



# On the Water

Volume 8, Issue 10

October 2005

*On behalf of their father, tournament namesake Frank Schneider, Jr., sons John (left) and Jerry Schneider (center), presented a \$3000 check to Pat Rivers, Minnesota DNR Large Lake Specialist in the Walker area fisheries office during the Tournament Awards Program. Part of the Twin Cities chapter's commitment to this tournament includes contributing to the muskie resource.*



*Paul Villnow presented the Mary Villnow Memorial Award for Women Anglers to Lori Christensen who registered 2 muskies, including a 51-incher from Cass Lake.*

## 2005 International Muskie Tournament Fabulous Success

The 38th Annual Frank Schneider International MI Tournament, held September 9-11, was a fabulous success this year. 721 muskie anglers participated, fishing in 21 lakes in and around the Walker, Bemidji, Longville, Winnibogoshish area. 115 muskies over 40 inches and 4 northern (38 inch minimum) were caught and released during the three-day event.

Friday, the first day of the tournament, was cold, windy, and stormy. More than one angler got chased off the lakes by thunderstorms. Saturday the weather improved, but the wind was still a problem. Sunday, the last day of the tournament, turned out to be an excellent day weather-wise. After fishing ended at 10 am participants gathered at Walker City Park for an excellent roast-pork meal and the tournament awards program. Everyone who attended on Sunday received a Berkley tote bag and a spool of SpiderWire line.

Fish entered in the tournament were rated on points system, similar to the system used for our Members Only Contest. The top anglers, down to 17 places, all had multiple fish.

Tom Deml from Little Falls, MN with one 51-inch and two 50-inch muskies was the top angler with 73 points. Tom received a week-long trip to Red Wing Lodge, Lake of the Woods, a Fenwick Rod/Abu Garcia 6500 C3 reel combo, Plano tackle box, a Frabill net, a rainsuit and neoprene gloves, Cortland line and an assortment of muskie tackle for his first place finish. The three fish were caught on Lake Bemidji and this is the



*Tom Deml was the first place winner of the 2005 Tournament. He registered one 51-inch muskie and two 50-inch muskies caught in Lake Bemidji.*

**Tournament** continued on page 2



*This 54-inch muskie, caught on Leech Lake by Chad Severts, was the longest fish caught in this year's tournament. The fish earned Chad Bonus Awards from Lindy Little Joe and Abu Garcia.*



*One of two 50-inch fish caught by tournament first place finisher, Tom Deml. Tom also caught a 51-inch muskie. This is the first time in tournament history that three 50-inch were caught by one person.*

## Tournament

*continued from page 1*

first time in 38 years that three 50+ inch fish were caught by one person during the tournament.

Second place was taken by Mike Lundberg from Deer River, MN who caught and released four muskies on Leech Lake. Mike tied with the first place winner with 73 points, but his first fish was registered 12 minutes later than the first place fish. For his second place finish, Mike received a week-long trip at Loe's Resort on Leech Lake, plus the same merchandise as the first place winner.

The longest fish in the tournament was a 54-inch muskie caught Friday on Leech Lake by Chad Severts of Bemidji. Because it was his only fish for the tournament, Chad placed 18th in the standings. Chad received a Frabill Big Kahuna net and will also get a replica of the fish courtesy of Fiber Tech Reproductions of Nisswa, MN.

The 54-inch fish also earned Chad Bonus Awards from two other tournament sponsors, Lindy Little Joe and Abu Garcia. The fish was caught using an M/G Buck-A-Boo that he purchased at Reed's Family Outfitters when he came in to pick up his ticket on Thursday. The fish qualified for two Bonus Awards from Lindy Little Joe. A \$250 Merchandise Certificate was awarded for the longest fish entered

that was caught using an M/G bait. It was doubled by Lindy Little Joe to a \$500 certificate because the fish was netted with a Beckman net. Lindy Little Joe also awarded a \$500 cash bonus given if the longest fish of the tournament was caught on an M/G bait. It was also doubled, to \$1000, because the fish was netted with a Beckman net.

