



MoMuskie News March 2010

Reetz's Pieces



*By President
Roger Reetz*

Last months REETZ'S PIECES was a miserable excuse of journalism. Whine, gripe, and mope. I promise not to inflict you with that kind of message ever again. Enough said.

The renewal of the Border War between Shawnee Muskie Hunters and our Pomme de Terre club is only a month away. We'll be traveling to Murphysboro, Illinois and neighboring Lake Kincaid in quest of the biggest muskie most of us have ever caught. Since the best way to win is to overwhelm the foe with shear numbers. You need to

plan to go. More boats in the water, more lures in the water, take more members participating.

\$100.00 will be awarded to a Pomme de Terre Chapter 5 boat, with both participants Chapter 5 members. The winning boat will have the greatest number of Muskie points. (36= 4pts. + 1"= 1pts.) This money comes from the club treasury and is an effort to reward you for your participation.

As of today there are at least four persons and two boats from Greene County, Mo. Who are planning to participate in the Border War

and return with the trophy? Our Friday evening meal and briefing should be fulfilling with good food, spirits, and knowledge of the lake to allow Chapter 5 to be successful.

This will be a great chance to CATCH PHOTO & RELEASE the Muskie of your winter dreams. Plan to be in a boat on Lake Kinkaid in Illinois on March 20, 2010.

FISH ON! Roger



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Border Wars

is coming up.... Send your entry form into Jeff Thompson ASAP. Can't find the entry form email earle2@missourimuskie.org

Common Fishing Terms

Ten common fishing terms explained

Catch and Release - A conservation motion that happens most often right before the local Fish and Game officer pulls over a boat that has caught over it's limit.

Hook - (1) A curved piece of metal used to catch fish. (2) A clever advertisement to entice a fisherman to spend his live savings on a new rod and reel. (3) The punch administered by said fisherman's wife after he spends their life savings (see also, Right Hook, Left Hook).

Line - Something you give your co-workers when they ask on Monday how your fishing went the past weekend.

Lure - An object that is semi-enticing to fish, but will drive an angler into such a frenzy that he will charge his credit card to the limit before exiting the tackle shop.

Reel - A weighted object that causes a rod to sink quickly when dropped overboard.

Rod - An attractively painted length of fiberglass that keeps an angler from ever getting too close to a fish.

School - A grouping in which fish are taught to avoid your \$29.99 lures and hold out for spam instead.

Tackle - What your last catch did to you as you reeled him in, but just before he wrestled free and jumped back overboard.

Tackle Box - A box shaped alarmingly like your comprehensive first aid kit. Only a tackle box contains many sharp objects, so that when you reach in the wrong box blindly to get a Band Aid, you soon find that you need more than one.

Test - (1) The amount of strength a fishing line affords an angler when fighting fish in a specific weight range. (2) A measure of your creativity in blaming "that darn line" for once again losing the fish.



Anyone Know What This Is?

Answer Next Month

Sebile Lures

By Wayne Humphrey

Sebile Lures has been very generously given the chapter a lot of lures in the past two years that were given away at the tournaments. Some of them look like standard bass lures, some muskie lures, and some look different than anything you have seen before. Searching the internet for some information on one of them (Bonga Jerk 125 FT, \$33 sell price) I ran across a website that has lots of photos, descriptions of the lures, how and suggested places to fish some of them.



If you would like more information on the Sebile lures, check out these web sites:

<http://www.bassdozer.com/articles/sebile-magic-swimmer-swimbait.shtml>

<http://www.bassdozer.com/articles/sebile-lures.shtml>

Chapter Makes Donation to **GO FISH!** Program

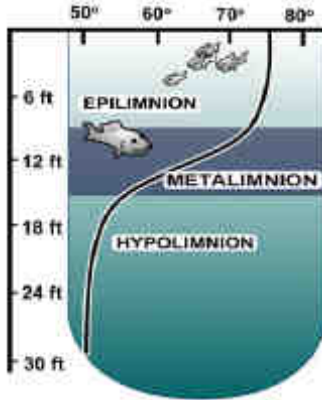
The chapter made a \$1,000 donation to the GO FISH! Program of the Missouri Department of Conservation. The program provides fishing education and equipment to city and county children in the St. Louis area. Wayne Humphrey presented the check to Denise Otto, Program Director, at a GO FISH! organizational meeting on December 12th. For more information on the program go to <http://www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/stlouis/fish/educate/>



Lake Stratification

Brought to you by the Lakes of Missouri Volunteer Program Newsletter
 "The Water Line"

Many people, especially fisherman, have heard of "turnover," which occurs when lake water mixes from the surface to the bottom. Less well known is what is happening during the rest of the year. When a lake isn't "turning over" it becomes stratified.

