

# THE RELEASE

## JULY 2014

Website:

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



**MEETING: July 15, 2014**

**7:30 pm**

**Waite Park Legion**

**SPEAKER: Dave Mendel – Fishing Woman Lake**

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

What a busy month June has been for us. First off on June 8<sup>th</sup> we once again sponsored the Waite Park Family Fun Festival Kids Fishing Contest. It was a beautiful day and there was a huge turn-out. All the kids received a gift bag of goodies when they registered. Once the fishing began the kids would bring up their catches and have them weighed. There were plaques given out for the top three in the boys and girls division. Everyone had a wonderful time. If you would like to see more, there was a very nice article written up by the Times and you can see all the action by visiting our website to see a numerous amount of photos. I would like to thank Mike Ruff and Stella, Eric Poissant, Tom Ardolf, Sven Larsen, Ken Schmitt, Eric Kohn, Tom Agnew, Jeanne Lodermeier, Bruce and Allison and Stephanie Kitowski, and a very huge thank you to Ken Smith who was the MC. Bernicks also set a free taste sampling both for the children, and the kids really enjoyed that. If I forgot anybody I apologize. Without the sacrifice these people make we would not be able to show the kids this important piece of life that we take so serious. Also a much needed thank you goes out to the Hugh Becker Foundation for helping us put on this huge under taking.

On Friday June 13<sup>th</sup> we worked the beer garden at the Waite Park Festival. We handed out membership brochures and information on our sport and answered many questions to folks of the community. It was a beautiful evening and a great turnout. A very special thank you goes out to Mike Ruff, Ken Smith, Norine Schmitt, and Bruce Kitowski for helping out.

June 17<sup>th</sup> was our normal membership meeting night, but this evening was a little different. Starting out early Tom Ardolf hosted a Lowrance Electronics seminar at his company for the High School kids interested in muskie fishing. This also co-interacts with the High School State Muskie Tournament, in which we sponsored a new graph to be given away to one very lucky kid. Thank you so much Tom. After that we held our annual boat show at Gander Mountain. Thanks to everyone who brought their rigs to show and discuss how they fish. This is one of the most relaxing meetings of the year.

At our July meeting Mr. Dave Mendel will be doing a presentation of the Lake of the Month. This will be an in-depth look at Woman Lake, and when I say in-depth I mean he is pulling out all the stops and holding nothing back. Dave is going to mark out a map in such detail it will blow your mind. Also at the end of the night he will raffle off his very special map and donate the proceeds to the chapter. I will tell you one thing; I will not miss this meeting for anything. Thanks Dave, you once again come up with ways to give back to this sport.

Have a wonderful 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Spend some close time with your families, and remember to be courteous to others on the water.

*Bruce*

# Crane Baits



P.O. Box 127  
 Pullman, WV 26421  
 Phone: (304) 659-2710

**“Great selection of quality and custom fishing lures”**



*Free T-shirt offer*

(see website for details)

Fast shipping  
 Secure online ordering

**www.bigwoodmuskylures.com**

## Rollie & Helen's **MUSKY SHOP** World's Largest Musky Shop & Mail Order Catalog

Secure online catalog  
[www.muskysshop.com](http://www.muskysshop.com)

Gift cards available

Great Customer Service

Convenient Hours



*Call for your  
 free catalog  
 800-453-5224*

100's of lures  
 1000's of colors  
**BIG LURES = BIG FISH**  
 Saltwater or Freshwater  
 Great Cross-Over Baits!



