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## S p o o n p l u g g i n g

The July 19 'spoonplugging' outing on Lake Mendota turned out to be a huge success. We could have used more participants, but we did have 8 people in 4 boats. In the write-up in previous issues, I mentioned that we would be fishing in water approximately 28 feet or deeper and that we should catch northern pike in the 32" to 39" range with the possibility of a 40" plus fish. That pretty much turned out to be true.

Stan Nichols and I fished together and we brought in 8 fish: 7 northern pike with the two largest at 37 1/2" and 36"; and an 18" smallmouth. And, as we were heading in to the boat launch at Warner, I lost a good fish on the north side of Warner Bay. We used single strand wire line and I believe the others used one of the super braids.

Jeff Western and Larry Mothershead launched out of Marshall Park and fished from there to Governor's Island. They boated 6 northern pike up to the mid-30's and missed a few others. \*\*

Duffy Kopf and Don Gostomski boated one small northern pike and Don lost a nice one off Brearly Street Bar.

Terry Rogers and his partner caught an 18" smallmouth.

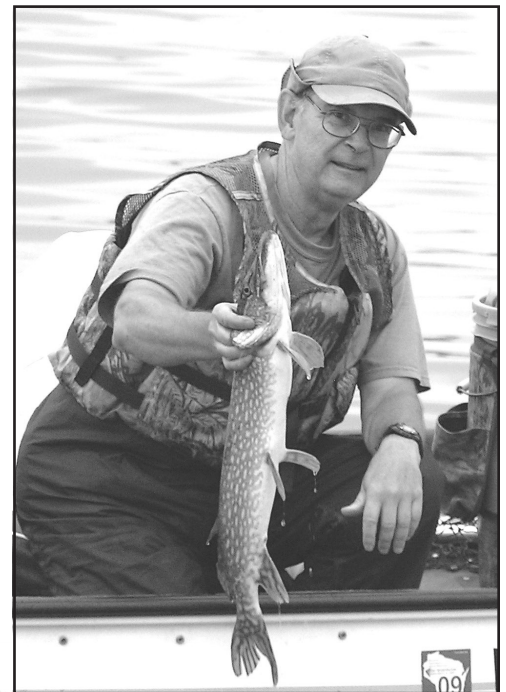
We fished from about 7:15 to 12:30. All the fish were caught on spoonplugs in depths from

28' to 34'. There was no wind and because of the "no wake" restriction, we had the lake pretty much to ourselves.

\*\* Jeff and Larry had such a good time on Saturday that they went out again on Sunday and fished from 9 to 11:30. This time they boated 10 northern pike and Jeff brought in a true hog, a 43" beauty.

Hey folks, spoonplugging does work; you might want to try it some time.

Clay Russell



S t a n



C l a y

*Wanna spoonplug? See next page.*

### Spoonplug orders

After the recent spoon-plugger outing, several people have asked me where they can buy spoonplugs. Would you please put in a short notice in the next newsletter that reads something like the following:

If you would like to order some spoonplugs, wire line or non-stretch monofilament, please call Clay Russell at 838-8811. He will be putting in an order directly with Buck's Baits in early August.

Clay Russell

### July 8th Club meeting pictures



### August Meeting

The August meeting will be "on the water" at Warner Park, Tuesday August 12. There will be a short business meeting at 6pm followed by a short seminar given by Charlie Grimm. He will demonstrate a few techniques that have been successful for him over the years. Among them will be slip bobbering, perch "drop rig" converted to Smallmouth and Walleye, and jig and leech. Pizza, beer, and pop will be served during the seminar and then out on the lake for a couple hours of fishing. Please let him know if you are attending so he can get an idea of how much chow to bring.....220-8934.

Larry Mothershead and I fished Lake Mendota for Northern Pike Sunday Morning July 20. We were only on the water 2 1/2 Hours and caught 10 Northerns. Only one was under 30". The rest mostly being 34" and above with two at 38" with the largest a 43"+ Pike. What a wonderful fish ... an angular's dream. I need to specially thank Larry for this fish as he let me use his rod to catch this fish. This could have easily been his fish. Another great day on the water!

