

June 2000 Volume 10 Issue 6

The Official Publication of The New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen

Fishing with kids

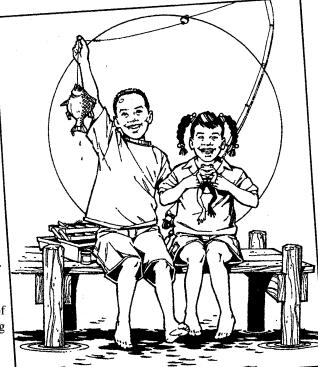
Fishing with kids from Camp Courage

This month we will again be taking a group of kids from Camp Courage on a fishing outing at Studtmann's Pond. We have done this for quite a few years. The kids all have a great time and it is really enjoyable watching them catch fish. After the fishing we all enjoy a picnic lunch.

We do need help though as most of these kids need help with everything from baiting the hook, casting, and releasing the fish. This is an event that everyone should experience at least once. The date is June 27th at 4:00 p.m. If you can help, and need directions. Call Scott or Mike

Kids' Fishing Contest

The 3rd Annual Kids' Fishing Contest has been set for Wednesday, July 19th at Riverside Park. The contest will start at



about 4:00 p.m. We had a significant increase in participation last year and we expect the same this year. Ken Sutherland will be coordinating this years' contest. If you can help or would like to donate some sort of prize you can contact Ken. We will be having lunch for the kids so will be needing some help that evening.

Club Calendar

June 21st...Camp Courage Kids Fishing at Studtmann's Pond 4:00 p.m. June 27th...Clear Lake to repair handicap ramp 5:00 p.m.

June 29th...Meeting at Club House 7:00 p.m.

July 19th...Kids Fishing Contest - Riverside Park 4:00 p.m.

Clear Lake Up Date

Clear Lake is back! Fish have been stocked, we have received some much needed rain to raise the lake level and fishing on the lake has been closed for the coming year. Temporarily the lake has been designated a spawning area which closes it to any type of fishing. This also makes the lake off-limits to any kind of boating. This could be changing later this summer to allow boating.

Now that Clear Lake is back on track, we need to rebuild the access ramp we need at the County Park. We have scheduled this for Tuesday, June 27th, starting about 5:00 p.m. We need your help so that we can finish it in one evening. If we get enough help we may be able to clean the beach while we are out there. Even if you can only come out for an hour, your help will be greatly appreciated.



Club Fishing Contest

On September 9th we will be having an fishing contest on informal Minnesota River on Dick Petermann's land upstream from New Ulm. It sounds like we may be camping overnight and possibly grilling. The rest of the details will be finalized at upcoming meetings.



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FROM THE PRESIDENT. . .

I hope each of you is getting some chances to go fishing. It's been pretty good with recent rains raising lake and stream levels. Our own Clear Lake is up considerably from this April at its low point. The latest from Hugh Valllient is that the barrier is holding up well and the fish are doing good. The sign is up at the landing stating that the lake is closed for angling and there is some final details to cover to extend it until next year, but I'm told that is going on right now and that there shouldn't be a problem.

Don't forget about the Camp Courage outing at Studtman's pond. It starts at 4 p.m. and goes 'til about 6:30 - 7 p.m. on Wednesday, June 21.

If you have a chance to run out to either one of the floodplain reclaimation sites you should do it. You won't believe how big the trees are and how great the native grasses are coming along. Now, if the water were to come up, it would filter it at those sites and slow the water down considerably. It's truly nature at its finest with a little push from us. As a side bar, I saw two rooster pheasants at the Cottonwood site when I first arrived there. Can Turkeys be far behind?

Opening day on the river my son caught three sturgeons. What's up with that? Some people go a lifetime never catching one.

Make an effort to get to the next meeting and there are a couple other dates to keep in mind also. They are in this issue so mark them down and help if you can. See you then.

Canadian Fishing Trip Raffle

At our last meeting we held our 2nd annual Canadian Raffle. There was approximately as much interest as last year as we sold about the same number of chances. This year's winner is Jerry Carlson. He receives an all expense paid three-day Canadian fishing trip at Eric Olson's fish camp at Lake Diefenbaker in Saskatchewan. Congratulations Jerry and thanks Eric, for making this fundraiser possible.

Food Stand

Last year we ran our food stand quite a bit. The reason being, we needed o raise money to help with the restocking of Clear Lake. This year we will again be operating the stand but on a more limited basis. The stand will be open only three weekends this summer. The weekends we have chosen are the two weekends of Heritagefest and the first weekend of Oktoberfest. We have coordinators for all three dates. There have also been members who have expressed interest in working sone of the hours. We will still need more help, so keep those dates in mind and give Mike Deinken a call if you are able to work at all.

Social Night

Starting in June we will be opening the Club House for members to get together and learn more about each other. Possibly share fishing stories or whatever. This will all be happening on the second Tuesday of June, July and August. Anytime after 5:30 p.m.

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Editorial by Scott Faber / Mississippi Monitor

The greatest threat to the nation's rivers may not be the locks, dams and other training structures that bar or straighten their courses.

Instead, it may be the federal agency which built the the U.S. Corps of Engineers. In recent weeks, the *Washington Post* revealed that the Corps cooked the books in order to justify longer locks on the Mississippi River and that top Corps military officials ordered their civilian subordinates to "get creative" with Corps benefit-cost teats to boost the agency's budget by 50 percent.

So far only the Mississippi Valley Division has been implicated in this scandal. But there is good reason to assume that all Corps studies of the past few years have been tainted by the actions of these top officials. One of the generals involved recently ran the Corps' Northwest Division, which oversees the Columbia, Snake and Missouri rivers. Another general recently ran the Ohio River Division, which has proposed major new locks for the Ohio.

The entire Corps has been tainted by this scandal, and every recent study by the Corps is suspect - including studies of the Columbia, Snake, Missouri, Mississippi and Ohio rivers. Accordingly, the independent review the Pentagon has ordered for the Mississippi navigation study should be expanded to quickly review all Corps studies. Until then, Corps studies will have as much credibility as Mark Fuhrman's testimony in the O.J. Simpson trial.

For the time being, the Corps cannot be trusted to study water resources problems, Every future study should, for the forseeable future, be reviewed by independent experts to ensure that the agency's military and civilian officials are applying the Corp's planning regulations uniformly.

And, the Clinton Administration - which, like Captain Renault in the movie Casablanca was "Shocked! Shocked!" to learn that the Corps has been cooking the books - must dramatically restructure the Corps to place civilians firmly in control of the agency. The corps must no longer be allowed to behave like a military junta. Other planning guidance reforms should also be implemented - before the election. Fortunately, a special White House task force already figured out which reforms to implement - five years ago.

Finally, Congress has an important role to play. The last two water resources bills have contributed to a \$30 billion backlog of authorized protects - more than the Corps could complete in a decade - and more projects are slated for authorization this summer

These bills have given the Corps the green light to abuse the public's trust. Instead of authorizing new projects, the new chairman of the Senates environment and Public Works Committee should aggressively deauthorize environmentally-destructive, costly projects such as the Yazoo Pumps or more navigation on the White River.

It's easy to feel sorry for the civilian staff who were told the break the law - and

cook the books - or face demotions. But, the top military officials who contributed to this culture and gave direct orders to cheat should be digging latrines in Kosovo by the time you read this.

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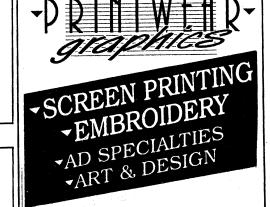
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