



On the Water

Volume 10, Issue 2

FEBRUARY 2007

MN Muskie Expo March 9, 10, 11

Make plans now to attend the 13th annual MN Muskie Expo at the National Sports Center in Blaine. This three-day event is devoted exclusively to the muskie and muskie fishing. The Expo is open from 2 to 9 pm Friday, Saturday from 10 am to 7 pm, and on Sunday from 10 am to 4 pm.

Muskie-related exhibitors including lure manufacturers, guides, resorts, as well as retailers and boat dealers with show specials will be represented at the Expo. All three days will feature seminars by top muskie pros Gregg Thorne, Brad Hoppe, Mark Windels, Russ Smith, Mike McCullen, Jeff Woodruff, Paul Hartman and John Detloff. There will be a large "Kids Midway" area with games and prizes for kids sponsored by Edina Realty, with all proceeds going to Hospitality House and Teen Challenge. Kids 12 and under are free, so bring the whole family. Adult entry for the Expo is \$10, a three-day pass is \$17.

Get into the MN Muskie Expo for FREE!!!

Brent Fox, Youth Chair

*George Wahl, MN Muskie Expo promoter, and myself are encouraging you to get involved bringing groups of kids to the Expo. If you bring a group of youths and/or teens the **WHOLE GROUP IS FREE**. That includes **YOU** as a chaperone! (Sorry, just bringing your large family doesn't count. Nice try!)*

*We want you to bring church youth groups, scout troops or whatever group of kids and teens. Again, **ALL KIDS, TEENS, and ADULT CHAPERONES WILL BE FREE!!!** Talk to your Youth Pastor or Scout Leader and volunteer to help out.*

*The benefit (besides getting into the show **FREE**) is that more kids are exposed to fishing. Just think of the impact when kids see all the trophy fish on display, the trips to big lakes, the **LURES** (I'm drooling about them as I type this!) and the insight they can gain at a seminars by our professional fishermen.*

Right now, studies say that the youth in our state are getting less involved in the

outdoors/fishing. We can all make a difference by making family outings for fishing as well as inviting neighbor kids and others. This is one event to definitely bring them to!

An area set up with games for the kids will be set up at the Expo. We also hope to have a booth or two that is geared for youth, such as the popular bucktail tying area. That will only happen if a couple of experienced bucktail makers volunteer for this, as Tom Bastian, who has run the booth for the past few years, will not be available this year, and yes, you must be experienced already.

*Along that line, there may be other booths such as **FISH & LURE IDing**, knot tying, or perhaps making simple spinnerbaits or painting their own small crankbaits. If you have any ideas or desire to volunteer (and get in to the Expo for **FREE**) then please call me and let's chat! You can reach me at (651) 491-0101.*

Let us know if you might have a group to bring to the Expo. Thanks, and let's get these kids hooked!

February Meeting at 6 pm, Is Family Night

Our February general meeting will be a fun-filled evening geared toward the younger set. We encourage you to bring your family, especially the kids, for this enjoyable social event! The evening will be similar to the Winter Picnic we've had in past years.

There will be plenty of games and other events to keep young people entertained. Kids will be able to play all games at no charge. Adults can also play either for a nominal fee or to receive no prizes. The details have yet to be worked out.

We will begin at 6 pm instead of the usual meeting time. We're starting an hour early so the younger kids can get home and in bed at a reasonable time. The KC Hall will have food available.

All junior entries in our chapter's Member's Only Contest, as well as every child who entered our chapter's Kids Fishing Contest will be honored at an awards ceremony during the evening.

Come join us for a fun evening, have fun with the kids, and help honor their accomplishments.

Awards Banquet Information Inside



Members Only Contest

from Pete Randall, Contest
Chairperson

Congratulations to all of you who caught and released fish this year in the Members Only Contest! I would like to say for my first year, thank you to everyone. You did an excellent job with the fish totals and the nets too!

