



JANUARY 2015 NEWSLETTER



**2014 CHAPTER RELEASE WINNER
ZACH STRICKLAND
52" LAKE BEMIDJI MUSKIE**

**AFTER A FEW HOURS FISHING HE HOOKED THIS MUSKIE ON
A HEADLOCK TROLLING LAKE BEMIDJI. THIS IS ZACH'S
PERSONAL BEST AND HE WILL BE ABLE TO REMEMBER IT
WITH A REPLICA PRESENTED TO HIM BY HIS CHAPTER.
CONGRATULATIONS ZACH!!**

From the President

Dearest Chapter Members,

Happy 2015! Before we know it another muskie season will be upon us!

I would like to take this time to let you all know some of the exciting news and developments for our chapter.

We have some great winter speaker meetings planned, with the first one coming up on Jan 15th. Matt Ward - Leech Lake Specialist with the DNR is going to present on a collaborative project they did with Muskies Inc on Baby & Mann Lakes. On Feb 19th, Paul Thorne will share some of his knowledge with us (hopefully he will share some of his Cass Lake secrets!) We are still working on some great speakers for March and April, so please watch for updates in future newsletters.

We held our officer elections in November. I was elected as President & Tournament Director. Mike Strickland was elected VP. Chris Thury will remain as treasurer. Denise Strickland was elected secretary, taking over from Brian Johnson, who was then voted in as our Chapter Representative. Kurt Olson will take over as Release Contest Chairman. Rob Yuretich will remain as Web Designer. A big thank you to all of our past officers. We truly appreciate everything you have done for the chapter during your years of service.

We have added a new position for 2015. Adam Kobes has been elected to be our Chapter Outing Manager. He will be

tracking all points this year, and will send timely updates on the standings. It was decided to include several Wednesday night outings to the lineup. Those will be in addition to the monthly Sunday outings. We wanted to give more chances for everyone to attend some of these fun and informative gatherings. You now have 10 opportunities to fish some great area lakes, and earn points towards the coveted title: Muskie Hunter of the Year. The full schedule is included in this newsletter.

Our Annual Tournament will be on Sat June 20th. We are looking for additional donors and sponsors for this years raffle prizes. If you or your place of employment are able to help in any way, please contact myself or any of our tournament committee members : Rory Potter, Adam Kobes, Kurt Olson, John Fosness, or Denise Strickland.

A big congratulations to Zach Strickland for winning the chapter replica this year with a 52" fish!
Zach successfully met all criteria needed to win: 1) Must be a chapter member in good standing. 2) Attend at least one boat access cleanup, and a combination of two meetings or chapter outings. 3) Must have a witness who is a member of our chapter, or a picture of the fish on a bump board.

A member can only win once - who is it going to be in 2015?!

Please watch for future newsletters on all the latest chapter updates, news & events.

2014 Outings

Chapter 46 completed its 2014 Season Outings on Lake Bemidji on November 2nd. We had a really fun season with these again with our best overall attendance since we resumed having them a number of years back!

When it was all wrapped up and calculated, our 2014 Muskie Hunter of the Year was Adam Manz! Adam was the runner up in 2013 by ½ a point, so he felt a little relieved to get the 2014 win in the bag.

Adam is one of our younger members and really fished hard at all the outings, he did catch a 44 incher at the Mantrap outing and lost a few more that were hooked but alas, not to be in the net.

Second place with year was Mike Strickland who managed a nice 46 incher on Plantagenet during the chapter tournament. The other notable catch was Brian Lesetmoe who caught the largest fish during any of the outings, a 47.5 incher also on Mantrap.

Mantrap was again the best lake to fish, with 5 fish registered there that day. One was caught on Plant and 2 were caught on Cass Lake. There were no fish caught on Leech, Plantagenet or Bemidji during their respective outings.

We all look forward to some revamping of the outings in 2015 to bring some great participation; fun competition and hopefully we'll get a little more consistent on the catching!

Release Contest

Members of the chapter who are planning on participating in the release contest this year should be aware that there will be a few changes to the rules.

Main in paper entries will no longer be accepted for the replica of a lifetime. In order for your fish to be considered for a replica it MUST be registered in the Lung Log on Muskie Inc. website. www.muskieinc.com

Also there will be only a 30 day window to register from the day it is caught.

The mens master division will also be changed to the format that is used by the National ruling.

