



# Missouri Muskies Newsletter

## Pomme de Terre Chapter of Muskies Inc.

### Donner's Discourse

By George Donner, President



April's club activity was observing the netting of muskies at Pomme De Terre. More about that activity elsewhere in the newsletter.

April's club meeting was at Whiteman Air Force Base on April 20<sup>th</sup>. There was a small turnout, those that attended were treated to a tour of the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit on Whiteman Air Force Base. This unit is responsible for the disposal of the Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and unexploded military ordinance in war zones and practice ranges. Club members Paul Olejnicak and Rich Bullock,

retired officers co-hosted the event.

We learned the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit is comprised of men and women from all branches of the service. Whiteman is the central training facility for all the branches of the service. The Navy has the added responsibility of dealing with underwater explosives in addition to land ordinance so only a portion of their training takes place at Whiteman. We were able to have "hands-on" several devices along with the tools used to dispose of the explosive devices.

I was unaware of this military unit and the many lives saved through their brave actions that make their fellow soldiers and "in country" civilians safe from these devices. We observed that many soldiers from this unit have lost their life protecting others. I appreciate Paul and Rich's time spent making those in attendance aware of these brave men and women.



Paul Olejnicak showing an explosive device designed to maim people



Rich Bullock demonstrating the armored suit worn by soldiers when disarming a device



A view of a small portion of training ordinance utilized by this unit.



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Club member Steve Worstell (center) struggling to stay standing in the armored suit while Rich Bullock (left) is answering a question from Wayne Humphrey. The suit weighs 80 pounds without the helmet. Rich is holding the helmet. The helmet is air cooled and custom fitted to the soldier. The face shield on the helmet is  $\frac{3}{4}$ " inch thick.



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### Border War Tournament Results

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We just concluded the Border War Tournament against the Shawnee Club in March. One fish was caught by the Shawnee club, allowing them to continue their streak of 4 consecutive wins. Jim Beatty caught a 35 ½" fish just before 1pm Saturday. Conditions were overcast and cold but not unbearable.

And here is the winning fish. This is a fatty.





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### Upcoming Events

**May's** club event is May 18<sup>th</sup>. It is our annual Musky Mahem outing. The event is a chance for new members to learn the lake by being paired up with an experienced member and fish the lake together. We will be leaving out of the State Park Marina at 8AM, fishing until 4PM. Dinner for participants is at 5:30 with a donation of an estimated cost of \$5.00. The dinner will be at the Masonic Lodge with a club meeting to follow. I need a head count if you are planning to attend so that we may have enough food for the dinner.

This year we have two new members eligible, I need a volunteer to show one new member the ropes on Pomme De Terre. The other member has a conflict on this date, so Paul Olejnicak has agreed to take him out on another date. Please let me know if you are available by contacting me at 816-678-1623 or at [george@issourimuskies.org](mailto:george@issourimuskies.org).

The catching is expected to be extraordinarily good this time of year as the water temperature is gradually warming and there is an abundance of bait fish along with a large percentage of the muskies over 35" in the lake this year.

**June 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>** is our Northern Missouri Musky Trail Outing & Meeting. We will be fishing Henry Sever June 8<sup>th</sup> and Hazel Creek on June 9<sup>th</sup>. See our website @ [www.missourimuskies.org](http://www.missourimuskies.org) for details.

### Northeast Missouri Muskie Outing - June 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013

If you want a unique muskie fishing opportunity come join the *Northeast MO Muskie Outing* sponsored by Pomme Chapter of Muskie, Inc. June 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> 2013. The outing will start at Henry Sever Lake at Newark, MO on June 8<sup>th</sup>. (Henry Sever is located 1 mile north of Newark, MO on Rt. KK) Launch time will be at 7:00 A.M. Henry Sever is a 158 acre lake. Outboard motors in excess of 10 horsepower must operate at slow, no wake speed. Muskie fishing success at Henry Sever has been improving the last couple of years. Lunch will be provided by Pomme Chapter members for all participating in the outing. (Hot dogs, brats, chips and drinks).

*The Northeast Muskie Outing* will continue on June 9<sup>th</sup> at Hazel Creek Lake, about three miles north of Kirksville, MO, then 1.5 miles west on Buck Creek Road. (When Buck Creek swings to the right, continue straight to the lake.) The boat ramp on the north side will be used for the outing. Hazel Creek Lake is 530 acres and is owned and operated by the city of Kirksville, MO. Only electric motors are permitted. Hazel Creek Lake is noted for having many muskie over 40".

