

THE RELEASE



2012 Website: www.stcloudmuskies.com

MEETING DATE

APRIL 17, 2012

7:00 p.m

Waite Park American Legion

WAITE PARK, MN

AWARDS NIGHT

LURE SWAP

DINNER TICKET/MONEY TURN-IN

MAKING WAVES...

By Bruce A. Kitowski, President

Fall, two weeks of winter, and spring is here. I was wondering the other day that if the weather is two months early does that mean muskie season starts the first Saturday of April. Well I guess that just isn't going to fly, but it seems to me that if the mosquitoes are out we should be fishing. By the time opener comes around no one should have any excuses about having yard work and not going to the lake.

Our last month's meeting was at Apollo High School for a poolside event. We invited Bret Erickson for Thorne Bros. and he did the rest. It was very cool, as always, when you are able to see the new gear up close and in action. Also what a great heads up before the Expo. We hadn't done a poolside in a couple of years, but our members requested it and we aim to please. I would like to thank Thorne Bros for a job well done.

Please don't forget about the award's night at our April meeting. This is the day before our Anglers Dinner. Try to get those tickets sold if you can, and maybe in a little early. If not, **bring them to the meeting in April**. We are still looking for prizes and donations, plus all the volunteers we can muster. Thanks to all the members that have already sold tickets and gave donations, we appreciate it tremendously. Remember without you this club would not exist.

Enjoy the nice weather and be safe. See you at the dinner.

Bruce



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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Marc Jefferson

Greetings! We don't have any new members to report this month. We are, however, thrilled to welcome back Tom Deml, Russ Nelson and Mary Grupe, Jeff Illies, Charlie Meyer, and the Schmitz family including Troy, Ryan, Beth and Anna. We hope to say the same for Derek Hanson, Allison Kitowski, and Mark Rosten next month. We're showing 94 members currently, right on par with the past few years.

Hope to see everyone at the April meeting where we will hand out plaques and discuss the 2011 season. Members getting plaques include **Bryan Thompson, Nick DeBoer, Ken Schmitt, Sam Larsen, Luke Jones and Ryan Schmitz.**

There have been some interesting threads on the musky websites lately concerning Muskies Inc, who is a member, who isn't, what is our purpose, what's up with the magazine, etc. Anyone who has been around the organization for awhile probably has an opinion on the role and management at the international level too. I think the biggest problem with MI is that some people are waiting for the organization as a whole to be more involved on the ground level when it comes to stocking, politics and community, while they fail to see all the things the different chapters accomplish locally. Our chapter has done some pretty amazing things on small budgets and low manpower, both historically and recently. If you're a member and you're wondering exactly what you're doing each year besides sending a check to Wisconsin, then come to one of our meetings, meet a few people, volunteer and get involved a bit. Check out some of the nearby chapter's activities too, volunteering across chapter lines is a great way to meet people and network, and it usually pays off on the water. Dive in, get involved, I think you'll be amazed at what you see happening.

Marc

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS FISHING OUTING By Eric Kohn

The Big Brothers Big Sisters Fishing Outing will be held on May 5th at Rock Island Pond (next to Bernick's Pepsi) in Waite Park. Please note the new location. The Waite Park Family Fun Festival also is held at this pond. Lots of volunteers are needed to help with registration, helping the kids bait and tie their lures, measuring fish, hand out awards, serving a light lunch after awards, and just sharing with the kids your fishing experiences. Please contact Eric Kohn for details or if you can volunteer. 320-636-7928 or epkohn34@hotmail.com



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WEBMASTER By Ron Fenske

Take a look at the www.stcloudmuskies.com website. Please forward any pictures you would like to share to one of the board members and we will be sure to get them posted on the site, or feel free to post any interesting thoughts and views. We have photos, newsletters, minutes, fishing results, MMA minutes, message board, and links to our sponsors. It's cool – check it out.



