## THE RELEASE DECEMBER 2015

Website:

www.stcloudmuskies.com

Established in 1982



### MEETING DATE: DECEMBER 15, 2015 7:30 pm WAITE PARK AMERICAN LEGION SPEAKER: JEFF DOTY-MINNESOTA FISHING HALL OF FAME CHRISTMAS PARTY PIZZA/BEVERAGE PROVIDED LURE SWAP PASS A LURE

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

I would like to wish everyone and their families a very Merry Christmas. This is a wonderful time of the year where we can reflect on the past twelve months, and focus on what's ahead. The chapter is doing very well and is looking forward to having a great 2016. We will be having elections of the Board of Directors at our December meeting. If anyone would like to run for a position on the board please contact me ASAP. We are always looking for members with the passion and know how to help make this chapter run as smooth as possible. Also I would like to invite you to our annual Christmas Party. At our December meeting we will have pizza and pass out drink tickets. If you have any tackle for sale or just want to trade, bring it to the meeting as we will host a swap meet. There will be a guest speaker, and later, a round table discussion. If you come please do not forget to bring a pass the lure present. Purchase a lure and wrap it. When you get to the meeting place it under the tree and at some time during the night everyone will get a different present. Please take the time and read Aaron Meyer's article in the newsletter, it is very important. Thank you and hope to see you on December 15th.

Merry Christmas!! *Bruce* 

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

Many of you have been following the situation in Ottertail County regarding the muskie stocking program on Pelican Lake. We had an excellent turn-out at the meeting in Fergus Falls, showing the DNR and the Legislators that people from all across Minnesota support muskie stocking and sound fisheries management practices. The DNR did an excellent job of explaining and defending their muskie program. The group fighting against muskie stocking had filed an injunction against the DNR to stop them from stocking Pelican Lake.

Well, if you haven't already heard... a judge threw out the injunction and this year's quota of PIT tagged fingerlings has now been stocked! This was a huge win for muskies, and fisheries management as a whole!

Over the last several years, it has often felt like there's a never ending procession of issues coming up against muskie management. Throughout that timeframe, I feel that the muskie angling community as a whole has become

more involved and increasingly active in protecting and promoting our fisheries. The harder they hit us, the stronger we become! We have now justified and proven the muskie management program scientifically, publicly, legislatively, and in the court system. Thank you all for your continuous support!

So now, on to the next issue! This one is a good one. The DNR has remained committed to their Long Range Plan for muskie management, which calls for 5 more muskie lakes to be stocked by the year 2020. They have chosen the lakes they are proposing, have posted the proposals in the appropriate public venues, and it is now time for us to provide our input!

As in the past, there will be public meetings for people to provide input, and there are also several ways to provide input if you cannot make it to one of the meetings. My suggestion is to make the appropriate phone calls, and/or emails, and also attend one or more of the meetings, if possible. Your input via phone call or email counts equally as someone who attends a meeting, but I can tell you that there is always a stronger statement made by showing up in person. It really means a lot.

There will be separate meetings in each part of the state where lakes are being proposed, and there will also be a meeting in Andover that will pertain to all of the proposals. Below is all of the contact information for you to provide input, as well as the date/location of each meeting. All of the meetings are from 7:00-9:00pm. All of this information is also available on the home page of the DNR website at <u>www.mndnr.gov/</u> And, there is a link on that page to provide input directly. Please support ALL of the proposals!

Big Marine Lake: Meeting- Monday November 30. Scandia Community and Senior Center. 14727 209th Street North. Scandia MN.

Contact: East Metro Area Fisheries Office

1200 Warner Road St. Paul, MN 55106 651-259-5831 metroeast.fisheries@state.mn.us

Gull Lake: Meeting- Wednesday December2. Crow Wing County Land Services Building. 322 Laurel Street. Brainerd MN.

Contact: Brainerd Area Fisheries Office 1601 Minnesota Drive Brainerd, MN 56401 <u>218-203-4301</u> brainerd.fisheries@state.mn.us

Fairmont Chain: Meeting-Thursday Dec. 3. Martin County Library. 110 North Park. Fairmont, MN. Contact: Windom Area Fisheries Office

175 County Road 26 Windom, MN 56101-1868 507-831-2900 (extension 232) Windom.Fisheries@state.mn.us

Ottertail County Proposals: There are three proposals for Ottertail County. Lizzie, Franklin, and Loon lakes. All three would produce good fisheries. It's likely they will be narrowed down to only one. I suggest providing support for all three, but additionally mention that in the event of it narrowing down to one, Lizzie is the one that will provide the best fishery of the three. I really hope that Lizzie is chosen as the other two are significantly smaller waters. Meeting- Tuesday December 8. Lake Region Electric Cooperative. 1401 South Broadway. Pelican Rapids, MN.

