



## Newsletter June 2007



*Honorary member Ed Nowak with his membership certificate*

### June Meeting on the 21st

The June meeting will be held on Thursday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 PM. We'll have a cook out, so come, enjoy a burger or hot dog and discuss your spring triumphs and summer plans with your

fellow members. This is a great way to wrap up the spring and kick off the summer.

### Honorary Member

At the May meeting we awarded an honorary membership to a man who has been a great friend of the club, Ed Nowak. President Dave Matthes presented Ed with a framed honorary membership certificate. The certificate reads:

"This certifies that Ed Nowak 'The Fishing Pole' in appreciation for a lifetime of service to the sport of fishing, whose

writings and lectures have helped preserve and protect wildlife areas for the benefit of the entire outdoor community, has been awarded an Honorary Membership to the Needham Sportsman's Club with all the rights and privileges thereof."

Welcome Ed, we're happy to have you as member. Thanks to Jon Cave for creating the framed certificate.

## Clean up Day(s)

The spring clean up day on May 19<sup>th</sup> was rainy but three members showed up and picked up around the pond and club house. Justin Cordonnier, Dave Matthes and Bob Lynch braved the rain to do some clean up.

On June 9<sup>th</sup> the make-up date cleanup day brought out more members to do some

more extensive work. The shrubs and thorns around the driveway were cut back and much of the brush pile was hauled to the dump. But under the brush pile is a lot of dirt, so there's still a pile there.

Thanks to Ray Capobianco, Ted Van Sickle, Mac Stirling, Dave Matthes and Bob Lynch for the clean up.

## Discussion with Ken Simmons

Ken Simmons of the Mass Dept of Fish and game was the club's guest at the May meeting. Ken is a fisheries biologist who specializes in trout. Ken evaluated our pond situation and said that it was pretty good and that the fishing, as members described it, was better than he expected. He was slightly surprised that the pond supports hold-over trout through the summer. From the descriptions of the fish, he said they sound like they are healthy. Since the fish are not skinny with large heads, he said that probably means we are not stocking the pond beyond its carrying capacity.

He suggested that one way to recognize unhealthy fish was a white fungus that grows on them, giving them a fuzzy appearance. He said that the infection can start when a fish is stressed. This stress can come from injuries (scrapes and

cuts), low oxygen level or from the spawning urge. Ken suggested that larger fish can suffer more stress and that smaller fish (10" – 14") will handle introduction to the pond better. Smaller fish will probably hold over better too. On our sunfish situation Ken said that harvest was probably the best way to reduce their numbers.

The only major suggestion for a change was to try to control the water quality flowing into the pond from the brook. This would require a construction and maintenance of a collection basin upstream. This would be an expensive and time-consuming project, so it's probably out of reach at this time.

This was a very enlightening and enjoyable evening.

## Proposal for Summer Fishing Rules

At the June meeting the board will propose some special fishing rules for the summer season for discussion with the members. The goals of the special rules are:

1. Control the sunfish population (see discussion with Ken Simmons)
2. Give members a chance to fish with their kids

The proposal is to allow fishing by any means for children 12 years old and under, accompanied by a member. This means worms and bobbers are allowed. These rules would be in place from June 22 through August 31. All trout must be released immediately. Sunfish must not be returned to the pond, they can be released into the outflow brook or ... (whatever the member wants to do with them).

## Fishing Report

Fishing for trout has been fairly slow. There are usually a few fish working toward the middle of the pond in the

evening. There are reports in the log of members getting fish on midge patterns.

## Needham Sportsman's Club

President: Dave Matthes  
president@troutpond.com,  
Vice President: Jon Cave  
vicepresident@troutpond.com,  
Treasurer: Joe Biotti  
treasurer@troutpond.com,  
Secretary: Mac Sterling  
secretary@troutpond.com

Board of Directors : Ray Capobianco, Bill Hagar, Roland Johnson, Roy Swartz, Richard Marashlian.  
Web master: Jon Cave  
Newsletter editor: Bob Lynch

Send comments on the newsletter or articles for the newsletter to [editor@troutpond.com](mailto: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](mailto:editor@troutpond.com).

Needham Sportsman's Club  
PO Box 191  
Needham MA 02492