

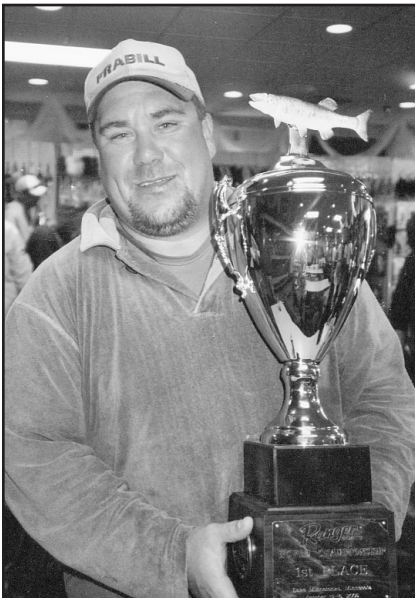


On the Water

Volume 8, Issue 11

November 2005

PMTT Tournament Series Won by Chapter Members



The Professional Musky Tournament Trail 2005 Ranger Boats Championship held October 15 & 15 on Lake Minnetonka was won by TC chapter board member Troy Zuelke and his partner Josh Brovosky. The two were the only team to double with 43-3/4 and 44-1/2-inch muskies. Troy and Josh stuck to a very specific game plan that utilized glide-type baits in very defined areas.

The win earned the pair a new Ranger boat package

and \$1000 bonus. This tournament was the final in the PMTT series and all 50 teams who participated had earned their tournament berth by placing in the first four 2005 tournaments. The win placed the Zuelke/Borvosky team 9th in the PMTT Top Gun standings for the entire year.

Fourth place in the tournament was taken by the all-woman team of TC chapter member Terrie DuBé and Dianna Mindar with a 46-inch fish. The fish put them in second place overall for the PMTT Top Gun award. They also won a \$1000 bonus from Ranger boats for the highest ranking team in the tournament fishing from a Ranger boat.

Above: Troy Zuelke with his trophy for first place in the PMTT Tournament on Lake Minnetonka. Right: Di Mindar with the 46-inch fish that placed her all-woman team (with Terrie DuBé) fourth in the tournament and second place for the Top Gun Award in the overall series.



Members Only Contest

Elaine Randolph, Contest Chairperson

I am not sure what is happening, but I really don't have a lot to report this month. Fish are still being reported, but most of them are in the upper 30" to mid 40" range.

Recent large fish reported include:

- Mark Sewald – 49" on September 26 on Independence
- David Gustafson – 50" on September 25 on Minnetonka
- Peter Janik – 49" on September 24 on Waconia
- Brian Hanson – 51" on September 17 on Mille Lacs
- Mark Fredrick – 50.5" on September 8 on Bemidji
- Patrick Cotter – 51.75" on September 3 on Leech Lake
- Shawn Kellett - 49" on August 30 on Minnetonka

STANDINGS: (AS OF 10/12/2005)

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 – J T Doebler – 1 fish – 10 points
- 9TH PLACE – Andrea Doebler – 1 fish – 5 points
- Gray Hostager – 1 fish – 5 points
- 11TH PLACE – Megan Doebler – 1 fish – 4 points

WOMEN'S DIVISION

- 1ST PLACE – Amy Orr – 3 fish – 49 points
- 2ND PLACE – Carole Janik – 3 fish – 37 points
- 3RD PLACE – Christine Rein – 3 fish – 29 points
- 4TH PLACE – Linda Knutson – 2 fish – 23 points
- 5TH PLACE – Wendy Hedensten – 1 fish – 10 points

From Our President SHAWN KELLETT

It's good to be able to sit down and communicate with the chapter again. I apologize for missing the newsletter last month. It was a little crazy in the Kellett household. We found out that we are expecting our second child in 2006 and the nesting instincts took over. I'm happy to say that everything is proceeding well and things are back to semi-normalcy.

