



THE MUSKY NEWS



Newsletter of the Winnebago Land Musky Club December 2022

NOVEMBER MEETING

The Club's regular monthly meeting was held and again, was not well attended. There was not an outside speaker or program. The agenda for the meeting was to be a planning meeting to bring up ideas and suggestions for the Club to move forward in 2023.

Despite the lack of member interest and attendance, many issues were brought to light. We have tried to encourage attendance to the last few meetings with the same agenda, to receive input from members to discuss possible changes and new direction. A few issues brought up were:

PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED:

1. Not enough entertaining speakers and programs
2. No meaningful fundraising project(s)
3. Poorly attended outings or other functions
4. Untimely communications
5. Expenses for holding meetings and how many regular meetings do we need
6. General lack of interest for organized clubs
7. Too many meetings on an unpopular day of the week
8. Lack of growth of new members
9. Lack of youth program
10. The losing money aspects of the awards banquet

A big blow was handed to us with the squashing of our main fundraising activity in 2020, the Boat Raffle. The lack of interest trend seems to have been escalated by the COVID thing. We need to make changes to stop the trend.

DECEMBER MEETING

The December meeting is when we have elections. If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to be nominated for an office or committee let Scott know by cell or text (920-948-2283). We will let you know by email on Tuesday December 6th if any nominations are on the table for a vote on December 7th. Pizza from Joe's Fox Hut will be provided.

SUGGESTIONS FOR GOING FORWARD

The Club needs to rally itself to bust the patterns we've set of seemingly low activity. Over the past few years, decisions for speakers, programs and outings have been rather random and on the spur of the moment in nature. In the past, committees of the club brought up ideas and organized programs long ahead of specific dates. This methodology seemed to work well and there was great interest in the Club and its



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activities. For whatever reason, committee involvement has waned, and we have evolved into shooting from the hip without a plan.

Every Club member should be on at least 1 committee. One does not need to be a chairperson or even a member of a bunch of committees, we ask that each Club member be an active member of at least one committee.

Personal Planning for the December 7th Meeting:

- Come to the meeting Wednesday December 7th and bring up some positive ideas for implementation in 2023. Final decisions need not be made this evening.
- Come to the meeting with a willingness to step forward into an officer leadership role, a committee chairmanship and/or an active committee member. It's election time. The officers and/or committee chairpersons do not have to do all the work and heavy lifting. This is where the committee shines. We have never had problems recruiting help when needed. Look at the Rummage Sale, Banquet, veteran's outing etc. etc.
- Come to the meeting being willing to organize, be a part of, and possibly Chair meaningful fundraising ideas for the Club on a fundraising committee. The only fundraiser planned at this time is the rummage sale which is not enough to sustain the things we were originally organized to do.
- Come to the meeting with a willingness to organize and plan at least one meeting speaker and program. With each member providing one meeting idea and the organization, we will have a few years' worth of interesting meetings.
- Come to volunteer for the Outing Committee. Where they should be? How many outings should we have? What should be the format of the outings. These outings need to be fun, more than a cheap lunch and morning of fishing close to Fond du Lac.
 - Like the previous, come to the meeting with an idea and be willing to help organize at least one outing.
- Come to the meeting with a willingness to chair or be part of a committee to seek out, plan, and manage projects and donations for the Club to consider.
- Come to the meeting with a willingness to chair or be a member of the Membership Committee to recruit new members.
- Come to the meeting with a willingness to chair or be a member of the Communications Committee (i.e. Website, Facebook, Newsletter, and email).

None of this needs to be fully implemented on Wednesday, December 7th. Let's just get some chairpersons and committee members in place and working on a plan.

The chairperson and committee solicit ideas, plans, presents, gets approved, and eventually implements the activity. Much of the work of a committee can be accomplished at home making some Wednesday Club meetings unnecessary. It is



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hoped that some committee meetings and subsequent activities will fill the void of some monthly Club meetings.

The Club already has an infrastructure with which to operate. We have a very good history of providing much assistance to the resources, had many excellent programs and we have backed many worthwhile organizations for the community. We do have funds in the bank currently and have an amazing talent pool of members. The funds we have are not sufficient to sustain the Club without a meaningful fundraising plan. Hopefully, the Boat Raffle will be provided to us again by the Alliance. If this money source is not available, then our Fundraising Committee needs to come up with a plan B. making the fundraising committee and solid fundraising even more important.

The COVID thing is behind us. We need to rebuild and get back on track as a relevant Musky Club.

Presently too much is required of too few, and people are getting worn out. Call Scott Klapperich ahead of the December 7th meeting if you are not able to attend. to voice your concerns and suggestion to improve the Club. Your comments and volunteerism for committee work is much needed. As requested earlier, call, text, or come to the meeting and volunteer (920-948-2283).

FUTURE CLUB ACTIVITIES

- February: We have an excellent speaker lined up for February. (See below)
- We are planning to run the concession stand for the Sportsman's Rummage Sale Saturday, March 5th 2023 (1st weekend in March)
- Annual Awards Banquet is planned for Saturday, March 18th, 2023 at the Fond du Lac American Legion Hall..

FEBRUARY 2023 MEETING SPEAKER

Our speaker for February is Sarah Trampe, host of the Sportsman's Journal a popular weekend outdoor sports program locally on the Bally Sports Network. If you have ever tuned in to the "Sportsman's Journal" TV program on Saturdays or Sundays, you will have been entertained by Sarah and her husband Tyler on their half hour show. Sarah is an accomplished multi-species angler with a well-produced program. Here's a chance to bring a guest to the meeting and do some recruiting for a relevant Club like this one!