

NEWSLETTER

Meeting Location

*The location and time of our regular monthly meetings have changed. From now on we will meet at the **Royal Canadian Legion, Westboro Branch at 389 Richmond Road, between Churchill and Roosevelt Avenues.** The parking is on the neighbouring streets.*

The next meeting is on Thursday, August 4 at 7 PM. The meeting room is upstairs.

Jim Lumsden will tell us all he knows about spinnerbait fishing!

Upcoming Club Fishes

Wed. Aug.3 – Dick Bell Park

Sat. Aug. 13 – Wendover

Wed. Aug. 24 – Reeve Craig

Sun. Aug. 28 – Mississippi Lake

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Jim McDonald Memorial Club Fish Results

Neil McColl and Jim found the Waba ramp improved and good parking. They got a number of fish and left mid-afternoon. Gilles Ouellette and family did well, getting some nice bass. The BBQ lunch went well.

July 16 – Edmonds Lock

I went by myself, since Moe was out of action. It seems that there was a local bass club event on. After launching, it looked like all the good fishing spots were taken so I ran down to Kilmarnock and trolled back up the channel. Final score – six bass, 2 pike. Met Ian and Jim – they had a couple of bass. Neil and his friend George came by later, just as the fish knocked off for lunch. They had the right idea and we all went in, had lunch and went home

July 27 – Reeve Craig

Hedrik Wachelka got a 24 inch pike and a 16 inch largemouth. Jim got 4 bass and 4 pike (2 -25"). No word on Mike and Philippe Belley. Charles Gao got 6 pike (2 -31") and some small largemouth.

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Baxter Conservation Area and MNR Fishing Clinic – August 18

Cathy Leeson-Roche of the MNR (the gang that organized the Dow's Lake Kid's Fishing event on Jul 10 – see page 4) is partnering with the Baxter Conservation Area to deliver a 2-hour (approximately) fishing clinic to individuals registered in Baxter's Canoe Camp. There are about 12 kids between the ages of 10 and 13 that have an overnight camp at the Conservation Area on the Thursday night. It would be a great opportunity to give this clinic to determine the deliverability of the program and what can be achieved in a short period of time.

There are 4 modules, each about 15 minutes long, and then there would be time to do some fishing from shore or from the canoes.

The 4 modules are:

Fish Habitat and Handling: kids learn the importance of watersheds to fish and humans, understanding the term “habitat”, understand water pollution, understand what fish need to survive, know one method of releasing a fish, know parts of a fish that require care in touching.

Casting: kids learn to cast using an open-faced spinning reel. They also learn safety while casting, the importance of sun protection, and how to cast from a seated position (boat).

Fishing Knots and Rigging: Kids learn to tie a reliable knot (Palomar), how to bend the barb on a hook, how important it is not to litter, understand baits, lures and flies attract fish, and how to assemble basic rigging.

Local Information: Kids learn where to fish, urban fishing fundamentals, how to use the Regulations Summary, and The Guide to Eating Sport Fish.

The modules are developed from the “Water Works Wonders - Passport to Fishing and Boating (2003)” program and geared to being delivered by volunteers, camp counselors, or MNR Staff.

Please let Jim Lumsden know if you are available to lend a hand on Thursday, August 18. He can contact Cathy and get copies of the Modules so that you can learn enough before hand to be able to teach it.

If this program works, MNR may develop a “teach the teachers” clinic in the spring and have counselors from various day camps come and take the 2 hour seminar, get the material, and be able to deliver it to a multitude of kids throughout the summer as a short program that gets basic fishing fundamentals across and instills a respect for the aquatic environment.

Club Fish Results (Continued)

Sat. July 30 – Merrickville:

Moe was back in good health, so he and I went down to Merrickville and arrived at a rather gentlemanly 11:30 AM. We were shocked, I tell you, shocked to find that we were the only ones there!

Undaunted, we launched and made our way down river towards Kilmarnock. We stopped at the big weed flat just before Gemmell's Point. No luck, and there were lots of cruisers cruising by, throwing veritable tsunamis. Not the place for a pair of careful and sophisticated anglers like us. By Ned, it's tough to drink from a pop can when these 3-foot rollers slam into you. But – when the going gets tough, the tough get going.