Contact: Fergus Falls Area Fisheries Office

1509 1st Avenue North Fergus Falls, MN 56537 tel. <u>218-739-7576</u> fax. <u>218-739-7601</u> <u>fergusfalls.fisheries@state.mn.us</u>

The statewide meeting will be held in the "Oak Room" at the Bunker Hills Activity Center, 550 Bunker Lake Blvd NW, Andover, MN.

Everyone please provide your support for these proposals ASAP! The decisions for these proposals will come directly from your input!!

### Aaron

MN Muskie and Pike Alliance Co-Chair

### WEBMASTER. . . . . . By Tom Ardolf

### December 2015 Webmaster Report

**FaceBook**: Another good month with lots of activity in our musky world. The Pelican Lake issue definitely had social media buzzing, and we gained 16 LIKES this past month. The goal is to use our Facebook page for current, dynamic issues related to musky fishing and our chapter, and the web page as a long-term resource and repository of chapter information. Please feel free to send some of your pics from the season to <u>scmi.webmaster@gmail.com</u> and we'll get them posted for everyone to see!

Cafepress: No news for this month.

Web Site: Just keeping things up to date --- most importantly, the monthly standings!

**Other**: Mark your calendars for the 50th anniversary celebration of Muskies, Inc!!!! On March 12th, 2016, chapters from all around the nation will meet in Minnetonka for this great opportunity to share in unity with so many people dedicated to Muskies, Inc. Let's be a part of this, especially with it being so close to our chapter. Folks will be coming all the way from Washington State and the eastern and southern borders of the U.S. to be a part of this. Saturday will simply be a great celebration, with Sunday – Tuesday being the 3rd international symposium, which our chapter has voted to support. I hope many of my fellow SCMI members will be in attendance.

Finally, I'd like to invite new or existing members to consider being a part of the on-going work of our chapter. If you have some tech skills or would like to enhance yours, SCMI's Facebook and web page provides an ideal opportunity. Let me know if you'd like to become a part of it.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the chapter. **TOM ARDOLF** Web Guy for St. Cloud Muskies, Inc.

Scmi.webmaster@gmail.com

### **OUTING'S CHAIRMAN** .....By Ryan Hoffman Lake Alexander Outing Recap and 2016 Club Outing on Big Mantrap

As I type this I hope people are on the lake seeking one last shot at a fall giant before the season ends or the ice appears! Five members from the chapter joined up with the Brainerd Chapter for their Iceman Challenge on Lake Alexander on November 14th. My son and I moved 3 fish but couldn't get them to eat. New member Chad Berger was fishing with Tom Ardolf and was able to get his first fish in the net - congrats Chad! Tom had the fish come in behind his bait and she swung off and ate Chads sucker! Teamwork at its finest and a 46" November fish was in the bag! There have been two SCMI outings this fall and all the fish have been caught by new members - that's fantastic!



### 2016 SCMI Club Outing - Big Mantrap!

I am currently trying to plan a 4 day outing to Big Mantrap next fall from September 15-18 which is a Thursday-Sunday with the full moon on Friday. I've spent some time on Mantrap the last couple seasons and I like it more every time I go and I think it would make a great place for a SCMI outing! The lake is a 2.5 hour drive up the road and is located about 20 miles NE of Park Rapids. It's 1600 acres but fishes much larger with an abundance of shoreline and mid lake structure and has a great "up north" feel to it with minimal shoreline development. Any size boat could navigate Mantrap easily and find places to fish out of the wind. We also have a current SCMI member who knows the lake well and said he would attend the outing and share his knowledge!

Norway Hills Resort is on the lake and as of now they have cabins we can rent at a reduced rate from the summer pricing - check out their website- <u>https://www.norwayhills.com</u> The pricing quoted was for an 8 person cabin and if we had 8 people the cost would be \$158 plus tax per person for the 4 days/3 nights with dockside electrical and trailer parking included. Pricing really depends on how many people go and if we can fill up the cabin(s) or not.

There is also tent camping available at the Mantrap Lake Campground and Day Use Area adjacent to the main launch for those who may not want to stay at the resort. From the DNR website: "The campsites are considered "primitive", designed to furnish only the basic needs of the camper. The campsites consist of a cleared area, fire ring, and table. Vault toilets, garbage cans, and drinking water are available. All sites are on a first come, first-served basis". Cost is \$14 per night and is required via registration envelopes available at the campground.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you are interested in going on this outing - even if you are a "maybe". The cabins will need a 20% deposit placed on them to make the reservation and I would like to make the reservations by the January meeting. Get the vacation time lined up now! Email, call, or text me and let me know if you are interested. <u>rhoffmanisu@gmaill.com</u>; <u>320-492-7369</u>.

