



On the Water

Volume 9, Issue 6

JUNE 2006

Sell Tickets for the Project and Rearing Fund Raffle

from John Newman, Jr., Project and Rearing Fund Chair

As you read this article, keep in mind that we only have ONE MONTH left to raise the dollars necessary for stocking muskies this year. That doesn't leave us much time, especially since we have yet to generate enough to even pay for the first place boat package. At this time last year, we had raised over \$11,000. So far this year we have only raised \$7,000. **LET'S ALL GET SERIOUS AND SELL A LOT OF TICKETS SO WE WILL BE ABLE TO CONTINUE OUR STOCKING PROGRAMS.**

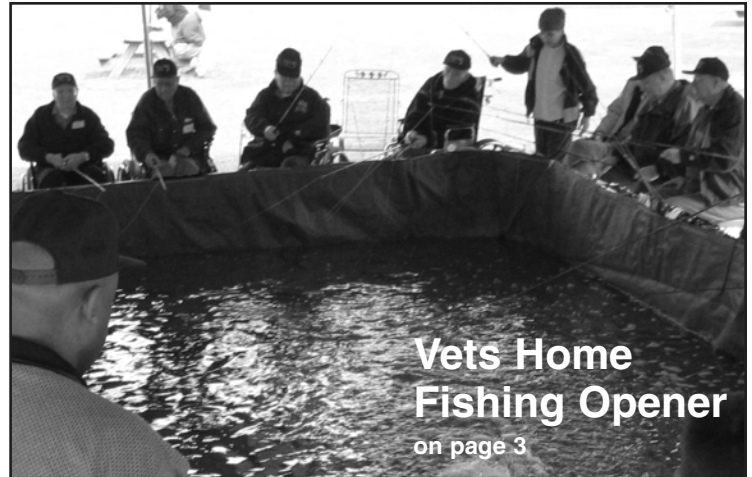
The Project and Rearing Fund Raffle is our primary source of funding for all the chapter's projects for the muskie resource. Raffle prizes are a Triton DV168SC/50 hp/Mercury 4-stroke boat/motor/trailer package, shopping sprees at Thorne Bros. and Joe's Sporting Goods, and a MinnKota Endura 30 trolling motor. Raffle tickets are \$2 each. The drawing will be held at the July meeting.

We have some great prizes for those who sell 40 tickets by the June meeting. These include: Bull Dog Package - Musky Innovations; \$20 Gift Certificate - Axel's Mendota Heights; Gift Certificate for a "Dinner for Four" - Carbone's Pizza; \$25 Gift Certificate - Moose Country Restaurant in Lilydale; Muskie Rod - Muskie Barge Co.; \$50 gift Certificate - Great American Marine; Phantom Lure Package (1 each, 8" and 6") - Phantom Lures; \$25 Gift Certificate - Buon Giorno Italia in Lilydale; and a Lure Holder, Surface Lure, and Line Package - Muskie Barge Co.

There are also three great trips for our top three sellers up for grabs: **Shingwak Resort, Lake of the Woods** - One-week trip for four; **Birch Villa Resort, Cass Lake** - Four day/three night trip for two; **Vermilion Dam Lodge, Lake Vermilion** - Trip for two from October 6-9th, 2006

We would like to repeat what we did last year or even increase our stocking efforts. The only thing that will stop us is the availability of dollars for the projects.

For more tickets or information call John Newman at 651-699-8676. Please remember to return any unsold tickets.



Capable Partners Outing

This year's Capable Partners outing is Sunday, June 11th from 6:30 am to 1:00 pm. Once again, we'll return to Lake Independence at the Baker Park Reserve for this annual event. We're looking for 15 boats to take out the physically challenged members of Capable Partners. About one-half of participants will need space for wheelchairs, but any size boat can be matched with one of the partners.

This event is a favorite of the chapter members who participate each year. It's a great way to share your love for the pursuit of muskies with a fellow outdoorsman. Typically there are only a few muskies caught, along with some respectable bass and pike. For several years Wayne Klemz has taken Carl and his kids out for a bucket full of sunnies. To participate, you don't have to be an expert angler. You don't even have to be familiar with Lake Independence. I will gladly go over lure selection and the "hot spots" with anyone who would like to join us.

The real satisfaction from this event comes back at shore lunch. It's here that you truly realize how much it meant for these guys to get the chance to spend a day out on the water. As you listen to them tell the story of their first follow, big bite, or blow up, it brings back memories of how the muskie hunt started for us all. It brings a smile to your face when they describe how huge the fish was that faded away at boatside. The icing on the cake for this perfect day is that we will grill up a delicious lunch. Please call Paul Hartman at 763-786-6031 to sign up.

From Our President SHAWN KELLETT

IT'S A BOY!!!! Brandon Michael Kellett was born on May 18th at 12:45am. He's already got his Spiderman fishing pole and fishing hat. Give him another year and we'll be fishing.