We got going to the side channel at Kilmarnock and fished the weed edges. Moe got a 25 inch pike and a 10 inch rock bass on a black spinner bait. I got 6 bass – 2 on a purple worm and 4 on a white twister-tail grub rigged weedless. There were a couple of cut-offs. We tried trolling but there was too much floating grass.

HEADSLAPPER!

I've had my current outfit since 1992 – 91 dog years. I mention this only to bolster my claim to being a slow learner. Most people who know me won't need any more proof.

Ever since 1992, I've thought that I really needed to get in shape. I was having progressively more difficulty winching the boat onto the trailer and most of my fishing companions really didn't seem eager to prove their own physical prowess and show me up.

Anyway ...

While contemplating this a week ago, I noticed that the trailer winch was rated for 1400 pounds. This started me thinking and I soon realized that I was winching up about 1300 pounds, counting 3 motors, 2 batteries, 2 gas tanks, and an 850 pound boat. All this on a single speed winch.

Cutting to the chase, I bought a 2500 pound, 2 speed winch at Princess Auto on sale for \$30. I set it up in low range.

Pulling the boat on the trailer was a piece of cake at Merrickville.

Moe also tried it and found no difficulty at all in turning the crank. Sure, it's a bit slow, but probably not much slower overall and less danger of a heart attack or doing irreparable damage to other vital parts.

Duh!

Dow's Lake Youth Fishing Day – July 10

Dave Mingie and his daughter, Neil and Heather McColl, Bob Stoddard, Ian Midgley and the Prez himself participated in this event. Jim saw Brian Harrington and Hedrik Wachelka there as well.

Approximately 215 kids registered for the event. There was a whole host of giveaways from the many sponsors and volunteers. Fishing rods, hats, T-shirts, stickers and the temporary tattoos were a big hit with the kids.

Major equipment sponsors of the event were Bob Izumi's Kids, Cops, and Canadian Tire (Fishing Forever Foundation, the Police Association of Ontario and Canadian Tire), the Toronto Sportsmen's Shows and Shimano Canada. Other local sponsors included Jim Perry Motor Sales and Financing Centre, OttawaFishing.com, Ottawa Fly Fishers Society, Kemptville Feed and Seed Ltd., and Ottawa Stewardship Council.

Donations from local fishing tackle shops (Paddletales Tackle, Mike's Fly Shop, Petrie Island Bait and Tackle, and Manotick Bait and Tackle) and Alves Worms provided the kids with the bait and tackle they needed to get fishing on the shore with the help of the numerous volunteers available to bait hooks, land fish, and untangle lines!

Some of the fishing clubs volunteering their time and expertise included: Big Jim McLaughlin, Ottawa Fishing Club, Ottawa Valley Chapter of Muskies Canada, Fish-Hawk.net, Friends in Sportfishing, Ottawa Valley South Bassmasters, Canadianangler.ca, Ottawa Flyfishers, and Renegade Bass.

78 kids who had never fished before got "hooked" on the joys of fishing at the event.

The Ottawa Police Force managed to have many officers on hand to mingle with the kids, and the Marine unit brought their boat down for the kids to climb in, have a look and have their picture taken.

Hotdogs were donated by Tannis Food Distributors and Canada Bread (Dempsters). Water and juice were also provided. Both Roger's Community Cruiser and the New RO road crew came out with a few tasty treats for the kids.

MNR Enforcement and the Ottawa Police put on a great demonstration with their dogs showing how they can detect various hidden objects (fish, ammunition, drugs) by smell.

The Ottawa Renegades came out to help with the fishing day. They mingled with the young anglers, barbecued hotdogs, handed out equipment, signed autographs, T-shirts, and footballs, and helped apply temporary tattoos.

The Ontario Family Fishing Weekend is an annual event during which Canadian residents can enjoy the fun of fishing in Ontario without a licence. The Ontario MNR Urban Fishing Program is in its second of a three-year pilot program to introduce sport fishing to youth in urban areas such as Ottawa.

To learn more about Urban Fishing, check out the MNR web site:

http://www..mnr.gov.on.ca/MNR/fishing/urban_ont.html

CRIMP, SOLDER, OR CRIMP & SOLDER?