Ryan

### Regional Rep: .....By Ron Fenske:

Merry Christmas!! I want to wish everyone in the chapter the very best holiday season!

That being said; it saddens me to say I will be leaving my position as MI Regional Director for the Chapter in December. It has been great to be an active part of our chapter for so long. Over the years there have been many changes in Muskies Inc, and even in the size, sightings and landings of the muskies themselves. We've seen some good and some interesting fishing improvements. Most importantly, I have had the opportunity to meet a lot of good people and form some lifelong friendships.

I joined our chapter in 1990 and have been a chapter board member since 1991. Wow, that's 24 years. Over the years I have had the privilege to serve as VP, President, RVP, Newsletter Publisher, Membership Chairman, Release Chairman, Webmaster and Regional Director. Looking back they have all been rewarding and sometimes challenging positions. I specifically recall being our Chapter President with a small budget and we hosted a fall International Board meeting and fish outing. That was a lot of work for our members. I remember so many people stepping in to make sure everything got done and to support our Chapter. Together we made that national muskie event a grand success. That truly was a proud moment for our Chapter.

I ask that if you have never volunteered to be part of the board that you think about it. The elections are in December and our chapter can always use people with fresh and new ideas. Interested? Let our President Bruce Kitowski know. I promise you will gain as much from the experience as the Chapter will. It's a win-win for everyone. Again, it has been an honor being part of this team and I look forward to seeing you on the water...

Respectfully Ron Fenske

Blackberry Ridge Golf Club, located in Sartell, Minnesota, is an 18-hole Championship Golf Course, Event Center and Casual Dining located just minutes north of Saint Cloud, Minnesota. Blackberry Ridge offers a serene wooded setting for your golfing and event experience. Blackberry Ridge Golf Club is known as the finest & most beautiful golf course & venue in the St. Cloud Area and Central Minnesota.





http://www.rapala.com

### SPINAL REHAB





Bristow's Kawasaki & Polaris, Inc.

3653 32nd St SE,

St Cloud, M56304

Email: mike@bristowsinc.com



Your HOMETOWN Dealer? Local authorized Sales and Service.

Call 320-253-7878



The Annual Business Partner Program and Advertising Program continues to grow every month. This Month was somewhat unique in that we added another Annual Business Partner (Blackberry Golf and Event Center), an EVENT Sponsor (Rapala) and an Category Advertiser in Batteries Plus. This shows that the traction we gained earlier in the summer has maintained it momentum as Partners begin to enjoy the benefits of their association with us.

Blackberry Ridge Golf and Event Center was recently named Winner of the BEST GOLF Course in the St. Cloud Area by Times Media. Blackberry Ridge Golf Club, located in Sartell, Minnesota, is an 18-hole Championship Golf Course, Event Center and Casual Dining located just minutes north of Saint Cloud, Minnesota. Blackberry Ridge offers a serene wooded setting for your golfing and event experience. In addition, the Blackberry Ridge wedding venue - is known as one of the finest & most beautiful wedding reception & ceremony venues in the St. Cloud and Central Minnesota (Accommodate up to 300 Guests) and hosts over 50 Weddings a year. They have been a three (3) Year supporter of our MI Chapter and we serve as host to our upcoming Special Event.

Batteries Plus, is the nation's largest and fastest-growing battery, light bulb and smartphone/tablet repair franchise with a nationwide network of stores. With access to more than 60,000 types of batteries, light bulbs and accessories, they have the widest selection of battery and light bulb products available. First introduced to them when we had the Go Pro Seminar (which they also handle), they seemed like a logical partner. They are also offering our members a Muskies Inc. Discount.

Rapala, who will our February Event Sponsor has been the world's favorite fishing lure since 1936. Today, Rapala lures, knives, tools and accessories are trusted by fishermen in over 140 countries worldwide. As home based company in Minnesota and a die-hard Musky fisherman at the helm, Rapala's reputation stems from a towering list of world record catches, the knowledge of our Pro Anglers and a history of unwavering dedication to quality. A very community minded company with a strong relationship with the Schara's , we welcome them aboard.

As I have briefly exposed our upcoming Special Event, Sponsored by Rapala, I encourage you to MARK YOUR CALENDARS now for February 2, 2016. Details will be shared shortly.

