



On the Water

Volume 8, Issue 5

May 2005

The Muskie "Tale" Award

from Jim Kroupa

Did you ever go to our Twin Cities chapter awards banquet and see the beautiful plaques? And replica we present for the longest release each year? Have you ever thought to yourself, "I'm never going to win an award like that!"? I have had that same thought for years.

I decided to do something about it. Fish harder, put in more hours! No, nothing that logical. I created the "Muskie Tale" Award. It's an award that anyone could earn any year.

The idea came from an archery club I belonged to. The club gave trophies to anyone getting a deer and, of course, special trophies for biggest buck and doe. However, the most anticipated award was a traveling trophy – a mounted deer tail. It was presented each year to the archer with the best hard luck story. You know, the big one that got away. Or, all I ever saw were white, raised tails running away. Or, I got severe buck fever and fell out of my treestand!

I presented my idea to our then president, Joe DeMars. He said I could proceed as long as it didn't cost the club anything. Then, I called Mike Theilen of Fiber Tech. Mike does replicas for our club each year. I told him what I had in mind.

Mike created this wonderful muskie tail – replica tail of the world record muskie – and mounted it for desk or mantle display. I purchased it, and am donating the tail to the club. I will present the trophy tail to the club member who is a worthy recipient at the next February awards banquet.

How can one receive this award you ask? The member who shares with me the best tale (story) will be presented the traveling "Muskie Tale" Award. The recipient will have the trophy for one year and then must help select the new winner for the next year.

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. Good luck.

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



Stocking Raffle Update

from John Newman, Jr., Raffle Chair

The members of the raffle committee have been working hard this past month, securing prizes, selling tickets at the Muskie Expo, and mailing out over 400 sets of tickets to our members.

If you have not received your tickets as you read this please contact me and I will get your tickets out to you. Any new members who recently signed up and would like to help us raise money to stock fish, please contact me with your address and I will get tickets out to you.

The Project and Rearing Fund Raffle drawing will be held at our July meeting. Raffle prizes are a Lund 1650 SS, Yamaha 40 hp motor, Shoreland'r trailer/boat package; a MinnKota 55 trolling motor, courtesy of Nelson Marine; a \$300 gift certificate from Thorne Bros.; a Hummingbird Matrix 27 depth finder, also courtesy of Nelson Marine; and a \$150 gift certificate from Joe's Sporting Goods. Tickets are \$2 each.

So far returns have been slow. Currently we have sold about \$4000 worth of tickets. Program cost (purchasing boat package, printing/ mailing raffle tickets) is about \$9000, so you can see we need everyone's help to get us "out of the red and into the black."

The Project and Rearing Fund Raffle is our primary source of funding for all the chapter's projects for the muskie resource. For this year's project we have tentatively ordered 500 2-year-old fish at a cost of \$25 each from the Minnesota Muskie Farm to be delivered and stocked in the fall. In order to purchase all of the fish, we will

Raffle continued on page 4

From Our President SHAWN KELLETT

Spring is here and only 40 more days until the Minnesota muskie opener as I write this. I just can't wait to get out on the water! I just cleaned up my office and it's apparent I've had cabin fever. I pulled 43 baits, 4 reels, 6 maps, and other assorted fishing equipment out of my office. I guess that's why I haven't been too efficient these last couple months.

This month's meeting is our manufacturer's night and lure swap. This is a great event where you can add a few extra baits or get rid of a few that are getting dusty in the corner of the box. If you are a lure manufacturer, feel free to bring your wares and tell us about them. I know I'll be bringing a bunch of stuff and looking for a good deal.

I wanted to plug a marina that is helping me out in a big way. As many of you know I had some engine trouble late last season. Well, after having my boat for 4-1/2 months, the marina where I bought my boat said there wasn't anything that they could find wrong. So I took it down to the landing and fired it up before I shoved off. Needless to say it was not fixed, and VERY obvious that there was something wrong. So since the motor was under warranty I took it out and the motor proceeded to cease up. I brought it back to the original dealer who had it over the winter and they completely blew me off! I couldn't believe it and was so mad I was shaking. I went from Rogers to Elk River to Riverside Marine where I know the manager Chad. He and their service department took me right in and are bending over backwards to help me out, even though I didn't buy my boat from them. I would suggest anyone looking at a new boat or in need of service to take a look at these guys because they seem to know how to service their customers. They are also the new Tuffy dealer in town. Let me tell you, those new deep V models are impressive!

