NICE TO BE THAT YOUNG)



AUTHOR AND ANOTHER NICE FISH THAT FELL TO A VIBE



PETE RIPS UP ANOTHER ONE.



#### ICE IS NICE BUT EYES MAKE IT SO MUCH BETTER...

I had hoped to have an ice tourney but my weekends have been on the road or other commitments. But who knows what this month may hold. I'm still hoping. If you haven't been out on the ice then you are missing out. This is the best ice we've seen in years and the saugeyes are cooperating. I've made a few outings to Indian Lake during mid-week when the snowmobiles are absent and the bite lasts most of the day. Today Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> after watching people around us catch fish we got up and moved our holes closer to the action. Lucky us we moved on a rocky hump and when we switched from the jigging Rapala's that were catching 13-15" fish to 1/4oz. VIBE's the fish got much bigger. The biggest (5lb 8oz) came on Pink n White but the rest 3-4lbbers came on Fire Tiger. Another hot ticket has been tip-ups. Using big minnows a #10 treble hook with a small Macks Lure Smile Blade above it. Flip the blade around and bend it the other way. Every time the minnow moves the blade spins and drives the eyes nuts. It seem to be the only way I can get a fish on a minnow. No blades no eyes.

When working the VIBE use a stout rod and only lift the bait 6-10" It takes a stiff rod to achieve the vibration on a short hop. Rip and slowly drop. Few hit at the bottom, most tried to take the rod out of your hand. And these fish fight. Don't be tempted to use your normal long rods, invest in 30" or less outfits. I've seen too many lost at the hole by guys using 6 foot rods. You can't pin the bigger fish to the side if you can't reach the hole.

Another thing that's not a necessity but makes life easier is a good flasher and underwater camera. I've learned more about these fish over the past few years watching the camera than I thought possible. You can tell when they're aggressive or just inhaling the bait. And Pete has the flasher down to a science. He tells me when one is coming to his lure and sure enough a few seconds later he's reeling in the fish. It's amazing how he can tease fish into biting just by what the flasher is telling him. Well I hope you get out with over a foot of good ice there's no excuse for not making the trip. Hopefully I see you up there.