

# JIMMY's JOURNAL

An Update for Friends of Fishing for Life



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Tom Goodrich

## Reel 'Em In (REI) Program

*"Feed my Starving Children," but for outdoors men and women.*

I would like to introduce the Reel 'Em In (REI) program to you in depth in this edition of the Jimmy Journal. If you have not helped at one of these events, you really need to give it a try!

Its like "Feed my Starving Children" but for outdoors men and women. You also might take home a great rod/reel too!

I love the REI program and its story... At the beginning of 2006 we were taking rods/reels from the Ron Schara group as they had a program called the Cast-A-Way, which was collecting old rods/reels to refurbish. Ron did not know what to do with the vast amount of collections he was getting so we volunteered to help. Ron sold the program to Gander Mountain stores and we started to work with them. They soon expanded to all 128 stores with collections and it was an overwhelming amount of stuff. It was wonderful in many ways, it also forced us to pray and purchase land/storage for the items we received. This directly led to the current 20-30 boats that are donated each year. Each year we have a large waiting list of groups nationwide looking for these refurbished rods/reels and tackle boxes, they come and pick them up and they take kids out fishing. We also ship many refurbished rods/reels nationwide so the scope of this project truly is National! The

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SERVING YOUTH, FAMILIES, VETERANS & COMMUNITIES THROUGH FISHING & OUTDOOR PROGRAMS

program has expanded to over 300 tackle boxes each year! Well, Gander went out of business and would not allow us to continue using the Cast-A-Way name. After some thought, we found the Reel “Em In (REI) program was the right name for Fishing For Life (FFL).

I have had a few people come and say “Tom, throw away this junk and I will buy you new gear”. I never hesitate to say that this junk is our gold! It allows us to engage over 400 volunteers each year, many people go into their garage and make donations, all the boats that are derived from this program as well as countless widow’s each year who count on us to restore their donated items for the sake of their lost loved one’s memory! It reminds me that we serve a God who is in the business of restoring lives by taken what is broken and restoring it to its intended purpose. A verse to relate to our REI program is 1 Peter 5:10 *“And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.”* So much broken stuff! It gets very hectic at times. I look forward to the day when

we receive that antique of great value that will support our programs for years to come! But, I am satisfied with the way God uses everyday worn-out item in a new way - I pray He will continue to do that in my life and also in the lives of all the folks to whom FFL ministers too. May He be praised and we be blessed!

One other note about this program is how we use prayer. We pray for the hundreds of volunteers it takes each year to do the rebuilding. Then we gather on our rebuilding day and pray for God to use these old rods/reels to expand His Kingdom. Much like He did by using the simple disciples (some were fishermen), God can make these items which we can think of as seemingly worthless pieces of Junk into wonderful stories of changed lives! I remember the memories of a tackle box, looking through it and thinking/dreaming about what each lure might catch! Cool thoughts!! We get to share these kinds of memories with needy kids! Please pray for this program, pray for the kids who receive this equipment, pray for a large retail sponsor to come alongside this program and keep it going, and pray most of all for God to change lives through our efforts.



Steve Cruikshank

## Deep C's Updates

**G**reetings from our Deep C's ministry... As many of you already know, this ministry seeks to regularly gather together to share in their knowledge of and love for the outdoors, and, most importantly, to fellowship with one another through

faith in Jesus Christ. We desire to deepen our relationships with Him and with each other. There are currently four active groups across the Twin Cities. This group makes up a large number of the volunteers that is the arms and legs of Jesus in all that FFL ministries accomplish. All are welcome!

This summer we are announcing really big things happening as Deep C's has planned to have four “all Deep C's” chapter meetings each year. All 4 groups will gather together for fun and fellowship with the added purpose of getting to better know the men in other chapters. The meetings will be in March, June, September, and December. March will be the Winter Retreat, June will be the Spring Fling picnic with a bean bag tournament, September will be the Fall Retreat, and December will be the Christmas Party. The hope is for more and stronger relationships within the Deep C's Chapters.

**The Spring Fling** will be at Minnehaha park on June 25th, 2019 from 5pm to 9pm. Shelter B Wabun Park Picnic area. ([minneapolisparcs.org/\\_asset/jcyws1/minnehaha\\_park\\_picnic\\_map.pdf](http://minneapolisparcs.org/_asset/jcyws1/minnehaha_park_picnic_map.pdf)). Burgers and Brats will be provided as well

as potato salad, beans, drinks and watermelon. There will be a bean bag tournament with a traveling trophy for the winners.

**The Fall Retreat** this year will be at Mount Carmel Retreat Center on Lake Carlos

near Alexandria. September 12th - 15th. Check out their website at ([mountcarmelministries.com](http://mountcarmelministries.com)). They have a really nice chapel for our worship time as well as great cabins with bedding provided. Breakfast, bag lunch and dinner will all be provided by the retreat center.