These are exciting times to be in the chapter as well. As those who were at the last chapter meeting know, our goal of getting more proactive in stocking and rearing is becoming a reality. By the time this gets out, we should have already stocked the fish out of Paul Hartman's ponds as well as the fish we purchased from the Minnesota Muskie Farm. Many of you were there to help out. Now we just need more help!!! John Newman is again heading up the Project and Rearing Committee and needs your help. Contact myself or John and we can get you up to speed.

It's also time to start thinking about nominations for the 2006 board and officers. **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!!!!** I know everyone has things going on, but that's not an excuse for doing nothing. This year, Greg and Elaine Randolph are stepping down from the board. They've earned the rest. There will undoubtedly be a few others that will be joining them in the peanut gallery and more power to them. They did their duty to the club and the fishery and now we need new people to step-up and pick up the slack.

Myths of being on the MI board:

PEOPLE DON'T WANT SOMEONE LIKE ME! Trust me, you can't be more abrasive or stubborn than me when I want to be. We need the type of people who aren't afraid to dig in and get things done.

BEING ON THE BOARD IS A HUGE TIME COMMITMENT. How does 10 Tuesday nights a year sound? That's it. We usually spend a couple hours on business and the rest socializing. **YOU GET OUT OF IT WHAT YOU PUT INTO IT.**

I DON'T CATCH FISH SO WHAT DO I KNOW. Trust me, I know lots of people who DO catch fish and don't know anything! Really, the ability to get an animal with the brain the size of a peanut to open its mouth and chomp on a 2x4 or a clump of deer's butt-hair has nothing to do with leadership, decision-making ability or pitching in.

If you look back at past presidents, you'll probably find that the best were not necessarily the best fisherman. They happened to be the ones that cared about the club and the resource the most. It's those types of people that give of themselves to the club and fishery that get my respect over the local (or national) "Big Sticks." Anyone can take what someone builds; it's those that build what others take for granted that deserve our respect.

I DON'T KNOW ANYONE. See #2. You'll find yourselves a TON of new friends by volunteering. Just a couple years ago I really didn't know anyone. When you give of yourself, you usually get x2 back; usually even more. Trust us, nobody bites, will judge you, will think you're stupid for asking something that some (not all) veteran board members know.

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE CLUB SO WHAT GOOD CAN I DO? I'm still learning the ins and outs of this organization. Ours is the original Muskies Inc chapter – the one that started it all. That takes time to learn. Lucky for you, we have plenty of veterans to help you (and me sometimes) get up to speed. You learn by doing, so let's get to work!

I apologize if I'm coming off a little preachy. It's just that we've got so many good things happening and in the works. The only thing we're going to be short on is manpower. If you can't be on the board, it doesn't mean you can't do something in the chapter to help. Join a committee, help with our chapter's tournament held in September, the Project and Rearing fundraiser raffle, the 40th Muskies Inc. Anniversary Banquet and International Board Meeting. Even if you can just be given a few simple tasks to do on your own, that would be a great help to the organizers of these committees.

One more thing before I call it a night. I spoke with the DNR head of fisheries Ron Payer for quite a while the other day. I explained that our chapter was getting more proactive in stocking and rearing. I also voiced concerns that with increased fishing pressure is taking its toll on our lakes. I told him we would like to work hand-in-hand with the MN DNR to: Bolster fish populations in lakes that are seeing a dramatic increase in pressure; Bolster fish populations in lakes that may not be getting their stocking quotas; and Start new muskie waters.

You know what his response was? "OK, let's get together and make a plan." I thought to myself "boy that was easy." I don't know if he was telling me what I wanted to hear, but we're going to take this opportunity and run with it. I'll be setting up a meeting with the DNR and key MI members shortly to see what we can get accomplished.

If the DNR does give use the green light to do the things we want to do, we're REALLY going to need everyone's help. There are many people in our chapter that have told me that we'll never get the manpower to get these objectives done. I disagree every time they bring it up. It's my belief that the members of this club are hungry to make a difference.

Prove me right...

Net Purchased for Harvesting Muskies

The chapter recently ordered a seine net that will be used to harvest young muskies in the fall from local rearing ponds. The harvested muskies will be stocked in area lakes. It is more economical to own the \$4000 net rather than rent one each fall. The net is ten feet tall and 1100 feet long and has floats on the top and sinkers on the bottom.

Paul Hartman is selling Adopt A Muskie certificates for \$10 each to help defray the cost of the net. See him at meetings or call 763-786-6031. The muskies to be adopted have been raised in a local pond in the northern metro. Current plans call for the net to be used this fall – November 5th if it is delivered in time – to harvest those muskies. Contact Paul if you are interested in helping with the harvest. Our Board is also investigating the feasibility of raising and harvesting our own muskie fry instead of purchasing them each year.

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. The North Metro chapter is the Muskies Inc. representative at the Minneapolis show.

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.

Members Only *continued from page 1*

MEN'S DIVISION

- 1ST PLACE** – Adam Greengard – 31 fish – 385 points
2ND PLACE – Pete Moller – 24 fish – 323 point
3RD PLACE – Bob Culbertson – 25 fish – 281 points
4TH PLACE – Shawn Kellett – 18 fish – 260 points
5TH PLACE – David Nicolai – 15 fish – 231 points
6TH PLACE – Brent Hirsch – 15 fish – 223 points
7TH PLACE – Brant Bunney – 12 fish – 187 points
8TH PLACE – Peter Janik – 11 fish – 179 points
9TH PLACE – David Gustafson – 8 fish – 143 points
10TH PLACE – Adam Walsh – 13 fish – 131 points

MASTER'S DIVISION

- 1ST PLACE** – Mark Sewald – 17 fish – 281 points
2ND PLACE – Michael Cookas – 20 fish – 243 points
3RD PLACE – Brian Hanson – 9 fish – 173 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 – unofficial – Patrick Cotter – 51.75" – Leech Lake – September 3
OCTOBER – no 45" releases

REMEMBER, ENTRY FORMS MUST BE ENTERED OR POST-MARKED WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE CATCH. Several fish have been disqualified over the years. Don't let it happen to you!

Reporting all fish big and small—

Elaine Randolph
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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.

Bryant Lake Fishery

Please try to attend a hearing scheduled on December 5th at 7:00 pm at 8080 Mitchell Rd. (Mitchell Rd and

Technology Drive) in Eden Prairie concerning Bryant Lake. A water ski club is trying to get a permit to place a slalom course on the Northwest side of the lake. Bryant Lake is a fantastic hybrid muskie lake. If this permit for the slalom course passes, it will make fishing difficult as Bryant is only 199 acres and the course would take up about 25% of the lake.

Please try to attend the hearing. If you have any questions feel free to call Jerry Judson at 952-888-1382.

International Board Meeting

The Twin Cities Chapter will be hosting the Muskies 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.

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.



FOR SALE: 2000 17-ft. Lund Mr. Pike 17. Black & grey. 115 Johnson motor, Shoreland'r trailer w/spare Wave Wackers, 74 lb. thrust Minnkota trolling motor, custom snap-down cover, 2 depth finders, 1 GPS map, 3-bank battery on-board charger. Many extras. Available late fall. Call Tony Sommerfeld. **952-215-1379.**

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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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.

NOVEMBER 8

General Meeting. Speaker: Brad Hoppe.

DECEMBER 13

General Meeting. Chapter elections.

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.

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next meeting

NOVEMBER 8 BRAD HOPPE

Brad makes Showgirl Bucktails and is the new owner of Eagle Tail. He guides on lakes such as Mille Lacs and Miliona and has boated a 53, 54 and 55-inch fish this year. He will discuss structure, how to approach it, and tactics that have worked well.



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