

MUSKIES INC.



**REGION 4 MEETING
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10, 2012
BAYMONT INN & SUITES
5871 SOUTH 6th St. FRONTAGE RD.
SPRINGFIELD, IL
PHONE: 217-529-6655
9:30 AM - 6:30 PM**

#4 Regional Representatives

Earle Hammond – Expires Fall 2012
Chapter #5 Pomme De Terre
Route 1 Box 2010
Urbana, MO 65767
(417) 993-0035
Earle2@missourimuskie.org



Frank A. Walter -- Expires Fall 2013
Chapter # 14 South of the Border
1307 Park Avenue
North Chicago, IL 60064-1424
(847) 689-2133
fawalter@gmail.com



Kimberly Cates -- Expires Fall 2014
Chapter # 49 Webster Lake Musky Club
PO Box 38
Syracuse, IN 46567
(574) 529-0228
beachin64@yahoo.com



1) Discussion & prioritization of Region 4 Youth, Fisheries & Research proposals. Meeting attendance, retention, youth participation, leadership. What has your chapter done in the Muskie fishery. This information is only for the year 2012. The Chapter representatives made peal presentations regarding the projects they did with youth and fisheries. List of CRs who could be possible replacements for us. Bring typed list for handouts if you can. Makes it easier for the minutes:

A) Frank A. Walter RR # 4 Region: Youth Outing always at local park in Fox Lake Chain area. Next outing will be held on May 19, 2013. Always the first Sunday after Mothers Day. Every youth gets a prize that they pick out from a large selection. Work with Chamber of Commerce, Fire, and Police Departments. The South of the Border Chapter donates between \$1500-\$2000 and holds a Raffle at the Youth outing which goes into the following year. 90% of fishing done off the piers by the youths. Try to have the older kids going out in a boat to fish. Bill Nuyttens of Chapter # 14 also video's the event - see notes that Bill submitted in **J)** below.

B) Frank Love Chapter # 3 Chicagoland Muskies Hunters:

Youth

- Normally we partnered with the Chicago Police Department on a Kid's Fishing Day, but due to budgetary cuts in the CPD, the event was canceled in 2012.
- In March we partnered with Rolling Meadows High School to host Indoor Fishing Flea Market. This is the Chapter's biggest fund raising event.
- Accomplishments
- Sponsored the Illini Muskie Alliance (IMA) website by paying hosting expenses and performing maintenance web- master duties. The IMA is the conduit for an alliance of Illinois Muskie Clubs in dealing with the IDNR on muskie- related issues.
- Provided staffing for Tri - Esox Chicago Muskie Show
- Organized the 13th Annual Indoor Fishing Flea Market including planning, advertising and coordinating all activities associated with the event. The event brought in almost \$2,500 for the Chapter.
- Provided staffing for Indoor Fishing Flea Market
- Won the opportunity to host the 2013 Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge
- **Betterment of Club**
- Hosted a CMH Chapter booth at the Chicago Muskie Show
- Advertise chapter events and updates in Outdoor Notebook. The Outdoor Notebook is one of the largest and most widely- read outdoor news papers in the Chicagoland area.
- Increased social media posture by:
 - Moving to e-mail based communication model for newsletters, meeting reminders and chapter updates. This move has all but eliminated our postage and printing expenses.
 - Posting CHM Chapter events on Muskie First and Musky Hunter Forums
 - Both of these activities have lead to:
 - Increased recruitment of new & former members
 - Increased attendance at monthly meetings, which lead to increased revenue for raffles
 - Contacting potential new members

C) David Cates Chapter # 49 Webster Lake Musky Club

FISHERIES

Webster Lake Muskie Club continues to be involved in fisheries' programs in and around the State of Indiana, highlighted by our continued stocking of Upper Long Lake. The WLMC works with the Upper Long Lake Homeowner's Association and the Indiana Department of Nature Resources to

ensure a continued muskie fishery there. The stocking program at Upper Long is largely financed by proceeds from the club's Guide for a Day projects, which traditionally include one (1) day in April and one (1) day in October. During the last two (2) years, the October date has received very little outside interest and maybe discontinued.

Club members were also involved in the building and placement of fish cribs in Webster Lake, all pursuant to DNR direction and approval. Studies have shown that fish begin using the cribs as habitat literally within hours of their placement in the Lake. We have continued to work with the DNR for a reasonable weed control policy on Webster Lake. One reason the cribs were needed is because the homeowners' association financed massive weed kills which caused significant damage (hopefully not permanent damage) to the lake's ecosystem.

