



Hook, Line, and Sinker

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

Understanding modern electronics

By Matt Johnson

Courtesy of www.mattjohnsonoutdoors.com

We sometimes get ahead of ourselves when trying to struggle with the nuances that go into understanding fishing electronics. We focus on pixels, watts, power output, all of the things that do nothing but confuse the bulk of the angling population. We stumble into a retail store searching for answers but only come out with a headache. Why do we do this to ourselves? Ice fishing electronics are simple tools, no need to over-think them.

We're lucky to be a part of the modern age of ice electronics. In fact, we're lucky that electronics make our lives just that much easier out on the ice. Let's face it, without our trusty Vexilar we might as well go home and read a book. We've become so reliant on our flasher units that we're borderline worthless without them. This can all be contributed to the advancement of ice fishing electronics and the availability of owning one. Our family and relatives have them, our friends have them, heck, even our little brothers have them—on-ice electronics are in everyone's back pockets.

So, now that we agree on the fact that everyone realizes the importance of using electronics, let's now jump into what goes into understanding these tools...

Picking the Right Features

This is a fun one. Features are the name-of-the-game and nothing's more important than know-

ing which features suit your needs the best. The best way to do this is to take a step back and look at your style of fishing. Are you a shallow water angler or do you prefer deep breaks and holes? Do you focus on bottom-hugging fish or are you a wandering nomad chasing down pods of fish scat-



tered amongst the weeds? Do you mostly fish at night or during the day?

While seemingly obvious, it still pays to go through this list in your head. Reason being, the transducer type can play a role in whether or not you're a shallow water angler... a 19-degree cone allows you to more efficiently fish shallow water, but on the flip-side a 9-degree cone excels in deeper water. If you focus on bottom-hugging fish then the added feature of having zoom will definitely increase your productivity. Then with the advancements of dimmer modes you can now fish at night without spending the rest of the evening continuing to see that beautiful round three-color dial even in your sleep. Knowing how you fish can make choosing which features you want a lot easier.

Looking for Accessories

Talk to your wife or girlfriend and they might tell you that it's the accessories that make the outfit. Some argue this to be the case with ice fishing electronics too. The "bells and whistles" of the package oftentimes go beyond the actual features of the unit. Adding LED lights, cup and rod holders, battery status indicators, and the list goes on and on. While not always demanded in order to catch fish, added accessories can still make your day on the ice more productive and enjoyable. The addition of a rod holder mounted onto the carrying case of your flasher can make for moving from hole to hole a lot easier. Going with a different case altogether might mean having the option to store a small tackle box full of your favorite jigs, allowing you to never be without your go-to options. And then who can forget the trusty add-on of a magnifying shield to both help protect your unit and make things

easier to see. Granted, this has only touched the tip of the iceberg on what's available for accessories to modern ice anglers, but the idea rings through.

Easy as Riding a Bike

Most things in life have a learning curve of some sort, and while I'm not going to sit here and tell you that understanding ice fishing electronics is always the easiest thing in the world, I will tell you that you can learn them in a hurry and once learned it's like riding a bike. See, ice fishing electronics don't give you a series of menu options or hundreds of buttons to push. For the most part things are simple and straight-

Continued on page 2

*Nice catch,
Dave!*



On Friday, November 1st, Dave caught and released this big Sturgeon in the Minnesota River.

Club Calendar

Note: The Meeting Date Changes because of holidays

Nov. 14th NUASF Social Night at Club House (Staple Tickets for Contest)

(Fall Cleanup at the Club) (Many Volunteers Needed)

Nov. 21st NUASF Club Meeting (Note Meeting Date Change)(Elections)

Dec. 12th NUASF Social Night at Club House

Dec. 19th NUASF Club Meeting (Note Meeting Date Change)



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From the President

By Jason Kuester

We will be holding elections at the next meeting. We are asking that everyone attend this meeting to make your vote count. The term is up for one of the board members. If you would like to run for this position please bring it up at the meeting, or call me at 507-381-2041 or email at jr@newulmtel.net

Todd and Karen from the Dixon Lake Resort are very excited to have our club back at their resort this year. They have also donated a four person fishing trip as one of our prizes for the fishing contest we will have in February. The date for the trip is February 13th. I need to have conformation and your \$50.00 down payment to them after the December's meeting. If you are interested in going along on this trip please contact me at 507-381-2041 or e-mail at jr@newulmtel.net. The total for the trip is \$120.00 per person for three nights, or \$170.00 per person food included. Todd and Karen also said there would be no charge for the angling and spearing houses this year. They have room for 24 people in their angling houses and about 25 spearing houses available. This is first come first serve, so if you need an ice house let me know. If you are unable to attend the meeting and need to pay your \$50.00 down payment send it to Jason Kuester 56554-446th Street New Ulm, Mn 56073.

