

# THE RELEASE

## SEPTEMBER 2013

Website:

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



### MEETING DATE

**SEPTEMBER 17, 2013**

**7:30 p.m.**

**AMERICAN LEGION - WAITE PARK, MN**

**SPEAKER: DAVE MENDEL**

### **Some New Options For Old Reels**

Many of you know I have a fetish for fishing reels, especially bait casters for Muskies. Abu Garcia has always been my choice until changes were made in design and quality. The biggest gripe I have with design change is the 'instant anti-reverse' found in today's reels. For years my 'go to' muskie reel has been the 'old style' 7000 or 7000C, but I still like to use a 6500 size reel for baits that pull easy such as top waters or small buck tails. Unfortunately today's reels are the 'instant anti reverse' design.

This past winter I purchased a couple of 70's vintage Abu Garcia 6000C 's. These reels were designed and built like a tank when Garcia was at the top of their game, however these reels were a 3.8 – 1 gear ratio. Too slow for anything other than Hawg Wobblers and Creepers or my style of fishing.

Faced with this dilemma lead me to this great source of parts through a reel repair business in Florida to convert these to 4.7-1 High Speed models. He also has a Narrow Spool conversion kit to change old style 7000's to a narrow spool and 5.3-1 gear ration.

At September's meeting I will be bringing some of the reels and information to share with the membership as an alternative to consider before you buy your next reel.

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

September already--it sort of feels like July/August in south Florida. I hope everyone is surviving the heat spell. I would like to thanks Stanley Morgan for a outstanding seminar last month on Fly Fishing for large fish. Stanley showed us hands on just what a person needs to do when out on the water. He covered lakes and rivers. He also passed around a number of his homemade flies. The flies were beautifully and artistically done. It made me think that this is another venue I need to start collecting. I know I need another lure like a hole in the head, but in the sanctified words of Mike Ruff "they are just cool". Richard stood up and took control of the seminar on Lake Miltona. You could definitely tell he has spent some time on this body of water. He did a great job and everyone was pleased how he answered their questions.

Please try not to miss the September's meeting when Mr. Dave Mendel takes the bull by the horns and shows us how to revamp reels for all kinds of applications. You truly do not want to miss this one. Also in September is our Cass Lake Outing. It is always a wonderful time. If you get the chance please thank the folks of Cass lake Lodge for all they do for us.

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**FALL GET TOGETHER 2013** . . . . . By Dave Mendel  
**September 12 - 15th at Cass Lake Lodge. CLL 218-335-6658**  
**www.casslakelodge.com**

## **UPDATE 8/26/2013**

Hi all,

With only a few weeks to go here is the final update of this year's event.  
So here's a schedule of events for the weekend.

**Thursday:**

Sea food buffet, 8:00 pm in the Lodge. (bring your own sardines, smoked oysters etc. to share) If these flavored little fish don't suit your fancy, feel free to bring some other snacky food. This will be a good opportunity to meet new members and discuss the days fishing successes

**Friday:**

Fish fry with all the fixens. 8:00 pm sharp in the Lodge.

CLL will prepare an excellent meal and followed up with goodies from our Desert Chics, Bonnie and Linda.

The cost of the Friday meal is \$10.00 which includes dinner and a chance in a drawing of attendance prizes, with one lucky person taking home a Knipex cutter.

Also there will be a camp fire to gather around most evenings for more story telling.

If you plan to attend please find the information below to contact the resort.

**Hope to see you there!!!**

The camping and cabins rates are:

|                              |                          |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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. 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.

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

Dave

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**Contest Standings as of June 28, 2013**

| CURRENT STANDINGS |                     |                    |         |         |         |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Division          | Name                | # of Fish, # > 40" | Point s | Largest | Average |
| Masters           | Bryan Thompson      | 4 fish, 0 > 40"    | 0       | 39"     | 35.38"  |
| Mens              | Marc Jefferson      | 9                  | 149     | 46.5"   | 42.49   |
|                   | Troy Schmitz        | 5                  | 61      | 41.5"   | 38.10"  |
|                   | Eric Kohn           | 5                  | 58      | 44"     | 40.50"  |
|                   | Chad Schulzetenberg | 3                  | 52      | 46"     | 43.17"  |
|                   | Eric Poissant       | 3                  | 50      | 49"     | 42.33"  |
|                   | Aaron Starry        | 2                  | 36      | 47"     | 43.75"  |
|                   | Tom Ardolf          | 1                  | 20      | 46"     | 46"     |
|                   | Nate Rose           | 1                  | 18      | 44"     | 44"     |
|                   | Tom Agnew           | 1                  | 18      | 44"     | 44"     |
|                   | Adam Kobes          | 2                  | 14      | 34"     | 32.8"   |
|                   | Dennis Kobiela      | 1                  | 9       | 35"     | 35"     |
| Juniors           | Ryan Schmitz        | 3                  | 32      | 38"     | 36.7"   |
|                   | Sam Larsen          | 1                  | 17      | 42.5"   | 42.5"   |

