



Ohio Huskie Muskie Club, Inc.

Volume 5, Issue 3 – September 2010

Huskie Views

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Ohio Huskie Muskie Club, Inc.

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501(c3) Non-Profit Organization

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2010 OHMC Open Summer Contest Results

The 2010 OHMC Open Summer Contest was held on July 10 & 11 at Salt Fork Lake in Cambridge, Ohio. While the air temp and water temp were in the high 80's, the musky bite was even hotter. 44 anglers trolled and cast their way through the weekend, chasing the mighty musky. Several anglers were able to post multiple catches of up to three muskies during tournament time. In the end, it was the OHMC officers sweeping all awards. Taking the previously broken, but ever present "officer curse" and giving it the spanking it so well deserved after all these years. Second Vice President Paul Anderson of Bloomington, Ohio bested everyone with a 44 1/2" musky caught on Saturday. President Fred Lederer was able to hold on to second place with a 42 3/4" musky. Our newest Trustee Jake Lederer was right behind Dad with a 41" musky to earn him third place. The most released award (total inches) was won by the Prez with 3 muskies and a total of 106 3/4" caught during the tournament hours with several other anglers within 5 inches of the award. Prez and Jake started fishing on Thursday afternoon and went 10 for 14 thru the weekend. Most notable was that Jake earned his first ever Dunmire award, on one day alone. Prez had to wait until Saturday to finish off his third. Yes, the Ziggies were working. Thanks to everyone that showed up for the event, all the Trustees that worked the event, and to Ray McMaster of Muskie Fisherman Specialties for the additional door prizes donated at the event. And of course a big thanks to Salt Fork State Park for allowing us to hold the event

there and for their assistance as well. Photos from the event can be seen on the "Forum" page.

Here are all fish caught and the raffle winners:

Paul Anderson of Bloomington, Oh

44.50" First Place

Fred Lederer of Perrysburg, Oh

42.75" Second Place

Jake Lederer of Perrysburg, Oh

41.00" Third Place

Max Reiner of Dublin, Oh 40.50"

Jason Schmidt of Ashtabula, Oh 40.00"

Gloria Roberts of Norton, Oh 36.00"

Jeff Ferjutz of

Broadview Hgts, Oh 36.00"

Jason Schmidt of Ashtabula, Oh 36.00"

Dale Virant of Willowick, Oh 36.00"

Ray McMaster of

New Bremen, Oh 36.00"

Tucker Hammond of

Chillicothe, Oh 34.50"

Chuck Land Sr. of

Willoughby, Oh 34.00"

Aaron Kirkingburg of

Newark, Oh 34.00"

Russ Roberts of Norton, Oh 34.00"

Jack Warne of Cambridge, Oh 34.00"

Elmer McClure of Brewster, Oh 33.00"

Tucker Hammond of

Chillicothe, Oh 33.00"

Gloria Roberts of Norton, Oh 33.00"

Dale Virant of Willowick, Oh 33.00"

Gloria Roberts of Norton, Oh 33.00"

Russ Roberts of Norton, Oh 32.50"

Fred Lederer of Perrysburg, Oh 32.00"

Fred Lederer of Perrysburg, Oh 32.00"

Dale Virant of Willowick, Oh 32.00"

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2010 Fall Outing & Steak Fry

Well the time has come for the Ohio Huskie Muskie Club's last club event of the year, the Fall Outing and steak fry, to be held this year at Leesville Lake, near Dover, Ohio on September 25th and 26th. This event is only for current OHMC members, families and guests fishing in their boats. But you may also sign up as a member at the event if you know of someone willing to do so. Registration will at the primitive campground. Registration will start at 6:00am on Saturday morning and continue till 8:00am. You may register on Friday if you find me in the campground. **YOU MUST REGISTER BEFORE YOU START FISHING.** But if you happen to arrive late you may contact us on CB channel 17 or VHF channel 68. There is a \$5 fee for each entrant, for this event and we encourage you to support the 50/50 raffle and the rod/reel raffle as these raffles support the event. The outing will end on Sunday at 3:00pm. All MAL cards for muskies caught at this event must be turned in to Fred Lederer at the registration site by 4:00pm on Sunday to qualify for awards. If you enter your catches online into the MAL you must still do so as we will not

be sending in the cards. If you register your catches with the cards, please make sure to take the cards back after we record the catches for the event, as each person is responsible to send in their MAL card to the ODNR. First and Second place trophies will be awarded at our 50th Annual Awards Banquet in March 2011 based on the largest musky caught by length.

