



THE RELEASE

APRIL, 2013 Website: www.stcloudmuskies.com

APRIL 16, 2013
 7:30 p.m.
WAITE PARK AMERICAN LEGION
AWARDS NIGHT
Pizza Provided
Donations Appreciated

Time on the WaterBy Bruce A. Kitowski, President

I'm sitting at my desk writing this with the anticipation of all the new, fresh, and exciting things that are coming up with the chapter. Stuff like lake clean-ups, kids fishing contest, Big/Brothers-Big/Sisters, Lake of the Month outings, and let's not forget that spring brings lake assessment nettings by the DNR. This year Leech Lake and Shamineau will be up. The DNR has contacted us and asked for a little help. Aaron Meyer will be getting the info of when and how much help they will need. On Leech the DNR will be doing an egg take. Ice-out willing we will try to get the Sauk River Chain cleaned up a bit by the end of April.

The biggest event for us of the year is right around the corner and that would be the Anglers Dinner on April 19th at the American Legion in Waite Park. Once again I must ask for your help in volunteering, the sales of tickets, and donation prizes of all sorts. I would also like to thank everyone that signed up to help and that solicited prizes already. Your generosity is outstanding.

Last month our guest speaker was Eric Altena (Little Falls Area Fisheries Supervisor) who is always a pleasure to listen to and ask questions of. We appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedule to visit with us. In April we will be having our awards night. Please come and enjoy this evening with us. We will also be serving pizza that night. It should be a lot of fun.


Enjoy the melt down and remember that with every inch of snow that goes away we are that much closer to open water.

Bruce



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LAKE OF THE MONTH By Sven Larsen

We are going to offer more opportunity for members to get together and fish this summer. Starting in June we will start the Lake of the Month. At the chapter meeting one of our members will introduce the lake and give us some strategies for fishing it. Then all those who can will be welcomed for a fishing outing on that lake later in the month. Here is the schedule for 2013:

June 29 th	Sugar Lake
July 27 th	Lake Shamaineau
August 31 st	Lake Miltona
September 12-15	The annual Chapter Cass Lake outing
October 26 th	Lake Alexander

Put as many of these dates on your calendar and join other members to fish the Lake of the Month.

Big Brothers and Big Sisters Outing May 4th By Eric Kohn

Volunteers needed for our annual Big Brothers and Big Sisters Outing on Saturday, May 4 from 9:30-1:00 p.m. Let's take advantage of this great opportunity to make a difference in the lives of our younger generations. Share your passion for the outdoors and help others to learn to appreciate the great sport of fishing. We will again be giving each "little" a rod/reel combo and a tackle box. They will need help with rigging, baiting and casting. We need volunteers to make this morning of fishing a success. Please meet at the Bernick's Pond in Waite Park at 9:30 am and be ready for a few hours of fun. We will be done by 1pm. Call me (612-636-7928) or email (epkohn34@hotmail.com) if you have questions.

Paul Diedrich Announces his Retirement

My last working day will be April 2, 2013. For almost 31 years I have been the area supervisor. I'm really proud of all my Fisheries colleagues in the DNR. We have made tremendous progress in assessing, recording, and improving Minnesota's fisheries resources. When I graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1974 I thought I was entering a well-established field. In many ways the work was just beginning. Since 1974, improved survey methods, computers, and technical equipment have given us useful tools for our work. We better understand fish populations, associations, stocking, and habitat than ever before. And I think we are on the brink of new discoveries which will refine our work and provide better products for the citizens of Minnesota. I am grateful for the relationships that I have developed with many of you. I hope you will continue to trust the staff at Montrose with your fisheries issues. My plans for retirement include working part-time in an unrelated field, serving at my church, helping my children get established, continuing projects in Alaska and Haiti, and yes, fishing. – Paul



With truckload of carp, Hutchinson, 1979.



