



<http://www.centralohiochaptermuskiesinc.org>

March 2008 Newsletter



Buckeye Hall of Fame Cafe, 1421 Olentangy River Rd., Columbus, Ohio

Presidents message

Greetings everyone. Winter is still hanging on, and it will be a while till we get out for some open water fishing. There are a lot of activities going on in March to keep us busy till the weather warms up later in the month.

The February meeting was very informative. I want to thank Cliff Honeycutt and Chuck McKnight for showing us their lure building, painting, and modification techniques. I'm going to try to repair and paint some old beat up lures now that I know it isn't too hard to do.

Were doing a 50/50 raffle at each monthly meeting this year. The first half of the year is to support the Cam-Am and the second half of the year to support the minnow fund. Jerry Stayer won the February 50/50 and he donated his half back to the club, thanks Jerry.

The Ohio Musky Show sure was a good time, so many pretty lures, too little money. I seen some folks I haven't seen in years, and put some faces to names, I hadn't met yet. Ross did a great job on the show and I hope he can put on another show next year. Our club really benefits from this show, by attracting new members, raising money for club activities and the Minnow fund.

The Muskie Summit was held on Saturday afternoon of the Muskie Show weekend and Rob VanGorder, John Oldfield and I attended. The ODNr Division of Wildlife put on a very good presentation on the Ohio Muskie program. I'm sure that Elmer will give a good recap of the meeting, but some of the important news is;

1. Muskie Angler Log , registering our Muskie catches/releases on the ODNr website.
2. Reduce the Muskie daily possession limit from 2 to 1, effective July1st.
3. Add 2 lakes to the Stocking Program lake schedule, Milton and East Fork and remove Cowan Lake. I'm sure glad to see Milton getting stocked every year now. Milton was 1 of my favorite lakes in the mid 90's, and I hear it's good again.
4. The Minnow fund equipment purchases have really helped out.

One thing that I want to remind all of us Muskie chasers, is that we are a very small percentage of the total fishermen in Ohio. The Division of Wildlife is funded by fishing/hunting license sales and they have to keep all the other fishermen happy too. So it's very important for us to be good sportsmen and set good examples on the water and with fish releasing/handling, etc. I want the high quality Muskie program that the Division of Wildlife has created in Ohio to continue for a long time.

Next up is the annual banquet and awards dinner scheduled for March 8th, 6 pm at Hoggy's. Same place as last year and we have some nice door prizes ready to go. I hope to see many of you there. More details on the website.

The March 11th meeting is scheduled to be held at PJ's on Hwy 36/37 just west of Sunbury. We are trying out a new location, if we don't like it we can go back to the BHoF cafe. This is the **annual lure raffle** event. Each member is asked to bring a couple of good lures or equipment that you can live without and put in the auction. Rob has posted a message on the website with some of the stuff that is being auctioned by the club, lots of great items. Save up some money for this one. We will keep the business part of the meeting short as possible.

If anyone is getting cabin fever real bad, I highly recommend going down to Cave Run later in March. I've had some fun trips down there casting rattle traps, J-13's, spinner baits, etc in the shallow areas of the coves.

I will put together a fishing report, lake conditions type report in the April newsletter.

See you at the banquet and the meeting. Mark

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Annual Club Banquet

Not to be un-original, but we heard a lot of good feedback about the banquet we had last year at Hoggy's, so I stopped there today and booked it again for us for 2008. Same set-up and same menu as last year. If anyone has any suggestions to improve the event, let me know. We have time to make any necessary changes. For now, mark your calendar for Saturday night March 8th. Here's the details:

Central Ohio Chapter Muskies Inc - Annual Banquet
Hoggy's Barn and Grille - Polaris
8740 Sancus Blvd 614-433-7447 www.hoggys.com
Saturday March 8, 2008, 6:00 - 9:00 P.M. Party Loft
Cost is \$20 per person (\$10 < 12 yrs old)

Your \$20 includes the dinner buffet and a DOOR PRIZE ticket. The dinner buffet consists of pulled pork, pulled chicken, buns, baked beans, mashed potatoes, mac & cheese and sauteed green beans. It also includes all coffee, tea, lemonade, soda and milk. It does NOT include alcoholic beverages. There will be a cash bar and waitress service for beer, wine or other cocktails.

We will have a sign-up sheet and we'll be collecting money at the February 12th meeting and also at the club booth during the Ohio Muskie Show February 22nd to 24th. If I miss you at those events, I'll post something after the show for late reservations. We have to give a confirmed number of people by March 5th, but we'll do what we can so we don't turn anyone away (We have guaranteed the restaurant a minimum of at least 40 people). Your early reservation and payment would obviously be appreciated.

Come celebrate a safe and successful 2007 season as we pass out many awards, nice hardware and DOOR PRIZES. See you there.

Rob

Membership Renewals

March

Pat Adams, Mike Carter, Frank Hawkins, Paul Hotchkiss, Paul Hoy, Todd Jackson, Tom Mead, Russ Nelson, Bernice Smith, Greg Starkey, The VanGorder Clan, Bob VanderMeer

April

Doug Dible, Joann Dible, John Dible, Kevin Harris, Matt Morbitzer, Neil O'Brien, Bill Rehm, Dennis Ruppel, Tom Sestito, Dan Walker, Ed Weinert

New Muskie Angler Log

The new ODNR Division of Wildlife Muskie Angler log is now online.

Check it out at: <http://www.ohiodnr.com/muskielog/welcome.aspx>

If you missed Elmer's presentation on this a few months ago, this is the new reporting system for fish. Elmer and friends put a lot of work into this project and it will be a great tool for all muskie addicts to use. There will be a ton of information to access and members can set up their own fish logs. Give it a try.



