



# Hook, Line, and Sinker

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

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## Membership Drive "96"

Time is running short on this years drive. There are only two more months left until we award some lucky member a new club jacket. We have slaked off the last couple of months. The membership drive has slipped into neutral. We haven't signed any new members for awhile, and it is time to shift into high gear. Two out of the next three meetings are at the Schell's Tap Room. This is a great time to bring prospective members to a meeting. It is a lot easier to get people to join once they have sat through one of our meetings. Don't be afraid to invite someone, even if you don't think they are interested. A little time spent with our members can go a long way towards convincing them to join.



While we are discussing membership, I would like to slip this in on you. We have a few members who are past due, and we need you to get your dues sent in to us. Your dues are what keeps this club running from month to month. This is traditionally the time of year that we start running low on operating funds, and we need you, the life blood of this fine organization, to get your dues in on time so we can keep the club running smoothly. Let's get those dues paid up and bring a friend to the next meeting.

### Meeting Changes

You may have noticed that the next two meetings are not scheduled for the last Thursday of the month. We have run into a problem with Halloween falling on the last Thursday in October, so the meeting has been moved to the week before. The November meeting generally gives us a problem because of Thanksgiving. Thus that months meeting will also be a week early.

### Club Calendar

October 24th----- Meeting - Schells Tap Room - 7:30 P.M.

November 21st -----Meeting - To be announced

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# Stocking Myth Exposed

"Stock more so that we can catch more" is a persistent myth about fisheries. Most anglers believe that by adding fish, the fishing will get better. In reality, without an unfilled niche, added fish either die or displace other fish. A recent study by the Birginia Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit demonstrates the limits of stocking. For 11 years, biologists monitored the results of stocking striped bass in Smith Mountain Reservoir, Virginia. The reservoir contained ample pelagic prey, but no pelagic predator. Stripers were introduced to occupy an apparently open nitch. Stocking was successful, and anglers eagerly sought these large gamefish. Average annual survival rate of age -1 and older stripers was 40 percent. An average of 21 percent of stocked fingerlings survived their first year, although annual survival rate varied between 4 and 54 percent. Researchers found that the percentage of juvenile survivors decreased as the number stocked increased beyond minimum level. Based on these results, stocking 200,000 fingerlings would provide as many 1-year-old stripers as stocking 620,000. Once the reservoir's capacity to feed juvenile striped bass was reached, more could not survive. More milk can't be poured into an already full bottle. Nevertheless, the public continues to ask for stocking solutions to most fisheries problems. Money and manpower for fishery management are wasted by the myth of easy cures through stocking.

from North American Journal of Fish Management

## From the President

The Winter Fishing trip is always a big event for the club and it attracts a lot of attention. Plans for this years trip will be discussed at the next meeting. We will discuss where, when, what, and how and finalize the plans. So if you plan on going you should make this next meeting at the Schell's Brewery.

Our largest fund raiser of the year will also be on the agenda, that being the Winter Fishing contest at Clear Lake. Those of you with ideas and who are able to help out should make this meeting to share in the planning, so we can get some of the things we talked about after last years contest down and get started on them now.

It was good to see participation of DNR Fisheries at our last meeting, Hugh Vallient presented eye opening info on Sleepy Eye Lake, as well as Lake Hanska. It also looks as if some exciting activity with regards to Minnesota River access and water quality improvement is on the horizon as well. Our thanks to Hugh for coming over and talking with us.

Our thanks also goes out to Dave Bectold, with the New Ulm Parks Development. He had some good news for us with regards to Minecon Park and a possible trail hookup to Riverside Park and general improvements and focus on these parks.

We also need to recognize some club members who participated in our annual clean-up along our adopted section of the Minnesota River. Dave Cook for disposing of the garbage and picking up fees. Walt Luneberg for taking the steel and other metals for recycling, the 3M RRAT'S for sharing in the planning and offering prizes as well as Tyleen Miller for handling all the food.



## Hook, Line, and Sinker

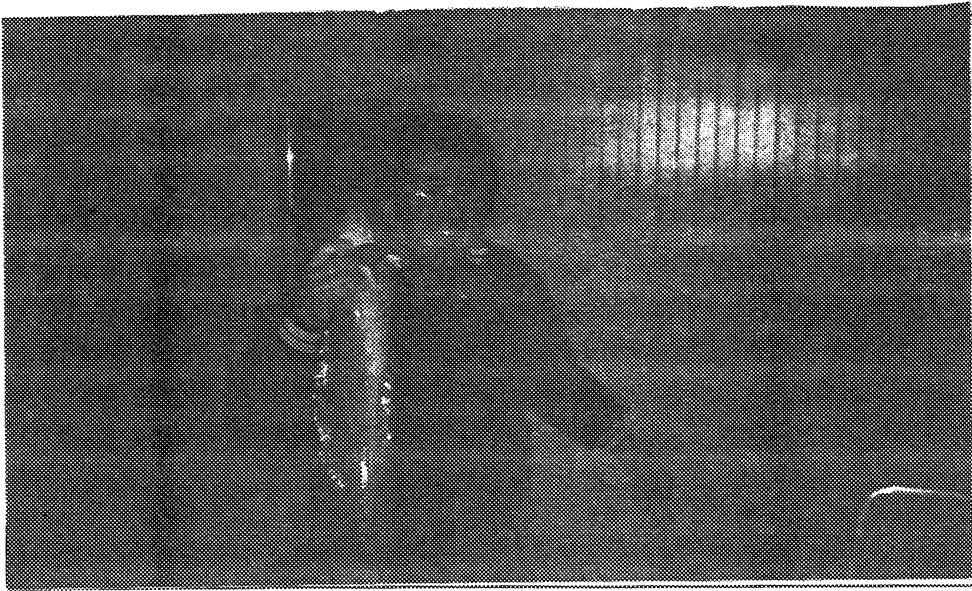
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### The NUASF Board

President - Scott Sparlin (359-2346); Vice-President - Jerry Carlson (354-8869); Secretary / Treasurer - Mike Deinken (359-9650); Board Member - Jim Huelke (354-3654).

# Ice Fishing "97"



The time is fast approaching when we will need to make plans for this coming years icefishing trip. At the October meeting we will be making plans and discussing possible destinations for this years excursion. We usually plan this trip to fall on the weekend before the Super Bowl, and this seems to work out well for us. We haven't decided where to go for our next trip, so if you have any preference or an idea for a new spot that you think we might like to try, bring some information and details to the next meeting. We need to finalize the destination for the trip so that we can get reservations in early to get the dates we want. The trip has generally cost us around \$100 per person. This has included transportation, accommodations and bait. If you are interested or have an idea for a new lake, please come to the October meeting, we want your input in planning this trip.

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