

# THE RELEASE

**June 2015**

**Website:**

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



**MEETING: Tuesday, June 16, 2015 6:00-9:00 pm**

**BOAT SHOW**

**at Gander Mountain, Waite Park**

\*Check Website or Facebook in case of inclement weather (June 23 alternate date)

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

Now that we are only a couple weeks away from the opening of our season I'm sitting at my desk wondering if all of us truly get the real meaning of Memorial Day. Most of us go through the motions of remembering a few that have passed along the way. We look forward to having an extra day off work, maybe go to the cemetery to put flowers on graves of those that were close to us and then we can't wait to get on with our lives as if everything was normal. I would like everyone to please take a couple of extra minutes to really understand why we are able to do what we do. Remembering those that have passed, those that have served, and those that are serving in the military now. It is each and every one of these people that have allowed us to live free, raise our families the way we see fit, and pursue our pleasures such as fishing for this great species we call the muskellunge. In a world that has turmoil in all corners we are still able to get on the water and forget about all the problems (at least for a short period of time). The men and women that have and are serving this country need never to be forgotten. I love my GOD, I love my Country, and I love the State I live in, so as for this muskie hunter I salute you all at attention! THANK YOU for my FREEDOMS!

I was not able to make the last meeting because of surgery, but from what I heard Avon Marine put on an outstanding seminar. It just goes to show you that when one or two people are not present your board of directors pick up the slack and run things smoothly. I cannot thank our board enough for all the hard work they do. Not everyone agrees with everything all the time, but the diversity in the board members is what makes our chapter so strong. The one thing I can tell you that is 100% true is that every decision made is to benefit the chapter. I am proud to be a member of Chapter 37.



## **WEBMASTER. . . . . By Tom Ardolf**

### **June 2015 Webmaster Report**

#### **FaceBook:**

As I write this, we are up to 348 LIKES, a gain of 5 over the past month. You all know my passion to get this up higher than any other chapter, so anytime you can think of someone to invite, please do.....

I was pleased to be able to put the article on our members Ryan and Nate catching the same fish onto our Facebook page. That's good press for us and the musky community. A great demonstration of CPR (Catch, Photo, Release).

**Cafepress:** No news for this month.

#### **Web Site:**

As I write this, a non-member, Roger Bechtold, used our contact from to let us know he caught a 33 inch musky on the Chain. He tried to get us a picture, but the camera didn't work correctly the first time. By then, he felt he needed to get the fish back into the water, so he didn't try for a 2<sup>nd</sup> picture. ...definitely the right line of thinking....

**Other:** The position of VP of Finance/Treasurer for Muskies, Inc. is still unfilled. If someone would be interested, please contact me. My new position on the Board has taken a lot of time as the Bylaws require that I review and approve the minutes, Bylaws and Procedures and Policies documents, and I just finished all that up. I still have a list of things to do, plus I've been reading and corresponding with other chapters in the country.

I participated in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters fishing event. The Hugh Becker Foundation underwrites this, and I believe it is a great opportunity to be of service. You may have read my post on Facebook about a 20-some-year-old I ran into on the dock at Pleasant Lake. When he saw "musky" on the side of my boat, he asked if SCMI still put on the BBBS fishing event. Evidently it had an effect on him, and he did comment positively on it. I invited him to our chapter meetings – hope we see him sometime!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the chapter.

*Tom Ardolf*

Web Guy for St. Cloud Muskies, Inc.  
[Scmi.webmaster@gmail.com](mailto:Scmi.webmaster@gmail.com)



**Alex Lauer**  
Sales Consultant

6913 Hwy 371  
Walker, MN 56484  
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## **PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORT . . . . .** By Aaron Meyer

Walleye and pike season is well underway, turkey season is winding down, the morel mushrooms are popping, and spring is about to become summer. What does that mean?? Muskie season is almost here! Hopefully you've all had an opportunity to get the boat in the water and get the kinks worked out. I had a live well pump seize up. Not that I use it much during muskie season, but I like to keep everything in working order. Speaking of boat repair/maintenance, our last speaker was Randy Pierson of Avon Marine. Randy is an absolute wealth of knowledge on everything related to boat performance. If you've got any issues with your rig, and you weren't at the meeting, you certainly "missed the boat"!

