

STEELHEAD NEWS

A Publication of the Lake Superior Steelhead Association

www.steelheaders.org

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Andy Selvig with Brule steelhead, caught on the swing, fall 2016.



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2016 Year in Review

By Craig Wilson



Lake Superior Steelhead Association

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Duluth, MN 55816-0034

LSSA's Mission:

For these reasons and more, the Lake Superior Steelhead Association exists: to protect our rivers and fish; to help preserve Lake Superior and its bounty; to learn more about the resources we enjoy and foster discussion, research and sound fisheries management practices; to educate anglers and the public about all these things. The LSSA has taken all these tasks upon its shoulders. These issues are too important to leave to chance or the vagaries of bureaucracies and politics. Our mission is to protect and improve the cold water fishery of the Lake Superior region and to bring various groups of anglers together in an atmosphere of friendship, so they can work for their and the resources common good.

Board of Directors:

President: Craig Wilson
Vice President: Mike Pitan
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Secretary: Kevin J. Bovee
Keith Behn
Gary Siverson*
Jeff Somrock*
Curt Wistrom

Newsletter Editor: Scott Thorpe

*Past LSSA Presidents

Each year, the Lake Superior Steelhead Association (LSSA) does a year in review so our members, volunteers and partners can see what we have accomplished. 2016 was a milestone year for the LSSA. This year saw us complete our first major streambank restoration project, approval for additional Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Grant project funding and the continued youth and parent steelhead angler mentoring program.

January

- The LSSA was invited and participated in the DNR's roundtable discussion. This Roundtable Event gives us a chance to meet and talk to our conservation partners and provide input to the DNR on the state of the fishery.

February

- The Individual Topics of 10-year Lake Superior Management Plan (LAMP) was conducted at the EPA Research Laboratory "Water Lab". Multiple LSSA members were at every meeting to provide our input to the DNR and other committee members. We also submitted written responses to the DNR regarding sections of the plan.

March

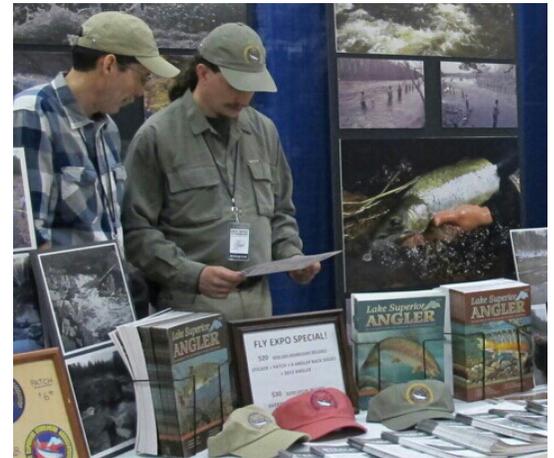
- The LSSA participated in the Great Waters Fly Fishing Expo held at Century College in St. Paul. The LSSA has participated in this event for several years and has generated a lot interest in our organization during this event. Special thanks to Scott Thorpe for providing a continued LSSA presence at this event.

- Publication and distribution of the Lake Superior Angler continued. The Angler is our sport fishing annual magazine that is distributed to members and also sold in over a dozen locations in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Ontario. The Angler has been published for thirty plus consecutive years. Thanks to Kevin Bovee and Stacy Whaley for all their hard work on this publication.

- The Annual Youth Steelhead Mentoring program was held again. Part 1 of his program consisted of two days at Hartley Nature Center and involved teaching kids angling techniques, knot tying, distributing equipment and conservations. Again this year we invited parents with registered children to attend and participate in the class. Special thanks to Gary Siverson for his efforts with this class and Hartley Nature Center for providing a venue.

April

- Annual Spring Banquet in Duluth. We had a great turnout with over 100 in attendants.



Besides being able to catch up with fellow anglers, we enjoyed door, silent auction and raffle prizes to raise money for steelhead. Special thanks goes out to DNR Commissioner Tom Landwehr who was our special guest speaker at the banquet. So if you missed last year we hope to see you in 2017.

