

# THE RELEASE

**JANUARY 2015**

Website:

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



**NO JANUARY MEETING**

**JOSH BOROVSKY**

**Speaker for Combination Meeting**

**February 10, 2015**

**7:00 PM**

**at Moose Lodge, Waite Park**

**Time on the Water . . . . .** By Bruce A. Kitowski, President

On behalf of the Board of Directors we would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year. 2015 promises to be an exciting and adventures year for us. I would like to thank everyone that came to our Christmas party at the December meeting. Personally I would like to thank the person that bought the Bucher swim bait. I really enjoyed it. The best part for me during the evening is the round table. Hearing everyone's stories and laughing with them while they share their experiences, ads a little personal touch to the evening.

I once again have to say that without the people that serve on the Board of Directors, this chapter would cease to exist. They do an outstanding job. The amount of time and energy that they give is un-measureable. We don't always see eye to eye on all the issues, but that is what makes it perfect for the chapter. Everyone always has the chapter's best interest in mind. Hats off to the guys that make it happen. We held our elections at the December meeting, and I am truly pleased that everyone has stayed with us for another five year term. The Board doesn't know it but I changed the rules. Ok, just kidding, it's a one year term.

We will not be having a membership meeting in January or February due to our special seminar on February 10<sup>th</sup> at the Moose Lodge. The membership meetings at the American Legion will resume in March. There will be a Board of Directors meeting at the usual time for Jan. and Feb.


Happy New Year's to you and your families. May God Bless!

**Bruce**

## **2015 ANNUAL FISH DINNER**


Our 2015 Annual Fish Dinner will be held on April 24, 2015. We are currently looking for prize items. Please contact Ken Schmitt (320-251-3322) if you are able to obtain donations for prizes and silent auction items.

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## MEMBERSHIP REPORT . . . . . By Nate Rose

In December we didn't have any new members or anyone dropping. Up for renewal we've got Eric Nelson along with Tom and Susie Ardolf for the month of January. The easiest way to renew your membership is online. The website (muskiesinc.org) should prompt you for renewal once your membership expires.

Spread the word and encourage anyone interested in muskie fishing/management to join our chapter, it would be great to see our chapter grow.

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## Contest Report . . . . . By Nate Rose

Hope everyone had a Merry Christmas. Well the season ended much quicker than we anticipated! There were no more fish logged since the last report so these are final standings for 2014. It's been a good year with a number of 50" fish being caught. Thanks to all who participated in this year's contest! Have a good New Year.

## Contest Standings December 25, 2014

LUNKER OF THE MONTH			
Month	Name	Size	Lake
June	Alex Lauer	47"	Alex
July	Donald Magney	46"	Alex
August	Eric Poissant	44.5"	Sugar
September	Alex Lauer	50.5"	Alex
October	Bryan J Thompson	51.5"	Minnetonka
November	Thomas Ardolf	52"	Alex

CURRENT STANDINGS					
Division	Name	# of Fish	Points	Largest	Average
Mens Master	Bryan J Thompson	7	157	51.5"	41"
Mens	Eric W Poissant	17	276	46.5"	42"
	Alex Lauer	8	145	50.5"	44"
	Thomas Ardolf	7	145	52"	46"
	Nathan Rose	6	109	49.5"	43"
	Troy A. Schmitz	5	96	48"	45"
	Joseph Lauer	4	69	44.25"	43"
	Donald Magney	3	57	46"	44"
	Eric Kohn	4	52	42"	39"
	Bruce A Kitowski	3	44	43"	40"
	Ken Schmitt	2	39	50"	45"
	Cliff Peterson	1	19	45"	45"
	Chad Schulzetenberg	2	16	35"	34"
Juniors	Elysa Amberg	15	154	48"	36"
	Ryan Schmitz	6	45	37"	33"
	Joshua Nielsen	1	11	36.5"	36.5"
Womens	Kara Poissant	1	17	43"	43"



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## EXPANDED MEMBERSHIP & ANNUAL PARTNERS . . . . .By Ron Sanders

Although not an Annual Partner at this time, the Blue Club joined us in the Sponsor Category and will be the Presenting Sponsor for our guest Speaker Josh Borovsky. They will also promote the event at both Blue Line Club locations at Sartell and St Cloud.



