

Volume 12, Issue 3

MARCH 2009

Muskies Inc. Pioneers Honored at Sportsman's Banquet



Fifteen Muskies Inc. chapter Pioneers – those members who have held continuous membership for 30 or more years – were honored at the Twin Cities Sportsman's Banquet held on Saturday, February 21. Attending the banquet were (from left to right): Eugene Graczyk; Sue Hadley; Peter Hadley; Charles Huver; Dale Johnson; Jeri Glander; Gerald Canfield; Tom Glander; John Newman; Bob Culbertson; George Selcke; Lynn Trombley; Greg Randolph; Elaine Randolph; and Rich Ruhl. Thirty-five other chapter members were also named as Pioneers. All will receive a certificate from the chapter.

George's Minnesota Muskie Expo April 3, 4, 5 in St. Paul

Make plans now to attend the 15th annual Minnesota Muskie Expo. The Expo was founded by George Wahl, inventor and manufacturer of the Eagle Tail. It has been renamed George's Minnesota Muskie Expo in honor of the founder.

The three-day event is strictly dedicated to muskies and muskie fishing featuring some of the world's top muskie anglers sharing secrets of success in seminars, retailers offering great sale prices, guides and resorts. The show will take place at Ganglehoff Center on St. Paul's Concordia University campus. The new venue allows for more exhibitors than in the past as well as being conveniently located between the downtown of Minneapolis and St. Paul just off Interstate 94.

The Expo is the place to connect with the factory reps from industry giants with questions and suggestions. The unique aspect of the Expo is being able to buy direct from lure manufacturers, getting low prices, custom colors and the newest prototype baits. New this year, Larry Dahlberg will hold special demonstrations on making your own lures.

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.

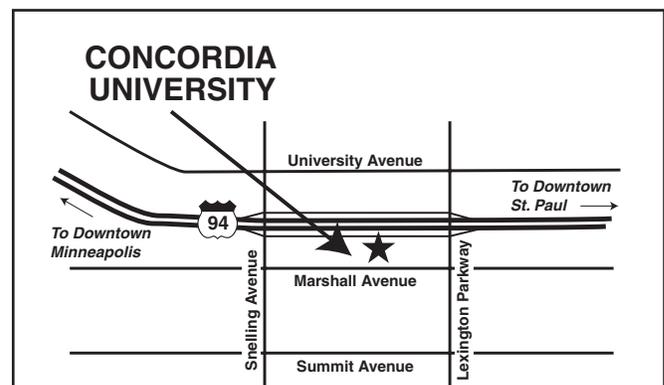
Kids will be able to make their own lures and take home \$30 worth of baits.

All three days will feature seminars by muskie pros Bob Mehsikomer, Rob Kimm, Steve Worrall, Dan Craven, Jim Saric, Russ Smith, Brad Hoppe, Larry Dahlberg, Luke Ronnestrand and Erik Jacobson.

The Expo is open from 2 to 9 pm Friday, from 10 am to 7 pm on Saturday, and on Sunday from 10 am to 4 pm.

Kids 12 and under are free, so bring the whole family. Adult entry for the Expo is \$10, a three-day pass is \$17.

Expo information can be found online at: minnesotamuskieexpo.com.



From Our President **JIM KROUPA**

I have cabin fever. If you are feeling the same, the good news is we are in the sport show season. Going to a few club meetings and a few sport shows will bring a little sunshine to the doldrums season around here. There is the big Northwest Sports Show March 12-15 and then a show just for us, George's Minnesota Muskie Expo April 3-5 at Concordia University in St. Paul. Our club will have a booth staffed at both shows. Stop at our booths and visit with us. Check on our stocking projects, our scheduled outings and events for the coming year. If you would like to help staff the booths, call Greg Ide at 612-331-5034 for the NW Sports Show and Brad Coyne at 763-412-6697 for the Expo.

It's time to start dreaming of spring and getting prepared for fishing. Have you charged your boat batteries at least once this winter? I've been told to do it on Super Bowl weekend. We have Dick Danz of Reel and Rod coming to our March meeting. He will demonstrate reel lubrication. If your reels need service, Dick will take them and return them at the April meeting.

Thank you to Pete Randall for running the Members Only contest this last year. Congratulations to those who finished well. The stories that you shared at the awards ceremony were great. I hope you were all able to attend the club's sports banquet. It was awesome, considering the prizes, speaker, and the great amount of work done by Joe Mellott, Shawn Kellett, Jody Dahms and others. It just keeps getting better. Thanks, Guys!

