



# FLATLANDERS

# TAILS

May 2014

MEETINGS: 7:30 P.M. ~ FOURTH THURSDAY ~ LOVES PARK VFW ~ 2018 WINDSOR RD ~ LOVES PARK, ILLINOIS

## Get a deal on great fish-catching baits

It will be Leaders & Lures night at this month's meeting as Gene Seuring sets up a board with some of the best musky-catching baits around. Gene will be selling his baits at wholesale cost and he will donate 10 percent of any profits to the club. That's a great deal for you and the club. If you need a good reel to help you crank in double 10s, Gene can help you with that as well. You can order an Abu Garcia Revo Toro Winch through Gene for the low price of \$225. These reels retail for \$279.

### Get ready for Lake Alice

The next club outing, June 13-15, is on Lake Alice and Lake Mohawksin, which are near Tomahawk, Wis. Lake Alice is a 1,438 acre lake with a maximum depth of 32 feet. Mohawksin is a 1,515-acre lake with a maximum depth of 25 feet. This is the second year for a club outing on Alice, which is filled with all kinds of trees. Lee Bach will tell us how to fish it and how to avoid the trees. Dick Cholke has a map of Mohawksin that he will share with us. Even if you can't make this outing, if you ever want to fish either of those two lakes, you can learn a lot about how to fish them at this month's meeting.

### Turn in those fish

As you can see by the pictures on the right, fish are being caught. Remember, when you catch fish, you can enter them on the Muskies Inc. website and print out the form to give to our release chairman, Tim Scruggs. Also, we're doing a 50/50 for the release contest again this year. For every fish you catch, you can enter a 50/50 raffle for the season. You will get more chances the longer the fish is that you release. The raffle entry is as follows:

30" - 39" is a \$1 entry with 1 ticket in the raffle  
40' - 44" is a \$2 entry with 2 tickets in the raffle  
45" - 49" is a \$3 entry with 3 tickets in the raffle  
50" and longer is a \$5 entry with 5 tickets in the raffle.

One fish per form

Mail forms and money to:

Tim Scruggs,  
9668 Bagley Drive, Apt. 3,  
Roscoe, IL., 61073.



*Dick Estes caught this 40-incher on Twin Valley. Notice he's wearing official Leaders & Lures gear.*



*Scott Grabow caught this 32.5-incher on Lake Carlton in April. The fish ate a Crane bait.*

### Working on awards

The annual awards will change. The awards will be personalized with your name, a photo and a list of your fish. Final decisions are pending as we study options and get ready to present them to the membership.

## **Ty Sennett - Capital City Chapter of Muskies Inc. - Spring Fundraiser by Dick Cholke, senior correspondent**

As before, I write up the highlights of the speakers I have heard during the off season. This is the last speaker of this year's long winter.

Back in April, the Capital City Chapter of Muskie Inc. had Ty Sennett speak at their spring fundraiser. Both Jack and Dean have fished with Ty in the past and would recommend him for a day of guiding. All three of us enjoyed his presentation. The following are the notes I wrote up from his presentation.

Ty believes in a no comfort zone theory – don't do what you are good at all the time – try new things and do things different than the pack – He believes repetition means less fish.

If you really want to dial in your sonar, take a walleye jig and adjust your sonar until you can see it on your unit. After you adjust your sonar unit, you can see 3" perch / baitfish on your sonar.

Any structure is good structure – work it

**Fall:** When the weeds are dying, move to current, the moving water should have better oxygen.

**Summer – LOTW:** When the lake has really warm water temperatures and the bite is off, move out to 8-10 humps and throw bull dawgs.

Don't fish the visual stumps like everyone else. Go to the outside row of underwater stumps (maybe next to the channel / deeper water) for less pressured fish.

When fishing a pocket or weed edge never put your first cast in the middle of the pocket or on the weed edge – you will spook and educate the fish. Cast over the pocket or to the outside of the weed edge and work to the prime area.

**Late summer – August:** Ty has one customer that buries his rod tip in the water and burns double 10's and does really well. The bait runs 3-5' deeper than everyone else. Ty indicated that it has made a difference some days, but you need to be in great shape to use this method.

**Spring – post spawn:** Look for the best looking outside weed edge. This pattern lasts about 3 weeks.

**Fall and cold front conditions:** Go to vertical jigging – he mentioned fuzzy duzits and bondy baits. During the tournaments with these tough conditions, many times, teams have won on this pattern when no one else is catching fish.

**Fall pattern - Random shorelines:** Ty has found featureless shorelines with no weeds out from shore can have muskies moving through an area. They may be going from the summer area to the fall area. Fish extremely shallow 2-4' and cover a lot of water. I believe, he indicated bluegills are about 2-3" in size and that you need to fish extremely slowly. Some guys will take half the line off the reels to force a slow retrieve – but conversely this makes it real hard to play a fish if you get one on. If you see a fish, go back and work it right away because she is on the move and is not in a holding mode.

