



# Hook, Line, and Sinker

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## NUASF 20 YEARS AND COUNTING A Celebration to be planned

Next year will mark the 20th year of existence for the New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen. We have just started talking about what we are going to do to celebrate this event. We are starting discussion on this early so we have plenty of time for planning to make this a memorable event. If anyone has an idea, be sure to bring it up at our next meeting. In conjunction with our 20th year, we would also like to have some of our members

step forward and take up the duties of Club Historian.. I was thinking that it is about time we start putting our history together before we start forgetting the order of events. This is not something you would have to do by yourself. There will be plenty of help putting the bits and pieces in order so we don't forget the past. Take some time and think about it. There will be more discussion on this at upcoming meetings.

## Election of Officers to be held in October

As you know by now, this October we will be electing new officers. For the past two months we have been taking nominations. We have received three nominations for three of the positions that are up for election. There have been no nominations for Secretary or Treasurer. That's right, Mike Deinken will not be running for office again. After almost eighteen years I will no longer be one of the members behind the wheel of the New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen. It has been an exciting and fulfilling experience watching this club grow from a hand full of members to almost two hundred. Now is time for someone else to take up the reins. I will still be around to help make the transition a smooth one. We will still be taking nominations until the night of the elections.

## Work begins this fall on Cottonwood River Park

Sometime yet this fall the club plans to start work on the trail system at our proposed park along the Cottonwood River.

Keep this in mind as we will need manpower for this.



NUASF members Bruce Jaloszynski and Mike Deinken on Salmon fishing trip to Lake Michigan.

**NUASF Web site: [newulmsportfish.org](http://newulmsportfish.org) --- check it out!**

## Club Calendar

September 29th.....Meeting at the Club House - 7:30 p.m.  
October 13th.....Social Night - 5:00 p.m.  
October 27th.....Meeting at the Club House - 7:30 p.m.



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## From the President. . .

Well I just got back from Washington D. C. on a trip to try to secure more funding for important programs and legislation that will improve and protect our surface and ground water here in Minnesota and across the country as well. At the present time small and intermittent streams along with many wetlands are not protected because of a ruling that took place in a federal court in 2001. The ruling has left up to as much as 40% of our wetlands and numerous streams in Minnesota vulnerable to destruction. Even though many of the wetlands are 10 acres or less, they provide ground water recharge and important water storage, not to mention the significant fish and wildlife benefits. The streams that are not protected also provide for important fish spawning and downstream stabilization of rate flows. Without this provision contained in the 1972 Clean Water Act, we will continue to experience slow but very sure degrading water quality. This is what some would say is "death by a thousand cuts". The intent of the Clean Water Act is being compromised as it stands right now. The Army Corps of Engineers is the lead agency charged with the protection of these bodies of water. They have now stated that they are no longer the authority in these instances. In my discussions with several Senators and Congressmen it was stated that they agreed that the protection needed to be in place, however that they did not feel the Corps was the rightful agency to be in charge. I tend to agree, but in the mean time the fence is open and the cows are getting out and we will end up shutting the gate after they are in the neighbor's field. We need to have the protection now. We can decide down the road which agency should have the authority if it is not the Corps.

So I would urge you all to take time to write to Senator Norm Coleman at 320 Hart Senate Office Building and Gil Gutknecht U.S. House of Representatives 425 Cannon House Office Building both at Washington D.C. 20510. In you letter ask them to please sign on to the "Clean Water Authority Restoration Act". For the senator it is SF 910 and for the congressman it is HF 1356. Neither have signed on at this time for the reason I have stated previously. The bill was introduced by Minnesota Representative Jim Oberstar, MN in the House and Sen. Russ Feingold WI in the Senate, and Senator Dayton, Rep Betty McCollum, Rep Martin Sabo have all signed on, but the rest of our state people have not.

I had a meeting with Rep Mark Kennedy and staff about the upcoming bill to be released in a couple weeks called the Wetland Loan Act. It allows for access to federal duck stamp money that can be used to restore and protect lands that are critical for migratory birds and fish. It will have the ability to raise up to 150 million dollars right now if enacted. It is in its infant stages and needs support which I am happy to say is happening at the highest levels of government as we speak. While in Washington I pushed hard to gain momentum and make aware those elected officials who were not that it was going to happen. So watch for this in the upcoming months as it unfolds.

Continued on page three

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## Hook, Line, and Sinker

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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).

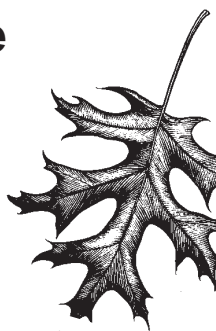
## From the President continued from page two

Another reason I was in D.C. was to begin to plant the seed for our next round of CREP. I did that and will let you know that there is support from the Governors Water Cabinet and several of our national representatives to make this a reality by 2008. Talks were positive on this front and across the isles as well. We do presently have an existing agreement that contains an additional 15,000 acres worth of money at the federal level for permanent and limited easements in the Minnesota River Basin, I will talk with you about this at the next NUASF meeting. This will be a priority for the next year of the newly formed Minnesota River Watershed Alliance.

Lastly I would like to thank all the hard working volunteers who really busted their behinds to make this year's Riverblast event so successful. I'm not going to list everyone, but I did especially want to thank Rocky, Mike, Jerry, Dave and Gary for the extra long hours they put in. It was fantastic. A full report will be made at the next meeting.

## Fall Cleanup at the Club House

Sometime, later this fall, we plan to have a cleanup day at the club house. We will probably wait until most of the leaves have fallen so we can take care of them also. The storage sheds have had no attention in the past year or so, and it has become an adventure just getting in the door. Something has to be done. It's time to decide what we should keep and what needs to be thrown away. There are some good items that we no longer use or need. These will be available to any member. We, will probably throw some brats on the grill and have a little lunch when we are done. This will be discussed at the next meeting.



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