- Part 2 of our Annual Youth Steelhead Mentoring program. This part of the program involved taking the kids and their parents in some cases, fishing on the Knife River. Even in tough weather conditions, several kids hooked or caught fish. If you would like to be a youth mentor next year, please contact Gray Siverson.

May

- The LSSA continued work on our second Lessard Grant. This work included conducting the final stream survey work and permit submission for the restoration of two stream reaches (9 and 12) that consisted of four eroding streambanks. The goal of the project was to restore juvenile steelhead rearing



habitat within our primary spawning grounds on the main Knife River. To achieve this goal, our project used a relatively new design and construction process called natural channel design. Natural channel design compares unstable eroding stream reaches to stable functioning stream reaches. The goal of a project is to bring an unstable stream reaches back to a stable state using natural materials, such as boulders, root wads, brush bundles and the replanting of potted trees.

Natural channel design consists of a three-step process. First, is a detailed stream reach survey to collect data for comparison to several stable stream sections. Common criteria collected for evaluation is stream width to depth ratios, connection to the floodplain, eroding bank calculations, channel configuration, longitudinal profile, cross-section elevation pebble count and vegetation. Second, plans and specifications are developed that depict the existing stream channel, the new location and dimensions of the proposed stream channel and the alterations or design features necessary to reconfigure the stream channel and flow. These plans also depict where the placement of structures, location of streambed excavation, the creation of a bench and floodplain and the realignment of the stream channel will occur. Three, is the construction project that rehabilitates the impacted stream reach to restore the channel to meet the stable stream conditions. This construction uses heavy equipment to place the massive natural materials such as large tree trunks, root wads and boulders to stabilize the bank and redirect the streams flow. This process repairs the geomorphic problems with the stream instead of applying habitat features without regard to the stream's configuration. This is why the rehabilitation project will remain intact after a flood event.

June

- The LSSA submitted for our third Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Grant. This Grant continues to focus on the upper main Knife River. The goal of this grant is to use our cold water zones to rear more steelhead to age 2.

From the Editor

This issue of the Steelhead News wraps up my seventh year of being the newsletter editor. Prior to that, my spouse Maria Manion had the role for two years and before that Dave and Linda Bennett produced it for at least a dozen years. I taught myself Photoshop, InDesign, and Acrobat and since I am not a computer geek, I am painfully slow. Cranking out a newsletter, after all the material has been gathered up and written by myself or others still takes me two FULL days. Days I would rather be hunting or fishing. So my point is this: if you you like this newsletter, please contribute material otherwise I might as well just go fishing. I am currently out of material for future issues. Specifically, we need historic photos, fishing articles, and photos for photo gallery. Please consider contributing. It's not that hard, text me at 612-669-9601 or e-mail me with articles and photos at scott@scottthorpeflyfishing.com. If you have photos on your smart phone, do it now.

Upcoming Events

Fly Fishing Film Tour

Jan 29, 2017

Clyde Iron Works, Duluth, MN

March 4, 2017

Parkway Theatre, Minneapolis, MN

Great Waters Fly Fishing Expo

March 17, 18, 19, 2017

Hamline University, St. Paul, MN

LSSA Youth Mentoring Classroom Sessions

March 11, 18, 2017

Hartley Nature Center, Duluth, MN

LSSA Youth Mentoring Field Sessions

Dates to be determined 2017

LSSA Spring Banquet

April 22, 2017

New location to be announced, Duluth, MN

• The second year of the planking party was held on Brighton Beach. This new location continues to be a wonderful spot and the weather was a bit better this year than last, which resulted in a stronger turnout. Special thanks to Paul Sandstrom, Mike Pitan and Curt Wistrom for all their efforts to make this party a success. If you have not been to a Planking Party since the location move, come check it out.

July/August

• The LSSA contracted with NRRI's Fishery Biologist Team to conduct a baseline aquatic assessment of the Upper Main Knife River within our Reach 9 and 12 construction project area. This assessment collected insect and fish data that will be used as a baseline comparison after the stream's habitat has been restored. This assessment was part of the LSSA's Second Lessard - Sams Outdoor Heritage Grant.



