



Missouri Muskies Newsletter

Pomme de Terre Chapter of Muskies Inc.

Donner's Discourse

By George Donner, President



Kid's day was July 13th this past month. We had 11 participants fishing along with club and family members. Dan Diemert was the club coordinator for kid's day and did another outstanding job of managing the event. All participants caught multiple fish. The event started at 9AM and concluded after 2 hours. The club provided lunch where Dan Diemert presided over awards and gift distribution to each participant.

Thank you to Dan Diemert at the State Park Marina for being a gracious host.



Dan Diemert carefully measures each fish caught.



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NOAA Study Finds Fishing Tops U.S. Lightning Death Activities

NOAA's National Weather Service has discovered that 64 percent of lightning deaths since 2006 occurred while people were participating in leisure activities, with **fishing topping the list at 26 deaths**. John Jensenius, a lightning safety specialist with the National Weather Service, conducted the study by examining demographic information for 238 deaths attributed to lightning over the last seven years. The findings were released to coincide with National Lightning Safety Awareness Week

Of the 152 deaths associated with leisure activities, fishing is followed by camping (15 deaths), boating (14 deaths), soccer (12 deaths) and golf (8 deaths). The remaining 77 people were struck by lightning while participating in a number of other leisure activities like enjoying the beach, swimming, walking and running, riding recreational vehicles, and picnicking or relaxing in their yard. Between 2006 and 2012, 82 percent of people killed by lightning were male.

"When people think of lightning deaths, they usually think of golf," Jensenius said. "While every outdoor activity is dangerous when a thunderstorm is in the area, outdoor activities other than golf lead to more lightning deaths. NOAA has made a concerted effort to raise lightning awareness in the golf community since we began the campaign in 2001, and we believe our outreach has made a huge difference since lightning-related deaths on golf courses have decreased by 75 percent."

Jensenius said the large number of fishing, camping and boating lightning deaths may occur because these activities require extra time to get to a safe place. "People often wait far too long to head to safety when a storm is approaching, and that puts them in a dangerous and potentially deadly situation," he said.

Prior to the lightning safety campaign, lightning killed an average of 73 people each year in the United States. Since the National Weather Service launched the campaign, the average has dropped to 37. Seven people have died from lightning strikes so far this year.

The best way for people to protect themselves against lightning injury or death is to monitor the weather and postpone or cancel outdoor activities when thunderstorms are in the forecast. Lightning can strike from 10 miles away, so if people can hear thunder, they are in danger of being struck by lightning. The only safe places to be during a thunderstorm are in a building with four walls and a roof or in a car. A hut, cabana, tent, or other rain shelter will not protect a person from being struck by lightning.

Editor's note: I was informed that Fred Wehrli had a FOUR (4) Musky day this summer! Yowsa Fred!



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Lake St. Clair Fishing Trip Report – 2013

By Steve Worstell

“Call me Ishmael. Some days ago- never mind how long precisely- having little or no money in my purse, and nothing particular to interest me on shore, I thought I would sail about a little and see the watery part of the world.” Moby Dick, Loomings, by Herman Melville.

Again this year, 6 adventurous souls embarked upon a sojourn to Lake St. Clair in search of the mighty monster Musky. What follows is an exact account of the interesting affairs surrounding this journey.

Day 1 – drive to Detroit from St. Louis before 7 pm when the gate where we are staying is closed. Get secret code to open gate. Establish base camp and elucidate on plans for the next four days. Brats and Dogs for dinner, yum. Followed by nightcaps of scotch and beer.

Day 2 – meet the charter captain at the designated marina slip (different from last year). Yippee, we found it. Cap’n Ed was there with his first mate Alex (his son). We started at 7 am – going for morning bite. Upon reaching the target trolling area, the planer boards were deployed followed by 4 lines on each side and 4 down rods off the back of the boat/ship.

