



Hook, Line, and Sinker

April
2016
Volume 2
Issue 4

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

WHERE TO START FOR SPRINGTIME PANFISH

By: Corey Bechtold

Courtesy of:

<http://www.mattjohnsonoutdoors.com>

Well the spring fishing is upon us and we ask ourselves "What do I need to do to find spring panfish?". While the options are limitless we need to look at a few things. During the winter months weeds die off and oxygen depletes so fish tend to search for areas that hold good oxygen and food to eat. This is often deeper areas where there is the most oxygen in the system... This is usually a social gathering of fish as they school up during the end of the Ice season. As Ice starts to



leave the lakes there is a surge of fish heading to the shallows searching for food, taking advantage of the new forming weed growth, and enjoying the warm, oxygen rich, shallow waters. These panfish do this mainly to search out spawning areas and gorge themselves before the rigors of the upcoming spawn. These fish will hang near deeper water often suspending during the day. As the day goes on and the sun starts to heat the water after a cool evening the fish follow this warm water in. The micro organisms start to come out of the bottom where tiny minnows and forage follow, not far behind are the Panfish. Then as the evening progresses and the sun starts to drop the fish often drift back to where the warm water settles feeding on insects and baitfish.

Spring is a great time to take advantage of shallow migrating fish. There are a lot of good options to fish these Panfish. Lets look at a few. There is the

standard flu-flu tipped with a waxie/minnow. A soft plastic bait fished on a 1/32 oz or 1/16 oz jighead is a great option.

Flies on a fly rod of under a float. And there are other countless other combinations that can produce fish. I have been doing the majority of my Sunfish, Crappie fishing is done with soft plastics like Berkley Power tubes/ Power Minnows. I tend to go to the 2" minnow to try and up-size my catch. If I am searching for fish in the shallows I use 2 different techniques. First is the cast and swing retrieve. This is where I make a cast and then instead of reeling right away I lift the rod tip allowing the jig to "swing" the bait back to me.

When the bait is about to make contact with the bottom I reel in some line and repeat the process. This is a great search technique. The second way I like to use a float. After a cast let the bait sit a few seconds and if you notice the float slide to the side or move in any way, "set the hook!". Often times these shallow fish will grab the bait and start swimming sideways with the bait not always pulling the float under. If the fish don't take right away then a great triggering technique is to "pop" the bobber. This gets the bait moving in front of their noses and keeps it there. Jig the rod a few times and let it sit a few seconds then repeat if the fish don't take. Once again I can't stress enough the importance of paying attention to subtle changes in the float or your line.

There are some key areas to look for as well. Some places to look for fish are areas with emerging weeds adjacent to deeper water. Shallow muddy bottom bays are also an excellent place to look for migrating fish. Fallen trees will hold fish as well. Look to areas of the lake/bay where the water will

warm first. A good depth to start is 12'-15'. Fish will hold there till the water reaches their comfort level.

When the water heats up a bit I look to depths of 4'-6'. This is when the fish often become most active feeding of schools of baitfish and insects. But don't rule off even



shallower water. Fish will back themselves up in very shallow water soaking up some of the warm sun after a good meal. After the sun starts to drop most fish will head back to deeper water or suspend over it for the night while a few will still actively feed in the shallows.

Spring, once again, offers a great opportunity to catch good Panfish. We need to remember to respect our fisheries and practice selective harvest.



These big Panfish will be spawning in a few weeks and the larger fish need to be there to fend off predators and protect their young for the future of good fishing. I teach my kids the importance of selective harvest and they know already that we need to put those bigger fish back so that we can have good fishing in the future!

Take care this season and Good Luck fishing!

Club Calendar

April 28th.....NUASF Club Meeting

May 12thNUASF Social Night at Club House

May 26thNUASF Club Meeting

June 9th.....NUASF Social Night at Club House

June 9th.....NUASF Club Meeting

Runnings

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
Merril Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated

Hoffman Construction

Gravel – Excavation – Dozer Work

2231 South Broadway • New Ulm
507-359-4444

Place
your ad
Here

ORV RANNOW

FLOOR CARE SERVICES

2201 North Broadway, Lot141
New Ulm MN • Phone 507-354-5402
Cell Phone 507-276-2001

Place
your ad
Here

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

First things first, at the last meeting we elected our winner for the Stoney Award. The Stoney Award goes out to the member who gives time and time again. We all know there are many members that do this and I would like to thank all of our members for making this such a great organization. At the next meeting we will be presenting Studtmann Family with this great award. Thanks Studtmann's for all your hard work and dedication to our club.

As everyone knows we have been trying to get a four-wheeler and an ice house for the club to raffle off in February for our 30th Ice Fishing Contest.... Great News!!! We are picking up the four-wheeler April 27th and the Ice house in August...

Mark your calendar for August 17th this will be the day for the kids fishing contest at Riverside Park. We will need many volunteers for this event. We will have more info on this in the upcoming newsletters.

Spring is in the air 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!!



New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen Monthly Meeting

March 31st, 2016, Members Present: 50+

I. Secretary Report

A) Motion made by Jim Hulke and seconded by John Hunstad to except report as read. Passed unanimously.