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## PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORT . . . . .By Aaron Meyer

Merry Christmas everyone!

In past newsletters, I've told you about the Esoc Workshop discussions, and that we're looking at two significant issues with the intention of making changes to muskie and pike management. It's a fairly widespread belief that many of our muskie populations are on a downward trend right now. This has been a major topic of discussion at recent workshops, and the DNR is taking a very serious look at the situation. The muskie technical committee has been working diligently on first; seeing if there really is a problem, second; figuring out what the problem actually is, a third; finding ways to remedy the situation. They've made a lot of headway in understanding the "big picture" of muskie management, and are looking at possibilities for how we can do it better in the future. On the surface, the quick fix might seem to be simply stocking more muskies. The reality is that it's much more complex than that. Putting more fish in does NOT necessarily mean seeing more fish grow up. What I can tell you, for now, is that I think we're moving in the right direction, but I don't know what the whole answer will be. In a future newsletter I'll dive more into the details, and try to explain what the biologists are finding.

On the pike side, it's long been recognized that our pike management strategy in MN has been failing miserably. It simply doesn't do enough to protect pike from overharvest. To make matters worse, the DNR has been handcuffed by a cap on the number of lakes where they can try special regulations. The direction we're hoping to move here is a complete overhaul of the system. We're looking at breaking Minnesota into 3 zones where pike management needs to differ based on lake type, spawning success rates, growth rates, etc. The intention is to balance out our pike fisheries, bringing them into more stable numbers while increasing the opportunity to catch nice sized pike AND in some cases actually increase harvest opportunities. It's going to require a sweeping change in angler understanding and attitude. To put it simply, in much of MN we need to keep FAR MORE small pike, while keeping FAR FEWER mid-sized and larger pike. When the time comes, we need to support this effort with everything we've got. The overall health of our entire fisheries depends on it.

Aaron  
MN Muskie and Pike Alliance Co-Chair



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# WEBMASTER. . . . . By Tom Ardolf

## January 2015 Webmaster Report

**FaceBook:** I've been trying to be as diligent as possible to keep the posts flowing on the page. It's all about content, and the best content is info on our chapter and its members. Thank you very much to the folks that have sent me pictures!! Especially at this time of the year when all we have are memories as we wait patiently for the next year's season to come around, seeing what our fellow chapter members have boated is a bright spot in the day. I also post the pictures onto the web site so you can easily go and see them there, too.

If there's one extra present you'd like to provide this year, it's for your webmaster and for you to go through your friends list and invite them to LIKE our Facebook page. We gained only 7 LIKES over the past month. With some free time from work for many of you, can you take a minute to go to our page, and while there, you will see an easy way to do it. Your friends are listed, and all you have to do is INVITE them. We want those friends of yours to know about SCMI, and it's also a way for us inform them about our meetings and our big fundraiser/fish dinner that is coming up.

**Cafepress:** No news for this month, did you get a present that was on this site????!!

**Web Site:** I continue to tweak the site, as there's always new links, new info, yes, mistakes to be corrected, etc. I hoping everyone sends me 2014 pictures so we have a robust picture album that you can go to and reminisce about the season. You can either upload them from the web site, or simply forward your pictures to [scmi.webmaster@gmail.com](mailto:scmi.webmaster@gmail.com). Keep your eyes posted for new information on our chapter and meetings!

*Tom Ardolf*

*Web Guy for St. Cloud Muskies, Inc.*

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**DECEMBER PIZZA PARTY AND CHRISTMAS LURE WRAP**

**ORNAMENT PRIZE WINNER – PAUL MANTHEI**



# Musky Fishing Presentation

✦ MN Musky Guide

✦ Outdoor Writer

## Josh Borovsky

✦ Tournament Angler

✦ TV Personality



February 10th — 7 PM

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