(side note: we discussed at length what is the difference between a boat and a ship)

Google sez:

	Boat	Ship
Operates in:	Usually inland (lakes) or in protected coastal areas.	Oceans, seas, rivers, lakes; most deep water bodies.
Definition:	A boat is a watercraft of modest size designed to float or plane, to provide passage across water.	A ship is a large vessel that floats on water.
Types:	unpowered boats, sail boats and motorboats	commercial vessels, naval ships, fishing vessels and pleasure craft

Wayne was first up and at 8:05 he brought in a 43.25” Musky. Broke the ice – yee haw. At 8:13 Steve picked up a 38”er followed by Merv at 9:10 – 42 inch; Doug with a 30” at 9:12, Denis at 11:00 – 34”, and at noonish, Nathan with a weird feeling fish that happened to be a 50”. However, due to a netting mishap, the fish was onboard briefly but escaped before the picture taking could take place. The captain invoked professional value recognition (PVR) to determine the exact length of the fish. It was BIG! Nathan then caught a 34” at 12:55, next up Wayne who landed a 53.5” monster after fighting with it for over 20 minutes. The last fish caught on day 1 was a 36” by Steve. Dinner was spaghetti and meatballs. Nightcaps of scotch and beer.

Day 3 – At 10:00 am, with the two boats towed to Detroit, we tested the engineering for the planer boards and application of putting in six lines out of the Ranger boats captained by Doug and Denis.

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We tested the recovery boxes as well. Unfortunately, the area we started the test was ripe with weeds. So, we would get the planer boards out, and then a line or two but they became clogged with weeds and we had to pull it all in, clean the weeds off and let it out again. We decided to move to another area of the lake with fewer weeds. That worked much better. We still had to clean weeds off baits occasionally, but we went for quite awhile without having to de-weed the planer boards. The day was hot, we had exhausted all forms of liquid on the boats and at about 5:30 we decided to quit for the day. Then, BANG! The Hutchinson boat encountered a violent strike. "Fish on" rang out and Cap'n Doug grabbed the rod and handed it to Nathan. Steve was to keep driving to avoid getting all the other gear tangled. As the fish was brought near the boat, Doug and Nathan switched places two or three times. The result was that the fish (a 42"er) was netted successfully. However, in the excitement, somebody (gulp) forgot to keep the boat moving and the planer boards and all the lines out resulted in a cluster fudge. We nursed the fish after release and were concerned about her recovery. She did recover as best we could tell. We had to pull in lines hand over hand and then get rid of knots and snarls for quite awhile. We made it. We went to base camp.

Dinner was Sloppy Joes. Nightcaps of scotch and beer.

Day 4 – out with captain Ed again with first mate Kenny. We started at 11:00 am going all day for the evening bite. At 11:49 Merv pulled in a 32", then Doug with a 30" at 12:56, followed by Denis with at 39.5" at 1:14 and Nathan with a 33.5" to finish the second round. Third round was Wayne – 30" Pike, Steve - 42.5", Merv – 37.5", Doug – 32.5", Denis – 45" (preceded by a 19.5" Small Mouth), Nathan – 40". Fourth round was Wayne with a 40.5" and Steve with a 42" at 8:25 in the evening. Then a cold wind came up and the bite stopped.

Dinner was sandwiches because nobody wanted to fix anything that took time – too tired. Nightcaps of scotch and beer.

Day 5 – instead of launching our boats, we decided to head home as rain and wind were expected on the lake. Everyone was tired and just wanted to get home and rest.

Here are some pictures of the catches. We had a great time as usual. More pictures will be in next months' issue. Stay tuned for this trip next year --you too could experience the St Clair fishery.



Left: Wayne and first mate Alex hold up this marvelous specimen of Muskellunge flesh. It was measured at 53.5 inches and I'm told that this ties the Missouri Muskies record longest fish caught.



Right: Steve holds his 42.5 inch fat boy with Cap'n Ed.



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Upcoming Events

The fall tournament entry forms and fliers will be mailed 1st week in August due to a mailing issue related to PDT Chamber of Commerce. This year's tournament is October 4th, 5th & 6th. Remember, starting positions are based on receipt of completed tournament entry form. First entry gets starting position number 1 and so on.

You can get a head start by going to our website <http://www.missourimuskie.org> and down load the tournament entry form!!!!

Changes to fall tournament pay out, this year the minimum payout for the tournament is \$1,275 which is equivalent to 30 teams participating This payout is regardless of the amount of entries received. The payout increases progressively above 30 teams. In the past actual tournament payout was based on the number of entries which has been less than 30 teams. **This year the payout schedule minimums are:**

Friday		Sat/Sun	
1st Place	\$225.00	1st Place	\$500.00
2nd Place	\$125.00	2nd Place	\$225.00
3rd Place	\$75.00	3rd Place	\$125.00

T Shirt Sales: We will be selling T-Shirts this year Friday and Saturday mornings. There will be no need to pre-order the T Shirts.

