



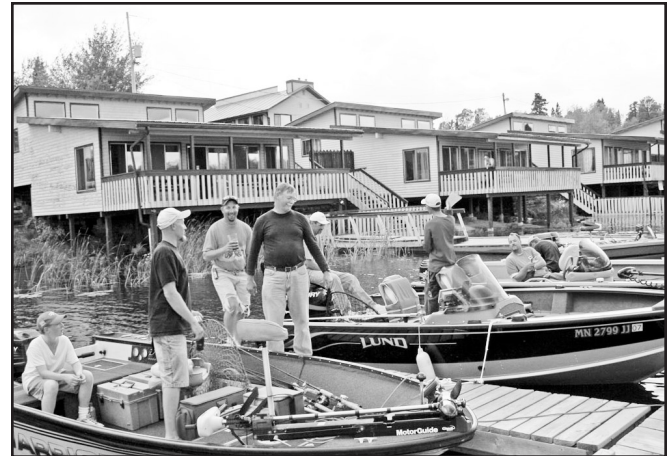
On the Water

Volume 8, Issue 9

September 2005



John Newman and the biggest fish for our chapter at the 2005 Chapter Challenge, a 47-incher.



Getting ready to go out, with our cabins in the background.

Chapter Challenge 2005 – Wait Till Next Year!

from Juris Ozols

Ontario's Winnipeg River— notorious for huge muskies. Unless of course, you're interested in catching them, which as usual didn't really happen for our chapter this year at the Chapter Challenge. Oh, for sure, John Newman got a 47-incher, and Matt Olson and I saw a muskie half again as long as the world record. But the slimy critters pretty much stayed safe at home.

Our chapter's teams did get five modest-sized muskies during the Challenge. Better than last year, but that still put us well down in the standings. Fargo Moorhead Team #1 brought in seven, and a lot bigger ones too, to walk away with the Lunge Bucket for the second year in a row. Jason Murray got two 50+ fish on Friday morning, and that pretty much did it.

But how about the important stuff? You may recall that last year we won the Chapter Challenge Trivia Contest. Sadly, this year we didn't win it because they didn't have one, apparently afraid of our trivial prowess. A "poker night" was held instead but we didn't do so well on that either.

However, this was a great outing on the river. Ontario is a spectacular place to fish for muskies, whether or not they bite. And, as I found out, it's also spectacular for photos – see the collage in the September magazine.

Next year? We need help. Do your best to join our teams and see if we can do something to dethrone those Fargo guys!

2005 International Muskie Tournament

We look forward to seeing all of you at our chapter's International Muskie Tournament September 9th, 10th, and 11th. The Grand Prize is a Ranger boat, motor, trailer package. Any contestant who registers a muskie during the tournament is eligible. Prizes for top anglers include Canadian and US fishing trips and lots of great fishing gear.

This year we have added a Tournament Raffle with two Canadian fishing trips, a trolling motor, a fish locator and tournament-edition custom baits. There will be lots of door prizes for everyone attending the Awards Banquet on Sunday at Walker City Park.

To volunteer your time on Sunday, please call tournament chairpersons Stu McIntosh and Dianne Dahl at 651-699-9817 or email miintlournament@comcast.net.

In Memorium
Muskies Inc. Life Member
FRANK SCHNEIDER, JR.
1919 - 2005

From Our President SHAWN KELLETT

Summer's over; let the fall feeding frenzy begin!

Boy does time fly when you've got a 2 year old running around. The water's cooling down and the fish finally seem to be getting hungry. My tip of the month: Magnum Stompers.

It is with great sadness that I report Frank Schneider has passed away. I could go on forever recounting Frank's accomplishments, relationships, and fire. Our prayers go out to his family. I think everyone should finish out each day's fishing with "one more cast for Frank." Hopefully, he'll be smiling down on us when we do.

On a lighter note, September 9-11 is our 38th Annual Frank Schneider, Jr. MI tournament to be held in the Walker, Cass, Bemidji, and Longville areas. This event is the fundraiser that allows our chapter to function. Years when we have a poor turnout, our club is strapped for cash. When we do well, we have money to do all the things that make this club great. If you're on the fence about participating in this year's tournament, I urge you to come on out and have a great time.

This year we've got even more prizes – if thought it possible. We've also got a few surprises in store that you won't want to miss. If you don't have a partner or boat,

feel free to post on forum on the MI site or drop me a line and I'll see if I can hook you up with someone. Email me at windgods@msn.com. Also, if you've got extra room in your boat let me know.