Contact Kurt Olson, Release Contest coordinator with any questions, 320-260-8581

2015 Outing Schedule-Sundays

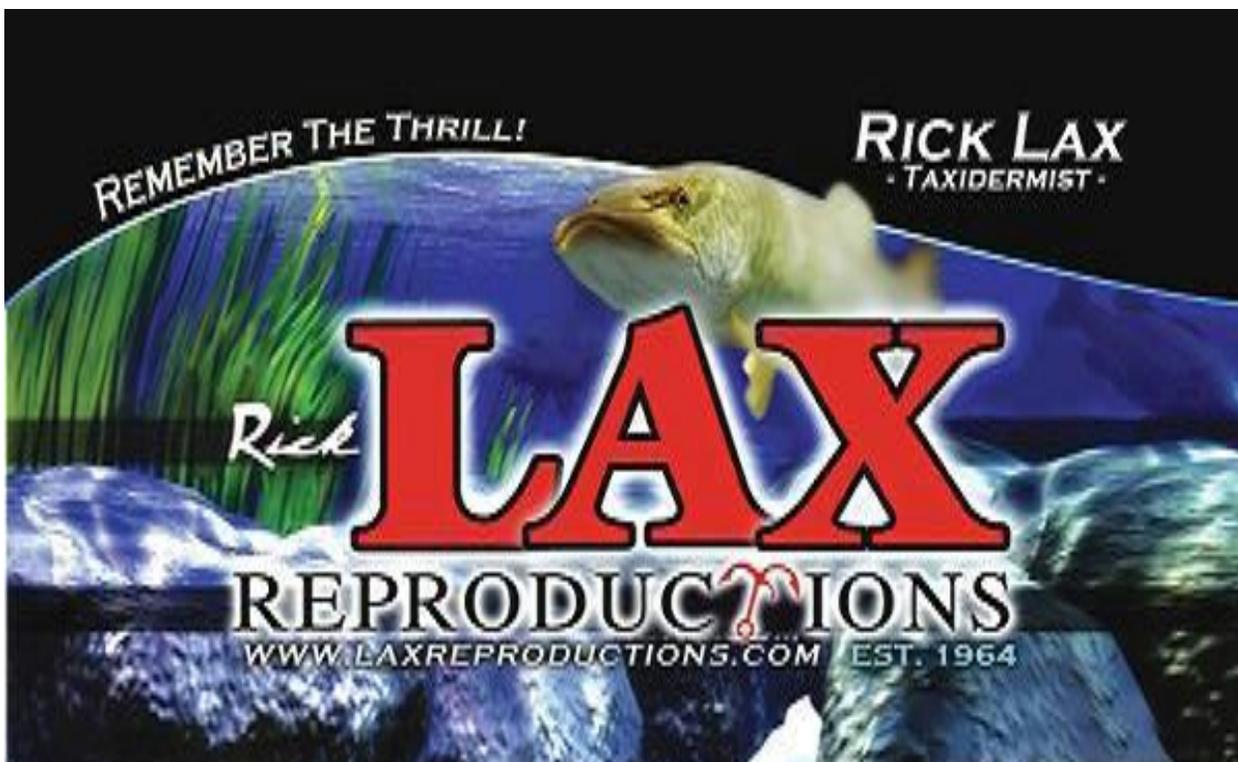
June 20	Annual Tourn. 5am-5pm	Area Lakes
July 12	12:00 p.m. to 8 p.m.	Mantrap
Aug 16	12:00 p.m, to 8 p.m.	Plantagenet
Sept 27	11:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.	Cass Lake
Oct 18	9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.	Leech Lake
Nov 1	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Bemidji

2015 Outing Schedule- Wednesdys

June 10	6:00 pm to 10:pm	Plantagenet
July 1	6:00 pm to 10 pm	Bemidji
July 22	6:00 pm to 9:30 pm	Pike Bay
Aug 5	6:00 pm to 9:30 pm	Big Lake

Adding Wednesday Outing will give more opportunities to earn more points during the season, a total of 10 including chapter tournament.

Contact Adam Kobes for more information, 218-820-611Release Contest



NEXT MEETING

JANUARY 15

CATTAILS 7 P.M.

Matt Ward - Leech Lake Specialist with the DNR is going to present on a collaborative project they did with Muskies Inc on Baby & Mann Lakes.

As always, our events are open to both members and non-members, so please bring a friend!

Meeting are held the third Thursday of each month at Cattails, 7p.m. Upstairs in the "Muskie Room".

Upcoming Speakers

Feb 19- Paul Thorne

March 19- TBA

April- TBA



LURE AUCTION

MARCH 28, 2015

5:00 p.m.

KEG N CORK

BEMIDJI

Come join us for our annual lure auction!!

Bring some to donate to be auctioned off and buy some new ones to take home in their place.

It is always a good time.

Neighboring Muskies Inc Chapter upcoming events:

Feb 7th - Lake Superior Chapter Annual Banquet & Fundraiser

www.lakesuperiormuskies.com

Feb 28th - North Metro Chapter Annual Banquet

www.nmmuskies.com

March 21st - Brainerd Lakes Chapter Annual Banquet

www.brainerdmuskies.com

March TBA - Twin Cities Chapter Annual Banquet

www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org



The Minnesota Muskies and Pike Alliance had its first meeting of the season December 6th. Pre-meeting, it was mentioned again what an outstanding job and effort was put forward by the group in getting legislation passed to move the Minnesota minimum muskie size limit moved up to 54 inches. This measure was to protect and possibly enhance into the future what many would consider to be the greatest muskie fishery in the world.