**The Christmas Party** will be December 12th from 6pm - 9pm at Bethlehem Baptist Church downtown campus-720 13th Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55415. More info to come.

**The Winter Retreat** will be in March 5th - 8th on a Lake of the Woods. We will stay in sleeper houses on the ice. All food will be provided by FFL. Trophy for the largest Walleye.

We are also putting together a Deep C's directory. Last year the Deep C's Chapters set a goal to reach 50 men that would attend at least 4 meetings in a calendar year. I'm happy to report that goal was reached and surpassed. This year we will be raising the number to 75.



Fall retreat site, Mount Carmel Retreat Center, Lake Carlos near Alexandria, MN





**Vaughn & Joy  
Blackburn**

## High C's Fish Camps

### *Spots still open for campers*

Our fishing camps and NextGEN programs exist to glorify God and make much of Him through serving youth, families, veterans, and communities through fishing and outdoor events.

We have seen many come to Christ through these programs, as we have made sure He is at the central core of everything we do. Building relationships with return campers has been key.

Regarding “the camp that comes home with the kid”, we held five events. December was High C's Tip up, January was High C's Dark House Spearing, February was Holes 4 Heroes, March was High C's Firearm and Safety Class, and May was MN Bound Crappie Contest. We had a total of 121 campers who participated in these five events. We are praying that God will use these events to help further our relationship with these campers and further their relationship with Him.

Our 12 High C's Fish Camps for 2019 are as follows:

- **June 9-14—Shores of St. Andrew Camp**, New London (15 boys, 3 girls, 3 staff) **FULL**. **Guides:** Tim Asleson, Travis Busch, Todd Goetze, Steve Kline, Todd Lindley, Bob Mattsen, Jim Ryks
- **June 17-21—Day Camp #1**, various metro lakes (12 Minnehaha Academy) **FULL**. **Guides:** Bryce Becker, Stu Bernard, Jeff Bosshardt, Terry Branham, Ron Buster, Carl Lacey, Steve Simula, Wes Wheatley, Perry Whitney
- **June 20—Disability Evening Camp #1**, Medicine Lake (12 REACH, 12 Project Explore) **FULL**. **Guides:** Mike Bull, LeRoy Gruwell/Dan Martin, Norm Ledeboer/Dave Simpson, Kent Lillehaugen, Joel Matasovsky, Lonnie Vanmeeperen, Cory Voges, Vern Weisenburger, Perry Whitney
- **June 23-28—BWCA** (6 coed) **SPOTS AVAILABLE**. **Guides:** Nelson Anderson, Nathaniel Fox
- **June 24-28—Day Camp #2**, various metro lakes (12 Minnehaha Academy) **FULL**. **Guides:** Bryce Becker, Stu Bernard, Jeff Bosshardt, Jeff Carpentier, Carl Lacey, Chris Rinkenberger
- **June 27—Disability Evening Camp #2**, Medicine Lake (24 REACH) **FULL**. **Guides:** Mike Bull, LeRoy Gruwell/Dan Martin, Norm Ledeboer/Dave Simpson, Kent Lillehaugen, Joel Matasovsky, Lonnie Vanmeeperen, Cory Voges, Vern Weisenburger, Perry Whitney
- **July 1-3—Superior Hiking Trail** (6 Lakeside Academy) **FULL**. **Guides:** Andrew Aspenwall, Nathaniel Fox
- **July 7-12—Camp House**, Brimson (11 boys, 1 staff) **FULL**. **Guides:** Nathaniel Fox, Steve Kline, Dan Martin, Bob Mattsen
- **July 15-19—Day Camp #3**, various metro lakes (12 Minnehaha Academy) **FULL**. **Guides:** Bryce Becker, Stu Bernard, Jeff Bosshardt, Ron Buster, Carl Lacey, Gary Pflipsen, Gary Wittrock
- **July 17-21—Adult/child Camp**, Hackensack (15 campers) **SPOTS AVAILABLE**. **Guides:** Mike Bull, Tom Goodrich, Dave Lindmark, Randy Markey, Mike Sheldon
- **July 18—Disability Evening Camp #3**, Medicine Lake (16 REACH, 8 Project Explore) **FULL**. **Guides:** LeRoy Gruwell/Dan Martin, Norm Ledeboer/Dave Simpson, Kent Lillehaugen, Joel Matasovsky, Lonnie