**Again, I asked the question "What did you learn or do different to start to catch fish on a consistent basis?"**

He did not have a quick answer. He did indicate he fishes new areas, structure, and presentations 40% of the time and known good spots about 60% of the time. He is always trying something new. He even learns things from newbies because they do not work traditional baits in the correct manner and they catch fish. Pay attention to what everyone is doing in the boat.

Ty's presentation was very good and it appeared the chapter will be stocking a good number of muskies due to the large turnout for the event.

## **Boat registration**

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources is no longer sending expiration notices to boat owners. Go to [www.dnr.illinois.gov/recreation/boating](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/recreation/boating) or call 1-866-867-3542. The process has been SLOW. We've heard stories of boat owners who have had to wait for almost a year. I'll be talking to the DNR chief in the next week or so and I'll bring it up. Keep carbon copies of registration forms you filed or printouts from online registration with you when you're on the water.

## **Purposes of Muskies, Inc.**

- To promote a high quality Muskellunge sport fishery
- To support selected conservation practices based on scientific merit and carried out by authorized federal and state agencies
- To promote Muskellunge research
- To establish hatcheries and rearing ponds and introduce the species into suitable waters
- To support the abatement of water pollution
- To maintain records of habits, growth and range of species
- To disseminate Muskellunge information
- To promote good fellowship and sportsmanship among men, women and children

## **Officers & Committee Chairs**

### **President**

Jeff Blanck 815-703-9365

### **Vice President**

Dave Jack 815-389-1132

### **Treasurer**

Jack Pertz 815-629-2562

### **Secretary**

Wally Haas 815-262-4891

### **Regional Vice President**

Jack Pertz 815-629-2562

### **Members Only Contest**

Tim Scuggs 815-270-0014

### **Membership**

Jack Pertz 815-629-2562

### **Merchandise**

Wally Haas 815-262-4891

### **Newsletter Editor**

Wally Haas 815-262-4891

Email: [whaas17@comcast.net](mailto:whaas17@comcast.net)

### **Outings**

Tim Scuggs 815-270-0014

### **Photo Contest**

Kris Lamendola 815-389-4622

Email: [krislamendola@gmail.com](mailto:krislamendola@gmail.com)

### **Pierce Lake Project**

Jeff Blanck 815-703-9365

### **Programs**

Steve Ruhmann 815-389-4622

### **Stocking**

Jeff Blanck 815-703-9365

### **Website**

Tom Pellant 815-397-1779

### **Youth Director**

Jeff Blanck 815-703-9365

Web site:

[www.flatlanderschapter.com](http://www.flatlanderschapter.com)

# CARLSON ORTHOPEDIC CLINIC

Mark Carlson, MD  
 Amanda Reisinger, PT, MPT  
 Kelly Hix, PT MPT

1848 Daimler Rd.  
 Rockford, IL 61112

Phone: 815/398-9100  
 Fax: 815/986-6770



**LEADERS & LURES** Leaders: All Sizes & Weights  
[www.leadersandlures.com](http://www.leadersandlures.com) • 815-654-0902  
 Gene Seuring • Rockford, Illinois  
 E-mail: [leadersandlures@gmail.com](mailto:leadersandlures@gmail.com)

 A man in a cap and sunglasses is holding a large fish on a boat. The background shows a lake and trees.

LOVESPARKMOTORSPORTS.COM

**LOVES PARK MOTORSPORTS**

DAVE JACK  
 (815) 636-7636  
 FAX: (815) 633-2746  
 9902 N. SECOND ST. MACHESNEY PARK, IL 61115

can-am  
 BRP  
 SEA-DOO  
 ski-doo  
 ARCTIC CAT  
 SHARE OUR PASSION

**ACEBAITS**

 An advertisement for Acebaits featuring illustrations of fishing lures (a spinner and a soft plastic lure) and a fish.

[www.ACETANDEM.com](http://www.ACETANDEM.com)  
 612-210-6312

**YAMAHA**  
 EXPECT A LOT.™  
 SALES ~ SERVICE ~ PARTS  
 CRESTLINER ~ CROWNLINE  
 SYLVAN  
**EVEN KEEL MARINE INC.**  
 Even Better Than You Think

6621 W. State  
 Rockford, IL

**963-1105**

**LAC SEUL FLOATING LODGES**  
 HUDSON ONTARIO  
 PROVIDING OUR GUESTS WITH AN ENJOYABLE  
 HOUSE-BOATING EXPERIENCE FOR OVER 25 YEARS

 A large, white floating lodge with a deck and railing is situated on a lake. Several smaller boats are docked nearby.

**Michael Starratt**  
 Lac Seul Floating Lodges  
 Box 210, Hudson, ON P0V 1X0  
 Tel: 807-582-3284  
 email: [info@lacseulfloatinglodges.com](mailto:info@lacseulfloatinglodges.com)  
 web: [www.lacseulfloatinglodges.com](http://www.lacseulfloatinglodges.com)