

THE RELEASE

DECEMBER 2013

Website:

www.stcloudmuskies.com



MEETING DATE

December 17, 2013

7:30 p.m.

AMERICAN LEGION - WAITE PARK, MN

CHRISTMAS PARTY

PIZZA AND ONE DRINK

Lure Swap and Lure Gift Exchange

Time on the WaterBy Bruce A. Kitowski, President

I hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving. As the holiday season is upon us it is very easy to forget the most important things that matter. The Lord, Family and Friends will always be the staple that holds us all together. Remember the reason for the season and I am positive the holidays will be a joyous time and not a trying one.

Thank you to Joe Stewig (fisheries manager at Montrose) who put on the seminar at our last members meeting in Nov. He is truly the right man for the job. Joe gave us the much needed info on the Sauk River Chain of Lakes that we were waiting for. The muskies that were introduced to the chain are doing fine and the new muskies this year were all pit tagged and released successfully. Thank you to Charlie and Aaron Meyer for helping out with this project.

Please do not forget about the December Christmas party at our membership meeting. We will be having Pizza and each member will receive one drink ticket, elections will be held for the 2014 season, also a lure swap or any equipment you want to get rid of, Lake of the Month seminar, round table discussion if we have time, and as for every year we have a pass a Christmas lure. For those of you that are new to the chapter bring a lure that is wrapped and place it under the Christmas tree and at a certain time during the evening everyone will get up and grab a present that he or she did not bring. Once again please join us for this meeting and help us celebrate the very successful past season that the St. Cloud Chapter has had.

Every year at this time I must thank all the board members for their unselfish duties to the chapter. These gentlemen spend numerous hours of their personal time making sure that the chapter runs as smooth as it does. We would not be where we are today without these people. I am so honored and privileged to work next to each and every one of them. Thank you guys for all you do.

Bruce

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9-12HI Raging Perch



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Contest Standings November 30, 2013

Standings November 30, 2013

CURRENT STANDINGS

Division	Name	# of Fish	Points	Largest	Average
Masters	Bryan Thompson	8 fish, 3 > 40"	53	44.5"	38.1"
Mens					
	Marc Jefferson	29 fish	513	49"	43.5"
	Jake Anderson	10 fish	217	50.5"	47.5"
	Eric Poissant	9 fish	146	49"	42.1"
	Nate Rose	7 fish	123	46.5"	43.2"
	Chad Schulzetenberg	5 fish	78	46"	41.5"
	Eric Kohn	5 fish	74	42"	40.8"
	Aaron Starry	4 fish	69	47"	43"
	Troy Schmitz	5 fish	61	41.5"	38.1"
	Bruce Kitowski	4 fish	49	42"	38.25"
	Tom Ardolf	2 fish	43	49"	47.5"
	Adam Kobes	4 fish	38	43.5"	35.9"
	Tom Agnew	2 fish	38	45"	46"
	Ken Schmidt	2 fish	29	42"	40.5"
	Sven Larsen	1 fish	11	37"	37"
	Dennis Kobiela	1 fish	9	35"	35"
Juniors	Ryan Schmitz	3 fish	32	38"	36.6"
	Sam Larsen	1 fish	17	42.5"	42.5"

Lunker of the Month

May	Bryan Thompson	37.5"	Birch Lake
June	Aaron Starry	47"	Mille Lacs
July	Chad Schulzetenberg	46"	Lake of the Woods
August	Eric Poissant	49"	Sugar
September	Jake Anderson	48"	Lobster
October	Jake Anderson	50"	Lobster
November	Jake Anderson	50.5"	Lobster

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Contest Report By Marc Jefferson

Another season is in the bag and as of right now we have 20 November fish on the club list for November, spread out between 6 members, making it the best month of this season, and all but one fish was caught on live bait. This is also a month shortened by deer season and this year, weather, effectively making it a three week month. Bryan Thompson takes last fish of year honors with a double on the 24th at Minnetonka. Jake Anderson had a good month with 5 fish, including current big fish of the month at 50.5" as well as a couple 48.5"s and a 48" for a very nice November average, and he also takes big fish of the month in October with a 50" he caught on the 27th. His 10 registered fish this year also averaged a whopping 47.5" and he now has big fish for the last 3 months. Eric Poissant was in a tree stand most of the month but he managed to pop a fish on an outing to Alex, and Nate Rose also put a 46.5" in the net from Alex on the 16th. Aaron Starry doesn't need suckers, he put up a 47" on a bulldawg from Sugar this month, and I took advantage of a great sucker bite in the metro and had a lot of fun this month. Nick DeBoer did not participate in the contest this season but deserves a nod for surpassing his personal goal of 40 fish this year, despite travelling a lot for work and not relying on suckers too much in November like many of us. I'll confess that I'm usually ready for the season to be over once it is, getting constantly pounded by the cold and wind wears me out. The sucker bite got started late here in the east metro due to a long and lingering turnover. I did enjoy my two biggest sucker fish off White Bear Lake on back to back trips of 48", but fish never really set up hard on some of the normal spots. My fall season was really made by exploring some new water that I hadn't fished too much before and finding some pretty impressive fish, including the biggest fish I've had in my boat at 52", a 50" PB for another buddy, both of which we got to watch eat the boatside sucker. Anyone who has fished with me in the fall knows I'm a little uptight about my suckers and rigs, but of the 25 or so fish that ate suckers in my boat this fall and all 25 got hooks into them, I lost one because I tried to muscle it into the net and it was a little stronger than I thought, and I lost one because I didn't check the drag before I set the hook, which was really loose. We also caught a lot more fish than usual on the boatside sucker and that's always a good show. In December we will have our final contest standings and some more season recap, thanks to everyone who registered fish this year.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT · · · · · By Marc Jefferson