**Vaughn and kids at the Tip Up event this past December.**

Vanmeeperen, Cory Voges, Vern Weisenburger, Perry Whitney

- **Aug 5-9—Camp Fish/Camp JIM**, Brainerd area lakes (15 campers), **SPOTS AVAILABLE**. **Guides:** Jason Bahr, Steve Cruikshank, Caroline/Matthew Getz, Tom Goodrich, Daryle Hamlin, Bob Mattsen, Ken Stahn
  - **Aug 5-9—Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch**, Rochester area (12 Hospitality House) **FULL**. **Guides:** Travis Busch, Jeff Carpentier, John Cummins, Nathaniel Fox
  - **Aug 12-16—Leech Lake Area** (15 campers), **SPOTS AVAILABLE**. **Guides:** Travis Busch, Gary Dass, Linda Travnick/Corissa Martinez, Mike Sheldon, Russ Weybright
- Please be praying for these men and women (our guides), and potentially over 200 campers and jr. guides this summer.

Vaughn Blackburn, Camp Director and NextGEN Director  
Vaughn@FishingForLife.org  
763-308-5434 | PS 37:4

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# Ready. Set. Go!

## *The Camp that Comes Home with the Kids*



**Tom Goodrich**

**I**ts June and spring is in the air. We are well underway in our camp and lake event season. Guides have been trained, lake permits are done, we are off and running!

I am excited to continue the momentum from last year! We have honed in our spiritual message significantly and it feels like we are heading in the right direction with

presenting the gospel at our camps.

I am very excited to present to the kids our new year-round format that is designed to help them stay involved all year. We call this part of our ministry, "the camp that comes home with the kids". We were blessed to have several good outings and we felt we had great programming last year. This encourages us to expand this program further this year. These kids will get a chance to participate in dynamic programming year-round. In addition, our men and women will be involved discipling these kids all year. Here is a list of events we have in mind:



**Dark House Spearing event brought out many brave anglers this past winter.**

- Fall Pheasant Hunt
- Fall Catfish Event
- Possible Deer Camp weekend
- Early season Tip Up event for northern pike on the Vermillion River
- Dark House Spearing event and overnight
- Holes for Hero's Ice Fishing event
- Firearm Safety Course
- Spring Crappie event

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# Thank You!

## *Successful Banquet*

**A** huge thank you to all that attended our 2019 Get Hooked Gala. We are eternally grateful for your generosity and support. This year's banquet brought in just over \$47,000 after expenses.

These funds will help to run some of our robust Summer programming of over 50 events including; camps, lake events, Reel 'Em In rebuilding and serving youth, families and our soldiers.

A special thank you to our sponsors: IB Insurance, Patriot Converting, and Bob FM. We also appreciate all that donated to our silent auction and to our merchandise tent.

Another thank you shout out to Angie Koch, who came on board to help organize, decorate, and run the banquet this year. It's a TON of work to have a banquet and to have all the peices come together and to have an event that runs smoothly, we simply couldn't have done it without her. So, Thank YOU Angie!

Next year we hope to switch things up a bit, so we look forward to a "Refreshed" Gala/Banquet format.

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# Hall of Fame Winner

## *Bill Le Febvre*



**2019 Hall of Fame Winner, Bill Le Febvre and his wife Renita.**

**2**019 Hall of Famer, Bill Le Febvre received his HOF jersey and got his name on the trophy at this year's Get Hooked Gala. This honor began in 2014 as a way to highlight some of our supporters that go above and beyond in supporting Fishing for Life with their time, talents and treasures. Without these people in our midst we wouldn't be who we are or help those that we do.

Bill has been a fixture in Fishing for Life for many years and can always be counted on to show up and help with boat guiding, or helping to run boats or with the Sportsman garage sale. He also helps with sport shows and trout ponds throughout the year.

Bill comes to events with a laid back character and is open to helping out where he can... He always provides a smile and can always be counted on. Thank You Bill!



Nathaniel Fox

## One Year Done

### *God's Calling Sometimes Comes As An "Actual" Phone Call!*

As of June 1st, I have been working full-time for Fishing for Life (FFL) for one year. So far, I've had many exciting adventures as I was able to travel across the country and even to Canada. I am truly blessed to be part of this ministry as we work towards bringing people to the kingdom of God through the great outdoors.

This summer is turning out to be another busy time with camps, lake events, trout ponds, Reel Em' In(REI) events and the garage sale, I wouldn't want to spend it any other way! I am very excited to be able to use my schooling as I will be leading and planning trips to the Boundry Waters Canoe Area (BWCA) and Superior Hiking Trail (SHT) trip for two of our camps this summer.

Some of you may not know my story of how I came to be an employee of FFL, so here it is...

