



On the Water

Volume 6, Issue 7

July 2004

We Took The Kids Out Again!

from Juris Ozols

Our third year now. Curt Ellis started it out a couple of years ago, our first annual spring event with the kids, with a get-together for our Twin Cities Chapter along with Big Brothers and Big Sisters at Lake Nokomis.

We had a great day with ten of their kids. It started with a bit of a teaching session and then we fixed them up with rods and reels for a morning of bobber and worm fishing from shore. I was there to take pictures and write the customary newsletter piece – a fun day. The weather cooperated, a couple of the

kids even caught a fish or two, and I got some nice pictures.

Last year, we did it again with Big Brothers and Sisters. This time the weather was a bit cloudier, the fish friskier, and I believe every kid got at least one fish. That included one talented young lady who couldn't keep the fish off the hook. She got a 2-pound Largemouth, a Smallmouth of the same size, a sucker, and a couple of other fish. So that made for another fun day.

Then this year, our third outing at Nokomis. This time we had a gray, misty day, the water was low, and the fish didn't play very well. But still a lot

of fun for the half dozen folks from our chapter who showed up to help out. Like every year, the kids were beautiful. They all fished. I never heard a word of complaint about the rainy weather. Nor about the slow action. And the three or four kids that indeed did catch a fish all had the usual big grins when I took their pictures.

For me, getting those photos that I'll use for our Muskies Inc. Calendar or for the magazine is a bonus part of the day. But there's a way better thing – seeing the Big Brothers / Sisters program in action. These wonderful

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Members Only Contest

from Elaine Randolph, Contest Chair

SUMMER! It's my favorite time of the year to receive mail. Release forms are much more interesting to read than the junk mail, so start stuffing my mailbox.

Please read the entry blank carefully. All shaded areas must be completed or the entry will not be entered in the Lunge Log.

JUNE 5 – MN MUSKIE OPENER! Knowing he would have to work his usual Saturday shift at a car dealership in Bloomington, Kevin Clouse went muskie fishing on Lake Independence at midnight. He released a 40" at 1:00 am fishing from shore using a green and gold Rapala. His witnesses were fellow members David Gustafson and George Selcke. George reported the walleye bite was excellent that night.

Jim Doyle waited until daybreak (7 am) to catch his first of the year, a 32" on Lake Minnetonka using a Jake. Tom Becker went to Bryant and released two 30" muskies using a spinnerbait.

Brent Hirsch couldn't wait for the MN opener – he went to the Chippewa Flowage on May 29 and released a 42" using a brown beetle spin.

To prove that last year's opening day success wasn't a fluke, junior member James Hedensten went back to Bald Eagle this year and released a 40". The fish hit a blue and silver Poe Jackpot in 8 feet of water.

In the men's master division, Kurt Hostager is the very early leader with 2 releases on Bald Eagle. His 41" and 46" fish were caught in a 20-minute span using black and orange bucktail.

The women are all tied for first (or last) place – no fish have been entered, but I know a few have been caught.

REMEMBER, all entries must be postmarked within 30 days of the catch and your membership must be current.

If you have any questions or need one of the NEW AND IMPROVED release forms, see me at the meeting or call me at 651-452-1209.

Mail your completed forms to:

Elaine Randolph
1039 Wedgwood Lane N.
Eagan, MN 55123

Reporting All Fish, Big and Small

From Our President

One of the features of our monthly general meetings is the rod and reel drawing. At every monthly meeting a G•Loomis rod and Abu Garcia 6500C3 reel valued at approximately \$300 is given away by drawing.

Drawing entries can be purchased for \$2 each or 3 chances for \$5. This drawing is one of the highlights of the evening and the rod and reel is a coveted prize among the membership.

Starting in June a new incentive program was established to promote the patronage of three of our long-term retail sponsors; Thorne Bros, Reeds Sporting Goods, and Joe's Sporting Goods. Over the years the support and sponsorship of these three stores to our chapter has been unequalled by any other retail

company. So, we thought it would be appropriate to acknowledge them through the new incentive program.

Here is how it works. Bring a sales receipt from one of these three stores dated within 30 days of any general meeting and you will be awarded one free entry into the rod and reel drawing. You are not limited to any number of receipts as long as it is a legitimate receipt you get one entry per receipt. So, if you frequent these stores hang on to your receipts and bring them to the next meeting for redemption.

This was the first year in a long time that I chose not to attend our chapter's Capable Partners event. It just so happens that that weekend is always around the time of my wedding

anniversary. The last several years my wife has been gracious about not making a weekend out of our anniversary celebration as was the tradition before I got involved with Capable Partners. This year was time to return to our anniversary tradition so we went to Grand Marais and had a relaxed and enjoyable weekend together.

I want to thank all the volunteers that helped out with the Capable Partners event on June 13th at Lake Independence. This is a significant event on our annual calendar and your presence there is needed and greatly appreciated.

Come to meetings; share your stories and ideas.

Joe DeMars

Kids Fishing Outing *continued from page 1*

folks volunteer to be a friend for a kid who doesn't have all the advantages that most of our own kids do. They take them to movies, the fair, ball games, rollerblading, Camp Snoopy, whatever. And now of course, our own annual Muskies Inc. fishing day.