Rainbow trout at Big Watab Lake, 1989

We have been very fortunate to have had Paul as our fisheries supervisor out of Montrose. Many thanks to Paul for following through with getting the Sauk River Chain of Lakes stocked with muskies. Paul has always had the time to come to our meetings and talk with us when we wanted him to. He will be missed very much but the St. Cloud Chapter wishes him the very best on and through the enjoyment of retirement. Thanks Paul.

St. Cloud Chapter of

MUSKIES Inc.

Presents the 2013 Anglers ^{"All You Can Eat"} Fish Dinner & Fundraiser

Join the fun with
Door Prizes & Silent Auction!

Friday
April 19th, 2013
4:30pm – 7:30pm

The Waite Park American Legion

Tickets available at the door or in advance from
any Muskie Inc. member by calling 320-656-1160

Cost: Adults \$10.00
Children (12 & under): \$5.00

Visit us on the web at www.stcloudmuskies.com

Money raised to benefit local community events including:

- ▶ Big Brothers / Big Sisters Fishing Outing
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PROGRAM DIRECTOR By Aaron Meyer

To say things have been a bit frustrating lately would be an understatement. Proposals and potential changes always move slowly when working with the DNR, but lately it really seems that they are going out of their way to make it known they are not our allies. Whether it's coming from Fisheries Chief Dirk Peterson, or Commissioner Tom Landwehr, the tone lately has not been positive for better fisheries management.

John Underhill and I were asked by the DNR to a meeting with the Darkhouse Association. The Legislature asked them to hold this meeting. Unfortunately I was unable to attend due to a case of the flu. We'd been led to believe they wanted to discuss the removal of spearing bans and the possibility of compromise while discussing several options for improving muskie and pike management. The DNR has been stating they'd like to see these issues stop being "the muskie guys vs. the spearers". Instead, while mostly not allowing John to talk, they spent the meeting informing him that the muskie guys have been "getting things" lately, and now it's the spearers turn. (Never mind the fact that they have already seen 15 of the original bans removed, no longer need an angling license, got non-resident spearing at a significant cost reduction, got a reduced spearing license fee while all others went up, can use live decoys, and can now also use fishing lines while spearing at the same time.) If the DNR wants to continue comparing, how about we compare the fact that 14,000 spearers have access to over 3,000 lakes while over 100,000 resident muskie anglers only have access to about 100 total waters!

The DNR is currently supporting the removal of 12 existing spearing bans. I'm not telling you how you should feel about that, but why is it that in order to get just one lake stocked we have to fight for years and provide endless amounts of public input, yet when they decide to remove these regulations they don't go through that process at all?

This really isn't (or shouldn't be) about spearing. What we are seeing is that the DNR doesn't want to do anything in regards to any sort of improved muskie or pike management. They've completely derailed any discussion of the "bonus pike" idea, have ignored any mention of removing the 100 lake limit on special pike regs or an improved statewide slot, and have opened up Mille Lacs to harvest of more large pike.(one of the few lakes in MN still holding a balanced pike population) They also have completely stalled on making a decision about an increased muskie size limit, and about stocking Lake Tetonka. They seem to be attempting to hold Lake Tetonka in front of us like a carrot to convince us to not oppose the removal

of the spearing bans.

Sorry, but stocking Tetonka has NOTHING to do with spearing on other lakes. The DNR created a process for these stocking proposals. Tetonka went through their process, stood on it's own, and came out with a majority in support. At that time, they put the decision on hold and went out for more information. What they found was that the local political voices who had at first opposed it now support it, and the majority of the anglers currently using the lake support stocking muskies. Even the local DNR Fisheries Office officially supports it! And yet the upper management still won't make a decision! To be perfectly honest, I don't think they (under the current administration) want to make any decisions at all. They want changes to be legislated so they don't have to decide anything for themselves.