Lunch will again be provided by members of the Pomme Chapter of Muskie, Inc.

### Distance, Lodging, Food Possibilities for June 7<sup>th</sup>:

- **Shelbina Best Value Inn** (Distance from Shelbina to Newark = 25 miles)  
711 North Highway 15  
Shelbina, MO 63468  
(573) 588-0020
- **Martha's Family Restaurant** (Shelbina) is open for evening meals and early morning breakfast. (opens @ 5:00 A.M.)
- **Little's Family Restaurant** (Shelbyville) is open for evening meals with an adjoining bar.
- **Bethel, MO** (Distance from Bethel to Newark = 12 miles)  
**Inn Harmony**-- *Opened in 2006, the original colony hotel now houses guest's in a historic setting, modestly furnished with a complete kitchen and private bath, with a bit of history in each guest room. The proud owners are Melvin and Wendy Brumbaugh. To make reservations please call (660)278-4221.*
- **Smokin J's Steakhouse** (Bethel, MO) *Smokin J's is a new steakhouse and bar in Bethel, Missouri. It is a small family owned business that will serve barbeque specials along with a full menu of food and drinks.*





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- **Ozark Lodge & Steakhouse-Newark, MO and Solid Rock Café**  
(Distance from Lodge to Henry Sever = 6 miles) Lodge Rooms by reservation at (660) 284-6333. Prices start at \$47.50 per night. (No TV)
- **Primitive Camping is available at Henry Sever.**

### Lodging Possibilities for June 8<sup>th</sup>: (Kirksville, MO)

- **Days Inn** (phone: 660-665-8244)
- **Super 8** (phone: 660-665-8826) Parking for boats. Bring a long extension cord and power strip.

*Please let Wayne Humphrey know by May 31<sup>st</sup> if you are planning to attend the Northeast Missouri Muskie Outing so that we can make lunch plans. Thanks! 314-440-2173, wayne@missourimuskies.org*

## Netting Results Recap

Craig Fuller, Pomme De Terre's Lake Biologist provided this report concerning the netting of muskies for this year. Craig is committed to improve the muskie fishing in Missouri, however, before any changes in stocking strategies occur, he needs to evaluate the effects of our current schedule. You can access Missouri's Muskie Management Plan at: <http://mdc.mo.gov/fishing/protect-missouris-fishing/fish-management-plans>

Hi George,

I'm glad you had the opportunity get out on the lake a couple of days last week and visit with us during muskie sampling.

Sampling results are encouraging, and I expect an improvement in muskie fishing over the next couple of years compared to the fishing reports I received during 2011 – 2012. However, as you know, climactic and environmental influences have the potential to have significant impacts.

The results from last week's sample would characterize the current muskie population as a young and strong population with a good size structure and body conditions. In three days of setting ten nets per day we captured a total of 209 muskie (Day 1 = 73, Day 2 = 76, and Day 3 = 60). The smallest muskie captured was 15.8 inches long and the largest was 43.5 inches long. The total catch rate was equal to 7.0 fish per net-day; slightly better than the long-term (13 year) average of 6.2 fish per net-day. Although, this year's catch rate of (7.0) is dramatically higher than the past two years (2.4 and 1.2) we can't lose site of the fact that sampling conditions in 2011 (high water) and 2012 (warm water) were not ideal.

For your reference, I have attached a two page summary of the sampling results. On page 1, you will see a graph that depicts the 2001 - 2013 muskie sampling catch rate and a graph that depicts the percentage of the muskie population over 36 and 40 inches long for the same time period. Page 2 contains length frequency histograms for 2011, 2012 and 2013.

