



Hook, Line, and Sinker

December
2014
Volume 27
Issue 12

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

Matching up for Ice Walleyes

By Jason Mitchell/Jason Mitchell Outdoors

When fish are moving, you can sit on a good spot and catch fish as they push through. When fish quit moving, you have to push through a spot to keep contacting fish. This can really be evident when targeting both walleye and perch. Especially with shallower water patterns on many lakes where we are finding fish in less than fifteen feet of water, these fish movements typically revolve around sunrise and sunset. Anglers sometimes assume that they should fish aggressively during the prime times when fish roll through a spot and snap at lures but fishing aggressively can also save the doldrums of the midday. What is fishing aggressively? Fishing aggressively is mostly attitude. Fishing through spots, checking multiple holes and moving that lure to call in and trigger an aggressive reaction. Fishing aggressively however also has to be controlled and refined depending on the conditions. You can be ambitious but you also have to be smart. During that prime time window when fish are reacting and making you look good, you can typically be more successful with larger lures and more aggressive jigging. The added profile and flash pulls fish in from further away and these fish basically find you and eat. These are the fish that really make you look good as an angler. When these fish see the presentation, they accelerate and attempt to catch the lure. One thing you will notice about these fish is that they accelerate fast and they actually want the lure rocking, pounding, lifting or falling. If you back off and make the lure subtle as the fish approaches, you can see the fish losing interest immediately. This is why the top anglers on the ice

swear by a Vexilar. That raw analog signal gives you that intimacy with the signal representing the fish, you can read the attitude of the fish versus just seeing a line.

The Shoulder Season

Most tourism destinations have what is referred to as a shoulder season. That little bit of a lull time that is before and after things are busy. Each day of fishing also typically has that lull where the traffic starts to slow down. As the sun climbs a little higher in the sky, the intensity of this bite typically drops off. The first thing that typically happens is that the fish are still moving in but become much more hesitant. The acceleration up to the lure isn't as fast. These fish will typically pause right at the lure and the movements of the fish near the lure become slower and more deliberate. If you don't make any adjustment from what was working during the prime time window, you will typically catch fewer fish. The first adjustment I like to make isn't so much with the jigging action itself but with the lures. Scale back to smaller and more subtle lures. Downsizing with the same technique can often pay big dividends.

The Lull

During the prime time window and that shoulder where the intensity of the fish drops off but the fish are still patrolling, you can sit on key spots and let fish come to you. Sitting on a good location or making small moves through a good spot is often the most effective strategy. When you quit seeing traffic on your electronics however, you have two options. Wait until the fish start moving again or move through and

contact more fish. When the sun gets high in the sky, I basically believe that the fish just lay on the bottom and quit patrolling their environment. Ironically, aggressive fishing presentations often shine for these fish but there has to be a method to the madness.

Aggressively jigging inactive fish is a top strategy because often, you have to turn or move the fish to catch it. Imagine drilling a line of ten holes down a break line and there are fish laying along the break. The odds of drilling a hole right over the top of and in front of a fish are pretty slim even when you drill a lot of holes. If however you can drill a hole within ten feet of where a fish is laying, you can sometimes turn the fish because there is a good chance that the fish might be facing away from you. Again, downsizing during the middle of the day and fishing aggressively can pick off fish during the lull period of the day. The key however during the lull is to drill enough holes over a spot where you can pick it apart. In shallow water, I also believe the drilling can move the fish just enough to make them easier to catch at times.

Aggressive Versus Passive

Most of the time, I feel I am much more efficient and effective if I stick to this basic premise of fishing lures aggressively and being strategic in how I sit and move as the day progresses. There are always exceptions however. There are days when fishing aggressively just doesn't work and you can typically come to this conclusion fairly quickly by how these fish respond. If fish flirt the edge of the cone angle and actually dart away when you move the lure, you are going to have to dead stick with a live minnow and

Continued on page 2

Club Calendar

Dec 11thNUASF Social Night at Club House
Dec 18thNUASF Club Meeting
Dec 25thChristmasas Day
Jan 1stNew Year's Day
Jan 15thNUASF Social Night at ClubHouse
Jan 29thNUASF Club Meeting
(Eric Olson Steak Night)
Feb 1stSleepy Eye Sportsman Fishing Contest

Feb 5thNUASF Special Meeting for
Contest Prizes
Feb 8thNUASF Ice Fishing Contest
Clear Lake
Feb 12thNUASF Dixon Fishing Trip
Feb 26thNUASF Club Meeting
Mar 12thNUASF Social Night at Club House
Mar 26thNUASF Club Meeting



FARM & FLEET

FARM • HARDWARE • AUTO • TOOLS
LAWN & GARDEN • PAINT • CLOTHING
2107 North Garden, New Ulm 359-2988



Merrill Lynch Wealth Management

Bank of America Corporation

Neal Haaland 51A Broadway N Fl 1
Vice President Fargo, ND 58102
Senior Financial Advisor neal_haaland@ml.com
Tel. 701.241.1253
866.241.0885
Fax 701.205.4274
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated

Hoffman Construction Gravel – Excavation – Dozer Work

2231 South Broadway • New Ulm
507-359-4444

Dont's Doors

Don Thompson
507-276-1798
dont@newulmtel.net

Specializing in installation and service
of all residential and light commercial
overhead doors and openers.