The 54-inch fish also qualified Chad for a \$500 Merchandise Certificate from Abu Garcia because it was caught using an Abu Garcia reel.

Abu Garcia also awarded a \$200 Merchandise Certificate to Corey Frietag from Welcome, MN who turned in the second longest fish of the tournament, a 53-inch fish from Leech Lake. Troy Hobot from Cottage Grove, MN received a \$100 Merchandise Certificate from Abu Garcia for the third longest fish caught using an Abu Garcia reel, a 52-inch muskie caught the first day of the tournament on Leech Lake.

A new award at the tournament this year was the Mary Villnow Memorial Award for Women Anglers. Twin Cities chapter member, Paul Villnow created the award, given in memory of his wife, Mary, an avid muskie angler, to encourage more women anglers who pursue muskies. The award is given to the three top women anglers in our tournament. Lori Christensen from Spencer, IA was

awarded the first Mary Villnow Memorial Award of \$500 cash and a special-edition commemorative Phantom lure made by Todd Cleveland. She registered two muskies, 51- and 43-inch fish from Cass Lake, that earned her 42 points and fifth place in the tournament. The second Mary Villnow Memorial Award, \$300 cash, was awarded to Cheryl Sjofhun from Walker, MN. Cheryl entered a 42-inch muskie from Leech Lake that earned her 16 points and 73rd place.

Four Northerns over 38 inches were also entered in the tournament. The top two places were earned by Mike Lorenz with a 39-inch fish caught on Leech and Mike Conley with a 38.5-inch fish caught on Cass Lake. The first place fish earned Mike a trip to Huddle's Resort on Leech Lake and a host of merchandise.

Junior participants failed to register any fish during the tournament, but were all recognized and given a tournament T-shirt courtesy of Calico Jack Tackle.

In addition to awarding the top prizes and special bonus awards, the Sunday events included drawings for door prizes, witness prizes, the Tournament Raffle, and the Grand Prize. Door prizes included a variety of merchandise donated by our manufacturer and retailer sponsors.

Anyone who witnessed a fish caught in the tournament was eligible



*This 47-inch muskie was Mike Lundberg's longest fish in the tournament. Mike caught and released a record-setting four fish and placed second with 73 points*



*The tournament Grand Prize, a Ranger 618-T/Mercury 90 hp motor/Ranger Trail trailer/Minnkota trolling motor package.*

for the Witness drawing. Two names were drawn for Lakewood tackle boxes from Thorne Bros. Fishing Specialties.

This was the first year that a Tournament Raffle was held. A limited number of tickets for this raffle were on sale only at the tournament. Prizes included a trip to Neilsen's Fly-In Resort on Rowan Lake in Ontario, a trip to Trails End Lodge on the Clearwater/Pipestone chain in Ontario, a Minnkota auto-pilot trolling motor, MarCum Technologies fish finder, \$100 Gift certificate to Joe's Sporting Goods, Shimano Rod/Reel combos, Diamond Back rods, Thorne Bros. Custom rod, Calcutta 400-B reel, Abu Garcia 6500C3 reels, and custom tournament-edition baits from Basin Baits, Big Woody, and Phantom Baits and a one-of-a-kind True Glide bait.

The final event of the day was the drawing for the Grand Prize – a Ranger 618-T/90 hp Mercury motor/Ranger Trail trailer/Minnkota trolling motor package. Every angler who registered a muskie in the tournament had their name entered in the Grand Prize drawing. A thrilled Dennis Ceplecha, who entered a 40.5-inch fish in Cass Lake and placed 78th in the standings, was the winner of the drawing.

Tournament proceeds will keep our chapter solvent with the ability to provide for projects that benefit the muskie resource. The Twin Cities chapter owes a huge THANK YOU to tournament chairpersons Dianne Dahl and Stu McIntosh for this successful event.