7542 Hwy 51, S. Minocqua, WI 54548  
 Store: 715-356-6011 Catalog: 800-453-5224  
[www.muskysshop.com](http://www.muskysshop.com) info@muskysshop.com



**Kenneth J. Schmitt**  
 Insurance Agent



(320) 252-8393  
 cell (320) 290-6272  
 fax (320) 251-7794

3400 1st St N  
 Suite 204  
 St. Cloud, MN 56303  
[kenneth.schmitt@bankerslife.com](mailto:kenneth.schmitt@bankerslife.com)

**bankers.com**

ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN PROTECTING & ENHANCING OUR FISHERIES FOR THE FUTURE

**AARON MEYER**  
 CELL - 320.260.0961  
[www.aaronmeyermuskies.com](http://www.aaronmeyermuskies.com)



BASED IN CENTRAL MINNESOTA

- GUIDING ON TROPHY MUSKY WATERS

THROUGHOUT THIS GREAT STATE



**Thanks to everyone who helped out at the Waite Park Festival Fishing Contest!!!**







Email: [orders@glittertail.com](mailto:orders@glittertail.com)  
Email: [design@glittertail.com](mailto:design@glittertail.com)

Website: [www.glittertail.com](http://www.glittertail.com)

*Tinsel Type Bucktails*

14493 - 150TH AVE  
HOFFMAN, MN 56339  
PH. (320) 986-2415  
CELL (320) 766-8676

**JIM REUTER**

EMAIL: [trophyht@runestone.net](mailto:trophyht@runestone.net)



Corey Nazer 715-456-5531 [www.NazeBaits.com](http://www.NazeBaits.com)

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT . . . . . By Nate Rose

In June we didn't have any new members or anyone dropping. Just a reminder, Jim and Kay Caspers still haven't renewed their membership yet. We hope to see them back for another year. Up for renewal we've got Ken and Norine Schmitt, along with Glenn, Jodi and Jack Hennemann the month of July. 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.

Spread the word and encourage anyone interested in muskie fishing/management to join our chapter, it would be great to see our chapter grow.

## Contest Standings June 25, 2014

CURRENT STANDINGS					
Division	Name	# of Fish	Points	Largest	Average
Masters	Bryan Thompson	1 fish	10	36.25"	36.25"
Mens	Alex Lauer	1 fish	21	47"	47"
	Nate Rose	1 fish`	15	41"	41"
	Joshua Nielsen	1 fish	11	36.5"	36.5"

### Lunker of the Month

June Alex Lauer 47" Sugar

## Contest Report . . . . . By Nate Rose

Well after the rough winter we can finally chase muskies in 2014! The weather warmed up nice before opener and the water temps rose which helped fish activity. I was excited to get out on opener and put a nice clean 41" fish in the boat. Check out this video from my gopro camera! <https://vimeo.com/97880046>.

Congrats to Alex Lauer for catching a 47" fish and getting the lunker of the month, way to start the season! Also Joshua Nielson and Bryan Thompson both logged fish in June. I know there were many other fish caught just not many logged. Hopefully more people are involved later in the season.

## Lake of the Month . . . . . By Sven Larsen

We have now had one complete year of presentations by members of lake of the month and I want to thank every one of you for your participation. In May, Troy Schmitz gave us an overview of Lobster Lake. This lake, near Alexandria, is a perfect alternative to Miltona on big wind days if you want to fish that area of the state. Troy gave everyone a strategy for fishing the lake even if you have never been on the lake before. He even had lake maps printed out so we could take notes. Thank you Troy!

We have a special extended version of lake of the month in July, We'll give Dave Mendel extra time to tell us how to fish Woman Lake in the Leech Lake area. Dave always gives great presentations so you won't want to miss this. Marc Jefferson has volunteered to come up in August and tell us how to fish one of the Metro Lakes he knows quite well, White Bear Lake.

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

Well, it seems nothing can ever go smoothly when it comes to muskie management. We're still riding high after our victory in the Legislature. The new 54 inch size limit has been written into law and will go into effect next year. This has been very well received within the DNR- both in Upper Management and in the Area Offices. There are, however, two Fisheries Offices who are looking to keep the lakes in their areas at 48 inches. The two lakes in question are Fox and French, in southern MN. It appears that the managers of those lakes are still stuck in the "catch and kill" mentality of the 1950's. They seem to be ignoring all the support this new regulation got from anglers and businesses all across the state.

