

STEELHEAD NEWS

A Publication of the Lake Superior Steelhead Association

www.steelheaders.org

Nov/Dec 2017: Issue 396



Photo by Mike Pitan

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Lake Superior Steelhead Association

PO Box 16034
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.

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Gary Siverson*
Jeff Somrock*
Randy Fjoser

Newsletter Editor: Scott Thorpe

*Past LSSA Presidents

From the Editor

As I mentioned in the last issue of the Steelhead News, I am soon retiring from the position of Newsletter Editor. One of our members has expressed interest in taking over. He is enthusiastic and has the technical skills but he is concerned about being able to come up with enough material. He is really not able to commit unless he finds a co-editor responsible for content. Writing articles and finding photographs is very time consuming. We need members to participate. Many of you have been faithful contributors all these years and with your help we have been able to put together a pretty nice newsletter. If we could get ten of our members to agree to write just two articles a year, I am sure we could find a co-editor. Please let me know if you are willing to commit to be a regular contributor so we can keep this newsletter published. I've still got several more issues to go, and my

successor(s) will need material so text me at 612-669-9601 or e-mail me with articles and photos at scott@scottthorpeflyfishing.com.

Upcoming Events

Great Waters Fly Fishing Expo
March 16, 17, 18, 2018
Hamline University, St. Paul, MN

LSSA Youth Mentoring Classroom Sessions
March 10, 17, 2018
Hartley Nature Center, Duluth, MN

LSSA Youth Mentoring Field Session
Date to be determined 2018

LSSA Spring Banquet
April 21, 2018
Clearwater Grille, Duluth, MN

LSSA Planking Party
June 30, 2018
Brighton Beach Rd, Duluth, MN

Brule Spey Day
September 8, 2018
McNeil's on the Brule, Brule River, WI

*Clarence Heikkila and Buddy. Fall 1961
Photo from J. Tegeder*



Post Card From The Past.

2017 Year in Review

By Mike Pitan, President

Time, yet again, for the Lake Superior Steelhead Association year in review. The years never seem to pass any slower! This is an incredibly important segment that helps keep our membership up to date with the goings on of the LSSA and the incredibly important work we are doing to rehabilitate our precious fishery as well as the numerous outreach projects and activities that we sponsor. 2017 marks my first year in doing this and brings me incredible pleasure to update all on what has transpired throughout the year.

This year realized the closure of the French River hatchery with the initial proposal to transfer all Kamloops reproduction to Spire Valley hatchery. However, this fall brought a round table from the MN DNR to discuss the first round of findings supplied from the Steelhead Genetics Study. The study found a percentage of fish displaying introgression of Kamloops genes with naturalized fish as well as a small number of naturally reproduced Kamloops. The MN DNR sought recommendations from stakeholders regarding steelhead management options. These options included, maintaining the existing management plan, ceasing all stocking while maintaining no harvest on naturalized steelhead and evaluating harvest options during next management plan revision, a limited steelhead harvest, or utilizing pre-smolt steelhead that are clipped and stocked for harvest. The LSSA realized the threat of impure steelhead genetics and took the stance of maintaining the no harvest on steelhead and supplying a near shore fishery that would not increase current prey competition and mitigate the risk of naturalized steelhead genetics. Our suggestion proposed the stocking of 50,000 Seeforellen and 50,000 Atlantics for evaluation. This is a topic sure to remain a large focus for us moving into 2018.

In the same light, the LSSA was invited to be an advisory member as the WI DNR looks to refresh their 10 year management plan for the Lake Superior waters of Wisconsin. We are answering the call and have participated in several meetings thus far. However, the plan is still in its infancy so please look for further updates in 2018.

Again in 2017, the LSSA continued with the popular Youth Steelhead Mentoring Program. As always, we had a great group of participants! We held two informational/teaching sessions at Hartley Nature Center. This involved the teaching of various knot tying, rigging up a rod, angling techniques, as well as rules and regulations. We then held a riverside session in which mentors taught students how to dissect the water and get hooked up with the elusive steelhead. As always, we have encouraged parents to participate. This helps to facilitate and enhance the interest of kids that want to participate in this rewarding endeavour! In 2018, thanks to Keith Behn, the LSSA looks to provide an additional program, Fly Fishing for Steelhead, that would be offered to graduates of the Youth Mentoring. Thank you Keith for taking lead on making this a possibility. We all owe Gary Siverson a great thanks for continuing to do an excellent job scheduling and facilitating the Youth Mentoring Program.

