

# THE RELEASE



**FEBRUARY 2012** Website: [www.stcloudmuskies.com](http://www.stcloudmuskies.com)

## **COMBINED JANUARY/FEBRUARY MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 6, 2012**

**7:00 p.m**

### **SPECIAL LOCATION:**

## **SAUK RAPIDS AMERICAN LEGION**

**415 BENTON DRIVE, SAUK RAPIDS, MN**

**SPEAKER:**

**DICK PEARSON**

### MAKING WAVES...

By Bruce A. Kitowski, President

I would please encourage every member to pay close attention to the legislative activities now through session. There has been strong talk of bad legislature being written up to go into the Fish and Game bill. Enough is never enough for certain greedy politicians. We have built what is one of the best fisheries in the country, and to have it taken away and destroyed is not an option. A huge amount of bad bills are going to be flushed through quickly before elections come. You can see the writing on the wall...get it done now because we might not be around next term. Watch what is happening and stay in touch with the club and read our newsletters and website for up to date info. Above all please get involved, and make your voice be heard.

I will be looking forward to seeing a lot of you at the Dick Pearson seminar at the American Legion in Sauk Rapids on February 6th. I can guarantee this will be a night to remember. Make sure to thank Dick for making the trek and speaking to us. He is a very busy man and we appreciate him taking time out to visit with us. Also we will be having a couple of raffles. This is a free seminar and we hope you will support our chapter.

At the seminar we will be once again be kicking off the Anglers Dinner we host in April. We have ticket envelopes for all members to pick up. This saves the club a large amount of money by not having to mail them to you. Also we will have tickets for sale if you would like to purchase some ahead of time.

I hope that everyone is enjoying the truly warm winter so far, and be safe and courteous.

*Bruce*



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**DICK PEARSON**

SPEAKER

7:00 p.m.

Sauk Rapids American Legion

415 Benton Drive

Sauk Rapids MN

**FEBRUARY 6, 2012**

Dick Pearson will be our speaker at the January/February combined chapter meeting to be held on Monday, February 6, 2012, at the Sauk Rapids Legion. Dick will be speaking at the meeting about **big fish spots**. Hope to see you there!!

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Marc Jefferson

We'd like to extend a warm welcome to our new members: Tom Blattner from Albany, Brett and Dan Elieff from Grey Eagle and Gloria Rajkowski from St. Cloud. These memberships were effective last month. We look forward to meeting all of you, hopefully at the Pearson meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Feel free to call me anytime if you have any issues with membership. My number is 320-266-6456.

We welcome back my good buddy Ryan Hoffman for another year, along with Jason Jacobs and Eric Nelson. Glad to have you guys back. Brent Hilbert, you are up for renewal this month!

I would encourage our new members to jump on [www.muskiesinc.org](http://www.muskiesinc.org) and check it out. If you wish, you can log your fish on the MI database and look up what others are logging as well. We also use these stats for our chapter contest and keep a friendly listing of totals during the season. It's been a good way for me to meet new fishing buddies and it's fun to compete against other members. Here are the final standings from last season. We'll be recognizing some of these members at our upcoming awards banquet.

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CONTEST REPORT By Marc Jefferson

Final Contest Standings - 2011

CURRENT STANDINGS					
Division	Name	# of Fish, > 40"	Poin ts	Largest	Avera ge
Masters	Carl Peterson	20 fish, 12 > 40"	230	50.5"	40.5"
	Bryan Thompson	11 fish, 10 > 40"	183	50.25	43.5"
Mens	Nick DeBoer	18	318	50.25"	43.9"
	Ken Smith	16	303	50.5	44.8"
	Marc Jefferson	12	208	50"	43.4"
	Troy Schmitz	7	99	46.5"	39.8"
	Eric Kohn	6	95	46"	41.8"
	Nate Rose	5	89	49.5"	43.5"
	Tom Ardolf	3	46	42"	41.3"
	Jason Jones	2	32	43"	42"
	Chad Schulzetenberg	3	26	35"	34.5"
	Ron Fenske	1	25	51.25"	51.25"
	Ken Schmitt	1	16	42"	42"
Sven Larsen	1	11	37"	37"	
Juniors	Luke Jones	2	31	42"	41.5"
	Sam Larsen	2	20	38"	36"
	Ryan Schmitz	1	10	36":	36"

Lunker of the Month

June	Ron Fenske	51.25"	Sham
July	Dave Mendel	50.5"	Cass
August	Nick DeBoer	51"	Tonka
Sept	Nate Rose	49.5"	Cass
Oct	Marc Jefferson	49.5"	Bald Eagle
Nov	Carl Peterson	50.5"	Alexander

<p><b>NEWSLETTER EDITORS</b> Ken and Norine Schmitt 1208 8<sup>th</sup> Street South Waite Park, MN 56387 E-Mail to <a href="mailto:KENOR@JUNO.COM">KENOR@JUNO.COM</a> WEB E-MAIL: <a href="mailto:info@stcloudmuskies.com">info@stcloudmuskies.com</a></p>
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WEBMASTER      By Ron Fenske

I hope you are using the [www.stcloudmuskies.com](http://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. Details will follow.

So mark your calendars so you don't miss this event.

Dave Mendel

PROGRAM DIRECTOR By Aaron Meyer

It's been less than two months since the season closed and I already have the muskie itch BAD! I was able to make to the Chicago muskie expo a couple weeks ago but that didn't help any- in fact it made it worse! I hope you are all as excited about Dick Pearson's seminar as I am. It's only a few days away. Invite your friends.

Our next meeting will be on March 20th at Apollo High School, from 6:00-9:00pm. This will be another fun one! We have the guys from Thorne Bro's coming up to do a poolside demo. They'll be bringing an arsenal of baits to demonstrate in the pool. It's a great way to get a look at the new lures and see how they work before spending your hard-earned money.

There's not a lot of news on the management front right now, but the new legislative session is just starting and we can expect another year of issues to deal with. If you get a chance to talk to your local legislators, let them know you're concerned about the future of pike and muskie management in MN. In a nut-shell, what we are looking for is an increased size limit on muskies and a more restrictive statewide slot on northern pike. Another idea we'll be pushing is that since Cass Lake has been opened to spearing and will be under a 5 year watch, we feel that no more lakes should be opened to spearing until the completion of those 5 years. At that point there will be valuable data to use in making responsible choices about our other lakes.

These ideas need to be planted in the minds of our legislators and each of you has local legislators who have the ability to write up a bill. Give them a call. While you're at it, tell them we NEED the fee increases the DNR is proposing. This is probably THE BIGGEST issue we are facing right now. Without an increase in the funding coming from hunting and fishing licenses, the Game and Fish fund will go into the red in less than 2 years! This will mean DRASTIC cuts to many programs that affect everyone who hunts, fishes, or otherwise uses any of our state's natural resources. There's no way around it- this is absolutely necessary!!

See you on Tuesday!

*Aaron*

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