April 2004 Volume 14 Issue 4

The Official Publication of The New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen

### **CLEAR LAKE UPDATE**

### Another winter without fish kill

We made it through another winter without experiencing a fish kill. The aeration system was in operation for a little over two months. We did have a few problems and had to put more thin ice signs on the lake due to extremely windy days in January. In fact we had to do it twice. It's a problem we have had before and was magnified this year due to low water. We did make through the winter and at times had some pretty good fishing. The lake though, is still awfully low. The snowfall this past winter was below average and we have had no significant rain this spring. It could be a long hard summer for the fish at Clear Lake.

At our last meeting we had set a date to retrieve the ice signs. Luckily, four other members remembered and we had enough people for the job at hand. With the help of Dave Menk, Ross Nelson, Dave Mecklenburg, and



Ole, we managed to collect every sign that was put out. This is the first year we were able to retrieve every sign. The guys also managed to pick up garbage from the parking lot. There are some signs that need to be repaired before next

year, but we should be in good shape.

Remember to check us out on the web: newulmsportfish.org

### Club Calendar



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### From the President. . .

Well this year's membership drive is off and running with a big push from Al Zwach. He has put a new Frabill portable fish house on the line for the winner. So go at it and let the best membership getter win. Of course we are only as good and effective as our membership, and there in does lay our strength.

It is great to be at a meeting when diverse views come out and are considered. Collectively we make our decisions by utilizing our diversity with our mission clearly in mind. This is not to say we make watered down decisions, but we do have most sides of a story available to us when the diversity of the group is in attendance bringing forth considerations from varying viewpoints. Continuing to engage people at our meetings is an important task. If you have an issue, concern, or idea, we want to hear it. Items for our agenda will be included if members contact either myself or Mike Deinken prior to a meeting. The board of directors is contacted in any case where an item may be volatile, contentious, debatable at extreme length, outside of our mission, or potentially slanderous. So come to the meetings and shape our policy and actions. You know how the old line goes, "the world belongs to those willing to show up".

This year's Minnesota River Banquet was a great time. Numerous NUASF members were present and were treated to an excellent show from Ron Bolduan. He highlighted hard rock outcroppings and scenic rare areas that are available to be explored. Many delicate and endangered plants exist at the areas he showed us which makes it imperative that we do all we can to protect them for future generations to enjoy. Mark your calendars for next year the last Saturday in March when we do it again.

### Possible expansion of Club House

The last couple of months we have had some discussions about the possible expansion of our Club House. Our membership has grown to to the point where it is getting crowded at the meetings. We have had some materials donated and I think we have members with the skills needed to do this job ourselves. What we will need is your help. We are going to need your man power. At this time we are waiting for permission from the landowners. From discussions I have had with them, I don't think there will be a problem. Until then we will continue to plan and when we do get the go ahead we will be ready to start construction.

Page 2

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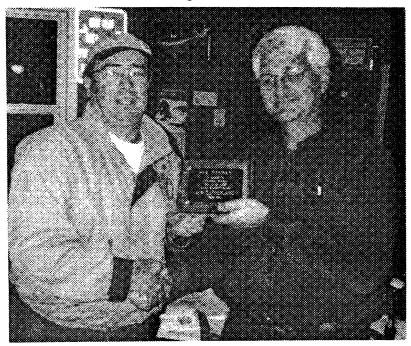


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The NUASF Board

President - Scott Sparlin (359-2346); Vice-President -Jerry Carlson (354-8869); Secretary / Treasurer -Mike Deinken (359-9650); Board Members: Jim Huelke (354-3654), Dave Mecklenburg (794-7859), Ken Sutherland (354-4140).

### 2003 Stoney Award Winner



Scott Sparlin, NUASF President, presents Ken Sutherland with the 2003 Stoney Award.

### ~ Short Takes ~

### Social Night...

Don't forget the second Thursday of every month is Social Night. Anytime after 6:00 p.m. the grill is usually going, so bring something for supper.

### Club House Extra...

With the coming of spring, we again need to think about the upkeep of the grounds. It would be nice if we could get a couple of guys to volunteer every month to take care of mowing the grass, etc.

### Club Boat...

The boat is available for use by any member. We had it out this spring and it ran great all afternoon. Last year it hardly got used. It's your boat, make use of it.

Page 3

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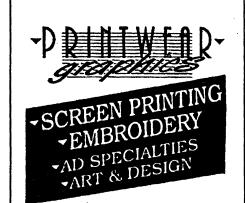
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Mike Studtmann 155 Briar Gate Rd Apt. I Mankato, MN 56001