May 2013

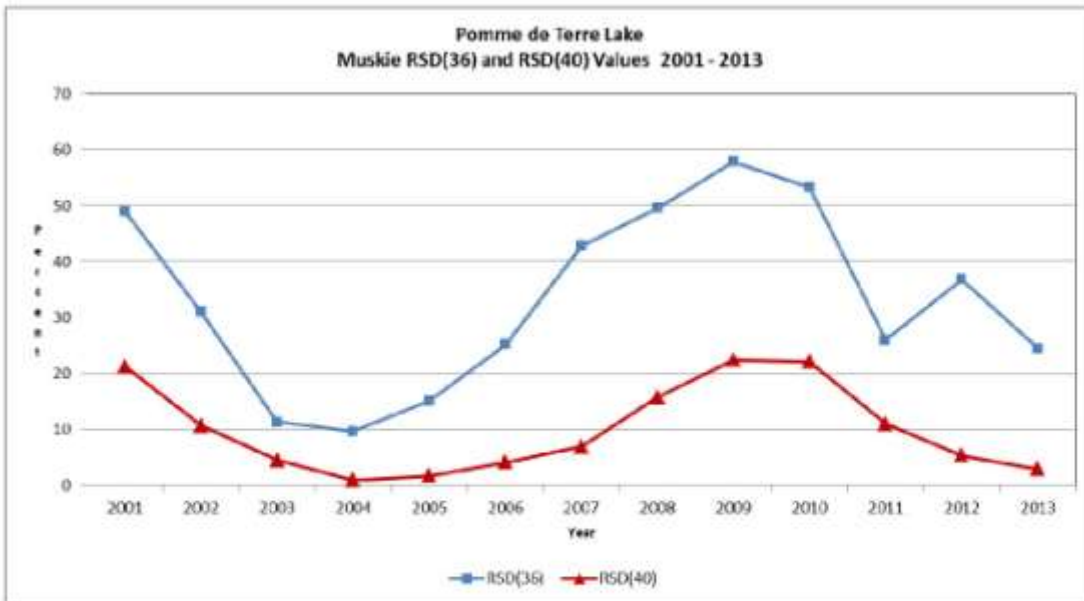
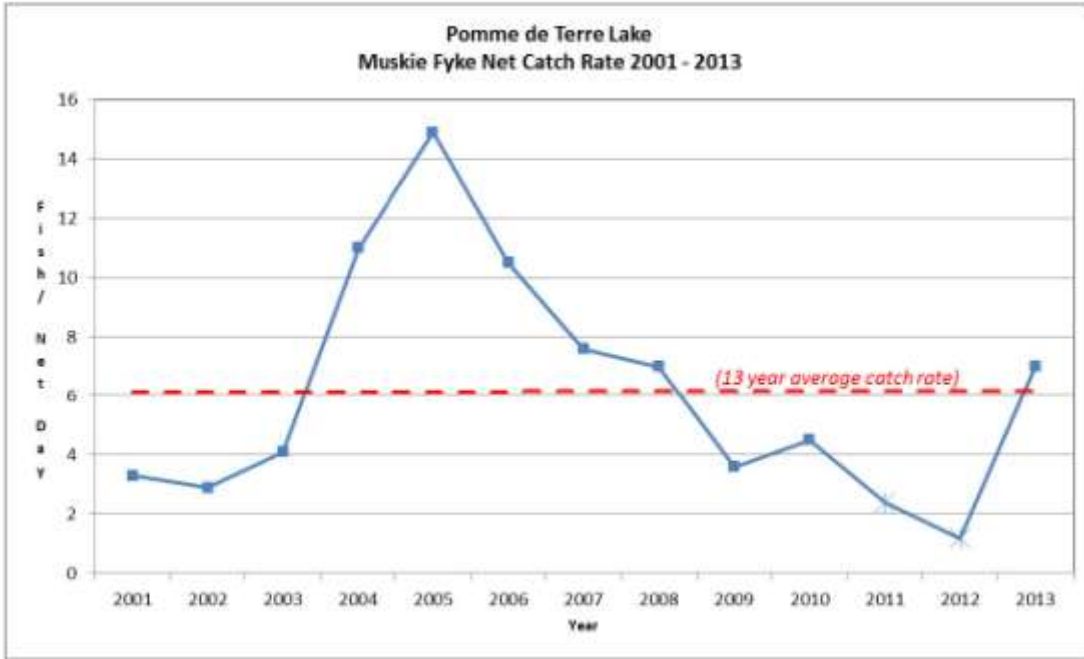
Visit [MissouriMuskies.org](http://MissouriMuskies.org) today!



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## Pomme de Terre Chapter of Muskies Inc.

