



Hook, Line, and Sinker

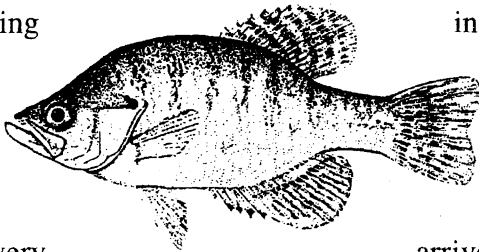
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CLEAR LAKE UPDATE

Lake comes through winter in good shape

The preliminary reports are in and Clear Lake has come through the winter in pretty good shape. The DNR has completed test netting and it seems we had a very minor fish kill. The crappies showed up in very impressive number. Bass and sunfish were also present but not as plentiful as the crappies. Walleye were again a no-show. For some reason none showed in the nets either this spring or last fall. The DNR is planning to stock fingerlings this spring. This should put us in about the same position as we would have been had the fry that were stocked last fall survived. It looks like we



will have a terrific opener on July 1st.

On April 28th a group of members converged on the old fishing pier at the lake.

We were intent on dismantling the beast and removing it from the beach. When we arrived it seemed that we

had a formidable task on our hands. When we left at 6:00 p.m. there was but one section left, and that was removed intact later the next week. We had quite the caravan when we did leave. I believe there were ten vehicles loaded down with the different parts from the old fishing pier. Everything is stashed somewhere at the club grounds. Thanks to all the guys who helped that day. We

removed the old pier with very little time to spare. On Monday, May 7th, the new fishing pier was dedicated. Numerous dignitaries from the various groups responsible for making the new pier a reality were on hand. Special thanks to Orv Rannow for all his work in coordinating this project. If you get a chance, run out, it's a dandy.

Club House News

On May 5th we had planned to do some general clean-up and spruce-up at the club grounds. There was quite a bit of painting that we had hoped to get done. Well, the weather changed our plans somewhat. We did get the storage shed cleaned and we built a shelf so the interior isn't so cluttered. The outhouse got spruced up, thanks to our PLO. We also got some branches cleaned up and the lawn mowers serviced and ready to go. We will look for a later date to get our painting done.

Club Calendar

May 31 st.....Meeting at Club House • 7:30 p.m.

June 28th Meeting at Club House • 7:30 p.m.



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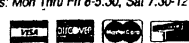
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"PIT STOP" ON FARM TIRE SERVICE

From the President . . .

Well, fishing opener has come and gone and I hope all of you have taken the time to get out. As I write this I am getting ready to go out on the Minnesota River to a couple of my favorite walleye spots with my son. We will be using 1/2 ounce jigs, as well as my own river spinner tipped with crawler. My son, Matt, likes to use catfish scent on his set up, for whatever reason it really attracts the walleyes and he has never caught a cat using it, go figure. A couple of years ago we were fishin' the cut by New Ulm, Matt gets all set up with one of my rivers spinners and a crawler and proceeds to start to spray that catfish scent from a bottle on his rig. I jumped all over him and said we were fishin' walleye and to quit being so goofy. Needless to say he casts and within 20 seconds he hooked and caught a 7 lb. walleye. I just about lost it. I've never questioned his methods since. I'm a big one for using combos that experts say should not be used together. I'll never forget the time we were out and couldn't get 'em started but we knew they were there. I put on a small perch Rapala and a small leech hooked on the back treble. I nailed 6 dandy walleye and by the third one Matt had his own doin' the same dumb thing. Hey, what ever worked 'eh? This year I'm going to start to use small creek chubs again for walleye. I have not done that for a while and it used to be so much fun. Once in a while you will pick up a pretty good cat doing that too.

This next meeting will be important to be at. We have lots to talk about and issues that need to be addressed. I know food booth sign up is needed and we are planning other things that also need to be worked on, like the youth fishing contest, Camp Courage and "Riverblast".

I did get the word from Hugh Vallient. We came through the winter with flying colors. Yep, I said flying colors!!! Crappie numbers are super, Largemouth numbers, super, some adult sunnies and no bullheads or carp. Walleye will be dealt with this year as well, They did not take off as expected, but we will be introducing more this year and we will get that established. All in all, because of aeration system and the recognition by the club that it needed to be fired up early this year, we were the exception to the rule. Many area lakes were thumped by this last year's harsh, long winter. Also it don't hurt that we have a cadillac as far as systems go. And with our new approach and monitoring equipment we are in great shape for the future. Hey baby, we're back and it feels great. I'm already smellin' that summer sausage and Steinhaus in the big fishhouse parked on a school of panfish.

See ya at the next meeting and on the river.

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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

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Sensitivity: Revisited

From an article by John Merwin

Some kinds of line transmit vibrations better than others. Common monofilament is the worst because it's stretchy, like a rubber band. That stretch dampens and diminishes the degree to which thumps, bumps, or subtle pulls at your lure are carried by the line to your fingers. You'll gain an extra edge by using special, low-stretch lines - either so-called super lines, low-stretch line - either so-called super lines, braided or fused, or the new fluo-rocarbon lines. These lines are a little harder to use than nylon for a variety of reasons, but their sensitivity enhancement is truly dramatic. If you decide not to switch from traditional nylon, fine. The key is paying attention.



Other things being equal, a rod that's light in weight will enhance your sensitivity better than a heavier rod. That is largely why some guys will pay \$400 or more for the latest in high tech graphite rods, for example, even though a chain store-brand \$50 special will cast just as far. The high-tech design weighs less - even if only by an ounce or so - and the weight advantage gives you a definite edge in sensitivity. Remember though, concentration in fishing is far more important than pricey tackle - and it's free. So all you really have to do with any tackle - regardless of price - is tune in. Concentrate and be aware of the little bumps and thumps at your fingertips as you retrieve an underwater lure. The battle for sensitivity in fishing is mostly mental, and it's a battle you can win.

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