



On the Water

Volume 10, Issue 7

JULY 2007

Project and Rearing Fund Raffle Update

from John Newman, Raffle Chairperson

With only a few weeks to go, we need EVERYONE to give one last push to SELL, SELL, SELL tickets for our chapter's Project and Rearing Fund raffle. As of June 16, we have only about \$1500 to invest in stocking muskies. Proceeds from every ticket sold before the July 10 drawing will go directly for the muskie resource.

We have a great muskie fishery in the Twin Cities metro area, thanks in part, to the efforts of our chapter and past raffles. Help stock more muskies. EVERY \$20 BOOK OF TICKETS YOU SELL WILL PURCHASE ONE MUSKIE FOR STOCKING. Its up to each of you. How many fish do you want to stock? Let's all try to sell one more book of tickets.

We may have several opportunities to stock new lakes this year, but without our dollars, the MN DNR may have to wait to get started.

The raffle drawing will be held at our July meeting. Top prize is a Triton 176 Liberty with a 90hp Mercury and Triton Trailer. Second place prize is a \$300 shopping spree at Thorne Bros. Custom Rod & Tackle, third prize is a \$150 shopping spree at Joe's Sporting Goods, and fourth prize is a signed, numbered "Live Log" print by Les Kouba (valued at \$1000).

As a reminder, we have great incentive prizes for the top 5 sellers including trips to: 1 week trip for 4 at Shingwak Resort, Lake of the Woods; 4 day/3 night trip for 2 at Birch Villa Resort, Cass Lake; October 11-13 trip for 2 to Vermilion Dam Lodge; and a

Capable Partners Outing

Members of Capable Partners joined Twin Cities chapter members early in the morning on June 10 at the Baker Park Reserve on Lake Independence. They fished hard for muskies, but unfortunately, only one was boated. Still, a great time was had by both the able-bodied and physically-challenged who participated.

A "shore lunch" was served for all the anglers. Thanks to Paul Hartman who organized this event again this year. Join us next year for one of the most rewarding fishing outings you could have. More pictures on page 4.



two-day stay at Fortune Bay Casino on Lake Vermilion.

At our July meeting, in addition to the raffle drawing, we will draw for the following incentive prizes for those that sold at least 6 books of tickets: Bull Dog Package, \$20 Axel's Gift Certificate, \$20 Carbone's Gift Certificate, \$50 Great American Marine Certificate, Calico Jack Camo Shirt, Wolf Trap Lure Package, \$25 Joe Sensor's Certificate, DunWright Tackle Package, \$60 State Fair Gift Pack, 1 Bibs Box, \$100 Gift Certificate from Thorne Bros. and an Interstate Deep Cycle Battery from Parkway Auto.

The night of the drawing is always hectic as people turn in their tickets.

Please try to have your tickets and money organized to help us out. It will be huge help as we tabulate the results.

Better yet, if you can mail them in ahead of time, it would be appreciated. Mail to John Newman, 1031 South Howell, St. Paul, MN 55116.

Thanks for your participation.

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO SELL YOUR TICKETS, THEY MUST BE RETURNED. The state of Minnesota requires us to account for ALL tickets. If they aren't turned in, we may have to pay for them out of the proceeds that should be going to purchase muskies for stocking.

From Our President SHAWN KELLETT

I don't know about any of you, but I sure feel better now that I can get out fishing.

I'd like to thank Paul Hartman and everyone else who helped out with the Capable Partners outing. We had a number of people from the Capable Partners organization who had a variety of physical handicaps. These guys, like all true fishermen, didn't let anything get in their way! I've been fishing with Stan for 3 years now and let me tell you, he's not afraid to cast anything. Unfortunately the fish didn't want to cooperate. The group got one 42-incher and saw a couple more. Good thing we had a good cook! If you haven't participated in this event, put it on your calendar for next year. We can always use a few more guides no matter what your skill level.

We're in the final stretch for this year's Project and Rearing Fund raffle. We'll be drawing the winner of the brand new Triton boat at the July meeting. I would like to say that we're ahead of last year, but we're not. Everyone in the chapter has to get it in gear if we want to stock some fish! If you have tickets, please do what you can to either sell them or buy them. If this fundraiser isn't successful, we won't be stocking any fish this year. We need every dollar we can raise because there's a very good chance that the DNR is going to need our help for the first year's stocking of a new lake this fall. If we can't come up with the money, then we may have to wait a year.

Staying on that topic of new muskie lakes, George Selcke and I are going to be in a DNR meeting June 25th to talk about getting Pokegama Lake in Grand Rapids stocked with muskies this year. A big thank you to all of you who sent an email or voicemail to Ron or Mark at the DNR. It's through those efforts that we were able to get them moving again. I'll keep you posted on the progress.

