



On the Water

Volume 10, Issue 3

MARCH 2007

Family Night Fun



The chapter Family Night Meeting was held in February. Kids of all ages joined in minnow races, "bowling" for fish pins, casting contest, and other games or munched on hot dogs. Thanks to MinnAqua for lending us some of their games and to Youth Co-chairs Brent and Beth Fox. We had a great turnout and all the kids enjoyed the evening.



Upcoming Meeting Schedule

Be sure not to miss upcoming chapter meetings. In addition to this month's meeting featuring Musky Hunter editor, Jim Saric we have Josh Borovsky and Ted Takasaki scheduled to speak.

April will be our annual Manufacturer's Night. The newest products from a variety of manufacturers will be on display and available for purchase.

Also scheduled for the April meeting is statewide muskie guide and tournament angler Josh Borovsky. Josh will be discussing muskie fishing on Lake Vermilion.

At the May meeting Ted Takasaki, president of Lindy-Little Joe will be the speaker. Ted has been featured in a variety of national outdoor magazines, has appeared in numerous fishing television shows, has written many fishing articles, and conducted fishing seminars across the midwest. In addition to fishing for muskies, Ted is a top competitor in professional walleye tournaments.

Non-members are always welcome at meetings, so line up some friends and bring them along to the next meetings.

Work the Chapter Booth at Shows

Volunteers are needed for the chapter's show booth during the Muskie Expo and at the Sports Show March 27-April 1. Volunteers will be able enter the show for free. So take some time to work our booth. You'll get to talk about muskies with a lot of people, maybe sign up a few new members, and see the rest of the show for free. Call Brad Coyne at 763-412-6697 to volunteer to work at either show.

A Commitment to Youth

Brent Fox, Youth Co-chair

Our chapter is now a proud sponsor of the Twin Cities Fish-A-Thon! The board took a final vote at the Family Night event and, without dissent, agreed to become official sponsors.

After considering how much we spent on various events, it was agreed that a \$1000 sponsorship was not unreasonable. With sponsorship, we will have a booth at their Fish Fair on February 24 and our logo will be included on all their printed material as well as a mention in radio ads that reach thousands of people! Of course the best part is that this organization reaches a LOT of kids with fishing-related events, especially inner-city kids that need this the most. That's where we are really able to make a difference.

You can be a part of this too, and there are going to be many opportunities to assist. Even if only a few of our members helped, it would be beneficial. Those of us involved last year in the fishing tournament had a lot of fun and may I remind you that the young man I guided at the last event caught his trophy musky and won first place! Maybe it will be you this year.

Here are the upcoming Fish-A-Thon and Cast-A-Way events.

- February 24: FISH FAIR. Too late, it's over now, but up to 5000 people come to that one sports show. Plan on going next year and perhaps volunteering to staff the Muskies Inc. booth.
- Mid-May to June: ROD/REEL REFURBISHING. Gander Mountain is collecting used outfits that volunteers will sort out and prepare for use. Last year over 400 were given away to inner-city youth. Only about 3 hours is needed for helping. We'll have a schedule in the near future. You can also donate an old rod or buy some cheap at garage sales too. Just drop them off at a Gander Mountain.
- July/August: VOLUNTEER BOAT GUIDES. Take kids fishing in your boat. There will be a couple events where you can take kids out that have probably never been in a boat! There will also be some games and lots of food at these events. Maybe you'd like to grill burgers?

I'm proud of our chapter. We really have a lot to offer to our members, our fisheries and now the youth in the cities! If you've never come to a meeting or volunteered for anything, perhaps now you'll make one commitment to help with something this year. Even if it's just staffing a raffle or club booth at the Muskie Expo. Getting involved will make our chapter stronger!

If you'd like to help with anything youth related, contact me (651-491-0101)! Thanks and have a great fishing season!



Members of the Twin Cities chapter who attended the memorial service for Hugh Becker, long-time chapter member who passed away in January, hoist a beer in his memory later in the day as they gathered to remember him.

Chapter Named as Beneficiary of Hugh Becker

The Twin Cities chapter of Muskies Inc. was named a beneficiary of Hugh C. Becker, one of our club's first members, who passed away in January. A trust and foundation have been set up that will be administered by a 5-person committee. According to Hugh's wishes, money that the chapter will receive each year can be used for: projects or activities that will aid in muskie propagation, stocking (either raised or purchased) fingerlings for public use in designated waters, habitat protection and improvement, research by qualified personnel, or expansion of the current muskie range with special consideration given to the Missouri river system in North and South Dakota.

Provisions stipulate that 25% of the money generated each year be returned to the trust, so that this is a gift to our chapter that should last in perpetuity to be used for the muskie resource.

