

2016 FSA



Fish N Fun Social

The 33rd Annual Social was held June 24-26, 2015 with a total of 98 entrants. This year, there were a total of 37 "Fisher people" who actually attended the annual outing that was headquartered out of the Governors Inn in Pierre. There were many FSA'ers, Retirees, and guests from throughout the State that made the "trek" to fish the "Mighty Mo" and partake in the weekend activities. The Friday night festivities started with the annual "Brat Feast" grilled to perfection by Kent Grode/Lonnie Stoltenburg (Lynn's Guest/Brother), the Grill Master! Then as history usually repeats itself, there were many stories told and Saturday fishing strategies planned. All in attendance knew the walleye were going to be bigger above the dam, but harder to catch due to the forecasted windy conditions.....did I mention wind???. Some were thinking of fishing below the dam to avoid the wind and others were going to trailer their boat down to West Bend where the bite could be better, but the fish would be on the smaller side.....decisions, decisions!!! However, hopes were high the fishing would be GREAT and everyone anticipated big catches.

Festivities continued with the Calcutta Committee consisting of Bonnie Nickelson and Leon Edlund announcing the rules of the 14th Annual FSA Calcutta of which participants may choose to participate/enter. For those participating, individual names were drawn, Captains determined, and 9 Teams consisting of 4 members each were formed. Each team member's "walleye catch" for the weekend would be added together to determine their total team weight. The top four team totals would then "Place in the Money". Auctioneer Steve Jacobson (member of the "Miner County Hooker Team") then began auctioneering off the Teams to the highest bidder(s). The bidding process is always extraordinarily fun (everybody believes he/she is the best fisherman), and at times, almost frantic. The highest price paid for any team was \$260 and the low purchase price was \$190 for one of the teams (Jonathan Ristau was the Captain and was one of last year's fisherman who never weighed in a walleye - need we say more)?? A total of \$2,050 was collected, and a 100% payback was paid to the successful "owners" of the top four teams. Placing first and "pocketing" \$820 were Team members Mason Jacobson, Brandon Jacobson (Larry Gauger Grandsons), Brad "Bussie" Olson (Ryan Wenz Guest), and Rich Nelson (Big Jim Guest). The remaining three payouts (2nd, 3rd, and 4th Place Teams) were \$615, \$410, and \$205, respectively. It appeared everyone enjoyed the Calcutta and will be looking forward to the 15th Annual Calcutta, as everyone believes he/she is the "Best" fisherman and will boat the "Big One".

Saturday morning arrived along with the wind.....did I mention wind??? Even with the extreme windy conditions, all 37 participants were anticipating big catches and early limits. However, when Day 1 came to an end, only 25 "fisher people" weighed in fish.



Honors of the “**Biggest fish of Day 1**” were bestowed upon **Charlie Peterman** (Big Jim Guest) who weighed in a 2 pound 1 ounce walleye. **Trace Wenz** (Ryan Wenz Grandson) and Charlie were co-leaders on the Leader Board after Day 1 with each weighing in a total weight of 6 pounds 3 ounces. It was a mere 7 ounce lead over **Brad “Bussie” Olson**, but everybody was anticipating “big fish” on Sunday and knew they could easily overcome Trace and Charlie and carry home the coveted FSA Fish N Fun Trophy.



On Sunday morning, the windy conditions continued and the fishing conditions did not improve. However, 22 participants did weigh in fish and the “**Biggest fish of Day 2**” honor was presented to **Lonnie Stoltenburg** who weighed in a two pound 8 ounce walleye.



After all fish were weighed, the 33rd Annual **FSA Fish N Fun Champion** was determined to be **Brad “Bussie” Olson** with a two-day total of 12 pounds 5 ounces. Congratulations Bussie!!



Trace Wenz finished strong for 2nd place with a two-day catch of 11 pounds 8 ounces and Charlie Peterman finished third weighing in 10 pounds 10 ounces. The two day total weighed in by all participants was 135 pounds of walleye, which was about 30 pounds less than last year. However, bear in mind that the Russell and Vognild crew were unable to attend this year.....they would have added to the total as they always weigh in **SO** many pounds of walleye.....ha!! I’m crying (laughing) as I type.....



One of the highlights of the FSA Fish N Fun Social is to award a Traveling Trophy named “**Charlie the Tuna**” to the individual(s) who catch the **LEAST** pounds of walleyes. This year, “Charlie” was presented to the Jacobson Family (Two former Champions in this family out of the five competitors) as the Howard crew could only “muster up” a total catch of a little over 3 pounds of walleye.....betting there wasn’t a parade waiting for them upon their return to Howard!! Congratulations guys!!

Also presented was a Traveling Trophy which is a HUGE Stuffed Catfish wrapped in its well used plaid blanket, named Nickadameous. This Traveling Trophy is presented annually to the Captain of the Calcutta Team that weighs in the least pounds of walleye. The 7th Annual **winner of Nickadameous** was presented to **Dan Pekarek** (Larry Peterson Guest) (Wally Jacobson was a member and did not weigh in one fish – Geez!).



The winner of the free **Rod/Reel drawing** for the entrants that paid, but did not show up to fish was won by **Jerry King** (Former Faulk County CED). Congratulations Jerry and thanks for the support!



The 5th Annual **Lori Young Memorial award (Rod/Reel)** was announced by her husband. Harlan indicated that Lori just loved to fish and she really didn't care if it was a walleye – just something at the end of the line jerking her rod. Therefore, he established this yearly award and announced the winner will be the individual who catches the largest game fish, other than a walleye. The annual award winner was Don Lepp (Big Jim Guest) who weighed in a 4 pound 12 ounce northern! We all know Lori is looking down, smiling with two thumbs up! Thanks Harlan, Lori is sadly missed by all!

Once again, **ALL** of the fishing participants would like to extend their thanks and gratitude to the entrants that always pay, but for whatever reason, do not fish. This FSA outing would not be possible without your support and it is very much appreciated! We hope to see some of you "non-fishermen" next year!

Jim and I would like to thank Lonnie Stoltenburg and Kent Grode (Master Brat Grillers), Duane Marx, (Raffle Donations), Bussie (Raffle Ticket Salesman of the Year), Paul Hanson (Express Delivery of Prizes) and to Bonnie, Leon, and Steve Jacobson for "Taking the Bull by the Horn" and making the 14th Annual FSA Calcutta a huge success. Hope to see you all next year at the Governors Inn which will take place **June 23-25, 2017!!** Rooms may be reserved NOW! A block of 20 rooms have been already reserved, so you can make your reservations today by calling 605-224-4200 and indicate you are with FSA.

