



# Hook, Line, and Sinker

*The Official Newsletter of The New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen*

MAY 1993

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## TIPS FOR BETTER FISHING IN 1993

The open water fishing season for 1993 is here. Many anglers have said that 1992 was not their best year for fishing success. Unstable weather conditions had something to do with that, but we can't do anything about weather. However we can do something about the way we deal with the various conditions Mother Nature throws at us.

Following are some of the things we can do to increase our chances for success when the fish aren't cooperating:

### **DON'T FISH MEMORIES.**

Just because you caught fish on a particular point last year, don't assume they'll be there now.

### **BE WILLING TO CHANGE FISH SPECIES.**

Sure, walleyes are fun to catch, but sometimes it's just tough to get them to open their mouth. When this happens, go after bass, northerns, or panfish. Usually, their's one species of fish willing to bite, and it's lot more fun to catch a bunch of bass, then not catch any walleyes.

### **TRY ANOTHER BODY OF WATER.**

Along those same lines, if you want to catch walleyes and they're not going, move. Sometimes rivers will be better than lakes, and sometimes a small lake with stained water will outproduce a large one with clear water. Keep moving until fish are found. **DON'T GET STUCK ON ONE LURE OR ONE COLOR.**

Be versatile and experiment until the fish reveal what they want. Maybe the walleyes were smacking yellow jigs last week. Their lure and color preference will change from day to day, and even hour to hour.

### **TRY NEW BODIES OF WATER.**

Some of us get stuck on the same body of water every time we go out. It's fun to try new bodies of water, and it's also a learning experience. The more we learn, the more successful we'll be.

### **USE LIVE BAIT.**

If fish are finicky, a leech, minnow, or crawler wiggling on a Roach Rig, jig, or below a slip-bobber, will frequently be what it takes to get them interested. A plastic worm on a jig

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head is a great bass bait, but a jig and minnow will often be gobbled by a large and smallmouth bass while a jig and worm combo is ignored. **TRY NEW SPOTS AN YOUR FAVORITE BODY OF WATER.**

Sometimes we fly by a good location to get to another one. I know some people who live on a large body of water and they only fish five or six spots. There are plenty of other good structures that hold fish, but they only work those areas. If there are fish

there, they catch them, if not, they go home with an empty livewell. Some spots will produce when other's won't and the more spots we try, the better our odds for action.

**MOST IMPORTANTLY, EXPERIMENT.**

If you've never tried crankbaits for walleyes, make this the year to do so. If northern pike sound interesting, go after them. Do something different in your fishing this year, and I'll bet you find your success will increase.

**EDITORIAL**

The opener day come again. The time of year that most of us wait all winter for. We are off again to the great North Woods and pristine lakes teaming with wall-eyes. Do we really have to drive that far to enjoy great fishing? I don't

think so. A lot of people are missing some of the best fishing in the state right at our back door. I'm talking about the Minnesota River. Believe it or not, some of the biggest walleyes caught each year in the state, come from this



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river. Right you say, but if I fish the river I have to put up with all those rough fish that keep stealing my bait. Who labeled these fish rough anyway? What about them is rough? I don't know. Most of them make delicious eating if they are prepared right. And talk about fishing excitement, have you ever tied into a ten pound carp? Now there's a battle won't soon forget. Sure they are lots of fun to catch, you say, but what if I don't care for eating them? Do I have to take them home with me once I have caught them? No you don't. At the bottom of page 26 of

the 1993 Minnesota Fishing Regulations you will find a little known fact. And I quote, "Rough fish taken with hook and line may be returned alive to the water from which they were taken." So there is no problem with heading down to the river and tangling with a few of these so called rough fish. Even though they aren't the most glamorous fish around, they can provide many hours of entertainment. Not to mention the peace and relaxation you will enjoy being on the river. So why not give the river a try this year? Once the water goes down a little anyway.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

If you have a boat, we need you at Clear Lake on Saturday June 12 ready to go by 10 AM. It's our annual Take a Kid (Adult) Fishing event. Encourage an adult or kid you to bring one another fishing. We supply the rest. There will be eats and refreshments after the fishing. Let's introduce some

people to fishing and maybe make some anglers out of someone. What better way to protect the future of fishing than by showing the joys of America's best outdoor sport, to a young person who may later choose to protect fish habitat and pass on the wonder of the world near the water to other



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young people. There are so many distractions in this world. Isn't it great, that we, with all our grumbling, still have an opportunity to participate in one of mans oldest joys, angling.

Well we now have a meeting room/office in downtown New Ulm. It's located at 6 1/2 S. Minnesota Street above the South Side Pub. Our first meeting there will be in June on the 24th. Tami Weller is donating venison burger for a feed that night after the meeting, so bring your appetite, all the proceeds go to the club. NUASF continues to grow by leaps and bounds, keep up the good work, and by all means, tell a good friend about us.

This next meeting we will be honoring Jim

## HUMOR

The old-time sat on the riverbank, obviously awaiting a nibble, though the fishing season had not officially opened. I stood behind him quietly for several minutes. "You a game warden?" he finally

Steffens, he is the Blue Earth County Conservation Officer who had the guts to follow his instincts and ticket several pollution violators, along the Blue Earth and Minnesota Rivers. There has since been court cases and much attention paid to this all too important issue. Let's show Jim we appreciate his efforts by a real good turn out at the Schell's Tap Room on Thurs. May 27th. In the end guys like Jim will make a real difference in water quality as we know it right now. I would also add that Jim's action has sparked an entire movement among the Conservation Officers that work the Watershed. Hat's off to a job well done.

inquired. "Yep", I lied, figuring to scare him a little. Apparently unruffled, the old man began to move the fishing pole vigorously from side to side. Finally he lifted the line out of the water. "Just teaching

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him how to swim," he explained, pointing to a

minnow wiggling on the end of the line.

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# CLEAR LAKE UPDATE

The ice has finally left and we can get back on the lake. Most of the thin ice signs have been picked up and stored for the summer. We haven't found eight or ten signs. If you happen to see one when you are out fishing, please pick it up and bring it into shore by the landing when you come in. We got to try our new boat when we picked up the signs. It really worked out great and again a big thank you to Terry Slander for donating it to the club.

The lake has come up quite a bit this spring with all the rain we have had, which should make for some excellent fishing. So far the panfish have been slow to bite, but the walleyes have been very active. Some of the shore along County Park is scheduled to be removed this spring. Hopefully before Take A Kid Fishing. It looks like it is going to be a good year for Clear Lake.



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# CLUB CALENDAR

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 MEETING 7:30 PM SCHELLS-TAP ROOM  
*JUNE 12TH*  
 TAKE A KID FISHING-CLEAR LAKE



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