



REELNEWS

September 2007

Celebrating 30 years of
Fishing, Fun, & Friends

Women Anglers of Minnesota

President Speaks...

Good grief! I can't believe that fall is just a month away. It seems the older one gets the summer (warm months) go really fast and the winter goes on forever. State Fair time is here and certainly a signal that kids will be back in school. I am looking forward to Labor Day weekend and relaxing at the Loon's Nest with family and friends. For those of you who met my grandson at tournament time he still continues to hang in there. I am amazed at how much patience this child has especially when he can't swim on a hot day, play in the dirt, ride a bike that all kids love to do. He is trying to get through the last two large loads of chemo. His blood counts quite often keep him from being on track. After we get through the chemo he will have his radiation treatments and we go to maintenance chemo once a month. We thank our WAM family for your thoughts and prayers.

I brought up in our last newsletter that the DNR is attaching a fee to tournament applications. The number of club participants will determine how much you owe. The issue of charitable determines whether you pay the fee or not. In talking to the DNR a non-profit 501(c) (3) does not necessarily qualify. The recognition of a 501(c) (3) tax exempt entity by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) offers numerous advantages. The primary benefits of this certification are that donators can make charitable contributions and receive a tax deduction, and that we will be qualified to receive private and public grant money. Our status is a non-profit for education. The DNR officer went on to say that this new rule has been sent back to the COC to make the determination clearer. In the meantime he recommended that we send a check for \$400.00 for the application and if they rule to include non-profits then we will get the money back. My guess is we will be paying this fee from now on.

We have several events on the calendar. Thank you to the women who helped cover the Cabela's Kids Clinic August 25th-26th and a special thanks to Brenda Picket (new member) for helping out. There were 14 women who attended the Mille Lacs launch trip on the same weekend. Our fall trip is scheduled for the weekend of September 14th and is full. There is still room for camping so give Dawn a call if interested. I appreciate the help and attendance that you provide with these activities. These directors work hard at trying to make these events possible whether it is promoting the club or a social event... so thank you.

That's it for now...

Doris



What Does WAM Mean To You?

By Julie Lane

Everyone involved with Women Anglers of MN understand that this organization is a special one. With a mission to provide opportunities for women to participate in the sport of fishing and to improve their fishing skills, how could it be anything else. Women Anglers also focuses on the education of children in the sport of fishing. To many in this club WAM is simply a weekend in June to fish a fun tournament.

Our organization is **Non-Profit**, deemed that title from the state of MN. We can continue our non-profit status as long as we continue to offer or teach education. This can be with our fellow members, children, civic groups, etc. Women Anglers currently does several events each year with children as well as adult seminars at the tournament site each year. Each and every event must be documented, and reported at the end of the year in order to keep our non-profit status. Many of you at this point are wondering why this is so important, and why we put so much time into keeping this title of NON-PROFIT? The all important answer for most of our members is that this keeps the tournament entry fee at \$85 instead of \$500. Did I catch anyone's attention? That is correct, if we loose our non-profit status the tournament would cost each and every member \$500 to fish each year!

With a non-profit title, the big corporations are willing to donate prize money because they can write it off as a donation. Last year we received approx. \$8000 in donated prize monies to the tournament. This money was used to pay tournament prizes BUT it also goes to help this club purchase 500 donated rods and reels, as well as fund education the entire year. If our 150 members had to make up that loss of \$8000 each year, the tournament entry fee would be a staggering \$533 per person. I am sure for most of us that would just not be possible. Thus, insuring the end of WAM as we all know it today. We often read articles in this newsletter asking for help with kids projects. Our social directors struggle with requests from many other organizations for our help. Most involve children who are just happy to have anyone help them learn to fish or bait a hook. Other times it simply involves sitting at a WAM booth offering information about how women can get involved in the sport of fishing. We often hear the words " I live too far from the cities to volunteer." and the statement is very true. Many of our members do live a significant number of miles from the Twin Cities area. Would you consider hosting an event in your home town or volunteering for another event in the name of WAM? Seven of our 14 current board members do not live in the cities. For some of us, it means taking off work early or making a day of a trip to the cities to help with one or two of these events. You can simply have your own event!