Project and Raffle Fund Raffle

Watch your mail. The Project and Rearing Fund Committee will begin sending ticket packets to chapter members this month. Each year our chapter holds a raffle to raise money that goes exclusively to our Project and Rearing Fund. This year the first prize is a Triton 176 Liberty, with a 90 hp. motor and trailer package. Each adult member of our chapter is asked to help by selling tickets at least what you receive in the packet.

There will be a host of incentives for selling more tickets. Details will be explained in the packet you receive. We spend several months selling raffle tickets to raise as much money as possible to use for stocking. The drawing will be in July.

Please do your part. Sell your tickets. And, if you can give the committee a hand at various events as well, please call Matt Olson at 612-423-2404.

A Muskie Tale

Russ Peterson earned this year's Muskie Tale Award. Greg Ide, last year's winner, presented the Muskie Tale to Russ at the Awards Banquet, February 23.

The Muskie Tale is awarded to the person who submits the best story from the past fishing season. A story not about the biggest fish, but about events or happenings relating to fishing.

Here is Russ' winning tale.

After returning from seven days in Canada on the chapter's Winnipeg River trip, I was unloading things from my boat into a mini-storage area. I had taken an air conditioner to Canada, and as I was lifting it out of my boat, I felt the cord dropping. So, I yanked the cord. I felt a pinch on my left leg calf muscle. I didn't think anything about it.

I took a step forward and got another in my right leg. I looked



Russ Peterson, winner of this year's Muskie Tale Award showed a lure like the one his award-winning tale.

down and realized I had a hook in each leg and a lure between them.

But I had nowhere to set the air conditioner, so I shuffled like Tim Conway to my van which was parked 30 feet away. I put the air conditioner in the van.

Then I shuffled back to the boat to get my tool box. I got the storage unit's attendant to help me but we could not cut the hooks or the split rings. So, I had to spin the split rings off while the hooks were still in my leg, right leg first, then the bloodiest left leg.

I got in my van and drove to the hospital with both hooks still in me. I wheelchaired myself into the Emergency Room. All of the personnel came out to look. The hooks were so deep, all had to be ripped back out.

Thank you, Russ.

If you have a great story, remember to submit by the deadline – or whenever it happens. Several people tried to give stories at the banquet, but by then, the winner had already been chosen and those tales won't qualify for next year.



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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 Muskie, 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.

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Awards Banquet Held on February 23

A great time was had by all who attended the chapter Awards Banquet on a snowy evening.

Those who came had time before dinner to socialize and try games and participate in a silent auction.

After the dinner, Pete Randall presented plaques to the winners of our Members Only contest. Part of the presentation was an impressive slide show of the winners and their winning fish. Greg Ide then presented the Muskie Tale Award to Russ Peterson.

Thanks to Amy Orr for the great dinner and to Pete Randall for the Awards presentation.



Those who came to the chapter's Awards Banquet Friday, February 23, had time to take chances at a couple of games, look over and make bids on the silent auction items or put their tickets in for a chance at several other prizes.

Members Only Contest Winners

Winners for our chapter's Members Only Contest were honored at the Awards Banquet. Complete standings for the year can be found on the chapter website www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org.



Dean Roll led the Men's division with 38 fish this year. The Women's division first place winner was Linda Knutson with six fish. Congratulations to both leaders, who will now fish in the Master's division for three years.



Evan Nicolai headed the Junior division again this year. Evan turned in 4 muskies this year, for a total of 62 points. Other juniors, with one fish each, were Zachary Weyland, Dane Hostager, Dallas Nicolai, James Hedensten, and Thomas Batina.



Cindy Hegdahl with 9 fish, and Adam Greengard with 35 fish led the Master's divisions.



Adam Walsh was presented this replica of his 55.5-inch muskie caught on Lake of the Woods, the biggest fish caught by anyone in our chapter last year. The fish was the second-longest in entries turned by MI members nationwide. There were ten other chapter members entered 50+ inch fish.

MN Muskie Expo

Friday, March 9 • 2-9pm
 Saturday March 10 • 10am-7pm
 Sunday, March 11 • 10am-4pm

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Members Only Contest

Pete Randall

952-201-5000

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Brent Fox

651-491-0101

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651-699-9817

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next meeting

MARCH 13

SPEAKER: JIM SARIC

Jim is the Editor of Musky Hunter magazine; a feature host of Midwest Outdoors television; a contributing writer for In-Fisherman, North American Fisherman and Fishing Facts magazines; as well as a columnist for Midwest Outdoors Magazine. Jim is a six-time musky tournament winner, winning his first muskie tournament at age 20 and has over twenty years' experience on waters from Minnesota to New York and all across Canada.

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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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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