I'd like to give a special thank you to Shawn Kellett. Hasn't he done a super job as president? I'll say. He directed the club for over four years. We are stronger and more active than ever, thanks to Shawn's vision for the club. Our finances are sound, which means I won't have to go to Washington and ask for a bail out! We are leaders in the state, and do more stocking than any other club. We have a good working relationship with the DNR and we are working positively with the state legislative system. We are having an influence both statewide and nationwide. Our club has worked with other muskie clubs in the state, as well as helping out-of-state muskie clubs, some as far away as West Virginia. All this and so much more, thanks to Shawn's direction. He will remain on the board, and be in charge of the DNR and state legislative initiatives. Thanks, Shawn!

As your new president, I hope to keep the club going strong along much the same direction. I am proof that one doesn't have to catch a lot of fish to get involved and help with the club! I will carry out projects that are decided on by our members and the board. None of these endeavors would be possible without the support and help of our members. Working together, we can accomplish wonderful things. Join in. Come to the meetings. Help when you can. You are always welcome.

See you all at the meetings and sports shows!

George Selcke Honored with Chapter's Muskie Award

George Selcke was presented with the chapter's Muskie Award at the Twin Cities Sportsman's Banquet on Saturday, February 21. The Muskie Award is given annually by the chapter to one individual who has constantly and unselfishly devoted time and energy over the year(s) to promoting and improving the goals of Muskies Inc.

George's dedication to Muskies Inc. precedes the organization of the Twin Cities chapter, dating back to 1969. When he joined, there were no chapters, just Muskies Inc. George has been a life member of the organization since 1970. He served as a member of the chapter board for six years in the 1970s and has been a current board member since 2002. During the 1970s George served as Chairman of both the DNR Liaison Committee and the Battle Lake Hatchery Committee. Currently George serves the chapter as Chairman of the DNR/Legislative Committee, Secretary and has recently taken over the Youth Director position. He has also served as Regional VP from 2002-2005 and as the Chapter 2nd VP from 2005-2006.

George is a founder and organizer of the Minnesota Muskie Alliance (organization of many statewide groups interested in muskies) and served as Co-Chairman from 2004-2008. He is the Grant Committee Chairman of the Hugh Becker Foundation and helped to set up the organization. George has been a representative for both the chapter and the MMA at the DNR Esox workshops since 2006.

Over the years George has participated and volunteered his services at our Capable Partners outings, banquets, tournaments, and show booths. In all he does he promotes Muskies Inc. principles.

Congratulations to George Selcke for a well-deserved honor.

Reel Care and Repair

Dick Danz from Trails End Pro Bass/Angler's Paradise will be at our March meeting to give a short demonstration on caring for your reels. Bring your reels that need repair as Dick will pick up reels at the meeting and deliver them back at the April meeting.



George Selcke, left, was honored with the chapter's Muskie Award at the banquet. George's friend and fishing partner over the years, Dave Gustafson (right), spoke about George's contributions. Brad Coyne (center) presented flowers for George's wife for putting up with his time devoted to muskies.



The chapter's longest release for the 2008 season was caught by Josh Borovsky (left). During the banquet he was awarded a fiberglass replica of the 56" fish from Lake Vermilion from the chapter. Joe Caudill (right) representing Lax Reproductions presented the replica to Josh.

Twin Cities Sportsman's Banquet a Success

The annual chapter banquet, the Twin Cities Sportsman's Banquet, was held Saturday February 21 at the Minnesota Valley Country Club in Bloomington. With sell-out attendance of 200 people, the new venue was much needed. There was over \$17,000 in prizes at the event and several nice prizes were won by members of the chapter including over \$500 in cash to George Selcke, a \$519 Vexilar to Troy Zuelzke, a \$650 Fish Trap to Greg Kappes, a King Suite at the Hilton Minneapolis and a \$150 dinner at Fogo de Chao Brazilian Steakhouse to Jo Hansen.

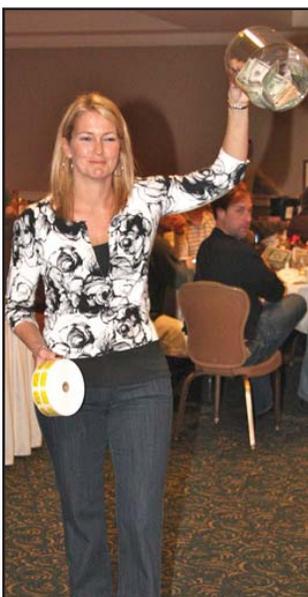
Joe Mellott and his banquet committee did a fantastic job planning and exe-

cuting the event. Special thanks goes out to committee members, Jody Dahms, Roger Ecklund, Troy Zuelzke, Adam Salo, Shawn Kellett, and the many volunteers who staffed the raffle tables and registration.