*Tournament emcee Joe Carlson (left) and Ranger representative George Little (center) with Dennis Ceplecha (right) winner of the Grand Prize drawing and new owner of the Ranger/Mercury/Minnkota package.*



*Two attendees at the Awards Banquet and Ceremony looking over just a fraction of the door prizes donated by retailers and manufacturers.*



*Juris Ozols won this custom tournament-edition Big Woody Bait in the drawing for the Tournament Raffle.*

# Members Only Contest

Elaine Randolph, Contest Chairperson

**I**F YOU CAUGHT A FISH IN THE INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT YOU ALSO MUST ENTER IT IN THE MEMBERS ONLY CONTEST. Fish Registration forms from the tournament stay with the Tournament Committee and are not automatically transferred to the Members Only Contest.

October and time for the "big" fish to start feeding. Recent large fish reported include:

- David Nicolai – 51.5" on August 6 on Leech Lake
- Mark Sewald – 50.5" on September 4 on Independence
- Brian Hanson – 50" on August 20 on Bemidji
- Mark Jacobson – 50" on August 12 on the Apple River in Wisconsin
- Doug Culhane – 49" on August 30 on Minnetonka
- Sean P Rein – 49" on August 23 on White Bear
- David Nicolai – 49" on August 14 on Leech Lake
- Patrick Cotter – 48" on July 29 on Independence
- Brant Bunney – 47" on August 21 on Vermilion

The Junior Division members are still catching a few fish. Cody Paetzel added 3 to his impressive list – a 38.5" on West Okoboji, a 44" and a 33" on Minnetonka. Evan Nicolai released a 39.5" on August 13 on Leech Lake.

Amy Orr has taken over the lead in the Women's Division by releasing two fish on August 20 on Miltona.

## STANDINGS: (AS OF 9/13/2005)

### 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 – Dallas Nicolai – 1 fish – 13 points
- 6TH PLACE – J T Doebler – 1 fish – 10 points
- 7TH PLACE – Andrea Doebler – 1 fish – 5 points  
Gray Hostager – 1 fish – 5 points
- 9TH PLACE – Megan Doebler – 1 fish – 4 points

### WOMEN'S DIVISION

- 1ST PLACE – Amy Orr – 3 fish – 49 points
- 2ND PLACE – Carole Janik – 2 fish – 24 points
- 3RD PLACE – Linda Knutson – 2 fish – 23 points
- 4TH PLACE – Wendy Hedensten – 1 fish – 10 points
- 5TH PLACE – Christine Rein – 1 fish – 4 points

### MEN'S DIVISION

- 1ST PLACE – Adam Greengard – 25 fish – 307 points
- 2ND PLACE – Pete Moller – 19 fish – 264 points
- 3RD PLACE – Bob Culbertson – 22 fish – 247 points
- 4TH PLACE – David Nicolai – 15 fish – 231 points
- 5TH PLACE – Shawn Kellett – 14 fish – 205 points

### MASTER'S DIVISION

- 1ST PLACE – Michael Cookas – 16 fish – 181 points
- 2ND PLACE – Tony Sommerfeld – 6 fish – 59 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 – unofficial – David Nicolai – 51.5" – Leech Lake – August 6

SEPTEMBER – unofficial – Mark Sewald – 50.5" – Independence – September 5

## REMEMBER, ENTRY FORMS MUST BE ENTERED OR POSTMARKED WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE CATCH.

Several fish have been disqualified over the years. Don't let it happen to you!

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# Special Thanks to 2005 Tournament Sponsors

from Dianne Dahl and Stu McIntosh, Tournament Chairpersons

An incredible show of support and generosity from our sponsors is the reason our Frank Schneider International Muskie Tournament continues to be so popular and successful. We ask that every one of our chapter members remember these sponsors and personally thank them at every opportunity. Many of the sponsors that supported us in the 2005 tournament have been loyal sponsors for a number of years and their commitment is both recognized and appreciated by the Twin Cities Chapter.

Contributions from our resort sponsors provided wonderful resort stays for the top anglers and also the raffle drawing winners. The retailers and manufacturers provided cash, gift certificates, T-shirts and merchandise for the top anglers, and the Tournament Raffle, Door Prizes, and Special Bonus Prizes. Tournament hats were compliments of Berkley and Reeds Family Outfitters and customized by ADVON Incorporated. We also want to thank the resorts that served as registration stations on a number of tournament waters.

