



321 Railroad Ave, Bartlett, IL 60103



November 2017

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## Coming Events

**General Membership Meeting**  
Tues, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm

**Speaker(s):** The speaker for the November general meeting will be Chris Taurisano of T-Bone Guide Service. Chris is a professional multi species guide on the Fox Chain 'o Lakes.

Chris specializes in muskie, wall-eye, bass, and panfish, and will be coming in to share some multi species techniques to help you put more fish in the boat!

As always, there will be raffles, door prizes, and a good time at the meeting! Come out and learn a bit and visit with the crowd!

**Upcoming Club Meetings:**  
December 12– General Membership

January 9 – General Membership



Our speaker for the October meeting was Dan Wheeler of Kingfin Charters out of the Port of Waukegan. Dan came in to talk about how to target salmon and trout around the Waukegan harbor area. Dan has been putting fish on the deck out of Waukegan for years and we appreciate him coming out to talk with us. Thanks Dan!

*Hook 'n Line* is the official newsletter of Salmon Unlimited, Inc., a non-profit organization, and is published monthly for members. Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual authors, and do not necessarily represent the views of Salmon Unlimited, Inc.

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We apologize in advance for any typographical errors. We make every effort to ensure correctness. Feel free to let us know if we over-looked something. Please direct any/all correspondence to:

**Salmon Unlimited Office**

321 Railroad Ave, Bartlett, IL 60103

www.salmonunlimitedinc.com, (773) 736-5757

**General Membership Meetings at  
VFW HALL - 7:00 to 10:00 PM  
400 E Devon Ave, Elk Grove Village, IL**

## President's Report

"There are no seven wonders of the world in the eyes of a child. There are seven million." - Walt Streightiff

Who doesn't love youthful enthusiasm? We all start out with it and somehow as we age we spend some time wondering where it went. All success depends on it. Besides, things are a lot more fun to do if you love doing it. Which leads me to our past year fishing on the big lake.

Fishing was darn good again. Plenty of big fish were brought to our tournament scales all season long. Maybe it wasn't the best year ever, but solid for sure. Our big money tournaments had many heavy limits and so did the club tournaments. By late September the fishing slowed down for my boat on the big lake, but reports of good returns of steelhead and Kings to rivers like the Manistee in MI after a few down falls bode well for next years fishery. Get excited, I sure am. Spring will be here soon enough, and we can all act like a nine-year-old again.

As I write this article it is 20 degrees outside, that's it, I'm out of here. I plan on going to Naples FL and fish with John and Kevin Massard in the Gulf of Mexico for a week right after Thanksgiving. I'll have some pictures and a fishing report when I get back.

We will have our tournament schedule announced by our December edition of the Hook and Line, so look for that. Wisconsin already announced their Salmon a Rama tournament dates: **July 14th thru July 22nd 2018!** <http://www.salmon-a-rama>

Jack Olles is the new Vice President of Salmon Unlimited of Illinois. Thanks for volunteering your time Jack, I'm sure you'll do a tremendous job!

One of my boat's tournament team members, Bob Nichols, is having open heart surgery on Monday, November 13, 2017. Please keep Bob in your prayers, I'm sure he'll be fine.

All the best,  
Jim Nelligan  
President

## Membership

### Benefits of Membership:

- Membership card entitling bearer to all association benefits.
- Embroidered Salmon Unlimited membership patch.
- Salmon Unlimited automobile decal.
- Voting privileges.
- Salmon Unlimited Hook 'n Line newsletter, published 12 times a year, and sent only to Active Members.
- Fishing seminars covering all aspects of salmon and trout angling.
- Participation in all club competitions and activities.
- Family Membership (Spouse and dependent children of Active Members are eligible to participate in competitions and other activities).
- Membership Roster - Active Members receive a roster of Active Members.
- Set of distinctive Salmon Unlimited boat decals (A set comes with membership, any additional sets are \$5.00.).

**Join or renew memberships on our website.**

<http://www.salmonunlimitedinc.com/#!/page3/cee5>

### Preview for the December Meeting

Dan Basore (Bay-sore) started a fishing club, a fishing log book and began collecting old fishing items when he was 15 years old. Many of you know him from his Historical Fishing Display at sports shows and museums. You may have also read his Fishing History column and other articles carried in Midwest Outdoors for over 30 years. But you may not know about his fishing activities.

Dan was one of the first Charter/Life members of B.A.S.S. (the Bass Anglers Sportsmans Society) and won a Bass Casters Association National Tournament in 1971 besting many top name pros. He continues to compete in National contests where pre 1950 tackle is used and has regularly won these casting and fishing events. Dan's recently been inducted into the Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame.

His main passion is finding and sharing old fishing items, some dating back to 8,000 years ago and the evolution of fishing in America. Frustrated that no show or museum has been able to exhibit all of his collections he's pleased to bring items not seen in these shows to groups like ours that may have an interest in certain aspects of fishing.

Dan will share many very valuable life lessons learned over the years from fishing that he shares with kids. So listen and learn from his experiences ...and give Dan a warm welcome.

## Fall Action!

Hi Everyone, since fall has seemingly hit and is here to stay, fishing reports have slowed down quite a bit! I for one, have not gotten out fishing since late September or early October when the kings were entering the harbors and available from shore. So in the absence of any fishing reports or stories to share, I thought I'd provide a little bit of a summary of the waterfowl hunting season I've been fortunate to have thus far!