September

• The LSSA met in person to discuss our Grant 3 proposal with the Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. The Council asked various questions to determine if we should be awarded additional funding and to determine our final proposal ranking.

• The LSSA Board of Directors held an impromptu tree-planting project as part of our Lessard-Sams Grant 2 in-kind donation. This tree planting project was performed on our Reach 12 construction project location and consisted of planting larger trees along the newly constructed stream bank.



October/November

• The LSSA was awarded a 1.785 million dollar grant for Phase 3 of our Knife River project from the Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Grant. The LSSA would like to thank the Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Grant for providing additional funding so we can continue our great conservation work

• The LSSA sponsored our second annual Spey Day at the Brule River. The event was held at McNeil's and included casting demo's, and informal instruction. The club also provided a nice lunch for the attendees. Thanks to Paul Sandstrom, Kevin Bovee, Marianne Bovee and Scott Thorpe for organizing this event.

• Work began on a second Rosgen stream stability assessment on the Upper Main Knife River. This stream assessment is part of the LSSA's second Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Grant and is necessary so we can perform another construction project in 2017.

On-going Business

We continued our publication of the Steelhead News, our bi-monthly newsletter that features LSSA projects and events, member articles, and a photo gallery. Thanks to the editor Scott Thorpe and other contributors who provide content and photographs.

Our website www.steelheaders.org has also been redesigned and updated by Paul Sandstrom.

The LSSA has continued to manage a charitable gaming operation at Mr. Ds and the Reef Bar. This is a labor-intensive operation that requires several staff members, monthly accounting, form submittal to the State of Minnesota and year end audits. We are fortunate to be able to have this operation as a funding source. This operation has provided the LSSA the financial clout to perform projects not available to many other conservation organizations.

As you can see, the club has been very busy in 2016. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our Board, membership and volunteers who made a contribution to our efforts this past year. Thank you for your support and we look forward to the coming year. We are always looking for volunteers so if anyone is interested please get a hold of us through the website.



New Spring Banquet Location

The 2017 LSSA Spring Banquet will not be held at Mr. D's as it has been for many years. The LSSA will be selecting a new location, which will be announced in this newsletter and on the website. Stay posted.

Fly Fishing Film Tour 2017

The Fly Fishing Film Tour is coming to Duluth. Sponsored by Gitche-Gumee Trout Unlimited and the Arrowhead Fly Fishers, the event will be held on Sunday, January 29th at Clyde Iron Works. If you have never experienced the Fly Fishing Film Tour, you owe it to yourself to show up. The event consists of around a dozen short trailers for adventure angling videos which are guaranteed to get your adrenaline flowing. Doors open at 3:00 pm and the films start at 4:00. Tickets are available at the Superior Fly Angler or Great Lakes Fly Shop, or online. \$13 in advance or \$15 at the door.

In Minneapolis, the tour comes to the Parkway Theatre on March 4th with tickets available at local fly shops including the Fly Angler and online. Or, at River Falls WI on March 3rd at the University Center Ballroom, tickets online or at Lunds Fly Shop. Finally, it will be held at the Park Theatre in Hayward on March 4th.

MN DNR closes French River Hatchery

On Nov 10th, the MN DNR announced the long anticipated decision on the future of the French River Hatchery. The DNR is closing the 1970s-era fish hatchery because of failing infrastructure and excessive energy consumption. The hatchery needs \$8 million in capital investment to address failing equipment. It also consumes 10 percent of the energy used by the entire agency statewide.

Fisheries Chief Don Pereira said energy inefficiency and costly repairs

make it necessary to close the hatchery, but the remaining fish production from French River will be continued elsewhere.

"We remain strongly committed to providing great fishing opportunities in Lake Superior and along the North Shore," Pereira said. "To provide the best fishing we can for anglers, we need to be strategic about how we use energy, and we're confident we can adjust to meet angler needs with our remaining four hatcheries."