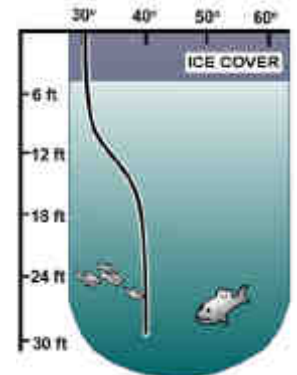


Stratification may also occur due to changes in salt content as well as temperature. Oceans, particularly in places where freshwater enters, may be stratified by salinity. The problems with Gulf Hypoxia may be attributed partially to the inability of the dense and salty bottom water to mix with the oxygen-rich, less salty water above.

A volume of water is heaviest at 4° Celsius (39.2° F), just above freezing. The same volume of water becomes lighter as it warms and rises to the surface, leaving the colder water at the bottom (except in winter—see below). As the sun continues to heat the water at the top, the difference in temperature (and density) between the top and bottom water becomes greater. Eventually there are 2 distinct layers, the epilimnion at the top and the hypolimnion at the bottom. Between these 2 layers is a third, less distinct, transition layer called the metalimnion. These layers generally hold until autumn, when the surface water cools.

Water freezes from the top down

One would assume that if water becomes more dense as it gets colder, it should freeze from the bottom up. As explained earlier, however, water is most dense at 4° Celsius (or 39.2° F), which is warmer than freezing. So as water continues to cool from 4° C (39.2° F), it becomes less dense and rises to the top, leaving the slightly warmer water below.



Often in the summer, the hypolimnion will become depleted of oxygen. The bacteria responsible for decomposition consume the oxygen and access to atmospheric oxygen is cut off by stratification.

At the surface, the cool water is exposed to freezing air temperatures and may eventually freeze. Once ice forms, the water beneath cannot be mixed by the wind.

When the ice melts in the spring, the entire water column will be at approximately 4° C for a brief time. The lake will mix thoroughly ("turnover") with just a bit of wind. A calm, warm day can heat the surface water and initiate the stratification process.

Daylight Saving Time	
2010	March 14 Nov 7
2011	March 13 Nov 6
2012	March 11 Nov 4
2013	March 10 Nov 3

Former member David Baird has rods, reels & lures for sale 417-282-5628

I guess the answer to that question depends on how many muskies you catch each year. If you are a regular on the musky lakes and catch 20+ muskies each year, you may not be willing to put forth much effort to catch another one. If you are a weekend angler that catches single digit numbers of muskies each year, maybe you will make some effort to catch another one. Here are a few things you can do in the next 30 days that will get you that one additional musky this year:

Lube and oil your reels. Make sure they are in proper operating condition and don't start squealing when you make a cast.

Check your line and make sure it is in good condition. Replace it if it has flaws. If no flaws, strip the line off the reel and put it back on "backwards". Put the end that has had the leader tied to it on the interior. This will put almost new line on the end that takes the abuse.

Make sure all your leaders are in good condition. Make sure swivels still do swivel and make sure your swivels

have solid rings and not split rings. Replace them if they don't have solid rings or don't swivel.

Pull each lure out of the tackle box and check it out. Make sure all the split rings are in good condition and not stretched out of shape or open. Make sure the hooks are in good shape and replace them if not. Hardware is not expensive so don't get cheap at this point. Make sure all hardware attachment points are tight in the body.

Sharpen all your hooks. Musky have hard mouths and sharp teeth so you need everything going for you that you can. There are lots of hints published on how to sharpen hooks and what the shape should be. The real key; sharpen your hooks. If they won't dig into your fingernail when the point is dragged across it, the hook is not sharp enough.

Clean out your tackle boxes and organize them by lure type. Why waste time on the water looking for something when you are setting around now wishing it would warm up so you can get on the water? Drag the boxes into the house and clean them out. (Yes, I know what the wife will say.) Bet you find at least one or more lures you forgot you had. (Don't ever admit that in front of the wife!)

When you do get to go fishing, get there 15 minutes earlier, fish 15 minutes later and take 15 minutes less for lunch.

Now for the tougher part; change your casting technique. Think about the effort most people go through to pick up a 7 foot rod with reel and lure that weighs anything from half an ounce to several ounces to a pound or more. Lift that lure above your head and cast it from the right side of your body. When the lure hits the water switch the rod to the left side so you can crank the reel with your right hand. Switch it back to your right side and repeat the process a thousand times a day. It is no wonder you are so tired at night and your shoulder aches and you really start slacking off at the end of the day.

