



February
2008

Editor: Tom Raschke (traschke@globaldialog.com)
608-233-6765

Editors Emeritus: Stan Nichols (sanicol@facstaff.wisc.edu)
Jayne Meyer (mshazmat@tds.net)

The Fisheries Management Business

Notes By Stan Nichols

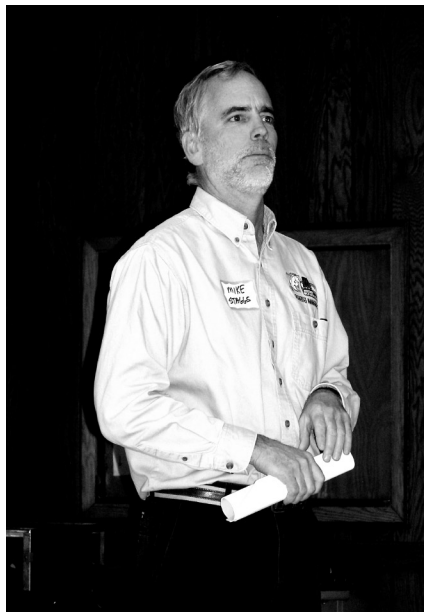
Mike Staggs, the Director of the Bureau of Fisheries Management for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provided an overview of fisheries management at the January meeting. Some of the presentation discussed the breadth of the fishery in the state and its importance, mostly recreational, to the state economy.

The fishery is obviously related to the water resources of the state. Wisconsin is blessed with water. There are approximately 15,000 inland lakes in Wisconsin. About 700 are musky lakes, 1000 are walleye lakes, and 600 are trout lakes. There are also about 44,000 miles of streams and rivers and 1,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline. That is a lot of water for a fish to swim in. Vilas and Oneida Counties have one of the highest concentration of lakes of anywhere in the world.

Inhabiting these waters are 159 fish species. About 69.5 million fish are caught each year and about one-third of these are harvested (i.e. kept). Of the fish caught about 80% are panfish. Large and smallmouth bass have the highest catch rate for game fish.

About 1.4 million licensed anglers pursue these fish. This doesn't include anglers that don't need a license. They spend about 21 million days catching fish. Wisconsin ranks fifth in total angler num-

bers, third in non-resident anglers, and second in non-resident angler fishing days. Clearly Wisconsin is a fishing destination (it probably doesn't hurt the numbers that Chicago is just south of the border). Florida is the number one state for non-resident angler days. If you are heading



south to fish, try another state. We may be able to hit number one.

All this adds up to a recreational fishing industry that generates over 30 thousand jobs in the state and adds \$2.75 billion dollars to the economy. It also generates about \$1.96 million in sales tax. The Great Lakes fishery alone is a \$400 million dollar industry.

When we may not want someone finding our secret fishing hole, why are all these numbers important? I think many politicians and other leaders overlook the impact the fishing industry has on the state. They can be slow at protecting the habitat that the industry is dependent on and they often work to bring in new and different industries rather than grow and protect a home "grown" one.

So much for the politics and economics of fishing. Mike also discussed some of the outstanding fishing areas of the state and some of the management of these areas. They included Lake Winnebago that is noted for the walleye and sturgeon. It is one of the few areas in the world where sturgeon still prosper. The Great Lakes trout and salmon fishery rivals the West Coast for numbers but perhaps not size of fish. This is an "artificial" fishery supported by stocking. The Chequamegon Bay of Lake Superior supports a trophy fishery for old-growth smallmouth bass. Here special regulations protect the fishery as if it was an old-growth forest. The Mississippi River fishery is noted for walleyes, bass, catfish, and panfish. Since the installation of locks and dams on the river in the early 1900s a lot of the river habitat has been destroyed by erosion and siltation. The Corps of Engineers, along with DNR is working to restore

Continued next page

The Fisheries Management Business, continued.

some of these areas. In the Driftless Area trout region trout stamp money restores about 25-30 miles of stream annually. With constant learning, the habitat developed in these streams even withstood some of the flooding that occurred this past August. Lastly there is the Northern Lakes District- the north woods of Wisconsin. Here ever increasing development may be the biggest threat to good fish habitat.

For those anglers wanting to try something different Mike had pictures of night jigging, through the ice, for catfish, in Swan Lake by Portage. Or you might try for a new state record flathead catfish or a new world record bigmouth buffalo (current world record is 73 pounds- 2 ounces caught in Lake Koshkonong). There are a number of records you can try for and if you don't think you can best the record, try for it in a different line class.