Pereira said production of Kamloops trout, which are raised at French River and stocked in Lake Superior, will be moved to another hatchery. The Kamloops trout is a domesticated strain of rainbow trout that cannot reproduce in the lake. Under current French River operations, each Kamloop an angler keeps costs approximately \$160 to produce. The hatchery is inefficient because it uses Lake Superior's cold water and must heat the water to a temperature at which fish can be raised, a process that is less costly elsewhere.

MN DNR Website

LSSA Position Statement

In response to the announced closure of the French River Hatchery, the Board of the LSSA has prepared the following position statement::

"We are extremely disappointed with the DNR position to close the French River Hatchery. The LSSA played an instrumental role supporting the hatchery construction in 1975. We were not included in the decision making process to close the facility. We do not agree with the cost per fish to creel figures used to justify the decision and we are saddened that the economic value to this area of the hatchery products, which far exceed the cost, was deemed irrelevant. The DNR position that discretionary spending by disaffected anglers will just shift to a different form and location ignores

the economic benefits lost to the local community. Neighboring states will benefit from this decision to our loss.

Hatchery production is an integral part of Lake Superior rainbow trout management. Steelhead fry stocking has increased the numbers of steelhead returning to the North Shore Rivers, and annual hatchery production of 92,500 Kamloops provides a harvest component to the Lake Superior rainbow trout fishery. Wild steelhead catch and release works well when anglers have the opportunity to harvest a hatchery fish when they want to bring one home for dinner. Kamloops also provide shore fishing opportunity from fall to spring. This shore fishing opportunity allows the elderly and handicapped angler a chance to experience Lake Superior fishing without the need of a large boat or expensive fishing gear. If the Kamloops fishery is lost, chances are, so are these anglers." *The LSSA Board.*

Note to Membership

As you have already discovered, we did not have a Christmas Party this year. We couldn't guarantee enough people attending. In the past the membership notice went out with the Christmas Party RSVP in mid November. Expect the membership renewal information in your mailboxes by mid January. You could do us a huge favor by returning the renewal ASAP so we don't have to spend time and expenses on a second, and even third reminder.

Several folks have already renewed for 2017. If you are wondering if you have done this just take a look at the mailing label on this newsletter. If it says either 2016A or B, our records indicate we have not seen a renewal. If it says 2017 or even 2018, you are good to good.

Thanks for your continued support and we hope you have a great 2017. *Kevin J. Bovee*

Brule Spey Day

By Scott Thorpe

Saturday Oct 8th dawned sunny and crisp on the Brule, in stark contrast to a day earlier, when an all night rain blew out the river and made fishing on Friday hopeless. Driving down to check out the water at Co-op Park early Saturday morning, I realized conditions were perfect for fishing—clearing and dropping-- and we would be lucky to have a big turn-out. I wished the weather gods would have shifted the downpour by just one day.

Down at McNeil's, presenters were arriving to set up. Kevin and Marianne Bovee unloaded their truck load of food and sure enough, attendees started trickling in. As the program started, I counted 45 people, and eventually around 60 people dropped by, counting all present. That was an increase from the 35 from last year, and respectable, considering I couldn't blame anyone who would rather fish than talk about it. The river looked perfect.

The ante was upped this year, with a few tables set up for fly tying demonstrations and a couple product representatives. After a brief introduction by LSSA organizer Paul Sandstrom, Bob Nasby led off the demonstrations. Bob is a well known casting instructor from St. Paul, recently inducted to the Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame. Bob talked about the broader applications of spey style casting, stressing it's not just for double handed rods on enormous Scandinavian rivers. Bob used a single handed rod and tossed out effortless single spey casts with it. Dave Norling Sr. and Dave Norling Jr. had brought up a double handed bamboo rod they had crafted and Bob did some basic spey casts with it, just to marvel in the smoothness of the action.

Rob Kolakowski, western WI guide and fly tyer was next. Rob explained his preferences in double handed rod design. He makes his own rods and



locates the reel seat more central in the handle to move the center of balance of the rod closer to the tip. He felt this improves his casting as the axis of rotation of his upper and lower hand motion is more central around the balance point of the rod. He then launched into a running dialogue and casting demonstration of six basic casts: switch cast, single spey, double spey, snap T, circle T, snake roll, spiral single spey and finally a perry poke. Rob claimed he had never given a presentation to such a large group before, and he was noticeably nervous at first. But as his casting muscle memory took over, he proved that practice makes perfect. There was a lot to absorb here and I enjoyed watching him rocket these casts off.