In 2017, the LSSA wrapped up the in-stream work on Phase II of our grant and could not be happier with the result! Even during flood flows, the channel upheld and diverted flow to the middle of the river, drastically reducing erosion and the negative impacts of eroding clay banks. Additionally, we aligned with Zeitgeist as we pursued funds for Phase III of our grant. After a lot of hard work, we were awarded funds to pursue this grant and regained traction to rehabilitate our Knife River

watershed and, subsequently, our naturalized steelhead. In this phase, Zeitgeist will be providing much appreciated administrative help. This move should set our organization up for future rehabilitation successes for years to come!

In March of 2017, we participated in the Great Waters Fly Fishing Expo in the Twin Cities. This has been a great event for our association and always generates a lot of interest in the LSSA. Scott Thorpe has continued to do an excellent job representing us at the show and getting our mission and vision out there. If you haven't fly fished for steelhead and have been interested in doing so, this is a great venue to get you a head start in the game!

In April, we hosted our first ever annual banquet at the Clearwater Grille, just northeast of Duluth. With another record turnout, we realized the need for additional space and the Clearwater delivered! It was a phenomenal venue. Kevin Bovee, yet again, did a superb job organizing the whole event and putting together another great prize package! The food, the drinks, and the camaraderie were second to none! I urge you, especially if you have missed this event in recent years, to pay close attention to our news and put this event on your calendar, simply fantastic! Thanks again to Kevin Bovee for organizing this event.

In June of 2017, the LSSA held our annual planking party at Brighton Beach. This was the third year at the new location and it has been a great location at that! Accessibility is great for all and the chefs continue to do a great job! We have typically prepared lake trout but, this year, we planked some sockeye salmon which turned out phenomenally! We had another great turnout and always look forward to this event each year! A special thanks on this one to Paul Sandstrom, Curt

Wistrom, and Randy Fjoser for the excellent fish they provided!

This fall marked the 3rd annual Brule Spey Day, put on by Paul Sandstrom. Paul has done a fantastic job organizing this event since its inception. This event provides information on gear, tips, tactics, and casting to help everyone from beginners to seasoned swingers of the fly a competitive edge on the Bois Brule when it comes to getting that “tug” or, even better, that swung (or skated) steelhead to hand. Even if this is foreign to any of you, I urge you to check it out as it brings a fresh take on steelhead fishing. Kevin and Mary always provide an excellent meal of brats, beans, and miscellaneous sides and provided another excellent spread this year.



Finally, our publication of both the Lake Superior Angler and the Steelhead News continues. The Lake Superior Angler is our association’s annual magazine distributed to membership as well as sold in numerous locations throughout Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Ontario. This publication has been distributed for over thirty years and provides some great articles and pointers regarding the pursuit of Lake Superior steelhead. Thank you so much Stacie Renne and Kevin Bovee for continuing the publication of this great magazine. Scott Thorpe, in his final months as editor, has done a fantastic job of producing our wonderful bi-monthly newsletter. This publication provides some intriguing articles, a member photo gallery, and helps keep us up

to date on what is happening with our fishery. We will maintain the hard copy of the newsletter but will continue discussing an electronic copy supplement moving forward. Thank you so much Scott for your many years of dedication and making this publication as great as it has been!

Before I close, we all owe a debt of gratitude to our B.O.D. and former board members for their commitment. They have been speaking up and taking action to preserve and enhance our Lake Superior fishery and environment. These guys are making it happen! Thank you Kevin Bovee, Gary Siverson, Randy Fjoser, Curt Wistrom, Doug Dahl, Craig Wilson, Jeff Somrock, Keith Behn, Scott Thorpe and Paul Sandstrom for your passion, knowledge, and advice.

As you may see, the Lake Superior Steelhead Association has been especially busy in 2017. We have undertaken many challenges but our naturalized steelhead still hang in the balance, especially with the round table discussions with the MN DNR. In 2018, we will continue to stoically pursue our interests to ensure a healthy steelhead fishery to come, continue to build upon the outstanding results of our stream rehabilitation efforts via our phase III grant, and continue to build a future steelheading community through our mentoring programs. Although we have been busy, we look to expand our impact and voice on our shore as well as the south shore to make our environment, and the fishery the best it can be! We are always looking for those who desire to make an impact. Please, if you have any interest, contact us to share your voice and make us an even stronger voice for our fishery! The impact even one voice can make is astounding! I thank you for taking the time to read this. I am extremely grateful to represent our amazing organization! Tight lines!



