

# On the Water



Volume 12, Issue 2

FEBRUARY 2009

## Don't Miss the Twin Cities Sportsmen's Banquet With James Lindner

Our chapter's winter fund-raising banquet, the Twin Cities Sportsman's Banquet will be held Saturday, February 21 at the Minnesota Valley Country Club in Bloomington, James Lindner, Executive Director of Lindner Media Productions and co-host of TV's Lindner's Angling Edge will be the featured speaker.

James Lindner is the son and nephew – respectively of Ron and Al Lindner. Al, Ron, James, Daniel and Bill Lindner are the creative forces behind Lindner Media and their wide variety of award-winning productions, and have a long history in the fishing business. In 2008, James was inducted into the Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame as a Legendary Communicator for his outstanding achievement in the realm of sportfishing.

This year's banquet will be bigger and better than ever with over \$10,000 in prizes including guided fishing trips, ice fishing gear from Clam and Vexilar, St. Croix Legend rods, loads of tackle, storage and other sports gear, as well as a Benelli shotgun. You'll find an auction, and themed raffle tables worth more than \$1,000 each, and cash raffles. Numerous door prizes will also be given away.

Cost of the dinner is \$35.00 per person. Doors will open at the banquet at 5:30 pm. Seating at the banquet is limited to the first 200 who purchase tickets. An order form can be found on page 5. You may



*As a multi-species fishermen, James Lindner has few equals and his prowess with muskies is legendary. He will be the speaker at the Twin Cities Sportsmen's Banquet.*

purchase on-line using your credit card at our chapter website [www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org](http://www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org). Order forms are also available to print out at our chapter web site. Or, you may purchase at the February meeting.

Banquet chair Joe Mellot has been working hard to make sure the banquet is successful. The banquet promises to be a great, fun evening for those who attend. Don't miss out. Order your tickets now.

## Family-Kids Night Moved to June; Members Only Contest Awards This Month

The Family-Kids Night announced for the February general meeting has been rescheduled to our June 9 meeting. In the past, the evening has run a little later than bedtime for some of the younger kids. The feeling of the board was that June was a better time so those kinds of problems will be avoided. Our chapter's Kids Fishing Contest participants will be honored in June.

The February meeting will honor our chapter Members Only Contest winners. We will have games geared towards adults, as well as the awards. Don't miss it!

## Hugh C. Becker Foundation Grants

The Twin Cities chapter was presented a check from the Hugh C. Becker Foundation for \$59,682.47 at the January meeting. The funds will be awarded as grants to groups or individuals who have applied. Grant recipients will be chosen by committee as stipulated when the Foundation was set up.

# *J*rom Our President SHAWN KELLETT

Pop the corks – you’re finally rid of my rantings and ravings!!!

Some things have changed in my life and I will be stepping down as the President at the end of February. My work and home life has been suffering to the point where my boss is starting to notice. In this time of economic uncertainty I need to take care my family and our economic security. All this does is end one chapter of my life and starts a new one. Jim Kroupa has generously thrown his hat in the ring to be our new commander-in-chief. I know that he’ll do a good job and we all have to get behind him to make sure he does!

Starting immediately I will be the club’s representative to the DNR and legislature. I’ve been able to make some serious in-roads in these two bodies and I feel that my time and talents would be best spent in these two areas. In just the last month I was able to be on the ground floor of the creation of “Anglers for Habitat”, which is an organization of other angling groups such as B.A.S.S., Pike Inc, Bass Federation, and many others. Through this new organization we’ve been able to get some quality face-to-face time with state Senators and Representatives. I’ll keep everyone posted as we progress in this new venture.

When I took over the Presidency, I spent hours talking to many members of our chapter and others in other parts of the country. At the end of it I decided that I wanted to bring our club closer to its fundamentals of Youth, Fisheries, and Research. I also wanted to diversify our club’s income so we could better survive the down times and make a more consistent impact in the areas of YFR.

During the last 4 years we’ve created a better youth program with our partnership with Fish-a-thon. This year we’re planning on having a signature event bigger than anything our club has done in recent memory. We’re also active in our stocking and rearing efforts, stocking over \$30,000 worth of fish in the last 4 years (and would have been more if we could have gotten the fish). We’re also working more closely with the DNR and legislature than we have since Frank Schneider left us. All in all, I have accomplished the things I had set out to do and feel that it’s a good time for some new blood.