The program took a break for a fantastic piping hot lunch of brats, baked beans and all the trimmings provided free of charge by the Lake Superior Steelhead Association and prepared and served by Marianne and Kevin J. Bovee. Quite a few LSSA members were in attendance. Board members Keith Behn and LSSA President Craig Wilson were mingling with crowd, and long time members like Scotty Fifield and

others I should have noted. There were a few Brule River Sportsman's Club members around too. The hot food tasted great as I became quite chilled while sitting in the shade of the white pines on the bank. We all socialized a bit, checked out the tackle on display and watched Larry Barnhart tie a few flies until the icy wind gusts made it counterproductive.

After lunch, the program continued with the Sage/Redington and Rio





Left to right: Bob Nasby, Rob Kolakowski, Dave Gellatly, Andy Selvig and Paul Sandstrom. All photos by Robert McGraw.

products representative Dave Gellatly, from Ashland WI. Dave brought along a quiver of double handed rods from Sage and matching lines from Rio. His on the water demonstration explained the evolution of this style of casting as it moved from its origins in the UK to the US and how the tackle and techniques have adapted. From the vintage 15 ft greenheart rods, toward modern carbon fiber, rods have become progressively lighter and shorter, trending today to 10' and 11' switch rods (rods short and light enough that you can cast them as either single or double handed) and new fly lines designed with the weighting and length of the head to enhance spey casts on single handed rods.

Andy Selvig from St. Paul focused his demonstration on using spey tackle and casts for chucking big flies. Andy regularly uses his double handed rods to fish swung presentations or swing and strip presentations for smallmouth bass, northern and walleye in warm water rivers around the state. Andy is also a dedicated swung presentation angler for steelhead. Plucking bigger—3" to 6"—flies requires a few changes to the basic technique. First, a fuller extension with top hand rod after the rod stop, while pulling with the lower hand, is the equivalent of a longer rod. He showed how to move the anchor point out in front to make the pluck more vertical, thus less friction and a better cast.

The last presenter of the day was Paul Sandstrom, former LSSA board member, guide and rod builder and primary organizer of the this event. Paul got right to the point: how to select your tackle to fit the Brule. Most double handed set-ups are far too long. On the Brule, casts don't have to be very long. This means a shorter rod, shorter head and shorter tip. Paul is very fond of the Olympic Peninsula Skagit Tactics (OPST) Commando short heads. These are lighter (150 to 475 grain) and shorter, ranging from only 12 ft for the 150 grain line up to 18 ft for the 475 grain. Paul demonstrated with his ideal set-up, a 10'-6" double handed rod with a 350 grain, 15 ft Commando head and

8 ft of T-8 sink tip, a short leader and lightly weighted fly.

By now, it was mid-afternoon and the crowd broke up to either go fishing or hang out on the river bank and try a few casts with the all the experts and proven tackle. I myself threw a few casts with Paul Sandstrom's rod and vowed to buy a couple new OPST lines. I watched Rob Kolakowski and Bob Nasby coach Bob's grandson Bobby McGraw—already a great single handed caster—into making some beautiful spey casts. I tried out the Norling bamboo double handed rod and then I headed out myself to get in a few hours of fishing. I had no luck, but I had fun casting. I later heard that Larry Barnhart landed a big steelhead that evening. Nice.





Above, Shawn Perich cradling a steelhead. Below, Scott Stuiiff with a fall Brule chromer.



July 13, 2016
LSSA BOD/Membership Meeting
MINUTES

BOD Present: D. Dahl, G. Siverson, C. Wilson, K. Behn, C. Wistrom, K. Bovee. P. Sandstrom also present.

