

# MO MUSKIE



# NEWS



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• **I THINK THAT THIS WOULD BE A GOOD TIME TO THANK EVERYONE WHO TOOK THE TIME TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE SPORT SHOWS. I KNOW WE HAD A GOOD TURNOUT AND LOTS OF INTEREST IN OUR CHAPTER AND OUR VARIOUS ACTIVITIES...**

EARLE



## NEELY NOTES

BY PRESIDENT GARY NEELY

Always seems a bit out of place when writing the newsletter article at least one month before it is published – Can't quite figure out if I am a month ahead or behind. The weather – well it's still winter but these occasional warm days creeping in sure makes one think of spring and renews the hope for the upcoming fishing season when it's warm on the water. I am surely looking forward to it after losing almost a half of year to ill health and really want to get back on the water soon.

I do get to talk fishing at the sports shows and I love to attend them and talk to the potential new muskie fishermen and women about our sport as well as to meet with some of our members that are located a distance from my home base. It's what keeps me going during the cold weather and I highly recommend that you too get a bit involved in

some of the local sports shows when they come to your area.

By the time you read this I will have attended the St. Louis show and spent some time in our booth as well as wandering around the show floor to see anything new in our fishing world and hopefully find that newest gadget that is guaranteed to make me a better muskie fisherman.

Don't forget the upcoming Chapter Challenge with the folks at Lake Kincaid as that is sure to be a good time and then followed by our own Spring Fling – our one day spring tournament. That's always a good time.

We are in discussions with the new president elect of MI about the possibility of him coming to visit our chapter and speak to the membership and that should be one of the major high-

lights of the upcoming year.

We are also monitoring the situation with the partnership agreement between the Corps, MDC, MO Conservation Heritage Foundation, Polk County Commission and MI #5 about the handicap fishing pier that will be installed in the Bolivar Landing area of the lake and our participation in this project. We will be contacting all news media in the area, taking photos for an article to be sent to MI for the monthly magazine and hopefully will have a great turnout for the dedication of this facility. This project may well be one of the defining moments during the early years of this century for expanding fishing opportunities in our area. Plan on being there and participating as I am sure this will be a fun and gratifying event. Watch the newsletter and our web site for more up to date announcements.

**DON'T FORGET TO GET YOUR ENTRY FORM IN FOR THE SECOND ANNUAL CHAPTER CHALLENGE COMING UP THE 9TH OF MARCH...THERE IS STILL TIME. HURRY!!!!!!**

**2nd ANNUAL  
POMME DE TERRE / SHAWNEE  
CHAPTER CHALLENGE**

**MARCH 8, 2008**

**AT BEAUTIFUL LAKE KINKAID**

**This is a team event for Illinois/Missouri bragging rights.**

**Cost \$40.00 per team. Includes post-outing dinner.**

**Any funds over actual cost will be split between chapters  
based on number of participating teams.**

**Traveling Trophy To Most Successful Chapter  
Jackets for highest scoring team of winning chapter**

**Rod and Reel for longest released MUSKIE**

**For more information contact:**

**Denis Ledgerwood - Home (636) 527-5366**

**Cell (636) 346-4288 - [denis@missourimuskie.org](mailto:denis@missourimuskie.org)**

**OR**

**Manuel Santa Cruz - Home (618) 610-5003**

**[cruz61@charter.net](mailto:cruz61@charter.net)**

*Friday night just for the Pomme Chapter  
at the Chapter Challenge. For  
more information please contact  
Denis Ledgerwood.*



WHILE MOST OF YOU WILL BE ABLE TO GET THIS INFORMATION OFF OF OUR WEBSITE WE HAVE MEMBERS THAT DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET FOR WHATEVER REASON THE ENTRY FORM AND ACCOMMODATIONS ARE HERE FOR THEM.

