



God's Country Muskie's Inc.



VOLUME 10, ISSUE 4

APRIL, 2010

**Check us out at:
WWW.LACROSSEMUSKIES.COM**

2010 AWARDS BANQUET A HUGE SUCCESS!

First of all, a big "Thank You" to all those members that contributed either by working, or by collecting donations, for this years banquet.

It was tremendously successful as we netted around \$14,000 in income for the coming year. Very good figuring our current economy.

It seemed all had a great time, good food, and plenty of fellowship.

Final attendance figures were around 180, with the trophy, and catch and release sponsorships, working well.

Release chair, Dean Hart, had a big night as he won the replica contest and will get a mount of his personal best 51" catch from Holcombe at last years Wiltinger Memorial outing. Congrats Dean!

Also, a huge "Thank You" to Bob's Lock and Safe owner,

Mark Dalton. He placed high bid on the GPS/ fishfinder combo, and the Operation Musky bait, hat and case. We matched his \$100 bid and sent a check to Operation Musky for \$218.00 to help send our returning overseas vets on guided Canadian fishing trips. A truly great way to recognize our service people!

Good job, God's Country, on another excellent banquet!

FAMILY NIGHT AT THE LOGGERS SATURDAY, JULY 17TH

Mark your calendars for our annual night at the Lumberyard with our La Crosse Loggers.

Game night is Saturday, July 17th, against Wisconsin Rapids starting at 6:05 pm.

We have a reserved section in right field on the Wipfli fan deck. It's next to the mezzanine and offers all you can eat and drink.

Details on this outing will be worked on at upcoming meetings.

This is a family outing, so feel free to bring family members, watch quality baseball, and have a great time!

I'm sure we'll play baseball bingo again.....

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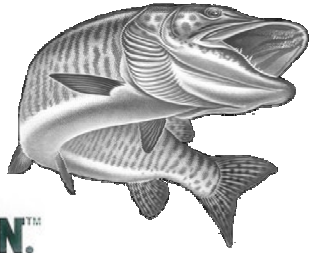
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Our Partners



GANDER^{MTN.}
WE LIVE OUTDOORS



CHAPTER NEWSBITS

Bob Nontelle, and Don Breitzman, are looking for 2 more members to share a cabin with them at this years Lake Vermilion Gil Hamm International tournament. Members Dan Ciechanowski, and Tim Wells, are on their team, but they need 2 more to round it out. Contact me at 608-792-7722 and I'll get you the Hamm info and put you in touch with one of those guys on cabin details.

A special God's Country welcome to new members; Corey Pettis, of Ettrick, Pete Flanagan, of La Crosse, Mark Buel, of Shapokee, Mn., and Mark Dalton, of La Crosse. Welcome to God's Country!

We'll be hosting the Kleeba challenge in 2010. Mark your calendars for June 18-20!

The 2010 Gil Hamm Chapter challenge will be held August 21st through the 28th on Lake Vermilion. The fishing contest will be the 25th -28th. Entry cost is \$25 per 6 man team. We can have as many teams as we can get. Lodging and more details to follow. Let's see if we can get a few teams to go and represent God's Country!

We've decided to have a public bait swap in conjunction with our May membership meeting. Posters will advertise the event. More details after the April meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

HIGHWAY CLEANUP And BANQUET SOCIAL

Saturday, April 24th

10:00 am

Tuna's Bar Genoa

4:00 pm

Pastimes Tavern La Crosse

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, April 27th

Gander Mountain

6:30 pm

GANDER MOUNTAIN TO HOST APRIL MEETING

Plan to meet at Gander Mountain at 6:30, April 27th, for our April meeting.

We have plenty to discuss including; the upcoming Kleeba Challenge, Logger's family night, the bait swap night, the construction details of the

kiosk we plan to put at Neshonoc, and a possible speaker on Green Bay, and the St. Louis River systems.

Busy season is coming, so make your voice heard on these upcoming chapter activities!

See you there!



HIGHWAY CLEANUP AND BANQUET APPRECIATION SOCIAL DETAILS

Saturday, April 24th, we'll meet at Tuna's bar, in Genoa, at 10:00am for our annual Spring highway cleanup. Our 2.8 mile section of Highway 35 between Stoddard and Genoa is ready to be picked up.

We have all the safety devices needed including orange vests and men working signs.

The cleanup usually doesn't last much more than 2 hours, and is a nice way to help keep our coulee region beautiful.

Following the cleanup starting at 4:00 pm, we'll have an appreciation social for the banquet workers, contributors, and those that helped with the highway cleanup.

We'll meet at Pastimes, on the north end of George St. for a get together including pizza and beverages.

It's been a great start to the 2010 year. Come on down and be a part of it!

JORDAN WEEKS PROVIDES NESHONOC LAKE STOCKING OPTIONS

Jordan Weeks attended our March meeting and let us know our stocking options for Lake Neshonoc.

With the tough economy, the state wide stocking budget has been reduced. This might mean that we'd have to pick up the costs of stocking because Neshonoc is not considered a high priority lake due to the recent introduction of fish, and the fact that we still don't know the status of the population.

Jordan explained that the DNR will plan to net when the water temps reach 50 degrees. The problem, he explained, was the fact that the existing fish are not yet mature enough to patrol the shorelines like the older, mature fish will.

Because of this, it's difficult to figure the fish per acre ratio.

Jordan has asked for 743 fish, and will keep us posted on the stocking developments. If possible, he'll try to let us know when the netting will happen, although it's usually spur of the moment.

Thanks to Jordan for taking the time to visit our chapter and letting us know where we stand on the stocking issue.

In a worst case scenario, we might have to wait to again restock, but we could always put the budgetted money to forage for fingerlings, purchasing a smaller number of fish, or helping the DNR with beneficial projects.

Stay tuned for more updates.

MORE CHAPTER NEWSBITS

The La Crescent Food Share sent a letter thanking us for the 600 pounds of non-perishables we sent to them after our banquet. The remaining cash donated, \$117.00, was sent to Wafer here in La Crosse.

Brad Foss is again heading up our scholarship drive for an eligible high school senior entering the field of conservation. It's also open to all chapter members kid's as well. If interested, contact Brad at 608-526-6704. You could receive \$500.00 in collegiate assistance!

The donor letters are ready for next year's banquet. If you'd like some, contact me and we'll see that you get them. Also it was discussed that maybe the trophy sponsorship might need a little tweeking. We'll have to get that figured out before we go collecting donations.

We also need to start thinking about the chapter picnic in July. Do we want to have it at Neshonoc or move it back to Myrick? Got an opinion? Come to a meeting or let an officer know. Thanks.

KLEEBA CHALLENGE SET UP COMMITTEE

The following members have volunteered to help with this years Kleeba Challenge; Leif Tolokken, Brad Foss, Bob Nontelle, Scott Cornish, Jim Mazzone, and myself.

We'll plan a meeting after the April

Membership meeting.

The lodging info has been sent to all the statewide chapters, and we need to figure dinner options, and a fundraising raffle into the weekend.

We can work more of this out at the April meeting.

**God's Country Muskies, Inc.
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TUESDAY, APRIL 24TH

GANDER MOUNTAIN 6:30 pm