It's time to make ourselves heard once again. We're putting the word out through the MMPA, and to the other MI chapters, to contact the DNR Commissioner and let him know how you feel. The more people that call and write him, the better. For now, it's probably best to not complicate it with too many ideas. Let's stick mostly to the proposal to increase the muskie size limit and the decision to stock Lake Tetonka. Let's shake that tree a bit and we'll work on the pike management issues a little later.

Please contact him at tom.landwehr@state.mn.us and at 651-259-5555

Aaron

WEBMASTER. By Tom Ardolf

April 2013 Webmaster Report

Facebook: Our weekly reach for March has varied from a low of 70 to a high of 221. As of this report date we have 76 LIKES -- very slow going to gain new folks in this area. I guess we just have to rely on more folks posting, which virally gets the site out to more folks. Our biggest reach for any post this month was the picture of Jason Jacobs fall musky picture.

Cafepress: The site is live and can be used. Right now the logos being used are just the MI logo with the SCMI tag. As soon as the logo arrives from Sam, I'll get items on the page with that logo. Cafepress.com continues to have a problem uploading a home page logo. I put the site on-line without it, and I continue to check to see if it has been fixed. Let me know what else you'd like on the site, and I'll do my best to get it on the site.

Website: I try to make regular changes to the home pages and others, as appropriate. Our Home Page always has a "sponsor of the month" and the next chapter event. I've put our fish fry flyer on the banner of the home page to give it more visibility. It can also be downloaded as a PDF and anyone can print one out. The menu item for Cafepress.com has been enabled.

I also started another forum item, one for River Fishing. I hope we get some activity on it. No one has tried out the Musky Match forum to test out being able to share a deck with someone. Hope this works out for the good of folks that want to get some fishing in and can't always plan it.

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MEMBERSHIP REPORTBy Marc Jefferson

Greetings everyone, we are currently holding strong at 89 members. We don't have any new members to report this month, but we're very happy to have Donna Pavelek, Eric Poissant, Russ Nelson, Mary Grupe, Tom Deml and Tim Radunz with us for another year. As far as I can tell with the extremely convoluted and confusing reporting system that the international website now offers, we do not have any members coming up for renewal in April. Here's hoping we see ice out this month, but I'm holding my breath. One thing we'll be doing at our April meeting is presenting plaques for contest winners. People who will receive plaques are **Bryan Thompson, Nick DeBoer, Jake Anderson and Luke Jones**. I will be at the meeting to present these to our winners and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone.

Any problems with the Lunge Log or your membership, don't hesitate to call me at 320-266-6456 or email airmarc00@gmail.com (airmarc zero zero).

FALL GET TOGETHER 2013By Dave Mendel

We are proud to announce the dates for our 2013 Fall Get Together. It will be held from September 12th through September 15th at Cass Lake Lodge. CLL 218-335-6658 www.casslakelodge.com

The camping and cabins rates for this year will be:

Tent Camping	\$25.00 / Night
RV Camping / W full hook ups	\$36.00 / Night
Cabins	\$40.00 / Night / Person
Boat Slips in the Harbor	\$10.50 / Day

This year the resort will be saving 3 cabins for our event, and the use on the 'Lodge' for the Thursday night seafood buffet. The Cass Lake area is very busy this time of the year, so these cabins will only be held until August 15th 2013 at which time they will be opened up to the public. Please make your reservations early to ensure a spot. CLL has built a new and much improve harbor that will serve us much better. If you need a boat slip, please request one at the time you make reservations. Camping is in limited supply and rented on a first come first served basis. If you plan to camp make your reservations early. When making reservations, be sure to mention that you're part of the St. Cloud Muskies Inc. group

We will be charging a \$10.00 fee which includes a Friday night meal catered by CLL and a chance to win a fine muskie rod. Plus everyone attending the Friday meal will receive a lure as part of the drawing. We hope you can join us for a great weekend of fishing on one of Minnesota's premier Muskie waters.

If you have any questions please contact me at, 320 – 293 – 6633; mendjo1118@charter.net

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