Youth Mentoring Program

Planning is underway for our annual youth steelhead mentoring program. Please call Gary Siverson if you are interested in lending a hand at 218-390-3916. We are also organizing a fly fishing program for graduates of our youth mentoring. Contact Keith Behn at 218-269-7400 if you can help or have ideas.

2018 Great Waters Fly Fishing Expo

Fly fishing/fly tying author Skip Morris and big trout expert/guide Landon Mayer will headline the 2018 Great Waters Fly Fishing Expo. The LSSA will again have a booth and we need volunteers to staff it and help set-up and take-down. It’s easy work: talk steelhead and sell memberships for an hour or two. There is plenty of time to see the presentations. The site will again be Hamline University in St. Paul, centrally located with lots of free parking. Call Scott Thorpe if you can help at 612-669-9601.

South Shore Railroad Grade

The LSSA recently donated \$2000 to the Brule River Sportsmen’s Club to assist in their initiative to raise funds to resolve a failing concrete culvert over Nebegamon Creek, a major tributary to the Bois Brule River. The culvert is part of an abandoned railroad grade of the defunct South Shore Railroad, which stopped operations in the late 1800s. The beginning of the collapse first surfaced in 1992 and some remedial work was done thereafter. In the fall of 2009, a local resident noted that the downstream concrete wing- walls had further collapsed into the stream, backing up water for a considerable distance upstream. He contacted WI DNR fisheries staff and a biologist visited the site. Fisheries staff photographed the scene and reported this issue to the local DNR water regulatory specialist. Nothing further

Swing Fishing Etiquette

By Scott Thorpe

has been resolved. The holdup, according to the local DNR staff, had been determining the responsible party or landowner of the portion of the abandoned grade at the Nebagamon Creek crossing.

Action needs to be taken as soon as possible before the following expected scenario occurs: The culvert collapses and streamflow potentially becomes blocked completely. Nebagamon Creek, which drains about 28 square miles and carries on average about 16 cubic feet of water second, backs up very quickly. The grade then acts as a dam and fills the entire valley upstream to a point where the grade either collapses or is eventually overtopped and washed away.

The extent of the threat to the Bois Brule depends on how much water is impounded and how quickly that impounded water erodes away the grade. A catastrophic failure would create a flash flood that would quickly erode a larger stream channel, washing away the sandy stream banks. An even larger concern is that the huge volume of sand would create an extremely large sand slug. This sand slug would be a major threat to the trout fishery of the Brule as it slowly creeps downstream. It might take decades to move down the river before it reaches Lake Superior. It would fill pools, cause channel widening and sequentially bury trout habitat and destroy spawning areas.

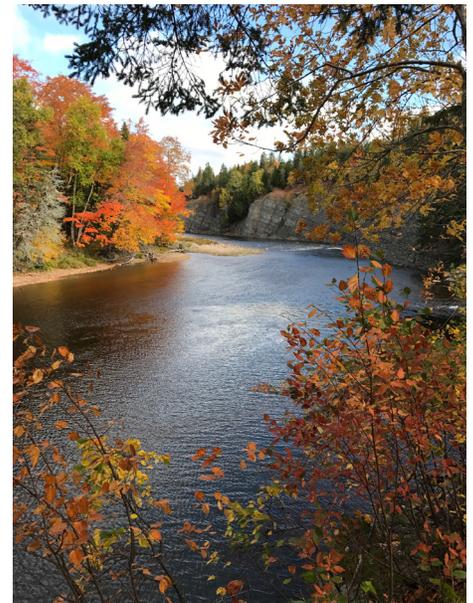
The Brule Sportsmen's Club moved to seek immediate attention to this Bois Brule River fishery threat and has begun a fundraising effort, approaching local conservation groups and individuals. Join the LSSA in donating. Donations can be made to BRSC PO Box 100, Brule, WI. 54820. 



Nebagamon Ck as it flows thru collapsing culvert under the South Shore Railroad Grade

Spend time on the Bois Brule, or the bigger North Shore rivers like the Baptism and you will become increasingly aware of the number of anglers casting with double handed rods and swinging streamer style patterns. Twenty years ago, nearly every angler fished with tackle in a style I will call drift fishing, i.e. a spinning rod or fly rod and reel loaded with monofilament and a snelled yarn fly or spawn sack on the business end. While guiding this last fall on the Brule, I was surprised that one in three anglers I encountered were swinging with two handed switch rods. The remaining two thirds were either conventional drift style anglers, center pinners or fishing with a floating fly line and a strike indicator.

