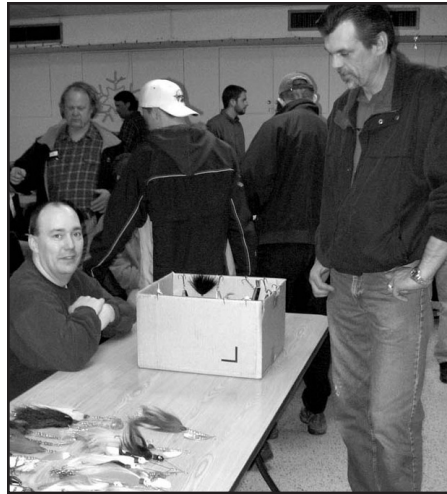




On the Water

Volume 10, Issue 5

MAY 2007



The April meeting was the chapter's annual swap meet. Several manufacturers also showed up to display and sell their wares. Left, Musky Innovations brought their new rods in addition to lures. Above, Steve Hedensten looked over the baits Curt Ellis brought to swap/sell.

Participate in Upcoming Chapter Events

The Twin Cities has two events coming up – the “Home Opener” for residents of the Minnesota Veterans Home and an outing with the Capable Partners organization – and we need a host of volunteers to make them happen.

Veterans Home Opener – May 5, 7:00 am - Early Afternoon

The chapter, along with VFW post 6099, will set up a trout pond at the Home. Residents fish for the trout that will be cleaned and cooked along with all the makings of a “shore lunch” and served to the residents. Volunteers are needed to help the residents while they fish and with the cooking, cleaning and generally making this a fun event. Be at the Veterans Home by Minnehaha Falls around 7 am (many residents are lined up waiting early in the day). If you have questions or if you can bring 10 pounds of boiled potatoes with you, call event organizer Terry Hagstrom at 612-747-6509 or 651-462-3669.

Capable Partners Outing – June 10, 6:30 am - 1:00 pm

Share your love for the pursuit of muskies with a fellow outdoorsmen on Lake Independence at the Baker Park Reserve. We need 15 boats to take out 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. You don't have to be an expert angler or familiar with the lake to participate. Organizer Paul Hartman will gladly go over lure selection and the “hot spots” with anyone. A “shore lunch” will end the day and anyone who wants to continue fishing in the afternoon is welcome. Please call Paul Hartman at 763-786-6031 to sign up.

Chapter Trips

Sign up now to join fellow chapter members this summer on some great fishing expeditions being planned.

Winnipeg River – July 7-14

This trip will be headquartered out of Paradise Cove Resort in Minaki and is a bargain at \$235 per person. The Winnipeg River offers world class fishing. If you would like to come experience the thrill of the hunt, contact Paul Hartman at 763-786-6031 as soon as possible as there are only 20 spots available for this outing.

Red Wing Lodge – August 18-25

A joint trip to Red Wing Lodge with the North Metro chapter has been happening for as long as most can remember. You'll find great fishing, great scenery, great people, and great accommodations at a great price, only \$200 per person. Mark Chatelle from the North Metro chapter is planning this trip. Contact Mark by email at bluebillhunter@comcast.net or call 612-275-1189.

Long Legged Lake – August 25-September 1

This year, a new late-summer outing to Long Legged Lake Resort is being planned. The outing is only \$500 per person (normally \$1,050). This lake, arguably the world's best fresh water fishery, has miles of undeveloped shoreline and no cabins. Pike over 20 pounds are common, 50" muskies are average. If you are interested, please contact Paul Hartman at 763-786-6031. The outing is limited to 15 participants and is filling fast.

From Our President SHAWN KELLETT

47 more days until MN opener as I write this!

It's been a while since I've addressed the chapter and for that I apologize. Life, among other things, has been getting in the way and time has been a premium. There are several things going on with the DNR that I would like to report on.

As many of you know, Gull and Pokegama lakes are in the process of getting approval for muskie stocking. George Selcke, president of the Minnesota Muskie Alliance, and I have been in several meetings with the DNR and other esox stakeholders trying to get these lakes pushed through. Unfortunately, due to the efforts of three other fishing groups, the stocking of these two new lakes has been stalled. Their argument is that there haven't been adequate studies done by the DNR.

We in Muskies Inc. know that the muskie plan our DNR has implemented is the model for the nation. These other groups are acting under the assumption that our DNR just plays Johnny Appleseed with muskies without rhyme nor reason where and how many fish are stocked. This is all in an effort to keep muskies out of "their" lake. None of the groups are against Pokegama on the face, but since their argument is that there isn't enough science to support the stocking on Gull they can't turn around and say it's OK to stock Pokegama.

In our last meeting with Commissioner Holsten, it seems that the information that these groups are looking for will be available in the next couple months. At that time there will be another meeting of the esox stakeholders and we can hopefully get these issues resolved. I'm confident that with continued pressure, both of these lakes will be approved for muskie stocking by the end of the year at the latest. There has been some talk in the DNR as to whether they would have extra fish in order to get these lakes stocked this year. I answered that if they were approved, I was sure that our chapter would be more than willing to put the first year class of muskies into either or both of these lakes. From the conversations I've had with others, I'm also confident that most of the other chapters in the state would follow suit and contribute as well.

