



God's Country Muskie's Inc.



VOLUME 12, ISSUE 4

MAY 2012

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

May Speaker Meeting to feature Eric Larsen

Eric Larsen, owner of Rubber Hairy Baits, will be our guest speaker at our May 22nd meeting.

Eric's talk will be about "Big fish waters and tactics". He will talk about what lakes and which lures he uses. His average sized musky this year was 46 inches.

This will be a hands on demonstration lots

Lure Swap and Sale

Bring your extra lures to the May meeting, we will have an informal swap and sale. This will be a great chance to clean out and/or refill your tackle box.

of props. He will cover making your own leaders and trolling techniques.

Eric primarily fishes musky in Vilas and Onieda counties in northern Wisconsin. He writes for Musky Hunter magazine, He fishes the WMT and PMTT tournaments and other various tournaments.

In addition to owning his own lure company he is a full time guide. He guides in Vilas and Onieda counties and northeastern Wisconsin in the Fox Valley area.

For the last 5 years he has concentrated on the Winnebago system and the bay of

Green Bay in search of, in his words; "Thee fish!"

Hope to see you there!

Silent Auction

Full day guided trip with Eric Larsen in Northeast Wisconsin for two people is open for silent auction. The trip is for 2012. Please submit your bid to Mike W. or bring to the May 22 speaker meeting. Bid closing is 7 pm May 22 at the American Legion in La-Crosse.

2012 Calendar

May

- 5-South of Hwy 10 opener
- 22-Speaker Club Meeting
- Brief club meeting 6:30
- Speaker Eric Larson starts at 7 pm
- 26-North of Hwy 10 opener

June

- 1-3 Kleebea Challenge Hosted by Capital City
- 2-Minnesota opener
- 21-23 Holcombe Club Outing at Pine Point. We have our regular campsites reserved. Leif Chair
- 26-Regular Club Meeting

July

- 24-Regular Club Meeting
- 27- Castle Rock/Petenwell Mazzone chair

August

- 17-18 Lake Winter Outing Bob Nontelle chair
- 28-Regular Club Meeting

September

- 8-Highway cleanup
- 25-Regular Club Meeting

October

- 23-Regular Club Meeting

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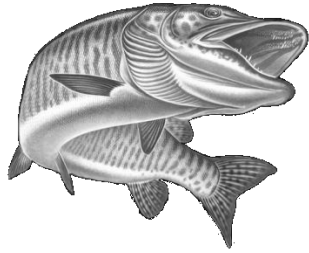
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Thank You

Jim Wiltinger and White-tails Unlimited donated \$500 to our club in exchange for assistance at a recent banquet. Thanks to Jim for this opportunity. Thanks to those who helped out at that banquet.

Thank you Brad Foss for organizing and also the guys who helped build the kiosk at Neshonic. See next page for details.

Thank you folks who helped pick up our section of highway.

Mailing List

We are constantly updating both the hard copy mailing list and the email list. If you are getting a hard copy of the newsletter, and would be happy with an email version, please let us know. The email version does not have a cost to the club. This newsletter is also available to view on the club website.

Holcombe Outing June 21-23

Our first club outing of the season will be at Pine Point Campground in Holcombe on June 21-23. Our regular campsites on the point have been reserved.

Please contact Leif Tolokken soon if you are planning to attend. We are having the lunch catered by Big Swede's and must have a solid number of attendees.

Fishing will be limited to the Holcombe Flowage and it's boat able tributaries. Fishermen must attend the noon lunch on Saturday to be eligible for contest prizes. First place will be a Fig Rig limited edition 7 foot medium/heavy rod.

Let's go fishing!

Tips from Steve Gensen

Steve Gensen focused his fishing tips on the Shield lakes of northern WI, MN and Canada at our speaker meeting last month. Steve had great seasonal tips for fishing the type of structure these lakes feature.

Steve is a professional guide (www.fishhunts.com) and fisherman from the Hayward area. He placed 8th overall in the PMTT last year.

Early spring, opener thru July, is the time to find Musky up in the shallows of bays following the spawn. Do not be afraid to fish in very shallow water, look for warm spots. Lures should mimic bait fish which are typically small this time of year. As the season progresses fish move out of the bays toward the deeper water.

Steve stressed the importance of using a figure eight, every cast, boat side. That motion

might be the difference between enticing the fish to strike or pass by. Any time the lure changes speed or direction the odds of a hit increase.

Summer, July to late September, is when fish are most active on the shield. The best technique this time of year is to hit as many spots as possible. Keep casts close to shoreline and keep moving. Focus on deep weed edges, ten to twenty feet, work fronts of bays instead of back edges that are more productive in the spring. Places where there are a combination of multiple structure types in one area are usually active feeding areas. Large bucktails reign supreme. Work areas with a lot of big water behind you.

Fall fishing, October thru November, can be very productive. Feeding windows are smaller and less frequent, so sometimes you end up fishing long hours trying to hit the window. The key is finding the baitfish. Often Musky follow the schools of cisco into the same areas every year. If you have had successful spots in the past, work those multiple times throughout the day looking for the feeding window. If you catch a fish stay there, Musky often travel in packs in the fall.



Neshonoc Kiosk Complete



A year and a half of planning finally came to fruition with the construction of the Lake Neshonoc informational kiosk on Saturday, April 21. A group of ten chapter members, including Mike Wiedemann, Dean Hart, Jim Oldenberg, Brad Foss, Bill Kelemen, Tim Wells, Bob Nontelle, Nate Wells, Jim Hawkins, and Jim Mazone assisted Jim Wing, from Wing Construction, and Jim's partner John in the construction. The kiosk stands about eight feet high and has four, 4' x 4' Plexiglas covered panels that can be used to display information. Plans are to post a colored map of Lake Neshonoc, information on invasive species and muskie/northern pike identification, pertinent fishing regulations, and photos of lake association projects, such as fish crib building. While construction of the kiosk is complete, a work day will need to be scheduled in the upcoming months to stain the kiosk after the treated wood used in the construction has had a chance to dry.



Highway Cleanup/Annual Social/Bar Olympics Report

Saturday April 28th was a busy day for many club members. The day started at 8 am for the spring highway cleanup. Thank you for the good turn out of helpers, in spite of the cold rainy weather. Club members gathered later that night for the annual social which included competition for the coveted Chuck Taylor converse high top traveling trophy. The competition was fierce and included many games, some not requiring any skill at all. At the end of the evening last year's winner Lynn St. Jacque turned the trophy over to this year's champion Kim Smith. It was a great opportunity to get to know newer club members better and have fun with old friends. Please consider participating next year!

**God's Country Muskies, Inc.
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