Before my fall Brule stint, I had just returned from a week on the Margaree River in Nova Scotia, fly fishing for Atlantic salmon, where the tradition of swinging a wet fly, using a downstream and across cast is deeply rooted and universally practiced. In fact, Nova Scotia fishing regulations forbid the use of split shot or even weighted flies and the Margaree Salmon Association frowns upon the use of sink tips. Single barbless hooks are the law, all salmon are released. Fly fishing with a nymph, an egg pattern and a strike indicator as I do here would have landed me in jail. Only one technique is approved, and a very strong behavioral etiquette has developed, common to many Atlantic salmon fisheries and many West Coast steelhead rivers too.



These customs evolved as a response to the available tackle of the time, the nature of the rivers fished and the taking preferences of the fish themselves. In Minnesota, for example, most of our rivers are high gradient spate rivers. With bed rock and shingle bottoms, these rivers feature extremely fast current that surges thru pools which are often short and varied in depth. Old time North Shore steelheaders quickly discovered the shortcomings of conventional wet fly trout fishing techniques. By the time a wet fly was deep enough, it had already swung out the end of the pocket. Our drift style techniques of using a big sinker, and monofilament line is perfect for getting deep and doing so quickly. Our spring run fish are on the bottom and you need to put the fly right in front of them. Our fishing etiquette is more of what I call "grizzly bear" behavior. Stake out your pool, first come first serve, plant your feet, pound away and growl at anyone who comes close.

Contrast this with swinging for Atlantics on the Margaree.

It's still first come first serve, but every pool has a bench or at least a log up near the head for anglers to sit upon. Many of the benches feature plaques that are inscribed with dedications to deceased anglers. The first angler to fish a run steps in at the head and begins swinging their way down river, taking two steps between casts. You can fish as slow or fast as you want if you are alone. As other anglers arrive at the pool, they take a seat, and wait their turn in the rotation. You keep working your way thru the pool - cast, two steps, cast, two steps. As soon as there is twenty some yards of room at the head of the run, the next angler steps in. When you finish working thru the run, you join the gang on the end of the bench. If you hook and land a fish, you start over again at the end of the bench and hopefully share a nip from your flask! Everybody gets to fish eventually, fish thru the run as many times as they want, no matter how coveted the run. Sitting on the bench inevitably leads to conversation. "Where are you from? Any luck recently? What flies are working?" Everybody is swapping flies, and the general mood



Wards Rock Pool, Margaree River, Nova Scotia.

is friendly and non-competitive. It can be a bit intimidating having your spey casting scrutinized by the watching gallery, but that's the only downside. It works well on a popular river because all the anglers are fishing the same way.