On a positive note, our club just stocked 99 14-20" muskies in Lake Minnetonka on Friday, April 13th, to the tune of \$2475 (keep selling raffle tickets). We were also joined by the film crew from the North American Fishing Club. They're thinking of using that footage combined with some footage of the DNR netting brood-stock and our netting of the MMTT rearing pond and doing a small piece for one of their shows. I think it will be great to have some positive national exposure for Muskies Inc. and our chapter in particular. I'll pass along the progress as I receive word.

Be sure to make time to attend the Vets Home Opener on May 5th and the Capable Partners outing on June 10th.

Youth Fishing Event Volunteer Opportunities

Brent Fox, Youth Co-chair

For those who are willing to volunteer at youth fishing events, there are now a handful of opportunities with the Twin Cities Fish-A-Thon to get kids into fishing. They are a lot of fun and the reward is seeing kids get excited and want MORE of the outdoors and fishing instead of sitting on their butts in front of the TV. If you can help at only one event, you'll be greatly appreciated and make difference!

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 6-9 pm – Rod & Reel refurbishing at a Gander Mountain location (probably Lakeville). Equipment collected by Gander Mountain is given to urban kids at the June events.

FRIDAY, JUNE 8, LAKE CALHOUN, 6-10 am – Kids Fishing and Pastor's Tournament. This will be a media event. People with boats are needed to take the kids fishing.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, LAKE CALHOUN – Kids Fishing Day. Food, fun and fishing for kids who would not otherwise get a chance to go fishing. People with boats will be needed this day also.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, LAKE MINNETONKA – Take the Kids Fishing. Again, people with boats to take kids fishing will be needed.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, WHITE BEAR LAKE – Kids Fishing Tournament. People with boats to take kids and parents fishing. Last year my wife and I took one young lad and his father fishing during this tournament. 9-year-old Connor caught a 40+ inch muskie and won first place for the largest fish caught during the tournament.

Please give me a call at 651-491-0101 or email at brentfox@hotmail.com if you want to volunteer.



Recently Vince Trotta, club historian, received several cartons of Muskie magazines dating back to the early 1970s. They had been donated by old-time club members Rich Ruhl and Roger Klinginsmith. Matt Olson helped Vince load up the magazines from storage.

Keep on Selling Raffle Tickets!

The chapter's raffle supporting our muskie project and stocking fund got off to a great start at the Muskie Expo and the Northwest Sports Show. Now it's up to all the members of our chapter.

By now you should have received your packets of raffle tickets in the mail. Each chapter member (or family) was sent 20 raffle tickets. Tickets sell for \$2.00 each.

Top prize in the raffle 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).

We have set a goal to raise \$15,000 that will go strictly for stocking efforts. That means we have to sell 13,500 tickets to hit our goal. Even after the

great start we had, we still have not met the start-up expenses.

The drawing will be held at our July meeting. You have until then to sell as many tickets as possible. If every member only sells what they were sent, we will barely break even, and there will be NO money to devote to stocking. Every member of the chapter needs to step up and sell even more tickets.

We have a great muskie fishery in the Twin Cities metro area, thanks in part to the efforts of our chapter and past raffles. The pressure on this resource continues to grow. Help stock more muskies. Every \$20 book of tickets you sell will purchase ONE muskie for stocking.

As in previous years, we will be offering incentive prizes for members who turn in 20 tickets at the May meeting, 40 tickets (an additional 20 tickets) by the June meeting, and 60 tickets total at the July meeting. We

will also be offering great prizes to the top sellers including trips to Birch Villa Resort on Cass Lake and Shingwak Resort on Lake of the Woods.

When you are ready for additional tickets, or you didn't receive your tickets, please contact Matt Olson 612-423-2404, or you can pick up more tickets at the meetings.

Thanks for your help.



Juris Ozols has a new boat. Apparently, it was missing some important equipment and Juris received this "gift" from friend Vince Trotta at a recent meeting!



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Proposed Stocking

The Minnesota DNR has released its list of waters that are planned for the stocking of muskies during 2007.

Fingerlings

Many Point 565

Little Wolf 245

Elk 271

Miltona 800

Oscar 100

Detroit 3,000

Pelican 1,625

Plantagenet 1,480

Cedar 400

Mississippi River 3,000

East Rush 620

West Rush 604

Minnetonka* 2,925

St. Croix* 4,000

Island 946

St. Croix River* 1,000

French 600

Yearlings

White Bear 1,314

Minnetonka 400

Catch up lakes (from 2006)

Island Lake (Duluth) and Big Lake (Bemidji)

*Private purchases

Plans also include the stocking of a total of 2,403 Tiger muskies by private purchases in Eagle, Calhoun, Cedar, Bryant, Gervais, Phalen, Clear, Elmo and Lake of the Isles.

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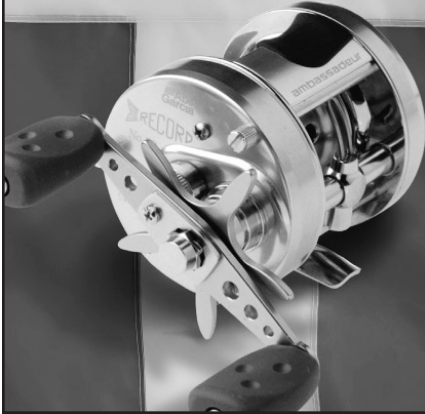
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MAY 8

**SPEAKER:
TED TAKASAKI**

Ted, president of Lindy-Little Joe, 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 mid-west. In addition to fishing for muskies, Ted is a top competitor in professional walleye tournaments.

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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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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