

On the Water



Volume 12, Issue 9

SEPTEMBER 2009



Chapter member Don Pursch recently boated this 50" muskie on Rowan Lake, Ontario. The next day he boated a 51-1/2" fish using the same lure, about an hour later in the day than the 50" was caught. Don is owner of Nielsen's Fly-In Lodge on Rowan Lake.

First Annual George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament October 3

Metro-area muskie anglers, this is YOUR event. The George Wahl tournament on October 3 is a fun day of fishing, a little competition, and a contribution to improve metro-area muskie fishing. One hundred percent of the proceeds from this event will go back to the muskie fishery – this year through stocking.

This tournament was conceived as a way to honor George Wahl, his love of muskies and muskie fishing, his contribution to the muskie fishing industry, his generosity sharing information with others, and his encouragement to muskie anglers. We also wanted to have a tournament that all chapter members could attend and not have to drive to northern Minnesota.

If you've ever muskie fished at a

metro-area lake, you should join us on October 3 for the George Wahl Memorial Tournament. Lakes in the tournament are Minnetonka, Waconia, Independence, Eagle, Bald Eagle, White Bear, Forest, Harriet, Calhoun, Lake of the Isles, Cedar and the St. Croix.

Prizes and plaques will be awarded through tenth place and to the top 3 juniors. Everyone who registers a 40-inch or bigger muskie will be entered in the drawing for Grand Prize – a modified American plan trip to Whitefish Bay Camp, Lake of the Woods and \$2000 cash.

A Mary Villnow Memorial cash bonus will be awarded to the top three female anglers. The Mary Villnow bonus was created to encourage women muskie anglers of all

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Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament

It's almost time for the Frank Schneider, Jr. Memorial Muskie Tournament. The tournament takes place September 11-12 and 13 on 21 lakes in the Bemidji-Walker-Cass Lake-Longville area of northern Minnesota. Sunday an Awards Program and feed will be held at the MDJ Saloon at Moondance Fairgrounds just east of Walker. Bill Sherck, "The Man About The Woods" from TV's Minnesota Bound will host Sunday's events.

Registration is open through Labor Day on our chapter website www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org. You can also register Thursday before the tournament starts at Reed's Family Outdoor Outfitters in Walker and One Stop in Longville.

The Frank Schneider Tournament, now in its 42nd year, is Muskies Inc.'s oldest fishing contest. The first tournament was held the second year of the organization's existence. In the 1990s it was re-named to honor Frank Schneider Jr., long-time Muskies Inc. member who worked tirelessly with the Minnesota legislature and other outdoor organizations to improve fishing and hunting opportunities in the state.

Everyone who registers a muskie 40 inches or longer in the tournament will be included in a grand prize drawing for a Skeeter 1790T and Yamaha 75 hp 4-stroke.

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From Our President

CATCH AND RELEASE. This is the early Muskies, Inc. goal that put us on the map. It has been successful. It works. Most fishing organizations espouse it now. A few years back Muskies, Inc. decided to adopt another set of goals. Youth, Fisheries, and Research. They have always been with the organization, but it was felt they should be on the logo for all to see. Have you noticed them? We are still for CPR (Catch-Photo-Release). Our organization has just expanded our goals.

How has the Twin Cities Chapter – your club – responded to these new goals? We have become leaders in fisheries and research. We were instrumental in starting the MMA (Minnesota Muskie Alliance) which supports muskie causes statewide. We work closely with the Minnesota DNR. We even have our own sites to raise muskies for stocking. The club helps the Hugh Becker Foundation pursue its goals nationwide. Your club is involved.

The third goal – promoting youth involvement in fishing – has been an area we needed to move forward on. We have always done things with the youth of our club and area. Your board just felt we should do more. Our past president, Shawn Kellett, recruited George Selcke, to be our youth chairman. Things have been happening. We teamed up with Fishing-for-Life, an organization that has similar goals to ours. The Fishing-for-Life people got us involved with FishFair and Fish-a-Thon. We have reached not hundreds of area kids but thousands.

Our latest event together happened this last August on Lake Minnetonka. Our club, along with other fishing organizations and Fishing-for-Life, took kids from military families fishing and out to lunch. While the parent is off serving the nation, who takes the kids fishing? We do. Thanks to Shawn and George our club is stepping up our involvement with youth. On your own – take your kids or a neighbor's kids fishing. It is the future of fishing and of Muskies, Inc.

As you read this, our club's major fundraising efforts are about to take place – our annual Frank Schneider Jr. tournament in the Leech Lake area and our new George Wahl tournament in October. Find a way to come and participate in these events. These fundraisers support our efforts in Youth, Fisheries, and Research. We need your support. See you at the tournaments.

Jim Kroupa

Chapter Fishing League

Twenty-two people have participated in the chapter's summer fishing league so far. Eric Schultz is leading the standings with his 49-1/2" muskie caught July 8 on Minnetonka. Roger Ecklund has the only other fish caught to date, putting him in second place.

There are two more outings on the league schedule for this year. The next outing is scheduled for Saturday, September 19 on Lake Minnetonka. Meet at Gray's Bay Landing by 6:00 am. Contact Jody Dahms at 952-356-6047 or jdahms@aquali.com if you need to be partnered with someone with a boat. The final outing will be at Mille Lacs October 10 & 11. Let Jody know if you want to join them.

