



Hook, Line, and Sinker

MAY
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The Official Newsletter of The New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen

CLEAR LAKE UPDATE

The lake is starting to warm up, and hopefully the fish will start biting. I have not heard many good reports so far. A large number of pelicans stopped off and rested and fed for a while before heading farther north. There are also quite a number of ducks and several pair of geese that have decided to call Clear Lake home for the summer. The water is extremely clear and there seems to be plenty of forage for the lake's game fish. The club is in the process of clearing the vegetation from two areas in front of the County Park. We would like to get this done before Take a Kid Fishing weekend. This will hopefully give people a chance to get some shore fishing done. The lake looks to be in very good condition, and we can all be proud that our efforts are paying dividends.

RIVER CLEANUP

It just seems to get bigger and better every year. More and more people are getting involved. This year 3M adopted a section of the River next to ours. New ground was covered this year, and tons of garbage and recyclables were collected. It seems to be a never ending job. The amount of junk picked up each year

seems to be the same or greater than the previous year. Hopefully we are getting enough people involved with the river and making it a better place to spend some time, that it will start being policed to some extent. Maybe it will discourage people from dumping on the River.

MILLE LACS LAUNCH TRIP

We still have a couple of openings for this summer's launch trip to Mille Lacs. The trip is scheduled for Saturday, June 25th. We will be leaving early Saturday morning, and returning that evening. Cost for the trip will be about fifty dollars. This will include the launch, bait, bus ride, food and beverage. It should be an excellent time to be on Mille Lacs for walleye fishing. In fact, a certain member who has been on this particular launch, is almost ready to guarantee that we will catch our limit of fish. For more information give me a call at 359-9650 or come to the next meeting..

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WHERE ARE YOU?

What is happening to this club? I don't know if this is the right way to start. The right words don't seem to come to the front and jump to my pen. I am a bit upset and am trying not to let it influence my writing too much. We seem to be getting complacent. Our club has completed many wonderful projects. Our mission statement is to improve the quality of sportfishing in the New Ulm Area. I believe we are doing this. But it takes more than a handful of you to accomplish this goal. If we have the same ten or fifteen members doing all the work, we are going to lose them. Then where will the club be? After a while it gets tiring, and this core group of doers gets resentful of being the only ones doing the work. They are what has made our club what it is today, and we don't want to lose them.

I was really disappointed at the showing we made at the River Cleanup earlier this month. Out of one hundred-eighteen members, only six showed up that morning. I didn't expect everyone to be there, but we should have had fifteen or twenty members. 3M, the Clinic, and Minnesota Valley Testing Labs put us to shame with the large number of people that they brought to the River. I'm not asking you to be there for every project, but we need more of you to get involved. Most projects we do only require your help for a couple of hours at a time. I am not trying to scare you off. I know some of you are not physically able to help with some of the projects we are in-



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The *Hook, Line, and Sinker* is published monthly by Chris Vorwerk and John Vorwerk for the New Ulm Area Sports Fishermen. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are solely that of the respective writers and are not to be construed as the opinion of the NUASF or its members.

volved with. Some of you can't help in the summer or winter. But if you can see yourself clear to give us an hour or two here or there, it will be greatly appreciated. We need you to keep our Club strong.

EDITORIAL

Spring has been gradually working it's way into the area. Everything is getting green again and the itch is getting stronger to sneak away and do a little fishing. It is something I have been waiting for most of the winter. Most of us get plenty of opportunities throughout the summer to get away to the lake or down to the river. There are many though, that are not so fortunate. It might be the kid down the block who doesn't have a Dad to take him, or he might live next door and his parents don't have the time or just are not interested in fishing. A lot of kids have never had the opportunity to wet a line, and this is really sad. Fishing for a kid can be a special experience, something that they will remember for the rest of their life. June 11th and 12th is a weekend when we can do something for these kids. This weekend is Take A Kid Fishing. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources promotes this as a time for everyone to get out and do some fishing. Adults do not need a license to fish if they are accompanied by a child under sixteen years old.

It is also a time when the New Ulm Area Sportfishermen Take A Kid Fishing. They are taught some of the basics about fish and fishing. If they have never fished, they are given some instruction on tying knots, lure selection, and casting, before they are taken out to do some actual fishing. We have been doing this now for five or six years. Just recently I ran into a young boy who I had taken out on Clear Lake three years ago. He came up to me and said, "Do you remember when you took me fishing in that boat? I caught a fish you know." I thought this

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was really special. After 3 years he still remembers that day when I gave him a chance to learn how to fish. Not everyone has the time to set aside that weekend to come out and help us, or to do it on their own. You don't have to worry about that, any weekend throughout the summer can be your time to Take A Kid Fishing.

From The President

Well we had a near blizzard at the occasion of our last out-reach meeting! The good news is we had a pretty good turn out, all things considered. The catfish was quite delectable and our club went away with 3 new members. We hope to return to Evan under more conducive conditions and maybe this time the concertina players won't get snowed in.

The Minnesota Riverbank Cleanup was a tremendous success 120 plus volunteers picked up over 40 cubic yards of trash, not to mention about 300 tires and 2 old cars. Club turnout was a little slim, but I'm sure next time will be better.

Cross your fingers, cause I think the river is going to be low enough, to get our 18 acre wetland established this summer. I am particularly excited about this prospect, because I have seen other such projects that have made a real showplace out of a wetland. What a golden opportunity for New Ulm area kids to have access to a virtual outdoor classroom. I envision paved pathways and a possible access bridge over the sight for all onlookers to view the magic of a swamp and all its creatures.

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Well, the weeds at Clear Lake are tough buggars but with a new blade on the weed cutters progress is being made. At the time of this article 3/4ths of the 100 ft. area has been cleared. Volunteers worked very hard on the first occasion, about 8hrs each to be precise, subsequently there have been two more such sessions and we do need your help. The next meeting will be at Clear lake, so bring your rake and waders if you have them, but most importantly bring yourself. The meeting will get started a little early and we hope to get an hour and a half of work in after. Then we'll have a meal and refreshments. See you there.

MAY MEETING

We are having the May meeting at Clear Lake for two reasons. First it is a beautiful park and it needs to be used more. It will be a short meeting because after it is over we hope to get a little work out of some of you. As you probably know we are clearing some of the vegetation from in front of the County Park. We have a good start on it already and by the time we have our meeting we hope to be in a position to be able to finish the job that evening. If we have enough people show up it won't take a lot to complete the job. All you need to bring that night are boots and a garden rake. You can come to the meeting and not feel obligated to work. We will be serving lunch and refreshments after the meeting. We hope to see you there.

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CLUB CALENDAR

May 26th
Meeting-Schell's Tap Room
 7:30 PM

June 11th
Take A Kid Fishing-Clear Lake
 Time to be announced

June 25th
Launch Lake Trip to Mille Lacs

June 29th
Meeting-Schell's Tap Room
 7:30 PM



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