

# Van Hook Association Newsletter

Volume X, Issue I

Spring 2011

## Association Board of Directors

Nathan Iverson  
*President*

Vickie Simonson  
*Vice President*

Gwen Nelson  
*Secretary-Treasurer*

Mark Campbell

Bradley Kraft

Sandra McQueen

Sara Seykora

Vonnie Van Hook

Remington Zacher



*Mailing address:*

**709 Van Hook  
New Town, ND  
58763**

*Email address:*

**vanhook@srt.com**

## NOTICE TO MEMBERS: Picnic & Annual Meeting Scheduled for Saturday, June 4th

The Van Hook Association picnic and annual meeting will be held Saturday, June 4th at 6:00 pm. at the picnic shelter. All Van Hook Association members and their families are invited to attend.

Grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, along with condiments, plates, utensils, and napkins are provided by the Association. We ask that those attending contribute a side dish or dessert and bring your own beverages.



The VHA annual membership meeting will take place immediately following the picnic. The meeting is held each year to keep our members informed of Association activities, discuss park issues, and elect board members.

Terms expire this year for board members Nathan Iverson, Vickie Simonson, and Vonnie Van Hook. If you or someone you know wants to become more involved by serving on the VHA board, please indicate your nomination on the enclosed form and return it (along with your dues payment) before the annual meeting. Nominees will be contacted to confirm their desire on the ballot.

Come and meet the new Park Managers Justin & Dawn Ritts, who will be at the meeting to provide information and answer questions regarding park issues. Also attending will be Arden Eide from the Mountrail Co. Park Board and Terry Fleck from Friends of Lake Sakakawea.

So whether a long-time VHA member or new lot-holder, we hope to see you at the picnic and meeting on June 4th!

## Van Hook Park Clean-up Day Saturday, May 28th

Workers are needed to help with various park clean-up projects. Volunteers should meet at the picnic shelter at 9:30 am. Bring gloves!! Refreshments will be provided. ☺

## VHA FACTS:

Previously known as the Van Hook-Traynor Park Improvement Association, the group was incorporated in the summer of 1983.

Our purpose as stated in the By-laws is "to assist the Mountrail County Park Board in the development of the Van Hook-Traynor Park recreation area for public use".

Membership is open to anyone interested in supporting Association activities. Last year, members included 141 out of the 214 Van Hook lotholders, 38 non-lotholders, 61 spouses, and 24 businesses.

The VHA Board of Directors is comprised of nine elected individuals, each serving 3-year terms. Officers are elected each year by the board.

VHA funds are primarily raised through membership dues. Other fundraising activities have included the VHA rummage sale, firewood sales, and Bait Shop donation jar.

Major fundraising raffles were held in 2001 and 2002, which raised over \$25,000 for the boat ramp and playground projects.

## Van Hook Association ~ Dues & News

We are happy to report that our membership numbers in 2010 reached another all-time high, thanks in large part to additional business and non-lotholder members. VHA members enjoy the benefits of participating in VHA activities and contributing towards Van Hook improvement projects. Thanks to all our members for your support!

Enclosed is a form to return with your 2011 dues payment. Dues should be paid by **June 4th** and can either be mailed to the address shown, dropped off at the Bait Shop, or paid at the annual meeting. Remember, dues must be paid in order to vote at the meeting or fish in the VHA Derby!

Also on the form is a space to include an email address in order to receive the newsletter electronically (instead of a hard copy via snail mail). Currently, there are around 50 members who have opted to receive the newsletter this way. To those members—thank you!! Every newsletter that is sent via email saves us time and money, so if you haven't already, please submit your email address to receive future e-newsletters.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

2010 was a busy and productive year for the Association. Projects included completing the VHA storage building, cleaning up the day-use beach area, adding new wood chips to the playground, repairing our existing benches, and constructing 4 new benches. Projects being considered for this year include a ball field, park signage, aluminum can recycling, and additional improvements to the picnic shelter and beach areas.

The VHA has also been brainstorming on ideas for new family activities, such as having an outside movie night, park-wide bonfire, and/or kids carnival. Let us know if you have additional ideas or want to help out with these activities. We're looking forward to a great summer!!