Ron Sanders 1516 Nuthatch Avenue Sartell, Minnesota 56377

Telephone <u>612-386-1100</u> E Mail <u>ronssm@aol.com</u>





# LAURA SCHARA

## GUEST SPEAKER Catching Family Values

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2016 7:00 pm

### BLACKBERRY RIDGE EVENT CENTER

3125 CLUBHOUSE ROAD SARTELL, MINNESOTA 56377

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM ANNUAL PARTNERS AT NO COST PRIOR TO THE EVENT

AT THE DOOR: \$20 PER PERSON \$35 FAMILIES

Sponsored by:

Gilleland

www.stcloudmuskies.com

Stop Light

ST. CLOUD CHAPTER MUSKIES INC. ANNUAL PARTNERS:

ROUAL TIRE







FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT RON SANDERS: ronssm@aol.com • 612-386-1100



**MEMBERSHIP REPORT** · · · · · · · · · By Nate Rose

In November we added Chad Berger and Ross Kiffmeyer, welcome them if you see them. There were no drops this month. Up for renewal we've got Tom Agnew. The easiest way to renew your membership is online. The website (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 REPORT

Well its almost official, the 2015 season only has about a week left. It's hard to believe that its almost over! We've had some good numbers on the contest standings and a number of new members logging fish so that's been great to hear. Especially since they've caught fish during the club outings. Overall Alex Lauer had an outstanding season topping the standings with 25 fish on the year. Not only that but he caught the largest fish in the standings at 53.5"X26.5"!! There were a number of other 50" fish caught this year as well.

Thanks for participating in the contest everyone and I hope you had a great season. Have a great Thanksgiving as you reflect back on the 2015 season.

CURRENT STANDINGS						
		# of	Point	Larges	Avera	
Division	Name	Fish	S	t	ge	
MensMaste	Bryan J					
rs	Thompson	6	103	44.00	42	
Mens	Alex Lauer	25	483	53.50	45	
	Eric W Poissant	16	273	51.00	43	
	Nathan Rose	8	134	48.50	43	
	Thomas Ardolf	4	79	47.00	46	
	Troy A. Schmitz	4	69	49.50	43	
	Bruce A Kitowski	4	49	51.00	38	
	Justin Sharer	3	38	51.00	39	
	Tom Agnew	2	31	45.00	42	
	Ken Schmitt	2	27	40.00	40	
	Chris Paye	2	24	40.00	38	
	Chad Berger	1	20	46.00	46	
	Eric Kohn	1	16	42.00	42	

### **Contest Standings November 23, 2015**

	Member			
Month	Name	Length	Lake	
			Mille	
June	Thomas Ardolf	47.00	Lacs	
	Eric W			
	Poissant	47.00	Alex	
	Eric W			
July	Poissant	51.00	Sugar	
August	Alex Lauer	48.00	Leech	
Septem	Bruce A		Rainy	
ber	Kitowski	51.00	Lake	
	Justin Sharer	51.00	Lobster	
			Big	
October	Alex Lauer	53.00	Mantrap	
Novem				
ber	Alex Lauer	53.50	Bemidji	





Corey Nazer 715-456-5531 www.NazeBaits.com





5 Locations to Serve You! • Detroit Lakes, MN • Cormorant Village/Lake Ida • Vargas, MN • Marina on Detroit Lake • Walker, MN

### FULL SERVICE MARINE

### 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 Web: venturecustomrods.com



Sartell and South St.Cloud New Location on Co. Rd 75!

## "Great selection of quality and custom fishing lures"



Secure online ordering

www.bigwoodmuskylures.com



### KINGFISHER Boats

For more information, contact Gary Klingler at:

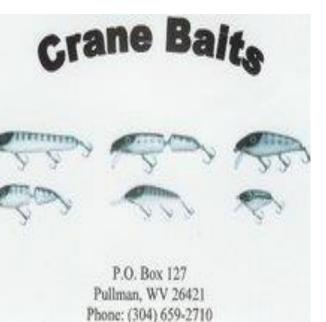
FOSTER BROS. MARINE

conveniently located in Delano, MN - just west of Minneapolis on Highway 12.

FOSTER BROS.MARINE 820 Babcock Blvd., Delano, MN 55328 Phone: (763) 972-3199 www.fosterbrosmarine.com



Finally, a boating alternative that raises the bar. Using heavy gauge all-welded aluminum and Pre-Flex hull construction then incorporating multi-species fishing interior, KingFisher boats are quickly proving to b the toughest and best performing boat on the water today.









### Proudly Supporting St. Cloud Chapter-Muskie's Inc! St. Cloud's Only Best Price Dealer 3019 West Division Street St. Cloud, MN 56301 (320) 251-4943 Visit us on the web: <u>www.stcloudauto.com</u>

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