The **Show Me Muskie Project** is one of the ways that the MDC evaluates the muskie fishing. Please make sure you utilize the forms. Blank forms are available at <http://mdc.mo.gov/fishing/protect-missouris-fishing/show-me-muskie-project>

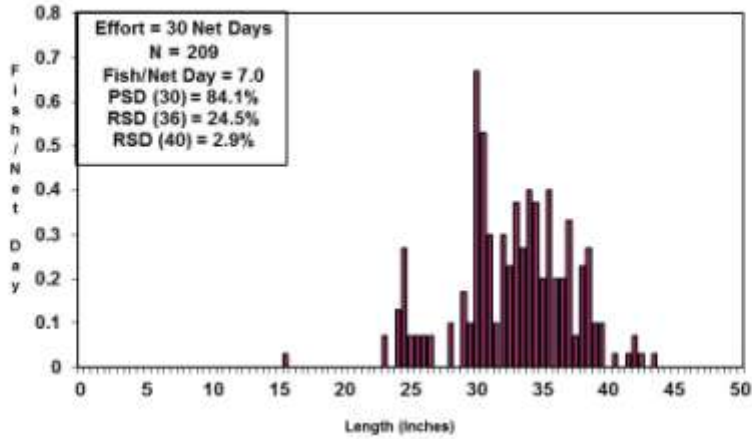




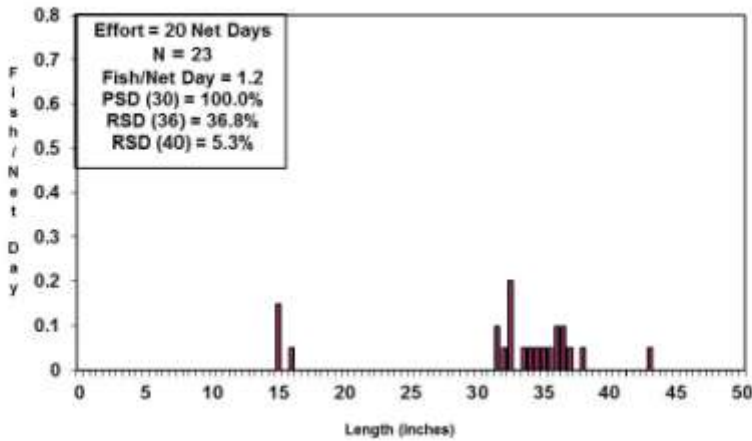
# Missouri Muskies Newsletter

## Pomme de Terre Chapter of Muskies Inc.

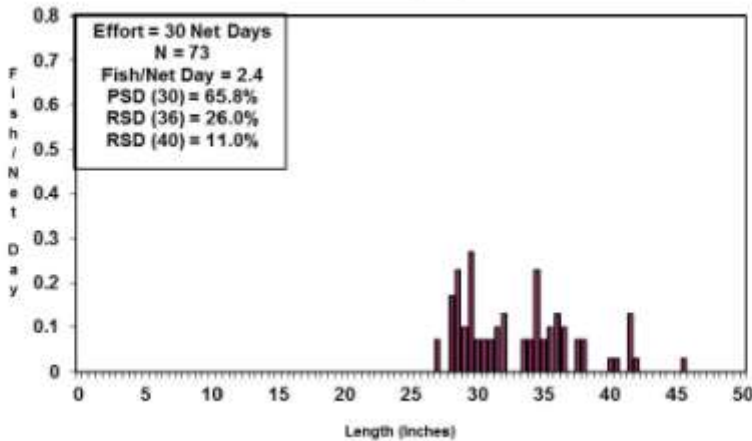
Pomme de Terre - Fyke Net  
Muskie - Spring 2013



Pomme de Terre - Fyke Net  
Muskie - Spring 2012



Pomme de Terre - Fyke Net  
Muskie - Spring 2011





# Missouri Muskies Newsletter

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### Netting – Show and Tell

By Wayne Humphrey

Muskies were netted on Pomme de Terre the week of April 7<sup>th</sup>. Nets were set on Monday and run Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Earle Hammond followed the crew around on Tuesday with Jim Wilson and George Donner and witnessed the results. They saw a 43 inch fish netted with a total of 73 fish captured. On Wednesday George Donner, Wayne Humphrey and Jim Ashton went out with Earle in the rain to see the results. 76 fish were netted with a couple over 40 inches including a fat 40 inch fish that weighed in at 20 pounds.

Nets are set perpendicular to the shore line with the holding net set in deep water. The net is picked up and moved to shallow water where the muskies are removed from the net and put into a holding tank on board the boat. An individual fish is put into a tube where it is sexed and the length measured. The tube is then moved to a scale. After weighing the fish is released.