### Fishing Derby Prizes

VHA board members are already on the hunt for kids raffle prizes for this year's derby. So for anyone wanting to help out by donating prizes, here are some suggestions:

- Basketballs, footballs, baseball bats, lawn games
- Tents, sleeping bags, flashlights, lanterns
- Bikes, scooters, skateboards, kites
- Tackle boxes, fishing lures, water toys, beach towels
- Sweatshirts, T-shirts, hats
- Board games, playing cards, DVD's, CD's, gift certificates

## Van Hook Events

### PARK PARADES

Memorial Day Parade - **Sunday, May 30th**  
Independence Day Parade - **Sunday, July 3rd**

Participants should meet at the playground with decorated golf carts, scooters, bikes, etc. The parades begin at 11:00 a.m. and wind throughout the park. Afterward, we'll meet at the flags near the flower garden for the Pledge of Allegiance. Please join us or watch and wave as we go by!

### RUMMAGE SALES

The annual Van Hook park-wide rummage sales will be held on **Saturday, June 11th** from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. rain or shine. Ads will be put in the Parshall, New Town, and Stanley newspapers.

### VAN HOOK FISHING DERBY

North Dakota Game & Fish has approved our annual derby for **Saturday, July 16th**. The fishing derby and fish-fry is a fun, family-oriented event open to all Association members.

Fishing takes place from 9—2. The fish-fry picnic for participants and their families begins at 6:00 p.m. with raffle drawings, trophies, and prize money to be awarded at that time. Applications will be available at the Bait Shop approx. 3 weeks prior to the derby.



While stormy, windy weather the morning of last year's derby kept many teams off the water, there were a few nice fish caught. Haley Seykora won the prize for the largest walleye (23.0") with Jacob Abel and Dylan Kraft tying for second place (22.0"). The largest perch award (11.0") went to Kaylee Bahls.

A **BIG** thank you to the many volunteers who helped with the derby last year and to the individuals and businesses who donated raffle prizes. We couldn't do it without you!!

### Welcome New Lot-holders!!

Since this time last year, 13 lot transfers have been approved by the Mountrail County Park Board. We welcome our new neighbors to the Van Hook community and invite all new lot-holders to become members of the VHA.

## News From The Park Managers

*Justin & Dawn Ritts*

**Park Management:** If you see Rick Folden around, be sure to tell him "Thank You" for his many years of hard work at the park...and ask him where the fish are biting because he will surely know! After many years of managing the park, Rick has stepped down so that he will have more time to enjoy the lake - walleyes beware!

The new park managers are Justin and Dawn Ritts. They moved here from Gypsum, Colorado but Justin is a North Dakota native. Justin has many years of experience managing parks and golf courses while Dawn has spent her time as events coordinator. They say that we can all expect that our park will continue to look beautiful and be well managed. Stop by the store and tell them hello!

**Breakwater:** Improvements have been completed and the breakwater on the west side of the boat launch has been repaired and extended. Everything looks great and the improved structure should provide good coverage to launch users.

**Reservations:** If you have friends and family coming to the park for reunions or holidays, please have them call in advance for campsite reservations. The park will probably get

really busy this summer and it will be a good idea to make a reservation for weekend stays, especially for groups who would like to camp together. Call the Bait Shop for reservations (701-627-3377) or email [vanhookresort@live.com](mailto:vanhookresort@live.com)

**Overnight Guests:** If you will be hosting guests at your lot and they will be staying in their camper, RV, or tent on your leased property, they will need to check in at the Bait Shop and pay a \$7 nightly use fee. This is not a new rule but the park managers have been asked to pay careful attention that it is followed this year in response to the housing crunch in Mountrail County. This fee does not apply to children under the age of 18 who are "camping out" in a tent.

**Showers:** If you or your guests will be using park facilities to shower this summer, please stop by the Bait Shop and pay the \$30 (per family) fee. The fee will help offset the cost of cleaning and maintenance and will also help to fund future restroom improvements.

**Boat Rentals:** Now available at the Bait Shop!

**Facebook:** It had to happen sometime...and now is that time. Join us @ Van Hook Resort on Facebook to get updates on park events, fishing reports, park news and to share photos and make friends. "Like" us today!

