



On the Water

Volume 8, Issue 11

November 2005

White Bear Lake Benefits from Stocking

Fifty volunteer chapter members and tournament anglers showed up on Saturday, November 5 to help harvest muskie yearlings from a rearing pond in the northern metro area. The group made use of the 1000' x 10' seine net recently purchased by the Twin Cities chapter and the Minnesota Muskie Tournaments. The 176 muskies that were harvested ranged in size from 26 to 33 inches and were transported by the Minnesota DNR to White Bear Lake for release.

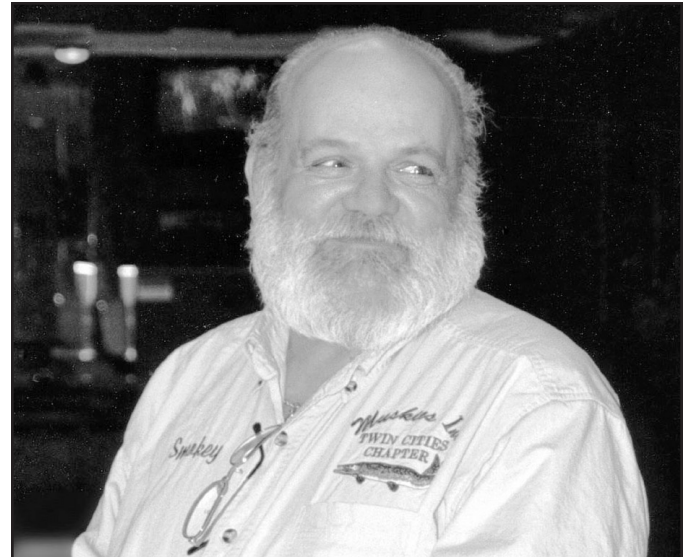
On Sunday, November 6 the Minnesota Muskie Farm delivered 156 muskies that were also released into White Bear Lake. The 17-18" muskies were purchased for \$25 each by the chapter with proceeds from the Project and Rearing fund Raffle held in the spring.

The seine net used to harvest the fish from the rearing pond is already beginning to pay for itself. Last spring \$1200 was paid to a commercial fisherman to help harvest muskies from the rearing pond. The chapter has purchased a trailer to house the net and all the other equipment needed for harvesting muskies.

The rearing pond is operated in cooperation with the Minnesota Muskie Tournaments, Frankie's Live Bait & Marine and the Minnesota DNR.



Once the muskies have been gathered in the seine net, they are netted and taken to a DNR transport truck and delivered to White Bear Lake where they were released. More pictures inside.



Smokey Swenson - A Muskies Inc. Original

The spirit of an organization often reflects the personalities of the unique characters among its membership. We lost one of the best when Smokey Swenson passed away November 17.

Smokey was one of the "Grand Old Men" of our club, and a fixture on the musky scene for some thirty years. Smokey's real name was one of our more, shall we say, striking members. The gray beard and gruff voice were ever so familiar to so many of us in Muskie Inc.

Smokey was a life member of Muskies Inc. His Uncle Cully, a member of the Nisswa Guides League, introduced him to fishing years ago. And then he started going out with Twin Cities members Greg and Elaine Randolph, chasing Muskies on metro lakes, and that hooked him permanently.

Smokey held a number of positions in our chapter, including president (several times) and youth director. He was an at-large director of the International as well as performing many other duties, and was elected to the Muskies Inc Hall of Fame in 2001.

Smokey, a person who gave unselfishly of himself to Muskies Inc., is now gone from us. But you just know that Frank Schneider has welcomed him with open arms and that they are out together on some special lake right now.

Members Only Contest

Elaine Randolph, Contest Chairperson

ALL ENTRIES DUE ON JANUARY 4, 2006

It's mid-November and there is still plenty of open water so I expect fish will be entered until the end of December. The 2005 contest ends on December 31 and all entries must be postmarked or entered on-line by January 4, 2006. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Time is short! The Twin Cities Chapter annual Winter Picnic/Awards Ceremony is February 18!

PLEASE TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO CHECK YOUR RECORDS ON THE MI WEBSITE – ESPECIALLY IF YOU ENTERED THEM YOURSELF. A couple of member's fish have been mixed around when they renewed their membership. There also appears to be a few duplicate entries for the same fish and one person caught fish on two different lakes that are several hundred miles from each other within a half hour. **PLEASE REPORT ALL CORRECTIONS TO ME BY THE END OF DECEMBER SO THE RECORDS CAN BE CORRECTED BY JANUARY 10.**

Dean Roll had a very successful outing to Lake St. Clair – 10 releases from October 27 thru October 30 with a 52" being the longest. Over the years Brian Hanson has spent hours trolling on Mille Lacs and this year is no exception. Recent releases include a 50" on November 4, a 44" on November 11, and a 46.5" on October 7. Jeremy and Holly Knutson have been spending time on Bald Eagle, 6 releases in the past month for Jeremy but Holly has the longest, a very nice 47".

