



G P T S C

Fishing lines

January 2009

CLUB HAPPENINGS

January 22 Potluck

E-board

President - Kevin Seher
wefish@wildblue.net H: 255-0607

President Elect - Jack Long
jdlong@bis.midco.net H: 258-8698

Sec/Treasurer - Al Nosbusch, H: 255-0569
acnosbusch@hotmail.com C: 527-6293

Program Chman - Bryce Andersen, H: 258-1148
fmforkliftsaless@qwestoffice.net

Program Co-Chman - Steve Bubach
sbubach@bis.midco.net H: 255-6208

Newsletter Editor - Colleen Nosbusch H: 255-0569
acnosbusch@hotmail.com C: 527-6749

Derby Chairman - Monte Babeck H: 223-2206
montebabeck@bis.midco.net C: 527-0980

Derby Co-Chair: Dennis Erhardt H: 663-7358
derhardt@bis.midco.net

MESSAGE FROM THE PREZ ...

Great Planer Members:

Happy New Year to all you fishing people out there. The New Year sure came in with a bang. The snow is nice to see but these

temperatures could sure be somewhere else. I hope everybody is staying warm as possible. It's difficult to get outside and enjoy winter activities when conditions get like they are.

The snow is at a depth where ice fishing access is limited. Be careful if you venture out. It's not worth breaking up equipment nor is it a lot of fun shoveling yourself out of a stuck situation.

This next year is going to be a challenge for me. I have never held a position such as this so I guess I am asking all the club members for a bit of help. GPTSC is your club. If you have any questions, suggestions or advice, call me anytime. If I am not at home, leave a message and I will return your call as soon as possible. I want to thank Jack Long for stepping up as President Elect for 2009, also Dennis Erhardt as Derby Co-Chair and Steve Bubach as Program Director Co-Chair.

I hope everyone can attend the potluck on January 22nd at 6:00. The meeting is being held at the Amvets Club.

I had better cut this short for I think I have more snow to move! I am looking

forward to serving as your President for 2009. Hope to see you all at the potluck.

Kevin Seher (Megan Marie)

OUTGOING WISDOM

Hello everyone! I hope this finds you all keeping warm and thinking about next summer.

I will keep this short but I would like to reflect a little on the past year as your club president. It started out as a year that I was unsure of what I was getting into. I quickly found out that there were a bunch of great people involved in the club who were more than willing to give a hand anytime something was needed. The advice I received from the other board members (and members at large) helped tremendously. Through out the e-board meetings, the outings, the derby and all the other activities, it was a very pleasant atmosphere to be included in.

I highly recommend that you get involved in the club as much as you can as new ideas are always appreciated. You will find that there are more than a few people that will be willing to help at all times.

I know that we have a strong slate of officers for the 2009 year and am looking forward to the upcoming activities.

We are looking forward to summer and with the snowfall and everything that is happening, hopefully the lake will raise a bunch again. It is only a matter of time before we have the great salmon fishing back again. Remember, the fishing is always great, sometimes the catching is the tricky

part. No matter how you look at it, remember the good times that are had and that catching fish is only the secondary reason to be out there.

Have a great winter and I hope to see you all at the outings this year.

Terry Focke (Eliminator)

E-BOARD ELECTION

Election of a new E-Board for the Great Planers Trout and Salmon Club was held at the Club's meeting of December 2, 2008. For the 2009/2010 year the following individuals have agreed to conduct the business of the Club:

President - Kevin Seher

President Elect - Jack Long

Secretary/Treasurer - Al Nosbusch

Derby Chair - Monte Babeck

Derby Co - Chair - Dennis Erhardt

Program Chair - Bryce Andersen

Program Co - Chair - Steve Bubach

Newsletter Editor - Colleen Nosbusch

Remember, this is your club. If there is an issue of Club business for which you want to provide input you should always feel free to either attend the E-Board meetings or contact one of the E-Board members.

2008 REPORT CARD RESULTS

The 2008 report card coupons have all been turned in and the numbers are being compiled. While the numbers have all been crunched, the report has not yet been completed. However, we can share a few of the details and watch for the full report with all of the details in an upcoming edition

of the Newsletter. All in all, 162 reports were turned in this year and that was an increase of 65% over last year's total. I am not sure if that was a reflection of more salmon being caught or just that the anglers were a bit more diligent about filling out the report card and remembering to turn them in. Probably the biggest reason for the increase was the work that was done by Club members and the Derby committee to follow up on report cards for salmon caught in the Derby.

The results for 2008 show another year of a strong rebound from what appears was a bottoming out in 2006. Following years of declining water levels and a declining forage base of smelt things started an upward trend in 2007. In 2006, the average weight of the salmon reported caught was 3.7 pounds and not only was the average size smaller but the number of large size fish were down. In 2006, there was not a salmon caught that weighed 8 pounds. 2007 saw the average size of the salmon increase to 5.4 pounds and 17 salmon 8 pounds or larger were reported caught. That represented 17% of the total number of salmon caught. In 2008, the average salmon weighed 6.1 pounds and there were 44 salmon weighed in at 8 pounds or larger. The 44 salmon represented 28% of salmon caught this past summer. In addition, two 13 pound plus salmon were weighed in this summer. A 13 pound 5 ounce and a 13 pound 4 ounce salmon were weighed in at Scott's Bait and Tackle in Pick City in August.

With Lake Sakakawea at a water elevation of 1825 feet in mid January we can only hope that there is a sizeable snowpack in the mountains. The current plains snowpack should go a long ways in replenishing the

topsoil and subsoil moisture levels and this will allow for some of the basin snowpack to make its way to tributaries which feed the Lake. In addition since the plains will be adequately snow covered most, if not all, of the mountain snowpack will make its way to the Lake rather than backing up into the smaller tributaries to replenish them. So keeping our fingers crossed, we will end up with a smelt spawn this year and the smelt forage base will again begin its return. All the ingredients are in place for another rebound year so make sure you have good line on your reels, that your knots are all tied well, and that your leaders are not nicked because you may just experience the excitement of hooking into a few of those 10 pound plus salmon this summer.

Jack Long (Skip Jack)

ANNUAL MEETING

The Club's Annual Meeting and Potluck Dinner will be held at 6:00 PM Thursday, January 22, 2009 at the Bismarck Amvets Club. Agenda items will include:

- Presentation of the Club's traveling trophy for the largest fish registered by a Club member.
- Drawing for a cash prize from among the anglers who submitted a salmon club report card.
- Drawing for a cash prize from among club members who reported tagged salmon to the ND Game & Fish Department.

Great Planers Trout & Salmon Club
PO Box 1972
Bismarck, ND 58502-1972

I wish to register my family in the Great Planers Trout and Salmon Club
\$15 is enclosed for annual membership dues.

Total Enclosed:\$ _____

Date: _____

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Street: _____

Phone: _____

City: _____

State/Zip: _____

Marine Radio Handle: _____

Email Address: _____

Mail To: Great Planers Trout and Salmon Club—P.O. Box 1972 Bismarck, ND 58502-1972