A brief stocking report was provided which seemed to indicate a massive shortage in total fish produced/purchased last year. This will be brought up again at the next meeting when the DNR official in charge of stocking should be present at the meeting.

Bad weather seemed to be the biggest problem with many fish not meeting the required size for stocking along with higher mortality in the ponds. A question as to whether the group had diminished its strong standing with the DNR was addressed by President Underhill, who said that despite the legislative move for the size limit the group was still in very strong standing with the current DNR administration.

A brief report on the financial status of the groups PAC was provided and it had made its first donations to some of the key legislators from last session and announced a few more adjournment was made and approved.

donations will be made to additional legislators who were instrumental in last year's efforts. No new legislative efforts are predicted at this point for the upcoming session.

Economic impact of muskie fishing was again discussed, but current thoughts of funding a comprehensive study were tabled due to funding issues.

A recent proposal in SD to expand spearfishing to all game fish with no closed season was discussed. There is some fear that this will move across the border and become a possible problem in the future. It's not expected this would receive much positive support in MN but we need to stay alert. Muskies in MN can't support harvest as was proposed in SD. The new minimum size limit does allow some additional protection for muskies. It was decided that the MMPA would draft a letter to SD opposing this new spearing initiative and its impact to game fish overall. The vote on this decision was unanimous.

Jim Lillianthal presented some new info on the development of new MN pike regulations. A 3 zone approach is gaining support and is currently under consideration by the DNR. This would have 3 distinct goals and different sets of regulations regionally within the state.

Mike Riha from the North Metro Chapter gave a quick speech introducing himself as the new Director of the MN HS Muskie Tournament and asked for all the help anyone can provide. A date/coordinator for the Bemidji area event will need to be decided on by the chapter.

Future meeting dates were set for Jan 10th, Feb 14th, March 14th and April 11th. Motion for meeting .

Submitted by Brian Johnson



STURGEON EXCURSION APRIL 17-19

Many of our chapter members make the trip north in April to fish for the mighty sturgeon! We have decided to put a date down to hold an unofficial get together where we can razz each other on the water and share fish stories over dinner! We have talked with Sportsman's Lodge about that particular weekend and they still have plenty of availability at this time. Group rates are \$40/night/person + tax based on double occupancy. That rate is good for both their lodge rooms and cabins. You will need to call in and make your own reservations and deposit. You can call Sportsman's at [218-634-1342](tel:218-634-1342). Be sure to let them know you're with Muskies Inc to get the group rate. Don't wait until April as the rooms will surely fill up.

Let us know if you have extra room in your boat, or are looking for a spot - we will do our best to help match everyone up if needed. If you haven't fought one of these powerful beasts yet - you need to put this on your 'must do' list!

Contact Ethan Rogers for more info.

HERE ARE THE "LUNKER OF THE MONTH" BIG FISH 2014

June - 48.5 - Rob Yuretich

July - 52 - Zach Strickland

August - 52.75 - Brian Lesetmoe

September - 52 - Jake Willborg

October - 50.5 - Stu Wiegner

November - 49.5 - Rob Yuretich

Division	Name	Total Points	# of Fish Entered	# of Fish 50" +
MensMasters				
	Stu Wiegner	333	26	1
	Ethan Rogers	233.5	22	0
	Robert Yuretich	201.25	11	1
	Ken Lundberg	147	12	0
Mens				
	Jake Willborg	131	11	1
	Brian Lesetmoe	97.25	5	2
	Michael Strickland	75	4	0
	David Mc Dougall	62.5	4	0
	Zach Strickland	26	1	1
	Jeremy Freborg	10	1	0
Womens				
	Mary Lundberg	126.5	10	1
	Susan Wiegner	32.5	3	0
	Anna Weems	10	1	0
	Denise Strickland	7	1	0
Grand Total			112	7

Newly elected officials for 2015

Position	Name	Contact info
President	Ethan Rogers	muskiestrike@gmail.com 218-766-6697
Vice President	Mike Strickland	mdstrickland91@gmail.com 417-276-1060
Secretary & Merchandising Specialist	Denise Strickland	mdstrickland91@gmail.com 417-298-0256
Treasurer	Chris Thury	cthury@midco.net 612-590-9785
RVP	Brian Johnson	thrax@paulbunyan.net 218-760-5867
Release Contest Chairman	Kurt Olson	kurto12345@msn.com 320-260-8581
Chapter Outing Manager	Adam Kobes	kobes3592@gmail.com 218-820-6111
Web Designer	Rob Yuretich	rob@goaskrob.com 218-760-1319

Chapter members please submit articles or ideas for the next chapter newsletter to mdstickland91@gmail.com

Submitting pictures would be great also.

Please send in by the 10th of each month to be published in the following months newsletter.

Be sure to like our page on FACEBOOK;
Bemidji/Cass Lake Muskies Inc. Chapter 46

Hope you enjoyed my first newsletter.

Denise Strickland
Secretary