THE RELEASE FEBRUARY 2014

Website: www.stcloudmuskies.com





MEETING DATE FEBRUARY 10, 2014 7:00 p.m.

MOOSE LODGE

1300 North 3rd Street WAITE PARK, MN

SPEAKER: LUKE RONNESTRAND

Time on the Water By Bruce A. Kitowski, President

As we head further into the year new our chapter is really going to get busy. This is the time we try to get everything done before the fishing opener of muskie. We start out with the January/February big seminar. Please note the seminar will be held at the Moose Lodge on February 10th at 7:00. Then the 10th Annual Anglers Dinner is on April 25th at the American Legion. May is Big Brothers/ Big Sisters Fishing outing, and right after that in June comes the Waite Park Family Fun Festival Kids Fishing Contest. In between all that we hope to do a couple lake clean-ups. We will be looking for a member or members to head up the clean-ups. This won't take much time just setting a date and a little organizing.

As always we will once again be looking for donations for the Anglers Dinner. Last year was awesome and we hope to do as well this year. Please try to solicit prizes and merchandise for our raffles and silent auctions. This is our only fundraiser for the year and we need everyone's participation. Please help out this year.

Shortly we will be sending out tickets for the dinner for everyone to sell. Please do your best to sell these tickets and get them back to us asap. We as the 2014 Board of Directors thank you for everything you have done for the chapter, and look toward the future in a very positive way.

Bruce

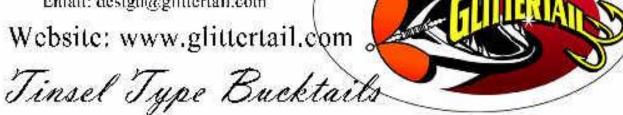




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GUEST SPEAKER LUKE RONNESTRAND

We are excited to announce that our guest speaker on February 10th at 7:00 pm is Minnesota Muskie guide Luke Ronnestrand. Luke has worked at Thorne Bro's for about 12 years and has been a full time guide for 8 years. He made his name in the Muskie world by consistently putting people on huge fish on Mille Lacs, while at the same time winning several tournaments there. These days he's mainly guiding on Vermilion and Mille Lacs, where he's known for catching a lot of giant muskies. Luke owned Holcombe tackle for 11 years, and is probably responsible for several lures in just about anyone's tackle box, including baits such as stompers and low riders. Luke does a lot of pro-staff work for companies such as Musky Mayhem and Musky Innovations, and is a partner in team 503 fishing, as well as writing for Musky Hunter. This is a guy who doesn't do a lot of advertising or bragging. He just goes out and puts a ton of big fish in the boat without a whole lot of fanfare. This isn't a seminar you'll

want to miss!

Our date and location are a little different from our usual monthly meetings.... It's at The Moose Lodge 1300 North 3rd Street Waite Park MN 56387 February 10th at 7:00 pm See you there!

Sponsorship Program By Ron Sanders

I welcome any thoughts on expanding our Sponsorship Program to enable us to fund projects and to make even bigger contributions to our Muskie Fishery. So often we get focused only on the event or task at the moment. I am working on, with your help, developing a Sponsorship Program that meets our annual needs. Building the value for the Sponsorships is always a key to success in this area, changing it from a Donation Program to a Sponsorship Program.

Please think about what we could do with the funds and help set goals to reach those objectives. The first step is to take a look at all the assets we have. I have already begun that process and welcome your thoughts.





Chapter Region Representative

By Ron Fenske

Hi and Happy New Year! It sure has been a long COLD winter, and unfortunately, it appears to be far from over. I've been faithfully watching a good many Musky TV shows so far this winter... while visions of the musky expo dance in my head. I am so so ready for the opener! Damn, it's still over four months away!

While keeping my mind off the frozen tundra (we call Minnesota) I need to purchase two new trolling batteries before spring thaw (oh yeah). Has anyone heard of any improvements/concerns over the past couple years? Normally, I've just gone to Sam's Club and picked up their "best", and that has been the extent of it. It's all been very scientific. So, If anyone has any thoughts, ideas or discoveries on batteries; especially deep cycle batteries, please take the time to share that coveted information.

This is the time of year I usually go through my musky lures. I sharpen, retie, and dream about which lure is going to be the magical one for me this coming season. I can't believe how many lures I have acquired over the years. (Drives the wife nuts:) See you at the February meeting - stay safe and think warm thoughts.

Don't Forget The Minnesota Musky Expo this year is April 4, 5, and 6, at Concordia University, St. Paul, MN - Hope to see you all there!

Ron Fenske

PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORT By Aaron Meyer

We will have Guide Luke Ronnestrand speak to us at our combined January/February meeting at 7:00 on February 10th. Hope to see you there.

Aaron

ANNUAL FISH DINNER

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2014

VOLUNTEER FOR THE ANNUAL FISH DINNER FUNDRAISER We will be mailing all of the tickets this year. If you need more tickets, contact Bruce. We need your support for our annual fundraiser, so please try to sell your tickets and return the money by the March 18th meeting. We are also looking for items to use as door and tip board prizes along with silent auction items. Contact Ken if you can help out.

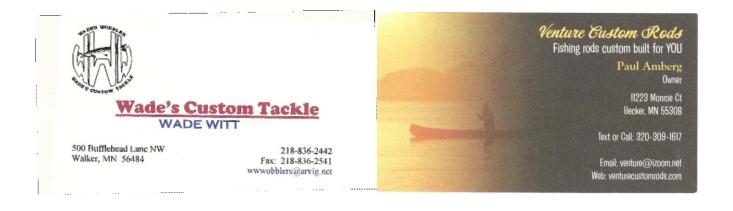
Thank you.

Ken Schmitt 320-290-6272 kenor@juno.com Bruce Kitowski 320-290-7101 esoxmaster@charter.net

Eric Kohn 612-636-7928 epkohn34@hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP REPORT· · · · · · · · By Marc Jefferson

Greetings! We are currently at 89 members. We do not have any new members this month. We hope that Joe Braun, Jason Jacobs, Michael Beck, Jake Anderson, Eric Poissant, Jacob Moren and George Pavelek will renew for another year. Renewal is easiest at www.muskiesinc.org, and normally if you are within a month of your renewal date, the website will prompt you to renew once you log in. Mr. Nate Rose will be taking over membership duties starting next month, so I'd like to thank everybody in for supporting our club and it's been a lot of fun to watch new people come in and get involved. Here's hoping for an early spring!









LAKE OF THE MONTH By Sven Larsen

Thanks to all the great speakers we had last year for Lake of the Month. I know our members appreciate everyone stepping up and giving the inside scoop. Let me know if you have anything you would like to share. No lake of the month for the Jan/Feb meeting but it will be back in March. We'll see you then.

Sven Larsen



NEWSLETTER EDITORS

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WEBMASTER..... By Tom Ardolf

February 2014 Webmaster Report

<u>Facebook:</u> We are up to 110 LIKES, so we gained 5 over the last month. These are from folks I do not know, but it's nice to see a little traffic!

I posted as an event our February speaker. A few folks "joined" the event, which is a nice way to see who's coming. Other than that, I did not receive any feedback on the Google calendar of events, so I'll wait for further direction from the membership before I make any further changes on the page.

<u>Cafepress:</u> This appears to be about as out-of-season as musky fishing is right now. Let me know if you'd like to see any new products on it.

Website: I'll go over the new board member listing for any changes that may have taken place. With the additions, I need to do some reformatting, but it'll be done soon.

Tom - Web Guy for St. Cloud Muskies, Inc. Scmi.webmaster@gmail.com



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