I just want to remind everyone that this will be the 40th year of our chapter's muskie tournament. The event will be held September 7-9 on waters in the Longville, Walker, Cass, and Bemidji area. This year with the help of Frankies Marine and Triton Boats, we've been able to get the best boat we've ever had - a Triton 202 tiller powered by a Mercury 115 4 stroke. This rig retails for around \$35,000! Any angler entering a legal fish gets their name in the drawing for the Grand Prize boat package. That's not to mention the \$20,000-\$30,000 in additional prizes that will be awarded. Not only is this a great event, it's also this club's biggest fundraiser. If you haven't been to it before give it a try. It's cheap, you can fish any number of great muskie lakes and most of all - it's fun. If you need a partner drop me a line or go to our website forum and leave a post.

Good luck!!!

Muskies, Inc. History and Archives Need Space

from Vince Trotta, Muskies Inc. Historian

We have accumulated quite a collection of memorabilia, magazines, newspaper articles, plaques, etc. depicting the history of Muskies Inc. At the present time, the archives are dry and secure, however, they are growing and need to be better organized. We are in need of donated space that will provide adequate storage and space for volunteers to work with 40 years of Muskies, Inc. archives and artifacts.

There is flexibility in the following specifications:

Location: Area served by the Twin Cities Chapter. South of Minneapolis and/or St. Paul preferred.

Environment: Dry with thermostat temperature control.

Area Needed: Adequate space for upwards to 70-100 boxes of materials as well as space for a worktable and chairs to accommodate several volunteers - about 400 square feet.

Entrance: Private and secure.

If you can contribute or know someone who is willing to contribute such a space to non-profit Muskies Inc., please contact Vince Trotta at 952 688-7216 or vtrotta@msn.com.



The Twin Cities Chapter Has a New Logo!

You will begin seeing the logo on chapter printed material and the web site. If you are interested in having chapter apparel imprinted with the logo, please contact president Shawn Kellett at 952-380-1218 or shawn@muskietreat.com and let him know. If there is enough interest, we can see about ordering some t-shirts, jackets or hats.

Lure and Tackle Sale at Meetings to Benefit Youth Events

Brent Fox, Youth Co-chair

At every monthly meeting, I will be bringing a variety of items that were donated for the Youth Events from the Hugh Becker estate. All money raised by this sale will go to buying new lures and other items to be used as prizes and such, for youth related things.

My suggestion for items purchased is to give them to your kids for their own "starter tackle". Other ideas would be to give stuff to a kid (neighbor or relative) who doesn't have anyone else to take them fishing. Maybe you can be the one to help get them started? If you're really hard up, then get something for yourself too.

As for giving kids their own "starter tackle" – I know from personal experience, that things received for free are not always going to be taken care of (ex: rods/reels & lures) so it makes more sense (sometimes) to get a kid started with less expensive stuff. If they really get hooked on fishing, they will work up to it, otherwise, if not, you won't have wasted too much money! Of course, give them stuff that works and isn't trash. A bad experience fishing can be more detrimental than not fishing at all.

Same goes for spouses. Wouldn't it be great if our spouse actually WANTED to spend the day in a boat with us? Make it comfortable & enjoyable. Cater it for them. Maybe they catch

panfish (=have fun) while you cast all day for a muskie that may not show?

I took my wife fishing for panfish the first time we went. Beth loved it and since then has been learning more and enjoys going fishing. Now we're both members of MI and I hope she catches her first muskie this year. She's learned to handle and release small Northerns to the point that she WILLINGLY unhooked, and posed with a 10# Northern and her first Walleye (5# 10oz).

Lessons learned: I had to be patient with her from the start. Now I've got a fishing partner who can trailer the boat and is now ready to handle a large muskie by herself! She isn't ready, and may never be, hardcore enough for serious tournament fishing, but we have spent many hours in the boat! Everyone (kids, spouses and other adults) needs a good start. Perhaps the gear you buy at the meetings will be beneficial in that goal of teaching someone to fish.

Good luck!

Most of the gear is used, some are new or like new. I cannot bring everything, so contact me with any requests and I will bring it to the meeting. Items include: Musky/Pike size bucktails and spinnerbaits, Bass size baits, Walleye stuff (jigs, floats, hooks), Hair jigs, Treble hooks, Bobbers, Rods/Reels and other miscellaneous items.

A Muskie Tale

As you are fishing this season, you might find yourself in a Musky Tale situation. The Muskie Tale Award is presented at the Awards Banquet to a chapter member who submits the best story from the past fishing season. The stories are about events or happenings relating to fishing, not about the biggest fish. If you have a great story, remember to submit it to Greg Ide at gregide@aol.com or give him a written copy at meetings.

This is a Musky Tale submitted by Joe Mellott for last year's contest.

