



Hook, Line, and Sinker

January
2006
Volume 16
Issue 1

The Official Publication of The New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen

New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen • P.O. Box 294 • New Ulm, MN 56073 Web Site: newulmsportfish.org.

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collect the money yourself and get a business card to use as the ad. We will also be selling ads on our web site at the same cost as the newsletter has. The club could use your help getting these vacant ad spaces filled.



19th Annual Ice Fishing Contest

That's right, this will be our 19th Fishing Contest. Although there have been a couple of years when we really had to get the contest done, we have, without interruption. Everything is coming together nicely. Some of the prize committee have already completed their rounds and collected prizes. We are getting quite a few tickets out to members, but would like to see more. If you need tickets yet you can call Mike Deinken or come to the next meeting and pick some up.

We are going to need lots of help the day of the contest. It is always nice to have to turn help away. We will be doing the final preparations during the February Social Night at the Club House.

Club Calendar

January 26th.....	Meeting at Club House - 7:30 p.m.
February 9th.....	Social Night - 6:00 p.m.
February 12th.....	Ice Fishing Contest at Clear Lake
February 23rd.....	Meeting - Fish Dish Night at Club House-7:30 p.m.



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From the President. . .

Where did winter go? Not only has it been unseasonably warm but the lack of sunshine has caused us to start the aeration system. Oxygen levels had dropped to 8 parts per million near the top of the water and as little as 4 parts near the bottom and we didn't like the direction it was headed so we made the decision to fire things up. We just turned it on yesterday (January 8th) after we had put all the signs out and drilled some holes to get it started. Many thanks to the guys who helped. All of the helixers are working well and Mike is putting new belts on the pump tomorrow. There is about 4 inches of good ice and 3 or 4 that is white ice, so walking is the safest right at this time. 4 wheelers or snowmobiles should be alright, but I would stay a healthy distance away from the system with those. It is staying below the freezing mark most of every day so we are not losing ground with the ice and we should be able to get the houses out shortly. It is very frustrating when you want to use the fish houses and there is not enough ice to support them. We all remember vividly fishing out the houses several times a couple years ago and no one wants to do that again. I suppose we could put pontoons on the sides of the house in case of that. Ooofda!

We had 58 people at the last meeting and that's great, it does appear to be the trend. However feeding everyone is becoming a challenge. We will always have food for everyone at each meeting, but the board of directors has decided to adopt a policy for lessening the pressure on the club a bit. If you want to share something that you have made for a meeting, by all means don't hesitate to bring it. Soups, stews, kraut, sausage, cheese, chips and salsa or whatever is all acceptable and will help immensely in feeding the masses.

We do have steaks for the grille at this meeting coming from Montana via Eric Olson so that will be a treat to look forward to. Our thanks to him for offering and we look forward to seeing him and hearing about big sky country and that German lake they take people fishing on in Canada to catch pickerel.

I recently had the pleasure of meeting with U.S. Congressmen Mark Kennedy and his staff along with other NGO's and the USFWS to strategize on next steps for a bill that he is sponsoring in the U.S. House. It's called the Wetland Loan Act or popularly called the Duck Stamp Loan Act. It is filed under HR 4315 and can be referred to as such. If you wish to write our various congressmen in support you can do so by referring to the number and stating that you are in support of the amendments to the current act. If enacted Minnesota will be able to access up to ten years of projected duck stamp funds to do projects now while land values are still within reason. This would translate into about 150 million dollars to use today for projects that may not be doable in 5 years due to rising land values. We will be informed of a sponsor in the Senate shortly and have a number to refer to as well, stay tuned.

You will want to mark your calendars now for participation in the Rally for Ducks, Wetlands, and Clean Water at the Capitol on Sat. April 22nd (Earth Day). We will again be taking a bus and we will need a much better showing at this year's event. We obviously didn't drive it home enough previously because we got nothing more than lip service from any of our elected officials in this regards last year. Maybe they will be a little more responsive in an election year. hmmm.

If you are a member with good memory on our history and are willing to share remembrances, join us on Thursday January 19th at 6:30 PM at the Club Office to help us begin to put together the story. If you want to just listen in or help piece it together as we talk, please come we will need a lot of people cooperating to pull this one off. It will be put in a power point presentation to be used at the 20 year celebration for a walk down the proverbial memory lane. We have an incredibly rich history and lots of pictures to go with it so it should be quite the deal when it's done.

See you then or at the next meeting.

Page 2

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Hook, Line, and Sinker

The Hook Line and Sinker is published monthly by Joyce Reese graphic design 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 New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen, P.O. Box 294, New Ulm, MN 56073.

The NUASF Board

President - Scott Sparlin (359-2346); Vice-President - Jerry Carlson (354-8869); Secretary - Ross Nelson (354-8458) Treasurer - Tony Miller (354-2457); Board Members: Jim Huelke (354-3654), Dave Mecklenburg (794-7859), Ken Sutherland (354-4140).

20-Year Celebration

The date has been set and the celebration will be June 24th at Turner Hall. We are still fishing for ideas as to what we will be doing. Anyone with suggestions is encouraged to share them. Progress has been made on putting our history together. At our first meeting there were nine members present. We spent the evening going through the minutes of our early meetings. It was not only enlightening but very entertaining. We will try and do this every month until we have a finished product. If you would like to sit in on one of these sessions but don't know the date, give Mike Deinken a call.

Mike Hasse wins Membership Drive

This year's membership drive was won by Mike Hasse who signed ten new members this past year. For his efforts Mike received a new Frabil fish house that was donated by member Al Zwach. Thanks to Mike for his efforts and to Al for his generosity. For the year we brought in 32 new members, although we lost some old members. It is time to start another Membership Drive. I wonder what we will use for an incentive this year.

What a Treat !

If you were at the last meeting you know what I'm talking about. Ken Sutherland whipped up a big pot of wild rice soup, Mark Dauer and Jason Kuester brought venison summer sausage and Jim Hulke showed up with some pickled herring. What a feast that was! We would like to thank them for treating us. This is just to let the rest of our members know that they are more than welcome to bring something for lunch after our meetings. Just let one of the officers know so we can plan ahead.

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