



Lake Region Anglers Association

PO Box 456, Devils Lake, ND 58301

• Sportsmanship • Conservation • Youth Activities • Preservation

Reminder: If dues are not current, this is your last newsletter.

March 2008

Lake Region Anglers Association Officers Board of Directors

PresidentClark Williams
 Vice PresidentTom Rost
 Past PresidentBruce Hagan
 SecretaryCathy Nord
 TreasurerBrenda Barstad

Board Members 2007 – 2009

Lynn Schlueter, Al Freidig, Jim Yri,
 Jake Sander, Jim Bearfield

Board Members 2005 – 2007

Clint DeVier, Ralph Gardner,
 Larry Schneider, Tim Reiner

Early Fishing Calendar

March 11th	North Dakota Game and Fish Appreciation Get Together - VFW
March 18th	F Troop: Brad Dokken - Felix's 7 PM
March 20th	LRAA Annual Meeting - KC's
April 1	F Troop: Randy Hiltner - Felix 7 PM
April 12th	North Dakota Sport Fishing Congress Annual Meeting/Fundraiser
April 15th	F Troop: Greg Schafer - Felix's 7PM
May 17th:	LRAA Spring Northern Outing - 6-mile Bay Ramp
June 7	LRAA East Bay Earlybird - East Bay Ramp:
June 13-15	Spirit Lake Marina Walleye Classic
June 21	27th Annual Devils Lake Open - Lakewood Beach
June 28-29	Devils Lake Chamber Walleye Tournament
July 26	LRAA Adult/Child Tournament - Grahams Island
August 9-10	Midwest Walleye Circuit Tournament
August 23	LRAA Walleye Widow Get-Together - Grahams Island

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

My mind says its time to get the boat out even if it is still white out. Lake Region Anglers Association (LRAA) is also gearing up for a great soft water season.

Our annual meeting is coming up on March 20th and that means its time to renew your LRAA dues, as well as your North Dakota fishing license. Also, please support the North Dakota Sport fishing Congress (NDSFC) especially since this is a Legislative Year (see Congress). See "Year in Review" to see what your membership supported in 2007-2008.

One of the most important issues facing the fishing public in this century is the continued spread of Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS). In other words, plants and animals not native to our fishing waters threaten to damage or destroy the water or fishing quality of those waters if they are introduced. Unfortunately, most of the time, they are introduced by well meaning anglers traveling from one body of water to another in their pursuit of quality fishing. Most of the states east and south of us have numerous species that WE DON'T WANT IN NORTH DAKOTA! That means we have to be aware of what the dangers are and have to take steps to protect our waters. North Dakota now has rules and regulations to help prevent the spread of ANS with fines and penalties if we do not abide by them.

Lake Region Anglers Assoc. will regularly have articles in our newsletters and on our webpage regarding what you can do to help prevent this. LRAA will be regularly policing our outings. We have to watch ourselves, our friends, and fellow anglers and hunters and recreational boaters. To paraphrase, WE HAVE SEEN THE ENEMY AND IT IS WE. Only we can prevent the spread of Aquatic Nuisance Species, let us do it.

Enjoy your boating but keep your waters safe and secure. And by the way,

IT IS NOW THE LAW.

Clark Williams

LRAA 2008 Tournaments:

Spring NorthernSaturday May 17th
 East Bay.....Saturday June 7th
 Devils Lake Open.....Saturday June 21st
 Adult/Child.....Saturday July 26th
 Walleye WidowSaturday August 23rd

Publicity Coordinator Really Needed

Elaine Dosch has done a wonderful job in the newly adopted position of Publicity Coordinator in addition to her years as Treasurer but she feels it is time to move on. We are looking for someone who knows computers, email and the Devils Lake Community. Several of us will help but, we need someone to coordinate the Newsletters, Webpage, email announcements and other publicity activities that keep our membership informed. If you wonder what might be involved, give Clark Williams a call at 662-5008 (shadrap@gondtc.com) or Elaine at 395-4302.