It is time to start thinking of the Ice Fishing Contest. The date for the contest is going to be February 9th 2014. We are asking that each member please try to sell at least one book of tickets. If you are unable to sell your tickets please send them back, bring them to a meeting, or drop them off at the Ice Fishing Contest. This event is our largest fund raiser for the club. Additional tickets are always available at each meeting or by contacting Ross Nelson at 507-766-0765, Ken Sutherland 507-276-1534 or me at 507-381-2041. We will have signup sheets at the next meeting for collecting prizes for this event.

Fall is here (maybe winter) and what a great time to bring our friends and family to the New Ulm Area Sport Fisherman Club. We are always looking for new members to join. If you know of someone bring them along and show them how much fun we have at our club. As always, bring a friend and each of you will receive a free refreshment of your choice!

Hope to see you at the next meeting!!

Modern Electronics from page 1

forward. What you see is what you get and the parts are well-marked or numbered. Spend only half a day on the ice with your new electronics and I can assure you that you'll be teaching the next person that walks up. Yes, it's that easy!

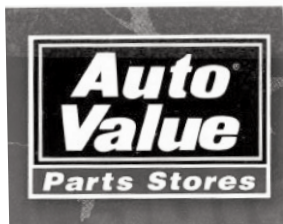
Don't let ice fishing electronics get the best of you and from here on out I don't want anyone to be intimidated by those round-dial locators. Jump in and give it a shot. Push some buttons and turn those knobs. You can't break anything and you have nothing to lose but a few maggots from aggressive fish. Modern ice fishing electronics are making our lives as ice anglers a lot easier and without a doubt more fun!

Good Fishin',

Matt Johnson

Matt Johnson Outdoors 2003-2013

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426 North Minnesota Street
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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 - Jason Kuester (381-2041); Vice-President - Gary Sprenger (359-9358); Secretary - Ross Nelson (507-766-0765) Treasurer - Tony Miller (354-2457); Board Members: Ron Ludewig (507-276-6093), Mike Buechner (354-2739 s), Ken Sutherland (507-276-1534).

Monthly Meeting October 25th , 2012 Members Present: 30+

I. Secretary Report

A) Motion made by Jim Hulke and seconded by Mark Dauer to accept report as read. Passed unanimously.

II. Treasury Report

A) Balance \$

1) Motion made by Ron Ludewig and seconded by Jim Hulke to accept report as read. Passed unanimously.

2) 3M River Rats gave our club a donation

3) Beer donation expenses vs income. We will talk about next meeting.

III. Old Business

A) Membership update.

1) Membership stands at 185 – 19 Due. Jason Kuester leads

B) Area Lakes and Rivers Report.

1) MN River – 50# Cat caught by Mini Con

2) Clear Lake – Jason Kuester & Wes Ludewig removed over 200 yards of sand from the lake access. Over double of what we had anticipated. DNR were there when the project was being done, gave us their blessing.

C) Club House and Grounds Update.

1) Clean up at the clubhouse should be done. Watch your emails. Possibly

November 14th

2) Will be stapling fishing contest tickets Nov 14th

3) If you get a deer this year, consider giving it to the club.

4) One of the club boats prop was damaged this summer. If you caused the damage please pay up. Cost of the damage \$71

IV) Other Old Business

A) None

V) New Business

A) Club Fishing Contest Update

1) Posters & ticket will be available at social night.

2) Sponsors – 4 have made commitments, possibly 3 more

3) Wrestling Asc & Hanson Pluming said they would give a donation to the contest if it would used for the kids.

4) Food License will be taken care of by Tom Simonson

5) 2/3 of the Ice House tickets have the 19th as the contest date. Ken Sutherland said he would take them back to Master Graphic to have them reprint.

B) Winter Club Fishing Trip Dixon Lake Resort

1) Feb 13-16th Leaving Running's parking lot 6AM

2) \$50 deposit to Jason K., 20 already signed up, we have room for 40

3) First come first serve for the cabins.

4) Spear houses and fish houses included in the price but we need to know if you'd like to use them

5) Food will be \$50 for the whole trip if you're going to eat up at the lodge.

C) Food for the next meeting – POT LUCK

D) Presentation of a gift certificate to Joyce Reese for all the help she has given them club over the years

VI) Other New Business

A) Jim Hulke has retired – 42 years

VII) Adjourn @ 8:30

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**Thank You**, New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen, for the gift certificate. I appreciate your thoughtfulness and I enjoy working with you. Joyce

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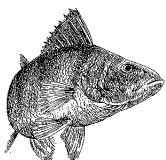
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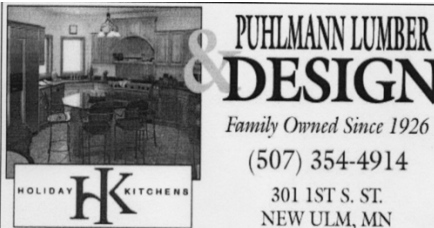


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