I recently had the opportunity to speak to the Alexandria "Vikingland" chapter of Muskies Inc. The Vikingland chapter has struggled in recent years, as chapters often do when leadership changes occur, and they've been absent from participation in the MMPA for quite a while. Well, I'm glad to say that they've elected a new Board and are making a renewed effort to get their chapter up and running. I met their new President, Katee Campion, at the Muskie Expo and let her know we were here to help. Katee is very enthusiastic, and it seems that the rest of their group is as well. In fact, their membership has grown significantly in just the last couple months.

I spoke at their chapter meeting about what the MMPA does, and they immediately expressed the desire to get involved. I'd like to thank the Vikingland chapter for giving me this opportunity, and want to say Welcome Aboard!

If anyone knows someone who lives in the Alexandria area, please encourage them to contact Katee at [campz22@aol.com](mailto:campz22@aol.com) and get involved. Let's help make our neighbor chapter a great success.

**Aaron** MN Muskie and Pike Alliance Co-Chair



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## MEMBERSHIP REPORT • • • • • By Nate Rose

In May Luke Michl dropped his membership. We did add one new member, Jeanne Lodermeier, so make sure to welcome her to the club if you see her. Up for renewal we've got Joshua Nielsen, Jason M Jones, Tracy Jones, Luke Jones, Avery Jones, Mike Dincau, Ken Schmitt, Norine Schmitt, Todd Weeres, and Aaron Meyer for the month of May. The easiest way to renew your membership is online. The website ([muskiesinc.org](http://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.



*Corey Nazer 715-456-5531 [www.NazeBaits.com](http://www.NazeBaits.com)*

### **Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament**, September 11, 12, and 13, 2015

The Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament is Muskies Inc.'s oldest fishing contest and the major fundraiser for the Twin Cities Chapter is coming up in September. Tournament waters include 20 lakes in northern Minnesota will be held on September Friday September 11, Saturday September 12, and Sunday September 13. As past Tournament Chairman, I presented the thought to the Board that we encourage participation, and support our Annual Partner, Stony Point Resort (who will likely be an Official Feed Location. I have also reserved a large Cabin that could house 15 People for those who would like to join in. Cost of the Cabin is \$202.50 a night, so as you can see IF we had 10 fisherman, it becomes about \$20 a night/person.

Although termed "a Tournament" it is more of an annual gathering of Muskie Inc. Members and Enthusiasts". There will be a large Grand Prize, usually a Boat, Motor and Trailer that will be drawn from a pool of every person who registers a Muskie, regardless of Size! Usually, there are about 100 fish caught and released, thus each registrant has a 1 in 10 probability of winning the Boat combo. In addition, there are over 100 prizes given over the week end.

Feeds are provided on Friday and Saturday nights at Bemidji, Cass Lake, Walker, and Longville which provide the opportunity to share stories, gain information, and partake in games of chance, all for the benefit of the Club.

2014 Entry fees were \$95 for adults (\$100 if you register after Labor Day), \$30 for juniors, and \$175 for a family of 2 adults and 2 juniors or 1 adult and 3 juniors. For adult and junior anglers who find it difficult to get off work or school on Friday, we offer a 2-Day Saturday/Sunday only option at \$75 for adults. As you can see Families are encouraged to participate.

Please let Ron Sanders at [ronssm@aol.com](mailto:ronssm@aol.com) know of your interest. You may also call me at 612-386-1100.

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: . . . . By Eric Kohn**

A note of thanks to all the volunteers that helped out to make the fish dinner and BBBS Outing successful.