I first came in contact with FFL on November 13th at the St. Paul River Centre. My Mom, Grandma and I were attending the Christian Community Fair. As we arrive the first thing I see is the trout pond. I was so excited, because I've always loved fishing. I pay my \$3 and start fishing, after a few minutes I catch my two fish and was done. I was thinking, "how can I stay and fish more?," I notice the guy running the pond, Chris Armstrong, was the only person there and was running around like a chicken with its head cut off trying to take money and get fish off lines for kids. I ask Chris, "Hey, do you want some help taking fish off for kids?" and he excitedly says "That would be great! My volunteers haven't showed up yet!"

So for the next couple hours I helped take trout off until the volunteers showed up. I took all the Fishing for Life(FFL) info to see what other fishing opportunities I'd be able to help with.

The following Monday, I gave Tom Goodrich a call and told him that I was a 15 year old boy that loves fishing and that I helped out at the trout pond and wanted to start volunteering. Tom asks me if I know how to make pinatas and I said yeah my sisters have had to do them for school. So the first task he sets me up to do is make 15 fishing pinatas for their upcoming Fish Fair up at the Anoka County Fair grounds. I made the pinatas and helped out with the fish fair that whole weekend.

I made a bunch of new friends and was even more excited to volunteer. The next thing Tom has me do is help out with a lake event that just so happened to be in my home town. At this time Tom introduced me to Jeff Wynne who was going to be running their mobile trout ponds through the summer and the first one was at Hastings River town days. That whole summer Jeff and I ran the trout pond across Minnesota.

Next thing I knew, I was volunteering every chance I got... I did all the sport shows and even helped Jeff feed the homeless in Minneapolis. At this time God was really working in me. Then at the ice fishing show I met Dave Lindmark, he had a ministry called GEM. Dave asked me to be a junior boat guide and I spent that whole next summer guiding for the camps. This was exactly where I needed to be as I could use passion for teaching people how to fish.

Time goes by, I keep volunteering, but I needed to start thinking about what to do for college. I had my heart set on going post-secondary my senior year full-time with the end goal of working in the outdoors and having something too do with fishing. My parents and I went up to Ely, MN to check out Vermillion Community College as they support the post-secondary programs and I would have a chance to do full time up there and live on campus. In talking with some Outdoor Leadership students, I found out that I could make a career out of leading people in the outdoors. I knew instantly it was what I wanted to do.

After I got accepted I signed up for classes and found out that students have an opportunity to live on campus in the summer for cheap. I decided to apply for a job at the Voyageur North Outfitter near the college. I filled out the application, brought it back and got an interview with the manager who said I'd most likely have the job but he just has to run it by the owners, John and Lynn O'Kane. He said they were currently down at the Northwest Sportsman show running a booth. I decided to head to the show and talk with John. After talking with John, I was told I had the job. So, I moved up there the day I graduated 11th grade.

I spent a few years up in Ely and then in 2015 I moved back home to help my dad and mom out and got a full-time job at ReConserve of Minnesota. A few years later, I ended up rupturing my L5, L4, and S1 discs in my back and was out of work for almost 10 months.

The day I got cleared to go back to work, I got a call for a job interview. I did the interview, came back home, and My mom asked, how the interview went. I replied "Great! I think I'll get the job!" As soon as I say those words my phone starts ringing, I look and its Tom Goodrich. I picked up the phone and we talk for about 45 minutes. Tom was checking on how I was doing, and at the end of the call he says, "the main reason I'm calling is to see if you would be interested in a full-time paid position with Fishing for Life. I don't know all the details yet, but pray about it and get back to me."

I didn't know what to say, but I instantly knew this was where God was calling me to be. So I give it a few hours, call him back ended up leaving a message. An hour later he shoots me a text saying "I'm turkey hunting in Hastings in the morning, meet me at Kwik Trip at 4:30am." So we go out hunting and have the job interview in a turkey blind. The rest is history!



# Long-time FFL Attendees Graduate



**TJ Hoyer**

**T**J Hoyer has been involved with Fishing for Life for most of the past decade. Since he was 8 he has participated in most every program offered by FFL. The attached picture is TJ's senior photo – he is so enthused about FFL he had to wear his shirt for his photo. He just graduated from Simley High School in Inver Grove Heights. TJ plans to take a “gap” year and then enter college for training to become an EMT.

TJ is a NextGen kid and has been paired up with Daryle Hamlin for the last 3 years since FFL launched the NextGen Program. TJ and Daryle spend time together in the outdoors, over coffee and meals, at Deep C's meetings, at men's retreats, and often on phone calls. Very often the content of their relationship is focused on who Jesus Christ is, and why we choose to follow Him in our lives.

TJ's life has not been an easy one. He doesn't have a dad in his life, and he currently faces some challenges. FFL has been a blessing to TJ and his mom Rose. The NextGen ministry is tailor made for a guy like TJ.