Central Ohio Muskies Inc.



2008 Schedule of Events

Month	Day	Start	End	Location	Event
January	8	7PM	9PM	Buckeye Hall of Fame Café	Monthly Meeting - New ODNR Reporting System
February	12	7PM	9PM	Buckeye Hall of Fame Café	Monthly Meeting - Bait Making/Modifications
February	22	2PM	8PM	Buckeye Hall of Fame Café	Club Booth at Ohio Muskie Show
February	23	9AM	7PM	Buckeye Hall of Fame Café	Club Booth at Ohio Muskie Show
February	24	10AM	3PM	Buckeye Hall of Fame Café	Club Booth at Ohio Muskie Show
March	8	6PM	9PM	Hoggy's Bar and Grille	Annual Club Banquet
March	12	7PM	9PM	PJ's Restaurant	Monthly Meeting - Lure Auction
April	8	7PM	9PM	PJ's Restaurant	Monthly Meeting - Spring Muskies
May	3	8AM	8PM	Clear Fork Lake	Jon Fisher Memorial Tournament
May	4	8AM	3PM	Clear Fork Lake	Jon Fisher Memorial Tournament and Awards
May	13	7PM	9PM	Location TBA	Monthly Meeting - Poolside Program
May	22	6PM	8PM	London Fish Hatchery	Hatchery Tour
May	31	8AM	8PM	Clear Fork Lake	Russ Dodridge Memorial Tournament
June	1	8AM	3PM	Clear Fork Lake	Russ Dodridge Memorial Tournament and Awards
June	10	7PM	9PM	PJ's Restaurant	Monthly Meeting - Release Tips and Lure Swap
June	27	6PM	9PM	Lake St. Clair	Ray Demers Tournament Registration
June	28	6AM	9PM	Lake St. Clair	Ray Demers Tournament
June	29	6AM	12PM	Lake St. Clair	Ray Demers Tournament and Awards
July	8	6PM	9PM	Alum Creek Lake	Monthly Meeting - Alum Tactics
July	17	4PM	8PM	Park of Roses	Kid's Fishing Outing
July	18	6PM	12AM	Alum Creek Lake	Nite Bite Outing
August	12	6PM	9PM	Alum Creek Lake	Monthly Meeting - Alum Tactics
September	9	7PM	9PM	PJ's Restaurant	Monthly Meeting - Topic TBA
October	11	8AM	8PM	Alum Creek Lake	Fall Shoot-Out Tournament
October	12	8AM	3PM	Alum Creek Lake	Fall Shoot-Out Tournament and Awards
October	14	7PM	9PM	PJ's Restaurant	Monthly Meeting - Topic TBA
November	11	7PM	9PM	PJ's Restaurant	Monthly Meeting - Elections and 2009 Planning
December	9	7PM	10PM	Location TBA	Monthly Meeting - Christmas Party

Ohio Huskie Muskie Club 2008 Schedule

Month	Day	Start	End	Location	Event
March	15	TBA	TBA	Zanesville Ramada Inn	OHMC Banquet
June	13	TBA	TBA	Clear Fork Lake	Division Day
June	14	TBA	TBA	Clear Fork Lake	Spring Outing
June	15	TBA	TBA	Clear Fork Lake	Spring Outing
July	12	TBA	TBA	Pymatuning Lake	Summer Contest
July	13	TBA	TBA	Pymatuning Lake	Summer Contest
August	23	TBA	TBA	Leesville Lake	Nite Bite
September	20	TBA	TBA	Salt Fork Lake	Fall Outing
September	21	TBA	TBA	Salt Fork Lake	Fall Outing

Newsletter and Website Updates

Over the last few months we have been able to convert approximately 20 members to the e-mail list. Thanks to all of you who have converted. This will save the chapter money each month. If you are still getting the newsletter by regular mail and you have internet access, please consider switching to e-mail. We will continue to send the newsletter to all members whether they have internet access or not.

As I mentioned last month, Muskies Inc has added an email feature to their website. Beginning this month, I will be using this to send out the newsletter e-mails. Hopefully it works ok. If you notice any problems, please contact me. If this works, I will no longer be keeping a separate member database. I will be using the MI database. So, if you want a newsletter, you will need to keep your member information current on the MI site. I cannot do that for you, you will need to do it yourself.

Also, if you have not done so yet, check out the new and improved chapter website. A new web editor feature will allow Margaret to make changes to the site as needed. After it is operational , I will be able to upload the newsletters onto the website.



Your club dues and donations are hard at work churning up oxygen at the fish hatcheries. This is the new aerator purchased with money from the minnow fund. We are working on the rest of the wish list.

Notice to members:

With warm weather coming soon I hope to see a bunch of muskies caught and the release forms sent in. So now is a good time to review some of the rules of Muskies Inc. for muskie release forms, etc.

1. Time limit on forms sent in. 30 days from the “date of the catch” to get the form to the release chairperson. Then the release chairperson has 30 days to get the entry into the international. This is set by the M.I. International Board. If the entry is late, Central Ohio Chapter will still recognize the release and count it in our lists, etc, but the fish release can’t win any awards (like Lunker of the Month).
2. Witness of the release. Central Ohio Chapter doesn’t require a witness, but the International will require a witness to qualify for any International award.
3. Submit release online to Muskies Inc. International. I encourage you to send your releases into the International using the “online option”, but if you do, please send me an email with the number of fish, date caught, and form ID numbers.
4. 50” and over releases. If you submit a 50” plus release “online”, you still need to send (not fax) me an original release form filled out and signed by you and the witness, if you want it to count in the International list.

Thanks,
Margaret

**MEMBER CONTEST FORMS**

Please send all fish release forms to:

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