



Hook, Line, and Sinker

May
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Issue 5

The Official Publication of The New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen

NUASF participates in Belle Plaine River Clean-up

On Saturday, May 1st, a group from the 3M RRATS and the New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen took a bus ride to Belle Plaine to help clean up one of the worst dump sites that any of us had ever seen. We were told that about 250,000 tires had already been removed from the site, yet in the four hours we were there we pulled thousands of tires out of the flood plain. We also filled four large dump-

sters with garbage and piled up 7 or 8 tons of steel. There was also quite a bit of hazardous material in the form of propane and acetylene tanks, freon cylinders, batteries, and container of

waste oil and anti-freeze. It was amazing to see the amount we got cleaned up in such a short time. The guy from the MPCA was very impressed with the amount of work we got done.

NUASF member, Clinton Keene wins Canadian fishing trip raffle

A raffle was held at our last meeting, to award one lucky member an all-expense paid, fishing trip to Lake Diefenbaker in Saskatchewan. There were quite a few hopeful fishermen, but there could only be one winner. That person is Clint

Keene. We wish to thank everyone who took a chance and helped us raise some cash for the club. Most of all we want to thank Eric Olson for donating the trip to the club.

Club House News

Things at the Club House are looking pretty good, but we do have quite a few things planned for this summer. We plan to replace the other window and install a couple of ceiling fans. There is some landscaping that will need to be done near the bathrooms and also up the ravine a little bit. Last summer we had a work day and I believe we will do the same again this year. We are also looking for a good used refrigerator. The old pop machine we are using to store beer and pop is very inefficient and costs way too much to run. We don't want an old clunker, it has to be a newer model. Broken shelves or drawers won't be a problem. Anyone with a refrigerator or knows of one, contact Mike or Scott.

Volunteers needed for Food Booth for three weekends this summer

At our last meeting we picked three dates to run our food booth at the Sausage Shop this summer. Those weekends are Heritagefest, both weekends and Labor Day weekend. This has the possibility of being a very good money-

maker for us. We are going to need some volunteers to help us man the stand these three weekends. We are only asking for 3 or 4 hours of your time. There will be a sign-up sheet at the next couple of meetings.

Club Calendar

May 27th - NUASF Meeting, Clubhouse, 7:30 p.m.

June 24th - NUASF Meeting Clubhouse, 7:30 p.m.



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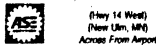
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"PIT STOP" ON FARM TIRE SERVICE

FROM THE PRESIDENT. . .

Well finally opener for walleye and northern is upon us. Talk about traffic, and every other thing that society does to bug us all, at least for a couple days. This opener should be a good one for catching fish for those that go out and you use some kind of bait. For the rest of you, well you need to work on it.

Our last meeting was a dandy. We had Mark Ten Eyck dow to talk to us s about a couple of "ditch improvement" projects that we have made our business. You could hear a pin drop at the meeting as he discussed the particulars of the cases. We have since found out that Big Stone County has received a cease and desist order from the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources, with regards to drainage in that county, until things get sorted out go figure. I have included the letter I sent to the Nicollet County Commissioners regarding Seven Mile Creek and a request for them to do an Environmental Assessment Worksheet. By the way, thank you to the members that signed the petition for the worksheet at the last meet ing, it was 100 percent of the members present. On a side note I had a meeting with Fred Froelich of the Nicollet Conservation Club last week and they may be getting involved with us on seven mile creek.

Make sure you bring your ideas for our dates on our food booth at Lenny's to the next meeting. We need to pick them now. So far it was agreed upon for the two weekend of Heritagefest and Labor Day. We will need two more good weekends to run it for the year, let's talk about it at this meeting.

We are looking for another decent refrigerator for the club house so keep your eyes open for one.

Right now Erv Fischer, aka (poor George) is way out front in the membership drive for the year and the free jacket!

Our club continues to grow and it's no wonder, we cover lots of ground and have a good time doing it, from the Camp Courage kids outing to our Winter fishing trip along with all of the other issues surrounding improvement of fishing nd fish habitat, (some of them are pretty tough). This organization has a great deal to be proud of, so hats off to all of you. Sometimes we don't say that enough and you are all uniquely important to the club.

Lastly, I would like to invite all of you to the next Minnesota River Public Input Committee meeting. There were 26 people at the last meeting and another 20 would be great to fill the room and send a message to the Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board that w are alive and well and quite interested in the future of the river and it's tributaries. This next meeting will have an on-going discussion on drainage as well as many varied other topics that pertain to the river. The meeting is at the club house at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 26th. We need a good turnout by our organization in order to push the water quality initiatives that are of utmost importance to us. Representatives of Agencies, the Joint Powers Board and the people of the basin are invited, to provide a good mixture of government and the public.