Since opener is almost here, it's time for you last minute guys to get your gear tuned up. Many people have come to me asking where I get my reels worked on. I now go to Minnetonka Outdoors, which is just west of Hwy 101 on Hwy 7. These are the same reel repair guys that had Hays Tackle in Minneapolis. Great service and a bunch of great guys. You can get their contact info on their website at www.minnetonkaoutdoors.com

It's YOUR Muskies Inc!!!!!!

Hi everybody!

I wanted to thank the Twin Cities Chapter of Muskies Inc. and Fiber-Tech for the beautiful replica I received at the Winter Picnic and Awards Banquet.

What a great time Mark and I had. We were told that the replica would have a wooden box to bring it home in and it didn't, so the 55" pig and I bonded once again while I rode in the back end of the truck during the snow storm on the way to our hotel room.

I've said it before, and I'll say it again – Chapter 1 is # 1!

Thank you, Cindy Hegdahl

A Few Glimpses at our Twin Cities Chapter

from Juris Ozols

It's been while since I did one of these and so here you are: A few snapshots from the last year or so of our Twin Cities chapter of Muskies Inc.

1. Heading out – Steve Hedensten and kids one foggy morning, Sabaskong Bay, during last year's Chapter Challenge.
2. Joe DeMars, Curt Ellis, and another member putting up the Muskie sign at last year's Kids Outing on Lake Calhoun.
3. John Olson and On the Water, editor Denise Olson at a recent monthly meeting.
4. John Newman to Brad Coyne: "You better sell raffle tickets or else!"
5. Yes indeed, my favorite photo subject – Tom Lund.
6. Our plastic Muskie at the St. Paul Sportshow this year. We got a bunch of new members signed up there, and it's a fun thing to work the booth.
7. Last year Russ Peterson netted this beauty at the Muskie Expo.
8. The crowd at one of our monthly meetings.
9. Muskie master Mark Sewald at the "Make A Wish" tournament on Minnetonka last fall. I fished with Mark that day and amazingly enough caught just as many fish as he did.
10. Paul Hartman and Rod Guthier with a couple of Northerns from Lake Independence at last year's Capable Partners outing. Another one of our many fun events.
11. Cindy Hegdahl and her monster 55-incher from last year.
12. Dave Weyland took this picture of Dan Mudge releasing a fish at the Chapter Challenge.
13. I'm going to try my best to make this shot of Matt Olson the cover picture for next year's "Muskie" calendar.
14. Chris Swentkofske, out with Paul Hartman on Mille Lacs last fall, and a beautiful 50-1/2" Muskie.
15. Greg Ide and a rare photo of an "above water" Muskie. Greg specializes in underwater fish pictures.
16. Brad Coyne ready to lend a hand to this poor (Non-Muskie Incer) bloke at last year's Capable Partners on Lake Independence.
17. Vet's Home Opener, Spring 2004. Terrie DuBe, Patti Slack, and Tom Lund cooking, John Olson, Larry Proskin, and Tony Vold helping out in the background.
18. Finally, what would a collage be without a picture of Todd Doebler and one on his youngsters, all of them hotshot little fisherfolks?



Bring Your Receipts

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.



FOR SALE: 2000 18-ft. Alumacraft Tournament Pro 175. 80 HP 4-stroke motor (less than 50 hours), Shoreland'r trailer with spare tire (never been used), Pinpoint trolling motor with forward and rear depth finders, three swivel seats, two canvas covers (one for trailer, one for docking). \$12,000 or BO Must sell! Like new! Call 763-745-0921.

