



On the Water

Volume 11, Issue 2

FEBRUARY 2008



This first annual check from the Hugh C. Becker Foundation for \$44,164.93 will fund a variety of activities dedicated to promoting Muskie fisheries and other worthwhile causes. Members of the Hugh C. Becker Foundation Committee are (l to r): Paul Hartman, George Wahl, John Newman, Shawn Kellet, George Selcke, and Stu McIntosh.

First Annual Hugh C. Becker Foundation Donation to Muskies Inc.

The Hugh C. Becker Foundation awarded the first annual installment check in the amount of \$44,164.93 to the Twin Cities Chapter of Muskies, Inc. at the monthly January meeting. The funds are NOT for the exclusive use of Twin Cities Chapter projects BUT ONLY for grants available to the muskie world. These funds are to be administered by the Foundation Committee whose responsibility is to evaluate and to determine what projects will be the successful recipients of funds.

Grants are available for any worthwhile project that benefits muskie fisheries or conservation, not specifically to projects of our chapter. Specifics of projects that qualify for grants were listed in last month's newsletter and also in the the January issue of *Muskie Magazine*, in the "News and Views" section in the Twin City Chapter's report.

Start Planning for Next Season

Already some great fishing trips are in the works for the coming muskie season. Join other chapter members for some good times, some good fishing, and a great week.

ANDY MEYER'S LODGE – EAGLE LAKE

We have set up a trip to Andy Meyer's Lodge on Eagle Lake in Ontario for the week of August 2-9. Eagle Lake is a terrific muskie and walleye fishery and this will be a new moon period. The week includes housekeeping cabin, guide trip, seminars and a Wednesday free fish fry for the entire camp. There is access to five remote lakes and if you want, fly-in trips can be arranged. The trip will be discounted to \$539 per person for the week – \$799 if you want to include evening meals. There are 12 spots available. A \$100 deposit needs to be paid as soon as possible to reserve the spot. Contact Troy Zuelzke by email at tzuelzke@lesterbuildings.com or call him at 952-955-3890.

RED WING LODGE – LAKE OF THE WOODS

Our chapter's annual joint trip with North Metro Chapter to Red Wing Lodge on Sabaskong Bay, Lake of the Woods is scheduled for August 16-23, the week of the full moon. Red Wing Lodge is a great sponsor of our chapter and has been host of many MI tournaments over the years. Included is housekeeping cabin, free dockage, free launch, a daily bag of ice. The Bartletts will host a free dinner one evening during the week and will also give door prizes and have a drawing for one free trip. Cost will be \$250 per person with a \$50 deposit. There are 16 places remaining. To make your reservations, contact John Van Ingen at 651-699-5172 or Pat Miller at 651-429-1629.

Don't miss our chapter Winter Banquet on February 15. Larry Dahlberg will be the keynote speaker. Purchase your tickets by February 8. More information, page 3.

From Our President SHAWN KELLETT

144 more days until the Minnesota Muskie Opener.... (sigh).

At least we've got a bunch of events to keep us occupied until then!

February's meeting is going to be our Family Night. Bring the whole family for a night of games and fun. We're also going to be giving out our awards that night too. We wanted to change this event so that people who are getting awards can bring their family to see them get recognized. We'll be serving diner as well so don't worry about getting the little ones fed.

The Friday after February's meeting is our 2nd Annual Chapter Winter Banquet. Joe Mellott, Amy Orr and I have been working very hard on this event. We have more and bigger prizes and games than last year's event. Larry Dahlberg will be the keynote speaker. He's been the consensus #1 favorite speaker that we've had over the last few years and he jumped at the chance to come. What's more special is that he only does three speaking engagements a year so we are very lucky indeed.

I was privileged to represent our chapter at this year's DNR Roundtable this past January. Biofuels and how they affect the conservation landscape was the focus of this event. While I've never hid my views on ethanol, there were some very disturbing events taking place on this front. As some of you know it takes 6 gallons of water to produce 1 gallon of ethanol. What many don't know is that the water used is polluted and can't be purified very easily. This has caused some HUGE problems with aquifers in the southwest part of the state being completely dried up. CRP land is also being plowed under at a historic rate due to the increased price of corn due to ethanol. This is all bad for the environment that we like to recreate in, but what's even more disturbing is that Minnesota legislature wants to increase our ethanol production by six times over the next decade or so. This is a topic that we all must get versed in and communicate our concerns to our legislators.

