



This is a great picture of my two sons, Christian on the left and Mac on the right (3 and 5 at the time), just after Christian caught his first fish in 2003. It was a nice size walleye out of Falcon Lake, Manitoba. We had a small cottage on Falcon and we used to fish at every opportunity for walleye. Being Southern Albertans, the only fishing was river trout and we very badly wanted to catch a walleye. We lit out for the usual spot one Saturday morning to where all the other boats seemed to congregate. After an hour or so of no luck, which never bothered Christian, a boat approached with a couple of older gents. One of them asked to see my son's gear (knowing I was challenged in this area) while the other distracted him with conversation. The gent checking out my son's rod reached into their live well, placed a walleye on Christian's hook, tossed it overboard and pushed their boat away. All without Christian noticing. Words cannot describe the excitement and days of storytelling that followed. Those two guys are heroes, and to this day, Christian knows only that he caught the first-ever walleye in our family.

Cheers,

*Gord Norrie*



# Catch a *memory* of your own



Sven Landmark and Steve Ryall caught these monster fish last July at Port Burwell, Ont. They bid on the opportunity to go on the chartered boat at an internal fund raiser for a fellow employee at The London Free Press.



This photo was taken near Roseneath, Ont., on Rice Lake in 2005.

I caught that 5 lb. muskie, while, funny enough, trolling for walleye. Unfortunately, I didn't catch any sizeable pickerel that day but I was happy with the size of the muskie. I'll never forget the feel of his skin – it was smooth like a shark – or the fight he put up just reeling him into the boat.

*Astrid Poci*



My son Ryan caught his first fish on East Twin Sister's Lake near Marmora, Ont. Getting him hooked on fishing early ensures many years of enjoyment in the future.

*Jamie Nichols*



## 2009 Provincial Licence-free dates

### ALBERTA'S LICENCE FREE WEEKEND

July 11 – 12, 2009  
780-944-0313 or 877-944-0313  
<http://www.albertaregulations.ca/fishingregs/>

### BC'S FAMILY FISHING WEEKEND

June 19 - 21, 2009  
604-660-2421  
<http://www.bcfamilyfishing.com> or  
[www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/fish](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/fish)

### MANITOBA'S FAMILY FISHING WEEKEND

June 13 – 14, 2009  
800-214-6497  
[www.gov.mb.ca/waterstewardship/fisheries](http://www.gov.mb.ca/waterstewardship/fisheries)

### NEW BRUNSWICK'S FAMILY FISHING WEEKEND

June 6 – 7, 2009  
506-453-2440  
[www.gnb.ca/0254/index-e.asp](http://www.gnb.ca/0254/index-e.asp)

### NEWFOUNDLAND'S FAMILY FISHING WEEKEND

year-round for residents  
800-563-6353  
[www.gov.nl.ca/env/wildlife](http://www.gov.nl.ca/env/wildlife)

### NORTHWEST TERRITORIES' FAMILY FISHING WEEKEND

800-661-0788  
[www.nwtwildlife.com/fishing](http://www.nwtwildlife.com/fishing)

### NOVA SCOTIA'S FAMILY FISHING WEEKEND

June 6 – 7, 2009  
902-485-5056  
[www.gov.ns.ca/fish/sportfishing](http://www.gov.ns.ca/fish/sportfishing)

### NUNAVUT'S FAMILY FISHING WEEKEND

866-686-2888 <http://www.gov.nu.ca/env/fisheries.shtml>

### ONTARIO'S FAMILY FISHING WEEKEND

July 10 – 12, 2009  
800-667-1940  
[www.familyfishingweekend.com](http://www.familyfishingweekend.com) or  
[www.ontario.ca/fishing](http://www.ontario.ca/fishing)

### PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND'S FAMILY FISHING WEEKEND

May 15 – 18, 2009  
902-368-4683  
[www.gov.pe.ca/envergfor/index.php3?number=1006024&lang=E](http://www.gov.pe.ca/envergfor/index.php3?number=1006024&lang=E)

### QUEBEC'S FAMILY FISHING WEEKEND

June 12 – 14, 2009  
418-627-8600  
[www.mrnf.gouv.qc.ca/english/wildlife](http://www.mrnf.gouv.qc.ca/english/wildlife)

### SASKATCHEWAN'S FAMILY FISHING WEEKEND

July 11 – 12, 2009  
306-787-2467 [www.environment.gov.sk.ca](http://www.environment.gov.sk.ca)

### YUKON'S FAMILY FISHING WEEKEND

July 3 – 6, 2009  
867-667-5721  
[www.environmentyukon.gov.yk.ca/fishing](http://www.environmentyukon.gov.yk.ca/fishing)

*Licence-free fishing does not apply to non-residents in all provinces. Check with the local office for details.*



My best friend, James Bolton, expresses his love for grassy pike at my cottage on the South shore of Lake Nipissing, Ont.

*Jackie Oshell*



We spent a day out on Lake Ontario last year on one of the charters participating in the Great Ontario Salmon Derby which the Toronto Sun sponsored. My son Jeff pulled in this 17-lb. Chinook Salmon with a little bit of help from the Captain.

*Pat Surphlis*



My father-in-law, "Tricky" Dick Grieve, is holding a 32-lb. lake trout caught during a fly-in trip to Maria Lake, Man., in 1994. He was 80 years old at the time. He died in Feb. this year at the ripe old age of 95.

*Terry England*



Erin Bonokoski and the fine walleye she caught with her dear old dad (Toronto Sun columnist Mark Bonokoski) last summer on Baptiste Lake, near Bancroft, Ont.

*Mark Bonkoski*



My nine-year-old son Jack shows off his prize catch, a 17-inch largemouth bass. He caught this fish off the dock, stalked it for over an hour before finally getting it to bite. Jack fishes from 5 a.m. to – literally – after midnight, and every summer there is at least one night when I have to carry him off the dock with his pole in his hands, fast asleep.

*Andrea DeMeer*