1. Gambling Report: All required forms were presented for review, discussion and approval. Motion to accept the gambling report as presented by Siverson. Motion seconded by Dahl and motion passed. Other info: Bar bingo progressive game went last night. Start over again. Bovee presented monthly expenses for the LSOHC line of credit amounting to \$ 3410.42 and a charge of \$ 600 for a deposit that had to be made to the account. Motion by Wistrom to approve these expenditures from gambling. Motion seconded by Behn and motion passed. Finally-Spirit Valley Days request came in. Motion by Dahl to donate \$ 550.00 again to SVD. Motion seconded by Wistrom and motion passed.

2. Treasurer's Report: Treasury in very good shape. Still a few outstanding 2016 ANGLER advertising bills.

3. Grant Update: Expenses for line of credit, etc. mentioned in gambling report. Reimbursement request #4 for PH II was just submitted for payment to state. It takes up to 30 days to

turn it around. The status update for PH PH II and I will be due shortly. FIELD UPDATE: Need two more permits for the reach 9/12 project to begin. Expecting them any day. Staging of materials has begun. Board asked for clarification as to why two j-hooks were deleted from the plan.

4. Planking Party Update: It was a great night for a party on the beach. The plankers did a great job: Curt Wistrom, Mike Pitan and Paul Sandstrom-THANK YOU.

5. Summer Schedule: Board meetings on the normal night-second Wednesday of the month. LSSA to look into a river cleanup project for August.

6. One Plus Relocation: We planted 1500 clipped (adipose intact) 1+ steelhead this spring. 1000 in the Main West Branch at a couple locations and 500 well upstream in the Main Knife system.

7. Scale Sample Update: LSSA told that the MN DNR received 281 scale samples from the 2016 spring run on the shore.

8. Spey Day: Speakers lining up nicely. Mary and K. Bovee to handle the food.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kevin J. Bovee, Secretary

August 10, 2016
LSSA BOD/Membership Meeting
MINUTES

BOD Present: K. Behn, J. Somrock, C. Wilson, G. Siverson, M. Pitan, D. Dahl & K. Bovee.

1. Gambling Report: All required monthly forms were presented for review, discussion and approval. Motion by Behn to accept report as presented. Motion seconded by Pitan and motion passed. Staff received a slight increase in pay due to state mandated raise. Motion by Siverson to donate \$ 500 to HNC for trail clean up. Motion seconded by Dahl and motion passed. Motion by Pitan to donate \$ 5000 to Sportsmen for Change. Motion seconded by Somrock and motion passed.

2. Treasurer's Report: Treasury in very

good shape.

3. Grant Update: The final permit was received from the Army Corps of Engineers. In stream work has begun. The Status Reports for Ph I and II were presented to the state and approved. Copies handed out to board for review. Ph I Final Report due on 11-1-16.

4. Summer Project: Board discussed either a river clean up of the possibility of a tree planting effort on Reach 12 for this year. Everyone agreed that to do a good river cleanup project, it should take place earlier in the summer, relatively soon after fishing has ended. The tree-planting project was then decided on. Tentative date is September 10.

5. DNR Update: Word has come from the DNR that there is no money available in the budget for a beaver flight in the Knife system this coming fall. Great disbelief from board. The Knife River is the jewel of streams on the North Shore and funding can't be made for this very important annual project.

6. LSSA Board Get Together: Slated for September 30 and October 1 down at McNeil's on the Brule. Bovee to handle food.

7. Old/New/Other: A couple items brought up: New-A donation to Hartley Nature Center was discussed to help with the trail cleanup from the big July 21 blow. See Gambling Report for specifics. Old-discussion for donation to Sportsmen for Change for them to continue their work on behalf of the natural resources of Minnesota. See Gambling Report.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kevin J. Bovee, Secretary

September 14, 2016
LSSA BOD/Membership Meeting
MINUTES

BOD Present: K. Behn, G. Siverson, M. Pitan, C. Wilson, D. Dahl and K. Bovee

1. Gambling Report: All required forms were presented for review, discussion and approval. All worksheets necessary for report also enclosed for review. Motion by Siverson to accept the

gambling report as presented. Motion seconded by Behn and motion passed.