We had a couple of top dogs in final standings for 2006 in the international Lunge Log. Mens: Dean Roll with 19th place, Women's Masters: Cindy Hegdahl 12th place and Juniors: Evan Nicolai 25th place. Adam Walsh took 2nd place in the nation for longest release in 2006!! Very impressive indeed.

The standings are final and the plaques have been ordered. Junior winners will be honored at our February meeting. The winners of other divisions will be honored and awarded their plaques at the Awards Banquet on February 23. Adam Walsh, winner of the chapter's Lunker of the Year, will need to make room above the fireplace...

FINAL STANDINGS

JUNIORS DIVISION: *Juniors will be honored at our February meeting.*

- 1ST: Evan Nicolai - 62 points - 4 fish
- 2ND: Zachary Weyland - 18 points - 1 fish
- 3RD: Dane Hostager - 16 points - 1 fish
- 4TH: Dallas Nicolai - 12 points - 1 fish
- 5TH: James Hedensten - 11 points - 1 fish
- 6TH: Thomas Batina - 8 points - 1 fish

WOMEN'S MASTERS DIVISION:

- 1ST: Cindy Hegdahl - 130 points - 9 fish

WOMEN'S DIVISION:

- 1ST: Linda Knutson - 75 points - 6 fish
- 2ND: Lois Harvey - 45 points - 3 fish
- 3RD: Barbara Zappa - 41 points - 3 fish
- 4TH: Carole K Janik - 32 points - 2 fish
- 5TH: Amy Orr - 21 points - 1 fish

MEN'S MASTERS DIVISION:

- 1ST: Adam J. Greengard - 529 points - 35 fish
- 2ND: Brian Hanson - 466 points - 22 fish
- 3RD: Tony Sommerfeld - 187 points - 12 fish
- 4TH: Mark Fredrick - 172 points - 14 fish
- 5TH: David Gustafson - 90 points - 5 fish

MEN'S DIVISION:

- 1ST: Dean A. Roll - 663 points - 38 fish

2ND: Joe Mellott - 360 points - 20 fish

3RD: Bob Culbertson - 272 points - 25 fish

4TH: Brant Bunney - 249 points - 15 fish

5TH: Brent Hirsch - 234 points - 19 fish

LUNKER OF THE MONTH:

JUNE - official - Brant Bunney - 51.5" Waconia - June 16th

JULY - official - Adam Walsh - 55.5"x26" LOTW - July 3rd

AUGUST - official - David Gustafson - 51.5" Minnetonka - Aug. 20th

SEPTEMBER - official - Brant Bunney - 54" Rush - Sept. 9th

OCTOBER - official - Joe McWhorter - 51" Mille Lacs - Oct. 25th

NOVEMBER - official - Brian Hanson - 52" Vermilion - Nov. 5

I hope everyone enjoyed this year's members only articles and, yes, I will be back next year. If you would like to drop me a line with an idea or a comment on how I could make this more informative or more enjoyable to read, please do so. We will see you On The Water...

Peter Randall, 6490 158th St W.,
Apple Valley, MN 55124, 952-201-5000,
prandall@charter.net

Hugh Becker, Long-Standing Twin Cities MI Member

Hugh C. Becker, one of our club's first members, passed away recently. He was 89 years old. Hugh Becker grew up in south Minneapolis, attending Washburn High School and the University of Minnesota. After World War II, Hugh worked as a physical therapist at the Veterans Administration hospital in Minneapolis, and retired in 1972.

Hugh began fishing for muskies in the 1940s. In 1953, many years prior to Muskies, Inc. "catch and release" program, he began his own tagging program. During the next several years Hugh gathered considerable data on recaptured tagged muskies and shared this information with Dr. Crossman of the Ontario Royal Museum and Art Oemcke of the Wisconsin DNR. This early data demonstrated the catch and release concept to both biologists and anglers.

Hugh joined Muskies, Inc., in the developmental stages of the organization and contributed to the club in many areas. He served on the Board of Directors for more than twenty years and ran the Members Only contest for seven years. At Hugh's suggestion to Gil Hamm, membership and participation in Muskies, Inc., was open to women and children.