**Lunker of the Month**

|        |                |      |                 |
|--------|----------------|------|-----------------|
| May    | Bryan Thompson | 37.5 | Birch Lake (WI) |
| June   | Aaron Starry   | 47"  | Mille Lacs      |
| July   | Marc Jefferson | 45"  | LOW             |
| August | Eric Poissant  | 49"  | Sugar           |

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT** · · · · · By Marc Jefferson

Greetings! Membership hold steady at 98. Ken and Norine Schmitt, Dave Mendal, Bruce Kitowski, Bryan Thompson, Chad Schulzetenberg and Tom Rusin are all up for renewal, at least as far as I can tell with these backwards spreadsheets and reporting we now get from the International. I can't interpret half the stuff they give me now, but I can definitely help you out if you're having any membership or contest issues or questions. My number is 320-266-6456.

## **CONTEST REPORT** · · · · · By Marc Jefferson

We have 12 fish registered so far in August for the contest. Mr Dennis Kobiela debuts with a 35" on a Rad Dog. Eric Kohn puts 3 more Vermillion fish on the logs with a multiple fish day to jump up to 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Tom Ardolf also caught a nice fish on Sugar lake on a bulldawg, and Troy Schmitz also logged his 5<sup>th</sup> fish of the year. Now let me bring you attention to our current fish of the month. Eric Poissant was in quite a tizzy earlier this month after losing his first fish on a figure 8. He was depressed, confused and mired in self-doubt, trying to figure out what went wrong. Most people would agree that getting that first fish to eat on the 8 is - by far - the hardest. After that, the more you get, the more you get. Well, Eric got right back out there on the 15<sup>th</sup> to Sugar Lake, and dominated a 49" with some sexy boatside moves – BOOM! This fish is also his personal best, out of a notoriously tough and unforgiving body of water nonetheless. Congrats Eric on your PB and fish of the month.

I didn't think I'd have to take a week off at the end of August due to water temps after such a nice, mild summer so far. This time of the year I usually have all my topwaters ready to go and start fishing that great shallow sand bite we have here in the metro. September might get off to kind of a slow start here but I still think it's gonna be on once this heatwave breaks, hopefully by the time everyone reads this. I hope everyone is making plans to attend the club outing on Cass Lake in a few weeks. This is always one of my favorite trips of the year and I'm looking forward to hanging out up there with everyone. As always, we appreciate all the fish logged for the contest, good luck in September and get out there and stick a pig.



**August Fish of the Month – Eric Poissant – 49"**



First night fish!! On the 8!! 43"

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## **PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORT . . . . .** By Aaron Meyer

What a strange summer! When I wrote last month's newsletter at the end of July, we were experiencing a major cold snap that drove the water temps steadily downward for weeks. Now, at the end of August when we normally start getting cooler nights and relief from the heat, we are in the midst of a heat wave that's driving those water temps above where they normally wouldn't be this late in the season! I hope you all are finding some good fishing. It has certainly been spotty.

I got the news a little while back that Paul Diedrich has retired from his position as the Area Supervisor for the Montrose Fisheries Office. Joe Stewig has moved into Paul's position. I would like to congratulate Joe and look forward to working with him in the future!

We were able to help secure a grant through the Hugh Becker Foundation that will fund a PIT tag study of the muskies being stocked into the Horseshoe Chain this fall! Joe will be speaking at our November 19<sup>th</sup> meeting discussing the population assessments on Sugar and the Horseshoe Chain, as well as talk about the Chain's new muskie population and detail the PIT tagging study that will be done this fall.

I would like to thank Stanley Morgan for a great seminar at this last meeting. Stanley has a real passion for fishing and it shows in the way he presents his information!