The last two topics Mike covered were the new plan to slow the spread of VHS in the state and the new tournament fishing rules. I won't go into detail on either. The VHS plan is based on increased surveillance and monitoring; biosecurity of fish farms and hatcheries, quality control in the bait industry, research, public education and outreach, and regulation. New tournament rules are designed to minimize crowding, prevent fish waste from delayed mortality, prevent the spread of invasive species, and the ability to pay for itself.

The best location to find out about the Wisconsin fisheries and details on VHS and tournament rules is to go to the DNR website (www.dnr.state.wi.us). You will have to click on the proper tab to get to the correct place. You can click on contacts if you want to contact Mike. It will give you his e-mail and phone number. Another hint - this website also has hydrographic maps for many Wisconsin lakes that you can download.

Kids Ice Fishing Day, 2008



50 kids
75 hot dogs
10 gallons of hot chocolate.
Hundreds of fish

The 11th Annual Kids Ice Fishing Day was successful, considering the weather conditions on January 19th. We finally broke the 2 consecutive years of cancellations due to thin ice, but in its place, we had air temps of 0 to 10 below and wind chills 20 to 30 below. We did have a decent turnout considering the conditions, with around 50 kids this year. The good thing this year was that the fish were very cooperative and all those attending caught at least one fish. This years attendees and their parents were very appreciative of the Club's efforts and we received \$144 in donations at the event to help defray our costs. We had one father and son from South Carolina who attended and made their first trip out on the ice with fish caught and smiles all around.

Thanks to the following for their support and help in our event: Dave Dahl for all his work in getting the necessary gear from the storage unit and back, D&S Bait Tackle



and Archery for their generous donation of bait, Duffy Kopf and Steve Simer, factory reps for Jiffy Augers for drilling the holes, Tim Roeben for storing the buckets for 3 years and Rick Seeger for his help as Co-Director of the event. Also thanks to the following club members who helped make the event something we as a club can be proud of: Paul Marunich, Tom Raschke, Al Schwoegler, John Kanvik, Stan Nichols, Jim Kusuda, Terry Rogers, Marv Kontney, Stu Hardtke, Tim Roeben, Charlie Grimm, Bill Grimm, Brad Czebotar, Jim Pankratz, Don Gostomski and Kevin Tvedten. (Sorry if I missed anyone.)

Eric Olson

LUND
BOATS
AND
PHARO
marine
YOUR FISHING BOAT HEADQUARTERS
608-849-5950

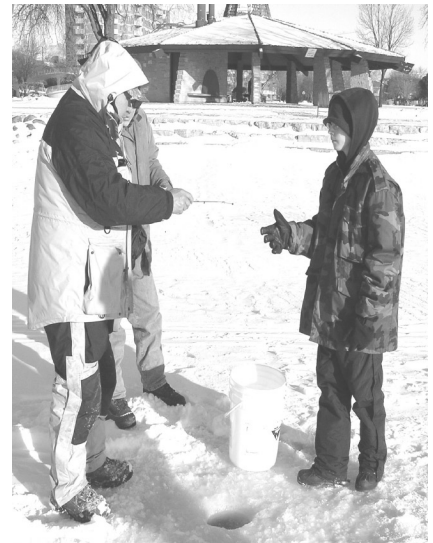
Kids Ice Fishing Day - professional help.



John Kanvik



Jim Kloth



Jim Kusuda



Stan Nichols



Gary Engberg and Duffy show up!



Eric Olson

Terry Balding & Associates Professional Money Management Financial Planning

515 W. Main Street
Sun Prairie, WI 53590
(608) 837-9099
1-800-727-3039
FAX (608) 825-6468
Email: tbalding@hirep.net
www.plannr.com



"Your Partner in Success"
Terry Balding CFP

Securities offered through Harbour Investments, Inc., One Odana Court, Madison, WI 53719
(808) 274-7744 • Member NASD,SIPC



V.F.W. Post 1318
133 Lakeside St. Madison
608-255-5955

Full Color Copies (608) 257-8900




PRINTING & COPYING, LLC

131 West Wilson Street, #P300 Madison, WI 53703

One- and Two-Color Printing
Copying up to 36" x 48"
Large Format Posters

Posters, Banners, Wide Format for Trade Shows, displays, parties, advertisements, etc.

Tune Into
"Outdoor Horizons"
Saturdays at 8:00 AM
Radio WTDY 1670 AM



Hosts Gary Engberg,
Tony Puccio, Wally Banfi

Bringing you the best in Fishing, hunting and the outdoors.

