

On the Water



Volume 12, Issue 7

JULY 2009



Summer Fishing League Off to a Good Start

The Chapter Fishing League is a way to get members out on the water fishing instead of just talking about it. It's intended as a fun outing with other chapter members. The league is a great way to meet other muskie fishermen, make friendships, and learn more about muskie fishing. If you don't have a boat, come out anyway and we'll match you up.

The first outing had 6 participants out on Forest Lake. The weather was not the best, but Roger Ecklund did catch a 43-incher to start off the league. One other fish lost and several other follows. The second league outing was at Lake Independence June 17. No fish were caught, but we had a better turnout. So far this year, Roger Ecklund leads the league in points.

Scoring is the same as the Member's Only contest: 4 points for a 30" muskie and 1 point for each inch over 30". 5 points will be awarded per event fished, weekend events count 5 points per day. 3 points will be awarded to each boat partner of a successful catch during the league.

We are adding a Metro Chapters Challenge to the league this season between our chapter and North Metro, most likely in September. It will be on a Saturday morning, most likely followed by a picnic. Details still need to be worked out between the clubs, so more info to follow. Any members will be able to take part in the outing.

Contact Jody Dahms at jdahms@aquali.com or 952-356-6047 if you are interested in taking part in the events and for event changes.

Two Fundraising Tournaments for the Chapter in 2009

This year the Twin Cities chapter will be holding two muskie tournaments: The Frank Schneider Jr. Memorial Tournament in northern Minnesota and the George Wahl Memorial Tournament in the metro area.

42nd Annual Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament

This is Muskies Inc.'s oldest fishing contest. For over 40 years our chapter has been holding a tournament in northern Minnesota. The first tournament was on Cass Lake and the event has grown to include 21 lakes in the Bemidji-Walker-Cass Lake-Longville area of northern Minnesota. In the 1990s the tournament was re-named to honor Frank Schneider Jr., long-time Muskies Inc. member who worked tirelessly with the legislature and other outdoor organizations to improve fishing and hunting opportunities in the state.

This year's tournament will be September 11, 12 & 13. With over \$30,000 in prizes, it promises to be a great event. The grand prize, a Skeeter 1790T boat/trailer with a Yamaha 75 hp 4-stroke was obtained through Frankies Marine in Chisago City, a long-time supporter of Muskies Inc. and Skeeter Boats. Anyone who registers a muskie 40" or longer will be eligible for the grand prize drawing. The winner will be able to use the boat in trade for any other boat from Frankies.

Included with the registration is three days of muskie fishing on your choice of 21 lakes, feeds Friday and Saturday nights, and an awards program and feed at Moondance Fairgrounds in Walker on Sunday. Bill Sherck, "The Man About The Woods" from Minnesota Bound will host Sunday's Awards Program.

Prizes will be awarded through 10th place for

TOURNAMENTS *continued on page 2*

From Our President

Happy summer. I think it finally got here! Our club's spring and early summer events have been successful.

The most recent was the Capable Partners event on Lake Independence. It was a day to take some physically challenged people muskie fishing. No fish were caught, but we enjoyed a beautiful day and had some great food prepared by our very own cook, Tom Lund.

What are you doing the rest of the musky season? I'd like you to consider taking part in some club activities. We have two trips to Canada planned and one to Leech Lake. There are still openings.

Our two club tournaments are coming in September and October. Our summer fishing league is in full swing with many outings planned. Take part in one or many. Join us.

Shawn Kellett continues to work tirelessly with the state politicians and the DNR to promote Muskies Inc. goals. With his efforts and others we will have a statewide 48 inch limit next year for our toothy friends.

Minnesota has the best muskie fishing in the USA. Our club is working hard to keep it that way. Greg Kappes and John Newman are in charge of our club's efforts to raise some little muskies for stocking. They are growing as I write this.

The club's philosophy is that if we stock them at yearling size, these muskies have a greater chance of surviving. This is hard and challenging work towards our muskie fishery's future. Help these folks when they ask for it. Support our fundraising efforts for these programs.

I had a wonderful surprise this last month. Brad Coyne, Denise Olson, and I were helping Paul Hartman with his Metro Muskie Tournament. Up comes a long time club member, David Gustafson to register a 53 inch fish. His personal (and tournament) best! You can see pictures on the internet chat sites. Our club is instrumental in keeping the metro area's fishery healthy. What a joy to see one of our own win this tournament with almost 500 entries. Congrats to "Gus."

Enjoy the summer. I'll see you at the club activities. Jim Kroupa

TOURNAMENTS *continued from page 1*

released muskies with the top three juniors also receiving prizes. Fenwick rods, Abu Garcia reels, and other fishing equipment as well as trips to Canadian and US resorts are part of the prize package. A trip to Red Wing Lodge on Lake of the Woods will go to the first place finisher.

The event will also feature silent auctions at the feeds as well as a tournament-only raffle with guide trips, custom fishing equipment, and other great prizes.