Membership Dues are Due

Without appearing redundant, its that time of year. Your Lake Region Anglers Association (LRAA) dues are due. Your \$20.00 supports all the things we do. Take the time to read "Year in Review" to see what your dues supports. Without an involved membership LRAA couldn't do half the things they do. More than 80% of activities involving fishing and boating around and on Devils Lake are either supported directly by the Lake Region Anglers or have a strong contribution from LRAA behind the scenes. Most of the Lake Ramp and Access improvements in Ramsey County are a direct result of LRAA efforts over the years.

Fill out the membership application included with this newsletter, include your email address if you use email and would like timely information on LRAA and other regional fishing activities. Be sure to include your North Dakota Sport Fishing Congress dues of \$5.00 when you renew. Emails are sent out using BCC as to assure your email address is kept confidential.

While your at it, share this newsletter with a fishing friend. Get them to join too. Let us know their address and we'll send them a newsletter also.

Watch out for your April Newsletter!



Lots of good stuff.

The applications for the summer outings
Information on the Devils Lake Fisheries
Red River
Lake Access plans
Improvements at Grahams Island State Park
Aquatic Nuisance species and
the Carp threat to Devils Lake
Plus lots more!

Be sure to renew your dues to get this next newsletter.

Devils Lake Angler Young Angler AYA

The Lake Region Anglers Association in partnership with F-M Walleyes Unlimited Inc. will be coordinating a new event on Devils Lake that is titled Angler Young Angler (AYA). The Devils Lake AYA event will be one of 20 regional Angler Young Angler Outings scheduled to be held through-out the United States and Canada in 2008. The Angler Young Angler Outing has strong support from many different companies in the fishing industry and from our two clubs who will be hosting the Devils Lake event. The objective of the Angler Young Angler Outings is to expose the youth of today to the great sport of competitive fishing within a fun family like atmosphere.



The Devils Lake Angler Young Angler Outing will be accepting 40 teams for entry with those teams competing for prizes provided by the National and Regional sponsors of the Angler Young Angler Outings. The format of a team for the Angler Young Angler Outings will consist of three (3) persons of which one (1) person must be an adult team member along with two (2) team members who are youthful anglers. The two (2) youthful anglers must be at the age of 17 or under on the date of the Devils Lake Regional event which will be held on Saturday July 12th, 2008. The entry fee for the Angler Young Angler Outing is \$150 with the first place prize for the Devils Lake Regional event consisting of a 12' Lund Boat, a 4 HP Mercury Outboard Motor, and a Shorelander Trailer. The first place team at each regional event will also earn the right to one of the qualifying spots for entry into the 3rd Annual North American Angler Young Angler Championship event that will be held on Saturday August 16th, 2008 on beautiful Lake of the Woods out of Kenora, Ontario.

Keith Seidlinger has accepted the position of lead coordinator of the Angler Young Angler Outing on Devils Lake for the Lake Region Anglers Association. If anyone would like any additional information about the format of this event or if you would be willing to serve as volunteer for this event please contact Keith at the following numbers; office - 701-662-6300 days, home - 701-662-6003 evenings. Email fig-kms@stellarnet.com.

The entry forms are expected to be mailed out around the 1st of March so please be ready to respond back quickly upon receiving your application if you wish to participate in this event as interest levels are running high and only 40 teams will be accepted for entry.

CALENDAR RAFFLE

TICKETS

Ticket Books are available from Brenda Barstad, or by contacting LRAA at Iraa@gondtc.com or at the Annual Meeting. \$20.00 per ticket, 30 drawings throughout the summer for \$40.00 each, 8 drawings for \$100.00.

Go Fishing!

Web Site:

http://www.ndsportfishingcongress.org/Lake_Region_Anglers.htm

If you haven't been on to our website recently, please take a moment and click on there now. Marie Hoerner with the ND Sportfishing Congress has done an excellent job for us. The best news is that it is free to us. If you have photos that you would like to see on there, please email them to me.