1. This outing is open to members of Pomme de Terre and Shawnee Chapters of MUSKIES, Inc. Prospective members are welcome and must fish with a Chapter member. This is a TEAM event.
2. All IL Conservation and Water Safety regulations are in force. **Live bait is prohibited and trolling is limited to 1 rod per person with one lure per rod.**
3. **Fishing hours are 8:30AM to 4:30PM.** Releases prior to 8:30AM will not be accepted. **Sign in will be from 6:00AM to 8:30AM at the boat launch marina dock.** All participants must check in or be inside the buoy's by 4:30PM. Outing Official's clock will be the Official Clock.
4. Released MUSKIES over 30" will be scored as 4 points for 30" and 1 point for each additional inch.
5. **Both team members must sign release form.** You are on your honor, no additional witnesses required.
6. **All occupants of a participating boat must be outing entrants.**
7. The outing committee is the final judge of all rules and decisions.

**AWARD CRITERIA**

For the traveling Chapter Trophy, total Chapter points will be divided by the number of Chapter teams.

Highest average points per team receives trophy. For this to work, a minimum of 3 teams per chapter is desired.

The individual team award will be determined by the highest team point total from the winning Chapter. **Longest released Muskie will receive a rod and reel.**

**Tournament Entry Form**

I have read and understand the tournament rules. I hereby waive and release all other contestants, local Muskies, Inc. and Muskies, Inc. International, sponsors and tournament official from any claims in the tournament. **UNSIGNED ENTRY FORMS WILL BE RETURNED FOR SIGNATURE!** All entrants will be required to sign a release of liability. Send entry form along with check or money order payable to: **Shawnee (Chapter of Muskies, Inc.)**

**Entry Fees: \$40.00 per boat if received on or before March 3rd, 2008 or \$50.00 per boat at the dock on Saturday Morning.**

Mail entry fees to: Manuel Santa Cruz, 61 W. Jennings Ave, Wood River, IL 62095

**Release Of Liability**

Read Carefully Before Signing

IN CONSIDERATION of being permitted to participate among and on the boats under the auspices of Muskies, Inc. International and THE POMME DE TERRE CHAPTER, I acknowledge, appreciate, and agree that:

1. "I am aware of the inherent risk associated with fishing and boating, including but not limited to the risks of collisions with other boats and stationary objects in and around the lake, including rocks, reefs or piers or other vehicles and trailers at landing areas. I am familiar with other risks up to and including death by drowning associated with rough water, changing weather patterns, heavy winds and lightning storms. I expressly assume all risks associated with this tournament and I hereby release Muskies, Inc. International and Shawnee the host sponsors, and tournament officials from all claims of negligence resulting from injury and/or property damages incurred in connection with the tournament."
2. I knowingly and freely assume all such risks, both known and unknown even if arising from the negligence of those persons released from liability below, and assume full responsibility for my participation; and
3. I will comply with all rules and regulations. If I have any question, or observe any unusual or unnecessary hazard during my participation, I will immediately bring such to the attention of the nearest official; and
4. I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, hereby release, indemnify and hold harmless the Muskies, Inc. International and the Shawnee Chapter, the owners and lessors of premises used to conduct the tournament, their officers, officials, ("Releasees"), with respect to any and all injury, disability, death, or loss or damage to person or property, whether caused by the negligence of the Releasees or otherwise, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

**FOR PARTICIPANTS OF MINORITY AGE** (Under Age 18 at Time of Registration) This is to certify that I, as parent/guardian of the participant, do consent and agree to his/her indemnification, release and hold harmless as provided above of all Releasees, and I, or myself and behalf of my heirs, assigns and next of kin, hereby release, indemnify and hold harmless the Releasees from any and all claims incident to my child's involvement in these programs even if arising out of the negligence of the Releasees, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

X \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent / Guardian Signature**

<b>Boater's Name</b>	
<b>Mailing Address</b>	
<b>City</b>	
<b>Phone</b>	
<b>Boater's Signature</b>	
<b>Partner's Name</b>	
<b>Mailing Address</b>	
<b>City</b>	
<b>Phone</b>	
<b>Partner's Signature</b>	

# THE GOLF BAG TRICK

BY RANDY MURAWSKI

**DON'T  
FORGET  
THE  
SPRING  
FLING  
TOURNAMENT  
IS  
COMING  
UP  
ON  
MARCH 29**

**CONTACT  
WAYNE  
HUMPHREY  
FOR  
MORE  
INFORMATION.**

wayne@missourimuskie.org

**OR**

**314-878-7732.**



A great way to store your rods and other gear during the winter, summer, or even between fishing trips is to store them in an old upright golf bag.