**Tyler Fromm**

**F**ishing for Life alumni Tyler Fromm is now an alum of Hopkins High School! Tyler graduated early after completing all of his required credits in third term of senior year. He will attend Anoka Technical College this fall for the Construction Electrician program. He is also on the wait-list for the Minneapolis Electrical union's JATC Apprentice program after successfully passing their aptitude test and interview process.

Tyler became a “regular” at FFL events at a young age, after attending Fish Fair and getting his mom involved as a part-time FFL staffer. He attended and worked his heart out at many lake events, Holes 4 Heroes, banquets, garage sales and camps, as well as the Deep C's retreats. The NPAA convention with his Next Gen partner, Todd Lindley, is one of his favorite FFL memories. Special thanks to his grandparents Al & Shirley Gassman for supporting his love of the outdoors, Bill LeFebvre for bringing Tyler to many sports shows, Jason Skoog for mentoring him in deer hunting, Steve Cruikshank for the Deep C's retreats, Tom Goodrich for helping him bag his first turkey, Todd Behr for Vermillion trips, Tom Hays and Tony Haberle for partnering with Ty in the Teen Challenge tournament, Dave Lindmark, Vaughn Blackburn, Nate Fox and Wayne Jacobson for the many camp adventures, and Sandy Ramsey for her prayers and encouragement! And Kent Lillehaugen for the before-school ice fishing endeavors! While I don't have space to name everyone who's had an impact on him, please know that you are all appreciated!

Though he has aged out of Next Gen, this is a crucial time for FFL to keep Tyler (and all young men in this age group!) close and engaged. They need your leadership, your involvement, and your prayers and encouragement. So dig deep in your proverbial tackle boxes, and keep trying to lure them in!! Tyler can be reached at 763.742.7884 or through Brenda at 763.245.9829 or [brennlancaster@gmail.com](mailto:brennlancaster@gmail.com).



# VOL UN TEERS

## This Way Please!



**Contact Sara Today!**  
**[Sara@FishingForLife.org](mailto:Sara@FishingForLife.org)**  
**612-554-6304**



"Jimmy" is the name of the iconic boy that we use in our logo. Jimmy represents kids all around the Twin Cities: that inner-city kid who craves one-on-one attention, or the military kid who lost a parent to war, or the kid from a single-parent family longing for a father figure. Jimmy represents that kid who is looking for a little extra attention and a place to belong. At FFL we strive to help the Jimmys (and Janes!) of our cities to see Christ, delve into the Word of God, and to enjoy the wonderful creation that God provides!

**Fishing For Life**, founded in 2004, is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Fishing For Life inspires a love of fishing and outdoor activities through Christ-centered programming. Fishing For Life expands its reach by partnering with community organizations, agencies, and churches. Customized fishing and outdoor programs are developed by our staff, ministry leaders, and volunteers to benefit youth and families in our communities.



Perry Whitney

## Perry Whitney

### *Following God's Nudging*

**M**y name is Perry Whitney, written in the book of life 40 years ago. I have spent the last 30 years dedicated to taking kids fishing. This was something that I learned from my father. He was known as the guy with the stringer full of walleyes in his boat. Also his boat look like a porcupine with all the kids fishing with cane poles on Lake Mille Lacs.

In 2000 I was asked by my church to take kids fishing as part of their "Hook-a-Fish" ministers, a ministry my father prepared me for. I had forgotten how much fun it was to take kids out in the boat. I will never stop loving God for giving me that joy.

In 2010 I was asked to be the start-up director of a new bass circuit as a spin off of the Fishers of Men National Tournament, where this would be called Fishers of Men National Tournament Trail/Legacy for an adult and a junior (18 or younger). God and I were able to grow this series to set national attendance records in the US and heaven. Legacy and my team were bring 25 teens to Christ per year. Legacy would come over and help Fishing for Life weigh fish in the early days. Legacy was the first to have a special needs fishing tournament at Camp Friendship. Due my wife's poor health I stepped down after 8 years, but left it in good hands.

Aug 31, 2015 my son Shane passed while working as a firemen/paramedic in St. Paul. The bottom fell out of my christian life. The loss rocked me. I went into shut-down for 3 years. Had no energy or desire to fish or do anything. In the mean time my wife had me take her daycare kids fishing. The joy was lost.



Perry Whitney with kids on one of many fishing trips.

I sat on the couch most of the time. Then God started nudging me. It was relentless. I had no peace. God bugged me! I had trouble sleeping, it was in my dreams. This is hard to explain in words. I just knew that God wanted me to call Tom Goodrich. I did not want to call him but I did call Tom. The bugging stop and peace returned. Joy of fishing with special needs kids returned. I new God had something special for me. And sure enough on July 13, Party on the Beebe will happen. Amen

## VOLUNTEER BOAT GUIDES WANTED

- Must Like Kids and Adults
- Likes to Help Others Fish
- Enjoys Getting Paid in Smiles!