Information will be mailed in mid-July to anyone who has fished the tournament in the past three years. You may register by mailing in the form that comes in the mail, on the chapter website, www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org, or in person before September 3 at Thorne Bros. in Fridley, Joe's in St. Paul, Blue Ribbon Bait & Tackle in Oakdale, Reed's Family Outdoor Outfitters in Walker, One Stop in Longville, Froggie's Bait & Tackle in Cass Lake, or Bluewater Bait in Bemidji.

All chapter members are encouraged to fish this event, as it funds the operating budget for the chapter each year.

1st Annual George Wahl Memorial Metro-Area Muskie Tournament

The George Wahl Memorial Tournament was conceived this year for several reasons. First was that your chapter board wanted a way to honor George, his love of muskies and muskie fishing, his contribution to the muskie fishing industry, his generosity sharing information with others, and his encouragement to muskie anglers.

We have been holding a tournament in northern Minnesota for over 40 years and have increasingly found it gets harder and more expensive for chapter members to get away for three days of fishing up north. The George Wahl tournament is a one-day, metro-area event. Every local chapter member should participate in this tournament.

100% of the proceeds raised by this event will go to improve the local metro-area muskie fishery. This year the DNR has designated stocking approximately 700 muskies in White Bear Lake and Lake Minnetonka. It costs \$15 for each muskie fingerling stocked. Yearling muskies cost \$25-\$30 apiece.

Every person who catches a muskie will be eligible for the grand prize, a trip for 4 people to Whitefish Bay Camp on Lake of the Woods. Prizes will be awarded through 10th place and to the three top-placing juniors. A Mary Villnow Memorial cash bonus will be awarded to the top three female anglers. The Mary Villnow bonus was created to encourage women muskie anglers of all ages. The Fly Angler will also offer a bonus for the biggest muskie caught on a fly. The awards program will be held at Thorne Bros. in Fridley and will include a "feed" for all contestants. We hope to see all chapter members on October 3.



The June meeting was a combined Swap Meet and Family Night. Our youth partner Fishing For Life had games and other events for kids. The kids had a great time and those who participated went home with some great bargains.



Chapter Summer Fishing League Standings

	FOREST LAKE JUNE 7	LAKE INDEP. JUN 17	PTS		FOREST LAKE JUNE 7	LAKE INDEP. JUN 17	PTS
ROGER ECKLUND	22	0	22	TOM BATINA	0	5	5
ERIC SCHULTZ	5	5	10	GREG BATINA	0	5	5
JODY DAHMS	8	0	8	VINCE TROTTA	0	5	5
KRIS ASTROP	5	0	5	JURIS OZULS	0	5	5
GRANT DOMKE	5	0	5	DAVE PRIEM	0	5	5
PETER RANDALL	5	0	5	JIM KROUPA	0	5	5
LOWELL KRUGER	0	5	5	ERIC BAKKE	0	5	5

Outing with Capable Partners

The chapter's annual outing with members of Capable Partners was held June 14 at Lake Independence. Several of our chapter members took the time to share a morning of fishing with physically-challenged outdoorsmen.

Fishing was pretty slow with only one live muskie sighted – although one not-so-live muskie was found and mourned on the shore by the boat launch. A couple of the boats decided to just have some fun and caught a bunch of sunnies. A delicious picnic lunch cooked by Tom Lund was shared at the end of the fishing.

Many thanks to Paul Hartman for organizing this event again this year.



Chapter Trips This Summer

WINNIPEG RIVER, MINAKI, ONTARIO

JULY 11-18

The trip will again be headquartered at Paradise Cove Resort. The Winnipeg River offers world class fishing with great opportunities for 50+-inch fish. The cost is \$297.50 per person with 4 or 5 per cabin. If you would like to experience some great muskie fishing, contact George Selcke at 952-933-2608.

ANDY MEYER'S LODGE – EAGLE LAKE, ONTARIO

AUGUST 9-15

Eagle Lake is a terrific muskie and walleye fishery. The week includes housekeeping cabin, use of boats with gas, guide trip, marked maps and seminars. There is access to five remote lakes and if you want, fly-in trips can be arranged. The trip will be discounted to approximately \$550 per person – add \$200 if you want to include evening meals. There are 12 spots available. Contact Troy Zuelzke by phone at 952-955-3890 or email at tzuelzke@yahoo.com.

RED WING LODGE – LAKE OF THE WOODS

AUGUST 15-22

The trip to Red Wing Lodge is a joint endeavor with the North Metro chapter. Included is housekeeping cabin, free dockage, free launch, a daily bag of ice. The Bartletts will host a free dinner one evening during the week and will also give door prizes and have a drawing for one free trip. Cost will be \$250 per person. To make your reservations, contact North Metro members John Van Ingen at 651-699-5172 or Pat Miller at 651-429-1629.