Not only have things been busy at home, but our club has been extremely active this year as well. We've been to a half dozen sports shows with the boat raffle. Greg and Elaine Randolph organized the Muskies Inc. 40th Anniversary Banquet and Board Meeting. Our club stocked 324 muskies into Minnetonka. Terry Hagstrom pulled off the 17th Annual Vet's Home Opener. Brad Coyne, Troy Zeulke and Mike McGrath organized our first poolside (at least the first since I've been here). We netted muskies out the North Metro pond. And, in June we've got our Capable Partners event as well. We've got a little something for everyone in our club and I encourage each and every one of you to come out and participate. It's our members that make this club great – so come and be great with us.

I also want to mention our rearing fund raffle. Right now we're about \$4,000 behind last year's pace. WE ALL NEED TO STEP IT UP! It's this raffle money that allows us to stock fish. If we don't sell tickets, we don't stock fish – period! If everyone can sell just ONE MORE BOOK we should be able to get close to last year's success. If you need additional tickets or if you didn't get any please contact John Newman or myself and we will get you squared away.

Now for my annual soapbox lecture: Courtesy on the water. I know that most of you are very good about this, but it amazes me how many people aren't courteous to other muskie fishermen

on the water. The biggest thing I see is boats dropping in close enough to be hit with a cast. If there's someone fishing an area you'd like to fish, give them their space. Just think – do you cut in line at the bank, or the grocery store? Same principle.

I know that as muskie fishing becomes more popular, we're seeing more and more people on the water. Here's a few things to try to cope with the pressure rather than just "dropping in".

- *First and foremost, fish BEHIND the person that was already there. Give them some room. You don't like being crowded and neither do they.*

- *Try a different depth. If the pressure is on the weeds, try the weed line or inside edge.*

- *Fish "inside out". Most people cast towards shore and retrieve out into deeper water. When muskies follow these presentations, they're pulled off their shallower cover and are out in deeper water. Now you're getting a fresh shot at a fish that was interested enough to move and you get to give them a different presentation.*

- *Fish off the "prime spots". When a point gets pounded day in and day out, the fish often move either a short distance from the "spot" or off into the open water around the area.*

- *Just come back later after the other angler is done with the spot. I often times like to see what the prior fishermen were using so I can be sure to use SOMETHING ELSE. If the fish just saw a bucktail, I'll go in with a glider or topwater.*

I am now stepping off my soapbox.

Have a great season!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Members Only Contest

The members Only Contest is being chaired by Pete Randall this year as Elaine Randolph who helped keep track of chapter muskies caught and entered them in the International Lunge Log for eight years has retired.

You have three options to enter in the Members Only Contest. You can enter your fish yourself at the Muskies Inc. website (muskiesinc.org); you can download blank forms at the website, fill them out and mail to chairperson, Pete Randall; or you can pick up blank forms at the chapter meetings and mail completed forms to Pete.

Mail your entries to:
Pete Randall
6490 158th Street
Apple Valley, MN 55124

Kids Fishing Contest

Have fun, go fishing with a kid and help them learn about the different species of fish. Children who are members or have a parent or guardian who is a member of the Twin Cities Chapter and are age 12 or younger as of January 1, 2006 are eligible to participate in the chapter Kids Fishing Contest. The rules are simple. All fish must be caught by using legal means and the fish must be witnessed by a parent or another adult.

An award will be given to every child who catches a panfish, catfish, carp, bass, walleye, or pike of any size. Special note will be made for catches of: 5 or more bluegills, perch and/or sunfish in one day; a catfish, bullhead or carp; or a smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, walleye or sauger of 12 inches or more or a northern pike of 18 inches or more.

Note: Muskies 30 inches or more caught by anglers age 12 years or under will qualify for the Junior Division of the Members Only Contest. Muskies less than 30 inches don't qualify for any contest.

An award will be given to each and every child who satisfies the criteria for at least one of the ten categories. All awards will be made at the 2007 Winter Picnic and Awards Night.

One entry per child should be submitted for the entire 2006 fishing season. Be sure to keep track of your child's catches all on one form. Include anything special about a fish or a trip (1st fish, biggest fish or most fish in one day, Grandpa's secret spot, caught more than Dad, etc.).



Vet's Home Opener

Everyone had a wonderful time fishing for "shore lunch" at the Minnesota Veterans Home on May 6th. The Twin Cities Chapter hosted its annual fishing opener with a live trout pond. Veterans were lined up waiting for their turn to fish. Volunteers helped to catch, clean, and cook the meal. Thanks you to Terry Hagstrom for organizing such a great event.

Chapter Outings

Winnipeg River

This year's Winnipeg River Outing will be July 8-15 at Paradise Cove in Minaki, one of northwest Ontario's premier muskie fishing destinations. Each year our group lands fish beyond 50" and sees others. This is a great place to introduce kids to Canada. Russ Peterson can mark your map on where to go for a 50-pike day and the walleye and smallmouth bass fishing is spectacular. The cost is \$245/person. Most of the 24 spaces are filled, but call Paul Hartman with inquiries (763-786-6031).