RESEARCH

The WLMC has worked closely with the local DNR's fishery's biologist with continuing studies of the impact of muskies and muskie fishery on other fish population in Webster Lake, Upper Long Lake, and in other lakes in Indiana. We have developed a positive relationship with the DNR which enables us to have a voice in Muskie fishing regulations.

YOUTH

The Webster Lake Muskie Club annually holds a youth lure painting party. Manufacturers of Muskie baits have donated or provided baits at low cost. Children are allowed to paint the baits and the manufacturers then provide sealant and a finish coat. Thereafter, the baits are given to the kids for their use. Typically, this activity occurs in the winter when the weather is such that the children have little else to do.

CHALLENGES

The WLMC is in a state of flux. Our longtime President chose not to re-assume his role for 2012. The individual who assumed that position has recently indicated that he will not re-assume that role for 2013. Finding members of our club willing to serve in leadership positions is an ongoing struggle for which we have yet to find an adequate solution. Requests for assistance are commonly included in the communications with members (email, newsletter, and word of mouth), but to date have not been successful. If any chapters have suggestions based upon their successes, we would be happy to hear them.

D) Dan Koniewicz Chapter # 39 Fox River Valley

Accomplishments / Projects November 2011 – October 2012

- No decrease in Membership for the 12 month. Averaged 315 Members for the entire year.
- November 11 – Supplemented Wisconsin DNR stocking 3,000 muskies into Lake Geneva, Cost \$2,500
- November 11 – Stocked 300 Leach Lake stain muskies and 33 Hybrids into the Fox Chain of lakes and Loon Lake, IL. Cost \$3,000
- December 11 – Held meeting. Speaker – Dan Koniewicz. Food drive for the Elgin Battered Woman's home. Collected over \$2,000 in non-perishable food.
- January 12 – Meeting held, Speaker – Pete Mania.
- January 12 – Attended Chicago land Muskie Show
- February 12 – Meeting Held – Speaker - Tony Grant
- March 12 – Held annual awards night / fund raising event. Income \$13,000
- March 12 – Meeting Held – Speaker – Ty Sennett
- April 12 – Meeting Held – Speaker – Mike Hulbert
- April 12 – Held annual Spring Challenge Muskie tournament on Fox Chain. 65 Boats, Income \$5,000
- April 12 – Received Hugh C. Becker Foundation Grant of \$4,500. \$3,000 for 2012 stocking of the Fox Chain of Lake. \$1,500 for urban fishery development. Purchased 100 rods and reels

- inter-city children, to be given away at various events by the IDNR. May 12 – Co-Sponsored NISRA kids fishing event on Bangs Lake. 12 FRV boats and captains helped. Over 30 handicapped children taken out fishing
- May 12 – Meeting Held – Speaker - Tom Rozek
- May 12 – Held inaugural Cast for a Cure event for Breast Cancer Awareness – Raised \$1,500 given to the American Cancer Society. 52 People Attended.
- June 12 – Held One Hope United Kids fishing event on Deep Lake in Lake Villa IL. Took 25 Intercity kids fishing. Cost \$500.00
- July 12 – Summer Lake of the Woods outing / School. 28 people attended. Angle Outpost Resort. Cost \$500
- August 12 – Meeting Held – Speaker - Phil Gutmann
- August 12 – Co-Sponsored Bartlett Kids fishing Event. Cost \$1,500
- September 12 – Meeting Held – Speaker – Eric Larsen.
- September 12 – Fall Lake of the Woods outing – 12 people attended. New Moon Resort.
- September 12 – Madison Area Members outing - 8 People attended.
- October 12 - Held annual Fall Challenge Muskie tournament on Fox Chain. 36 Boats, Income \$2,000
- October 12 – Held Meeting – Speaker - Frank Jakubicek IL DNR
- October 12 – Held annual Youth Muskie Hunt to Vilas Co. Wisconsin. 12 teens attended with Guides and parents. Cost \$5,000.

E) Walter Krause Chapter # 28 Shawnee Muskies Hunters

Activities

Organize an annual Lake Kinkaid cleanup – removing tons of trash(see cover of MI magazine)

Sponsor annual Kids Fishing Day on Lake Murphysboro

Sponsor a kid's rod/reel loner program with Top of the Hill Bait Shop

Sponsor an annual veterans fishing day outing on Kinkaid

Sponsor food collection during our tournaments. Donating more than \$1000 in cash and over 2000 food items to the Murphysboro food pantry.