Devils Lake Fisheries field office ...cleans up on honors.



Lynn Schlueter, Lake Region Anglers board member and Special Projects Biologist for the North Dakota Game and Fish Department were honored at the Game and Fish Departments annual winter meeting with the "Public Outreach" award for his efforts in the war against Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS). Lynn chairs the Department's ANS Committee and spends countless hours traveling around the state giving presentations to local fishing, wildlife, sportsmen's organizations, fishing tournaments and water boards.

The Devils Lake Fisheries Office including Randy Hiltner, Phil Miller and Lynn Schlueter was also honored at the winter meeting with the "Solid Foundation" award for their efforts this past summer and fall in intensive efforts to monitor and eradicate Carp in the Billings Lake area, protecting the Devils Lake drainage from the introduction of this destructive species. This included daily trips to the area through almost all of the open water months, rain or shine including weekends.

Thanks guys, keep up the good work.

Elections:

Board of Directors needed.

Four Board of Director positions are up for election this year. Each Board position is for 2 years. Board members are expected to participate in Board Meetings which meet the first Tuesday of the month September through May and help out whenever possible for club functions.

We ask each Board Member to coordinate at least one Club activity. Board members must be members in good standing of the Lake Region Anglers Assn.

If you would be interested in serving, we need you, contact a member of the Nominating Committee: Bruce Hagen, Al Freidig or Tim Reiner.

NORTH DAKOTA SPORTFISHING CONGRESS



ANNUAL MEETING

The North Dakota Sport fishing Congress (NDSFC) is the umbrella organization for all the fishing clubs of North Dakota. NDSFC provides a unified voice for North Dakota anglers on sport fishing issues of statewide significance. NDSFC works closely with the ND Game and Fish, the State of ND Administration and Legislature, federal agencies such as the Corps or Engineers and the US Congressional Delegates. The NDFSC supports an independent lobbyist representing anglers at the State Legislature each biennium.

The NDSFC Annual Meeting and Fundraiser is in Mandan on April 12th at the Eagles Club. The Annual Board Meeting, free and open to the public, starting at 10AM where there will be presentations by Game and Fish, Corps of Engineers, Hatcheries, Fish and Wildlife, etc. This is one of the most informative sessions on the state of the fisheries in North Dakota you will ever attend.

The Fundraiser starts at 6PM and has a meal and hundreds of quality prizes. A fun event that supports the anglers of North Dakota. Tickets are \$25.00 and can be purchased through Clark Williams, 662-5008 or shadrap@gondtc.com or at the door.

Be sure to support NDSFC by joining, the dues are only \$5.00 and can be paid at the same time as your LRAA dues. You get 3 newsletters/year and the knowledge that you are supporting fishing in your state. If you are, an angler and you have friends that are anglers you all should support the North Dakota Sport fishing Congress, they are your representative with the State and the Federal Government. Check out the website at ndsportfishingcongress.org.

LAKE REGION ANGLERS ASSOCIATION

YEAR IN REVIEW 2007-2008

Annual Meeting and Fishing Seminar: in March included a presentation by Professional Fisherman Mike Anderson introducing kids to fishing, Sportsman of the Year award to Randy Yoder
Lifetime Achievement Award to Dave Tronson.
Update on fish management and ANS by ND Game and Fish Department,
Door prizes and club business including elections,
Membership drive and an update on what LRAA is doing and a meal.

Monthly Board Meetings September-May: open to the membership and invited guests, fishing discussion afterwards (and sometimes during).
Felix's Restaurant the first Tuesday of each month at 7PM

Game and Fish Appreciation: an evening get-together in the Spring to recognize and thank the local and state Game and Fish Employees for all the work they do.

Newsletters 3/yr: information on club activities, how to fishing articles, topics of regional and statewide significance included Billings Lake Carp issues, Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS), legislative issues pertaining to fishing and anything else that inquiring fishing minds like to know.

