

# **Cast About #1**

“A monthly informational sheet about the Illini Muskies Alliance”

Some of you will remember the April fool jokes from your elementary school years, and yet others are still young enough at heart to still appreciate a good laugh. Probably not funny to call your fishing buddy up and report a 52” Muskie and then to say “April fool”.

One of the many goals of the IMA is to raise the bar as far as inter-communications is concerned. I will admit, up front, can’t do this without your help! While the Illinois Muskie community is small, the intensity and excitement high. The sharing of information and the nurturing of camaraderie among Muskie anglers so very important.

Hopefully our “Cast About” monthly newsletter will contribute to the success of our mission. More Muskies, more catches and more fun! We’ll be happy to share your Club news, events and successes with all the IMA Clubs. But we can only do this with your help.

- \*\*1. Note: The April 24<sup>th</sup> IMA meeting is canceled. We are looking at ways that we can meet the By-Laws requirement of a quarterly meeting, perhaps a sit down meeting in June. As usual the virus will control that decision, time will tell and we will keep you informed. We do have the votes to not have the meeting but would really like to. We are planning on the July and November being a sit down in person meeting.**
- \*\*2. With fishing (catching) season finally here, please don’t forget to register your caught Muskies with IDNR. So very important for the future of our sport! Hope you might share reports of the catches with us as well.
- \*\*3 The Eighth Annual Illinois High School Muskie Tournament will be held May 15, 2021, on Mill Creek.. For full details contact Jim Beaty (618-971-7806 Email: [jbeaty@certapro.com](mailto:jbeaty@certapro.com))
- \*\*4 Please advise your fishing buddies that they must be a member of an IMA member club to enter a fish in the annual Big Fish Award contest. A member before the catch.
- \*\*5 Technology is awesome (if you know how-thank goodness for grandkids if not), however It doesn’t work if the information isn’t updated or correct. If you are an IMA officer, Delegate/alternate or Club President, please double check your directory information.
- \*\*6 .Finally, hope you share our newsletter with your Club members, and hope we learn about your Club’s activities and thoughts to be included in the “Cast About”.

**Chicagoland Muskie Hunters – Annual Fundraiser – Great prizes -Tickets \$3. Each or 6 for \$10.  
Contact Frank Loye 1-312-446-0979**

**April 17 & 18 – IMTT Spring Classic – Lake Kinkaid – Robert Unzicker**

**April 24 & 25 – Shawnee Muskie Hunters Spring Fling – Lake Kinkaid- Jim Beaty**

**April 24 – Flatlanders – Lake Storey Outing – Dick Cholke**

*I don't know about you, but I'm sure looking forward to the time when we ask each other "what did you catch him on" instead of "have you had your second vaccine" or "which vaccine did you get"?*

*Speaking of catching Muskies, how about a **"Fish On – Report Item"** Send me a note of your successful catch(s), lake, lure, and so on, and we'll share your success with ALL Illinois Muskie anglers. This doesn't have to be from an Illinois lake. Maybe your trip "up north".*

*For sure, who knows! Seems like every day something is different with the pandemic. One day all positive and hopeful and the next day doom and gloom. With caution in mind, we are really hoping to hold a face to face meeting in June (probably on Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup>). At that meeting we'll discuss the possibility of moving the July meeting to August with the August meeting being a tour of the Jake Wolf Hatchery (depending of course on virus restrictions) and then sticking with the November meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>. All three meetings will be face to face if the virus protocol permit meeting face to face.. We'll absolutely keep you up to date and informed as each Club President, delegate and alternate will receive a meeting packet prior to our first face to face meeting during early June (hopefully USPS will deliver in time for the meeting). Please double check your Club directory as to who is on that list.*

*In the meantime, if you have an informational announcement to be included in the May 1<sup>st</sup> "Cast About" please send it to me by mid-April.*

*Good Fishin to All – Bob Kerans, IMA Acting Chairman 217-414-0093*

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***Casting for 100% Club Representation***