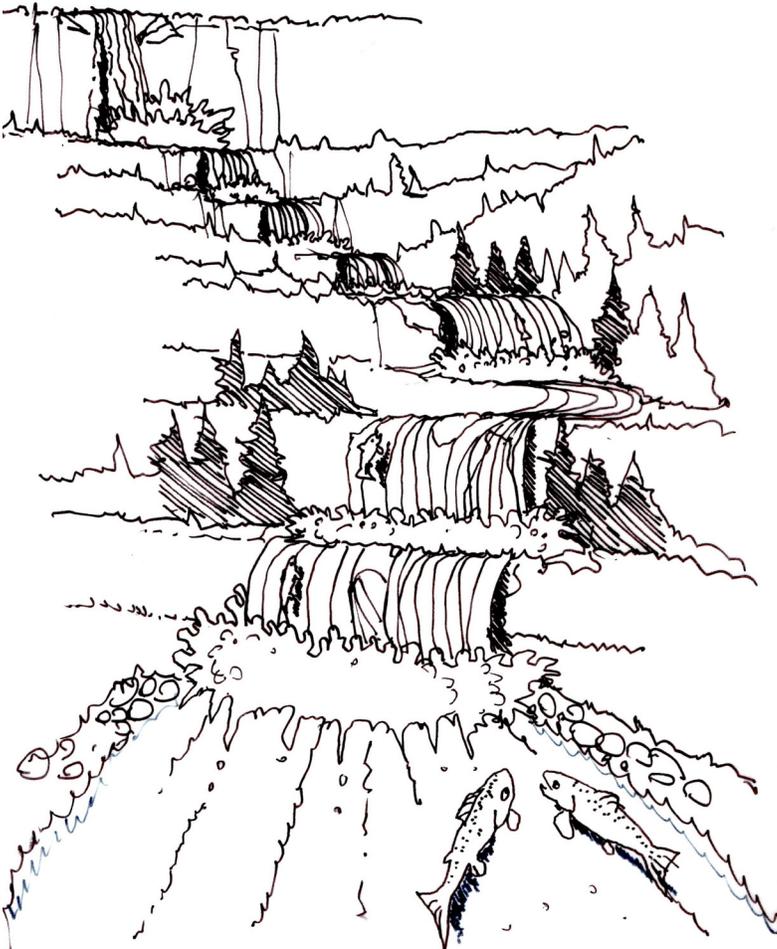
As all these different techniques take hold in our rivers, we need to consider the impact to our etiquette. Floating fly line and strike indicator fishing works best starting toward the tail of a pool and working up river, while swinging anglers must start at the top of the run and work down. Center pinners can fish the entire run from any one spot, while drift style fishers can work either up or down a pool. In either case, there is plenty of opportunity to get in each other's way. Some pools are nearly impossible to fish with certain techniques. It seems a good run for swinging a fly is hard to come by, especially on the north shore. It's a technique that suitable for a longer run. Several times these past few years I have been fishing down from the head of a long run, and had another angler jump in what they assumed was a reasonable distance downstream of me, not even realizing that my fly is ten yards below me and that I am stepping my way down to them. In minutes, I am about to snag their waders. On the other hand, some rivers are always crowded, and it isn't fair to expect room for the swung technique. I am hoping some of the longer, more swing suitable runs will develop a steelhead sub-culture etiquette like the traditional Atlantic salmon experience I enjoyed I on the Margaree. With this in mind, I resolve to fish through a pool quickly and allow other anglers a chance. This will probably increase my hook-ups too, as I will cover more water and find the aggressive biters. I will try to be aware of how other anglers are fishing and I will try to coordinate my approach. Finally, I will always ask before I join someone in a pool, it's just polite. 



Above left, Mark Peterson on the Brule. Above right, Billy .andgren on the DT.

Fishing Funny

By David Thorpe



What do you say we just call it good and spawn here?

LSSA BOD/Membership Meeting
August 9, 2017
MINUTES

BOD Present: M. Pitan, C. Wistrom, D. Dahl, R. Fjoser, G. Siverson, K. Behn, J. Somrock & K. Bovee. Members present: B. Bergeson, P. Sandstrom.

1. Gambling Report: All required monthly reports were sent for review, discussion and approval. Motion by Siverson to accept the report as sent; motion seconded by Somrock and motion passed. Other-Allied Charities had a meeting the same night as the BOD meeting at the VFW out in W. Duluth and Grand Ave. Bovee attended-mostly on how charities are being overtaxed by the state.

2. Treasurer's Report: Treasury in good shape. Will have expenses for Brule Spey Day, etc.

3. Grant Update: Phase II-The previously submitted Status Update was approved by the state; copy of said report brought for review. The last piece of construction (Valentine Reach) under Phase II began yesterday, August 8. This piece will have approx. 125 feet of toe wood placed, riffle/bank construction, rock vane and a modified J-hook installed. Inside point bar to be worked on also. Phase III-Meeting in the metro on August 23 before the LSOHC committee on our Phase III submission. Working on presentation, etc-copy passed out for review and discussion.

4. BOD Gathering: This coming Saturday; potluck items volunteered. Looking forward to it.

5. WI LSMP: The Bayfield office is starting the review of the Wisconsin Lake Superior Management Plan update. Initial meeting to be held Sept. 7 in Ashland at the WITC campus. Pitan agreed to be the LSSA representative; both Wistrom and Behn agreed to be alternates if need be.