Moreover, they are ignoring the true intention of the new law and the stipulation it contains for exempting specific lakes. As written by lawmakers, and supported by the muskie community, the Legislation aims to put all Leech Lake strain muskie lakes on an even plane with a 54 inch regulation. It contains an exemption clause so that the DNR can leave lakes containing Shoepac strain fish at 48 inches if they choose to. It is not intended to allow lakes with Leech lake strain fish to be arbitrarily chosen and removed from the 54 inch rule.

Both of these lakes contain the Leech Lake strain of muskies, and both have a history of producing fish in the mid-50-inch range. They also both have a history of losing some very large fish to harvest. These are exactly the kind of lakes this new regulation is intended for!

Tim Goeman, the Regional Fisheries Manager who leads the Esox Workshops for the DNR, has recommended setting these two lakes at 54 inches. Let's get some input going and let them know we agree!

Please send an e-mail to these contacts.

- [craig.soupir@state.mn.us](mailto:craig.soupir@state.mn.us)
- [ryan.doorenbos@state.mn.us](mailto:ryan.doorenbos@state.mn.us)
- [jack.lauer@state.mn.us](mailto:jack.lauer@state.mn.us)
- [don.pereira@state.mn.us](mailto:don.pereira@state.mn.us)
- [tim.goeman@state.mn.us](mailto:tim.goeman@state.mn.us)

Thanks,  
Aaron Meyer  
MN Muskie and Pike Alliance Co-Chair



**ERIC KOHN** DPT, OCS, CSCS  
*Physical Therapist*  
Board Certified Orthopedic Clinical Specialist  
Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist  
1555 Northway Drive  
St. Cloud, MN 56303  
320-259-4141  
Fax 320-257-7811  
ekohn@stcloudorthopedics.com  
www.orthopedicsportscenter.com

**ORTHOPEDIC  
SPORTS CENTER**  
*Keeping You In Motion*



TREES  
SHRUBS  
PERENNIALS  
EVERGREENS  
GROWN ON SITE

LARRY HULS  
PAUL HULS

**HULS NURSERY**  
12261 CO RD 4, AVON, MN 56310 (320) 363-8110  
LOCATED IN ST WENDEL



**July 2014 Webmaster Report**

**Facebook:** We gained 2 and then lost 1 LIKE for the month. It was a place for folks to go during June due to the potential for a date change for the boat show and the Lowrance Presentation. Also, a few tournament opportunities from chapters in both MN and WI are posted on the page for your use and review.

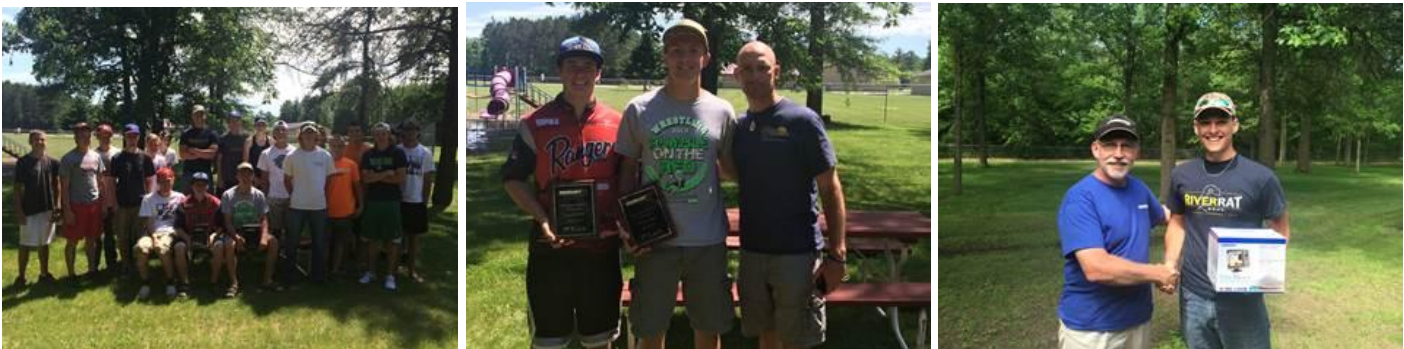
**Cafepress:** I'd like to highlight a couple products that I have personally purchased and use regularly when I go fishing. They complement each other really well!! The first is the 34 oz. double wall vacuum insulated thermos with our logo. For \$39.99 it goes with me on every fishing adventure and keeps my coffee hot for the day. The ceramic 16 oz. thermos cup for \$21.99 is used almost every day. I assure you it is the best quality thermos cup I've ever had!



