

THE RELEASE

MARCH 2015

Website:

www.stcloudmuskies.com



MEETING: Tuesday, March 17, 2015

7:30 pm

Waite Park American Legion

SPEAKER:

JOE STEWIG

DNR MONTROSE FISHERIES MANAGER

Time on the Water By Bruce A. Kitowski, President

There are just a couple of quick things this month I would like to cover. First off I would like to thank everyone that braved the weather and came out to the Moose Lodge to take in Josh Borovsky's seminar in February. He did an outstanding job. We had a very nice turn out, and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Also I want to give a very special thanks to Paul Amberg of Venture Custom Rods. Paul has donated one of his masterpiece rods the last couple of years. This year he brought in several rods to choose from and the winner of the raffle definitely had a hard choice to make. If you are ever in the market to purchase a new rod, please do not pass up the chance to see what Paul has to offer. Last but not least, another thank you must go out to the Blue-Line Bar who helped sponsor this program. We look forward to working with you in the future.

We are looking for an outing chairman to help set up events for the chapter. If you are interested, please contact someone on the board. We have many things coming up in the near future for the club and we are in need of volunteers. So if you can spare just a little time to help us out it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you and enjoy the rest of the winter.

Bruce

2015 ANNUAL FISH DINNER By Ken Schmitt

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. We are looking for volunteers to serve as well. Contact Ken or Eric Kohn to volunteer.

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT • • • • • By Nate Rose

In February we didn't have any new members or anyone dropping. Just a reminder Alex Lauer still needs to renew his membership. Up for renewal we've got Keith Schreifels and Jesse Lutgen for the month of March. 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.

WEBMASTER. By Tom Ardolf

March 2015 Webmaster Report

My article last month reviewed how each member can help the chapter through some simple ways of using technology to inform people who we are, what we do, and at this time of year, our annual fundraiser. I will be posting the fish fry fundraiser on our Facebook page very soon. What each member that has a Facebook account can do is simply select the “SHARE” feature right below the flyer and share the image on their own Facebook page. By doing so we can inform many, many more people about the event than we ever could in the past, when we were tacking up flyers in places in the community. Indeed, you could say that’s what you’d be doing, it’s just that in today’s world, it’s an on-line community. So, please, take the time to do that and it would be a great benefit for our M.I. chapter.

Facebook: As I write this article for the March issue, our site has a net gain of 50 LIKES in the past month, up to 331. A couple weeks ago, I don’t know what happened, but the Likes just piled up over a week or so. Many were from out of state, so I don’t know for sure the source. It may be that one or more members took the time to INVITE their friends to our page – if you are that person: THANK YOU!!! You may know I have a personal goal of being the “most-liked” Muskies, Inc. chapter, and a simple act of a few members inviting their friends will make that happen. This month alone moved us much closer, and a half dozen more situations like this will make us #1 !!!!

Cafepress: No news for this month.

Web Site: I’ve done some work, primarily to address a new year of pictures and documents. As always, feel free to send me pictures and I’ll put them on both Facebook and our web site. There’s nothing that generates more activity on our page than member pictures.

Tom Ardolf

Web Guy for St. Cloud Muskies, Inc.

Scmi.webmaster@gmail.com

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LAKE OF THE MONTH By Sven Larsen

I often hear members tell me that they like the lake of the Month segment of our chapter meetings. I think that people enjoy these presentations because of the variety of speakers and the different deliveries in the presentations. Some presentations include details on spots on the lakes while others talk more about presentation methods that are successful. We all enjoy the stories of fish caught or lost or interesting non-fishing facts of the lakes as well. In order for these presentations to continue, I need your help. Our schedule is open right now and we need volunteers to present the lakes for 2015. Here are some suggestions for lakes that you could help us with:

- | | | | |
|------------|--------------|-----------------------|------------|
| Leech Lake | Lake Bemidji | Mille Lacs | Bald Eagle |
| Mantrap | Detroit | The Mississippi River | Vermilion |

Choose one of these lakes or pick another one you are familiar with. It doesn't have to be in Minnesota. Know a great lake in Wisconsin or maybe you took a trip to Lake St. Clair. We would love to hear about it. The format is simple. You have 10 to 15 minutes to tell us anything you like about the lake. Introduce it to us. Chances are you will get some help from our members who have fished the lake. We usually put a map on the screen and I will take care of that for you. Please let me know by email svenandjudi@gmail.com or by phone (320) 252-2594 if you would like to be a presenter this year. And if you are a past presenter, thank you. Each and every presentation has been excellent. If any of you would like to do it again, I'd be happy to put you on the schedule.



