



On the Water

Volume 10, Issue 1

JANUARY 2007

Family Night Planned for Chapter February General Meeting

Our February general meeting will be a fun-filled evening for the whole family. We want to encourage you to bring your family, especially the kids, for this enjoyable social event! We have plans for children's games and other events to keep the youngsters entertained. There will also be an awards ceremony for our youngest members. Parents, remember to get your Kid's Fishing Contest entries in.

Family Night will start at 6 pm for the February meeting. Yes, that's right folks, 6 pm. We're starting an hour early so you can get younger kids home and in bed at a reasonable time.

Let's cheer them on and get/ or keep our families involved. This is a great opportunity to get your family involved with something you love and get the whole family hooked on the fun! We hope you'll make a special effort to bring your spouse or anyone else that has never participated before.

This ties in with mentoring youth as well as making time for the whole family. Let this concept carry over into the spring by taking the spouse and/or kids fishing for panfish. Be their Guide and Caterer. The love you pour into it will be returned! Be mindful that not everyone will become hardcore muskie addicts, let them go at their own pace with their own preferences. Save the hardcore fishing for your own expeditions.

We look forward to seeing everyone and their families and hope you make fishing a regular family event this year.

Get E'm Hooked!

Brent and Beth Fox, Youth Co-Chairs

Muskie Award Nominations

Nominations are being accepted through January 15, 2007 for the Twin Cities chapter Muskie Award. The award is presented every year at our Awards Banquet. This distinctive honor is conferred upon a deserving member, who has constantly and unselfishly devoted time and energy over the years to promoting and improving the goals of Muskie, Inc.

Nominations must be made in writing and include a history of the person's involvement with the Twin Cities Chapter over the years. The winner will be selected by secret ballot at the February Board meeting.

Send your nominations to Jim Kroupa at 6311 Steller Circle, Excelsior, MN 55331. Or, you can email them to jkroupa@ties2.net. Call Jim at 952-474-5967 if you have questions.

Awards Banquet February 23

The chapter Awards Banquet for our Members Only contest will have a new format this year.

We're trying things a little differently from past years. The banquet will be held on Friday, February 23, 2007 at the Ft. Snelling Club. Since the kids are having their own night at our February meeting, this will be for our adult members and the significant persons in their lives.

There will be a silent auction as well as activities and games. Banquet chairperson Amy Orr is busy getting great items, such as guide trips, in place for the auction. If you have an item or service you would like to contribute to the auction, please contact Amy.

The evening will start at 6:00 pm with a cash bar and activities, games and bidding on the silent auction. Following the activities and games, a meal of your choice of prime rib or broasted chicken will be served.

Following the meal, Members Only contest winners will be honored and recipients of the chapter's Muskie Award and Muskie Tale Award will be announced.

The cost will be \$25.00 per person. Reserve your tickets by calling chairperson Amy Orr at 612-840-3856 or emailing her at heibera@yahoo.com. Please specify which meal you want for each of your tickets.

More information, a map with directions and will be in next month's issue. Make plans to celebrate with us on February 23.

From Our President SHAWN KELLETT

Out with the old and in with the new. Welcome to a new year of possibilities. Speaking of new possibilities, we're going to be doing some things differently this year.

Youth

This year we're going to be holding a "Family Meeting" for our February general meeting. Starting time is at 6:00 pm and it should end around 8:00 pm. We're going to have games and activities for the WHOLE family. We will also be presenting the youth awards at this event.

Fisheries

George Selcke and I have been attending the DNR's "Trophy Esox" meetings of late. These meetings are attended by all the stakeholders in Esox management: Muskie Inc, MMA, Pike Inc, Sportsman for Responsible Muskie Management and the Dark House Association. In our meetings we've been presenting the issues the muskie community has. We've also been voicing the needs for new waters and increased funding for the muskie program. George and I will be making a presentation to a larger fisheries round-table in January which will hopefully further push our agenda for a stronger muskie fishery.

Research

In 2007, the MN DNR, in association with the University of Minnesota Marking Department, will be doing a study of muskie fishermen who have bought licenses in Minnesota. The goals of this study will be 1) to find out how the muskie resource is being used and 2) to get a census of the number of people fishing muskie in Minnesota. By obtaining this data we should be able to show that muskie fishing pressure is in fact on the rise and therefore an adjustment in our DNR's budget needs to be made. I'll keep you posted once I know more.