We're also looking for volunteers to work Sunday at the tournament Awards Ceremony. Easy stuff mainly, so please contact myself (952-380-1218), Stu or Diane (651-699-9817) if you will be there and able to help. We're especially looking for people staying at or near registration stations at Winnebigoshish, Leech (New Leech Lake Campground, Sugar Point), Little Boy or Longville to pick up Registration Forms on Sunday at 10:30 and drive them in to Tournament Headquarters.

This past August 22nd, several others and myself attended the DNR open house in Faribault concerning spearing regulations on French Lake. We had a good discussion with the DNR officials as well as some from the Dark House Federation. Nobody threw a punch and so far my boat is intact. It seems to me that the current regulations will stand. I can fill anyone who's interested in more at our next meeting.

Now get out there and fish!!!!!!

Project and Rearing Fund Raffle Wrap-Up

from John Newman, Project and Rearing Fund Chairperson

Congratulations, Twin Cities members! I want to thank each of you who participated in our stocking Fund Raffle. This year's raffle was a great success and will allow us to stock \$14,500 worth of muskies into area lakes.

Winners of the raffle, held at our July meeting, were: Dick Pettman, 1st prize of the 1650 Lund/40 hp Yamaha/trailer package; Lynn Shuster, 2nd prize, a MinnKota 55 trolling motor; Brad Swenson, 3rd prize, a \$300 Gift Certificate from Thorne Bros.; Dave Vickerman, 4th prize, Hummingbird Matrix 27 Depth Finder; and Jeff Wozniak, 5th prize, a \$150 Gift Certificate from Joe's Sporting Goods.

I especially want to thank our donors. Nelson Marine really want to bat for us this year by rigging the boat motor and trailer, and donating the trolling motor and depth finder.

Of course, Joe's Sporting Goods and Thorne Bros. came through for the club with their wonderful gift certificates. I encourage everyone to shop these stores and say thank you for supporting Muskies Inc. when you talk with their staff.

I would also like to mention the donors of our incentive prizes for top sellers: Mylie's Place on Lake of the Woods, Shingwak on Lake of the Woods, Birch Villa on Cass Lake, and Vermilion Dan Lodge on Lake Vermilion, Super Protection Inc., Axel's river Grill, Carbone's Pizza, Moose Country restaurant, Muskie Barge Co., Great American Marine, Phantom Lures, Buon Giorno Italia Deli and Restaurante, Rossi's Steak House, Minnesota State Fair, Ben Fitzel, Bib's Boxes, Parkway Auto, Settergren Hardware, Chet's Liquors, and The World of Knives.

These donors helped to keep the

raffle rolling and stimulate more interest for our ticket sales.

I also want to thank the Jim Kalkes Insurance Agency for donating insurance for the boat, motor and trailer while we hauled it to various locations to sell tickets.

Others who need mentioning are our top ten sellers, as they are responsible for 30% of our ticket sales. They are: Jeff Stevenson - 81 books, Joe DeMars - 37 books, Jerry Montoyne - 28 books, Nick Golz - 27 books, Jerry Hansen - 21 books, Roger Meyman - 20 books, Bob Junghans - 20 books, and Matt Olson - 16 books. Way to go guys!!

I was very impressed with positive reaction to this fund raiser. This was a great effort by our chapter. We now have the dollars to enhance and preserve our muskie resources for the future.

I am very proud of everyone. Thanks again.

Members Only Contest

Elaine Randolph, Contest Chair

Thanks to all of you that enter your own fish on the MI website. It gives me more time for fishing but I am not catching muskies, only nice northerns. Our combined effort added 128 entries from July 16-August 15 bring the total to 231 of which 7 are 50" or longer.

The Junior members are at it again. Three-year-old Gray Hostager caught his very first muskie on July 30 on White Bear Lake. He and his dad Kurt had been trolling only 30 minutes when the 31-incher hit the Grandma. Alec Spurbeck (12 years old) also released his first muskie, a beautiful 52.5" on Mille Lacs. This fish hit a Salmo Glider on July 24. His dad Mark added this note to the release form. "Several boats came by to check us out. Quite a sight – little guy wrestling a big fish. 10 minute fight mostly under the boat. We were shaking several hours later. Most observers estimated 40-41 pounds." Samantha Doebler released a 33" and a 41" on the St. Louis River on August 5. Sister Megan went to Calhoun on July 30 and released a 30". Cody Paetzel entered the fish he released on the web site. These included a 31" from the Cave Run Reservoir, a 34" from Minnetonka and a 33" and 41" from West Okoboji. Dallas Nicolai released a 39" on Inguadona on July 16. Brother Evan sent me forms for these releases: 44.5" on White Bear, 39" on Bald Eagle, 37.5" on Cass Lake and a 40" on Leech Lake. **OUTSTANDING JOB, JUNIORS!**

Eyewitness and very able assistant Evan Nicolai thought his dad's – David – 6 releases on White Bear on June 27 in 4.5 hours should go on record and I agree. The fish ranged from 36.5" to 43". Thanks, Evan, for helping me write this article.