6. Old/New/Other Business: Brule Spey Day-Sept. 9 down at McNeil's

Landing on the Brule. Sandstrom taking care of presentation side and Bovee's doing the food side. Motion made by Wistrom to allocate up to \$ 2500 for the event. Brule Spey Day approved at previous meeting-not sure if a dollar amount was included. Motion seconded by Bovee and motion passed. Will need raffle tickets (two part movie tickets) for the raffle at the end of Spey Day. New Business-idea of Spring Banquet and deciding on a date came up. First decision was to decide if we were going to pursue the magazine again. Board approved doing that. Last two Saturdays in April of 2018 are the 21 & 28th. Bovee to contact Clearwater Grille for possible opening.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kevin J. Bovee, Secretary

LSSA BOD/Membership Meeting
September 13, 2017
MINUTES

BOD Present: M. Pitan, C. Wistrom, D. Dahl, G. Siverson, K. Behn, R. Fjoser & K. Bovee. Members present-C. Wilson.

1. Gambling Report: All required forms were sent for review, discussion and approval. Motion by Behn to accept the report as presented. Motion seconded by Pitan and motion passed. Bingo progressive getting up to the maximum of \$ 1199.

2. Treasurer's Report: All commented on great it is to have the treasurer on hand for meetings. We are getting spoiled. Treasury in good shape.

3. Mentoring-2018: LSSA approved the event again for 2018 previously and Siverson then ordered the rods through MGS. Rods are in; invoice to be sent to Dahl and Siverson to get rods to storage site. Reels to be ordered also. Advanced Mentoring-we will be offering a fly-fishing side to past class participants.

Working on details but sounds like will have two sessions-one a class room (possibly the back room at the Reef) and one river session. Will get spare spools for the Okuma reels that the participants already have and have them spooled with backing and fly line. Limit to class size to 10 kids. Pitan and Behn to spearhead this new endeavor.

4. Newsletter: The first newsletter after Editor Thorpe returns from AK and fishing to be out soon. The Editor has given his notice for working on the newsletter. Will finish out until next Spring and then is retired. S. Thorpe has put out great issues of Steelhead News. Now the question is if we can find someone to replace him and if we should stay with hard copies of the newsletter or goes electronic. Board thought a hybrid of both but will then need someone to take over both sides of the production.

5. Beaver Flight: A note was sent to D. Hendrickson asking if DNR had budgeted for the 2017 Fall Beaver Flight. She responded that yes, they had the budget. The same route as last year. LSSA to look into how far up each named tributary they fly.

6. Angler Update: The board unanimously approved a new computer for S. Rinne so she can continue to do her fantastic job on putting the magazine together. Motion by Pitan to fund the new computer. Motion seconded by Siverson and motion passed. Bovee to contact S. Rinne and let her know. ALSO-Bovee looked into the Clearwater Grille for a possible banquet date and of the two, only April 21 was available. We took that date so the 2018 Spring Banquet will be held on April 21, 2018 at the Clearwater Grille. Watch for more news as the months go by.

7. Grant Update: Phase II-Presented a fiscal update to the board after submitting Reim. Req. #13. Grant is winding down but the official end is June 30, 2019 but can be closed prior to that. The in-river work on the Jacobson Reach is now completed. Had to be out

of the river by September 15 and we are! Some grading, tree/shrub planting, seeding and final restoration will be in order. MN DNR stream specialist visited the site and really liked how everything turned out. Phase III-the LSSA will be presenting a statement to the LSOHC staff to be sent out with the committee members' packet for the September 28 allocation meeting. Document handed out to BOD for review and discussion. Motion made by Behn to accept the document and for it to go to the staff as presented. Motion seconded by Wistrom and motion passed unanimously.

8. Old/New/Other Business: Old-Pitan made the Sept. 7 meeting down in Ashland in regards to the WI LSMP revision. Introductory meeting primarily comparing process proposed with how MN handled their recent revision. Next meeting date not set yet. WI planning for a 2018 draft/2019 release schedule. Spey Day-a great day on the river. Approx. 65 folks attended. Three years in a row we have had beautiful weather. New-a group of folks have met as the Brulel River Round Table. LSSA to ask to be invited to participate. Bovee to look into it.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kevin J. Bovee, Secretary

LSSA BOD/Membership Meeting
October 11, 2017
MINUTES

BOD Present: M. Pitan, G. Siverson, C. Wistrom, J. Somrock, K. Bovee.

1. Gambling Report: All required monthly forms were forwarded for review, discussion and approval. Motion by Siverson to accept the gambling report as sent. Motion seconded by Wistrom and motion passed. Other news: GM attended the required CE class on October 10 in Duluth. Also-the Star Rating was presented to the BOD for review and

acceptance. Rating was four stars again this year.