As a part of my last letter to you all I wanted to take some time to acknowledge some people.

DENISE OLSON; I don’t know how you do it! You are the heart and soul of this club and if anyone knew how much time you put into this organization you’d get the Muskie Award EVERY year!

BRAD COYNE; You’re the reason why I came to this chapter and eventually because President. Thank you for bringing me where I could make a difference in the fishery.

GREG IDE; “Back off man, I’m a scientist.” Bring on the side-plank anytime!

STU MCINTOSH aka “Mr. Banana Pants”; Thanks for teaching me something about being a quality person. Your guidance and friendship has helped make me the man I am today.

JOHN NEWMAN aka “The Pizza Guy”; You should be the

poster child of what a Muskies Inc member should be. Your years of tireless and selfless service to this club and the fishery should be commended and celebrated.

GREG KAPPAS; You’ve been a great sounding board for my ranting and raving. I’m sure you’re going to be glad to see me step down so you don’t have to hear my whining anymore.

MIKE MCGRATH aka “Jameson”; I don’t know where the club would be without your cyber-wizardry or tireless efforts. Note to the rest of the club: somebody’s got to get this guy a big fish before he forgets why he’s doing this. Lord knows I’ve tried...

PAUL HARTMAN; Good job representing the old guard. Sometimes we all get stuck in the out of site, out of mind mentality.

DIANNE DAHL; Thanks for keeping Mr. Banana Pants in line and for your efforts on the tournament, Secretary, and now Treasurer. You’re right there with Denise in my book.

JOE MELLOTT; God knows I would have thrown in the towel years ago if you hadn’t come along. You’ve been a great member and better friend.

There are dozens more that I could comment about but I don’t have room for here.

For those that don’t know the story behind me becoming involved in Muskies Inc, I thought I’d close with that story. This current run in Muskies Inc represents my third try at being a member. I was put off by the organization and quit two times before. One day while in a cyber-argument with Dick Pearson, he threw down the gauntlet and told me that “Muskies Inc is the best we’ve got, so either do something to make it better or shut-up.” Well, I figured “I’d show him” and that’s when Brad Coyne got me to join the Twin Cities Chapter. I picked up Dick’s gauntlet and never looked back.

I tell this story to most anyone who will listen in the hopes that it may inspire someone else to make the commitment to give more of themselves than is required or expected. It doesn’t take an exceptionally smart person or someone who is an accomplished angler. Nor does it take someone with above average income or connections. People don’t need to be on someone’s “prostaff” or be published in an angling periodical. The only thing that it takes is a willingness to do what’s right for the fishery and the perseverance to do what’s hard vs. what’s easy. This is all that it takes to make your mark in this club, fishery, and world.

I’ve been blessed and honored to serve with dozens of people who have believed in these ideals during the 4 years of my Presidency. It’s these people who picked me up when I was down, were strong when I was weak, were calm when I was furious, smiled when I needed a friendly face, slapped my back when it needed it, and put me in my place when I needed to be humbled. For these things I will always be thankful for ALL the people that served with me and I look forward to the next chapter of our club.

Thank you all!

# Members Only Contest

from Pete Randall, Contest Chair

**C**ongratulations to all the members who registered fish in 2008 and all the fishermen and fisherwomen who have taken top honors!

At the International level, Kris Astorp took 6th place overall in the Mens Division and Evan Nicolai took 10th place over all in the Juniors Division. Josh Borovsky's 56" fish tied for the longest release at the International level for the month of August. Nice job guys!

In 2008, 464 fish were registered in our chapter's Members Only Contest. A total of 27 fish registered were 50" or more with Vermilion having the most releases. Plaques will be awarded to the top three members in the Juniors, Womens and Mens Divisions. Plaques will also be awarded to first place in Mens and Womens Masters Division, Hybrid Division, and Lunker of the Month. The plaques and awards will be presented at the February 10 general meeting.

The member that takes first place in the Mens and Womens Division, will now be in the Masters Division for the next two years and if you were in the Masters Division for the last two years, you will now go back to Mens or Womens Division.

