

# THE RELEASE

**JANUARY 2014**

**Website:**

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



**No January Membership Meeting  
Combined February Meeting  
Special Speaker: Luke Ronnestrand  
Date and Location to be Announced**

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

I would like to welcome everyone into the New Year. 2014 looks to be very productive and interesting. I would like to thank Dave Mendel and Marc Jefferson for their years of service. It saddens me to say they will not be with us on the Board of Directors this next year. We all have benefitted from their expertise and have grown as a club. I thank you both for all your hard work and wish you well on the water. With that being said I would like to welcome Nate Rose, who will be taking over Marc's job as Membership and Fish Contest director. Nate will be a great fit and the transition will be effortless. Ron Sanders will also be joining us as New Member / Donations Director. Ron has been in Muskies Inc. for a long time and understands how it all works. Please make these two gentlemen feel welcome.

This year I am more than sure we will have some legislature to deal with so I hope everyone will keep their ears to the pavement as we work through some of these issues. If anyone has any questions please contact one of the Directors. Getting your questions answered is just one of the reasons we are here. Remember this is your chapter. Enjoy the New Year and be safe with all your travels.

Bruce

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## Sponsorship Program By Ron Sanders

I look forward to expanding our Sponsorship Program to enable us to fund even more projects to make even bigger contributions to our Muskie Fishery. So often we get focused only on the event or task at the moment, I hope to be able, with your help to develop 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.

I ask each of you to be thinking of what we might be able to do if we had the Funds and then set goals to reach the goals. In the past I have sought Sponsors for the MI International, the Harlem Globetrotters, several IndyCar Teams, the 3M Classic Champions Tournament and at the end of the day it all comes down to ROI.

The first Step in January and February is to take a look at all the assets we have, the Inventory. I have already begun that process and welcome your thoughts.

## Contest Report By Marc Jefferson

Here are your final standings for 2013. I think this is the most participation we have had in the club contest since I have been managing it so I'd like to start by thanking everyone who participated. It's always good to see those fish and the new names on the list. It's good to see guys getting better, figuring out new lakes, setting personal records and most of all, having a good time on the water. Jake, Eric, Ryan and Sam will all be getting plaques at our awards banquet. I'd also like to announce that Nate Rose will be your new contest and membership chair so this will be my last column. I have really enjoyed running the contest, must be close to 10 years now. It's been great to see new members getting involved and catching fish and Nate will do a great job. I always appreciated how our club never took the contest too seriously yet it was always fun to have a little friendly competition. The top 7 places in the Men's division this year also showed averages over 40" and that's pretty good. I'd also like to mention that had Nick DeBoer registered his fish this year, he would have placed 1<sup>st</sup> in Minnesota in the Men's division, according to the divisional standings as of the end of the season. That's not too shabby for a guy who has only been in the musky game for around 7 years. Thanks again to everyone for making my job here fun, I'm not going anywhere and I'll still be around from time to time but Nate will be able to keep better tabs on everything and stay more in touch with the day to day club business.



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## Contest Standings November 30th, 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

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

Greetings! We do have one new member this month, Susie Ardolf, wife of our webmaster Tom Ardolf. Maybe we'll have a few entries in the Ladies division next season! Our reporting from the international now extends out to 90 days so in the next few months we will have Jake Anderson, George Pavelek, Scott Ergen, Michael Beck, Eric Poissant, Joseph Lauer and Don Magney up for renewal. It also looks like Aaron Starry and Michael Sowada are currently due for renewal. We're glad to have Ron Fenske, Michael Weis and Tom Agnew for another season. 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.

Welcome Nate Rose to the Board!!!



A beautiful day to be fishing!!



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

We will have Guide Luke Ronnestrand speak to us at our combined January/February meeting. The date and location will be announced at a later time.

## **Congratulations to Aaron and Niki married January 3, 2014**



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

I want to thank Dennis Kobiela for his excellent presentation on Cross Lake near Pine City at the December meeting. This was a new lake to nearly all the members present and I'm sure a few anglers will be putting that lake on their list for next season thanks to Dennis. No lake of the month for the Jan/Feb meeting but it will be back in March. We'll see you then.

Sven Larsen



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

### **January 2014 Webmaster Report**

**Facebook:** We gained only 1 LIKE since the last newsletter. I'd ask each member to both make sure you have LIKE'd us, <https://www.facebook.com/StCloudMuskieInc> plus take a few extra seconds to use the feature on the page to invite your fishing friends to also LIKE the SCMI page.

I've added our events plus some events from other chapters onto our Facebook page. If you click the "JOIN" link on the event, that event will show up on your page as an upcoming event to remind about it. They are also on the Google Calendar that you can link to and automatically get the event on your smart phone.

I also posted miscellaneous items that I found interesting on some other sites, and a couple of things about conservation and musky management. I tend to watch to see if many folks LIKE the post so I know if it is useful to post these types of items.

**Cafepress:** I was really hoping with an expanded product line, additional posts on the Facebook page, and talking about our Cafepress site would get used during the holiday gift-giving season, but only one order for an item was made during the season. Please let me know the weakness of the site or products that have you not using it --- hopefully I can tune it up to make it something useful for chapter members.

**Website:** I've modified the Board member listing with the names that passed during the election at the December meeting. Here, too, I try to put content that may be useful. The site traffic is quite minimal – suggestions to make it more "useable" by you, our members, would be appreciated.

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

I will have these items available at our meetings if you are interested on purchasing anything.



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