2009 GIL HAMM CHAPTER CHALLENGE

We are looking for members to represent the Twin Cities chapter at the annual Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge on Leech Lake this August. Teams from MI chapters nationwide will gather August 26-28 for the Challenge, hosted by last year's winner, the Fargo-Moorhead chapter. Headquarters will be Grand Vu Lodge located on Pine Point. We're looking for one more team to represent us. Please contact Steve Hedensten 651-757-8653 or 952-953-6544 if you'd like to be part of the team.

MEMBERS ONLY CONTEST

Eric Bakke has agreed to take over the Members Only Contest for our chapter. We want to thank Pete Randall for all the work and time he put in to the job for the past three years.

MUSKIE TALES

Remember this year while fishing, or thinking about fishing, or on the way to fishing, or coming home from fishing... well, you get the idea. Take the time to jot down a Muskie Tale. You know, a funny or unusual story. Who fell out of a boat this year?? Whose boat sank?? Who boated something that wasn't a fish?? Who saved 100 muskies?? Who had double trebles in their legs?? Something along those lines. Send your muskie tale, to last year's winner, Matt Olson. E-mail it

to olson@3pete.com, or call Matt at 612-423-2404. The 2009 winner will be announced at next year's Banquet.

CAPABLE PARTNERS OUTINGS

We thank Paul Hartman who has organized the chapter outing with the Capable Partners organization. After 13 years of doing this, Paul has decided to "retire". We are looking for someone who will step up and organize this project for next year. It takes a few phone calls and making sure the food is taken care of. Please contact Jim Kroupa at kroupa@ties2.net or 952-474-5967. Or call Paul Hartman at 763-786-6031 if you would take this event on for next year. Paul will offer all the help needed.

SPONSOR PROGRAM

As part of the chapter's sponsor program, you will see ads from some of our sponsors in the newsletter. Sponsors donate products, gift certificates, trips, and resort stays for our tournaments and welcome table. The ads are our way to thank the sponsors who give so much to our chapter. This month you will see ads from sponsor resorts who have donated a week-long trips. Please consider them when you are planning a fishing trip. 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.



FOR SALE: 2007 Ranger 620 DVS, Evinrude 225, Johnson 9.9 Kicker. Ranger Trail Trailer, MinnKota Terrova 80, 3-Bank Charger, 2 Lowrance LCX 112 w/GPS, Clarion AM/FM w/Sirius, Keel Protector, Ranger Cover, Removable Rear Deck, Walkthru Windshield, EZ Step-on Trailer, Front Deck Step, 2 Butt Chairs, Pro Staff Member. Only 8 days on the

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Classified ads may be submitted by Twin Cities Chapter members. Charges are \$5.00 per month per ad. Send ad information and check made out to Muskie, Inc. by the 15th of each month for insertion into the following month's publication to: Graphic Works, 7125 17th Avenue South, Richfield, MN 55423.

upcoming events

JULY

- 8 Chapter Fishing League: Lake Minnetonka, 6 – 10 pm, Gray's Bay Landing
- 14 General Meeting: Lake Minnetonka, 6 – 10 pm Gray's Bay Landing
- 11-18 Chapter Trip to Minaki – contact George Selcke 952-933-2608
- 29 Chapter Fishing League: Lake Minnetonka 6 – 10 pm Gray's Bay Landing

AUGUST

- 9-15 Chapter trip to Andy Myers Lodge, Eagle Lake, Ontario – contact Troy Zeulzke 952-955-3890
- 11 General Meeting: Summer Picnic, Minnehaha Falls, 6 pm
- 15 Chapter Fishing League: Lake Harriet/Lake Calhoun, 6 am - 12 pm

15-22 Chapter Trip with North Metro, Red Wing Lodge, Lake of the Woods – contact John Van Ingen 651-699-5172

26-28 Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge, Leech Lake – contact Steve Hedensten 651-757-8653 or 952-953-6544

SEPTEMBER

- 2 Chapter Fishing League: Lake Waconia, 6 – 10 pm
- 11-13 42nd Annual Frank Schneider Memorial Tournament, Bemidji-Cass-Walker-Longville
- 19 Chapter Fishing League: Lake Minnetonka, 6 am – 12 pm, Gray's Bay Landing


OCTOBER

- 3 George Wahl Memorial Tournament, Metro Area Lakes

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Please make an effort to support our 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

JULY 14

CHAPTER LEAGUE FISHING: MINNETONKA 6 PM

Meet at Gray's Bay at 6 pm, fish to 10 pm. We will follow up with meeting at Maynards. Everyone is welcome to take part. If you are in the league, you will get points for the outing.

The league is for everyone to come out and fish and learn something from the others following the fishing. Contact Jody Dahms 952-356-6047 or jdahms@aquali.com with questions or if you need to be partnered with someone with a boat.

Muskies Inc. Twin Cities Chapter General Meetings are held at 7:00 pm the second Tuesday of every month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1114 American Boulevard West, Bloomington, MN (just off I-494 & Lyndale Ave.).



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