Recently three board members hosted a 4-H group for an afternoon of fishing 80 miles north of Mpls. The 4-H group came out with their usually group leaders, but the WAM gals provided bait and fun at the local fishing pier. We taught them how to bait hooks, take fish off, and even how to clean fish. The kids are already asking if they can do it again next year. Any event such as this one will and does count towards our education status for non-profit. You can write a short article about the event for the newsletter. We invite you to bring your own children along to kids events to help or to join in. The rewards are great when you help a child learn to fish. Please consider becoming a volunteer for just one Women Anglers Event this year. Let us ALL ensure that we keep our non-profit status for years to come and that we can be proud to say we are an educational organization.

To volunteer for a WAM event be sure to check your newsletter for event dates. Our social directors phone numbers and email addresses are also listed in the newsletter. Have questions or not sure if you are comfortable with helping give them a call. Want to car pool to a specific event? Give them a call to see if someone else from your area might be coming.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By Mary Fuehrer

Membership as of 8/26/07...**162**

Just a heads up...

If you know of any one wanting to join our club, the membership fee will be half price (\$17.50) for the rest of the year.

FALL TRIP – SEPTEMBER 14TH, 15TH & 16TH, 2007

Head of the Lakes Resort
15080 Gardenia Drive
Osakis, MN 56360

I am so excited to report that we have filled the fall trip! For those of you that haven't sent a payment yet! Please **"GET-R-DONE!!!!"**

Send a check for \$50.00 made payable to: Head of the Lakes Resort

Send check to: Dawn Erie
566 Logan Street
Anoka, MN 55303

THERE ARE PLENTY OF CAMP SIGHTS AVAILABLE IF ANYONE IS INTERSTED

Please call me if you want to reserve a campsite. Trip Directory: Dawn-763-421-3998

The fall trip is being held at our 2008 Tournament Headquarters. The cost for the trip is \$50.00 dollars. (Includes tax) Head of the Lakes features year-round cottage rentals, R.V. and camp grounds, sandy swimming beach, grocery store, restaurant, lounge, and a game room. Please call or email me with any questions you may have. E-mail: **Opalgem77@msn.com** Phone: 763-421-3998

****Hey Ladies****

It's been a great year so far with all of our Kids Clinics!
The last item on the list is our
Holiday Party!

If anyone is interested in helping out or has any new ideas

Please contact:


Sara Sumner: SaraESumner@msn.com

Or

Laura Sumner: LESumner1@comcast.net

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Meetings

Sept. 15 Membership / Board meeting, Head Of The Lake Resort, Osakis, MN.
Oct. 22nd 6pm. Board only meeting, Gander Mt. Blaine

Events

Aug. 25 Launch on Mille Lacs
Sept. 15-16 Fall Fishing Trip

Education

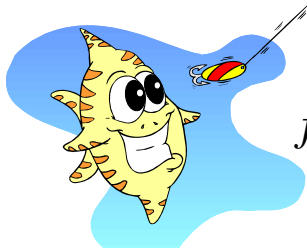
Aug. 25 Kids Fish-a-thon White Bear Lake
Aug 25-26 Kids Fest at Cabelas

REMINDER
**Articles for the October news-
letter MUST be sent to Carren
Jones no later than Sept. 12th
fishincj@wcta.net**

*Celebrating 30 Years
of fishing*

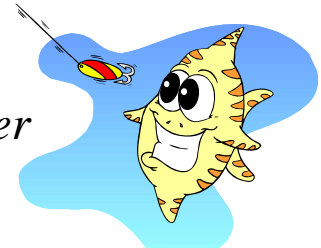


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