**FISHINGFORLIFE.ORG**

**Call or Email Sara to get on our 2019 Volunteer List. 612-554-6304 | [Sara@FishingForLife.org](mailto:Sara@FishingForLife.org)**



Jim Hale

## FFL's NextGEN Guide Program

*Expanding in 2019!*

**O**ur NextGEN ministry is adding a new **Veterans Kid Program**. Jim Hale will be the Vet's Kid Program Manager.

### A FEW THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT JIM:

- Viet Nam Vet, Army 25th Infantry Division, 1968-69"
- Founder/director of Capable Partners, Inc 1982-95... providing hunting and fishing experiences for the physically disabled
- Founder/director of Mentor Corps, Inc. 2005-19 .... providing mentoring ministry/life skills support for men
- Licensed/ordained minister since 2005
- Passionate stream/river fly fisherman
- Married 52 yrs to Lois, 3 daughters, 6 grand kids (oldest daughter was active Marine 10 yrs, oldest grandson is current Marine Reservist)

### JIM'S VISION FOR THE VET'S KID PROGRAM

I have been a close friend of Tom Goodrich, the Founder and Director of FFL, since 2000. I have sincerely been Blessed to also be a program partner (consultant) with Tom and his Fishing for Life staff at times over the years as well. I enjoyed helping develop the Deep C's program, and the NextGEN Guide programs, and provide my enthusiastic support for this awesome ministry all these years.

Fishing for Life was recently awarded a major grant by the MN Dept of Veteran Affairs (DVA) Logo. [minnesotaveteran.org/sot](http://minnesotaveteran.org/sot). The DVA highly regards Fishing for Life for their consistent support of veterans and their families over the years with many fishing events like Holes for Heroes, Military Marriage retreat, Lake of the Woods pay it forward trip, Gold Star weekend at Iron Wood Springs Ranch, and other fishing activities as well.

This *NEW* NextGEN Program is focused on serving youth, who come from a MN veterans family, and would like to be part of a NextGEN Fishing for Life experience for the next year. The parents or guardians need to be veterans. There is no cost to the parents or kids. After an interview by Jim and the FFL staff, selections will be made to help each youth match up with a trained NextGEN Guide. Boys are matched with a man, girls with a woman. All guides are vetted, trained, and very experienced at Fishing



for Life programming. The adult will become a friend, mentor, and fishing related guide for many FFL outings over the next year.

This *NEW* NextGEN Program within Fishing for Life is focused on providing intentional, consistent & measurable one-on-one outdoor experiences and Christ centered guidance to these youth. Consistent with the FFL mission statement, this program will continue to provide sound Christian leadership and young manhood or womanhood character building support during all Fishing for Life activities

Within this Vet's Kid Program I am also seeking volunteer men and women who would become NextGEN Guides. They do not have to be veterans. But, they should see this as a very meaningful MISSIONS opportunity right here in Minnesota! The guide's love for fishing and the outdoors is important along with their desire to mentor the Vet's Kid they are matched up with though out the year on selected FFL outings and events. All the programming, materials, and a unique outing Guide Log Book provide a new experience for any adult man or women who have may been with FFL for years as outing volunteers, and now could "step up" into a more focused mentoring role for a very specific veteran related kid relationship. What a great way to SERVE, in my opinion.

Please Contact me, Jim Hale [jim@fishingforlife.org](mailto:jim@fishingforlife.org) to learn more about the Vet's Parents/Gaurdian requirements for the program, or to discuss with me how to become a NextGEN Guide'

Jim Hale | 1617 Black Oaks Place, Plymouth, MN 55447 | 612-963-0820



# 2019 GIFT GUIDE



## Sponsor a Lake Event Participant

Every Summer we have 100's of kids and adults join us at the lakes for a fun day on the water catching fish. Our boat guides graciously volunteer their time and boats to make these events happen. However, as with any

event, there are still costs to run the event. It costs roughly \$25/person to run a lake event. This includes rental fees for shelters, trophy fees, advertisement fees and sometimes food when not sponsored. To keep these events free of charge to the participants, please consider a gift of \$25.

SPONSOR A PARTICIPANT **\$25**

SPONSOR A LAKE EVENT **\$1250**

## Rod & Reel Supplies

We receive multiple donated rods and reels throughout the year. It's our goal each year to fix these up and give them to kids and groups that can use them. Supplies are needed to restring the reels and for some mechanical parts to make them work again. \$50 can help refurbish 20 rods and reels.



REFURBISHES 20 RODS & REELS **\$50**

SUPPLIES MATERIALS FOR A YEAR **\$1875**



If led to give a gift for the 2019 year, please mail to: **Fishing for Life | PO Box 19320 | Minneapolis, MN 55419**

## Maintain our Fleet

We graciously receive many donated boats and vehicles throughout the year. For the ones we are able to use at our events, we pay for motor or vehicle servicing, boat and vehicle licensing, gas, and insurance policies.



MAINTENANCE FOR A BOAT OR VEHICLE **\$100**

SPONSOR A BOAT OR VEHICLE **\$1200**

## Sponsor a Veteran

We run many programs throughout the year to take care of our military families. From our Holes 4 Heroes ice fishing tournament to our Spring and Fall retreats. These events are great ways for our military participants to connect and build healing relationships with each other through outdoor and fishing events. Our hope is to be a beacon of light for those working through past life events.



SPONSOR A VETERAN **\$250**

## Sponsor a Kid for Camp

Kids are always looking for places to belong... And in today's society it seems that it's harder then ever. Fishing for Life wants to be a safe place for kids to come and be a kid. We have many camps available throughout the summer months, please check out our schedule on page 12.



SPONSOR A CHILD FOR CAMP **\$270-\$515**



Carri Anderson

## What in the world is EOS?

*And Why is Fishing for Life Using It?*

Entrepreneurial Operating System (EOS), is a complete set of simple concepts and practical tools that has helped thousands of entrepreneurs get what they want from their businesses. By following the simple operating techniques, leadership teams of growth-oriented companies systematically and permanently improve. So why is Fishing for Life (FFL) using this tool? Aren't we a non-profit within the ministry world?

Eventhough FFL is a non-profit and ministry, many of the tools from the EOS are able to help us to realize our short comings and help form and reach current and future goals.

In the spring of 2018, the team met for a two-day retreat to begin the process of setting goals for Fishing for Life and began the journey down the EOS road. Tom and the board, decided to use the book, "Traction" to help bring FFL to the next level of performance. Michael Stillwell, a board member, and his dad Brian had already been using this tool within their own business at Patriot Converting and finding that time after time, it was helping them to move farther within their business.

It's now one year later and we are seeing many of goals being met. These include developing ministry specifically for women, increasing the giving and impact of current ministries, specific skilled hires to work in areas of need, and a database software program to manage day-to-day business.

Each of these goals resulted from the EOS retreat last year.

On April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019, staff and board members met again for a one day retreat to review the EOS plan, and left with a refreshed vision. New goals have been set, new challenges have begun. As part of that bigger plan, it is with great joy that I have become a part of this team. My role, working behind the scenes, is to connect the team with tools to enhance staff progress and success. Reviewing processes and introducing new ideas have been a few of the ways I have been involved. The banquet was a huge part of my spring work load, but concurrently I have been working to get my arms around Salesforce and slowly introduce each event from FFL into the database, as well as OneCause fundraising software.

During prayer time at one of our meetings I shared my difficulties with Salesforce. Within the week an amazing lady from New Jersey was assigned to be my many SalesForce coach. She has taken me under her wing and is now using her pro-bono hours to help me get our site established and the infrastructure set properly. Let me tell you, having her in my corner and knowing that God placed her in my path has been a huge blessing. Fishing for Life has also set down some roots and we now have a small office, conference table and even a few desks!

For everyone out there who is asking God to lead them into ministry or a deeper meaning in life, I want to encourage you to keep asking God. He hears you – and He will honor your desire. Remember, God is the one who put that desire in your heart to begin with! Each one of us at Fishing for Life have similar stories of how God is working through FFL to bless it's staff and the many thousands of people we serve each year! The specific ways we see God at work is fun to talk about, remember together, and of course we Praise Him for this gift.

# 5 NEW FISHING JERSEYS AVAILABLE

LONG SLEEVE \$75

SHORT SLEEVE \$65



[MOVEU.US/STORES/FISHINGFORLIFE](https://moveu.us/stores/fishingforlife)



# 2019 Calendar

## JANUARY

4-6—NPAA (National Professionals Angling Association) Conference-Doubletree Hotel Bloomington, MN  
10-13—MN Sportsmen's Show - St Paul RiverCentre  
★16—Reel'Em In with WWP & Mission  
18-19—Dark House Spearing Event

## FEBRUARY

★≈2—Holes 4 Heroes, Medicine Lake  
21-24—Deep C's Winter Retreat

## MARCH

8-10—MN Outdoor News Deer & Turkey Expo - State Fairgrounds  
8-10—High C's Firearm Safety Class at Turkey Expo  
🐟 8-10—Muskie Expo at Concordia University - Trout Pond  
21-24—NW Sports Show at the Convention Center