FUN

This year's winter picnic/awards banquet is being revamped a bit over past years. This year it's going to be held at the Fort Snelling banquet area. There's also going to be a new format that includes more of an adult/dressy atmosphere. Right now the date has been booked for February 23. I encourage everyone to attend as it's going to be a great time and we've got some GREAT prizes to be won. We'll have more information in next month's newsletter.

Take care everyone and I'll see you at the shows!



It was a cold windy day on Friday at the chapter's Frank Schneider Memorial Muskies Inc. Tournament so Gracie Hartman (9 months old at the time) suggested doing some open water trolling to keep a bit warmer. Normally she is a smiley child, but when it comes to tournament fishing, she is all business. Check out the intent look on her face while "running the show". Mom snapped this shot shortly after Gracie forcefully took control of the boat – apparently disgusted by her father's apparent inability to locate an active muskie of noteworthy size. Later on in the day, Gracie took a hard-earned nap on the floor of the boat. Thanks to Kristi and Paul Hartman for the photos.





Tell Us A Tale

The "Muskie Tale" Award is not for the member catching the most or the biggest fish. We already have awards for them. We are looking for hard luck or entertaining stories. You know, about the world record that got away. Or, about your boat sinking in the middle of Lake of the Woods. Or, the black flies and mosquitoes that nearly ate you when you got lost. We all, no matter what our fishing skills, could receive this award.

The "Muskie Tale" Award will be presented to the club member who shares the best tale (story). The recipient will have the trophy for one year and then must help select the new winner for the next year.

Send your tales to last year's recipient of this award, Greg Ide at PO Box 13210, Minneapolis, MN 55414 or gregide@aol.com or 612-331-5034.

Don't forget the **MINNESOTA MUSKIE EXPO** March 9, 10 & 11 at the National Sports Center in Blaine. Expo hours are 2 to 9 pm Friday, 10 am to 7 pm on Saturday, and 10 am to 4 pm on Sunday.

Muskie-related exhibitors including lure manufacturers, guides, resorts, retailers and boat dealers with show specials will be represented at the Expo.

Members Only Contest

from Pete Randall, Contest Chairperson

Man, what a monthly meeting. Luke Ronnestrand was an excellent invite to speak in December. He only targets the big piggies we all long for, so if you want to be in the luncker of the month – pick his brain for an hour or two.

All entries were due on January 4th of 2007. I hope everybody got their fish registered before the deadline. Not much to report except we had almost half the junior entries as we did this time last year, women's division had a couple more entries, zero in the hybrid division – weird, Brian Hanson takes luncker of the month in November again – the only guy to make it in the lunkers for 2005 and 2006. Well, I guess time to hang it up. After all, the water is now in its solid state...

STANDINGS AS OF DECEMBER 15/2006)

JUNIORS DIVISION:

- 1ST: Evan Nicolai - 62 points - 4 fish
- 2ND: Zachary Weyland - 18 points - 1 fish
- 3RD: Dane Hostager - 16 points - 1 fish
- 4TH: Dallas Nicolai - 12 points - 1 fish
- 5TH: James Hedensten - 11 points - 1 fish
- 6TH: Thomas Batina - 8 points - 1 fish

WOMEN'S MASTERS DIVISION:

- 1ST: Cindy Hegdahl - 130 points - 9 fish

WOMEN'S DIVISION:

- 1ST: Linda Knutson - 75 points - 6 fish
- 2ND: Lois Harvey - 45 points - 3 fish
- 3RD: Barbara Zappa - 41 points - 3 fish
- 4TH: Carole K Janik - 32 points - 2 fish
- 5TH: Amy Orr - 21 points - 1 fish
- 6TH: Dianne Dahl - 17 points - 1 fish
- 7TH: Carol Heath - 15 points - 1 fish
- 8TH: Wendy Hedensten - 8 points - 1 fish
- 9TH: Christine L. Rein - 7 points - 1 fish

MEN'S MASTERS DIVISION:

- 1ST: Adam J. Greengard - 529 points - 35 fish
- 2ND: Brian Hanson - 466 points - 22 fish
- 3RD: Tony Sommerfeld - 187 points - 12 fish

- 4TH: Mark Fredrick - 172 points - 14 fish

- 5TH: David Gustafson - 90 points - 5 fish

- 6TH: Jim Doyle - 70 points - 4 fish

- 7TH: Kurt Hostager - 27 points - 3 fish

- 8TH: Mark Sewald - 19 points - 1 fish

MEN'S DIVISION:

- 1ST: Dean A. Roll - 663 points - 38 fish

- 2ND: Joe Mellott - 360 points - 20 fish

- 3RD: Bob Culbertson - 268 points - 24 fish

- 4TH: Brant Bunney - 249 points - 15 fish

- 5TH: Brent Hirsch - 234 points - 19 fish

- 6TH: Phil Groth - 224 points - 19 fish

- 7TH: Jeremy M. Knutson - 214 points - 14 fish

- 8TH: David J Nicolai - 191 points - 12 fish

- 9TH: Bobby Johnson - 173 points - 14 fish

- 10TH: Chad Lemke - 147 points - 10 fish

LUNKER OF THE MONTH:

MARCH - official - no entry greater than 45"

JUNE - official - Brant Bunney - 51.5" Waconia - June 16th

JULY - official - Adam Walsh - 55.5"x26" LOTW - July 3rd

AUGUST - official - David Gustafson - 51.5" Minnetonka - Aug. 20th

SEPTEMBER - official - Brant Bunney - 54" Rush - Sept. 9th

OCTOBER - official - Three-way tie goes to Joe McWhorter because he caught his fish first - 51" Mille Lacs - Oct. 25th

NOVEMBER - unofficial - Brian Hanson - 52" Vermilion - Nov. 5

DECEMBER - unofficial - no entry greater than 45"

That sums up an excellent year on the water for a lot of us. By the time you receive this, all the fish have been registered, all the numbers released and now we will just have to see where the lures fall.

For all of the big winners, get ready for your awards speech, these people want answers!! We will see you at the awards banquet February 23 and see you next summer On The Water!!!

Board Members Elected

The chapter held the election of Board members at the December general meeting. Gregg Kappes was elected as a new Board member to serve a two-year term. Board members whose terms had ended and were re-elected were Steve Hedensten, George Selcke and Troy Zuelke.

Chapter officers, elected from among the Board members, will remain the same as last year. President will again be Shawn Kellett, Brad Coyne will serve as First Vice President, Jim Kroupa will be Second Vice President, Treasurer will be Steve Hedensten, Secretary will be Joe Mellot, and Eric Schultz will again serve as the Regional Vice President for our chapter.

The chapter Board of Directors sets the general direction, policies, and determines events the chapter will participate in. There are still openings for Board members, so if you'd like to have a say in how your chapter is run, please join your Board of Directors. Openings can be filled at any time. The Board meets one evening a month, ten months during the year.

We want to thank retiring Board members Joe DeMars and Russ Peterson for their service.

Poolside Meeting

The North Metro chapter will be holding a poolside event on January 16. The poolside is held yearly with our chapter and the North Metro chapter taking turns hosting the event. The demonstration will be held at Fridley Middle School (Moore Lake Junior High), 6100 Moore Lake Drive W in Fridley (55432). Brett Erickson of Thorne Brothers will be tossing and talking about new baits and how to get the most out of your current baits to help you catch more fish. The poolside will start at 7:00 pm and go until about 9:00 or 9:30. Bring your questions and curiosity!

CABIN FEVER CLINIC

Gregg Thomas and Tony Grant are offering a "Rules to Fish By" day on January 20 with 6 hours of seminars, demonstrations, and new product introductions. Paul Hartman and Brad Hoppe will be guest presenters. The event will be held at the Maple Grove Hilton for a \$45 cost. Register at www.muskyroadrules.com or call Gregg Thomas (606) 776-6729 or Tony Grant (606) 776-6567.

MN DNR Stocking Report for 2006

The Minnesota DNR recently released this report of muskie stocked during 2006. The muskie listed here reflect DNR stocking and do not include stocking done by private organizations such as Muskie, Inc. Contact George selcke at 952-933-2608 if you want more information