Committee chair Joe Mellott is confident that the new program helped to more than double profits from last year's event. Results will be announced in the next newsletter. If you have any comments or suggestions for the banquet committee, please email them to banquet@twincities-muskiesinc.org. They will be working to refine the program and will consider all comments for next year's banquet.



Jim Lindner, Executive Director of Lindner Media Productions and co-host of TV's Lindner's Angling Edge was the speaker at the banquet.



Left: Linda Newman sold chances to the cash bucket split between the winner and the banquet won by George Selcke. Above: As top bidder during the live auction, Kerri Hoppe received autographed copies of Larry Ramsell's two-volume "A Compendium Of Muskie Angling History" from auctioneer Bob Junghans. Top right: Banquet speaker Jim Lindner converses with chapter Pioneer Charles Huver. Bottom right: Bob Culbertson holding the net, used Sharon Bardwell to demonstrates its capacity.



Make Reservations for Summer Muskie Trips

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.

WINNIPEG RIVER, MINAKI, ONTARIO

This trip is scheduled for July 11-18 and will again be headquartered at Paradise Cove Resort (45 miles north of Kenora). The Winnipeg River offers world class fishing with great opportunities for 50+-inch fish. The cost is \$297.50 per person (4 or 5 sharing a cabin) with a \$50 deposit required by May 15. If you would like to come experience some great muskie fishing, contact George Selcke at 952-933-2608 soon as there are only 10 spots remaining.

ANDY MEYER'S LODGE – EAGLE LAKE, ONTARIO

A trip to Andy Meyer's Lodge on Eagle Lake in Ontario is tentatively scheduled for August 9-15. Eagle Lake is a terrific muskie and walleye fishery. The week includes house-keeping cabin, use of boats with gas, guide trip, marked maps and seminars. There is access to five remote lakes and if you want, fly-in trips can be arranged. The trip will be discounted to approximately \$550 per person – add \$200 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@lester-buildings.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 15-22. 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. To make your reservations, contact North Metro members John Van Ingen at 651-699-5172 or Pat Miller at 651-429-1629.

this 'n that

2009 GIL HAMM CHAPTER CHALLENGE

We are looking for members to represent our chapter at the annual Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge on Leech Lake. Teams from MI chapters nationwide will gather August 26-28 for the Challenge. As winners of the Challenge last year, the Fargo Moorhead Chapter will be hosting the event. Although the tournament is Wednesday - Friday, many of the people who fish the tournament spend the entire week on the lake.

Headquarters for the tournament this year will be Grand Vu Lodge located on Pine Point. Please contact Steve Hedensten 651-757-8653 or 952-953-6544 if you'd like to be part of the team that takes the trophy.

POOLSIDE DEMONSTRATION

The North Metro chapter will host a poolside demonstration on April 21 at 7:00 p.m. The event will take place at Fridley Middle School, 6100 W. Moore Lake Drive, Fridley, MN 55432.

Brett Erickson of Thorne Bros. will demonstrate how to present lures that are new to the muskie world, as well as some old favorites. See topwaters, jerkbaits, buck-tails, spinnerbaits, gliders, crankbaits, swim baits, and others that shake, rattle and troll! You'll get tips on enticing that monster muskie to eat your bait and make your year more successful!

Thorne Bros will have a limited number of certificates for \$10 off your next purchase of \$50 or more available

on a first come, first serve basis. Call Dan Moak of the North Metro chapter at (651) 231-8380 for more info.

SPONSOR PROGRAM

As part of the chapter's sponsor program, you will see a number of sponsor ads in the newsletter to thank the sponsors who give so much to our chapter.

Sponsors donate products, gift certificates, trips, and resort stays for our tournaments, rearing fund raffle, and welcome table.

Resorts who have donated a week-long trips will be featured in the spring. Please consider them when you are planning a fishing trip for this summer.

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.

FAMILY-KIDS NIGHT MOVED TO JUNE

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 from 2008 will be honored in June.

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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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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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next meeting

MARCH 10

**SPEAKER:
STEVE HERBECK**

Steve Herbeck is the owner of Andy Myer's Lodge on Eagle Lake, Ontario and is legendary for his muskie fishing expertise. Before moving to Canada he was a top Wisconsin fishing guide. Come learn about Eagle Lake and maybe join other chapter members for an August trip.

ALSO:

Remember to bring reels needing repair to the March meeting for Dick Danz to pick up, repair and bring back to the April meeting.

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.).



MUSKIES INC.

7125 17th Avenue South
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