



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.

Muskie Fishing Abounds in Minnesota

By Joe Albert

Courtesy of <http://www.exploreminnesota.com/>

Fishermen know muskies as the “fish of 10,000 casts,” but it’s unclear whether the person who coined that moniker ever fished in Minnesota. Muskie-fishing opportunities abound all across the state, where 99 lakes have fishable populations of the species that can measure more than 50 inches long and weigh more than 50 pounds. The season runs through Dec. 1, and fall is one of the best times to catch a truly monster fish as the fish feed heavily in advance of winter.



Muskies are the top predator species in the waters where they live. While the state record, caught in 1957 in Lake Winnibigoshish, weighed 54 pounds and was 56 inches long, most fishermen today release the muskies they catch. For that reason, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has set up an

alternative record program for muskies that are caught and released. But in the years before that program was in place, it’s likely anglers caught muskies that would have exceeded the state record. Most of those were caught late in the fall.

Minnesota’s muskie waters

The 99 lakes the Minnesota DNR manages for muskies at: http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/fisheries/species/mue/MUE_2016_waters.pdf cover 480,153 acres. While the lakes are scattered throughout the state, there are some bodies of water worth highlighting in each region.

Fox Lake, just north of I-90 between Jackson and Fairmont, is the state’s southernmost muskie destination. Though it’s one of the state’s newest muskies lakes—the DNR started stocking the fish there in 1999—anglers already report catching fish up to 50 inches long. In the Twin Cities area, Lake Minnetonka and White Bear Lake have good muskie populations.

North of Alexandria, Lake Milona has a reputation for churning out big fish, though Lake Mille Lacs may be the state’s muskie-fishing crown jewel. Big Detroit Lake is right in the heart of downtown Detroit Lakes and provides excellent muskie fishing, while the fishing at Leech Lake near Walker is the stuff of legend. Finally, Lake Vermilion in north

<http://www.exploreminnesota.com/travel-ideas/meet-minnesota-fish/index.aspx> and connect with outfitters and guides at: <http://www.exploreminnesota.com/things-to>



Fall muskie at Leech Lake. Photo by Joe Albert

Fishermen using light gear and targeting species such as walleyes hook muskies from time to time, but the anglers who target muskies use stout rods, heavy line and lures that often measure in excess of 12 inches and weigh as much as a pound. They also carry a camera, big nets and pliers, which allow them to quickly subdue and unhook fish before snapping a picture and releasing them.

Throughout the year, green vegetation attracts and holds muskies. In the fall, however, vegetation begins to die back, so anglers should find and target green weeds that continue to produce oxygen. Rocky islands and points attract muskies in the fall, too,

continued on page two

Club Calendar

November 17th NUASF Club Meeting
(Note: Date Change)
December 15thNUASF Social Night at Club House
December 22ndNUASF Club Meeting (Note: Date Change)
January 12thNUASF Social Night at Club House

January 26nd.....NUASF Club Meeting
February 9thNUASF Social Night & Prize Meeting
at Club House (5:00 Pm)
February 12thNUASF ICE Fishing Contest
February 16thNUASF Trip to DIXON LAKE

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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 1 Board Member. 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 16th. 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.

It is time to start thinking of the Ice Fishing Contest. The date for the contest is going to be February 12th 2016. We are asking that each member please try to sell at least one book of tickets. You will find one book of tickets in this months newsletter. 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 myself at 507-381-2041.

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!!

Muskie Fishing Abounds continued from page one

and many anglers find success by trolling in open water. In this scenario, muskies are chasing schools of high-fat fish such as tullibees, so they may be 40 feet down over 60 feet of water, for example. Anglers can encounter these fish by tying on minnow-imitating baits and trolling across the lake.

Learn more about Minnesota's fish at: <http://www.exploreminnesota.com/travel-ideas/meet-minnesota-fish/index.aspx> and connect with outfitters and guides at: <http://www.exploreminnesota.com/things-to-do/fishing-hunting/index.aspx> to plan your fishing trip.

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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).

NUASF Monthly Meeting October 27th, 2016 Members Present: 30

Minutes prepared by Tony Miller

I. Secretary Report

Motion - accept as read. Made by: Jim Leibl Seconded by: Ken Kohn Passed unanimously.

II. Treasury Report

Accounts Balance:

Allocations:

Treasury Balance: Motion - accepted as read. Made by: Jim Leibl Seconded by: Orv Rannow Passed unanimously.

III. Old Business

A. Membership update

1. Members = 154 Members Due = 19

B. Area Lakes and Rivers Report

1. Devils Lake - Hilly and Jim very Leibl did well
2. Ball Club Lake - Crappies were great, about 9 1/2"
3. Northern Minnesota has been really hot
4. Lake Hanska, Northerns are picking up
5. North Fork Crow River, Walleye are hot

C. Clubhouse and Grounds Update

1. Thanks to crew for fixing up the fish houses. Great job!
2. Could use a new hood for grill - Ken Kohn volunteered
3. Furnace had a wren caught in the fan!
4. Thanks to Orv Rannow and Orv Johnson for building the deck. Great job!
5. Discussion on purchase of new grill for deck.

IV. Old Business

A. None

V. New Business

A. Ice Fishing Contest

1. IFC ticket sales - 4 wheeler and fish house tickets are available. Sell, Sell, Sell!
 2. Event tickets will have 30 year anniversary information on them
 3. Looking for help to sell tickets
 - a) Hanksa Lake Assn annual meeting Nov. 15th. Sell tickets
 - b) Parade of lights Nov. 25th. Sell tickets
 4. Working on several sponsors for event
 5. Outdoor News to do an article on IFC
 6. Need help for posters/tickets Date
 7. Prize Collection - Pat Roiger in charge (need help)
 - a) Don't repeat donation requests to sponsors! Make sure you check with Pat for businesses that were solicited.
 8. Tom Simonson applied for food permit. Need volunteers for food sales.
- #### B. Hanksa Lake Association annual meeting Nov. 15th
1. Need club card from HLA to NUASF as a member.
 2. Discussion on \$250 donation to HLA.

VI. Other New Business

A. Minnesota River Congress Nov. 17th. Kato Ballroom in Mankato. See Scott Sparlin for information.

B. Winter Fishing Trip to Dixon Lake

1. Feb 16th - 19th
2. \$50 to Jason for deposit, FIRST COME FIRST SERVED
3. Total cost for trip = \$185
4. IF YOU WANT A SPEAR HOUSE, NOTIFY JASON KUESTER ASAP
5. Band will be available for us for entertainment

C. Food for next meeting: Pat Roiger and John Hunstad

D. NOTICE! Due to Thanksgiving Holiday, next mtg - Nov meeting Nov 17th

E. Corey Ganser (Dave Mecklenberg's son-in-law) provided a matching donation with Apple Corp. to EE Mecklenberg Scholarship Fund and to club funds.

1. Discussion on disbursement of funds. Tabled until funds are received.
- F. Ron Bolduan hospitalized Oct 20th for back surgery, transferred to Oak Hills Oct. 28th for rehab. Flowers from club sent to Oak Hills

G. Trailer for sale for bids, see Ken Kohn. (8' x 16') good for fish house.

VII. Adjourn 8:30pm

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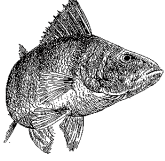
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