Donated \$500 for riprap erosion abatement

Donated \$500 to the SIU radio telemetry study

Donated \$1000 for a fish barrier project on Shabbona

Funded 43000 for the IDNR Youth Trailer

Donated 3 rods/reels to local youth to allow them to pursue muskie fishing

Donated money to the MDNR for the purchase of netting to cover muskie ponds at the Warsaw fish hatchery

Donated \$250 for purchase of shad for Kinkaid Lake

Purchase of fyke nets for the IDNR to replace torn or stolen nets

Purchased 60 hp motor for the IDNR district 21 Fisheries Biologist

Purchased 200 fish Attractors (porcupine ball) to enhance fish habitat for Kinkaid Lake

Purchased pit tags and readers for IDNR Kinkaid Lake surveys

Purchased 500 yellow perch for Eagle Lake

Purchased 600 tiger muskies and stalked them in Eagle Lake over 6 years

Purchased a new gas water pump for the IDNR

Purchased 59 fish attractors for Eagle Lake.

F) Jack Pertz Chapter # 32 Flatlanders

DNR will issue a free permit for license for any event anytime during year to take kids fishing. YCA send a youth 6-17 Yrs old .prefers 11 and older Jack will get kids application to Earle so he can put out to all.

G) Wayne Humphrey Chapter # 5 Pomme de Terre

Selected Past Projects and Contributions of the Pomme de Terre Chapter:

Habitat Projects:

- A. Installed brush piles in Lake Pomme de Terre almost every spring for the past 20+ years. Project is done in conjunction with the Corp of Engineers and Missouri Department of Conservation.
- B. Installed and maintained vegetation beds in an attempt to re-establish vegetation in Lake Pomme de Terre. The chapter donated funds and received matching funds from Muskies, Inc. Chapter members donated hundreds of man-hours of labor to help the MDC install the vegetation beds. The project started in 2004 and is being continued by the Missouri Department of Conservation.
- C. Chapter requested and received funds from Muskies Inc to place brush piles along side a handicap accessible fishing dock to provide habitat to improve the fishing experience for those using the dock.

Provide Materials to the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC)

- A. Multiple times in the past the chapter has donated fische nets to the MDC to be used in their spring netting projects. Nets are used to capture breeding muskies and to do census studies.
- B. In 2012 the chapter donated two nets to the MDC to cover rearing ponds to increase yield. Funding for one of the nets came from the Hugh C. Becker Foundation.

Outreach:

- A. The chapter participates in 2-4 sports shows per year to promote muskie fishing.
- B. The chapter provides at least one day per year to take non-members muskies fishing.
- C. The chapter holds at least one Kid's Day outing per year.
- D. The chapter holds at least one tournament per year that is open to non-members as well as members.

In 2012 the chapter received a \$3,100 grant from the Hugh C. Becker Foundation to help build a shelter at Busch Wildlife Area in St. Charles, MO. The shelter will be used for fishing education programs.

Fishing Education for Adults:

Twice a year the chapter runs a six to eight hour program for members to educate those that are new to musky fishing and to allow experienced fishermen to trade tips. These are held on the water at Pomme de Terre Lake with members volunteering their pontoon boats for transportation.

H) Lynn Polyak Chapter # 07 South Side Muskie Hawks

ACTIVITY REPORT FOR 2012

Back in December of 2011, we decided to honor one of our former members, the late Duke O'Malley, by resurrecting his well-known annual Kids' Fishing Day. Since we did not have the manpower or the funds to accomplish this by ourselves, we decided to contact some of the other area fishing clubs to see if they would be willing to help out with this endeavor. I personally went to two of the other fishing clubs to present the case, and our president, John Daley, went to the third club to do the same. Two of the three clubs took us up on the deal, so in January of 2012 we had our first planning meeting. We all decided to have each club donate \$100 to get the ball rolling. After I had made the initial contact with the Village of Orland Park to find out what type of permits and other requirements would be needed, our treasurer, Jack Frost made the rest of the arrangements with them.