Tom and Lois Harvey sent in a few forms from Sabaskong Bay, Lake of the Woods. Lois, who is in the Masters Division, released a 36" and a 40". Tom released a 32", 42", 38" and his longest of the trip – a 51" on August 5. Linda and Dave Knutson fished the Winnipeg River in July where Linda released a 38" and Dave a 37" and a 42". Brant Bunney released 8 fish on Waconia, the longest being 50". He also has 2 releases on Minnetonka.

Michael Cookas finally sent me 2 envelopes of forms from Wisconsin. The 15 entries were mostly from the Chippewa River that included a 46". 50-inch releases were recorded by Pat McAllister on the Winnipeg River on July 9, and Warren Hartman on Kakagi Lake on June 21.

STANDINGS: (AS OF 7/15/2005)

JUNIOR'S DIVISION

- 1ST PLACE – Evan Nicolai – 5 fish – 58 points
- 2ND PLACE – Cody Paetzel – 4 fish – 33 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



Alec Spurbeck (12 years old) and his dad Mark with Alec's 52.5" released on Mille Lacs July 24. It was his first muskie, and hit a Salmo Glider.

- 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 – Carole Janik – 2 fish – 24 points
- 2ND PLACE – Linda Knutson – 2 fish – 23 points
- 3RD PLACE – Amy Orr – 1 fish – 14 points
- 4TH PLACE – Wendy Hedensten – 1 fish – 10 points
- 5TH PLACE – Christine Rein – 1 fish – 4 points

MEN'S DIVISION

- 1ST PLACE – Adam Greengard – 15 fish – 183 points
- 2ND PLACE – Pete Moller – 12 fish – 157 points
- 3RD PLACE – Brent Hirsch – 10 fish – 155 points
- 4TH PLACE – Brant Bunney – 10 fish – 149 points
- 5TH PLACE – Bob Culbertson – 12 fish – 139 points

MASTER'S DIVISION

- 1ST PLACE – Michael Cookas – 15 fish – 169 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 – unofficial – Brent Hirsch – 51" – Winnipeg River – June 29
- JULY – unofficial – Alec Spurbeck – 52.5" – Mille Lacs - July 24
- AUGUST – unofficial – Tom Harvey – 51" – Lake of the Woods – August 5

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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Sunday Banquet

Please let Tournament Chairpersons Dianne Dahl and/or Stu McIntosh (651-699-9817) know if you will help at the Banquet and Awards Ceremony at Walker City Park on Sunday, September 11 for the International Tournament. They need to have all volunteers scheduled by Tuesday.

TC Chapter to Host International 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.

Bring Your Sales Receipts to Meetings

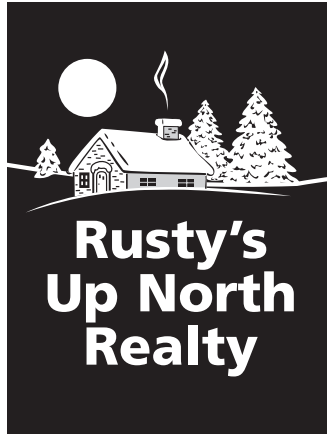
Save your receipts from Joe's Sporting Goods, Thorne Bros. Custom Rod & Tackle, or Reed's Sporting Goods. Bring them to the General Meeting and you'll get one free entry in the rod and reel drawing per receipt. Receipts must be dated within 30 days of the meeting.



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 651-866-4730 • olson@3pete.com

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.

SEPTEMBER 9, 10, 11
38th Annual Frank Schneider, Jr.
International Fishing Tournament.

SEPTEMBER 13
General Meeting.

OCTOBER 11
General Meeting.

NOVEMBER 15
General Meeting.

DECEMBER 13
General Meeting.



Steve Hedensten and son Andrew working the swift flowing waters of the Winnipeg River at this year's Chapter Challenge. More about the Chapter Challenge inside.

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next meeting

SEPTEMBER 13
DAN CRAVEN

Dan Craven is a fishin gguide and educator in Walker, MN. He will discuss current trends and tactics on Leech Lake.