Again, the Tournament Committee, on behalf of the entire TC Chapter and the late Frank Schneider Jr., wishes to extend a sincere and heartfelt thank you to each and every sponsor for their loyalty and commitment. The TC Chapter will continue to utilize tournament proceeds to support the natural resources that we all have the privilege to enjoy.

## 2005 Tournament Sponsors

### RESORTS:

Huddle's Resort, Leech Lake  
Loe's Resort, Leech Lake  
Maple Beach Resort, Big Lake  
Nielsen's Fly-In Lodge, Rowan Lake,  
Ontario  
New Leech Lake Campground, Leech  
Lake  
Red Wing Lodge, Lake of the Woods  
Sah-Kah-Tay Resort, Cass Lake  
Spirit of the North Resort, Leech Lake  
Sunset Cove Resort, Cass Lake  
Trails End Lodge, Clearwater/  
Pipestone Chain, Ontario  
Vermillion Dam Lodge, Lake  
Vermillion

### REGISTRATION STATIONS:

Break on the Lake Resort, Cass Lake  
Brindley's Harbor Resort, Leech Lake  
Clear Vue Resort, Lake Bemidji  
Denny's Resort, Lake Winnibigoshish  
Little Boy Resort & Campground,  
Little Boy Lake  
Sugar Point Resort, Leech Lake

### RETAILERS/MANUFACTURERS:

Abu Garcia  
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Basin Baits by Kendall Klaus  
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Berkley  
Big Woody Baits by Jon Earl  
Calico Jack Tackle in Lake City  
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Crystal Pierz Marine, Brainerd  
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Fenwick  
Fiber Tech Reproductions  
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Joe's Sporting Goods, St. Paul  
Johnson Outdoors  
Lindy Little Joe  
Mar Cum Technologies  
Mercury Marine  
Muskie Barge Co. LLC, Lake City  
Musky Innovations  
Paul Villnow  
Phantom Baits by Todd Cleveland  
Pure Fishing  
Ranger Boats  
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**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.**



**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.**

*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.*

## this 'n that

### Bryant Lake Hearing

A water ski club is trying to get a permit to place a slalom course on the North West side of Bryant Lake in Eden Prairie. 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 a hearing to be held on October 3rd at 7:00 PM at 8080 Mitchell Rd. in Eden Prairie. If you have any questions feel free to call Jerry Judson at 952-888-1382.

### Adopt A Muskie

Help purchase 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. 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.

### Muskie Tales

Now that the fishing season has actually started, remember that if you have an unusual, hard-luck, or entertaining "muskie tale," send or tell it to Jim Kroupa. He will be at the welcome table. Or you can call 952-474-5967 or email to [jkroupa@ties2.net](mailto:jkroupa@ties2.net).

### 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

Don't forget to keep track of the fish (of any kind) your kids caught this summer. Turn in one entry for the season to Elaine Randolph.

### 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.



**FOR SALE: 2003 Triton TR 185 DC** with 150 Evinrude EFI. Minnkota 65# autopilot with universal sonar. Lowrance X15 Sonar/Temp/GPS/Mapping on dash & Lowrance X51 Sonar on bow, Minnkota 3-bank onboard charger, two triton leather butt seats with adjustable posts and extra Triton leather regular seat with short post, lighted compartments and rod locker, etc. Trailer includes fold-away tongue, spare tire and speed ratched tie downs. Excellent condition! Great Muskie fishing outfit. Priced to sell! \$18,0800. Call or email for more information or pictures. 952-294-0424. [GHeck@mn.rr.com](mailto:GHeck@mn.rr.com)



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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.

## OCTOBER 11

General Meeting. Speaker: Greg Thorne.

## NOVEMBER 15

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.



Troy Hobot from Cottage Grove entered a 52-inch and a 40-inch muskie to place fifth in the standings. His sons Mitchell and Nicholas who fished with him, were the youngest participants in the tournament.

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## next meeting

**OCTOBER 11  
GREG THORNE**

Greg Thorne, representative for Cortland, is a avid muskie angler who has boated a number of big fish. Cass Lake is a favorite fishing spot.