Leech Lake rewarded Matt Olson with a 50.5" on October 28, John Olson with a 50" on October 29, and Steve Hedensten with a 47.5" also on October 29. Mark Fredrick and Cindy Hegdahl took their annual trip to Lake of the Woods in mid-October and released several very nice fish.

STANDINGS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITH CORRECTIONS: (AS OF 11/14/2005)

JUNIOR'S DIVISION

- 1ST PLACE – Evan Nicolai – 5 fish – 72 points
- 2ND PLACE – Cody Paetzel – 7 fish – 71 points
- 3RD PLACE – Alec Spurbeck – 1 fish – 27 points
- 4TH PLACE – Samantha Doebler – 3 fish – 26 points
- 5TH PLACE – Zachary Weyland – 1 fish – 20 points
- 6TH PLACE – James Hedensten – 1 fish – 15 points
- 7TH PLACE – Dallas Nicolai – 1 fish – 13 points
- 8TH PLACE – Megan Doebler – 2 fish – 11 points
- 9TH PLACE – J T Doebler – 1 fish – 10 points
- 10TH PLACE – Andrea Doebler – 1 fish – 5 points
Gray Hostager – 1 fish – 5 points

WOMEN'S DIVISION

- 1ST PLACE – Carole Janik – 6 fish – 88 points
- 2ND PLACE – Amy Orr – 4 fish – 66 points
- 3RD PLACE – Linda Knutson – 3 fish – 40 points
- 4TH PLACE – Christine Rein – 3 fish – 29 points
- 5TH PLACE – Holly Knutson – 1 fish – 21 points
- 5TH PLACE – Wendy Hedensten – 1 fish – 10 points

MEN'S DIVISION

- 1ST PLACE – Adam Greengard – 34 fish – 424 points
- 2ND PLACE – Dean Roll – 22 fish – 368 points
- 3RD PLACE – Bob Culbertson – 29 fish – 338 points
- 4TH PLACE – Pete Moller – 24 fish – 323 points
- 5TH PLACE – Shawn Kellett – 21 fish – 309 points
- 6TH PLACE – David Nicolai – 15 fish – 231 points
- 7TH PLACE – Brent Hirsch – 15 fish – 223 points
- 8TH PLACE – Phil Groth – 15 fish – 202 points
- 9TH PLACE – Peter Janik – 12 fish – 196 points
- 10TH PLACE – Brant Bunney – 12 fish – 187 points

MASTER'S DIVISION

- 1ST PLACE – Mark Sewald – 19 fish – 313 points
Michael Cookas – 26 fish – 313 points
- 3RD PLACE – Brian Hanson – 12 fish – 236 points
- 4TH PLACE – Mark Fredrick – 13 fish – 195 points
- 5TH PLACE – Cindy Hegdahl – 8 fish – 110 points

HYBRID DIVISION

- 1ST PLACE – Kurt Hostager – 47" – Lake Elmo – June 15

RELEASE OF THE MONTH

- MAY – official – no entries greater than 45"
- JUNE – official – Brent Hirsch – 51" – Winnipeg River – June 29
- JULY – official – Alec Spurbeck – 52.5" – Mille Lacs – July 24
- AUGUST – official – David Nicolai – 51.5" – Leech Lake – August 6
- SEPTEMBER – official – Patrick Cotter – 51.75" – Leech Lake – September 3
- OCTOBER – unofficial – Dean Roll – 52" – Lake St. Clair – October 27
- NOVEMBER – unofficial – Brian Hanson – 50" – Mille Lacs – November 4

REMEMBER, ENTRY FORMS MUST BE ENTERED OR POSTMARKED BY JANUARY 4.

Reporting all fish big and small—

Elaine Randolph
1039 Wedgewood Lane North
Eagan, MN 55123
651-452-1209

Muskie Award Nominations

A very special award – Twin Cities Chapter Muskie Award – is presented every year at the Winter Picnic. This distinctive honor is conferred upon a most deserving member, who has constantly and unselfishly devoted time and energy over the years to promoting and improving the goals of Muskies, Inc.

Nominations for this award will be accepted until January 11, 2005 and everyone is strongly encouraged to participate. Nominations must be made in writing and must include a history of the person's involvement with the Twin Cities Chapter over the years. Current Board Members will select the winner by secret ballot.

Last year the Muskie Award was presented to Joe DeMars and he will give the award to the next recipient.