Greetings – we’re currently holding steady at 95 members. We welcome back a past member, Steve Aeilts, who caught his first 50” and biggest fish ever this fall (pictured below). We’re very happy to have Royce Nies, Ron Crusier, Cliff Peterson, Roger Theiler, Robert Koubsky, Nate Rose and Mitch Hoihjelle back for another year. Currently up for renewal in December is Aaron Starry, the Bidwell family, Michael Sowada, Tom Agnew and Ron Fenske. Go to muskiesinc.org to renew your membership, the website should prompt you if you’re close to your renewal date.




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PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORT By Aaron Meyer

Well, it's over, and much too soon. I had high hopes for some big fish over the long Thanksgiving weekend, but the ice claimed the lakes too early. Most of the lakes throughout Minnesota froze up at least a week before the close of muskie season, and even the warmer metro lakes were locked up prior to Thanksgiving. Nothing you can do but pack up your gear and start looking forward to next year!

I want to thank Joe Stewig from the DNR for his great presentation at our last meeting. For those who weren't there, Joe is the new Area Fisheries Supervisor in Montrose, and is in charge of managing the Horseshoe Chain. He gave us some great information regarding the PIT tagging study being done on the muskies being stocked there.

Joe also talked about a couple other interesting things. One is a creel survey that will be done on The Chain during the winter of 2014, through the summer and winter of 2015. Another was that the study "Fish Community Responses to Muskie Stocking in MN Lakes" has been published in the North American Journal of Fisheries Management. This is the biological study that we've stood behind as proof that stocking muskies has no negative impact on our fisheries. Having it officially published in the NAJFM means that it has been reviewed and inspected by other fisheries managers and biologists throughout the country, and found to be scientifically sound. This validates it as accurate and useful, and allows it to be used legitimately throughout the country as a guideline for fisheries management. This strengthens our use of the study to promote responsible muskie stocking in selected lakes throughout Minnesota.

Have a great holiday season and see you in December.

Aaron

LAKE OF THE MONTH By Sven Larsen

We have had a little change in the Lake of the Month presentation for December. We had Minnetonka scheduled but we will have to put that one on hold for now. However, we will have Dennis Kobiela tell us about Cross Lake by Pine City at the December meeting. We won't do a Lake of the Month for our Jan/Feb meeting, but in March we have Paul Amberg scheduled to talk about Lake of the Woods. We will try to get Minnetonka back on the schedule for April or May along with possibly another metro lake. I wish you all a wonderful holiday season and lots of new lures under your trees!

Sven Larsen



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Mitch Hiohjelle



Tom Ardolf with guide Kevin Cochran

WEBMASTER. By Tom Ardolf

December 2013 Webmaster Report

Facebook: We did gain 6 LIKES since the last newsletter, so we are now at 104. If we want to use social media as a tool to inform people and to get our youth excited about fishing, inviting your Facebook friends is a great way to help this endeavor. It's very easy to do, right from the SCMI Facebook page. Just one click on the INVITE button next to your friends and that's all you have to do!

A couple members did post pictures over the past month, for which I'm grateful to see some fresh content from the membership. Now that the season is over, if you would post your pictures on the page, and also email them to me so I can put them in our 2013 album, that would be great!

Cafepress: Not much to say here, there have been no orders or requests for new products.

Website: The site really does not get much traffic. One of the top pages is the Board page, but I'm estimating that web trolling software is out there capturing data on that page. I keep the home page current with the next event and continue to rotate the "Sponsor of the Month," putting their logo on our home page for one month.

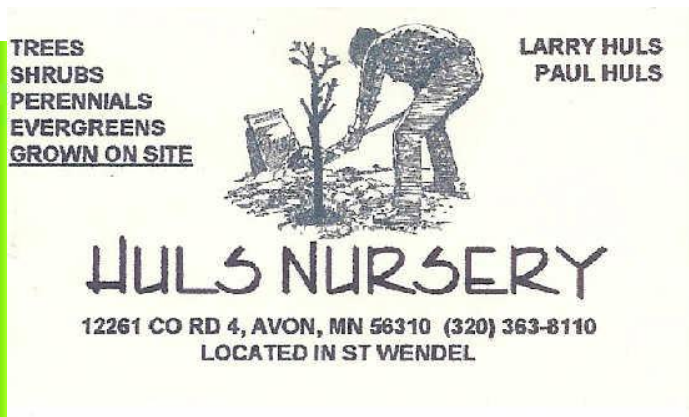
Tom - *Web Guy for St. Cloud Muskies, Inc.* Scmi.webmaster@gmail.com

Mike Ruff -- Clearing Out Remaining Merchandise.

A reminder that you can order merchandise specific to your needs with our chapter logo on it at Café Press. We still have some remaining merchandise left in stock and will not reorder. We will use it at our next fish dinner for prizes but are offering it first to chapter members at a reduced cost. Balance of inventory is as follows:

1 Small T- shirt with our Logo	\$10	Decals with our Logo	\$2
4 Misc Hats	\$ 10	6 Boat towels	\$ 2
Knipex cutters, only 2 left	\$ 40		

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