We're still looking for a few more people to be on the Executive Board and/or on committees. If you're interested in giving back to the club and the resource feel free to get in touch with me and I can get you more information. We are very blessed that our club does so many things that benefit the resource and its members. In order to keep that up we need people to help shoulder some of the work. We have positions that range from simple tasks to committee heads.

Think spring!!!

Pete Maina to Speak at North Metro Chapter Banquet

North Metro chapter's annual banquet is Saturday, February 23. The night will feature an all-you-can-eat fish fry dinner and a raffle with thousands of dollars of prizes including a two-full-day guide trip with lodging with Jason Hammernick on Mille Lacs, guide trip with Josh Borovsky, custom Diamond Back rod, lure packages from Musky Innovations, Musky Mayhem and Musky Busters. The evening will also feature a wheel of lures, special ladies raffle and much.

Pete Maina, entrepreneur, author, professional photographer, TC show host, magazine owner will be the featured speaker. The banquet will be held at North Air (KC) Banquet Hall, 6831 NE Highway 65 in Fridley. Social hour will start at 4:00 pm with dinner served at 6:00 pm. The cost is \$25 per person with children 12 and under free. Only 240 tickets will be sold and they must be purchased in advance by contacting Bob Anderson at 763-441-3108 or pikebob@charter.net.

MN Muskie Expo March 7, 8, 9

Make plans now to attend the 14th 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 Jim Saric, Bob Mehsikomer, Bill Schwartz, Doug Kloet, Luke Ronnestrand, Jason Hammernik, Mike Hulbert, Rob Kimm and Jack Burns. 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.

Tournament Committee

Volunteers for the Tournament Committee are still welcomed. Our chapter's fundraising tournament is held the first weekend after Labor Day in the Walker, Bemidji, Cass Lake, Longville area of northern Minnesota. Contact Tournament Chairperman Ron Sanders at Muskiemntourny@aol.com or call him at 612-386-1100.

Winter Banquet With Larry Dahlberg February 15

Don't miss our chapter Winter Banquet on Friday, February 15. It will be an evening of games, a silent auction, prizes and fun for adult chapter members and their guests. Larry Dahlberg from TV's "Hunt for Big Fish" will be the featured speaker and his presentation will undoubtedly be the highlight of the evening.

The banquet will be held again this year at the Ft. Snelling Club. Last year members told us they loved the games at the banquet so this year the theme for the evening is MORE FUN – more games and more prizes for both men and women, including a full-day guide trip on Mille Lacs with Lee Tauchen.

The event will start at 6:00 pm with a cash bar and social hour of games, raffles and bidding on the silent auction. Dinner and our speaker, Larry Dahlberg will begin at 7:30 pm. The cost for this fun-filled evening is only \$17.95 per person.

We expect with a speaker like Larry Dahlberg to sell out the event so please tell your friends to register early to guarantee a seat. All tickets must be reserved and paid for in advance no later than February 8. Make plans to celebrate with us on February 15.

Chapter 1 Winter Banquet Reservation Form

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

\$17.95 per person

Tickets must be PAID IN ADVANCE and reservations received in the mail by FEBRUARY 8, 2008.

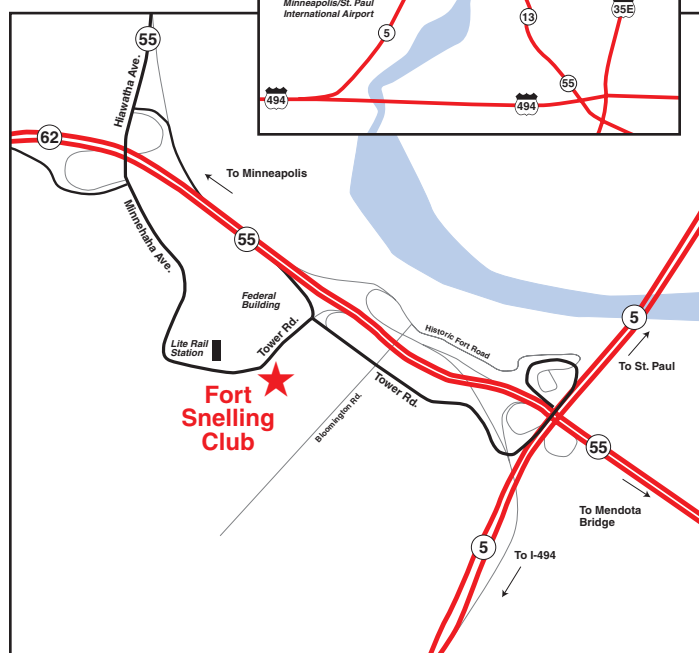
Total enclosed _____

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

Amy Orr
8801 Stevens Ave S
Bloomington, MN 55420

Questions? Call Amy at (612) 840-3856

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.