In 1976 Hugh initiated and funded a three-year tagging program directed by the Minnesota DNR. This study satisfied the Minnesota DNR to approve the "catch and release" as a viable muskie conservation effort.

Because of poor health, Hugh stopped fishing in 2002. But in the 55 years of muskie-fishing in the U.S. and Canada, Hugh enjoyed the success that goes with hard work and dedication to the sport. This includes catching muskies over 40 pounds as recently as October, 2000.

A Memorial Service is planned for February 6, 2007 from 3:30 to 6:00PM at the Cremation Society Reception/Chapel facilities at 4345 Nicollet Avenue South in Minneapolis. There will be a celebration presentation at 4:45 PM. Refreshments will be served.

Please contact George Selcke at (952) 933-2608 for more information or if you should have any questions.

We also note the passing of **MIDGE HAMM**, widow of Muskies Inc. founder Gil Hamm in early January. She was 100 years old.

Chapter Awards Banquet February 23

The chapter Awards Banquet for our Members Only contest will have a new format this year.

We're trying things a little differently from past years. The banquet will be held on Friday, February 23, 2007 at the Ft. Snelling Club. Since the kids are having their own night at our February meeting, this will be for our adult members and the significant persons in their lives.

The evening will start at 6:00 pm with a silent auction, games and other activities as well as time to visit and socialize. A cash bar will be available.

Silent auction items include resort stays, guide trips, as well as fishing equipment, artwork and other items.

Following the meal, we will have the Awards Program. Members Only contest chair Pete Randall will introduce this year's winners, and hopefully we will be able to hear some great fish stories. You will also be able to see the replica the chapter will give to Adam Walsh who caught the longest fish this year.

In addition to honoring the Members Only winners, the winner of our chapter's Muskie Award will be announced. And, last but not least, we will get to hear the Muskie Tale Award winning tale.

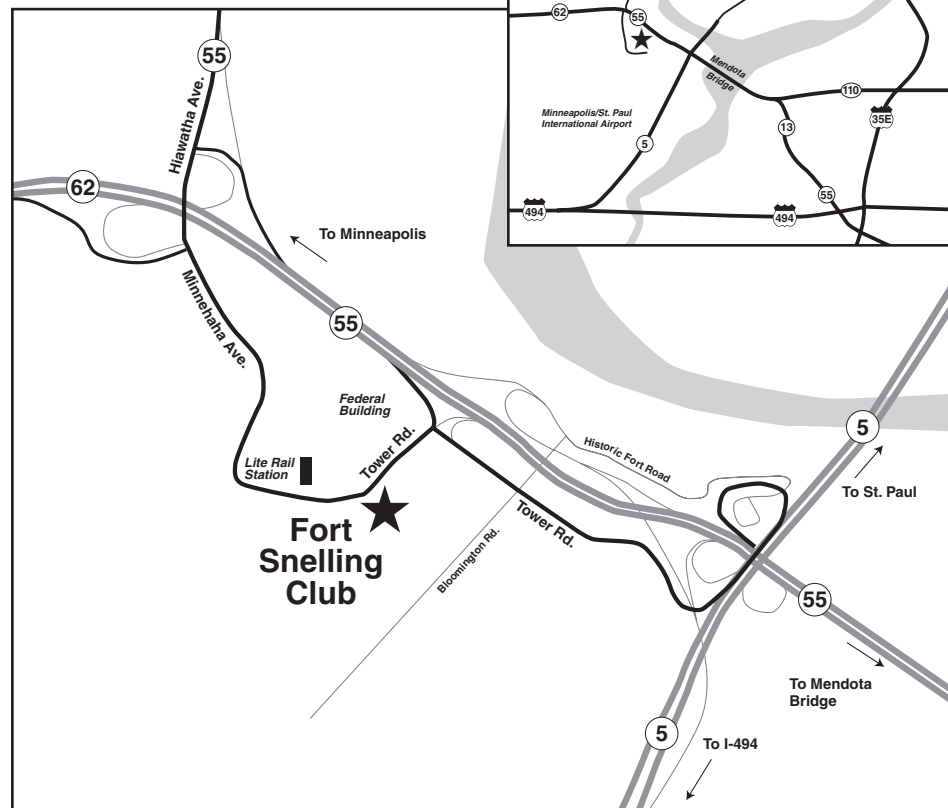
The cost will be \$25.00 per person.