ORV RANNOV FLOOR CARE SERVICES

2201 North Broadway, Lot141
New Ulm MN • Phone 507-3545402

KRAL'S APPLIANCE REPAIR

Commercial and Residential Appliances
Refrigeration and Cooling

Jesse Kral Cell 507-276-6797
622 North Jefferson Fax 507-354-7544
New Ulm, MN Res. 507-354-7864

Imperial Porta-Palace

Portable restrooms for job sites, festivals, parks,
street dances, cabins or anywhere a restroom is
needed. We also offer hand wash stations with
fresh water, soap and paper towels.

The cleanest restrooms in the business.

Chuck and Lynda
Courtland, MN 56021
Office 800-289-6428

Licensed, bonded and insured. MPCA LIC. #2535

From the President

By Jason Kuester

At our last Fish Club meeting we held elections. The club re-elected Tony Miller, Ross Nelson, and Jason Kuester. I would like to "THANK" Tony, Ross, and Jason for all of his hard work and dedication to better the New Ulm Area Sport Fisherman!

ATTENTION ALL FISHERMEN: If you are interested in going on the Dixon Lake trip please sign up at the next meeting and make your \$50.00 deposit. The date for the trip is February 12th. 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 \$130.00 per person for three nights, or \$185.00 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.

I would like to thank everyone for doing such a great job on selling their books oftickets for the ice fishing contest and the Ice Castle Fish House. If you are interested and want more tickets contact Ken Sutherland 507-276-1534 Ross Nelson at 507-766-0765 or myself at 507-381-2041. Please turn in any unused tickets and or money at the January meeting. Thanks for all your hard work!!!

Ice fishing season is here and many lakes are froze over and covered in snow. Due to these conditions it is very hard to tell if you are walking on 2 inches of ice or 8 inches of ice. Please be careful if and when you are on the ice. Remember the golden rules of ice thickness- 4 inches walking only, 6 inches snowmobiles and four-wheelers, 12 inches or more for small cars and pickups, 16 inches for full size vehicles.

Winter is here 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!!

Ice Walleyes continued from page 1

have some patience. Most of the time, I feel like I can catch more fish with one rod and a Vexilar but when the fish are in a funk, put your hands in your pockets and dunk as many minnows as you can legally do so. The intensity of fish movements that revolve around the low light of sunrise and sunset is pretty universal but there are also many exceptions. Lake of the Woods and Lake Winnipeg are a couple of noteworthy exceptions where the bite can pick up in tempo during the middle of the day. Stained water or nonexistent fishing pressure and in some cases light penetration reduced by overcast skies or cloud cover can alter this basic pattern.

Page 2



426 North Minnesota Street
New Ulm, MN 56073
507-354-4164



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 - November 20, 2014 - Members present: 35+

I. Secretary Report

A) Motion made by Tom Simonson and seconded by Bob Schabert to accept report as read. Passed unanimously.

II. Treasury Report

A) Balance \$

1) Motion made by Orin Schultz and seconded by Bob Schabert to accept report as read. Passed unanimously.

III. Old Business

A) Membership update.

1) Report moved to next month meeting.

B) Area Lakes and Rivers Report.

1) Clear Lake – Aeration system won't be started for a while.

2) Ice on Park Rapids, Upper Red, & Lake of the Woods.

C) Club House and Grounds Update.

1) Orv Rannow cleaned leaves from behind the club house .

2) Tony Miller will be having family Christmas party 12/27.

3) Fix to the back steps will have to be done in spring

4) Still working on the fire extinguishers. Tom S will contact Clancy's to see if he will give us a discount. Should get signs

5) Orv will be cleaning floors

IV) Other Old Business

A) Elections

1) Jason Kuester – Pres, Tony Miller – Treasurer, Ross Nelson – Sec : All unopposed

2) All elected for another term.

V) New Business

A) Scholarship Fund

1) Reminder that we have expanded scholarships to individuals that are outside our area with the recommendation of a club member.

2) Dick Petermann presents check to Dave Mecklenburg for the EE Mecklenburg Fund money raised from his annual club fishing contest.

B) Club Ice Fishing Contest & Ice House Giveaway Update

1) Contest and Ice House Raffle tickets are available, see Ross

2) Pat Roiger will head up the prize collection, will be assigned next meeting

3) Give Free advertising to major sponsors. Table till next month.

4) Food License – Tom S working on it.

C) Winter Ice Fishing Trip

1) Feb 12-15th Cost: \$185 Dixon Lake Resort

2) Signup w/ Jason K. - \$50 deposit

D) Food next meeting – John Rolloff & Pat Roiger

1) Reminder that if you volunteer to do the food you can turn the receipt in to Tony to get reimbursed.

E) Wild River Academy request for donation. We'll wait till after our fishing contest. Many challenges ahead.

VI) Other New Business

A) Fish House – Will be in Parade of Lights & St Peter Parades.