## Support the Businesses that support Van Hook

The following businesses have donated to the fishing derby or Association projects this past year. We greatly appreciate the support of these businesses and ask that you thank and support them in return! Our sincere apologies if anyone is missing.

4 Bears Casino & Lodge, New Town  
4th Avenue Dairy Queen, Minot  
Belden Stop, Stanley  
Big Water Bottle Shop, Parshall  
Buzz's Backhoe Service, New Town  
Cenex, New Town  
Central Machine, Minot  
Chances Are Bottle Shop, New Town  
Clean Tech, Minot  
Corner Liquor, New Town  
Dakota Drug, Stanley  
Dakota Lounge, Minot  
Dakota Quality Grain, Parshall  
Dakota Tackle, Bismarck  
Edgewater Golf Course, New Town  
Exploration Drilling, Sidney  
Farmers Union Lumber, Stanley  
Food Services of America, Minot  
Frostee Treat, Stanley  
Gas Stop, Minot  
Gate City Bank, Minot  
I Keating Furniture, Minot  
Iseman Homes, Minot

Joyce's Café, Stanley  
K & R Roustabout  
Kennbeck's Jack & Jill, New Town  
KFC, Minot  
Lakeside State Bank, New Town  
Landers Conoco, Bismarck  
Mid-Town Chiropractic, Minot  
Morelli's Distributing, Minot  
Mountrail-Wms Electric, New Town  
Napa, New Town  
New Town News  
Northern Lights Café, Stanley  
Northern Starr, New Town  
Northern Trophy, Minot  
Northland Financial, Bismarck  
Outback Sports, Stanley  
Parshall FCCLA  
Pour Farm, Minot  
Pure Fishing (Berkley Tackle)  
Pure Honda, Minot  
Quilts & More, Sidney  
Ready Builders, Minot  
Rensch Chevrolet, New Town

Renville Elevator, Tolley  
Reservation Telephone, Parshall  
Reynolds Insurance, New Town  
Ryan Chevrolet, Minot  
Ryan GMC, Minot  
Ryan Motors, Williston  
Satermo's Hardware, New Town  
Scenic 23, New Town  
Scheels, Minot  
Securian Financial Adv., Bismarck  
Springan Furniture, Stanley  
SRT Communications, Minot  
Stanley Equipment  
Suds & Sun/Tropical Tan, Minot  
Super Valu, New Town  
Tastee Freeze, New Town  
TDH Fast Foods, New Town  
Tractor & Equipment Co., Williston  
Trinity Regional Eyecare, Minot  
Van Hook Bait & Tackle  
Walmart, Minot  
West Dakota Inn, New Town  
White Drug, Minot

Van Hook Association  
709 Van Hook  
New Town, ND 58763

*Thank you for receiving your  
newsletter via email!!*

**Mark your calendars:**

**May 28**    **Park Clean-up Day**  
**June 4**    **Association picnic  
& Annual meeting**  
**June 11**   **Rummage Sales**  
**July 16**   **VHA Fishing Derby**

**2010 VHA Business Members:**

**New Town Super Valu**  
Iverson Family

**Cenex of New Town**  
John Reese

**Corner Liquor**  
New Town

**Rensch Chevrolet**  
New Town

**Institute of Attitude**  
Terry Fleck

**Reservation Telephone**  
Parshall

**Morelli's Distributing**  
Minot

**Haddeland Construction**  
New Town

**Securian Financial Advisors**  
David Wald

**Reynolds Insurance**  
New Town

**Dakota West Credit Union**  
Watford City

**Mid-Town Chiropractic**  
Dr. Bradley Kraft

**West Dakota Inn**  
New Town

**Stanley Equipment, Inc.**  
Stanley

**Ivers Plumbing & Sprinklers**  
Minot

**Dale's Septic Service**  
New Town

**Giesen Slough Water**  
New Town

**Farmers Union Oil Co.**  
Stanley

**Creative Salon & Spa**  
Minot

**Stone Crafters**  
Minot & Williston

**Parshall Food Pride**  
Parshall

**4th Ave. Dairy Queen**  
Minot

**Central Machine**  
Minot

**Integrity Outdoor Living**  
Minot

**Thanks for your support!!**