

THE RELEASE



MARCH 2012 Website: www.stcloudmuskies.com

MEETING DATE

MARCH 20, 2012

6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

APOLLO HIGH SCHOOL POOLSIDE - USE DOOR #11

POOLSIDE DEMONSTRATION WITH THORNE BROTHERS

MAKING WAVES...

By Bruce A. Kitowski, President

Spring is almost here, but Mother Nature has a couple of last words to say. We truly can use the moisture, not only for the farmers but runoff as well. The year has started off with a bang for our club, and there are no signs of slowing down.

Our Jan./Feb. membership seminar was outstanding. Mr. Dick Pearson was our guest of honor. Once again the information this man gave us was incredible. We had a very nice turn out and everyone really enjoyed themselves. I introduced Dick as MR. PERFECTION and I could hear him chuckle all the way to the podium. His insights and learned adaptation makes one stand up and take note. I would like to thank Dick for taking time to visit with us and share his experiences. Every once and awhile an individual stands out from the crowd, and Royce Nies has been doing this for many, many years. You see Royce was generous enough to donate an artist's original painting by Larry Huls of a Tiger Muskie to the club to be raffled off as the grand prize the night of Dick Pearson's seminar. The club has benefited from the years of service Royce has given. Thanks to Royce we are all winners. Royce as you read this, stand up and take a bow, we all applaud you.

Please remember to sell the fundraiser dinner tickets we mailed out to all the members. This is our big one for the year and a lot of what we want to do for the year depends on a very successful evening. Also if you can't make it please donate a little to help out. If anyone knows of anyone or anything that could be donated to the raffles please do so and contact a board member. It does not have to be muskie or fishing related. Thank you.

We have received notice that our grant application has been chosen. The Hugh C. Becker Foundation has come through in a big way, and we thank them tremendously. The monies will be used for Big Brothers/Big Sisters outing, Waite Park Family Fun Festival Kids Fishing Contest, and the pond lease. Thanks again to the Hugh Becker Committee for awarding this grant to us.

Our March meeting will be held at Apollo school for the poolside demonstration. I hope to see everyone there. This is your chance to see all the new lures and toys in action before you buy them. It will surely give you the heads up as you venture to the Muskie Expo in April. The April meeting will be the club's award night.

Bruce



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Annual Fund Raiser & Awards Banquet

SATURDAY MARCH 24, 2012

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Alexandria/Vikingland Chapter

Social hour and Raffle Sales will start at 3:00 P.M, Dinner (Two Meat Buffet) will be served at 5:30 P.M. There will be raffles, games and door prizes where you can win some of the \$1,000's worth of prizes. We will be giving away Guns, Rods, Reels, Guided Fishing Trips and a bunch of Fishing Tackle.

Sign-up early, we are limited to the first 150 people that return paid registration. The Banquet Tickets will cost \$30 for adults and \$8 for children under 10. Tickets include Admission, Dinner and entry drawing for Door Prizes. After March 18th, the cost for adults will go up to \$35, if any tickets are still available.

For more information or to purchase Raffle or Banquet Tickets please contact:

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WEBMASTER By Ron Fenske

I hope you are using 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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ANNUAL FISH DINNER

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR APRIL 18, 2012, FOR 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.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Marc Jefferson

Greetings! We'd like to welcome new members Jake Anderson from Elk River and Eric Poissant of St Cloud. We're glad to have you guys as new members and we're looking forward to meeting you. We hope Jeff Illies will renew for another season as well. We have our awards banquet for the contest coming up in April. We'll be presenting plaques to our top contest participants and celebrating the 2011 season. Hope to see you there!



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*Non-voting positions

** Voting position, must be board member

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

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

PROGRAM DIRECTOR By Aaron Meyer

So far this year, there hasn't been any new action in the Legislature regarding pike and muskie management. We're also seeing indications that, with this year's legislative session being shorter, many of these types of issues might not get much attention. That could prove to be a good thing, though it is quite possible that more of these bad bills could show up at any time -even last minute- leaving us little time to react. So, just keep your ears open and be aware.

Once again, the Pearson seminar was a great success. Thank you Dick! Our next meeting will be a fun one too! March 20th we will be at Apollo High School for a poolside demonstration with Thorne Bros. These are always fun and entertaining. Come see all the new baits and how they work before you spend your hard earned money! 6:00-9:00pm.

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.

Lastly, I'd like to encourage you to support our neighbors in the Alexandria/Vikingland chapter by attending their banquet on Saturday, March 24. Their chapter has struggled a little bit in recent years and they are working hard to get things back on track. They have a new board of directors and have been signing up as many new members as possible. With new blood in the club, they hope to get stronger and more active! They've already stepped up to the plate and worked with the local DNR to get the muskie stocking program on Lake Milona ramped back up to its original quota! Check out their flyer and let's help them out!



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