



Hook, Line, and Sinker

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CLEAR LAKE UPDATE

Some fish survived winter kill

It appears that we did not get a complete fish kill at Clear Lake. Although many fish did die, it appears some did survive. I have had one report of northern spawning in the wetland to the northwest of the lake. We also heard that the DNR has some walleyes and a lot of bullheads in the test nets. The bullheads were more or less expected, the walleyes and northern came as quite a surprise. With the numbers of other fish we saw dead along the shores of Clear Lake, I did not believe there could be any game fish that survived. Now what shall we do? The game fish did not all die and there is quite a population of bullheads. Do we want the lake treated again? This would mean a wait of possibly two years before we could start fishing again. Do we leave the lake as it is and stock some more game fish? This would mean putting up with the bullheads. But we could be fishing much sooner. These are some tough questions, and they need serious consideration before coming to any conclusion. We will have more information and a better idea of where things stand at the next meeting.

The thin ice signs were retrieved and they had a pretty rough season. Most will have to be painted and quite a few will need new signs applied. We may also have to make some this summer, as we are down to about 60 signs. Until next month, Good Fishing!

Membership Report

We have lost a few members in the last couple of months. Right now we stand at 105 members. This is not too bad. We have been above 100 for the last three years, and I think we will stay there. The bad part is, we have almost 30 members who are past due. We cannot afford to lose that amount of people. Our members are the heartbeat of the club, they have made this a strong and purposeful organization. This something we cannot afford to let slip away, not after all the good we have accomplished in the 100 years since we started this ball rolling. We need our members to keep their dues up to date. You have made our club strong and vibrant, let's keep it that way. Let's get our past dues paid up.



Club Calendar

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| May 29 | Meeting - Evan Inn-Bus leaves 6:30 p.m. from bus garage,
Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. |
| May 31st | Bass Season opens - Good Luck! |
| June 26th | Meeting - Schell's Tap Room? |

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"PIT STOP" ON FARM TIRE SERVICE

From the President. . .

As I write this I am getting ready to make a trip to my farm to do some fishing. It's the week after the opener and I'm ready for some warmer water and fishing action. I will take time to reflect as I do every year. One thing I will be thinking about is how we as a group can always improve and be relative to the needs of sport fishing, while at the same time have our membership increase as well as our degree of enjoyment by being together.

These will be contemplated while I gaze at my shiner and ask the ever important questions of myself, should I hook him in the tail or right behind the head. I know I will have to make decisions about where to go fishing, when to go fishing, who to go with, what to bring along when I go, and if I should use sunscreen and bug spray or bring my sunglasses. You know, the non-fishing public just doesn't get it about how much work all this is. Thankfully my wife of 20 years does. This yearly ritual of challenge, truly is a right of passage that must be genetic. For the non-fishing public I will offer condolences to their lack of understanding and make them feel guilty for not working as hard as I do at having fun. Geeze do I need to go fishing!!

Our next meeting in Evan at the Evan Inn will be put together by Erv Fischer, plan to be there it should be as good as always.

One thing before I go, I hope a great deal of the membership can participate in some of the worth while things coming up. The tree planting party on Friday night May 30th and Saturday morning the 31st, any amount of time you can put on this will be greatly appreciated. Anyone that wants to bartend for the Blues Fest can do so by calling 359-2346 or sign up at the next meeting. We will also be taking the kids of Camp Courage out fishing and be working with a kids fishing event with PRO, "People Reaching Out". Watch for the dates on those as well.

Floodplain Tree Planting Party

Who: Public welcome and needed!

Where: South Highway 15 bridge and Cottonwood River, New Ulm.

What: Planting trees on city property that was formerly row cropped flood land.

When: Friday, May 30th, 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, May 31st, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Any amount of time you have during those periods is welcome.

How: Tree planting experts will be on hand to teach those who want to learn. Dress appropriately.

There will be food and refreshments for all helpers.

Sponsored by: Coalition for a Clean Minnesota River and Rahr Malting Corp. with support from the New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen and 3M River Restoration Action Team.

For more information: Call Scott Sparlin 1-507-359-2346.

For Sale

Club clothing-Jackets-Tee Shirts-and a big new selection of hats.
Reasonably priced and we have your size. Contact Mike Deinken



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and Sinker**

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The Hook Line and Sinker is published monthly by copy haus for the New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are solely those of respective writers and not to be construed as the opinion of the NUASF or its members. Send all correspondence and submissions to Mike Deinken, Editor, 1022 Spring Street, New Ulm, Minnesota 56073.

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).

Heaven's Fire

Reprinted from an article by Keith McCafferty

If you're fishing in a lightning storm, the last cast of the day could be the last cast of your life.

Each year 40 million bolts of lightning strike the continental United States. Most of us believe that we have about as much chance of getting struck as we do of being impaled by arrows falling from the sky. But the fact is that the silver arrows of thunder's quiber injure 1,000 people annually, many of them outdoorsmen like ourselves, and kill from 150 to 250. That's more than are killed by any other natural disaster, including tornadoes, and it's more than are killed by hurricanes, floods, avalanches, blizzards, and erathquakes combined.

As the jagged leaderstroke of lightning's downward thrust nears a prominence of land, an opposaite charge is induced and a pilot stroke may rise from the land to complete the path. Multiple return strokes rising from the ground cause the ionized air to flicker dramatically, and these upward If you're fishing in a lightning storm, the last cast of the day could be the last cast of your life.

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As the jagged leaderstroke of lightning's downward thrust nears a prominence of land, an opposaite charge is induced and a pilot stroke may rise from the land to complete the path. Multiple return strokes rising from the ground cause the ionized air to flicker dramatically, and these upward strokes are extremely hot (as much as 50,00 degrees F) and may produce up to 100 million volts of electricity, which is more than is generated by the country's largest power plant. By counting the number of seconds between seeing a bolt of lighting and hearing the peal of its thunder, you can easily guage itsa distance from you. Allow .5 seconds for each mile. But don'tbe misled into second-guessing your safty by counting seconds, becuae the front of the strom could alreadybe over your head. Lightning doesn't give all its victims the chance to learn by mistake. Almost a third who are hit will die. So if you are fishing, don't tell yourself that there's time for one last cast. It could be just that - your last cast.

tip line

- ☛ **Fish have a hard time sucking in baits or lures that are fished on a tight line. Leaving a slight bit of slack in the line makes it easier for a fish to take the bait all the way into its mouth. Pumping your rod while trolling or retrieving creates moments when your line alternates between being slack and tight and makes it easier for a fish to grab hold.**
- ☛ **Tents and sleeping bags will last indefinitely if you dry them thoroughly after use, before putting them away. Rig up a pulley and rope in the eaves of your garage and use it to hang tents and sleeping bags up out of the way until they are completely dry before folding them for storage.**

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