The Lunker of the Year replica mount from LAX will be presented to Josh Borovsky for his 56" release out of Vermilion at the February 21 Twin Cities Sportsmans Banquet.

## JUNIORS DIVISION:

- 1ST: Evan Nicolai - 87 points - 7 fish - 44" longest
- 2ND: J.T. Doebler - 27 points - 2 fish - 43" longest
- 3RD: Zachary Weyland - 15 points - 1 fish - 41"
- 4TH: Thomas Batina - 8 points - 1 fish - 34"

## JUNIORS HYBRID DIVISION:

(points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

- 1ST: Zachary Weyland - 1 fish - 41"

## WOMENS DIVISION:

- 1ST: Carole K Janik - 77 points - 6 fish - 41" longest
- 2ND: Christine L Rein - 29 points - 2 fish - 51" longest
- 3RD: Barbara Dull - 16 points - 2 fish - 36.25" longest

## WOMENS MASTERS:

- 1ST: Cindy Hegdahl - 254 points - 17 fish - 50.25" longest
- 2ND: Linda Knutson - 124 points - 10 fish - 47" longest

## MENS DIVISION:

- 1ST: Phil Groth - 453 points - 31 fish - 47.5" longest
- 2ND: Jeremy M. Knutson - 246 points - 15 fish - 47" longest
- 3RD: Bob Culbertson - 243 points - 20 fish - 45" longest
- 4TH: Bryan Walsh - 204 points - 11 fish - 51" longest
- 5TH: Peter R Janik - 194 points - 12 fish - 52" longest
- 6TH: Corey DeZeeuw - 188 points - 12 fish - 47" longest



*Josh Borovsky caught this 56-inch muskie on Lake Vermilion – the chapter's biggest fish of the year for the Members Only Contest. He will receive a replica by Lax Reproductions from the chapter.*

- 7TH: Travis Hultgren - 172 points - 12 fish - 49.5" longest
- 8TH: Jack Hilbert - 169 points - 10 fish - 50.5" longest
- 9TH: Jeff Peterson - 160 points - 9 fish - 49" longest
- 10TH: John Huss - 157 points - 12 fish - 48.5" longest

## MENS HYBRID DIVISION:

(points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

- 1ST: Corey DeZeeuw - 2 fish - 43" longest
- 2ND: Greg Pirritano - 1 fish - 40"
- 3RD: Chris Gardner - 1 fish - 40.25"
- 4TH: Matt Murtha - 1 fish - 34"

## MENS MASTERS:

- 1ST: Kris Astorp - 1011 points - 60 fish - 52.5" longest
- 2ND: Dean A Roll - 670 points - 37 fish - 52.5" longest
- 3RD: Tony Sommerfeld - 233 points - 14 fish - 48" longest
- 4TH: Mark Fredrick - 211 points - 15 fish - 45.5" longest
- 5TH: David Gustafson - 184 points - 12 fish - 50" longest
- 6TH: Brian Hanson - 170 points - 9 fish - 51" longest
- 7TH: Lonny Hess - 67 points - 4 fish - 45" longest

## MENS MASTERS HYBRID DIVISION:

(points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

- 1ST: Kris Astorp - 4 fish - 38" longest

## LUNKER OF THE MONTH:

- MAY: official - no entry greater than 45"
- JUNE: official - Brandon Bunney - 51" - June 14 - Rush
- JULY: official - Kris Astorp - 52.5" - July 17 - Vermilion
- AUGUST: official - Josh Borovsky - 56" - Aug. 1 - Vermilion
- SEPTEMBER: official - Dean A. Roll - 52" - Sept. 13 - Miltona
- OCTOBER: official - Peter J. Janik - 52" - Oct. 7 - Waconia
- NOVEMBER: unofficial - Troy Zuelzke - 51" - Nov. 13 - St. Louis River

See you... At the Awards Ceremony, February 10 and the Twin Cities Sportsmans Banquet on February 21!

## Chapter Pioneers to be Honored at Banquet

Vince Rakow holds Muskies, Inc. Membership Card #33. He has belonged to Muskies, Inc. and the Twin Cities Chapter for a longer time than any other current member. Now, Vince and forty-seven others will be honored as a Twin Cities Chapter Pioneer.

