

Results of the 35th Annual FSA Fish N Fun Social

“The Closing Act”

Submitted by Lynn Stoltenburg

The 35th and FINAL Fish N Fun Social was held June 22-24, 2018 with a total of 90 entrants, which included a total of 44 “Fisher people” who attended the annual outing that was headquartered out of the Governors Inn in Pierre. There were many retirees, guests and three (3) current FSA Employees 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 the Marx Boys (Ken, John, and Ronny), the Grill Masters! Then as history usually repeats itself, there were many stories told and Saturday fishing strategies planned. Hopes were high the fishing would be GREAT, and everyone anticipated big catches.

Festivities continued with the 16th Annual Calcutta of which participants may choose to participate/enter. For those participating, individual names were drawn, Captains determined, and 10 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”. Placing first and “pocketing” \$320 were Team members Casey Deuter (Jim Iverson Guest), Wilmer Deibert (Retiree), Rhett Russell (Ron’s son), and Harlan Young). The remaining 3 winning teams received payouts of \$240/\$160/\$80. Participants always enjoy the Calcutta, as everyone believes he/she is the “Best” fisherman; boat the “Big One” and partake in the \$\$ payouts.

The weekend weather was picture-perfect, and Day 1 came to an end with 26 “fisher people” weighing in fish. Honors of the “**Biggest Fish of Day 1**” were bestowed upon **Lonnie Stoltenburg** who weighed in a 2-pound 10-ounce walleye.



Jonathan Ristau was #1 on the Leader Board after Day 1 with a total weight of 5 pounds 14 ounces. It was a mere 5-ounce lead over **Casey Deuter**, but everybody was anticipating “big fish” on Sunday and knew they could easily overcome Jonathan and carry home the coveted FSA Fish N Fun Trophy.

Day 2 festivities began at 7:00 and weigh-in took place at noon, at which time 19 participants weighed in fish and the “**Biggest Fish of Day 2**” honor was presented to **Ken Marx** who weighed in a 2-pound 6-ounce walleye.



After all fish were weighed, the 35th Annual **FSA Fish N Fun Champion** was determined to be **Casey Deuter** with a two-day total of 10 pounds 4 ounces. Congratulations Casey!! Wilmer Deibert finished strong for 2nd place with a two-day catch of 10 pounds 2 ounces and Jonathan Ristau finished third weighing in 9 pounds 4 ounces. The two-day total weighed in by all participants was 124 pounds of walleye, which was about 40 pounds more than last year.



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 “**ONCE AGAIN**” presented to our “**Lifetime Achievement Award**” winner – **Mr. Ron Russell....!!** Congratulations Ron!



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 9th Annual winner of “**Nickadameous**” was presented to **Brandon Jacobson** (Larry Gauger’s Grandson). Brandon could only rally his team (Gary Allbee (Lori Young Brother)/ Ronny Marx, and Ron Russell) to catch 4 pounds 10 ounces of walleye the entire weekend.....Ron Russell 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 Retired Minnehaha County CED **Gene Vognild**. Congratulations Gene and thanks for the years of support!

The 7th Annual **Lori Young Memorial award (Rod/Reel)** was announced by her husband, Harlan. He stated 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 would be the individual who catches the largest fish, other than a walleye. The annual award winner was **Cash Allbee** (Lori Young Great Nephew) who weighed in a 13-pound 10-ounce carp!

We all know Lori is looking down, smiling with two thumbs up, especially since **Cash** won the Rod/Reel! Thanks Harlan, Lori is sadly missed by all!



Additionally, a little note for history buffs; this event was first held in Mobridge and was organized by Wilmer Deibert/Jim Iverson in 1983. **Jim Iverson** and **Leon Edlund** are the **ONLY** individuals who have attended **ALL** 35 outings of the FSA Fish and Fun!! Congratulations guys..... quite an impressive run!!!

Jim and I would like to thank the Marx Boys (Master Brat Grillers) and Bonnie Nickelson/Harlan Young for taking charge of the Calcutta and selling raffle tickets. As stated earlier, this event was dubbed "**The Closing Act**" as this was the **35th and FINAL FSA Fun N FUN Social**. It was quite a run and we cannot expound enough by thanking everyone for the fabulous support over these past 35 years!! It was and is **GREATLY APPRECIATED!!**

Once again, **ALL** 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! A token of our appreciation will be presented to SDASCOE/RASCOE during the upcoming NASCOE Convention in Sioux Falls.