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

St. Paul Sportshow

The sportshow season is fast approaching. Our chapter will be having a booth at the Boat, Camping and Vacation Show January 11-15 at RiverCenter in St. Paul. This is the only opportunity our chapter has to showcase our organization.

We will need volunteers to man the booth during those days. Generally, sports show hours are from 10 am to 10 pm. Shifts are approximately from 10 to 4 or 4 to 10. Daytime hours are hardest to fill. Consider playing hooky from work for a day to meet interesting people and, yes, talk fishing the whole time. Anyone helping at the booth will get a free exhibitors pass to see the entire show.

Contact Russ Peterson at 612-618-0391 to volunteer. It's a great way to see the show for free.

Harvesting Muskies



Above: The volunteers who helped with the muskie harvest on Saturday, November 5. Eric Schultz; Terry Savoie; Shawn Kellett; Jason Goebel; Ken Olson & Kaylee; John Newman; Ray Burris; Pete Randall; Tim & Libby Hoene; Larry Klein; Louis Ward; Chris Jensen; George Wahl; Kevin Zollinger; Brent Fox; Beth Conroy; Kendall, Cody, & Cole Klaus; Brad Warmka, Tom Kenefick, Rich Westling, Pat Miller, Tom Donovan, Nancy & Jeff Riedemann; Steve, Andrew, Jimmy, Tommy, & Josh Hedensten; Derek Schmitt; Juris Ozols; Matt Olson; James Beheba; and Steve, Ally, & Michael Jonesi.

Below left: The 1000' x 10' seine net is loaded onto the boat, and strung around the shoreline of the pond. The volunteers then gather bring the two ends together, gathering the muskies within the net. Below right: The muskies are then netted and moved to the transport truck for release in White Bear Lake.

Bottom: It takes a number of volunteers to bring in the net once all the muskies have been netted and taken to the transport truck.





Give a Muskie Inc. Membership to that muskie angler on your holiday gift list.

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— this 'n that —

International Board Meeting

The Twin Cities Chapter will be hosting the Muskie Inc. International Board Meeting scheduled for April 2006. If you would like to be a part of the planning committee, contact Greg and Elaine Randolph 651-452-1209. They meet monthly on the third Tuesday at the Bloomington Knights of Columbus.

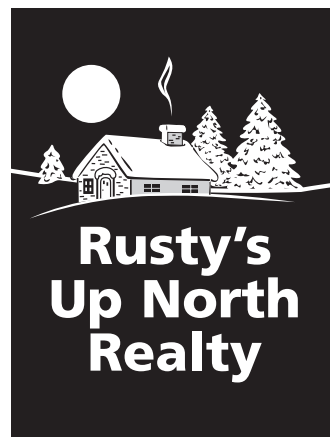
Members Only Contest Chairperson

Elaine Randolph, our chapter's Members Only Contest chairperson, will be retiring at the end of the year. We will need to fill that position as soon as possible. It is not necessary to be a Board member. You will need internet access in order to download

our chapter's entries into the MI Lunge Log database and to retrieve those that have been input on the website. If you're interested in the position, please contact Elaine Randolph or Shawn Kellett.

Kids Fishing Contest

Now that the fishing season is winding down, don't forget to enter your kids (12 and under) in the chapter's Kid's Fishing Contest. Kids can enter every fish of any size of almost any kind of fish they caught this season. All kids who enter any fish will be honored at our annual Winter Picnic and Awards Banquet in February. Turn in one entry for the entire season to Shawn Kellett. Entry forms must be received by the first week in January and are available from Shawn or at the welcome table at meetings.



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upcoming chapter 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.

DECEMBER 13

General Meeting. Speaker: Dave Fenner.
Elections of new Board members and officers.

JANUARY 10

General Meeting.

FEBRUARY 14

General Meeting.

FEBRUARY 18

Winter Picnic and Awards Banquet.

MARCH

Minnesota Muskie Expo

The "Muskie Tale" Award

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 or tell your tales to Jim Kroupa. He will be at the welcome table. Or you can email them to jkroupa@ties2.net, or call 952-474-5967.

BRING YOUR SALES RECEIPTS TO MEETINGS

Save your receipts from Joe's Sporting Goods, Thorne Bros. Custom Rod & Tackle, or Reed's Sporting Goods. Bring them to the General Meeting and you'll get one free entry in the rod and reel drawing per receipt. Receipts must be dated within 30 days of the meeting.

what's inside

Muskie Harvest	1
Smokey Swenson	1
Members Only Contest	2
Muskie Award	3
St. Paul Sportshow	3



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next meeting

DECEMBER 13
DAVE FENNER

Dave is a guide on Lake Minnetonka and has boated many big fish this year. He will share tips and tactics that have worked for him.