Webpage: at ndsportfishingcongress.org: LRAA maintains a webpage on the North Dakota Sportfishing Congress website. Information of significance to Lake Region Anglers members as well as information on other clubs around the state can be found here. NDSFC is also a watchdog organization for statewide fishing interests and you can often find out about it here and if the fishermen in North Dakota want something this is the organization that does something about it.

Email Tree: regular email notification to interested members on current and upcoming events and issues of interest. Also allows members and the public to contact LRAA through our email contact address of LRAA@gondtc.com

Club Outings: Spring Northern Tournament • Adult Child Tournament • Walleye Widow Outing
East Bay Earlybird • Devils Lake Open (open to the general fishing public)

Ramps and Docks and things.

Member of Devils Lake Access Committee: cooperative committee of City, County, DL Park Board and Lake Region Anglers to provide for improved access to Devils Lake both summer and winter.

Coordinates new access projects and planned improvements with North Dakota Game and Fish Department and local entities

Provides consultation, money and volunteer labor to maintain 6 mile, Lakewood, Henegar Landing and East Bay docks and ramps

Coordinated and partially funded a new skid dock for Henegar Landing in 2007

Coordinated planning an approved fish cleaning station for 6 Mile Bay in 2008

Spring Cleanup of Ramp Areas and Docks at Lakewood, East Bay, 6 Mile

Calendar Raffle to support community activities. \$2,000 in cash prizes. Winners drawn weekly at Ed's Bait Ship during the summer.

F' Troop: a monthly discussion group of interested fishermen to share information, tell stories and get to know new people. Winter months study sessions and presentations at Felix's Restaurant, Summer sessions are a get together on the water. See your newsletters and/or emails for announced times and agenda's

Master Angler: an informal multi species competition for adults and kids with recognition plaques at the Annual Meeting

Clean Water Grant: activities to help local businesses provide equipment to clean boats help prevent the spread of Aquatic Nuisance Species

Supports Lur'em for Life with 5 full scholarships for kids. A week long Camp at Lakewood to teach kids about the joys of fishing and take them fishing.

Supports Exploratory Days for school kids with financial aid, equipment and volunteer support.

Provides Equipment, technical assistance and volunteer support to

The Flyway Bar (formerly Hagels Fish Fry)

Sportsmen for Youth Expo

Law Enforcement Fish Fry

Kim Barstad Memorial Fishing Tournament

Devils Lake Area Chamber of Commerce Fish Fry

North Dakota Telephone Co Fish Fry

Devils Lake Chamber Fishing Tournament

Devils Lake Volunteer Fire Dept Ice Fishing Tournament

Member of North Dakota Sportfishing Congress: Presently the President and Vice President of NDSFC are LRAA members as well as a Board Member and two Delegates.

Representation at: the Ramsey County Water Board, the Joint County Water Board and the Billing Lake Subcommittee addressing issues that affect sportfishing in the Lake Region such as the danger of Carp introduction.

Representation at the North Dakota State Fishing Tournament Committee

Tips for the bored angler

Are you thinking of things to do on those dreary winter evenings. This is a great time to get your summer tackle in working condition and get rid of some of the winter blues. It is also a great time for getting that assorted tackle ready for the first trip of the year.

I usually start by getting a current inventory of specific types of baits and plastics so that I can buy them at close out sales or on introductory price. It is amazing the amount of money that you can save on early buys. Remember, later in the spring, there are 3.5 million anglers that are trying to get swivels, clips, bobbers, hooks, etc..... It is always better to start your shopping early.

Equipment maintenance is very important for success in the spring. I usually start the process of taking all my reels apart and checking the bales, drags and spools for defects and then oil and re-spool with the desired line, (remember most reels come with extra spools. This is a great time to have these prepared for quick replacement). Once reels are completed, I will check each rod blank and handles for cracks and make sure the guides are tight. This is also a great time to make sure that the reel and rod are a good match for lure weights and speed ratios.