We still have a couple of opportunities to volunteer:

1. The **Waite Park Family Fun Day Fishing Derby** is Sunday June 14, 2015, 1-3 PM. We will need people to help with weighing fish, releasing fish, registration and giving out prizes.
2. **Minnesota High School Muskie Fishing Tournament.**  
When: June 12, 2015, 5:30am to 1:30pm  
Where: Bald Eagle Lake, Ramsey County Regional Park  
Notes From the Chairman, Mike Riha:
  - 1) Check with your partner to make sure they also received this email. If not, contact me via email and give me correct address.
  - 2) Check with the people in your life (moms, dads, legal guardians, etc) about your entry into this sectional tournament and possible state tournament. No surprises.
  - 3) Check with the people whose boat you are going to use. Make sure trailer and boat are in good running condition before June 12.
  - 4) I will be putting my boat in around 4:30am to get out of your way as you drop in your boats.
  - 5) I will be like a DNR person checking to make sure you have up to date boat registrations, 1 life vest/person, a throwable life preserver, and all things legal for boating on a MN lake. If your boat is not legal, you are not eligible to be in the tournament.
  - 6) You must have a large musky net or cradle, pliers (long nose preferred), hook cutters, camera/phone with camera, jaw spreader. A fishing glove is recommended. These items are for your protection and the fish's protection in the event you catch a musky.
  - 7) I strongly encourage you to prefish Bald Eagle lake June 6 to June 11. Not only will this give you an advantage over those who do not prefish, you can also check out all your equipment and make sure it is in working order.
  - 8) Rain will not cancel this event. Only in the event of lightning or dangerous wind/hail, will I cancel and attempt to reschedule. If needed, reschedule date is Monday, June 15. All fish caught before cancel time will be included in final standings.
  - 9) The largest fish wins the sectional, not a combined number of inches of fish. Two boats will be selected for state. If no muskies are caught, the largest northern will determine standings.
  - 10) You must have a working cell phone in your boat and report to me the length of your fish immediately after photo and release. Enter my number now into your contacts on your phone. Mike Riha 763-607-2800. You may give this number to your parents if you wish.

Our goal is for you to have a safe, fun, honorable, learning experience with the people in your boat. Please keep yourself safe and be careful with these wonderful creatures we catch and release. If you have any questions email or call me. See you on June 12.

Please contact me for more info. We will be posting on the website more info when available.

Eric Kohn [epkohn34@hotmail.com](mailto:epkohn34@hotmail.com) 612-636-7928



## Lake of the Month By: Sven Larsen

Wow what a great presentation Ryan Hoffman gave us on Detroit Lake in April. It was really fun to see the fish and the lake that "changed his life". I need to apologize to Ryan for the delay in getting this thank you out since I missed the deadline for the newsletter last month. It was very apparent that Ryan put a lot of effort in his presentation and we all enjoyed it very much. In June we have the boat show so we will not have a Lake of the Month in June.

For July, I am looking for a volunteer to tell us about a lake. Please contact me at [svenandjudi@gail.com](mailto:svenandjudi@gail.com) if you would like to do a short presentation about a lake or river you are familiar with. I hope everybody has a great opener.



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## BBBS KIDS FISHING OUTING. . . . By Eric Kohn

The 13<sup>th</sup> annual Big Brother and Big Sisters Outing took place on Saturday, May 2, 2015. The weather was the best we have had in the last few years with sunshine and light winds. The sunshine brought out more kids than ever. We had 23 kids attend the event with their adult sponsors. Each child received a spin cast combo and a tackle box. The fish did cooperate and most of the kids caught at least 1 fish. The highlights were the two 19" catfish that were caught and put up a good fight for the little anglers. The smiles were all around as kids learned how to cast and rig rods for the first time. The event culminated with a small cook out and an awards ceremony. Thanks to all of the volunteers that came out for the morning. Volunteers included Ken and Norine Schmitt, Eric Poissant, Tom Ardolf, Mike Ruff and Eric Kohn.







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PLEASE NOTE A NEW EMAIL  
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ARTICLES:  
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**NEWSLETTER EDITORS**  
Ken and Norine Schmitt  
1208 8th Street South  
Waite Park, MN 56387  
E-Mail to: [Kenorschmitt@gmail.com](mailto:Kenorschmitt@gmail.com)  
WEB E-MAIL: [info@stcloudmuskies.com](mailto:info@stcloudmuskies.com)

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St. Cloud Muskies Inc.  
1208 8<sup>th</sup> Street South  
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