Cabin Fever Clinic February 2

Need a dose of muskie fishing? Attend the Cabin Fever Clinic on February 2 from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm at the Hilton Garden Inn in Maple Grove. The combination of multi media seminars, new 2008 product showcases and Q&A sessions, prove worth the price of admission.

Attend seminars with Gregg Thomas on "Electronic Know How," learn how to use your Lowrance; Brad Hoppe on "Big Blades, Big Fish," learn from the man himself who explains how and where the BIG BLADES work; Paul Hartman on "Results of the MMTT," learn from the director of the Minnesota Musky Tournament Trail how and what was used to be successful when tournament pressure is on; and Jim Murphy on "Changing Times: Leech Lake Area," learn how this full time guide keeps catching fish with all the changes that have occurred in the Leech Lake area during the last decade.

Tony Grant will be the emcee, and Gregg and Tony Herbeck will also lead seminars. Admission is \$50. Register at www.muskyroadrules.com. Those who pre-register will receive a free lure.

The Hilton Garden Inn is located at 6350 Vinewood Lane North, west off the Bass Lake Road exit of I-494 in Maple Grove.

Members Only Contest Awards Presented at February Meeting

from Pete Randall, Contest Chair

Our chapter's Members Only Contest winners will be honored at the February meeting. The Kid's Fishing Contest participants will also be recognized that evening.

Congratulations to Cindy Hegdahl. Her 5th place ranking in the nation for all chapters has given her International status in the Women's Masters Division. Bringin home the hardware!!! With 15 releases giving her 235 points with an average of 41".

FINAL STANDINGS

JUNIORS DIVISION:

- 1ST:** Zachary Weyland - 76 points - 5 fish - longest 47"
2ND: Evan Nicolai - 57 points - 5 fish - longest 41"
3RD: Thomas Batina - 11 points - 1 fish - longest 36.5"

WOMEN'S DIVISION:

- 1ST:** Lois Harvey - 74 points - 4 fish - longest 52"
2ND: Carole K Janik - 72 points - 4 fish - longest 47"
3RD: Christine L Rein - 9 points - 1 fish - longest 35"

WOMEN'S MASTERS:

- 1ST:** Cindy Hegdahl - 235 points - 15 fish - longest 53.5"
2ND: Linda Knutson - 130 points - 9 fish - longest 46"

MEN'S DIVISION:

- 1ST:** Kris Astorp - 873 points - 55 fish - longest 54.5"
2ND: Phil Groth - 392 points - 28 fish - longest 50"
3RD: John Huss - 318 points - 25 fish - longest 47"
4TH: John C Newman Jr - 307 points - 22 fish - longest 49.5"
5TH: Bryan Walsh - 233 points - 14 fish - longest 50.5"

- 6TH:** David J Nicolai - 179 points - 13 fish - longest 44"
7TH: Brandon Bunney - 174 points - 11 fish - longest 48"
8TH: Brent Hirsch - 164 points - 13 fish - longest 49"
9TH: Jeremy M. Knutson - 149 points - 10 fish - longest 47"
10TH: Brant Bunney - 148 points - 9 fish - longest 48.5"

MEN'S MASTERS:

- 1ST:** Dean A Roll - 281 points - 15 fish - longest 52"
2ND: David Gustafson - 220 points - 12 fish - longest 51"
3RD: Brian Hanson - 201 points - 9 fish - longest 54"
4TH: Mark Fredrick - 136 points - 10 fish - longest 50.5"
5TH: Tony Sommerfeld - 118 points - 8 fish - longest 46"
6TH: Adam J. Greengard - 73 points - 3 fish - longest 52.75"
7TH: Kurt Hostager - 34 points - 2 fish - longest 48"

LUNKER OF THE MONTH:

- JUNE** - official - Brian Hanson - 51"
June 29 - Mille Lacs
JULY - official - Robert W. Junghans - 56"
July 30 - Kaniatarowanenneh, Ontario
AUGUST - official - Dean A. Roll - 52"x22"
August 23 - Mille Lacs
SEPTEMBER - official - Glen Bergman - 54"x25"
September 22 - Vermilion
OCTOBER - official - Brian Hanson - 54"
October 4 - Mille Lacs
NOVEMBER - official - Cindy Hegdahl - 53.5"x26"
November 19 - Bemidji
DECEMBER - official - no entry greater than 45"