When installing the new Motorguide trolling motor on the boat, Jim and I talked about the best way to make the connections. He's got many years of experience in practical electronics. My experience is really limited. We wound up making mechanical connections (bolting connectors together with stainless steel bolts and vibration-proof nuts) or attaching terminals to wire using mechanical crimps, courtesy of Malmberg's. I think the wiring is in good shape. But my curiosity was piqued and I decided to look into it.

Enter the Internet. Bear in mind that I'm interested in a marine environment so don't confuse this with making connections in your audio equipment. The following quotes are excerpted from the American Boat and Yacht Council. I imagine that Dave Dietrich could turn up the Canadian equivalent standards.

Quote: "Solder shall not be the sole means of mechanical connection in any circuit."
11.16.3.7.

Quote: "Solderless crimp on connectors shall be attached with the type of crimping tools designed for the connector used, and that will produce a connection meeting the requirements of E-11.16.3.3."

Some other considerations about soldering marine connections.

"As mentioned, crimping action work-hardens the connector barrel, making the joint mechanically strong and stable. If you solder a crimped joint, you may, in heating the connector, soften the copper, making the joint loosen. Now it is the solder only that provides the strength of the joint. But if the joint is subjected to vibration, the solder, in absorbing mechanical energy over a period of time, may crystallize and the joint may actually fail altogether.

Melted solder may flow through "wicking" action up the strands of wire, thus creating a stiff, solid section just behind a terminal. Since the terminal itself is made fast to a post or stud, the place where the solder stiffened section abruptly merges with the stranded wire is relatively unsupported. Vibrational flexing of the wire is concentrated at this interface, leading to hardening, embrittlement, and eventual failure."

The lesson that I draw from all of this is that I should use crimping (and with a suitable crimping tool) anywhere that vibration is likely to occur. A boat is such a place.

I don't know where you can buy a "suitable" crimping tool, but if you can patronize Malmberg's, they can crimp connectors and terminals on using some pretty heavy duty crimpers. They also sell a wide range of wire. They're also cheaper than Canadian Tire's ready made stuff.

Question of the Day

Q: How much fishing equipment can a man have before his wife throws him out?

A: I do not know for sure. However, I believe that the experiment is almost complete and the results will be known shortly.

Some Useful Web Sites

“How to Tie Crawler Harnesses”

<http://dns.advnet.net/mkg/harnesss/index.htm>

A good article, with photos and drawings, including how to tie on the hooks.

“The Motor Oil Site”

<http://themotoroilsite.com/forums>

An amazing amount of information on motor oils, including information on synthetic oils. Did you know that some synthetic oils aren't even synthetic and that they are allowed to advertise as if they were? Also covers additives, filters, etc.

Is synthetic oil all that important? Where is it important?

Blonde Jokes

A guy gets on a plane and finds himself seated next to a cute blonde. He turns and makes his move. “You know,” he says, “I’ve heard that flights go quicker if you strike up a conversation with your fellow passenger. Let’s talk.”

The blonde, who had just opened her book, closes it slowly and says, “What would you like to discuss?”

“Oh, I don’t know,” says the guy. “How about nuclear power?”

“OK,” says the blonde. “That could be an interesting topic. But first let me ask you a question first. A horse, a cow, and a deer all eat the same stuff – grass. Yet the deer excretes little pellets, the cow turns out a flat patty, and the horse produces muffins of dried poop. Why do you suppose that is?”

The guy is dumbfounded. Finally he replies, “I haven’t the slightest idea.”

“So tell me,” says the blonde, “How is it that you feel qualified to discuss nuclear power when you don’t know crap?”

A ventriloquist is touring the clubs and one night he’s doing a gig in a small town in rural Ontario. He starts going through his usual “dumb blonde” jokes when a blonde in the 4th row stands up and starts shouting.

“I’m sick and tired of your stupid blonde jokes. What makes you think you can stereotype women that way? What does the colour of a person’s hair have to do with her worth as a human being? It’s guys like you who keep women like me from being respected at work and in the community, and from reaching our full potential as a person.”

The ventriloquist stammers out an apology and the blonde yells, “You stay out of this, mister! I’m talking to that little creep on your knee!”