

Welcoming

Dave Graybill

To The

Nickel Ads

Classifieds

The Fishin'

Magician

I have a busy schedule coming up. I'll be traveling to the Columbia River Gorge to fish with the legendary guide Herb Good for spring salmon. I'll also be spending a day on the water fishing with a big name in walleye fishing, Ed Iman. Shane Magnuson has also invited me to join him down there for some Drano Lake action, and then I race up to Bridgeport in time for the seminar Friday evening for the Trippin' with the Triploids Derby kickoff and get together. I'll give you updates on my experiences next week.

I am wishing everyone good luck at the Trippin' with the Triploids Derby. The folks in Bridgeport at Nel's Café/Grizzlies Bait and Tackle have been working hard to make this come off in style. When I last checked in with them they were frantically answering the phone (as many as 80 calls a day) and signing up anglers left and right. We all hope that someone gets the tagged trout that will win the Bob Feil Boats and Motors Jetcraft that I have been driving around on our area waters. It will be on display on Friday night just to get people pumped up. Everyone will be anxious to see who takes the prizes, which continue to pile up, at the awards ceremony and BBQ on Saturday.

The following weekend is the 2nd Annual Pike Minnow Derby put on by the Quincy Valley Tourism Association. They had over 200 participants in last year's derby, and this year they have really boosted the prizes. There will be two boats given away and the total prizes value is \$9,000.00! These people really know how to put on



a good derby and I would encourage everyone to get the details. Just go to my web site and click on the "Something Fishy in Quincy" logo and it will open their web page.

The old rule of thumb for the walleye bite at Banks Lake is to expect it when the lilacs bloom, and they are out. According to Gordon Steinmetz, who is an old hand at fishing for walleye at Banks, the walleye bite is right on schedule. Just in time, too. The big walleye tournament is coming up this weekend. If the weather cooperates it should be good a one, too. Walleye will be hungry after last year's drawdown. I have also been getting some reports of amazing fishing for both smallmouth and largemouth bass from Banks. Crank baits seem to be the way to go this

spring, as minnows are scarce and there is little cover for them. When the bass see a minnow imitation they figure its easy pickins. Another species that is on the bite now at Banks is crappie. Not only are good numbers of them being taken, they are big. Most are over 12 inches, and some are as large as 15 inches, and that's a big crappie for our region. I can't wait to get up to Banks. I want to try it all: smallmouth and largemouth bass fishing, walleye fishing and even try for some of those big crappie!

There's more good news for fans of catching triploids. If you look at the new regulations pamphlet, there's a new season listed for the Columbia River below Chief Joseph Dam. Beginning June 1st and running through August 15th anglers can fish for triploids, and keep 10 per day! Hot dog. I am going to be up there doing my part to get these pesky triploids out of the Columbia, even if I have to buy another freezer. I fished this last year when the limit was four. My wife and I fished the first day of the season and had a blast. We caught them on bobbers and jigs and trolling plugs. I had very good success using the Maxi-Jigs and both the Fire Tiger pattern and Crawfish pattern Rapalas, the big jointed ones, too. Triploids love crawdads and loved these plugs.

I am hoping that the kokanee fishing at Lake Chelan turns on soon. Things look good for a dandy fishery there this year. I have had a

ton of fun on Chelan catching kokanee, but it has been a couple of years since we've had a good numbers of larger fish in the lower basin. If you are a fan of kokanee fishing you'll want to attend a free seminar that I am giving at Bob Feil Boats and Motors on Saturday, May 19th. It will be in the mid afternoon and I will be talking about my experiences fishing for kokanee on several lakes in the region. I'll bring my tackle box and all my other gear and show you exactly how I go about getting them. There are many lakes in our area that offer good to great kokanee fishing and there will be information at the seminar on what these lakes are and when to hit them for the best fishing. There will be door prizes and some other things going on at the seminar and there will be more details on all of this soon. Keep an eye on my reports as we get closer to the date.

Right after the Trippin' with the Triploids Derby it's off to Seattle for me. There's a flight to Loreto, Baja, Mexico to catch, and resort and guide service to check out down there. Journey Travel and I are planning to take a group to fish the Sea of Cortez in November. Keep an eye on my web site for details.

This year is shaping up to be a great one. Triploid, kokanee, spring salmon, bass and walleye—it just gets better and better!

Reach Dave at: www.FishingMagician.com or Fishboy@nwi.net

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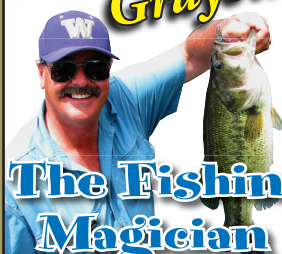
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