Put the rods where the clubs are supposed to go, if it's the kind of bag that has the tubes even better.

Of course you can store reels in the pockets after wrapping them in socks, and

if you want to get fancy, put the bag on a pull cart to haul it all out to the boat.

I travel pretty good distances to fish, and sometimes even fly to get there, so I rely in my travels on two piece rods. The golf bag is an excellent way to do that, mine even has a hard case to put the entire rig in. That makes it a perfect way to check it for the flight, again with the reels

in the many pockets I've never tried this with muskie gear, but it works darn good on my fly fishing gear.

A side note: I have heard again and again that two piece rods will I've never had that happen on the Pete Mainas I regularly use but opinions on this vary

**For those of you who may have forgotten, the April 2008 meeting will be held after the spring tournament which is March 29th. The meeting will be held at the Masons Lodge on Highway 254 just north of Carsons Corner and just south of Hemitage,**

**If you need directions feel free to call either Gary or I at our homes.**

**Earle 417-993-0035**

**Gary 417-852-7126**



### A TIP FROM RANDY MURAWSKI

Ok you probably know that its a good idea to check your line guides with a q-tip before or after every day on the lake. A cracked line guide can cost you the big fish by cutting your line. If you run a q-tip round the inside of the guide, the cotton will snag if its cracked.

The guide will need to be replaced.

A quick fix if you are in the middle of nowhere is clear nail polish.

Dab the crack with the nail polish and it will temporarily seal the crack, and get you by until you get back to civilization, or get the twenty five bucks to get it replaced.

#### Editors Note:

The finger nail polish is probably a good thing to have in your tackle box anyway. It makes a good sealer over the wraps on your line guides should they start to unravel on you.



## I DARE YOU

Want to be a better fisherman? I dare you to do the following:

When your spouse is not at home, take all the muskie lures out of your boat and set them on the floor along with all the ones you have stored in the back of the truck and on the shelves of the garage. Don't count them and don't add up the dollar amount you have spent on them.

The next thing to do is set to one side all the lures that you have not used in the last two years. Sell these at a garage sale, Ebay, or bring them to a meeting or outing and sell them there. You are only kidding yourself if you think that any of them will be the magic lure you will need one day in the future.

The next thing to do is pull out and set to one side all the lures you throw on a regular basis and in which you have the most confidence. Bet you find out that there are probably no more than 20-25 of these lures, and since they are out, check them to see if the hooks, rings and other hardware are in good shape. Sharpen the hooks so they are ready for next year. Paint job starting to look bad? Leave it alone. Those lures are catching fish because of their action and your confidence. Don't screw them up with a new paint job.

So what do you do with all the rest of those lures? Store them in the garage and go back to the 20 lures that you have the most confidence in. Put them in a tackle box and stick them back in the boat. Clean up your rods and reels, check your leaders and net, and you are ready to go fishing next year.

Bet you "dollars to doughnuts" that you won't do this. Bet you "dollars to doughnuts" that if you took these 20 lures and fished with them all year, learned how to work them to their potential, and developed even more confidence in them, that you would catch as many fish with them as you did with the entire assortment you used to carry.

Want to make things even more simple? Grab your box of bucktails and put it in your boat and take everything else out. Bucktails are still the number one muskie lure so how could you go wrong?

It is all about confidence. Confidence in where you fish, when you are fishing, the lure you are throwing and the way you work the lure. Fish with confidence and it won't be as important to have a hundred or more lures in your boat when you are on the water.

The least you should do is to make a New Year's resolution: For every new lure

that I purchase I will get rid of one old lure. I will not purchase anymore tackle boxes.

This approach will slow down your purchases and make you think a little more before you whip out the wallet. It also makes you think about what you will take out of the box to make room and whether you are really willing to give something up. Thinking is not bad, it too will make you a better fisherman.

Simplify your life by getting rid of a bunch of lures and boxes and go with what you have confidence in. I think you will be a better fisherman for it.