We had decided to hold the event during Illinois' Free Fishing Days so that the parents could fish with their kids without having to worry about a license for this one-day event. It was decided to have the

fishing early in the morning, to be followed by a picnic lunch, as we had to leave the facility by 2 PM due to other activities being scheduled by the village.

At our first meeting, we also decided on how we would spread the word, as we didn't want the first one to be so big that we couldn't handle it with our available personnel, so it was decided to spread the word through our members and at our club meetings. Duke's family members were already on board with the plan, so we kept them up-to-date on what was happening. It was decided that each of the three clubs would be allowed to hang a banner at the event, and that we would also have a large picture of Duke hanging up at the event. In addition we worked on getting information sheets and pre-registration sheets put together so that they could be passed out at our meetings, registration sheets for the day of the event, and liability releases for the day of the event. We also agreed to have a meeting of this small group of representatives from each club on the first Wednesday of every month at the same place and time.

At the February meeting, we all made reports on what each of us had accomplished, and made plans to arrange for free cane poles and goody bags for each kid in attendance. We also lined up more volunteers in each club to help with setting up the cane poles on the day of the event. One of the members of one of the other clubs said that he had a connection at Mik Lurch, so he would take care of the cane poles and goody bags. Everyone was to keep their receipts until the end, when we would split the costs three ways. We also decided to make beginning inquiries about the cost of food and soft drinks for the event, and several people volunteered to check their sources for prices on things.

Our March meeting was filled with more reports and also some questions as to what we wanted in the goody bags for the kids, and also what kind of food we would be serving. It was decided to let Mik Lurch put whatever they wanted in the goody bags, and we would add to it from other donations so that each kid received a fairly well-stuffed goody bag to take home. Jack Frost brought us up-to-date on the situation with the permit, saying that he expected it to be issued within the next month. Since we had a restaurateur doing the cooking, they waived the health certificate that is normally needed to serve food at an event.

Our April meeting was a very productive one, as we tied up the loose ends on a few things, and decided on the food that would be served, Italian sausage, hamburgers, and cheeseburgers including all of the necessary condiments. We also had bags of Chips, Fritos, Cheetos, and Doritos to accompany the meat. Food providers had already been contacted, and it was merely a case of letting them know what kind of meat we wanted. The cane poles and goody bags were going to be picked up within the next couple of weeks, and arrangements had been made for the soft drinks. Pre-registration forms and information forms had already been printed, and were now distributed to the representatives of the other clubs to hand out at their meetings.

The May meeting was mainly to tie up any loose ends that still remained. The registration and liability release forms had been printed, and the enlarged picture of Duke had also been printed and laminated. We went over a checklist of things that had to be done for the event, and found that everything had been checked off. We decided to have one of Duke's daughters open the Lake Sedgwick event with a blast from an air horn.

June 9th finally came, and it was a beautiful hot sunny day for the event. Duke's daughter opened the event with the air horn blast, and then announced that quitting time/lunchtime would be announced with two blasts from the air horn. However, with the temperature hovering in the 90's, we knew that some people would not want a heavy meal of Italian sausage, so we sent one of our members out to the store for hot dogs and buns. It turned into a real scorcher of a day, so the kids were ready to stop fishing by lunchtime, and so were their parents, as the breeze that we had earlier, had died down. Everyone hit the food pretty hard, and enjoyed their lunch, after having enjoyed a morning of fishing. The final event to occur before the cleanup began was the donation of a check for \$250 to the man and his son that we had run a benefit for during the previous three months. His name is Eric Vickers and his 5 years old son is Cameron. (Original article on benefit and thank you letter are attached. We collected hundreds of dollars worth of fishing equipment, cash, and gift cards for this young man and his son who all of their fishing equipment broken or stolen. We ran the benefit in the Outdoor Notebook from March through May of this year, and it resulted in a van full of fishing equipment for

the young man and his little boy. They attended the Duke's Kids' Fishing Day, and it was there that we donated the check to him.

A full report on Duke's Day was published in the July issue of the Outdoor Notebook, as are reports from all of our meetings. Another thing that occurred at the Duke's Day outing was that the kids of some of our members busied themselves with cleaning up articles of trash and dead fish from the lakeshore and disposing of them properly.