**Web Site:** I always try to get the “next event” on the home page as events expire. I put a video that Muskies, Inc. paid to get produced onto our home page – please take the time to watch it.

**Other:** I had a great June working with Eric Kohn, our Youth Director, on the High School Muskies, Inc. Tournament. I visited the Brainerd Chapter’s monthly meeting on June 10<sup>th</sup> along with Greg Huff from Lowrance, who was their speaker. It was a great experience to go to another chapter’s meeting and see what they do during their meeting time. The next Tuesday I helped to host Greg again, when he presented at our chapter for the High School tourney members that came and also then were eligible for the Lowrance Elite-5 that our chapter sourced as a prize. A couple chapter members also attended, and I appreciate your presence.

On Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, I rode along on one of the judge boats for the regional tournament that we pair up with the Brainerd Chapter for the day. We discovered right before heading out that the lake was designated “no wake” which changed the dynamics, but it still turned out to be a great event. While the day was one characterized as a “bluebird day”, high pressure, no wind, hot and sunny, and right after 2 days of cloudy/low pressure days, it was a beautiful day to be on the lake. And, everyone saw muskies – some saw lots of them! But not one person could get a fish to eat..... There were some pike caught which were used to score the winners, and we had a great lunch following the event that was hosted by Brainerd Chapter members. Below are a few pics from the event – all the participants, the winning team, Jim Kath with the winning team, and I am pictured with the winner of the Elite-5 we provided.



I would like to encourage members of our chapter to consider providing a judge boat or two (you get to fish all day!!!!). Like all the other opportunities for volunteering that we provide, this one, too, is a great experience!

Tom Ardolf



# Introducing an **All NEW Thrill...** **Charged with Hi-IMPACT!**

**THE ALL NEW THRILLER HI ...**

- Through-Wire Construction
- Tunable for Optimum Action
- Durable Hi-Impact Plastic
- Perfect Side-to-Side Action



**9"**  
**2-1/2 oz.**



www.suick.com

# Suick

## Thriller HI

HI-IMPACT PLASTIC

**NEW**  
**for**  
**2013!**

9-1HI Perch

9-2HI Walleye

9-3HI Flat Black

9-4HI Lemon Head

9-5HI Bassfish

9-6HI Wild Sucker

9-7HI Firetiger

9-8HI Orange Black Dots

9-9HI Chartrouse Bandit

9-10HI Baby Duck

9-11HI Tiger Shad

9-12HI Raging Perch



630 Industrial Park Rd. • Antigo, WI 54409 • 715-623-7883

**NEWSLETTER EDITORS**

Ken and Norine Schmitt

1208 8<sup>th</sup> Street South

Waite Park, MN 56387

E-Mail to [KENOR@JUNO.COM](mailto:KENOR@JUNO.COM)

WEB E-MAIL: [info@stcloudmuskies.com](mailto:info@stcloudmuskies.com)



