



# The Fishin' Club News

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[www.myfishinclub.com](http://www.myfishinclub.com)

## HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

It seems that yet another year has blasted on by, barely a blur, as it went by.

It's been a great year, but I predict next year to be even better. I can hardly wait!

..... The PREZ

### CHRISTMAS PARTY AND POTLUCK DINNER

As we always do in December, instead of a regular meeting, we have our Christmas Party and Potluck dinner. It was a big success. We would like to thank everyone for the outstanding food and support. Mike Gallion, said a few words and presented gifts to the three lucky winners of the annual raffle ticket drawing. Mac Shearer was happy to snag the rod and reel.

Gil Nyerges donated an absolutely beautiful "Fly Plate" (a number of specially tied fishing flies, mounted behind glass in a custom frame). Under the expert (?) auctioneering of our "Auctioneer Laureate" Dennis Kelly, we auctioned off the fly plate, raising several hundred more dollars towards our scholarship program. We owe Gil a big thanks for his generous donation.

Scott Waltenbaugh gave us the latest update on the food drive. The donations from members in both dollars and food were the most generous ever. We have identified eight families to be recipients of our food drive. The food will be delivered the week of Dec. 19th.

We would like to say "Thank you" to all our members for making this annual dinner and food drive a "Huge" success.

### CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

Our annual food drive was the most successful, ever. Club members shared their good fortune during November and December by contributing a record \$765.00 along with many bags of groceries. Your generosity provided enough food for breakfast; lunch and dinner to feed twelve families or thirty-six people for about two weeks. Generous discounts from Payless Foods of Freeland and the Prairie Center Red Apple in Coupeville greatly enhanced our buying power. Special thanks go to these store managers for

Many thanks to Mac and Carol Shearer for help to gather information on needy families. Shopping for, dividing up and delivering boxes and bags of groceries, was a team effort by Mac & Carol Shearer and Pat & Scott Waltenbaugh. We had fun with this project and the most rewarding part was the appreciation shown and expressed by the recipients. Thank you All, and Happy New Year!

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Money in, money out. Our desire to be a break even operation, with no major burden on the members, seems to be working.

It was great weather and great times at the Fishin' Club's booth at the 2006 Island County fair. We had our new banner up to feature the club's annual activities.

We gave a total of \$1500 in scholarships to two local students planning on pursuing a career related to our "beloved pastime".

### DUES ARE DUE

Did you receive an invoice with your newsletter this month? If so, that means you have not paid your 2007 dues. To help us with our bookkeeping will you please send your check for \$25 as soon as possible. Thank you.

### NEXT MEETING

Our next club meeting will feature a two speaker presentation by Doug Bishop of the Power Squadron, and our own Chuck Leavitt. Doug will be sharing his local knowledge about boating in our area. Chuck will be covering two topics. First, he will be telling us the best ways to get someone back into your boat if they should fall overboard. It's not as easy as just grabbing them and dragging them back into the boat! Chuck will also be telling us the proper way to rig up for towing another boat. There are easy and hard ways to go about it, and if you do it the wrong way, you can get yourself into big trouble!

We will also have the election for our club officers and board of directors. If you would like to be an officer or a board member, contact any of the existing board members or officers for

### SECRETARY'S REPORT

Don Steadman's  
2006 Thoughts

D.K. Fowler has asked me to comment on what are my favorite thoughts regarding the fishin' club for 2006. I don't often get asked for my ideas on anything so here goes.

The best memory of 2006 actually happened before 2006, yet I still get a warm and fuzzy feeling thinking about it. It happened when my car broke down in Winthrop on our way to our Banks Lake outing. Ken and Eileen Barrett drove by and saw me sitting by the side of the road. They continued on to Banks Lake and Ken drove back the hundred miles and towed my boat to the lake. In spite of driving without trailer lights and making a wrong turn or two we got to the Lake well after midnight. Paul and Penny Busch towed my boat home behind their motor home. Dennis and Lorraine Kelly drove me to Winthrop to pick up my car when it was repaired. It's friends like these that make the Fishin' Club what it is.

On a more current note I would have to say one of my best memories has to be our parties. Not only Bank's Lake but our Maxwellton picnic and Christmas Party. With all the good food I still maintain we should change our name to the Fishin' and Gourmet club.

Another good thought about the club is the way Board members have stepped up and taken responsibility for the many activities. In years past 90 percent of the work was done by two or three of us. Now it is a team effort with many participating in the work. This should make for a bigger and better club.

Again this year Gerry Lease's clam presentation and cooked samples was a highlight.

One thing I am thankful for is the fact that in spite of getting skunked so many times this year I never fell overboard or got lost! Touring Nichol's Brothers Boat yard is high on my list of highlights.

**MEETINGS:** First Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Bayview Senior Services Center across from Casey's grocery on Hwy 525 between Freeland and Clinton.