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Hook, Line, and Sinker

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Ice fishing? You betcha!

Courtesy of: www.conservationminnesota.org/
By: Avery Hildebrand

It's almost my favorite season here in Minnesota – Ice fishing season! I love getting out on a frozen lake, drilling some holes, setting the Tip Ups, and dropping a line in for some jigging. That feeling of excitement when you look out the window of your shack or shelter and see one of your flags up. That mad dash to pull up a pike before it steals your minnow. Nothing beats fishing over a propane heater with good stories to share with good friends. Even with the modern comforts and help from technology, there's still a deep connection with nature. Being outside, experiencing the sights, sounds, and smells of Minnesota, connecting with family and friends, and catching a nice fish – There's no better feeling in the world.

To me, this is the Minnesota way of life – closely connecting with nature, harvesting our own food, and sharing these amazing outdoor moments with our families. Experiences like these require safe and healthy environments. Minnesota families should be able to rest easy, knowing that the fish they pull from the ice are safe to eat. That means ensuring that they don't have mercury or other heavy metals in them, and that the lakes and streams they come from aren't too contaminated with storm water and agricultural runoff. At Conservation Minnesota, we are working to make sure that your state leaders understand how important it is to preserve the Great Outdoors for our enjoyment. I'm proud to connect my love of ice fishing with the work we do to ensure all Minnesotans can safely enjoy a fresh-caught walleye or perch dinner.

I'll never forget my first-time ice fishing, when my best friend and his father brought me out with their group. It was such a picturesque day; not a cloud in that deep blue, winter sky, no wind, and it was unseasonably warm. When we pulled up to the lake in his huge white truck, my friend's dad told us to "roll down your windows! Just in case we go through!" I don't think I had ever felt that much excitement, danger, and sense of adventure all at one time. We must have had at least a dozen Tip Ups out on the ice. Every time a flag went up, we kids would race each other to see who would get to bring up the pike. Northern after northern, flag after flag. Sometimes you get lucky and sometimes you go bust, but this day was the best round of ice fishing I've ever experienced.



About Avery Hildebrand
Born in Minnesota, Hildebrand earned his degree in Environmental Science and Management from the University of Wisconsin – River Falls. He has an extensive background in canvassing and organizing. An avid fisherman, who once worked as an aquatic invasive species watercraft inspector, his perfect day in Minnesota includes good friends and fishing, which pairs nicely with his favorite place in the state, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Club Calendar

December 20th (Note: Date Change) NUASF Club Meeting	February 8thNUASF prize meeting at Club House
January 17th NUASF Social Night at Club House	February 10thNUASF Ice Fishing Contest Clear Lake
January 31st NUASF Club Meeting	February 14th NUASF trip to Dixon Lake Resort

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Hook, Line, and Sinker

The Hook Line and Sinker is published monthly by Master Graphics for 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 507-381-2041; Vice-President - Gary Sprenger 507-359-9358; Secretary - Mike Studtmann 507-766-0765; Treasurer - Jen Kuester 507-766-0143; Board Members: Mike Buechner 507-354-2739, Wyman Forbrook 507-420-5828, Wes Ludewig 507-276-6092.

From the President.....

By Jason Kuester

At our last Fish Club meeting we held elections. The club re-elected (Wyman Forbrook-board member and we elected Mike Deinken as a new board member. Jon Hunstad is now in charge of membership coordinator.

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. There is 13" of ice and should be plenty by the trip...

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 14th.** 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 \$140.00 per person for three nights, or \$200.00 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 of tickets 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 507-276-7076 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 just froze over. 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!!

NUASF Monthly Meeting November 29, 2018

Members Present: 34 + 2 guests (2 new)

I. **Secretary Report** - Approved as read.

II. **Treasury Report** - Approved as read.

III. **Old Business**

A. **Membership: 141 Members, 9 Due, 2 New for a total of 7.**

B. **Area Lakes and Rivers Report:**

- Lake Armstrong, good for a couple days.
- 3rd hand info that High Island is producing.
- John Fricthe is looking for guests December 16th to LOW.
- Report from Winnie is that houses are out and about 5 1/2" on 3rd River, up to 7" now.
- Little Winnie has 8" of ice.
- Red Lake has 9-10' and walleyes are biting.

C. **Club House & Grounds News:**

- Project up above did not complete, possibly a spring thing.
- Tony did leaves 1 more time and decided to change oil and filter, new blades, battery is in. Took it home and power washed it all and checked the belts.

D. **Other Old Business:** None

IV. **New Business**

• **Elections – Mike B. and Wyman F. terms are up.**

- Mike B said if no one stepped up to run he'd do it again. Mike D, Chad Wills, John Hunstad offered to step up. Mike D was elected by the members present.
- Wyman is willing to again, motion made to keep him in.

A. **Scholarships are available for EE Mecklenburg Scholarship**

- Tell Friends and Family, contact Dave M (507-276-7351) for questions

B. **Club Ice Fishing Contest (Feb 10th)**

- Tix are available, tix are in the mail.
- Posters available in December @ social night, looking to add new sponsors.
- Prize collection. Need a coordinator.
- Sponsors and Donations for event. Huge thank you to Walt's Bait.
- Food License/ Food Committee (Tom S.) – Signup sheet for helpers.

C. **Winter Fishing Trip – Dixon Lake**

- February 14th – 17th, 2019
- \$140 for cabin, \$200 total w/ food, \$50 deposit by December meeting to Jason.
- First come, first serve on the cabins and the spear houses (included).
- Dixon through in another trip for prize at the contest.

D. **Other New Business:**

- DNR Round table, Jason has been invited and they want presidents to attend. Scott S has always attended. Dave M and Dave W made a motion to cover the cost, passed unanimously.
- Question on receipt of rent donation for storage at Orn Schultz. Motion made by Ken S and second by Jerry Carlson. Orn is asking if he can cut a spear hole in the rougher conditioned fish house, club approved.
- Jason shared info on new oxygen tester. Motion made and 2nd by Scott Waldner and Wes Ludewig.
- Cottonwood Game and Fish is a new club in SW MN and is looking for an oxygen tester. Motion made and second by Jim Hulke and Scott Waldner to donate our old tester. Suggestion was made to donate a check to cover the cost of the chemicals, motion was made and second.
- Jerry Carlson mentioned that member Keith Rolloff's wife passed away and it was stated that the club sent flowers.

V. **Food for next meeting** - Pot luck

VI. **Meeting Adjourn @ 8:29 PM**

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