Leesville is a 9.9 MAX HP lake.

We will also have our potluck dinner starting at 4:00 PM on Saturday, at the registration area. Please plan on bringing a covered dish to share. The club will provide the utensils. The club will also be taking orders for the steaks. **Steaks are \$7.00 each and MUST be ordered and paid in advance.** Please contact me by phone at 419-874-4929 or email at ohmcppez@sbcglobal.net or in writing by Monday September 20th so I have time to order and pick up the steaks. Make checks payable to: The Ohio Huskie Muskie Club, Inc and mail to Fred Lederer 10327 North Bramblewood Road, Perrysburg, Ohio 43551.

Good Luck to all.

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Most Released Award

Fred Lederer of Perrysburg, Oh

42.75, 32.00, 32.00 = 106.75" winner

Gloria Roberts of Norton, Oh 36.00, 33.00, 33.00 = 102.00"

Dale Virant of Willowick, Oh 36.00, 33.00", 32.00 = 101.00"

The Grand Prize 50-50 Raffle brought in \$1055 and was won by Gordon Selden of Bolivar, Oh. He will be receiving a check for \$528. Gordon also won the St Croix Rod and Abu Garcia 6500 reel combo.

The Underwater video camera was won by Suzanne Skunza of Columbus, Ohio.

The \$50 Traxstech gift certificate (donated by Greg Ellison of Traxstech) was won by Paul Anderson of Bloomingdale, Ohio.

The event 50-50 brought in \$117 and \$58.50 was won by Dave Schmidt of Ashtabula, Oh

Michigan Muskie Show

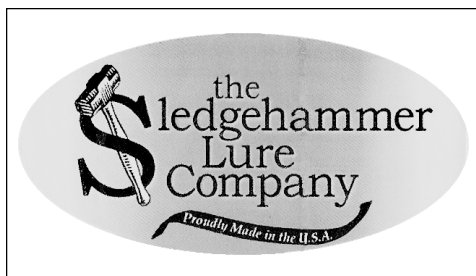
By Fred Lederer

A new muskie show has come upon the muskie angling society. It is the Michigan Muskie Show and it will be held on February 5th and 6th at the MBT Expo Center 3775 S. Custer Rd, Monroe, Michigan, (11 miles East of Cabela's in Dundee). There will be many tackle vendors from throughout the Midwest, along with some great seminars presented free of charge by some of the best muskie anglers around. There will also be hourly prize drawings too. More information at www.michiganmuskieshow.com or by emailing **INFO@MICHIGANMUSKIESHOW.COM**

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Team OHMC at the Muskie Bash

By Fred Lederer OHMC President

The 2nd annual Muskie Bash was held on July 24th and 25th on Lake St Clair. This is an open team event and attracted some of the finest Lake St. Clair Muskie anglers around. So we thought why not send a team from the Ohio Huskie Muskie Club. I thought long and hard about selecting the 3 best Lake St Clair anglers from within OHMC. After much thought I figured it would probably be better if I instead selected 3 members that could put up with my “stuff” for 3 days. So an impromptu team of Buckeyes consisting of 1st VP Jeff Ferjutz, Phil Cummings, Mark Steinert and myself as team Captain (Hey I own the boat) headed up North Friday morning with a quick stop at Ziggies Custom Musky Lures for a fresh stock of lures and to look at all of Ziggy’s lures, fishing decoys and a whole lot of musky fishing history. Thanks Ziggy! Then we went out for a 3 hour tour in the heat and eventual “Perfect Storm”. We were too far away from the dock and would have had to head straight into the storm so we decided to stick it out. (not the best idea we had over the weekend) We did end up catching 4 muskies on Friday. Then off to Gino’s Surf Restaurant for registration. After the raffle drawings we headed to the hotel for a couple hours of sleep (literally) then up at 3:30 to get on the water and be at our “hole” in time for the 5:00 “lines in”. We ended up boating 18 out of 21 muskies on Saturday with a 49 _ being our biggest. Not too shabby but short of the 52 inch minimum needed to qualify. We also caught some real nice pike, walleye and a 21”