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Magazine Reporter Program Director	Eric Poissant	819 McKinley Place S. St. Cloud, MN 56301	(320) 980-3470	ericwpoissant@gmail.com
Webmaster	Thomas Ardolf	2992 County Road 137 Waite Park, MN	(320) 2596770 56387	scmi.webmaster@gmail.com



Angler's Fish Dinner

Friday April 24, 2015

Waite Park American Legion

Dinner served 4:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Menu: Fish, Potatoes, Green Beans
Bread and Dessert

Dinner Tickets:

Adult \$10.00

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Letter from Muskie Inc. - Regional Board Positions Available

Members of Muskies Inc:

Major changes in the leadership of MI will occur at the 2015 Annual Board Meeting. Recently, Carl Phillips was elected President. Jay Zahn will move to the position of Immediate Past President. With Carl's election to the presidency, the position of Corporate Secretary becomes open. In addition, Jim Shannon, Greg Wells and Elmer Heyob have indicated that they will not be candidates for another term. Thus, the positions of Vice President Finance/Treasurer, Vice President Membership & Marketing and Vice President Fisheries & Research also will be open. An appointed position of Legal Counsel is also needed. These are elected positions and MI is searching for qualified and dedicated candidates that would like to help make MI the best organization it can be. All of the Board positions have a great support group that shares the same dedication and willingness to make projects and tasks enjoyable and rewarding. With the right dedicated people in place, MI has a strong and bright future! The term of office for all four elected positions is for two years commencing at the end of the 2015 Annual Meeting. A description of each of the positions follows:

Vice President Finance/Treasurer *This position has a Committee of dedicated people and a professional Accountant in Kathy Goon to work with. A great support group will make this position enjoyable for the financial minded person.* The Vice President Finance/Treasurer shall chair the Finance Committee and oversee the activities and reports of the Executive Accountant, the General Fund, the Gil Hamm Memorial Fund Committee, the Kermit Benson Scholarship Fund Committee, the Perry Smith Memorial Fund Committee, Merchandise, and any other special responsibilities shall further include fundraising initiatives and efforts, the Annual Calendar project, and oversight of insurance matters affecting Muskies, Inc.

Vice President Membership & Marketing *Memberships are very important to MI's future. This creative minded position allows he/she to work on ideas to increase memberships by marketing MI through various venues as a great organization to be part of. It is a very rewarding and interesting position.* The Vice President Membership & Marketing shall have primary responsibility in the areas of Membership, Merchandising, and Marketing. He/she shall further oversee Leadership Training projects, report to the Board on any New Chapter and/or Chapter Termination proposals or issues, oversee copyright and trademark matters and coordinate with organizations in projects of mutual interest. He/she may appoint and chair committees to assist him/her in the discharge of his/her responsibilities

Corporate Secretary *The Corporate Secretary is a very interesting and attention to detail type of position. This position is the pulse of all of MI's business documents. If you like being part of the inside scoop of business, this position is for you.* The Corporate Secretary shall proofread the Board and Executive minutes prior to promulgation. The minutes shall be posted within thirty (30) days from the time of the meeting. Certifies official actions and records of the corporation and serves as the authorized agent of the corporation to receive service of process and other official correspondence. He/she maintains copies of all Muskies, Inc. contracts and other agreements. He/she participates in all Board and Executive meetings. He/she shall be further responsible for the annual updating of the Muskies, Inc. Bylaws and General Policies, Positions, and Guidelines With professional archiving assistance, as necessary he/she shall also be responsible for the preservation of essential documents, including Board and member meeting minutes and providing notice to the Board for the timely occurrence of the nominations and election of Board officers.