Jeff Western

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### Hinner Donation

John Hinner of Madison has donated \$500 to the Yahara Fishing Club. A free membership has been offered to him and hopefully he can attend one of our future meetings.

7/10/08

John,

On behalf of the Yahara Fishing Club, I would like to thank you for your generous donation. This money will allow us to continue to meet our club goals for 2008-09.

I would also like to give you a free membership. We will be meeting at Warner Park on August 16th at 6:00pm for our August meeting. Our September 9th meeting is at the Lakeview VFW just off of John Nolan Drive at 7:30pm. I would be great to meet you and introduce you to the membership. Let me know if you would like to take advantage of the free membership.

Sincerely,

Larry "Duffy" Kopf  
President - Yahara Fishing Club

### A thank you to the YFC

St. Paul Lutheran Church had a fish fry on June 20<sup>th</sup> to benefit Senior Connections and the Food Pantry (Bread of Life) at St. Paul. With the help of Dave Dahl and family, Jerry Paffenroth, Marv Cutrell, Marlene and I, we served 251 people fish and chicken. The church supplied the rest of the goodies – garlic mashed potatoes, salads, deserts, and refreshments. Thanks to these people, who gave so generously of their time and effort. The YFC received \$100.00 from the church for the user of the fryers. The event was a huge success and the YFC got a lot of recognition.

Jack Hurst



**Jack and son on opening day, 2008**

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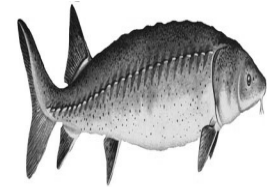


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## Fishing has no boundaries

Dan Hartwig, the organizer, estimated that for this 14th year of the event they had 60 boats, 220 staff, and served about 75 people.

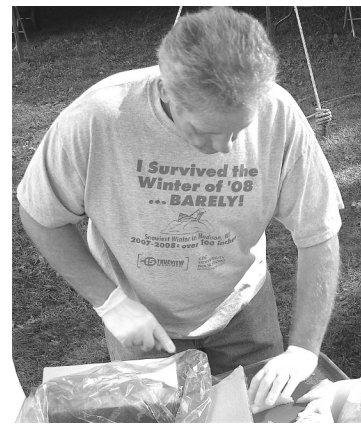
They came within 15 minutes from being cancelled because of bad weather. The organizers had a direct line to Brian Olson of Channel 27 to help them make the right decision.



Jerry Paffenroth



Jack Hurst, Don Gostomski, Bob Walker, George Meyer



Mike Alvin.



Rick Lane & wife, Stan Nichols



Rick Lane, Stan Nichols.

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Duffy Kopf Pro Staff

BADGER TURF VENT

Notes From the Prez

I have been fishing so much that I finally realized it is time to write my August column. Time sure flies when you are having a good time.

June and July are the two most crucial months for our club – “put up or shut up time”. The Yahara Fishing Club’s goal of putting on the Kids Fishing Day and helping with Fishing Has No Boundaries lies at the base of why we exist. Last Saturday at Fishing Has No Boundaries was a great example of why I love this club. At about 4:00pm I got off the water and figured I better get my butt over to help with the fish fry. I saw a couple of club members and I asked them where Dave Dahl was. Marv Cutrell informed me he was running a little late. I saw very few club members around and I started to think that we wouldn’t have enough personnel to pull this off. Once Dave arrived with the equipment, people started to come out of the woodwork to help. So many people showed up (Rick Lane even had his wife breeding fish) we actually had too many. I ended up getting in the way and stood around snitching pieces of fish. My contribution was lending my knife to Jerry Paffenroth to open some packaging. Thanks to all of our members who helped with this event in some way. Our participation in this event continues to be crucial. Good Job! For those of you who couldn’t help or chose not to – put it on next year’s calendar early so you can help. The smiles of the actual

participants will warm your heart!

FHNB also emphasizes the importance of the club setting goals. When everyone knows what direction we are headed in, it makes everyone’s life easier.