We were having a great trip with many fish in the boat for several days then came the storms followed by severe heat and scorching sun. In spite of having three guys in the boat, we were struggling to put together a pattern that would produce even a follow. I borrowed a very odd colored

bucktail from my friend's arsenal to try to mix it up a little. After a few casts a very large fish came out from under the boat headed away from me toward my incoming bucktail. The fish creamed the bait and immediately jumped all the way out of the water, tail and all. As it came out of the water I thought, that's not good, watching its violent head shakes attempting to throw the bucktail. Sure enough before the fish hit the water the bucktail came flying back at me, without the fish attached. As my friend at the front of the boat and I watched the fish fall almost in slow motion back toward the surface, we caught a glimpse of our other friend in the back of the boat completing a cast and about to go into a figure eight. Just as he started his figure eight, the fish landed right on top of his bucktail and became hooked upon impact. The fight was on, another rod. As he is fighting

the fish I'm in awe at what I just saw. Meanwhile he's yelling at me to get the net! I finally come to my senses, not nearly fast enough according to friend's accounts, and I proceed to the back of the boat and net the fish. Of course all three of us are rejoicing at this crazy moment we have just experienced and I in one of my dazed and confused moments induced by fishing too many extended days, forgot to make sure my friend had the net. As I look back, the hoop of the net is slowly drooping toward the surface and before I could get there, our acrobatic visitor seized the opportunity and escaped leaving the bucktail in the net. The Houdini fish as we like to call her still stirs up many different recounts of this crazy moment in time that usually result in a debate about who's fish was it if it had stayed in the net?

Members Only Contest

from Pete Randall, Contest Chair

A BIG 3-fish-day hello to everyone!! Here we go again, time to start chuckin' and nettin'. Looks like we've gotten off to a good start with the regulars on the board. I have only received one form in the mail so far? Only about 30 fish entered so far and not one over 50". The numbers on the chapter web site are from last year, but will be updated soon.

Remember you have a number of options for entering your fish in the members Only Contest. You can enter them in yourself at the Muskies Inc. web site, muskiesinc.org. Remember to use "Fish Submission."

Or you can mail entries to me and I will take care of the registration. Download blank forms at the web site

or I will have some on hand at meetings. Please try to fill out all of the information on the form to the best of your ability. Thanks.

Mail your entries to:

Peter Randall
6490 158th St. W.
Apple Valley, MN 55124

Or, you can call (952-201-5000) or email (prandall@charter.net) me the information.

You have thirty days after release of the fish to enter. After that your fish will not be allowed.

STANDINGS SO FAR:

MENS DIVISION:

- 1ST: Kris Astorp - 51 points - 4 fish
- 2ND: Scott Ashby - 44 points - 3 fish
- 3RD: Nicholas Golz - 42 points - 2 fish
- 4TH: Phil Groth - 40 points - 3 fish
- 5TH: Jim Kroupa - 22 points - 1 fish
- 6TH: Adam Walsh - 21 points - 2 fish
- 7TH: Wade Reimer - 16 points - 2 fish

- 8TH: Brent Hirsch - 15 points - 1 fish
- 9TH: Joe Mellot - 14 points - 2 fish
- 10TH: Phil Peterson - 12 points - 1 fish

MENS MASTERS DIVISION:

- 1ST: Dean A. Roll - 25 points - 2 fish
- 2ND: Tony Sommerfield - 20 points - 1 fish
- 3RD: Kurt Holstager - 12 points - 1 fish

WOMENS DIVISION:

No entries to date

WOMENS MASTERS DIVISION:

- 1ST: Linda Knutson - 28 points - 2 fish

JUNIORS DIVISION:

No entries to date

HYBRID DIVISION:

- 1ST: Kris Astorp - 10 points - 1 fish, I believe 36" qualifies....

LUNKER OF THE MONTH:

- MAY - unofficial - no entry greater than 45"
- JUNE - unofficial - Nicholas Golz- 49.5" - June 10th - Miltona

Capable Partners Outing



Picnic Planned for August Meeting

THE AUGUST 14 MEETING WILL BE OUR ANNUAL POT LUCK SUMMER PICNIC AT MINNEHAHA FALLS PARK.

Burgers, brats, buns and pop will be provided. Everyone should bring a dish to share. This is an enjoyable night for the whole family, so bring the kids. Everyone is invited to share fishing stories, some great fishing spots and good fun.

If you have questions, call Shawn Kellett at 952-380-1218.

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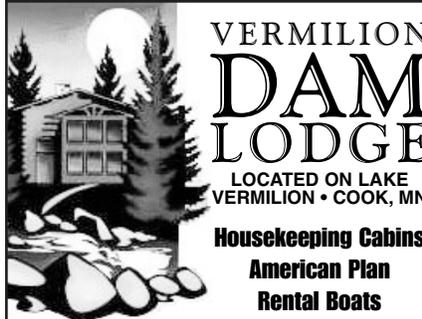


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next meeting

JULY 10

SPEAKER:

SALMO REPRESENTATIVES

If you haven't used a Salmo lure before this a great chance to learn about the lures and ask questions of the representatives.

Muskies Inc. Twin Cities Chapter General Meetings are held at 7:00 pm the second Tuesday of every month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1114 American Boulevard West, Bloomington, MN (just off I-494 & Lyndale Ave.).



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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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