Vice President Fisheries and Research *This position is the heart of what MI is all about. The conservation, stocking, research and habitat of muskies is very rewarding. If you love muskies and all the aspects of making the muskie fishery the best it can be, this position is for you.* Vice President Fisheries and Research shall provide the Board and members with information on scientific research opportunities on muskies, habitat improvement, and information on legislative proposals, in any of the several states affecting muskies and muskie habitat. This officer shall continue to seek out responsible research projects and activities that will aid the conservation, preservation, restoration and protection of muskie fisheries, assist in searching for funding sources and educating legislators and others about muskies. He/She shall assist and collaborate with Fisheries, Muskie Symposium, and the Review and Use Committee as may be feasible and productive. For additional information about these opportunities or if you or any of your acquaintances are interested in any of these important yet rewarding leadership positions, please contact: MI Secretary Ellen Wells or any of the current Board members at your earliest convenience.

Thank You!

Jay Zahn

President, Muskies Inc President@muskiesinc.org

Ellen Wells contact Info: secretary@muskiesinc.org

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Josh Borovsky's seminar in February



Joe Lauer (winner) with Paul Amberg of Venture Custom Rods

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: KIDS FISHING OUTINGS By Eric Kohn

There are some great opportunities to share your passion for the outdoors with local youth. The minimal requirement of time can build a lifelong love for the sport of fishing. Please remember that the future of our sport now with the opportunities to teach our youth.

1. 13th Annual Big Brother/Big Sister Fishing Outing - Saturday, May 2, 2015
2. Waite Park Family Fun Day fishing derby, Sunday June 14, 2015
3. MN High School Muskie Fishing Tournament Early June

Please contact me for more info. We will be posting on the website more info when available.
Eric Kohn epkohn34@hotmail.com 612-636-7928

PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORT By Aaron Meyer

Well here we go again... the 2015 Legislative session is in progress. It seems there is always something to be concerned about. I'm not sure that we, as conservation minded sportsmen, will ever have a year that doesn't involve threats to our resources, or will ever be able to just sit back and think there's nothing more to do. As a friend recently said, we don't live in Ontario where science rules the day. Here in Minnesota, science often takes a back seat to politics and/or groups who want unlimited access to our resources. It's up to all of us to make sure the science is always considered.

We are hoping to get an informational hearing put together at the Capitol to get the ball rolling on pike regulation improvements.

There is a bill in the works that would allow catch and release angling without a fishing license! Never mind that license dollars pay for boat ramps, docks, lake surveys, and countless other things that keep fish in our lakes, and keep them accessible to us all.


The DNR has begun taking a renewed look at finding additional lakes suitable for muskie stocking. While muskie angler numbers have continued to grow at an exponential rate, the muskie resource has not. The DNR recognized this years ago, which led to extensive work with anglers and stakeholder groups, and culminated in the 2020 Long Range Pike and Muskie Management Plan. The Long Range Plan calls for up to 8 new muskie waters by the year 2020. We've got a lot of work to do if we hope to accomplish this goal. There is already opposition rising up, and the muskie haters have learned to take their pleas straight to the Legislature because their claims fall flat in the face of science.

We all need to be ambassadors for our sport and the fish that thrill us. If we do our part, the facts and science can lead the way.

Aaron MN Muskie and Pike Alliance Co-Chair




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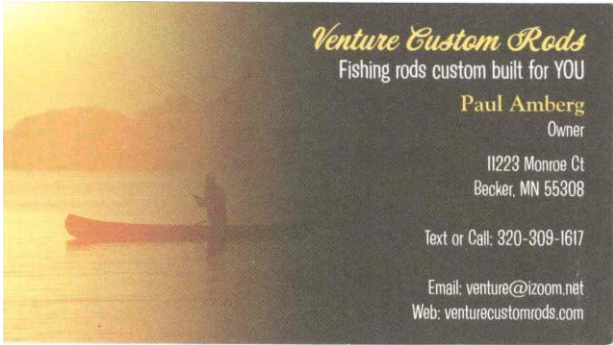
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