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

The NUASF Board

President - Scott Sparin (359-2346); Vice-President - Jerr Carlson (354-8869); Secretary / Treasurer - Mike Deinke (359-9650); Board Members: Jim Huelke (354-3654), Dav

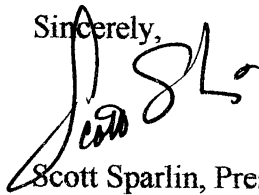
To: Nicollet County Commissioners

From: President, Scott Sparlin
New Ulm Area Sport Fishing Club
1022 N. Spring St.
New Ulm, MN 56073

Dear Commissioners,

We have been made aware of a proposed drainage project that will apparently impact the last naturally producing brown trout stream here in South Central Minnesota. It is proposed for ditch #58, which has a straight flow to Seven Mile Creek. Needless to say when we were made aware of this project by the DNR, and that it would have grave consequences for the stream, we became intensely interested. That particular stream is a favorite fishing hole for several of our members. One such member Dave Schoenberg of New Ulm, an attorney has enjoyed fishing there for years and was surprised and dismayed at the proposed project as it has been engineered. It appears there are many environmental consequences that simply could be offset by a better planned project. According to Hugh Vallient of the MNDNR fisheries at Waterville there are definite opportunities for improvement of drainage for producers as well as measures that could be taken to secure the habitat for brown trout. We have individually signed a petition for an EAW. We hope you take it seriously. There are 130 members in the club, many are from Nicollet County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Sparlin', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Scott Sparlin, President

First Minnesota River Public Input Committee Meeting held April 21st in New Ulm

The first meeting of the Minnesota River Public Input Committee (PIC) was held on April 21st in New Ulm at the office of the Coalition for a Clean Minnesota River. 26 people attended from throughout the river basin. Larry, for the record, I was called by 4 people prior to the meeting to ask me if it was worth their time to attend. I answered "only if they made it so". Then I thought to myself, it would be a disservice to the public that lives and works here to not share information with the public about what is happening with regards to the river.

In the light of this I will re-invite all peoples of the basin, especially those whose jobs it is to work in this area, to these meetings. It is crucial that we start letting the public know what's up.

At this meeting ground rules and purpose of the committee were explained and agreed upon. The PIC has autonomy and is designed, on our collective behalf, to give recommendations to all state agencies and the Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board as it pertains to the river.

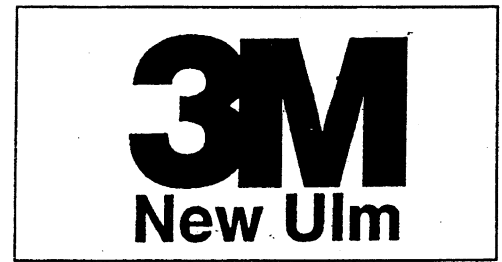
Two Big Stone County Commissioners were on hand to report on two particular drainage projects in their county. It was decided that this group had no legal authority but would further research these. It was a thought that the Minnesota River Joint Powers Board may want to look at these particular projects and that the PIC was more about trying to come up with a better system and appropriate sequential approach to drainage in general and that we had no authority to solve their particular immediate needs. It was also noted that engineers who design drainage projects need to consider river effects in their plans before they move forward with the process. Future PIC meetings will have this on the agenda. On a related note, Mark Dittrich of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture reported at the meeting that group has been in discussions since last Summer called the Agricultural and Rural Water Management group and that it was probable that the legislature would be taking a good look at this within the next couple of years. They would be a good contact for us and could provide information.

Signage was discussed that would identify drainage ditches that have actual stream names on county and state roads. Bob Finley of Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area said he had some experience in this area and said it was a way to have people identify not only the watershed they live in but the one they are travelling through. A strategy to do this on a greater scale will be researched and discussed at up-coming meetings of the PIC and people were encouraged to come up with in class 7 "limited resource" streams. A discussion at the meeting surrounded the message that this sent to the people of the basin and that further clarification of this consideration needed to be made to the peoples of the watershed on a greater scale of what this is about.

A report was given on a huge volunteer effort to clean up a dump site near Belle Plaine. Tony Miller of the 3M River Restoration Action Team in New Ulm said they were coordinating a clean up day on Saturday May 1st. Details for anyone wishing to volunteer can call the CCMR office: 507-359-2346.

Bob Finley also reported that on June 28th through the 30th that there would be morning coffee meetings on the Cottonwood River. The last day they would be having a float down the river from highway 4 bridge to Flandrau State Park with activities to follow. The next meeting date is Wednesday, May 26th in New Ulm at the CCMR office at 7 p.m. To obtain directions, simply e-mail your request to yasure@mailcity.com

Future meetings dates have been set for the rest of the year, several of them have openings to be hosted in other places. To set one up, call Scott Sparlin at the CCMR office, 507-359-2346. To obtain a list of the dates and meeting places, simply send your address via e-mail.



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