The meal will be your choice of prime rib or broasted chicken. All tickets must be reserved and paid for in advance. You may use the order form on this page and mail to chairperson Amy Orr so it is received by

February 16. Be sure to specify your meal choice.

Amy also will be taking reservations and payments at our February meeting. We hope to see you all at our Awards Banquet on February 23!!

THE FORT SNELLING CLUB is located just east of the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport, across the road from the Federal Building along MN Highway 55.



Share Your Photos

Upload your photos onto the chapter web site,

www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org

and share them with everyone. There are links on how to do this on the first page.

Show off your recent or even old photos of fish you have caught. This can be a lot of fun and you can email the pages to your friends and family.

Muskie's Inc. Awards Banquet

Meal Choice

Name: _____ PRIME RIB CHICKEN

Name: _____ PRIME RIB CHICKEN

Name: _____ PRIME RIB CHICKEN

Price is \$25 per person, tickets must be PAID IN ADVANCE by February 16th.

Total enclosed _____

Make checks out to Muskies, Inc. and mail to:

Amy Orr, 8801 Stevens Ave S, Bloomington, MN 55420

Any Questions. Call Amy at (612) 840-3856

Coming Soon: The 2007 Rearing Fund Raffle

Every year about this time, the Twin Cities Chapter asks all of its members to participate in a raffle to support our Project and Rearing Fund. Many of you have stepped up to give our committee a hand as we spend several months selling tickets for the raffle. Some of you new members might be wondering what the raffle is all about. Some may even be asking: *What's in it for me?*

If you go back to the early 70s, when some of us began chasing these elusive fish, the options for chasing muskies were limited. You either had to head to northern Minnesota, Canada, or Wisconsin. Many of us spent our muskie hunting time in Wisconsin, fishing the Apple River, Bone and Deer Lakes. Then, in the late 70s and early 80s, the Twin Cities Chapter of Muskies Inc, partnered with the DNR to build a muskie fishery in the Twin Cities. This effort required a lot of volunteer hours and, of course, money. Out of that need grew our fund raising efforts, which take us to today.

Each year our chapter holds a raffle to raise money that goes exclusively to our Project and Rearing Fund. Each adult member of our chapter is asked to help by selling tickets for the raffle. This year the first prize is a Triton 176 Liberty, with a 90 hp. motor and trailer package.

SO WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME? Today we not only have several great muskie lakes in the metro area to choose from,

we truly have the opportunity to catch a trophy fish. The job, however, is not complete. The number of Muskie fisherman continues to grow increasing the pressure on the fishery. We need to continue stocking some of our current lakes, and we are working with the DNR to add additional lakes.

So when you receive your tickets in the mail, I hope you will think about that muskie you caught in Minnetonka, or White Bear Lake, and pitch in to help us keep our fishery strong.

If you want to help the Raffle committee sell raffle tickets at the Muskie Expo or any number of other sports-related events, please volunteer to help them out. The committee members work tirelessly taking the first prize boat to sports shows, retail events, fishing contests, and other fishing/sports-related events where they can show it off and sell raffle tickets. There are never enough committee members to cover all the events. To volunteer please give Matt Olson a call at 612-423-2404.



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Thank Our Sponsors

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 FEBRUARY 13 FAMILY NIGHT

Join us starting at 6 pm for an evening for the entire, especially the kids. Games and activities geared toward our younger members, and an awards ceremony will be part of the evening. Food will be available.



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