Crow Lake

The chapter will hold a fall outing on Crow Lake at Muskie Bay Resort September 30-October 7. Crow Lake is noted for giant muskies and fall is THE time for big ones. The last outing, the group boated a fish 45" or bigger every day. Frank Schneider caught his heaviest muskie seven years ago here. Last season, Warren Hartman brought up a fish of mind boggling proportion. The cost is \$200/person or \$332/person with breakfast and dinner at the lodge. Contact Paul Hartman (763-786-6031) ASAP as the group size is limited to 12.

Red Wing Lodge

The annual North Metro/Twin Cities Chapter combined trip to Red Wing Lodge on Sabaskong Bay will be the week of August 19-26 (full moon). Cost is only \$200/person and includes a Housekeeping cabin, free dockage and bag of ice a day, and dinner with door prizes one night courtesy of the Bartletts. A \$50 non-refundable deposit is required. For information or for reservations, call Mark Chatelle, North Metro Chapter (612-275-1189).

Vermilion Dam Lodge

An outing on Lake Vermilion October 13-15 at Vermilion Dam Lodge is also planned. If you would like to join other chapter members for a weekend of great fishing and fun, contact Joe DeMars (612-861-8930).



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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.

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.

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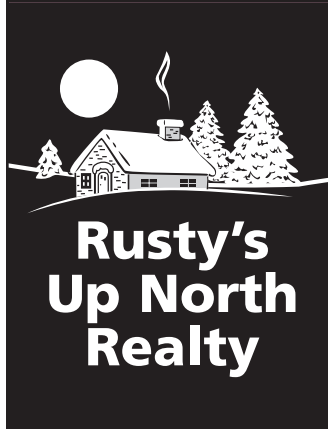
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New MI Chapter in MN

Muskie anglers in the Southern part of the state are in the process of forming a new Muskies Inc. chapter. The new chapter will be meeting the first Tuesday of the month at 7 pm in Owatonna at Cabelas. Consider taking the short trip down for one of their meetings to show your support. They have been coming to our meetings for a long time. Call Jake Loper at 507-373-1818 for more information.

Know the Difference

When you get your fishing license this year, check out page 62 of the Minnesota Fishing Regulation booklet. The full-color "Know the Difference" page was included because the Minnesota Muskies Inc. chapters contributed for the printing.



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Rearing Pond News

The Twin Cities Chapter put its new seine net to good use on April 30. This was the second time the net has been used, but this \$6,000 investment has been paying itself off fast. The object of the recent netting was to make sure all the muskies in the pond had been harvested last fall.

The fall netting produced 176 muskies and this spring produced 23. The fish averaged 29 inches, indicating we're getting nearly 90% of the fish on each pull. In mid-June, the pond will be restocked with 2-inch muskie fry. They will be left to winter over and will be harvested the following fall as 18-inch yearlings.

This pond has been leased by the MN Muskie Guides Association since 1999 and funded by the Metro Muskie Tournament. To date, it has produced \$45,000 in muskies that were all stocked into local lakes.

Frankie's Live Bait & Marine has been instrumental in the success of this project. Frankie Dusenka has been active at every level, from securing the pond and transporting the fry, to providing the minnows to feed them, and the boats used for harvesting.

Frankie's is the only boat dealer in the state to help with muskie propagation.

The Twin Cities Chapter is getting back into the fish rearing business as well. Frankie's has helped the chapter to secure a couple more ponds. The

money raised through raffle sales will be necessary to pay for food. The MN DNR will provide the fry to be stocked into these ponds. This fall, the chapter will be recruiting volunteers to help with the fall harvest.

As with all our sponsors, please keep Frankie's Live Bait & Marine in mind if you're looking for a new or used boat. They're located in Chisago City and can be reached at 651-257-6334. They can also be visited online at www.frankies.net.

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A big thank you to all the manufacturers, retailers and resorts that have helped the Twin Cities chapter in the past year by donating merchandise and trips used for incentives and prizes for our fundraising events as well as the prizes for the Winter Picnic and the welcome table at each meeting.

Please make every effort to support these sponsors so they have an incentive to keep on supporting us. Without them this chapter could not do what it does for the resource and its members.

If you're looking for a new bait, keep in mind that manufacturers of some of the most productive baits ever designed are among our sponsors. And remember to buy them from sponsoring retailers. If you want a muskie trip this season, keep the sponsoring resorts in mind.

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next meeting

JUNE 13

SPEAKER: ROB KIMM

Rob Kimm, Editor of Esox Angler Magazine, is a former instructor at In-Fisherman's Camp Fish and former guide who now pursues muskies and pike in Ontario and Minnesota. Rob is the featured muskie columnist for the Minnesota Outdoor News.



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