Four Lakes Guide Association Adds New Member

One of Wisconsin's elite guide association, the Four Lakes Guide Association, has added a new member to its group. Ron Barefield of McFarland, Wisconsin has joined the association with his 30 + years of guiding the lakes, rivers, and streams of Wisconsin. Ron is another multi-species expert who fishes bass, walleye, northern pike, muskie, panfish, and catfish. Barefield is a full-time guide booking fishing excursions year round including ice fishing. Ron has numerous articles written about him every year in many state, regional, and national magazines and newspapers.

The Four Lakes Guide Association fishes most waters in Wisconsin many lakes and rivers with well over 100 years experience among its members. The associations other members include; Wally Banfi, Tony Puccio, Terry Frey, Lee Tauchen, and Gary Engberg.

The group was formed to benefit you, the angler. Beginners, advanced, or expert fishermen can take advantage of the group's many years of guiding experience that is shared among members. As professional guides, we are in daily contact with each other. We share information on fish location, presentations, lures, and bait necessary for a successful and productive fishing trip.

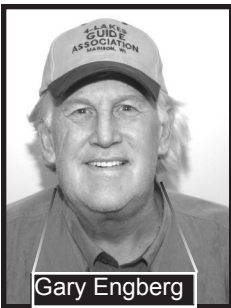
From open water to ice, game fish to panfish, we have the knowledge and experience to provide a quality fishing experience. We are experts on the Madison Chain of Lakes as well as a variety of lakes and rivers in Wisconsin. We take pride in teaching our clients to fish and provide extra attention to children and the elderly. Clients are provided with a safe and comfortable boat, furnished with the latest equipment necessary for a successful trip. We always encourage the catch and release of game fish whenever possible and the selective harvest of more plentiful species.

The Four Lakes Guide Association will have a booth at the Madison Fishing Expo this coming February, so stop by and meet the members and book a day of fishing. The Association may be contacted through member Gary Engberg at www.garyengbergoutdoors.com or gengberg@chorus.net.

WANTED

For providing South Central Wisconsin's best fishing experience

The Four Lakes Guide Association



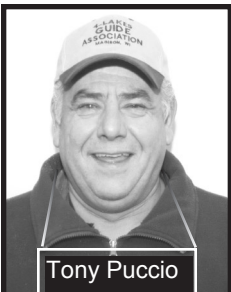
Gary Engberg



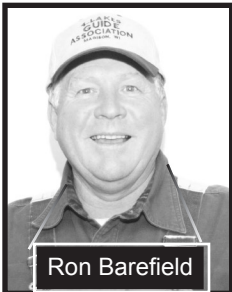
Lee Tauschen



Wally Banfi



Tony Puccio



Ron Barefield



Terry Frey

Relive "THE MOMENT" with an M & M mount

M & M TAXIDERMY

Mark Wiggen
Licensed Taxidermy Artist

Convenient West Side Location
Please Phone Ahead For
A Personal Appointment

4059 Windigo Trail
Madison, WI 53711
(608) 288-FISH
(3474)

www.mnmntax.com

OFFICES AND BOAT SLIPS



INTERLAKE BOATYARD

Located Between Lakes Monona and Waubesa

Call George Kinsler
223-1961

THE NEXT GENERATION

OF CUTTING TECHNOLOGY

HAS ARRIVED



ANOTHER FIRST FROM JIFFY!
3 YEAR
WARRANTY
ON SIX BLADES

BADGER TURFVENT

Jiffy
ICE DRILLS

Duffy Kopf Pro Staff

I have to start this column with a deep breath. I was so impressed by those of you who came to work our Kids Ice Fishing Day. Rick Seeger and Eric Olson did such a good job of organizing this event. Everything was in place and functioned smoothly as far as I know. I saw Yahara Fishing Club members escorting kids and their parents onto the ice and to some productive holes. They instructed with kind words how to put the spike on and that they need to watch the spring bobber. All the excitement over the cold was forgotten as the first fish was caught. I drilled a lot of holes with Steve Simer and Jim Kloth and I worked up a sweat. I thank Jiffy for giving me quality tools to work with. It was also nice to have national place winners Jim Kusuda and Terry Rogers out there, on their knees helping kids catch fish.

The kids were fun to watch as they found catching fish through the ice was not that hard. I am very proud of all the members that helped on that Saturday. If you were there, you found out that these events are the heart and soul of our club. What a great day. My hat is off to all of you. All I did was drill a few holes.

I would like to document the Yahara Fishing Club goals for 2007-2008:

1. To support our Kids Ice Fishing and Fishing Days along with Fishing Has No Boundaries. In addition, to support kids fishing activities that the Board of Directors deem worthy of support.