2. Newsletter Update: S. Thorpe looking to get out of the editorship of newsletter. Thought was to get input as far as getting away from a hard copy newsletter to an electronic version. Many folks responded that they like the hard copy version and prefer to keep it going. At least one person has come forward to look into taking over for Thorpe.

3. WI LSMP: The meeting for the LSMP discussion is on October 16 and input from the various clubs, groups wanted for that night. LSSA ideas/major concerns were: stocking of seeforellen browns, native/commercial netting affects on herring and LT populations, herring roe harvest and its affect on herring population, look at SH change on the Brule, cormorant affects anywhere in these waters, commercial/native netting by catch data.

4. High Water Video: S. Alvar went out on October 3 and shot a video of the high water event that day. Knife reached 2160 cfs. Our projects handled the flow perfectly. BOD watched the video on lap top.

5. Grant Update: The construction side of Phase II is now complete. Restoration is all that remains. Equipment being hauled out as we speak. Reim. Req. #14 to be submitted shortly. Discussion on remaining budget ensued and what we would like to see done.

6. Old/New/Other Business: New Business-Bonnie Schilling passed away and a Memorial Donation to Glen Avon Church in her memory to be made. Bonnie was the wife of past LSSA President Jack Schilling and she attended almost all of the Christmas Parties and Planking Parties the club held. Our deepest condolences to Jack and family at the loss of Bonnie-she was a great and fun lady. Other Business: LSSA BOD members attended the Ikes meeting on the forage base up at LSC. New

Business: Siverson brought up idea of having the LSSA logo etched onto Yeti Tumblers with BOD member names on them. Price would be about \$ 34 each. Bovee made the motion to have Siverson work with MGS and get this done. Motion seconded by Wistrom and motion passed.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kevin J. Bovee, Secretary

LSSA BOD/Membership Meeting
November 8, 2017
MINUTES

BOD Present: G. Siverson, M. Pitan, C. Wistrom, D. Dahl, K. Behn & K. Bovee.
Others: P. Sandstrom & C. Wilson.

1. Gambling Report: All monthly forms were sent out for review, discussion and approval. Motion by Siverson to accept the report as presented. Motion seconded by Wistrom and motion passed. Also-later in the meeting there was a conversation concerning a culvert issue on the Brule River system that needed addressing. Motion by Bovee to pledge \$ 2000.00 for this project. Motion seconded by Behn and motion passed. See below for discussion.

2. Treasurer's Report: Treasury in good shape. Several bills paid-Planking Party permit cost, down payment to Clearwater Grille for the 2018 banquet and Greg Kunst Gravel to wrap up Knife River project.

3. Angler Update: Advertising push has commenced. Any ideas for contacts please get in touch with K. Bovee.

4. MN DNR LSMP Position Statement: Lake Superior Area looking for input from area groups on how they feel concerning several major questions and what each group would propose. Topic of conversation on the genetic concerns over the Kamloops/steelhead interbreeding. This conversation was extremely complex and quite extended. We have put the questions from DNR and the LSSA's response on the website:

www.steelheaders.org, click on News tab and there it will be.

5. WI LSMP: Next meeting is scheduled for November 15 down in Ashland. Pitan and Behn have been attending to represent the club. More input sought from the board for upcoming discussions.

6. Newsletter Update: Sounds like Jason Kopp may be interested in taking on the editorship of the newsletter. S. Thorpe to get out the last newsletter for 2017 by mid December.

7. Grant Update: Phase II-construction is 100% complete. LSSA will continue to monitor the sites annually and after any large runoff events. Phase III-Zeitgeist/LSSA has made the list to date. Last meeting for the council to finalize the list to be included to the 2018 legislature is set for December 12. Bovee & Siverson to attend. Finally-LSSA decided to pursue a Lake Superior Coastal Project grant. This is a federal grant through NOAA and monitored by the MN DNR. January 2018 is the decision time for this grant.

8. Advanced Mentoring: This is a brand new project that Pitan and Behn are spearheading. It will be a mentoring project centered specifically at fly-fishing for steelhead. Past members of the mentoring project will be contacted to see if they have interest in the fly fishing side. We can get spare reel spools that match the existing reels the kids already have and load them with backing and fly line. A minimum of six kids with a maximum of ten hoped for. Watch for future developments.

9. Old/New/Other: Discussion on the culver issue on the Brule River. BRSC President, Dennis Pratt, has brought forward this issue and the preferred solution is quite expensive. The LSSA made the motion to support this project-see Gambling Report.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kevin J. Bovee, Secretary



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