I would like to thank (and you should also) Bonnie Miller and Jim Pankratz for putting on the July “On The Water” meeting. It was the perfect end to the day for my fishing partner Brad Czebotar and me. My 15 minutes of announcements and reminders was the low point – after that, the food and drink brought the enjoyment level way up. Good Job Bonnie and Jim!

The August “One The Water” meeting will be at or near the Warner Park boat launch. Charlie Grimm is organizing this one. At 6:00pm will be announcements and reminders and then we will have pizza, beer and pop. This will be followed by a “Grimm Seminar”, and then those that want to fish can head on out. I plan on being on Mendota all day so I may be able to help you with the “hot” spots. This will be a good time and I hope to see you there. Even if you are not going to fish, come and enjoy the food, drink and company.

At the August meeting on Mendota, I will give out the second call for nominations for the Board of Directors. Jim Zegers will be leaving the Board at the end of September, so we will need nominations for his seat, the seats that haven’t been filled and the seats

whose terms are running out. More information on this in the next newsletter. You can nominate a member (with their permission) or you can nominate yourself (this is perfectly fine). We already have one nominee, but we certainly need a bunch more.

There will be 7 seats available for the Board. We have been working short handed for the last year. How important is our club to you? Don’t sit on you hands. Let me, or any other Board member know, and names will be added to the list.

I want everyone to know that we received a \$500 donation from John Hinner of Madison. I thanked John, invited him to a meeting and offered a one-year membership so he can check us out.

Ben Hobbins of IronClad Lures contacted me and we are working on a way to get his product in your hands (nothing is free) for a reasonable cost with a big benefit to our club. After I meet with Ben, I will let everyone know the details.

Everyone should be happy with the job Jim Pankratz has been doing with membership. Our goal was to increase membership by a minimum of 10% and we have exceeded this number and we now have 134 members

Everyone should also know that the Yahara Fishing Club Charities is a tax exempt, 501 3C organization. If you have any ideas on opportunities to have an organization, company

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Prez Notes, continued

or person donate money to help us meet our goals, you need to contact Board member Rick Lane.

Jeff Western and I had the unique opportunity to have lunch on July 16<sup>th</sup> with two representatives of UW-Stevens Point and their Natural Resources program. They thanked us for the ongoing endowment that allows them to give out a scholarship each year to a student interested in fisheries. The same student won the scholarship the last two years (quality kid). If you know of a junior or senior student at UW-SP who is in Natural Resources and is leaning toward a career in fisheries, complete the application through UW-SP in September.

Before I start writing this column every month, I consult my club activity calendar to make sure I touch all of the bases. I looked this time and there is nothing official for August. How come this column is so damn long? Get out and fish.

Fishing Season Never Closes,  
Duffy Kopf - Prez

Slow No Wake

The latest information on "Slow No Wake" is available at a new website hosted by Dane County Land and Water Resources:

<http://web-dev-vm/SlowNoWake.htm>

Kayak Fishing, a New and Exciting Way to Enjoy Angling

By Gary Engberg

The last decade has seen a dramatic growth in fishing from a kayak. While fishing in general has been stable or even shown some decline, kayak fishing is showing double-digit growth in the United States and around the world. The kayak has long been a way of transportation and gaining access to out of the way fishing locations, it now has gained popularity by those who want some exercise while enjoying the "up-closeness" of fishing at the water's level.

The fishing kayak allows access to areas where a boat can't go like small ponds, rocky shallow water locations, narrow river channels, waters that don't allow power outboards, and thru dense vegetation. The stealth approach that you can make in a kayak won't scare the fish in the shallowest water.

Any fishing technique that you can do in a "normal" fishing boat can be done from a kayak. Kayak fishing is a rapidly growing sport with many companies now catering to this group of new-age anglers and their motor less water crafts. Now, with the huge expensive in gasoline for most fishing boats, kayaks are adding "green" to fishing.

A kayak angler can fly fish, cast, jig, and even troll with the added foot pedals for most fresh and salt water fish species. Some fishermen even take their kayaks aboard their larger fishing boats and launch them offshore so that they can get the rush and excitement of fighting a fish as it pulls them through the water.

Other added benefits include the ease of launching a kayak, a relatively low cost, little if any maintenance and the storage room needed is minimal.