A couple of interesting things were noticed. There are some other fish that will get trapped in the nets. Crappie and sunfish were common along with turtles. The two nets set in the vicinity of the Harbor had the most fish and included a big bass, 14.5 inch crappie and several drum. Salt is added to the holding tank. The salt has a calming effect on the fish making it easier to handle the fish. Another benefit of the salt is that it cleanses any wounds on the fish. The wounds typically come from spawning and from having so many big fish in a confined area.

When musky are released into the shallow water beside the boat they were slow to move off. Most stuck there nose toward the shore and set there for a minute or so before they turned around and moved off. A couple set there long enough they needed a nudge to get them moving. With the exception of one fish that was dead in the net, all fish appeared to be successfully released.

Average length of the fish in the nets was probably about 35-36 inches which is about what I would expect.

It was interesting to watch the process and see that many large muskies in one spot. It provides inspiration and renews one's hope of catching fish.

The MDC had netted Fellows the previous week. They were hampered by very high water and results were not outstanding with no very large fish netted.

If you get a chance to watch this this take place, do it. Only takes about 4 hours to run 10 nets so it doesn't occupy a whole day. Thanks to Earle Hammond for providing the pontoon boat from which to watch the action.

**Pictures on next page.....**

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Visit [MissouriMuskies.org](http://MissouriMuskies.org) today!





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Netting boat, extracting all but muskie from net, net full o' muskies, 14.5" Crappie, muskie holding tank, weighing and measuring in tube.





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### Fall Tournament Updates

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

The tournament is October 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Boat numbers determine starting sequence, numbers are assigned based on receipt of completed tournament entry form. First entry gets starting position number 1 and so on.**

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		<b>Big Fish Pot</b> Optional	
Phone		\$10 Friday	
Email		\$10 Saturday	
<b>Boater's Signature</b>		\$10 Sunday	
Partner's Name		Extra Meals @ \$17 ea	
Mailing Address		Late Fee	
City, State, Zip			
Phone			
Email			
<b>Partner's Signature</b>		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 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> ..... \$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 14<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.missourimuskie.org)

May 2013

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<b><u>2013 Pomme De Terre Chapter of Muskies Inc.</u></b>			
<b><u>Calendar of Club Events</u></b>			
		Chairman	Contact No.
<b>May</b>			
18	Musky Mahem & Club Meeting (Guided Fishing W New Members)	George Donner	816-678-1623
	Fish 8 - 4 Dinner @ 5:30 Meeting to Follow		
<b>June</b>			
8-9	Northern Missouri Musky Trail Outing & Meeting - Henry Sever & Hazel Creek	George Donner Tim Dunaway	816-678-1623 573-588-4082
<b>July</b>			
13	Kids Day - State Park Marina - Lunch & Meeting follow	Dan Diemert Steve Worstell	314-752-9971 816-520-2371
27	Pomme de Tour - Pomme Arm - from The Harbor Marina @ 8 AM	Earle Hammond	816-225-3519
TBD	Lake St Clair outing	Denis Ledgerwood	636-346-4288
<b>August</b>			
17	Pomme de Tour - Lindley Arm - From The Harbor Marina @ 8 AM	Earle Hammond	816-225-3519
<b>September</b>			
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
<b>October</b>			
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
<b>November</b>			
9	Pick 3 Outing - Dinner & Nominations Meeting Follow	George Donner	816-678-1623
<b>December</b>			
7	Annual & Planning Meeting - Starts at 10 AM - Lunch Served	George Donner	816-678-1623



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### Event Descriptions

Musky Mayhem – Members meet and fish at Pomme de Terre Lake. New members will be “guided” by an existing member to get them introduced to the lake, hot spots, lures, techniques, etc.

Northern Musky Trail – Members will meet at Henry Sever Lake to fish Saturday and then move to Hazel Creek Lake to fish Sunday. The lakes are within a few hours of each other and it is a chance for us to use those stocked lakes as well as Pomme.

Kids' Day - Fishing event provides a day to bring kids and family to the state park marina to fish for crappie (and whatever else bites). Fish are measured and weighed and records are kept. This is for kids from 5 to 16.

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.

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Steve Worstell is the newsletter editor for 2013. If you have any questions or comments, please let him know – [sworstel1@yahoo.com](mailto: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](http://MissouriMuskies.org) for more information about our chapter.