smallmouth on Saturday. We did have one large musky on, but she straitened out all six points of our lucky Tuff Shad. I think we left a drag tight but you would not have known it if you had the rod in your hands! So we fished till 11:00 pm and by the time we got in and docked at Millers Marina (Thanks to Tom Joysey) we were able to get another two hours of sleep before Sundays fishing time came again. Sunday brought in a stronger wind and we had to fish in 4 to 6 footers and with getting our first musky at 5:10 am. We thought we were starting the day off the same as Saturday. Unfortunately that was the only fish we would see that day. This tournament only paid to the top 3 fish over 52 inches. In the end Team “Secret Squirrel” took top honors with a 55½ musky and you needed a 54¼ just to make it into the money. All team members had a lot of fun over the weekend and I hope we can remember some of the stories that transpired over the weekend, and we can share one or two with you at the 2011 Annual Awards Banquet during the best fish story award. We have decided that we will again attend the event in 2011 and encourage any other members that wish to put together a team for next year to join us. Just something about a confrontation between Buckeyes and Wolverines that makes the blood pump! More information for the event can be obtained by calling Captain Mike Pittiglio (586)260-4068 or Jerry Zobel (586) 855-9749 or email at muskiebash@live.com

OHMC 50th Anniversary

By Fred Lederer OHMC President

Just another quick reminder that the club will be celebrating its 50th anniversary starting at the Annual Awards Banquet. We have locked in the date of March 19th 2011. It will again be held at the Cherry Valley Lodge in Newark, Ohio. While we may be limited on food selections to keep the price more affordable, I had a lot of comments last year that said it was the best banquet ever. But we need help from the members for this year. We are in need of ANY club related items, photos, merchandise ect. maybe even dust off your old trophies. We would like to have a nice memory lane of items on display at the event. And so far I have not received anything. Duplicates are fine or you may bring any items to the banquet if you are more comfortable doing so. Please let me know soon if you can let us borrow something or if you plan on bringing something yourself so I can plan accordingly.

Also if any of the club supporters are willing to donate any cus-

tom made items for use as rattles at the banquet please let me know soon too. We would like to have some lures and rods with our 50th anniversary logo on it, or anything you can dream up. We would really like to have a nice lure auction this year to help raise some funds for the club. All we ask is that the items be of high quality fitting the occasion. We will also be getting some item(s) made on our own to help commemorate the event.

Judging by the number of free memberships we have given away this year thanks to the ease of use on the Muskie Angler Log, I think we should have quite a few new members at the event this March. So lets welcome them to the club and provide the best banquet we have ever had.

Anyone looking to get involved with any of the above items, please contact me at your earliest convenience as this will also really help lower my stress level, just prior to the event!

Hot Weather Muskies

By Elmer Heyob

ODNR Biologist & Fish Hatchery Program Administrator

The July 2010 weather pattern has led to a keen interest in hot lake water and how it might affect the incidence of delayed mortality on muskies being caught and released. The short answer is that the odds for delayed mortality are higher because of the water temperatures and the only way to completely avoid it is not to fish until conditions improve. The fact that State and private fish hatcheries, as a practice, do not deliver and stock even channel catfish in 80-degree water temperatures because of increased fish mortalities serves as a real world example. Can muskie anglers still fish and use methods that reduce the odds for delayed mortality? Absolutely. I have written and presented techniques at seminars for many years on how to accomplish this. Fast water releases are the key technique. However, this post is aimed at what effect higher lake temperatures have on our ability to release healthy muskies that

continue to grow bigger and be caught another day not just to see them eventually “go-down”. It’s important to note that delayed mortality may take days and be hardly noticed but frequently it occurs by the next morning after the release.