Back in January, these same kids worked, along with many adults in our booth at the Chicago Muskie Show by selling tickets for our mini-affle and handing out Outdoor Notebooks. Meanwhile the adult workers were dispensing information and talking about the benefits of M.I. membership to prospective members, and in the process, signing up a few new members. Those who weren't working the booth, provided manpower for the show by guarding doors, participating in traffic control after the poolside demonstrations let out, and took tickets and stamped hands. We also had several members who worked our booth at the Tinley Park Fishing Show in February by disseminating information about muskies, Muskies, Inc, and our chapter. All together, we furnished twenty-seven workers for the Chicago Muskie Show, many of them working multiple shifts and days, and a total of ten people for the Tinley Park Show.

For our cookout meeting held at a marine dealer in February (which is kind of a kick-off for the fishing season), the club provided the meat, the condiments, and the chips, while several of the member women baked cakes and cookies for dessert, and made deviled eggs, mixed green salad, Cole slaw, and German potato salad to go with the burgers and hot dogs. This event was publicized and was open to anyone, free of charge.

We had about three fishing outings besides Duke's Day, and also have some unplanned outings when people are available. These were in addition to our annual picnic in late summer, where several of the members and some non-members fished.

One of our members who volunteers at the Veteran's Home in Manteno, is currently engaged in discussions with the head of that facility who is working with the DNR to enable us to stock the fishing pond on their property.

We also have a bake sale scheduled for December, the proceeds of which will go to the Henry Palmisano Memorial Fishing Foundation, which takes underprivileged kids from the inner city to Palmisano Pond (an old Bridgeport quarry) to learn how to fish. They also provide these kids with rods, reels and bait for their outing in order to help them catch and release the stocked bluegills and bass. This bake sale will be held right before our annual Christmas party.

As far as stocking is concerned, all of the money that we give to the IMA goes for stocking and fisheries management. With an extremely limited budget, and a membership that is mostly past retirement age, there is a limit to what we can do since we are not located near a lake of a size that we can stock, run a tournament on, or clean up, and of our membership, only about twenty to thirty show up for any given meeting. Much of the money that we do take in has to go for expenses to keep the chapter viable.

As far as publicity is concerned, Lynn Polyak personally writes the articles that go into the Outdoor Notebook, have sent in many pictures of our members' fish, our activities and our speakers, and take care of making sure that the newspaper gets into other outlets where it historically has not been available.

I) Richard (Dick) Narske Chapter # 11 Mississippi Valley

Youth

Children's fishing-\$150.00

City of Galesburg: Youth Fishing Derby: \$750.00 Quad City Conservation Alliance. (QCCA)

Rock Island High School Environmental Club: \$1,000.00 (QCCA)

Whiteside County Soil and Water, Kids' Program, \$500.00 (QCCA)

Boys Scout Troup 25: Fishing Derby, \$250.00 (QCCA)

Accomplishments

Line Receptacle Tubes-\$150.00

New Docks for Lake Carlton-\$3800.00
Fish Cribs-Lakes Carlton and George-\$400.00
Hybrid Stripes Lake George-\$1,900.00

QCCA

- a. State of Iowa DNR: Land acquisition on Green Island
- b. Fish for IL Area Aging (at Riverside Park): \$750.00
- c. Riverside Park Pond: Aerator; \$1,000.00 to 1,250.00

Schedule of Chapter activities and events:

Dec 12

MI Chapter membership meeting at 7pm at the QCCA. Please enter through the back door at the main concession.

Jan 9

MI Chapter membership meeting at 7pm at the QCCA. Please enter through the back door at the main concession.

February 13

MI Chapter membership meeting at 7pm at the QCCA. Please enter through the back door at the main concession.

February 14-17

Outdoor Show Hunting & Fishing Show.

MIMV11 are looking for booth volunteers for the Outdoor Show at the QCCA Expo Center on February 14, 15, 16, and 17.

For more information go to www.qccaexpocenter.com

February 24

The banquet will be held February 24th, 2013 at O'Mellas. The cost is \$15.00 per person or \$28.00 per couple. Please submit money to Rob Dickinson or call Sonny Stephens. Cocktails start at 5pm, Dinner from 6-7pm. Awards & Raffles will follow; don't forget the Dingbat awards!!

QCCA events:

[Bald Eagle Days January 20-22 -- Farm Show](#) [February 16 -- Inspirational Archer](#) [February 14-17 -- Outdoor, Hunting & Fishing Show](#) [February 22-24 -- RV, Camping Show](#) [March 22-24 -- Flower & Garden Show](#) [April 13 -- In-Fisherman Swap Meet](#) [April 18-19 -- Earth Week Fair](#) [July 19-21 Fall Hunting Show](#)

Quad City Conservation alliance- raise's money within 90 mile radius of quad city. M.I. With approx 4-5 other clubs involved.