## APRIL

🐟 5-6—Trout Pond in Willmar  
6—14th Annual Get Hooked Gala Banquet & Auction  
19-21—Thorne Bros Spring Sale  
20—High C's Crow River Canoe Trip  
★20-22—R&R Military Marriage Retreat  
26-28—Deep C's Turkey/Bow Hunt

## MAY

★≈4—Ron Schara Crappie Contest  
9-12—Governor's Fishing Opener  
16—Reel'Em In Rod and Reel Rebuilding - Emma B. Howe YMCA  
🐟 18—Trout Pond at the Shriner's Hospital  
TBD—High C's wilderness Safety Training

## JUNE

1—MN Fishing Challenge for MN Adult & Teen Challenge  
7—Reel'Em In Rod Rebuild at Thorne Bros - Deloitte  
≈7-9—Mille Lacs Boat Launch  
▲9-14—High C's Fish Camp @ Shore's of St. Andrew  
≈13—AFFC at Lake Minnetonka  
14-15—Sportsman's Garage Sale & Boat Auction  
▲17-21—High C's Day Camp #1 Minnehaha Academy

▲20—High C's Disability Evening Camp-A, Medicine Lake  
▲23-28—High C's BWCA Experience-Ely  
▲24-28—High C's Day Camp #2, Minnehaha Academy  
▲27—High C's Disability Evening Camp-B, Medicine Lake

## JULY

▲1-3—High C's Superior Hiking Trail Camping Trip  
★1-4—LOTW Pay it Forward Trip  
🐟4—Trout Pond at Interlachen  
▲7-12—High C's Fish Camp @Camp House- 30 min NW of Two Harbors  
≈12—Reel Girls Fish Event Bald Eagle Lake  
≈13—Lake Event: Medicine Lake Monster  
≈13—Lake Event: Party on BeBee Lake  
▲15-19—High C's Day Camp #3, Minnehaha Academy  
▲17-21—High C's Adult /Child Camp @Miracle Bible Camp-Hackensack, MN  
▲18—High C's Disability Evening Camp-C, Medicine Lake

## AUGUST

≈3—Lake Event: Lake Marion in Lakeville  
▲5-9—High C's Fish Camp @Camp JIM - Brainerd, MN  
▲5-9—High C's Fish Camp @Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch-FULL  
7—IB Golf Tournament  
≈9—Lake Event: CAST with the Anoka County Sheriff's Dept, Lake George  
9-11—Game Fair (1 of 2 weekends) Trout Pond  
▲12-16—High C's Fish Camp at Leech Lake  
13—Pastor's Tournament with Jesus In The City  
16-18—Game Fair (2 of 2 weekends) Trout Pond  
26-27—Catfish Mississippi River

## SEPTEMBER

≈7—Lake Event: Forest Lake Lunker  
11—Marathon Man  
12-15—Deep C's Men's Fall Retreat & Fishing Tournament  
★20-22—Gold Star Weekend with Ironwood Springs Christian Camp

TBD—High C's Youth Hunt Wild Wings Game Farm  
Chisago Lake Pheasants Forever  
≈28—Metro Mold Private Event  
29—Air Soft Event

## OCTOBER

26—Fishing Careers Workshop  
★≈30—Muskie Mayhem Event

## NOVEMBER

★11—Veteran's Day  
14—Give to the Max Day  
30—St. Paul Ice Show

## DECEMBER

12—All-Deep C's Christmas Party  
15—Tip Up Weekend

### Key

- ▲ High C's Fishing Camps
- ≈ Lake Events
- 🐟 Trout Pond
- ★ Veteran Programming

Dates are subject to change.

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**Monthly Deep C's Men's Group Gatherings with FREE dinner at 6PM. Bring a friend!**

**WEST GROUP** - 2nd Tuesday  
6 PM—Cabela's, Rogers

**SOUTH GROUP** - 2nd Thursday  
6 PM—Illumination Church, Burnsville

**EAST GROUP** - 4th Tuesday  
6 PM—Cabela's, Woodbury

**NORTH GROUP** - 4th Thursday  
6 PM—Thorne Bros, Blaine





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## Q: How Can I Make a Living in the Fishing Industry?

*Please forward onto  
anyone you know  
that is thinking about  
making the sport  
fishing industry a  
career choice.*

PROCEEDS GOING TO  
FISHING FOR LIFE.



### FISHING CAREERS WORKSHOP

**OCTOBER 26, 2019**

**8:30AM-5:30PM**



Carlson Corporate  
Facility Center  
ERX Motor Park  
21591 US HWY 169 NW

**FishingCareersWorkshop.com**

**\$250 WORKSHOP,  
LUNCH AND SNACKS INCLUDED.**



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