II. Treasury Report

A) Balance \$ - Motion made by Ted Suss and seconded by Jim Hulke to except report as read. Passed unanimously.

III. Old Business

A) Membership update

1) 165 w/ 22 due

B) Area Lakes and Rivers Report.

1) Lake Hanska – Very little action

2) Sleepy Eye Lake – Sunfish on the north side.

Continued on page 3

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).

New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen Monthly Meeting Continued from page 2

- 1) 165 w/ 22 due
- B) Area Lakes and Rivers Report.
 - 1) Lake Hanska – Very little action
 - 2) Sleepy Eye Lake – Sunfish on the north side.
- C) Club House and Grounds Update.
 - 1) Brown County Water Shed District – Possible will receive some funding to repair ravine above the club house by next meeting.
 - 2) Grill was repaired by Ken Kohn & Tom Simonson
 - 3) River and club house spring cleanup April 9th – meet at Riverside Park 9:30AM. Bring racks, shovels, etc.
 - 4) Jim Hulke will check the lawn mowers.
 - 5) Tony Miller will be purchasing all the left over pop from the ice fishing contest.
 - 6) Club front entry sign was painted and repaired by Tony's wife.
 - 7) Tony will come out and clean the gutters on the club house.

IV) Other Old Business

A) None

V) New Business

- A) Board Meeting update –
 - 1) Newsletter ads – only two are due.
 - 2) Expense and income for the year were read.
 - 3) Land purchase account - Still Working with the Nilson's if for some reason sale would not go thru ask them to consider a 99 year lease.
 - 4) Board recommendations for donations for this coming year: MNHLC - River Ranges , ProKinship, Boy Scouts, High Island, CCMR Riverblast, Youth Fishing Contest, Lease for club house, Bio Reactor Project in Nicollet County.
 - 5) Bio Reactor Project was talked about. Motion was made by Scott Sparlin and seconded by Gary Sprenger to donate for the project. Pass U.
- B) Passed EE Mecklenburg Scholarship winner John Knisley spoke to the club about where his career path has taken him.
- C) Ann Vote with the MNVHLC requested a donation from the club. Mostly to cover transportation expenses for over 350 kids to their sponsored events.
 - 1) Motion made by Scott Sparlin and seconded by Gary Sprenger to make a donate. Passed U
- D) Club Projects for the coming year. Club will be celebrating its 30 year Anniversary.
 - 1) Possibly do a 4-Wheeler and an ice house for this year's Ice Fishing Contest.
 - 2) Motion was made by Ted Suss and seconded by Gary Sprenger to go ahead with the purchases of the two items. Passed U
 - 3) Ticket sales for each – 4 wheeler 1500 tickets at \$10/ea. Fish House 950 tickets at \$20/ea
- E) Motion was made by Orv Rannow and seconded by Glen Rasmussen to give Randy and Kenny Berg each a gift certificate for Carl's Corner. Passed U
- F) Willmar Studtmann Ice Fishing Contest Update – About 12 members were present. The Studtmann family matched the money raised and presented a check to the EE Mecklenburg Scholarship Fund.
- G) Kids Fishing Contest date is set – Aug 17th
- H) High Island Lake Association representatives were at the meeting and talked about their upcoming events. Motion was made by Ted Suss and seconded by Jim Hulke to donate to High Island Lake Association. Passed U
- I) Stony Award Nominations.
 - A) Mike Studtmann, Elmer Epke, Al Rader
 - 1) Winner – Mike Studtmann. Mike requested the award be changed to read the “Studtmann Family”

VI) Other New Business

A) Food for next meeting – Pot Luck dish to pass.

VII) Adjourn @ 9:20

**The Bockfest Boys
Entertainment Shows**

“45 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

**American Surplus
& Manufacturing**

Home of the Original
Ice Castle Fish House
RV
Montevideo, MN
320-269-5428



You can camp in a Fish House,

**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
PROP SHOP**



**MANKATO
507. 546. 3377
NEW ULM
507. 276 . 6091**

218 NORTH PAYNE NEW ULM MN 56073

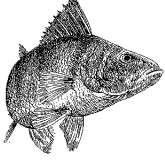


Just 5 miles from Lake Winnibigosh's Third River access. Dixon Lake offers clean, cozy cabins with A/C and cable TV. Dixon Lake and Winnie have great fishing: crappies, sunnies, walleye, large mouth bass & northern. Bar and Restaurant. Great family resort.

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

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



**Electricity Is Our Business -
 Our Only Business!**

We're Only A Phone Call Away

TOLL FREE 800-817-7930

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.



THRIVENT FINANCIAL

Jeff Amundson
 Financial Associate
 108 So. Minnesota
 New Ulm, MN 56073



Phone 507-354-4413 . Fax 507-354-3284

"Connecting faith & finances for good"



• EMBROIDERY • AD SPECIALTIES
 • SCREEN PRINTING • SIGNS

507-354-6009 800-584-9457

1602 S. BROADWAY NEW ULM, MN 56073



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