Delayed mortality may occur from the combination of stressors a fish experiences during a catch and release fishing event along with any associated tissue damage and blood loss. Our lake conditions since the Fourth of July have become a major factor because the sustained hot weather conditions have warmed the surface waters above 80-degrees (morning temperature) and caused that temperature to reach all the way down to the thermocline. The dissolved oxygen at the thermocline depth drops below 4 ppm. This is a key point because once the coolest water

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available to a "cool-water" species like muskies goes above the 80-degree range or below 4-6 ppm oxygen, the fish reach a stressful situation. That's why the odds for delayed mortality go up under these conditions. The fish are already at the point of stress before being caught. A muskie stressed by warm water or low oxygen will continue to feed to a point, making them vulnerable to angling. In fact, being cold-blooded means their metabolism is greater at higher temperatures, but eventually the stress shuts their feeding down and they start to lose body condition.

For example, both Alum Creek and Caesar's Creek Lakes currently have conditions where the 80-degree water has reached all the way down to the 4 ppm oxygen levels at the thermocline. With continued hot weather conditions, it will only become worse. The oxygen in warm upper layer the (epilimnion) that doesn't mix with the colder water below it with little or no oxygen (hypolimnion) will continue to reduce in depth, making the thermocline shallower and forcing the muskies into hotter water and even more stressful conditions.

It's no coincidence that some of our best muskie lakes have cool or coldwater sources, whether from springs, ground water, or cold feeder streams. The cold water helps provide summer refuge from extreme water conditions. A side effect of summer stress is reduced growth. The good news is that we commonly start to experience better conditions by the end of August. Alum Creek, for example, starts to de-stratify by the end of August in most years. We were fortunate last year to experience an abnormally cool summer with water temperatures that stayed below 78-degrees in August.

There are a few other facts to consider while fishing during summer if you choose to do so. Years ago delayed mortality was not an issue because most everyone kept the muskies they caught. Anglers quit fish-

ing if they reached their legal limit. As OHMC Inc. members, most of us strive to obtain quality releases and our hopes are to avoid delayed mortality. However, we could be causing more mortality by fishing at the wrong time or with bad releases than someone whose goal is to keep muskies. How many of us stop fishing after just one release?

Immediate, or near immediate, mortality fish are easy to spot because they float belly up in the surrounding area of the attempted release. Fish caught from deep water that can't be released immediately will experience air-bladder expansion which also causes them to float belly-up. If they are too weak to swim back down to neutral buoyancy, they will die in the hot surface waters. Some of you may have seen my muskie presentation where I show a technique that is a last ditch effort to save a muskie that experiences air bladder expansion. I use my anchor rope marked for the thermocline depth and clip the muskie by the front of its jaw using a very short 4 lb test line and a #10 hook and then lower it back down to just above the thermocline. When the muskie regains its strength, it will pop itself free and not float back up. Some key points if you need to try this: you must know the thermocline depth or at least the depth you caught your muskie at. Below this depth there may be no oxygen plus the fish will only reach neutral buoyancy at this depth. Choose a release site that is just shallower than the thermocline so the fish can rest on the bottom. If one releases a fish that is not strong enough to maintain swimming after pulling free from the release hook over open water, the fish can sink like a rock if water deeper than its original depth is present. Water pressure is what causes this effect. More compressed oxygen in the air bladder is needed to remain neutrally buoyant the deeper a fish goes. A fish that drops below the summer thermocline after a bad release will suffocate and will not float. They lay in the cold un-oxygenated "anoxic" water and are slowly digested by anaerobic bacteria.



Fred Lederer — President
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