2008 Tournament News

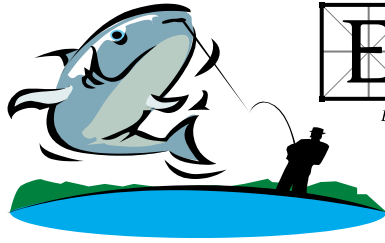
from Ron Sanders, Tournament Committee Chair

The 2008 Tournament Committee has already been working hard and promises an aggressive marketing campaign that will expand our cornerstone event into a true "happening" and position the Twin Cities Chapter as the leader with the largest muskie event in the country with more contestants, more prizes, and more energy. That gives us the opportunity to produce a showcase event that will have others following our lead.

The theme of this year's event will be "Muskie Mania 2008" – borrowed from a book of the same title published by Ron Schara in 1977. When you think about it, it is amazing what has happened to our Minnesota muskie fishery in the last 30 years, and our organization started most of it! "Muskie Mania 2008" plans to celebrate it with three full, fun-packed days, September 5, 6, and 7. Mark your calendars now!

We can't do it without full chapter membership participation! Remember this is our largest fundraiser. In the coming months we will be calling for your support and help on many critical items, the first of which is in the area of tournament sponsorships. We must raise working capital to be able to grow the event. Sponsorship packages for cash and in-kind contributions are in the works. Here's where WE NEED YOUR HELP at this time. We need chapter members to identify companies that our sales team could make a presentation to for a "Muskie Mania 2008" sponsorship. Please input the company name and contact person.

Contact Ron Sanders at 612-386-1100 with questions or company names. Or you can reach him at muskiemntourny@aol.com.



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Sponsor Program

As part of our chapter sponsor program, sponsor ads will be included in the newsletter several times a year. Sponsors donate products, gift certificates, trips, and resort stays for our tournament, rearing fund raffle, and welcome table. Without them, we would not be able to hold the fundraisers that help our chapter function.

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. And if you're in the stores, please tell them thank you from our chapter.

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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.

projects. Please send your email address to olsonat3pete@gmail.com if you are interested in receiving your newsletter by email each month. Join the others who have chosen to receive their newsletter this way.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

On March 11 representatives from the MN DNR will discuss the plans and future of the muskie fishery. Results of the recent survey conducted by the DNR and the UofM will be revealed.

April 8 will be a joint poolside meeting with the North Metro chapter. Demonstrations of new baits and tips to get the most out of the baits you currently have. Location is yet to be determined.

ANGLER 911

Angler911.com is new website created with a goal to assist people that have had their lives complicated by rare or terminal cancer. At the site are a number of raffles and auctions for fishing equipment and trips. 100% of the profits go to cancer victims and their families.

CANADIAN FISHING

Passports are not required for crossing the border into Canada this year, but will be handy for anyone planning a Canadian trip. Proof of identification is required. If you don't have a passport, you will need a birth certificate AND drivers license.



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Second Vice President

Gregg Kappes

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Treasurer

Dianne Dahl

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Secretary

Joe Mellot

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Regional Vice President

Eric Schultz

651-917-8272

Members Only Contest

Pete Randall

952-201-5000

Youth Director

Brent Fox

651-491-0101

Tournament Director

Ron Sanders

612-386-1100

Project and Rearing Fund

Matt Olson

612-423-2404

Webmaster

Mike McGrath

612-743-9188

BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

Brad Coyne

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Scott Crawford

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George Selcke

952-933-2608

Vince Trotta

612-688-7216

Troy Zuelzke

952-955-3890

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**next
meeting**
FEBRUARY 12
**FAMILY NIGHT &
CHAPTER AWARDS**

MEETING TIME: 6:00 PM
FOOD AVAILABLE

We encourage you to bring your entire family. It will be a fun-filled evening geared toward the younger set. There will be plenty of games and other events for kids and adults. When the games are done, awards for our chapter's Members Only Contest and Kid's Fishing Contest will be presented. In addition to the fishing awards, the chapter's Muskie Award and Muskie Tale Awards will be presented.

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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Egan Mechanical
Fiber Tech Reproductions
Frankies Live Bait & Marine
Great American Marine
Jim Hansel Editions, LLC
H.O.T. Lure Company
Huddle's Resort

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Joe's Sporting Goods
Johnson Outdoors, Inc. -
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Just Add Water Tackle Co.
Just Big Muskies
Lindy Little Joe
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Maximum Graphics
Minnesota State Fair
Murphy Guide Service
Musky Innovations LLC
Musky Treat Baits
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