Organization is the key to a fun trip on the water. I carry 20-30 trays of tackle at any given time and have found that labels are a must for each tray, (do not mix and match lures) this only creates havoc when you are looking for that certain size lure and not just the color (please do not write in permanent marker on the trays as the contents usually change with new lures and discontinued baits) I use a labeler that makes a 1/2 inch wide label and is easy to change if needed.

Another great thing to do at this time is tie spinners. It is boring but the savings can be used for other purchases and on an average year, you may use 100 plus spinner rigs if you are a live baiter. Spinner storage is a pain at best, but there are several inexpensive solutions for this (swim noodles, large pipe insulation foam, just to name a few).

Safety items should be checked continually. This is a great time to go over life jackets, cushions, auxiliary horns, flashlights and things of this nature. It will be well received on the first trip. Make sure they are not torn and are in good working order.

Another thing that is positively important to me at this time is the updating of my electronics. Each brand of electronics has websites to download updates to the operating programs and mapping. This may be very valuable to your integrity of your unit and its ability to read newer mapping chips, as the formats are continually changing with little or no notice to the consumer.

Overall, being ahead of the game in the long, cold boring winter (if you are not an ice angler) will make your summer fishing experience a smoother adventure towards fun.

F TROOP

The "F Troop" or fishing for fun is a low-key fishing get together to meet people, discuss fishing and generally have a good time. The Troop tries to meet once a month on Tuesday and usually has a guest speaker or topic of discussion planned. There are three more F Troop meetings scheduled for this spring before ice out. Meetings are in the back room at Felix's restaurant starting at 7PM and we try to have some sort of appetizers or snacks available. Your beverage of choice is on you.

March 18th: Brad Dokken outdoor writer for the Grand Forks Herald will be in Devils Lake to discuss outdoor photography. Brad is also very knowledgeable about the Red River and its fishery.

April 1st (no this is not an April Fools joke): Randy Hiltner, District Fisheries Supervisor for the Northeast Fisheries District including Devils Lake will be talking about Devils Lake and the projections for the coming year.

April 15: Greg Schafer, master mechanic at Dales Motor Sports. Greg will discuss prepping your boat and motor for summer and proper maintenance.

Come on in, bring a friend, open to the public.

LRAA ANNUAL MEETING SET

The Annual Meeting for the Lake Region Anglers Association will be at the Devils Lake KC's on March 20th starting at 6PM. A light meal of barbeques will be served. There will be a presentation on getting kids into fishing.

The meeting will also include a short state of the club intro by President Williams, presentation of Sportsman of the Year, a short ANS presentation, election of Board Members, a presentation of the proposed budget for 2008-09 and a bunch of door prizes.

Open to the public. The 2008 LRAA fishing season officially begins at the Annual Meeting and LRAA dues are due. Membership is \$20.00, and we encourage all members to become members of the North Dakota Sportfishing Congress (see NDSFC article) for \$5.00 which can be paid at the same time as your Lake Region Anglers dues.

If you can't make the Annual Meeting maintain your membership in good standing by sending in your dues with the form in this newsletter.

LAKE REGION ANGLERS ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 456
DEVILS LAKE, ND 58301

Prst. Std.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 52
Devils Lake, ND 58301



• Sportsmanship • Conservation • Youth Activities • Preservation

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION TO LAKE REGION ANGLERS ASSN.

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

(CITY) (STATE) ((ZIP)

TELEPHONE NO. _____
(HOME) (WORK)

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP
 Ages 18-59
\$350.00
 Ages 60 & Over
\$250.00
SHIRT SIZE _____

INDIVIDUAL / FAMILY MEMBERSHIP
\$20.00

I wish to add my support to the North Dakota sportfishing Congress. \$5.00 is enclosed for my membership to the Congress.

ENCLOSE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER AND MAIL TO:
Lake Region Anglers Assn.
PO Box 456, Devils Lake, ND 58301