



Newsletter May 2008



Work has started on the clubhouse siding

May Meeting on the 15th

New meeting time 7:30 PM on the 3rd Thursday!

The May meeting will be held on Thursday, May 15th at 7:30 PM.

This is a great chance to get fishing updates from all over New England from other members.

We will discuss the property improvements and plan the June cookout.

Cookout June 22nd

Instead of the Thursday meeting we will have a cookout on Sunday, June 22nd. The event will start at 1:00 PM and continue until the last sunfish is grilled.

coolers with ice and you can bring your own beverage of choice.

Members are invited to bring their families. The club will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments and soft drinks (no charge). If you want to drink something stronger, there will be

So come down and enjoy a great early summer afternoon at the club. This will also inaugurate the summer fishing rules for kids (see below).

We'll be looking for volunteers help with shopping and cooking and to bring salads, desserts, etc...

Property Improvements

Bob Proctor has started replacing the siding on the side of the clubhouse. This project will include installing fiberglass insulation in the wall and replacing the windows.

We have a pile of gravel to repair the driveway and parking lot. At the May meeting we will be looking for volunteers to help out with spreading it.

Tick Care

It's tick season again and nobody wants to give these guys a free meal. But the most important thing is not what you can give the tick, but what the tick could give you: Lyme disease. Wooded areas and the

shoreline (places where we spend a lot of time) are tick habitat. The Lyme Disease Foundation has some prevention suggestions on its site: www.lyme.org/ticks/personal.html

Fishing Report

Fishing in the club pond has been good. The new residents have settled in. Midges and midge emergers have been effective. Small (size 16) wet flies and nymphs have been getting hits when retrieved slowly just beneath the surface. The trout are

mostly near the middle of the pond. Sunfish are closer to shore. The surface activity peaks as dusk approaches. Come down and give it a try, it's a great time of year to fish at the club.

Summer Fishing

The board proposes that the summer fishing rules become a permanent practice. These rules allow members to bring young guests who can fish using any method. The proposed rules are:

1. Children 12 years old and under may fish by any method (bait, lures, etc.)
2. Children must be accompanied by a member.

3. Trout caught must be released into the pond immediately.
4. Sunfish caught must be released into the brook below the driveway bridge (bring a bucket).
5. These rules are in effect from the fourth Sunday in June through August 31.

Club History Part III

By Ray Capobianco

We now enter the 1950s, an interesting and probably the most important period in the NSC history. It also happens to be a time of change in our country.

Advancements in technology, a post war population explosion and accompanying housing boom in the suburbs had a negative effect on the sports of hunting and fishing. Loss of access and dwindling habitat, plus the ever increasing diversion to other leisure time activities, takes its toll on both hunting and fishing but especially hunting.

The Mass. Fish and Wildlife reduced its partnership role with sporting clubs, no longer supplying fingerling trout or quail and pheasant chicks for local stocking programs. The state elected instead, to add several new fish hatcheries and consolidate their game-rearing farms. It was also the era of advancement in wildlife management practices with a move to provide better access to public water for fishing and game management areas for hunting. Indiscriminate stocking of both fish and wildlife by individuals was having an adverse effect on native species.

With the increase of housing and industrial development, the club's trap and skeet fields, as well as the rifle ranges were forced to close. The club joined the Norfolk County League of Sportsman, allowing members access to established shooting ranges. By 1953 the loss of accessible hunting land forced the gradual phase-out of the pheasant rearing and stocking program. With the field trial program at its zenith, a permanent home was found at the newly established MF&W field headquarters in Westborough. All game birds necessary to support the trials were donated by the

state. Sometime around 1949 the club stopped holding their meetings at the Needham Golf Club and moved to the Village Club on Morton Street. A monthly meeting consisted of covering the business at hand with brief committee reports, a speaker of note, with or without film/slides, a raffle table and refreshments. The one or two times they were able to get Lee Wulff or Charles Ritz required moving the meeting to the Needham movie theater without the business portion.

An annual meeting and banquet each February drew as many as 200 members and guests. The raffle table under the direction of Bob Proctor Sr. was the major fund raiser bringing in \$350-400 for the club treasury. The club continued to meet at the Village Club there for the next 20 years.

Needham Sportsman's Club

President: Jon Cave
president@troutpond.com,
Vice President: Richard Marashlian
vicepresident@troutpond.com,
Treasurer: Douglas Donaldson
treasurer@troutpond.com,
Secretary: Bob Lynch
secretary@troutpond.com

Board of Directors : Roland Johnson,
Roy Swartz, Ed van Sickle, Danny Socci,
Dave Matthes
Web master: Jon Cave
Newsletter editor: Bob Lynch

Send comments on the newsletter or articles for the newsletter to editor@troutpond.com
If you received this by regular mail but can receive it by email, please send your email
address to editor@troutpond.com.

Needham Sportsman's Club
PO Box 191
Needham MA 02492