I suggest you learn how to cast with your left hand so you are not switching the rod back and forth all day. It isn't that hard to learn with long handled rods and your casting accuracy in most muskie fishing situations isn't that critical you feel confident fishing around docks or to the shoreline.

Continued on Page 6 see

Catch

Catch

I also suggest you learn how to cast side armed or even learn how to flip that lure out there underhanded. After you do a figure eight it takes a lot of effort to raise that lure above your head and cast it again. Learn to skip that step and save a lot of effort over the day. Again, with a little practice you will find yourself becoming confident and not as tired at night.

Not only will these techniques keep you from wearing down so fast, they will enable you to make more casts during the day and more casts equal more fish.

Follow these steps and I guarantee that you will catch one more muskie this year than you otherwise would have. I am so sure of it that if you don't catch one more muskie this year, return this article to the newsletter editor and you will receive a full refund of the article's purchase price (less shipping and handling).

See you on the water!
Wayne Humphrey

Never put off till tomorrow what you can enjoy today - tomorrow might never come this way again.

www.heartlandhunters.com The above address is another web available magazine which features hunting and fishing (yep - including some muskie articles) which should be of interest to our members.

You might want to add this one to your favorites and check in with them every so often to see what is new in the Heartland Outdoors. Brett Grimm - a member of Heartland Hunters Pro Staff has visited and written about Pomme in one of his recent articles when he visited the lake and went on the water with "Coach" for a day. You will have to read his article, but he had a great time and even caught a fish or two. His description was interesting reading and we hope to have him back to our lake in the not too distant future. Hopefully he will write another article about muskie fishing on Pomme de Terre for all of us to read.

His outdoor magazine is one that I found interesting as it addresses many of the areas of the outdoors that I have grown to love and of course, enjoy reading about.

I really enjoy reading about the outdoor activities in my local area and most especially of the areas that I am very familiar with. We all don't see the same thing the same way all the time and others descriptions can only serve to open our own eyes to what we have in our back yard. So check it out - I think you will enjoy it.

Gary Neely

I am looking forward to the Boarder Wars outing in IL this year. Not only will this be my first trip to fish their lake, but the first major trip to go fishing that I have been able to plan for almost three years now. You really can't imagine how much you can miss something till it is no longer available to you to enjoy, and we often don't have choices in these matters in our lives, so if you can get away this year why not join me as we go up against the boys from Shawnee Muskie Hunters, and have a good time.

Gary

2010 Chapter Activities Page 7

~~January 7-10~~ Kansas City Sport Show

~~January 8-10~~ Columbia Sport Show Meeting

~~February 10-14~~ St. Louis Sport Show

March 20 Chapter Challenge, At Kincaid Lake

April 17 Members without boats

May 15 Muskie Mayhem, meeting & meal

June 5 - Kids day with Chamber of Commerce & Corps of Engineers.

June 12 Prime Time Outing, lunch & meeting

July 10 Pomme de Tour on Lindley Arm

July 17 Kids Day – State Park Marina meal & meeting

August 14 Pomme de Tour Pomme Arm

August 21-28 Chapter Challenge – Leech Lake

September 10-12 Fall Tournament

September 25 Guide For A Day, meal & meeting

October 2 Pick 3 outing

November 6 White Bass or other fishing Outing, meal & meeting

December 4 Planning Meeting 10 AM meal

For further information on these activities please check the website. For those who do not have access to the web please call either Gary 417-852-7126 or Earle 417-993-0035 and we will send you a copy of the activities fully explained.

POMME DE TERRE CHAPTER OF MUSKIES, INC MEMBERSHIP FORM - Chapter #5

Renewal MI # New Member JR. Member

Please Print

Name

Address

City State Zip

Home Phone Cell

Email

DOB (Required) Junior DOB

*Regular Membership \$35 1-Year, \$65 2-Years \$95 3-Years
Family Membership \$47.50 1-Year \$90 2-Years \$132 3-Years
Junior Membership (up to 18 years of age) \$20 per year*

To Qualify For Muskie Mayhem A 3 Year Membership Is Required

Make checks payable to Muskies, Inc. and then send to: Muskies, Inc C/O Gary
Neely - HC79 #3369- Pittsburg, Mo. **65724**
Any questions call 417-852-7126

FROM Pomme de Terre Chapter of MI
P.O. Box #5
Hermitage, Mo. 65668

TO: