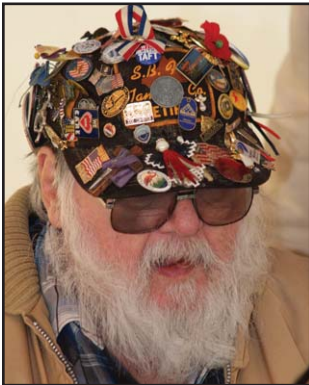


On the Water



Volume 12, Issue 5

MAY 2009



Residents of the Minnesota Veteran's Home enjoyed fishing at the trout pond set up at last year's Fishing Opener.

Minnesota Vet's Home Opener Saturday

The Twin Cities chapter has held a "fishing opener" at the Minnesota Veterans Home for years. It is an event that the residents look forward to all year. Saturday, May 2 a trout pond will be set up at the Home and residents, hopefully, will catch some trout for a "shore lunch" served to all. VFW post 6099 and others provide the funding for this event.

Volunteers will be needed to help the residents while they fish as well as with the cooking the meal, cleaning fish 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, call event organizer Terry Hagstrom at 612-747-6509 or 651-462-3669.

Capable Partners Outing is June 14

Share your love for the pursuit of muskies with a fellow outdoorsmen on Lake Independence at the Baker Park Reserve. Our annual outing with physically challenged members of Capable Partners will take place June 14 from 6:30 am to "shore lunch" time. 15 volunteers with boats will be needed. About one-half of participants will need space for wheelchairs, but any size boat can be matched with one of the Capable Partners.

You don't have to be a Lake Independence whiz to participate. Organizer Paul Hartman will gladly go over lure selection and the "hot spots" with anyone. You don't have to have a boat to join in. A "shore lunch" will end the event and help is needed for that as well. And if you show up, someone with a boat might invite you to continue fishing in the afternoon. Please call Paul Hartman at 763-786-6031 if you can bring your boat or you want to help with the lunch.

Youth Events

The first part of the Muskies Inc. logo tells us that YOUTH should be one of our focuses. To that end our chapter has partnered with Fishing For Life for youth activities. That association has resulted in contacting over 5,000 kids in the first three of four events: the Fish Fair, the NW Sportsman's Show, and the Muskie Expo.

Our message is getting out. At the Fish Fair, Boy Scouts visited our booth to obtain specific information on the differences between Muskies and Northern Pike. With this information they got credit towards the earning of their Fishing Merit Badge. At the NW Sportsman's Show kids participated in a scavenger hunt, which involved obtaining answers five questions by visiting various show booths, including the MI Chapter booth. With answers in hand they received a bag full of fishing gear and information. And at the Muskie Expo there were a number of games the kids could play while being exposed to Muskie-fishing tackle and techniques. The Muskie Expo also sponsored a booth where kids could learn how to build their own bucktails and jigs.

The next event with Fishing For Life will be our June family night.

And finally, we will be participating in a fishing outing on Lake Minnetonka in August (presently planned for Friday/ Saturday, August 21/22, at Maynards' docks). We are trying to involve kids of deployed military families through Operation Military Kids.

From Our President

Spring is here. Finally. Even though the weather guys say we had an old fashioned, normal winter; I thought it was colder and longer than we have had lately. Will it affect our muskie fishing? Who knows? I hope for better than last year.

Our club has been busy this winter and spring. The show season is over and we are all looking forward to the upcoming fishing. Have you got your license yet? Is your boat ready? How about all that gear you have? Have all those new baits had their hooks sharpened? You probably have taken care of those things, but here is one you need to consider.

If you are planning on going on one of our club trips to Canada, you need to have a passport or one of those special entry IDs. Start getting those now. At the Expo, I visited with Peg and Bob Hunger, owners of Whitefish Bay Camp on Lake of the Woods and members of our club and great sponsors of our events.

Besides the passport you will need something new to fish in Ontario this year. It is called an Outdoor Card. It serves the same purpose as a duck stamp. You buy the license to hunt, but then you need to get the stamp to pursue ducks. Ontario residents

have needed to buy this in previous years. Now Ontario is requiring non-residents to also buy this card to go with the fishing license. The cost is \$9 and it's good for 3 years. When and where you get your license is the time and place to get the Outdoor Card. Isn't it amazing how all governments find interesting ways to raise money? But it is not a tax!

Our club has two special events that we participate in, The Vets Home Opener and Capable Partners. Come join us in helping with these activities. The Vets Home Opener is held on May 2nd the weekend before Walleye (Bottom Feeder) opener. We set up a trout pond and let these old warriors go fishing. It may be the best thing you do all year. 7-12 a.m. The Capable Partners event is June 14. Join us for that as well.

Besides these events we have club outings, youth events, fishing league, interclub fishing challenges, and club-run tournaments coming up. There are lots of opportunities to get involved with your club. Plan on joining in.

*I'll see you at the meetings and on the water;
Jim Kroupa*

Summer Trips

WINNIPEG RIVER, MINAKI, ONTARIO

JULY 11-18

The trip will again be headquartered at Paradise Cove Resort. The Winnipeg River offers world class fishing with great opportunities for 50+-inch fish. The cost is \$297.50 per person with 4 or 5 per cabin. A \$50 deposit required now. If you would like to experience some great muskie fishing, contact George Selcke at 952-933-2608.

ANDY MEYER'S LODGE – EAGLE LAKE, ONTARIO

AUGUST 9-15

Eagle Lake is a terrific muskie and walleye fishery. The week includes housekeeping 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 phone at 952-955-3890 or email at tzuelzke@yahoo.com.

RED WING LODGE – LAKE OF THE WOODS

AUGUST 15-22

The trip to Red Wing Lodge is a joint endeavor with the North Metro chapter. 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.

Family Night Will Be June Meeting

Our June general meeting will be a fun-filled evening geared toward the younger set. We encourage you to bring your entire family. Our youth partner Fishing For Life will have plenty of games and other events for kids.

We will begin at 6:00 pm instead of the usual meeting time. We're starting an hour early so the younger kids can get home and in bed at a reasonable time. Food will be available.

When the games are done, awards for last year's chapter Kid's Fishing Contest will be presented.

Summer Fishing League

Our Chapter Fishing League is getting set for another great fishing season. Last year we had over 30 people involved with the league and hoping for more this year. The goal of the league to get members out on the water fishing instead of just talking about it. The final schedule for the league will be set and available at the May Chapter meeting. Come out and enjoy fishing with other club members. You may even learn a new trick to put a fish in the boat this year. If you are interested in the league, please contact Jody Dahms at 952-356-6047.

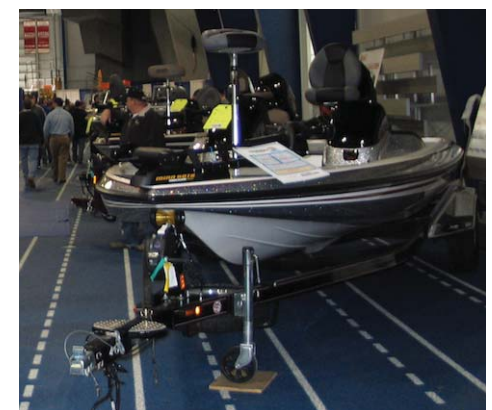
Kids Fishing Contest

Have fun, go fishing with your kid and help them learn about the different species of fish. Children who are members or have a parent or guardian who is a member of the Twin Cities Chapter and are age 12 or younger as of January 1, 2009 are eligible to participate in the chapter Kids Fishing Contest.

The rules are simple. All fish must be caught by using legal means and the fish must be witnessed by a parent or another adult. An award will be given to each and every child who participates. Panfish, catfish, carp, bullhead, bass, walleye, sauger, or pike of any size qualify.

One entry per child should be submitted for the entire 2009 fishing season. Be sure to keep track of your child's catches all on one form. Include anything special about a fish or a trip (1st fish, biggest fish or most fish in one day, Grandpa's secret spot, caught more than Dad, etc.).

Scenes from George's Minnesota Muskie Expo at Concordia University



this 'n that

SPONSOR PROGRAM

As part of the chapter's sponsor program, you will see ads from some of our sponsors in the newsletter this month.

Sponsors donate products, gift certificates, trips, and resort stays for our tournaments and welcome table. The ads are our way to thank the sponsors who give so much to our chapter.

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

2009 GIL HAMM CHAPTER CHALLENGE

The chapter is looking for members to represent the Twin Cities chapter at the annual Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge on Leech Lake this August. 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.



John Newman (right) and Matt Olson (left) placed first and second in the MI Heartland Chapter's Tournament on Clear Lake, Iowa, April 25. Four members of our chapter fished the event, but John and Matt were the only two people who caught muskies during the one-day tournament. One Northern was also caught. Congratulations!



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On the Water is published monthly for members of the Twin Cities Chapter of Muskies Inc.

Copy deadline: 15th of each month

Contact: Graphic Works
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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**

MAY 12

**SPEAKER:
BOB BENSON**

Bob has been chasing muskies for 30 years. You've seen him holding that huge Vermilion muskie that won the 2007 MMTT event. Bob is a muskie management advocate, and spends his summers guiding and fishing from his cabin on Lake Vermilion.



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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.).