See next page for entry form.



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Tournament Entry Form

UNSIGNED ENTRY FORMS WILL BE RETURNED FOR SIGNATURE

LATE FEE, IF ENTRY FEE POSTMARKED AFTER SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2013 - \$10 PER TEAM

PLEASE PRINT		Team Fees	Amount Enclosed
Boater's Name		Friday \$60	
Mailing Address		Saturday/Sunday \$130*	
City, State, Zip		Big Fish Pot Optional	
Phone		\$10 Friday	
Email		\$10 Saturday	
Boater's Signature		\$10 Sunday	
Partner's Name		Extra Meals @ \$17 ea	
Mailing Address		Late Fee	
City, State, Zip			
Phone			
Email			
Partner's Signature		Total Enclosed	

Send entry form & check or money order payable to:

Pomme De Terre Chapter of Muskies Inc. C/O Wayne Humphrey, 768 Country Manor Lane, St Louis Mo 63141

Entry Fees

Friday – October 4th.....\$60 per team

Saturday/Sunday October 5th & 6th.....\$130* per team

*Includes Saturday Night Banquet at Wheatland Senior Center

Optional Big Fish Pot (100% Payback)..... \$10 Team/Day (See Rules)

Late Fees Apply If Postmarked after September 14th 2013 or Entry at Dock

Tournament Contacts: George Donner 816-678-1623 or Wayne Humphrey 314-440-2173

Tournament Rules Mailed with Entry Confirmation

Also Available Online at www.missourimuskie.org

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<u>2013 Pomme De Terre Chapter of Muskies Inc.</u>			
<u>Calendar of Club Events</u>			
		Chairman	Contact No.
August			
17	Pomme de Tour - Lindley Arm - From The Harbor Marina @ 8 AM	Earle Hammond	816-225-3519
September			
21	Guide For A Day - Meeting - Meal	Steve Worstell	816-520-2371
18-20	Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge @ Lake Vermillion	Fred Wehrli	785-584-6393
October			
4	Friday Fall Muskie Tournament	George Donner Scott Schlick	816-678-1623
5-6	Saturday/Sunday Fall Muskie Tournament	George Donner Scott Schlick	816-678-1624
11-19	Lac Seul Trip	Doug Hutchinson	314-949-0854
26-27	CPR Mail-in Tournament	Wayne Humphrey	314-440-2173
November			
9	Pick 3 Outing - Dinner & Nominations Meeting Follow	George Donner	816-678-1623
December			
7	Annual & Planning Meeting - Starts at 10 AM - Lunch Served	George Donner	816-678-1623



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Event Descriptions

Pomme de tours (Pomme and Lindley arms of the lake) are held for members to educate them on fishing spots, lures, techniques to catch Muskies. Using a pontoon boat, the tours are led by our professional guides. This is a great opportunity to socialize with other members and to learn where and how to fish the lake. This is free for members but expenses for the boat and gas are shared. Bring your lunch or buy lunch while at a stop on the tour.

Guide for a Day (GFAD) – This is a significant fundraiser for our club. Existing members guide potential members (from sports shows or other ads). The goal is to provide a good example of what fishing for muskies is all about and have a great steak dinner. This has led to many new members in the past.

Fall Tournament – This is the best fishing time of the year and this is our clubs' premier event. Cash prizes are awarded. There are two tournaments in the same weekend – Friday tournament and Saturday/Sunday tournament. A big meal and program are held Saturday night. Drawings for prizes are held as well.

CPR (Catch, Photograph, Release) tournament – This tournament is held at the end of October to encourage fishing at ANY Missouri Lake or Kincaid Lake in southern Illinois. Cash prizes are awarded for the largest fish.

Pick Three Outing – Each member picks three lures to fish with. They can only use those lures for the day. Big Fish pot is voluntary. Braggin' rights apply for the first, most, largest etc.

Steve Worstel is the newsletter editor for 2013. If you have any questions or comments, please let him know – sworstel1@yahoo.com or 816-520-2371. If you have articles or want to participate in creating the newsletter, the more hands, the lighter the load. Please check out our website at MissouriMuskies.org for more information about our chapter.