## High School Regional Muskie Tournament

The Brainerd Lakes Chapter of Muskies Inc., in cooperation with the St. Cloud Chapter, held their 5<sup>th</sup> annual High School Regional Muskie tournament on June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 on Lake Alexander. Eleven teams from 7 different schools participated in the event. Weather was cooperative in relation to being able to fish but post frontal, blue bird sky conditions made getting muskies to open their mouths quite difficult. All teams reported seeing fish but no muskies were boated for the tournament. Following tournament protocol, the top 4 teams were then determined based on the largest pike. The top honors were taken by Kyle Buchholz, and Tyler Madsen of Becker who measured a 28  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch pike. The top four teams were as follows: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Pete Babler and Kyle Olson of Foley (26  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch pike), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Kyle Billmeyer and Alex Helmin of Royalton (26  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch pike), and in 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Grant Madison and Caitlin Stark of Brainerd (21  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch pike). All participating teams received a number of lures and those participants who attended one of the MI meetings featuring local Lowrance staff members went into a drawing for a new Lowrance Elite 5 GPS/Sonar unit. Jon Gottwalt of Little Falls was the lucky winner of this prize package. A special thank you is given to Ryan Severson, Jon Hagelie, Donnie Hines, and Ron Beam for being judge boats for the event and to Jodi Young and Jeff Kline for putting together the post tournament meal for all the participants. Contact information for each of the top 4 teams is listed below for the state event.

1<sup>st</sup> Place     Becker: Kyle Buchholz 763-237-4021, Tyler Madsen 612-860-8616  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place     Foley: Pete Babler 320-260-0052, Kyle Olson 320-290-5459  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place     Royalton: Kyle Billmeyer 320-237-3533, Alex Helmin 320-250-5005  
4<sup>th</sup> Place     Brainerd: Grant Madison 218-851-9028, Caitlin Stark 218-829-3345

Jim Kath  
Brainerd Lakes Chapter MI.

## Fall Get Together - 2014

By Dave Mendel [mendjo1118@charter.net](mailto:mendjo1118@charter.net) 320-293-6633

The Fall Get Together will be held September 11-14 at Cass Lake Lodge ([www.casslakelodge.com](http://www.casslakelodge.com)).  
The camping and cabins rates for this year will be:

RV Camping / W full hook ups	\$44.00 / Night
Cabins	\$45.00 / 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 cabins will only be held until August 15, 2014 at which time they will be opened up to the public. Make your reservations early to ensure a spot- 218-335-6658. 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. When making reservations, be sure to mention that you're part of the St. Cloud Muskies Inc. group. Once again we will be charging a \$10.00 fee which includes a Friday night meal catered by CLL and a chance to win a fine attendance prize. Plus everyone attending the Friday meal will receive a lure as part of the drawing. Hope to see you there!!



**Wade's Custom Tackle**  
WADE WITT

500 Bufflehead Lane NW  
Walker, MN 56484

218-836-2442  
Fax: 218-836-2541  
wwwobblers@arvig.net

*Venture Custom Rods*

Fishing rods custom built for YOU

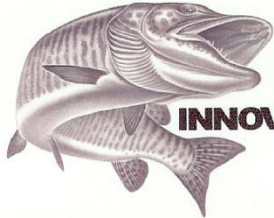
**Paul Amberg**

Owner

11223 Monroe Ct  
Becker, MN 55308

Text or Call: 320-309-1617

Email: [venture@izoom.net](mailto:venture@izoom.net)  
Web: [venturecustomrods.com](http://venturecustomrods.com)



  
**MUSKY  
INNOVATIONS LLC**

Producer of the **BULL DAWG & INVADER** series crankbaits  
N9480 Hwy 42 • Cleveland, WI 53015 • Phone/Fax: (920) 565-7631  
Internet: [www.muskyinnovations.com](http://www.muskyinnovations.com)

**Overstock**  
**Bait & Tackle**  
[www.overstockbait.com](http://www.overstockbait.com)

**Get it before its GONE!**



St. Cloud Muskies Inc  
1208 8<sup>th</sup> Street South  
Waite Park MN 56387