J) Bill Nuyttens Chapter # 14 South of the Border

This was a very busy year for all of us at South of the Border.

In January we had a booth at the All Canada Show and at Bass Pro Shop in Gurnee, IL to sign up people for Muskies Inc. We did this for all Muskies, Inc. Chapters.

In March, Kevin Busnick and a group of kids went to the Jake Wolf Memorial Fish Hatchery in Southern IL. Kevin Busnick is the VP of Youth Activity for Muskies, Inc. We shot video for six hours on tape about what goes on at the fish hatchery. We then put together a DVD which was shown at the Annual Board meeting in Campbellsville, KY in April 2012. It was also shown to our Chapter membership.

Kevin also runs YCA (Youth Conservation Alliance), an organization that promotes environmental education and fishing activities. The YCA slogan is "Kids who fish are cool". This is a 501(c)(3) organization. No one gets paid, it is a volunteer organization. Members of our Chapter help out in this event.

In May, the YCA had a three day camping trip where kids got to fish, shoot and try their hand at archery. Also, Kevin had kids out on Silver Lake, WI for a fishing outing. The big event, which was featured in the May/June issue of Muskies, Inc., was a trip to Moose Lake, WI. There were over 50 kids with their moms and dads for 2 1/2 days of fishing for muskies. They caught over 50 muskies and a couple of bass. Trophies were handed out by Pete Mania and Larry Ramsell.

In May we had a South of the Border kid's day outing on the Fox Chain of Lakes. South of the Border donated \$1,500.00 for this event. In June we had a club trip to Amason's Obabikon on Lake of the Woods in Ontario, Canada. Again in June, some of the South of the Border members took Veterans out for a day of fishing.

In August we had a day of fishing for Coho on a charter boat out in Lake Michigan and we had a group of people go to the Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge on Lake of the Woods, Ontario, Canada. Next year, in 2013, we have a fundraiser planned in March. We are organizing a South of the Border Memorial fishing tournament on the Fox Chain for 2013.

Best practices...Photos and Muskie lures on the boards...raffles.... Lots of Prizes

Held on 3rd Wednesday of March every other year. Remember to have something for the ladies.

Note: No reports from Chapters # 17 & # 42.

2) Discussion of Region 4 support for the 2016 Muskies, Inc. Board of Directors Muskie Symposium.

Earle says approximate \$11,820.00 is in a CD for the Symposium fund. Frank says FC **hasn't** put the \$2000 per year in the Symposium fund for 2/3 years so now is behind \$4000.00 to \$6,000.00. Jim Shannon says due to Symposium fund approx \$4000.00 is due but is slow in doing this. They are in the General Fund to be paid.

We need to say to the Symposium committee get up and going.

We voted to ask each Chapter to donate \$100 per year from our region dedicated to the Symposium fund only.

3) Region 4 plan development-open discussion Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats (SWOT).

Strengths are show up to meetings and communicate.

Have members who are concerned and involved & best practices of Chapters they use.

Discussed creating domain name for Region # 4 Muskies, Inc. (Muskiesinregion4.org)

Earle Hammond and Dan Koniewicz to set up a Regional Website for Region # 4. Set up and annually cost not to exceed \$100.00 from Region # 4 Fund. Passed unanimously. (12 yes 0 no)

Insurance coverage from M.I. changed from a per person amount to a Umbrella style policy. Think the 2012 cost was around \$2.22 to \$2.75 in each Chapter per person.

4) Website:

There was a committee formed to approve the 2nd Phase. Would like to know who is on this Committee? Many problems in fish entries. Many problems in phase two (2). Frustrated with slowness and also all the information to go past Jim Bunch or Ellen Wells. Where is the Webmaster in all of this for phase two (2)? Seems like the system working but a lot of bugs to iron out. Dan Koniewicz says "give it time". Webmaster \$6000.00 is budgeted. Unsure who is website master for M.I. at this time. EC not keeping the membership informed on what is being done. Has Ron Groeschl been asked for advice on Phase two (2)? Is he part of the Committee? New Website is harder to use than the old one.