VII) Adjourn @ 8:30

The Bockfest Boys
Entertainment Shows
“43 years in the business of music entertainment”
An Upper Midwest original Hotdish of music with crowd engaging originals, ethnic music and popular music from the last 60 years.
Scott Sparlin, agent. P.O. Box 488, New Ulm, MN 56073
507-276-2080 e-mail sesparlin@gmail.com

NEW ULM DECORATING
18248 225th Street
New Ulm, MN 56073
507-359-2850
Kim Olson

Gary Sprenger Construction
Light Carpentry • Drywall Taping & Texturing
Specializing in Drywall Repair
Gary Sprenger, Owner
New Ulm, MN 56073 • Phone 507-359-9358

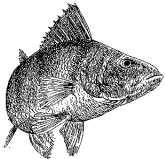

MANKATO TENT & AWNING
www.mankatotent.com
Cell: 507-317-7379 Work: 507-645-5115
E-mail: jesse@mankatotent.com Fax: 507-625-5111
Jesse Spiess, Manager
1021 Range Street • Mankato, MN 56002 • Div. TTF Industries

M & B DROP SHOP
MANKATO
507. 546. 3377
NEW ULM
507. 276 . 6091
218 NORTH PAYNE NEW ULM MN 56073

DIXON LAKE RESORT
Just 5 miles from Lake Winnibigosh's Third River access. Dixon Lake offers clean, cozy cabins with A/C and cable TV. Dixon Lake and Winnie have great fishing: crappies, sunies, walleye, large mouth bass & northern. Bar and Restaurant. Great family resort.
www.dixonlakeresort.com Open year around. ATV trail.
dixonlakeresort@gmail.com Hunting: bear, grouse,
or just give us a call ducks, geese & deer.
1-218-659-1612 Ice fishing and spearing.

Page 3

Fishing & Hunting Outfitters

Mr. K  Mr. O  Mr. D

Eric Olson
Lake Diefenbaker
Saskatchewan, Canada

Booking 406-395-4515
Camp 306-773-7877 (June & July)

Eric Olson
Box 23, Havre, MT 59501

NUASF Members. . .
stop in at the B&L BAR for a free bottle of Schell's Original or Grain Belt Premium or Premium Light

B & L BAR
15 North Minnesota Street

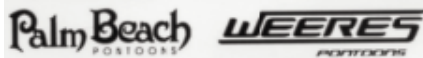
Offer good once a month on the date of the NUASF monthly meeting. Mention this ad for a free beer and always practice safe "drinking".



Lumber • Hardware • Doors • Windows
Carpet & Flooring • Kitchen & Bath Cabinetry
Professional Installation • Gas Fireplaces
Pole Buildings • Paint & Decorating

Hwy 14 West **233-8440** New Ulm

Gabrielle Menne
Marketing Manager gmenne@pontoon.com
Direct 507.233.8095



www.palmbeachpontoon.com

www.weeres.com

2137 North Broadway
New Ulm MN 56073
800.737.3415 • tel: 507•233•8020
fax: 507•233•8029

ZINNIEL ELECTRIC
Electricity is Our Business
"Our Only Business"

- Solar PV Systems - Design Build Experts
- Complete Electrical Service - New & Repair
- Underground Trenching & Aerial Work

800-817-7930
SPRINGFIELD • SLEEPY EYE • MORGAN
Farm • Commercial • Residential • Industrial

Audio Village

BRING MUSIC TO YOUR LIFE'

• Custom Home Systems • Antenna Systems
• Surround Sound • Wiring and Hookings

Glen Rasmussen
Office 354-5961 • Home 354-8745

Matt Sparlin Photography

"A Lifetouch Photographer"

www.facebook.com/matt.sparlinphotography

1-605-323-5700

• • • • •

Matt Sparlin

Experienced Owner/Photographer

mattsparlinphotography@gmail.com

New Ulm, MN 56073 based

Home phone 507-354-1336

Retzlaff's ACE Hardware

Alumacraft Boats

Johnson and Evinrude Outboards

Suzuki Outboards

Shoreland'r Trailers

Boat Accessories and Fishing Tackle

21 N. Minnesota Downtown New Ulm



507-354-8851



SAFETY • SERVICE • SATISFACTION

Excavating

- Gravel Hauling
- Site Work
- Sewer and Water Services
- Skid Loader Work
- Basement, Footings and Hog Pits

Paving

- Crack Repair
- Asphalt Seal Coating
- Parking Lot Striping
- Blacktop Patching
- New Parking Lot and Driveway Construction

Just Call Jason! **507-354-3973**

308 4th Street • Courtland, MN 56021

www.groundzeromidwest.com

We have two gravel pits in the Courtland area.

Place your
ad in this
space.



• EMBROIDERY • AD SPECIALTIES

• SCREEN PRINTING • SIGNS

507-354-6009 800-584-9457

1602 S. BROADWAY NEW ULM, MN 56073

Place your
ad in this
space.

PUHLMANN LUMBER & DESIGN
Family Owned Since 1926
(507) 354-4914
301 1ST S. ST.
NEW ULM, MN

The Official Publication of the New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen
P.O. Box 294 • New Ulm, Minnesota 56073