Season started for me with the Southern WI zone duck season opener on the September 30<sup>th</sup> weekend. I was fortunate to meet a new hunting buddy around that time who had permission on a cut wheat field in southern WI that was being used by some geese during the early September season and a few stuck around into the regular season. We set up a field spread of about 90 Bigfoot Canada Geese and a dozen full body mallard decoys paired with a Mojo duck spinning wing decoy for some motion. It didn't take long for the ducks to show up and a group of 7 dropped into the spread, and between 3 shooters, we dropped 4 of the 7. Again, not to long after that volley, we had some goose action! Within the first 2 hrs of shooting light, we had our 3 man limit of geese with 4 bonus ducks! A great hunt to start the season!



While I'm blessed to have a full time M-F job, I'm also cursed to being a weekend waterfowl warrior. So the next weekend consisted of another couple of field hunts in the same cut wheat field that we had opening weekend luck in... the problem is that all of the surrounding soy bean fields had been cut that week and the geese and ducks were using those fields and wanted almost nothing to do with us at all! We ended the weekend with only one honker taken! But in the subsequent week, we had a lot of rain which created a big waterhole in the field that had previously dried up due to the very dry months of August and September. But also because of the rain, we weren't able to drive into the field, which meant getting out the jet sleds and dragging the necessary gear into the field through the

mud to the waterhole. All lot of huffing and puffing later, we got the gear to the spot and set up the layout blinds, duck floaters, and a dozen goose shells for good measure. I let my new friend, Cameron (who is somewhat new to waterfowling), know that this would predominately be a duck hunt with the option of bonus geese. Well, we were not disappointed with the early duck action because they showed up right as legal shooting hours hit! And they even worked into the decoy spread perfectly as they did it! We ended up with 8 ducks before we heard a flock of geese coming. A bit of calling to them and they set up perfectly over the top of us, a few shots later we had 4 geese on the ground for 3 shooters. One more flock came in and we finished up our limit of honkers for a total of 6 geese and 8 ducks. A great shoot for us, me specifically because this was a great warm up for the week long trip to the mecca of duck hunting, the prairie pothole region of North Dakota!

The trip to North Dakota started with a 12 hour drive from southern WI to southeastern ND. We hunted for 6 days straight with a slow start and a couple hunts with low numbers of ducks for 5 shooters. But then after getting a tip from a local at the town bar about a big rain that hit a month before in a nearby area to our north that flooded some farm fields, we struck out to scout the area. What we found was a pile of mallards using flooded soy bean fields and some big marshes in the area. By the end of the week, we estimated that there were 4000-5000 mallards within a 2 mile area. We set up on a couple of field hunts in cut soy bean fields that really produced a couple of high number hunts that brought our trip totals into the 80s for the week!



would definitely recommend in the future! Let me know if you're interested and I can get you the information on the guide we used for this hunt!



This past weekend was one of my favorite hunting events of the year Liv's Hunt for the Cure. This event is a charity hunting event that my friend Mauro Tomasetti and his wife Lisa have been running with the help of an amazing volunteer committee for the last 15 years! A very well run hunting event that has been benefiting the research into a cure for Cystic Fibrosis! I've been fortunate to participate in this event as a hunter and guide for the past 6 years. Each year, I've been able to make new friends that come from all over the country to support the event, and this year was no different! While the weather on Saturday was quite rainy, we were able to take a few birds! 3 mallards and 1 goose.

The following day I was able to share a pit with a great group of people that span from central IL, central Kentucky, and even as far south as Florida! These are some great people, and the picture below of the group is by far, my favorite picture of the year! While we don't have the biggest pile of birds in front of us, the friendships represented in this picture are extremely important to me! I am very fortunate to have met some wonderful people!



Upon returning from North Dakota on October 28<sup>th</sup>, we had a guided layout boat hunt set up for Wednesday Nov 1<sup>st</sup> that we all took a vacation day to go on...boy what a fun experience. A totally different perspective watching birds hit the spread at water level when you're also at water level laying in low level layout boat!



Being that it was a 2 man layout boat and we had 4 hunters this trip, my buddy Roger and I took the first shift and didn't take long to take our limit of bluebills and a couple bonus birds (bufflehead and merganser). It was time for the other guys to get in the layout and shoot some birds. Well, just like we deal with in fishing, the currents up in Greenbay had plans for the decoy spread that were not conducive to getting birds to decoy, everything ended up balled up and required some reorganization and additional weights to be put on the long lines by our guide and his helper. About 45 min later, it was set and the birds started coming back in! By the end of the hunt, we ended with 15 ducks and 2 mergansers for the group! A great hunt overall that I



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Hopefully the remainder of the waterfowling season is as productive and fun as the beginning half has been so far! And if by chance the duck/goose action starts to get slow, we can always turn to the brown trout and steelhead action that the WI harbors are putting up J.

-Mark Sandahl

Editor, Hook N Line

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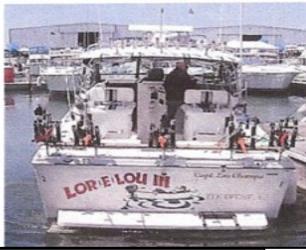
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