5) Keyes Outdoors:

At a cost of \$21,000.00 per year for 3 Yrs. According to Board of Directors, Region # 4 says the membership cannot continue to pay that huge amount without us having proof of it driving membership up. Dropping the magazine only saved \$17,000.00 instead of \$26,000.00 as we lead to believe. Discussed possibly of 2-3 shows made of just for Muskies Inc. **that promotes us**. Need a change in the format; not just promotional but use reference during show for how and why to join Muskies, Inc. Suggested was to drop Keyes and pick up something like Jim Sari. Maybe get prices to do this? Biggest contributor is Ontario Fishing for 30 special spots in Keyes Outdoors. Very little of Muskies, Inc. membership using Keyes Outdoors. To hard to use at this time.

6) Chapter Concerns: Gil Hamm Memorial Chapter Challenge a plus however dates between YCA & Gill Hamm Memorial Chapter Challenge was poorly decided. Neither has been posted on the M.I.

Website. Some one needs to see that the dates are done in the best interest of M.I. No two (2) events at the same time.

Very concerned that the E.C. & SPC Board's have not acted on the approved vote of hiring the Executive Director. All concerned with the declining membership that many chapters have threatening to secede or withdraw from M.I. We have 1,100 members in Region # 4 & 11 Chapters. Our region needs to bring to the attention that the Presidential vote date set by the Executive Committee does not conform to the Bylaws 3.06. even though we support Jay Zhan for President. Note: The vote according to the Bylaws is to be held after the last regional meeting is held. This was not followed this time.

Where does the money go that is paid to our Muskies Inc.? Was well covered by the RR's.

Questions **rose** regarding the status of our non-for-profit status. Where are we at?

Bylaws are done. The 2 changes passed 14-0 regarding prior correspondence with Regional Representatives vote done via US registered mail. Frank is going to make a motion to change Bylaws 2.05. of wording of "certified mail" to another, lesser expensive way. Frank gave directions on the Bylaw change forms and if change is desired from US postal service to electronic format. Frank will do this through the Standing Bylaws Committee.

Leo Kofoot rescinded motion because he didn't realize that most awards paid for by the chapters so wanted to continue contest as is.

There was discussion regarding the resignation of the V.P of Fisheries & Research. Greg Wells is now wearing 2 hats with both "Membership and Marketing "and " Fisheries and Research". This is two much for one person. SRR will discuss at next EC meeting.

We felt that the questionnaire is very important and should be used each meeting and electronically transmitted so each chapters information may be stored and passed to future members.

Two points of concern:

1). The Regional Representatives & Chapter Representatives very concerned that the Executive Committee was given strict and specific directions to hire an Executive Director as per the agreed upon directives where there is little or no monies spent to attain...this was the voted on, and approved method 2 Yrs ago and somehow it is not being done. We believe that the reason this has been stalled is that most do not understand that in hiring as per directive, there would be no monies paid...only commissions on what the Director brought in as new revenue to our organization. Our region as a whole believes this needs to be done immediately.

2). Concerned about the Symposium situation. No effort has been made to either raise money or plan the Symposium. David Cates mentioned that he served on the prior symposium committee and had volunteered on the upcoming committee yet hadn't been contacted in 6 months. Upon further research, his name had been taken off the committee list so are region is very concerned what is happening. We also want to let the Executive committee know we are willing to help with the planning and execution and volunteering for the event. We are going to ask each Chapter to help out as best as they can for the support of the Symposium. See # 2) above.

7) Motions for Annual Board Meeting 2013. (None)

8) Budget – Regional's & Muskies, Inc. Regional # 4 has \$606.00 in our fund. Asking each Chapter to now donate \$100.00 to our Regional fund again.. Need a more simple type of Muskies, Inc. Budget for members to understand.

9) Nominations for RR: Candidates were:

(1) Earle Hammond & (2) Lynn Polyak (Discussion on new Regional Representative:)

Votes on Regional Representative as follows by the CR's: 1) Earle Hammond (6) &

2) Lynn Polyak (2) Note: Earle elected to the RR position # 4 Region

Per Bylaws RR Frank A. Walter will become the SRR for 2013

10) Next Meeting: After comparing Comfort Suites, Ramada, Baymont Inn & Suites, and Drury Inn, it was decided to hold the meeting at the same location and time as current meeting. Date of 11/02/2013 at the Baymont Inn & Suites, Springfield IL - 9:30 AM to 6:30 PM.

11) Adjournment time: 3:13 PM 11/10/2012.