Each Big Brother or Sister puts in a lot of energy and time in providing – let me use the word love – to a kid who might not get a lot of that otherwise.

Enormously touching. I've asked many of them why they do it. The answer is always the same – "I've had a lot good things in life, I want to give something back." And it's really great that we can be a part of that. Perry Smith changed our Muskies logo to "Youth, Fisheries, Research." What we do on our annual kids outing shows that it's not just empty words.

Ask our chapter folks that helped out this year - Curt Ellis, Tony Vold, Dennis Heath, Carol Heath, Greg Ide, Bob Junghaus, Joe DeMars – what they think about that. Or better yet, don't ask them. Just come out next May, tie a few knots, put some worms on hooks, and stand back and watch.

In any case, resign yourself to hearing from me again about all this next spring in our newsletter. We've got a great thing going here, and I'm determined to make you a part of it.

Plan to Fish International Muskie Tournament

The Twin Cities Chapter 37th Annual Frank Schneider Jr. International Muskie Tournament will take place September 10th, 11th, and 12th on lakes in the Walker, Cass Lake, Bemidji, and Longville areas.

The Grand Prize this year is a Ranger 618VS Fisherman, with a 125 hp Mercury and Minn kota trolling motor. Included is a one week stay at Birch Villa Resort on Cass Lake. The Grand Prize is awarded at the Sunday Banquet in Walker city Park by draw from the names of every angler who registers a fish in the tournament.

Entry fees are \$60.00/adult and \$30.00/junior. Tickets go on sale August 1st. You can order tickets online at www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.com or you may purchase them in person at Thorne Brothers in Fridley, Joe's Sporting Goods in St Paul, Reed's Sporting Goods in Walker, and Jerry's One Stop in Longville.

Participating in the International Tournament is an excellent way to support our chapter. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. If you have fished this tournament before, you already know how much fun it can be. We hope to see you there. It will be a great time.



Twin Cities Chapter Fishing Contest for Kids

It's time to take the kids fishing. Children who are members of the Twin Cities Chapter and are age 12 or younger are eligible to participate in the Chapter Kids Only Fishing Contest. The rules are simple. All fish must be caught by using legal means and the fish must be witnessed by a parent or another adult.

An award will be given to every child who:

- Catches a bluegill, perch or sunfish of any size.
- Catches 5 or more bluegills, perch and/or sunfish of any size in one day.
- Catches a white bass, or a black or white crappie of any size.
- Catches 5 or more white bass, or black or white crappies of any size in one day.
- Catches a catfish, bullhead or carp of any size.
- Catches a catfish, bullhead or carp of 12 inches or more.
- Catches a smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, walleye or sauger of any size.
- Catches a smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, walleye or sauger of 12 inches or more.
- Catches a northern pike of any size.

- Catches a northern pike of 18 inches or more.

Note: Muskies 30 inches or more caught by anglers age 12 years or under will qualify for the Junior Division of the Members Only Contest. Muskies less than 30 inches don't qualify for any contest.

An award will be given to each and every child who satisfies the criteria for at least one of the ten categories. All awards will be made at the 2004 Winter Picnic and Awards Night.

One entry per child should be submitted for the entire 2003 fishing season. All entries must be received no later than January 10, 2004. The contest form must be signed by both the child and parent/guardian. Be sure to keep track of your child's catches, then pick up an entry form at the welcome table at meetings. Last year, we had only a few entries. We want to see more this year.

Submission of photographs when submitting an entry is encouraged. Photographs should have all pertinent information, such as anglers name, date of catch, size of fish, body of water, etc. on the back of the photo.

Take a child fishing and remember – have fun and be safe.

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


Annual Picnic Scheduled for August Meeting

The Twin Cities Chapter August meeting will again be our annual Summer Picnic. This is an enjoyable night for the whole family so bring the kids.

Everyone is invited to share fishing stories and good fun. Bring your maps to share some great fishing spots or just talk muskies!

We will meet at Minnehaha Falls Park starting at 6:00 p.m. The club will supply burgers and brats and the soft drinks. If you are coming, please bring a dish to share – salad, appetizers, beans, chips & dip or dessert.

If you have questions, please call Joe DeMars at 612-861-8930.



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calendar of events

Muskies Inc. Twin Cities Chapter General Meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1114 West 79th Street, Bloomington, MN (just off I-494 & Lyndale Ave.) at 7:00 pm.

JULY 10-17

Chapter trip to Winnipeg River, Ontario

JULY 13

General Meeting. Speaker: Matt Thompson

AUGUST 10

Annual Picnic, Minnehaha Falls.

AUGUST 14-18

Chapter trip to Red Wing Lodge, Lake of the Woods

SEPTEMBER 10-11-12

37th Annual Frank Schneider, Jr. International Fishing Tournament

SEPTEMBER 14

General Meeting. Speaker: Steve Worrell

OCTOBER

General Meeting.

NOVEMBER

General Meeting. Nominations for Board members accepted.

DECEMBER

General Meeting. Elections of new Board members and officers.

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next meeting

JULY 13

**SPEAKER:
MATT THOMPSON**

Matt Thompson counts Minnetonka as his favorite metro lake. He fishes the PMTT circuit and has begun manufacturing baits.



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