From the Editor …

May 15, 2023

Greeting Captains,

This year we will be celebrating the **43rd annual Governor's Fish Ohio Day on July 20, 2023**.

I have been coordinating the captains for this event for 18 years. If you haven't volunteered to participate in this great event, please take the time and get involved in this every special function.

This is when we, as Captains, get the opportunity to take politicians, influencers, news and media writers, and Ohio Division of Natural Resource folks out on our boats for a few hours of walleye fishing.

What a great a way to discuss what is near and dear to each one of us: the health and well-being of our Great Lake. Think about this … you have a captive audience to listen and who is interested in what we have to say.

The evening before the event, there will be a meet and greet at the Bait House in Port Clinton on the Portage River. What a great way to get to know more about the folks that will be on our boats the next day than in this very causal setting.

"What's in it for me?" You may be asking yourself. For volunteering you will receive:

- The opportunity to share our Great Lake with the people that can help make a difference!

- A one-year membership in the LECBA

- A stipend from LECBA to assist with the cost of running your boat.

- The day of the event … you will receive:
  - Continental breakfast at the Visitor's Center
  - Ice
  - A bucket of crawlers
  - Snacks and drinks for your crew
  - Hat or visor
  - Hand towels
  - Your anglers for the day
  - Fish cleaning of your catch
  - Lunch catered by Catawba Island Club
  - Fish prepared by the Division of Natural Resources folks
  - A Captain's gift from DNR Wildlife

I've been fortunate to have had several governor's, first ladies, governor's family members, local, state, and federal politicians, ODNR directors and Division of Wildlife Directors on board my boat over the years.

Did you know that Governor's Fish Ohio day was the brainchild of Governor James Rhoades in 1979 to draw focus to conservation and management of the Lake Erie fishery?

Here we are 43 years later still expounding on conservation and management of the fishery, the health and well-being of our Great Lake, and the billions of dollars tourists bring to our area every year.

I'm always interested in having different captains to run with this event. The event requires 15-20 captains every year.

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact me at 937-414-6742 or email at pegvanvleet@gmail.com.