## New Meeting Location

The location of our new meeting facility is the Hermitage Masonic Lodge #288—which is located on the East side of 254 just south of Pitts Mobil Homes.

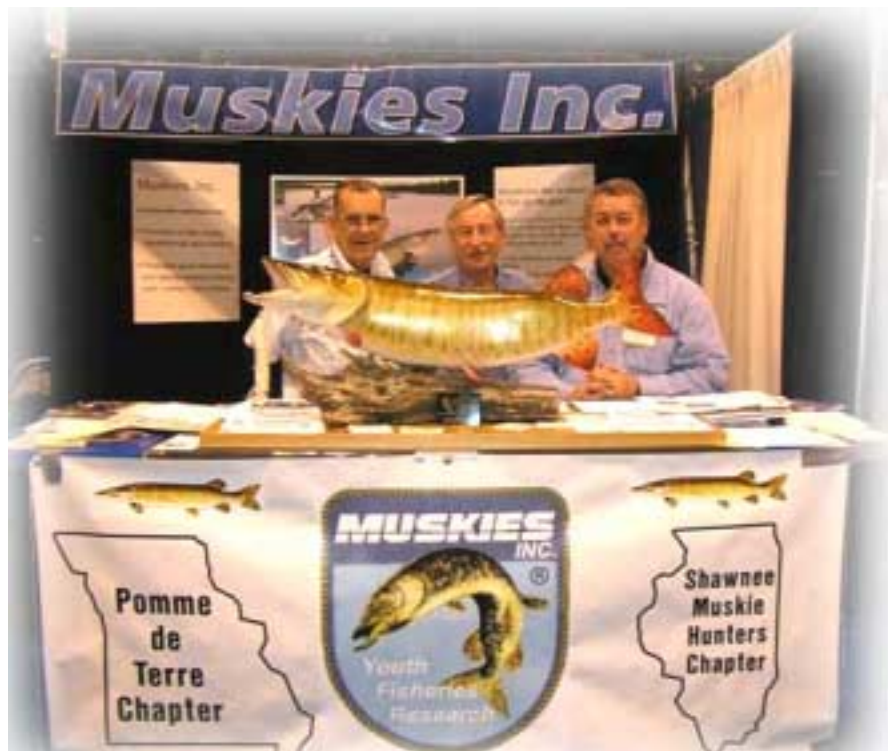
**Do not confuse this with the Masonic Shiners Club which is located just outside of Hermitage near the Pomme de Terre River.**

Traveling from State Park Marina (location L2 on the map) you will travel to highway 64 and turn left to the 4 way stop at Nemo.

Turn left (North) on highway 64 and continue past Carson's Corner straight North on highway 254 toward Hermitage. The Masonic Lodge will be located on the West side of the road (your left when traveling North on 254)

If you become confused anywhere along the drive, call Gary on his cell phone (417) 327-7138 for more details and we will guide you to the location.

See you there.



Our shared booth at the St. Louis Sport Show.

**Pomme Chapter of  
Muskie, Inc.**

Gary Neely, President  
P.O. Box #5  
Hermitage, Mo. 65668

Earle2@missourimuskie.org  
417-993-0035  
Gary@missourimuskie.org  
417-852-7126

**We are on the web!!!**

[www.missourimuskie.org](http://www.missourimuskie.org)

*Have A Muskie Day*

**POMME DE TERRE CHAPTER OF MUSKIES, INC**

**P.O. Box #5  
Hermitage, Mo. 65668**

New Member     Renewal    Chapter #5

Name \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Area Code/Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date for Junior Members \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Regular Members: \$35.00 per year; \$65.00 for 2-years, \$95.00 for 3-years.  
Family Memberships: \$47.50 per year; \$90.00 for 2-years; \$132.00 for 3-years.  
Junior Memberships: (up to 18 years of age): \$20.00 per year.

**Make checks payable to: **Muskies, Inc.** and then send to**

*Bill Hughes  
2314 Indian Mound Lane  
Manhattan, Ks 66502-2915*

**FROM:**



P.O. Box #5  
Hermitage, Mo.  
65668



**TO**