2. To make every effort to improve club outings – to include:

*get strong commitments from individuals to be responsible for an individual outing (4 outings per year)

*consider offering one long trip that will go to the same location at the same time every year.

*get outing information into the newsletter well in advance (minimum of 3 months or more)

3. Form a membership committee whose job it will be to increase our membership by a minimum of ten percent.

These goals were approved by your Board of Directors. I am assuming that everyone in the club will work to support these goals.

Theresa Stabo from the DNR is looking for some help. She needs people to service their tackle loaner equipment. Look for more information in this newsletter.

Remember, our February meeting is AUCTION TIME! Clean out your garage and/or basement and bring the stuff to the February meeting. This is a great way to raise some money, have a good time and maybe pick up a treasure or two. I would also like to encourage those of you that want to – bring some finger food to the auction to share with fellow club members. My plate will be sausage and cheese. Charlie Grimm always makes this event entertaining.

The Madison Fishing Expo is coming up and I would like to remind everyone how important it is for the membership to make a contribution of some kind to this

event. We need people to sign up to take tickets at the door, sell tickets, man the Yahara Fishing Club Booth and be there at about 7:30 or 8:00am that Friday morning to help the vendors bring in their displays. We need to promote the club and make some money at our booth.

I would like to congratulate Eric Olson on winning the coveted Pete Froland Award at our last meeting. I don't think we could have given the award to anyone more deserving.

This is the last time I will be reminding you of this. Pay your dues! You are all adults and should be able to follow through on your responsibilities.

I would like everyone to remember that any member of the Yahara Fishing Club is eligible to have \$100 donated back to our club if they buy a boat/motor/trailer package within the next few months from Heckels Marina in Sun Prairie. When and how you buy a boat is up to you. I do know that buying a boat during a sport show is a good time to pull the trigger. Make sure you buy the boat from the business that gives you the best deal on a quality boat. I will be busy at the Expo splitting my time between working at the Heckels area and the Pure Fishing booth. Stop buy and say hi.

We need people to lead outings and run the On The Water Meetings. These activities are part of our goals. Anyone can

Continued next page

Dorn Hardware and Sporting Goods
"The fishing & hunting Specialists"

Professional Help **ELECTRONICS**
 Inland and Lake Michigan
Tackle and Accessories
Guns Ammunition Archery

Competitive Prices at
 4 Locations
 Northgate Oregon
 Monona
 Brookwood

Pharo Marine Inc
 Hwy 113 and River Road in Waunakee
 849-5950

MERCURY
The Water Calls

Pontoons Deckboats
 Mercury Mariner Force
 Mercruiser OMC

"We excel in service"

Aluminum & Stainless Prop work
 Aluminum Boat Repair
 Prop & Skeg Repair

Mike's Prop Shop
 M-F... 8-5
 Sat... 8-12

Certified
 12 Years
 Experience

1009 Applegate
 Madison

20%
 Discount
 For YFC
 Members

608-221-1111
 1-888-366-6330

Notes from the Prez, continued.

Pete Froland Award

do it. Are you willing to do this? If you are, please contact me (849-7245 or ljkopf@tds.net) or any of your Board Members.

I would like to thank Gene Brazee and Vincent Colletti for donating a bunch of stuff to sell at our auction. I don't think I have every seen a tip up that old. There is some interesting stuff, but you won't see it if you don't come to the February meeting. Earlier this year an individual donated some unique rods and reels to the club. These will also be auctioned off by Col. Charlie Grimm. I believe some of the late John Olson's stuff will also be making an appearance at the action.

I really enjoyed being on the ice last weekend. People that don't like our Wisconsin winters should make the attempt to enjoy them with someone who knows how to dress and function in the cold. I have a tournament next weekend on Crystal Lake. This is always a fun time and there are a lot of great people.

Keep February 16th in mind. The University of Wisconsin-White-water Fishing Team is putting on a tournament out of Schoepp's Resort. This a really the first time these kids have put on a tournament, it would be nice if we could help them out. I'll see you there.

Make sure you are there for the auction.

Fishing Season Never Closes

Duffy Kopf - Prez



JackHurst presents Eric Olsen with the 2007 Pete Froland Award

For Lease

Rustic retreat in the heart of Southwestern Wisconsin trout country

- Across the road from the Big Green River
- Within 15 miles of L. Green, Crooked Cr., Borah Cr., Castle Rock, and others
- Four miles to L. Wisconsin Riverway and 20 Miles to the Mississippi River
- Within striking distance of Platte and Grant River systems
- Close to thousands of acres of public hunting areas in Northern Grant Co.
- Sleeps 4, electric and wood heat, gas stove
- \$700 for the trout season
- Call Stu 608-838-3315, Stan 608-838-8415, or Rick 608-877-1009

Lake-Link.com
BEYOND THE WATER
Interactive fishing reports, lake database, topographic maps, tons of angling and outdoor information and much, much more!
Visit www.lake-link.com today!