FOR SALE: 14 ft. Alumacraft with trailer. 50 hp Merc, tilt & trim, Hummingbird locator. \$2200. Russ Peterson. 612-618-0391.

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 Muskies, 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.

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Raffle *continued from page 1*

need to raise \$21,500. You can see how important it is for EVERYONE to participate in the sale of raffle tickets.

Remember, our membership meeting on May 10th will be the first drawing for our incentive prizes. To be eligible, you need to return your tickets and money prior to, or at, the meeting on May 10th.

Incentives at the May meeting (all donated) are: Safe Grasp Fishing Gloves (Super Protection, Inc.), \$20 Gift certificate (Axel's in Mendota Heights), "Dinner for Four" Gift Certificate (Carbones Pizza in Highland Park); \$25 Gift Certificate (Moose Country Restaurant in Lilydale); Certificate for Fillet Knife (World of Knives in Hopkins); Lube, Oil & Filter Change (Parkway Auto in Highland Park); \$25 Gift Certificate (Chet's Liquors in Lilydale); Berkley/Diawa Muskie Combo (Muskie Barge Co.) \$50 Gift Certificate (Great

American Marine in Bloomington); Phantom Lure Package (Phantom Lures); and Safety Goggles (Settergren Hardware).

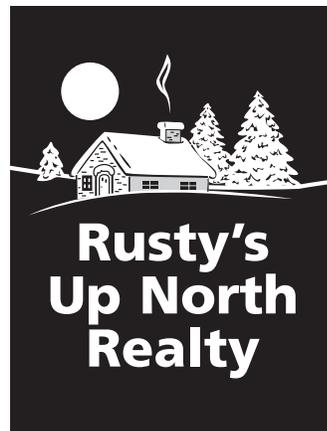
Don't forget, the top four sellers, will be eligible for 4 great vacation trips that have been also donated to our club.

- One week trip for four at Shingwak Resort on Lake of the Woods to be taken in 2006.
- 4-day/3-night trip for two at Birch Villa Resort on Cass Lake to be taken in 2005.
- 4-day/3-night trip for four at Mylie's Place on Lake of the Woods to be taken in 2005.
- October 6-9, 2005 trip for two at Vermillion Dam Lodge.

Sell those tickets!!!

For more tickets contact me at (651) 699-8676 or see me at meetings.

Please support the donors who have generously supported our club in our stocking efforts.



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upcoming 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.

MAY 7

Vet's Home Opener. 8:00 am.

MAY 10

General Meeting. Manufacturers Night/Swap Meet.

JUNE 14

General Meeting.

JUNE 4

Minnesota Fishing Opener.

JUNE 12

Capable Partners Outing.

JULY 9-16

Chapter Trip - Winnipeg River.

JULY 12

General Meeting.

AUGUST 9

Annual Picnic – Minnehaha Falls Park

AUGUST 20-27

Chapter Trip - Red Wing Lodge.

SEPTEMBER 9, 10, 11

38th Annual Frank Schneider, Jr. International Fishing Tournament.

SEPTEMBER 13

General Meeting.

Vet's Home Opener on Saturday, May 7

The Twin Cities chapter will again be hosting a fishing opener event for the residents of the Minnesota Veterans Home. A trout pond will be set up and MI members help with the fishing, cooking, cleaning and generally making this a fun event. This is one of the best volunteer events put on at Vets Homes all over the country and we've been recognized as such.

Terry Hagstrom is organizing the Saturday, May 7th Vets Home opener again this year. Volunteers – many are needed – should be at the Vets Home (by Minnehaha Falls) around 8 am. Everyone who can should to take some time Saturday morning and help out. You'll be glad you did. Terry is also looking for people to bring 10 lb. bags of washed potatoes. Call Terry at 763-561-9399 if you can bring potatoes, or if you have questions.

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next meeting

MAY 10

MANUFACTURER'S NIGHT/SWAP MEET

Go through your tackle boxes and equipment. Bring your rods, reels, lures, motors, boats to the meeting and be prepared to bargain. Joining us will also be area manufacturers representing more aspects of muskie fishing than you can imagine.



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