2. Treasurer's Report: All is well for now. Treasurer to get list of donations due from charitable gaming account, which have been made by general fund.

3. Grant Update: Bovee presented PH II budget update through Reimbursement Request #6. BOD brought up to date on fieldwork schedule. Have asked for one extension from MN DNR to continue work on project beyond the initial time table-that extension has been approved. BOD site tour/Reach 12 planting: September 24 was chosen for the board and other volunteers to visit the site, take a walking tour down to Reach 12 and then plant the inside point bar on Reach 12. Meet at 8 am at R. Jacobson driveway. Finally-a brief update on PH III was provided.

4. 2016 Spey Day on the Brule: October 8, 11 am, McNeil's cottage on the Brule.

5. Angler Update: Advertising will start and many of the articles already lined up.

6. Newsletter: Editor S. Thorpe is back from his summer of guiding up in AK and will start on the next issue soon.

7. MN DNR Beaver Flight: Wilson sent out letter reflecting BOD's position on the eliminating or cutting back on the annual beaver flight on the Knife River watershed.

8. Old/New/Other Business: Discussion concerning a Christmas party came up. If we are to have one, preferred date would be December 3.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kevin J. Bovee, Secretary

October 12, 2016
LSAA BOD/Membership Meeting
MINUTES

BOD Present: J. Somrock, C. Wilson, K. Behn, M. Pitan, G. Siverson and K. Bovee.

1. Gambling Report: All required reports were submitted for review, discussion and approval. Worksheets needed for reports also sent for review. Motion by Pitan to accept the

gambling report as presented. Motion seconded by Somrock and motion passed. See Item #5 below.

2. Grants Update: Bovee presented budget position after the Reimbursement Request #7. Discussion also included recap of the September 24 BOD volunteer planting on Reach 12. It was a great job and the weather turned out perfectly for it-a couple days of light rain beginning the afternoon of the 24 really helped settle in the plantings. PH III Update: meeting down in St. Paul the morning of September 29; afterwards had meeting with LSOHC Staff and NDR OMB staff in regards to Fiscal Agent. Several prospects have been identified. Finally-an update on the field work wrap up. The Valentine corner will get done in 2017.

3. Spey Day on the Brule: The turnout was slightly below what folks had hope for. Low to mid 60's of people turned out. A beautiful day but we wondered if Apple Fest in Bayfield had anything to do with the turnout. Will be looking into McNeil's for next year.

4. Christmas party: After much debate the BOD decided not to have a Christmas party in 2016. Couldn't get enough folks to commit to a weekend. Last couple years the numbers have dwindled.

5. MN DNR Beaver Flight: DNR agreed to do flight over the main stem of the Knife River none of the tributaries. Of course, budget restraints are the cause. BOD discussed appropriating \$ 1500 to the DNR to enable them to fly the main stem of the Knife River and ALL named tributaries. Motion by Siverson to fund this flight. Motion seconded by Pitan and motion passed.

6. Old/New/Other Business: Marine General has the rods in for the 2017 Mentoring project. Suggestion is to buy them now and put them into storage unit so we don't have to scramble next March. Classroom dates are March 11 and 18, Hartley Nature Center. New: the date for the 2017 Spring Banquet was set for April 22, 2017 at Mr. D's. Easter is the weekend prior.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kevin J. Bovee, Secretary



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Fishing will be aboard *The Leprechaun* - a 28' 2004 Wellcraft Coastal - from the Port of Sturgeon Bay, Door County, WI, with Captain Don Oberg, who is U.S. Coast Guard and State of Wisconsin Licensed, a native of Duluth, MN and long time LSSA member.

Book your charter today by contacting Captain Don at (612) 799-1453 or
E-mail: CaptDon@LeprechaunFishing.com • www.LeprechaunFishing.com

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The LSSA continues to build its base of friends and fans on Facebook. As of January 2016, we have 516 followers. Please check out our online presence and keep in touch. www.facebook.com/.../Lake-Superior-Steelhead-Association

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Pat Kalmerton



Dan Hassevoort

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