MUSKIE

Lake Bemidji	Beltrami	1,850	FGL
Big Lake	Beltrami	1,502	FGL
Elk Lake	Clearwater	276	FGL
Many Point Lake	Becker	489	FGL
		77	ADL
Beers Lake	Otter Tail	200	FGL
West Battle Lake	Otter Tail	394	ADL
		1568	FGL
		29	YRL
Lobster Lake	Douglas	668	FGL
Mantrap Lake	Hubbard	750	FGL
Cedar Lake	Aitkin	400	FGL
Lake Mille Lacs	Mille Lacs	3,000	FGL
Mississippi River	Crow Wing/Aitkin	3,065	FGL
		81,500	FRY
		16,628	FRL
		94	ADL
Island Lake Reservoir	St. Louis	741	FGL
Vermilion	St. Louis	1,268	FGL
Cross Lake	Pine	469	FGL
Lake Alexander	Morrison	516	FGL
		58	ADL
Lake Shamineau	Morrison	750	FGL
Bald Eagle Lake	Ramsey	1,272	FGL
Lake Owasso	Ramsey	384	FGL
		160	ADL
Forest Lake	Washington	1,500	FGL
		696	ADL
White Bear Lake	Washington	24	ADL
Lake Waconia	Carver	1,000	FGL
Lake Harriet	Hennepin	175	FGL
Eagle Lake/Pike Lake	Hennepin	400	FGL
Lake Minnetonka	Hennepin	324	FGL
		744	YRL
Lake Independence	Hennepin	1,000	FGL
Sugar Lake	Wright	499	FGL
Lake Zumbro	Olmstead	300	FGL
French Lake	Rice	602	FGL
Fox Lake	Martin	520	FGL

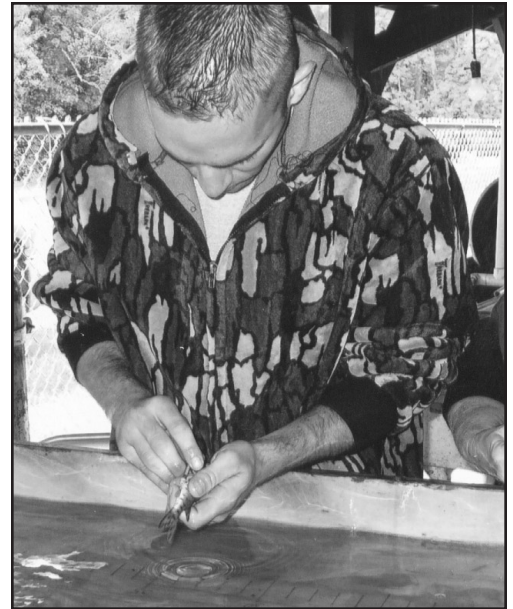
A New Beginning for Lake Woodrum



Muskie Inc Chapter 09 members worked with the West Virginia DNR to collect 150 muskie fingerlings to stock in Lake Woodrum.

Earlier this year the board voted to send MI West Virginia Chapter 09 \$500 to help with a project at Woodrum Lake. A valve on the dam that controls the lake failed, the lake drained out and the entire fishery was lost. The West Virginia chapter has been working with their DNR to restore the habitat. Fields of vegetation were planted before the lake was re-filled.

This spring the lake was refilled and stocked with fathead minnows to provide forage for the bluegill, bass and crappies that were stocked over the summer. In September, the West Virginia DNR determined there was enough forage to stock muskie this



The 10-inch muskie fingerlings were tagged before being stocked into the lake.

year. Chapter 09 members worked with the DNR to collect, measure and tag muskie fingerlings. 150 10-inch fingerlings were put into Lake Woodrum, a beginning for what they hope will be a full recovery for the West Virginia fishery.

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Sponsor Program

You will see a number of new ads in this issue of *On the Water*. The board has implemented a program to provide consistent treatment and to thank the sponsors who give so much to our chapter. As part of the program, we will be including sponsor ads in the newsletter several times a year.

Sponsors donate products, gift certificates, trips, and resort stays for our tournament, rearing fund raffle, welcome table and other chapter events. Without them, we would not be able to hold the fundraisers that help our chapter function.

If you're looking for a new bait, keep in mind that manufacturers of some of the most productive baits ever designed are among our sponsors. And remember to buy them from sponsoring retailers. If you want a muskie trip this season, keep the sponsoring resorts in mind.


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A big thank you to all the manufacturers, retailers and resorts that have helped the Twin Cities chapter in the past year by donating merchandise and trips used for incentives and prizes for our fundraising events as well as the prizes for the Winter Picnic and the welcome table at each meeting.

Please make every effort to support these sponsors so they have an incentive to keep on supporting us. Without them this chapter could not do what it does for the resource and its members.

If you're looking for a new bait, keep in mind that manufacturers of some of the most productive baits ever designed are among our sponsors. And remember to buy them from sponsoring retailers. If you want a muskie trip this season, keep the sponsoring resorts in mind.

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next meeting JANUARY 9 MISSISSIPPI RIVER MUSKIE FISHING

Join us for a discussion of muskie fishing spots, techniques, and tips on fishing the waters of the Mississippi.



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