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FALL GET TOGETHER 2012

We are proud to announce the dates for our 2012 Fall Get Together. It will be held from September 20th through September 23rd at Cass Lake. Back again, by popular demand, Cass Lake Lodge will be hosting our event. CL 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 CLL has reserved the 'Mega-Cabin' for our event. The Mega is connected to the Lodge which will make it very convenient for our Friday nite fish fry. There is also a large area outside with a great view of the lake for evening camp fires and storytelling. To check it out go to: <http://www.casslakelodge.com/megacabin.html>

The resort is holding two other cabins for the folks that would like a little more privacy, so when making reservations, please let them know whether or not you want to be in the Mega. The Cass Lake area is very busy this time of the year, so these cabins will only be held until August 1, 2012 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, are 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

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 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

Dave Mendel
320 - 293 - 6633
mendjo1118@charter.net



<p>NEWSLETTER EDITORS Ken and Norine Schmitt 1208 8th Street South Waite Park, MN 56387 E-Mail to KENOR@JUNO.COM WEB E-MAIL: info@stcloudmuskies.com</p>

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PROGRAM DIRECTOR

By Aaron Meyer

April is a busy month! The Minnesota Muskie Expo is the 13th-15th. My checkbook is already scared! I'm sure I'll see a bunch of you there. While you're there, be sure to check out the Minnesota Muskie and Pike Alliance booth. We're making a big change this year- instead of just having representatives from the Muskies Inc. chapters and other interested groups; we will now be accepting individuals as associate members. This decision was made because we need to get our message out to more people and create more interest in getting involved. The MMPA works very hard to preserve and improve our fisheries so please stop by the booth and join up! There will also be information on donating to the MMPA. I'll post the details of all of this on our website as soon as it's all finalized.

Our next chapter meeting is on April 17th. This is our annual awards night. Being only a few days after the expo, I think it's a good time for another lure swap as well. Bring anything you might want to sell or trade. I'm sure a lot of us will need to make room for our new "toys" after the expo!

The night after that is our Fish Dinner Fundraiser. Please tell as many people as possible and try to get them there. It's our biggest event of the year.

The DNR is now taking official public input on the new pike regulations. This is in regard to the Legislature forcing the DNR to reduce the number of lakes with special pike slot regulations to no more than 100 statewide. With roughly 4,000 pike waters in MN, and a huge majority of them suffering from the "hammer-handle" syndrome, it's really a shame to see the regs that can change things for the better be limited to only 100 lakes. Please send your input- it can really make a difference. Mail letters to Linda Erickson-Eastwood, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4020. E-mails can be sent to linda.erickson-eastwood@state.mn.us or you can call her at 651-259-5200.

The Minnesota Muskie and Pike Alliance (MMPA) will be having a booth at the Minnesota Muskie Expo again this year. We will be raising awareness of our organization and our goals, as well as awareness of current issues regarding fisheries management in MN. We will also be hosting the bucktail burning contest which should draw a crowd! The expo is April 13-15. We will need volunteers to help man the booth and the contest. 10 volunteers are needed for half day commitments Friday and Saturday, and 5 more are needed for Sunday. If you'd like to help out, please contact Steve Wernersbach at swernersbach@gmail.com or 763-242-2625. Volunteers are admitted free to the expo the day they work.

ANNUAL FISH DINNER


APRIL 18, 2012, IS THE ANNUAL FISH DINNER FUNDRAISER.

CONTACT KEN SCHMITT AT 320-290-6272

OR ERIC KOHN AT 612-636-7928 TO VOLUNTEER.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR DONATIONS FOR THE SILENT AUCTION AND TIP BOARD PRIZES. CONTACT DAVE MENDEL WITH YOUR DONATIONS AT 320-293-6633.

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Money raised to benefit local community events including:

- ▶ Big Brothers / Big Sisters Fishing Outing
- ▶ Educational Fishing Seminars for Youth
- ▶ Research & Fisheries Efforts
- ▶ Waite Park Festival Kids Fishing Contest

St. Cloud Muskies Inc
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