MAZANET MARINA
"OUR 40th YEAR ON LAKE MENDOTA"
SALES & SERVICE
Ranger NitroCraft
Evinrude STINGRAY
* WINTER STORAGE
* 300 WET & DRY SLIPS
* GAS DOCK - BEER & ICE
* BOAT RENTAL * LIVE BAIT
WWW.MAZANETMARINA.COM
249-9316
5320 BLUE BILL PARK DR

THE BEARS STILL SUCK
NORTHERN WISCONSIN PACKER BACKERS
THIS NOTE IS LEGAL TENDER FOR GETTING WASTED
G 101069 P
GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN
LAMBDA FIELD
G 101069 P
Brett Favre
SERIES 1996
Vince Lombardi 4

Milwaukee Fishing, Boating & Outdoor Expo

You and your club are invited to attend the new Milwaukee Fishing, Boating & Outdoor Expo, Feb. 14-17 at the Milwaukee County Sports Complex, 60th & Ryan Road in Franklin, WI.

We have combined our Chicago area and Milwaukee area shows in an easily accessed location just south of Milwaukee.

You'll find great values on fishing and outdoor gear, boats, campers, ATV's, resorts, outfitters and charters. An excellent seminar lineup and many special features will make the Expo a short trip worth taking. And, with the \$2.00 coupon available on our website, \$7.00 adult admission is only \$5.00; under 12 is free. With \$3.00 on-site parking, you can't beat this super value.

We very much appreciate your support in spreading the word on a good new show. See you there!

Chuck Collins
Phone: 715-757-2370
www.milwfishingboatingexpo.com

Check out Gary Engbeg's new website

Gary has added frequent video fishing reports, a weekly local column, and extensive archives on various fishing and hunting topics.

<http://www.garyengbergoutdoors.com/blog/>



Yahara Fishing Club Membership Application

P.O. Box 3271
Madison, WI 53704

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Annual Dues:

Individual.....\$25
Family.....\$35
Youth Member.....Free
(with paid membership)

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.

An Organization to Educate, Protect and Propagate the Interests of All Fishermen in the Yahara Basin Area Including all of Madison's Lakes



Mendota Boat Works
5380 Farmco Dr.
Madison, WI 53704
www.mendotaboatworks.com

ph: 608 - 245 - 9041
fax: 608 - 249 - 9396

Michael Vierthaler
Owner

Quality fiberglass, gel coat repairs,
Yacht Chartering and Bottom Painting



**Ryan and
Joyce-Ryan
Funeral Homes**

Serving Families of all Faiths Since 1938
"Conele" Ryan - Rosann Ryan - P.M. O'Rourke

2618 N. Sherman Madison 249-8257 118 N. Franklin Verona 845-8823 2701 Odana Rd. Madison 276-1000



FLEETWOOD Rockwood
Driven to Explore

**JERRY'S
CAMPING CENTER**

4506 E. Broadway, Madison, WI 53716
www.jerryscampingcenter.com (608) 222-2929
Fax (608) 222-1108
jerryscampingctr@sbcglobal.net

The next meeting is on **Tuesday, February 12th**, at the Lakeside VFW Hall (John Nolen Rr. & Lakeside St.)
The Board Of Directors meet at 6:15 pm, The **General Membership meeting starts at 7:30 pm.**

Auctioneer: Col. Charlie Grimm

February Events **Calendar of Upcoming Events**

- February 12th Monthly meeting @7:30 pm, Lakeside VFW Hall
Annual Club Auction
- February 14-17 MilwaukeeFishing, Boating & Outdoor Expo
Milwaukee County Sports Complex, 60th & Ryan Road in Franklin, WI.
- February 16 The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Fishing Team
Schoepp's Resort.
- February 22-24 Madison Fishing Expo
Dane County Expo Center

March Events

- March 11th Monthly meeting @7:30 pm, Lakeside VFW Hall
Speaker: Lee Tausher

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

| | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| President - Larry Kopf.....849-7245 | Director - Rick Lane873-5228 | 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 Czebotar873-5228 | Director - Bonnie Miller.....824-9792 | Fishing Expo - Jeff Western....831-1092 |

Check out our web page at:
www.yaharafishingclub.org



Yahara Fishing Club
P.O. Box 3271
Madison, WI 53704