Our September meeting will be something a little different from what we've seen before. Dave Mendel came across a guy who does conversions of various Abu Garcia reels, making them more durable and changing gear ratios. Dave will discuss how to do this, and the benefits it provides.

I think this might be a good opportunity for another of our lure swaps too. These are always popular. Bring in anything you might want to sell or trade, and a little cash because you just might find something you have to have!

See you there,  
Aaron

## **LAKE OF THE MONTH . . . . .** By Sven Larsen

I want to thank Richard Graff for his excellent presentation about fishing Lake Miltona at the August meeting. I hope you all have a great time on the water out there.

Our September Lake of the month will be Cass Lake. See Dave Mendel's article regarding this outing. The final outing is planned for October 26<sup>th</sup> at Lake Alexander. Hope to see you there.



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

**September 2013 Webmaster Report**

**Facebook:** Well, I knew this day would come, when we did not get even one new like on our Facebook page. I did receive a couple member pictures of recent catches that made it on the page, but that's about it.

**Cafepress:** I updated the dark apparel items with the enhanced logo from Sam. Everyone can now order and get good looking apparel, both light and dark! Only one other person besides myself has ordered any items on the site, so I'd appreciate feedback from the members as to what you'd like on the site that would be purchased. (<http://www.cafepress.com/stcloudmuskies>)

Three new items with our logo are now available: A clock, a BBQ'ng apron and a thermos (pictures below).

I purchased a number of additional items, and I will plan on bringing them to the next meeting for everyone to see the products. Maybe we could have an "ordering session" at the meeting, or else pre-order some items that folks would then directly purchase at the meeting? ....just some suggestions to generate some activity....

**Website:** As always, I keep the Home page updated with the next event. The pictures that members emailed to me were also posted to the Pictures page. Any contact that is forwarded to be posted is on the site. Let me know what you'd like to have on the page!

**Other:** No news from my letter to M.I. on fish handling on Keyes Outdoors.....



Here are a couple samples:



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

## Mike Ruff -- Clearing Out Remaining Merchandise.

Thanks to the hard work of Tom Ardolf, Café Press is up and running for you to order merchandise specific to your needs with our chapter logo on it. We have decided to clear out any remaining merchandise 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   |
| Misc Hats                      | \$ 10 |
| Boat towels                    | \$ 2  |
| Knipex cutters, only 4 left    | \$ 40 |

I will have these items available at our meetings if you are interested on purchasing any of it. Thanks again to Tom, be sure to check out the Café Press website.



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## JUST FISHING!!

Wow, did this summer fly by! I hope everyone had the opportunity (luck) to put a few more musky pictures on their digital camera. Of the last three Muskies that came out of my boat: two were trolling - nothing wrong with that. The weed edge is still working for me.

I just got back from my second trip to Canada; and it was a weird one. Mike Ruff and I could not break the code/find the pattern for the muskie bite. The extreme heat and flat water was too much for us. We struggled to find some small muskies but we did find large walleyes while Muskie fishing - that was the weird part. Enjoy the fall.

Ron Fenske



Muskie fishing - Mike Ruff with a 27 inch walleye on a 10 inch believer

Muskie fishing - Ron Fenske with a 28 inch walleye on a 8 inch crank bait

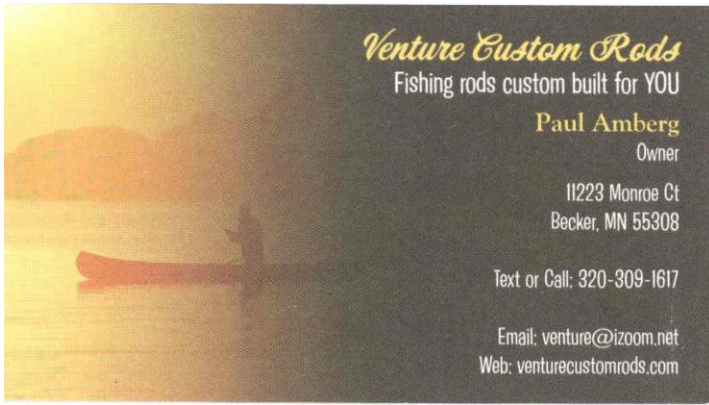




Now here's the epitome of what Muskies, Inc. is all about -- a young musky master with his 43" musky!!! Congratulations, Luke Jones !!!

Tom Agnew with a nice one to start August on 8/1/13.






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