

# THE RELEASE

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



## MEETING DATE

**August 21, 2012**

**7:30 p.m**

**Waite Park American Legion**

**WAITE PARK, MN**

**MYSTERY GUEST SPEAKER**

## MAKING WAVES...

By Bruce A. Kitowski, President

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer, staying cool and getting to spend a lot of time with their family. Where in the world has the time gone? I barely turned around and here I am bringing both of my girls to college this year. Well, the closer we get to fall the more time I'll have to get on the water.

For those of you going to the outing this year I know that you will have a great time. Every year Dave Mendel sets up a time to die for. Please note the change in the cabin. Due to a change in the lodge's schedule, we will be in the Bear's Den this year.

The last couple months have been a little crazy with the hot weather and all, but we had several good meetings. We enjoyed a good time at the boat show at Gander and enjoyed a great talk with Stanley Morgan last month. If you have any ideas for speakers, please let our program director, Aaron, know.

Please be courteous to other anglers, and be safe out there. Hope to see you at the August meeting.

**Bruce**

## ANOTHER CLUB OUTING

The Board would like your ideas for a Club get-together, a day of fishing, possibly a Saturday in October. We would like your input – what date and what lake you would like to fish for a day outing. Please contact Ken Smith at [muskies101@charter.net](mailto:muskies101@charter.net) or call 612-703-6239.



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**JIM REUTER**

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## **WEBMASTER**

By Ron Fenske

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

Please forward any pictures you would like to share to one of the board members and we 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.

## **CONTEST STANDING AS OF JULY 31, 2012**

Masters	Name	# of Fish, # > 40"	Poin ts	Largest	Avera ge
	Bryan Thompson	1 fish, 0 over 40"	0	37.25"	37.25"
Mens	Nick DeBoer	4	64	48"	41.87"
	Russ Nelson	2	38	47"	44.75"
	Ken Smith	2	26	42"	39"
	Nate Rose	1	25	51"	51"
Juniors	Sam Larsen	1	10	36"	36"

### Lunker of the Month

May	Bryan Thompson	37.25"	Birch Lake, WI
June	Russ Nelson	47"	Mille Lacs
July	Nate Rose	51"	Miltona

## **CONTEST REPORT**

By Marc Jefferson

Well it seems like the heat continues to hamper the fishermen, if nothing else. I've only been out in the metro a couple times all month and our logs show that lots of people are giving the fish a break with high water temps. Nonetheless, we do have a few this month to mention, starting with Mr. Nate Rose and an absolute pig of 51" on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Nate has put his time in on Miliona and it finally paid off big time. He also got to share the moment with his Brother and Dad so nice work Nate. Sam Larsen checks in with his first fish of the year, and Nick and Ken Smith each log a Mille Lacs fish. Nice work guys. I think we're all looking forward to a little early August cool-down to get back out on the water. I know I've got some making up to do this year. Keep water temps in mind in the next few weeks.



## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

By Marc Jefferson

Greetings! We don't have any new members new this month, however, we're thrilled to have Mr. Dave Mendal back for another year and not quite sure what we'd do without him. We can say the same for Bob Eisenreich, Tom Kiess and Blake Thompson, who are all up for renewal this month as well. Good luck in August!

### **NEWSLETTER EDITORS**

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## **PROGRAM DIRECTOR**

By Aaron Meyer

Is it ever going to cool down?! This heat is brutal! I'm not a huge fan of the heat anyway, but more important than that is the harmful effect it can have on the fish. Some people may not be aware of how dangerous the high water temps can be for muskies. Even worse is that some people actually promote the idea that the hot water leads to better fishing! Here's the reality... right now, the majority of Minnesota's lakes are at, or over, 80 degrees. Muskies are not "cold water fish" like trout or ciscoes, but they are also not built for really warm temperatures like bass or sunfish. A muskie's ideal temperature range is roughly 70 degrees. As the water gets warmer than that, the stresses of being caught start to have a greater effect on them. As the water continues to warm, it increases their metabolism, but it also increases the likelihood of dying after being caught. There isn't a magic number where you can say "above this they all die, and below this they all live", but 79-80 degrees seems to be the number where most people really start seeing problems. The bottom line is that at around 80 degrees, the chance that a caught fish will die goes up dramatically. If you are catching fish in that temperature range, there is a pretty good chance that some of them are going to die... even if they swim away. I don't get too worried about getting a surface reading of 80 at mid-afternoon on a hot sunny day. Most of the time that's just the top few inches and once the sun goes down so does the water temp. I've been on the water pretty consistently lately, after dark and early in the morning. I've been watching the temps closely. While the surface went through it's usual fluctuations, the actual temps continued to climb. ALL of our lakes throughout central MN have reached the lethal stage!! I've canceled my guide trips. Personally, I'm done fishing any of them for at least a couple weeks! I stopped fishing most of them a couple weeks ago already but was able to continue fishing Mille Lacs, finding temps usually 75-77. Well, Mille Lacs is now a sustained 80+ all over the lake. There is a major tulibee die-off happening right now- there are literally thousands floating everywhere... walleyes and big pike too. I have first hand knowledge of dead muskies floating on at least five lakes.

I see the positive side of catch and release all the time - more and bigger muskies than ever before, and I also see the same muskies being caught multiple times. I truly believe that every time we catch a muskie, especially a big one, we had that opportunity because someone else had previously released that same fish unharmed! So for me, catching a couple more fish during this heat wave just is not worth the high risk of killing them. I hope you all feel the same.

The good news is that, thanks to some cooler nights up north, there are still some lakes in Minnesota that have fishable temperatures. So be adventurous and head north, but keep in mind that many lakes even in northern MN are also too warm right now. Watch those temps and handle the fish carefully! -This would also be a great time to stay closer to home and try some of our excellent smallmouth bass and catfish options!

For a little more in-depth discussion on the water temp issue you can check out a couple of my blogs at the bottom of the home page on my website at [aaronmeyermuskies.com](http://aaronmeyermuskies.com)

Last month we had new member Stanley Morgan as our guest speaker. I had a feeling it was going to be a fun night and it sure was! Stanley had a lot of great information as well as some very cool stories about really big fish including tarpon and sharks! I think everyone in attendance found it pretty exciting. Thanks Stanley!

One last thing... I am always in need of ideas for meetings and seminars, especially for the summer months. We've had some really good meetings come out of ideas from members, so please let me know if there's something you'd like to see.

**Aaron**

## **FALL GET TOGETHER 2012**

### **UPDATE 8/2012**

Due to some scheduling changes and a need for space to accommodate a larger group, Cass Lake Lodge has moved our group into the 'Bears Den'. The Bears Den is a new 4 bedroom cabin that will sleep ten.

To view this beautiful cabin go to:

<http://www.casslakelodge.com/accommodations/cabins/cabin-bear.html>

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 Lodge  
CLL 218 - 335 - 6658      [www.casslakelodge.com](http://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

There is a large area out side with a great view of the lake for evening camp fires and story telling. 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 Bear. The Cass Lake area is very busy this time of the year, so these cabins will only be held until August 1<sup>st</sup> 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  
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