The Board of Directors established a new Chapter membership recognition level, designated as the "Pioneers." Pioneers are those who have held Muskies, Inc. membership, continuously, for 30 or more years and the Founding Members of the Muskies, Inc.

In a December 2008 survey, potential members of the elite group were contacted. The forty-eight who responded were awarded the Pioneer designation. Pioneers will receive a Chapter certificate recognizing their loyalty to Muskies, Inc. and its principles. Sixteen of the Pioneers have promised to attend the February 21, 2009 Sportsman's Banquet to receive their Pioneer recognition.

If you have questions regarding the Pioneers, contact George Selcke, 952 933-2608, or Vince Trotta, 952 688-7216.

### **Pioneers to be Recognized at the Sportsman's Banquet:**

Michael Bernier; Gerald Canfield; Bob Culbertson; Ed Gerchy; Jeri Glander; Tom Glander; Eugene Graczyk; Peter Hadley; Sue Hadley; Dale Johnson; Greg Randolph; Elaine Randolph; Richard Ruhl; Ron Sanders; George Selcke; Lynn Trombley

Minnesota Valley Country Club  
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**FROM THE NORTH/WEST (Highway 169)** Take Hwy. 169 South and exit left on Old Shakopee Road. Take a right at the 1st light (Bloomington Ferry) to the 3-way intersection. Continue straight and the road turns into Auto Club Road. and continue for approx. 2 miles. The club will be on the left side of Auto Club Road.

**FROM THE NORTH (Highway 100)** Take Hwy. 100 South past Hwy. 494. As Hwy. 100 changes names to Normandale Blvd., continue South past Old Shakopee Road. Normandale now changes to Auto Club Road. Proceed South for another 2 miles and the club will be on the right hand side of Auto Club Road.

**FROM THE SOUTH/WEST (Highway 169)** Take 169 North and exit right on Old Shakopee Road. Take a right at the 1st light (Bloomington Ferry) to the 3-way intersection. Continue straight and the road turns into Auto Club Road and continue for approx. 2 miles. The club will be on the left side of Auto Club Road.

**FROM THE EAST (Highway 35W)** Go west off of the 98th Street exit and proceed until first light. Veer to the left and enter onto Old Shakopee Road. Take a left at the Normandale intersection and proceed for another 2 miles and the club will be on the right hand side of Auto Club Road.

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14927 Utah Place, Savage, MN 55378

*We cannot accept credit cards payments by mail. If you prefer to pay with a credit card, go to our website [www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org](http://www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org) and click on "banquet."*

## *this 'n that*

*Starting with the January issue, On the Water newsletter is being mailed only to those who have requested they receive a copy by mail. Everyone else will receive the newsletter by email. Of the nearly 400 families in our chapter, 175 did not receive the newsletter because they have not responded to requests to either continue to receive mailed versions or have not sent their email address to us. If you know any of the following people, please tell them to get in touch with Denise Olson at [olsonat3pete@gmail.com](mailto:olsonat3pete@gmail.com) and request the email version of the newsletter or call 612-866-4730 so they can continue to receive the mailed newsletter.*

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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 Banquet and the welcome table at each meeting.*

*Please make an effort to support our 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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Ranger Boats  
Rapala / Lakemaid Beer  
Red Wing Lodge  
Reed's Family Outdoor Outfitters  
Reig 1 LLC  
Safari Liquor  
Sah-Kah-Tay Resort  
Sanders Sports Marketing  
Select Communications  
Shimano American Corp.  
Spectrum Printing  
Shingwak Resort  
Spirit of the North Resort  
Sportsman's Connection  
Sportsman's Warehouse  
Stony Point Resort  
Subway - Walker  
Sunset Cove Resort  
Thorne Bros  
Trappers Landing Lodge  
Tristan Publishing  
Vermilion Dam Lodge  
Paul Villnow  
Visual Impact Signs  
Wades Custom Tackle  
Wigwam Resort & Spa  
Wolftrap Tackle Co.

next  
meeting

FEBRUARY 10

## CHAPTER AWARDS

*The February meeting will honor our chapter Members Only Contest winners. We will have games geared towards adults, as well as the awards. Don't miss it!*



### MUSKIES INC.

7125 17th Avenue South  
Richfield, MN 55423

**Return Service Requested**

*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.).*