I suggest that you do some research before going out and buying a fishing kayak. There are many variables that come into play when choosing a kayak. Some of these variables include; your height and weight, what kind of vehicle you're going to use to transport your kayak, where you plan on using the craft, what fishing techniques do you use, what type of angler are you a catch and release angler or one who wants to keep their catch, what is better for fishing a sit inside or sit on top kayak, stability, speed, maneuverability, accessory friendly, storage room, and fishing logistics or what types of waters do you plan to fish are things that you should consider before buying a fishing kayak.

Fishing kayaks come in sizes from a little over 9 feet to over 16 feet with weights from 50 pounds to 70 pounds. As I just mentioned, where you plan on fishing and the kind of fishing you do help determine the size and kind of kayak that is best for you and your angling needs. Prices range from \$400.00 to over \$2000.00 depending on the size of the kayak and

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*Kayak Fishing, continued*

what accessories you choose. Good places for information include; [www.paddling.net](http://www.paddling.net), [kayakfishingstuff.com](http://kayakfishingstuff.com), [hobiefishing.com](http://hobiefishing.com), and [pelicansport.com](http://pelicansport.com). The Boat House of Madison (608-849-9200), on the north shore of Lake Mendota, carries and stocks a complete line of Hobie kayaks including the fishing kayak. If you're in the Madison area, stop buy and check out this new and innovative fishing craft. It may be what you need to back into those secret locations!

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Olbrich Park  
 Master Plan Review  
 Public Meetings

Thursday, July 24 and Tuesday, August 26  
 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Evjue Commons – Olbrich Botanical Gardens  
 3330 Atwood Avenue

The City of Madison Parks Division invites the public to attend a meeting regarding the Olbrich Park Master Plan. This planning process will look at all of Olbrich Park and contiguous land such as Starkweather Creek and O. B. Sherry Park. The plan will include the undeveloped Garver area, Botanical Gardens, athletic fields, boat launches, beach, parking areas and other open space. The planning process will consider whether some of the existing and proposed park uses should be expanded or reduced. The Parks Division encourages participants in all park activities to come and voice their interest in the future development, redevelopment, and restoration of different areas of the park.

The public meetings will be held in the Evjue Commons at Olbrich Botanical Gardens, 3330 Atwood Avenue, on Thursday, July 24 and Tuesday, August 26 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

More information will be available at: [www.cityofmadison.com/parks](http://www.cityofmadison.com/parks)  
 Questions or comments may be sent to Simon Widstrand, Parks Development Manager, 266-4714 or [swidstrand@cityofmadison.com](mailto:swidstrand@cityofmadison.com)

## Yahara Fishing Club Membership Application

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**Except for special Summer “On the water” dates, meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the Lakeside VFW Hall, John Nolan Dr, & Lakeside St. in Madison.**

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The next meeting is on Tuesday, August 12th, On The Water - Warner Park

Coordinator: Charlie Grimm

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

### August Events

August 12<sup>th</sup> Club meeting - On the Water, Lake Mendota, 6:00 PM  
Organizer: Charlie Grimm There will be a short business meeting at 6pm followed by a short seminar given by Charlie Grimm . See article page 2.

### September Events

September 9<sup>th</sup> Club meeting - Lakeside VFW Hall  
Speaker - to be announced

The Yahara Fishing Club's doors are open to **EVERYONE**, so invite a friend to the meeting!

President - Larry Kopf.....849-7245	Director - Rick Lane .....873-5228	Director - Jayne Meyer.....662-9374
Vice President - Paul Marunich...219-4449	Director - Eric Uram.....233-9022	Director - Rick Seeger.....849-3714
Secretary - Jim Zegers.....848-6299	Director - Jim Pankratz.....288-9789	Editor - Tom Raschke.....233-6765
Treasurer - Brad Czebotar .....838-9458	Director - Bonnie Miller.....824-9792	Fishing Expo - Jeff Western....831-1092

Check out our web page at:  
[www.yaharafishingclub.org](http://www.yaharafishingclub.org)



Yahara Fishing Club  
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