GEORGE WAHL TOURNAMENT

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ages. The Fly Angler is also offering a \$250 gift certificate bonus for the biggest muskie caught on a fly.

The awards program will be held at Thorne Bros. in Fridley and will include a feed for all contestants. Additional meals will be available at a nominal cost, so invite your family and friends.

Register for the George Wahl tournament at Thorne Bros. in Fridley, Joe's Sporting Goods in St. Paul, Blue Ribbon Bait & Tackle in Oakdale, or at our chapter website www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org.

We hope to see every member of the chapter participate in this one-day event. We won't be having a raffle to raise money for the rearing fund this year, so coming out and fishing for a day is your contribution.

FRANK SCHNEIDER TOURNAMENT

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Prizes will be awarded through 10th place and to the the top three juniors. Prize packages include Fenwick rods, Abu Garcia reels, and other fishing equipment as well as trips to Canadian and US resorts.

Sunday the Awards Program and feed will be held at the MDJ Saloon at Moondance Fairgrounds just east of Walker. Bill Sherck, "The Man About The Woods" from TV's Minnesota Bound will host Sunday's events.

This tournament is our chapter's method funding the operating budget for the upcoming year. It pays for the speakers at our meetings, this newsletter, outings like Capable Partners and the summer picnic. We hope to see you all at the tournament.

The Armed Forces Family Fishing Celebration

The Armed Forces Family Fishing Celebration, our last Youth event this year, began as a “Chinese Circus drill”, but resulted in a satisfying experience for all participants.

Friday morning, August 21 Mother Nature greeted Lake Minnetonka with a drenching down-pour accompanied by 20-25 mph winds blowing directly into the Maynard’s Restaurant docks in Excelsior. Because of these weather conditions, we decided to cancel the event at 6:00 am. However, the 70-plus kids and their families, that showed-up by 7:30, would have nothing to do with our decision. They were there to fish!

Because of their commitment and determination to fish no matter what the weather conditions, a terrific outing was enjoyed by all. The kids wanted it, and the participating volunteers made it happen! After scrambling to reorganize and launch the guide boats, the event proceeded through the rain and wind.

Many thanks go to our partners, Fishing For Life, as well as B.A.S.S, the DNR, Boy Scouts, Joe Dirt Fishing, Maynard’s (who provided a hot lunch to everyone), and, especially, to our members Jim Kroupa, Shawn Kellet, John Newman and Dave Gustafson.

This outing was a successful conclusion to our chapter’s commitment to our Youth Program for 2009. Our thoughts are to continue this celebration with a bigger and better event next year.



Members Only Contest

Information gathered from Lunge Log on Muskies Inc. website. Their rules differ from the chapter’s in determining who fishes in the Masters Divisions. Masters anglers are included in the Mens and Women Divisions this month.

MENS DIVISION

Kris Astorp - 842 points - 51 fish - 51" longest
 Dean A Roll - 680 points - 36 fish - 54" longest
 Bob Culbertson - 431 points - 33 fish - 49" longest
 John C Newman Jr - 301 points - 22 fish - 45" longest
 Phil Groth - 260 points - 17 fish - 48.5" longest
 Jack Hilbert - 234 points - 17 fish - 48.5" longest

Dave Weyland - 234 points - 13 fish - 49" longest
 Brent Hirsch - 195 points - 14 fish - 48.5" longest
 David Gustafson - 181 points - 9 fish - 53" longest
 John Huss - 157 points - 10 fish - 45" longest
 Jeff Peterson - 147 points - 8 fish - 47" longest
 Travis Hultgren - 124 points - 8 fish - 46.5" longest
 Corey DeZeeuw - 121 points - 9 fish - 51" longest
 Chad Hagel - 112 points - 8 fish - 47.5" longest
 Peter R Janik - 107 points - 5 fish - 50" longest
 James Beheba - 90 points - 5 fish - 47" longest

Grant Domke - 80 points - 6 fish - 44" longest
 Ryan Buboltz - 79 points - 5 fish - 45" longest
 Jeremy M. Knutson - 74 points - 6 fish - 40.5" longest
 Eric Bakke - 68 points - 5 fish - 43" longest

WOMENS

Linda Knutson - 93 points - 5 fish - 47" longest
 Carole K Janik - 40 points - 3 fish - 48" longest

JUNIORS

Zachary Weyland - 52 points - 3 fish - 45" longest
 Evan Nicolai - 37 points - 3 fish - 39" longest



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upcoming events

SEPTEMBER

- 2 Chapter Fishing League: Lake Waconia, 6 – 10 pm
- 8 General Meeting: Josh Borovsky. Learn about metro-area waters
- 11-13 42nd Annual Frank Schneider Memorial Tournament: Bemidji-Cass-Walker-Longville
- 19 Chapter Fishing League: Lake Minnetonka, 6 am - 12 pm, Gray's Bay Landing

OCTOBER

- 3 Inaugural George Wahl Memorial Tournament, Metro Area Lakes
- 10-11 Chapter Fishing League Outing: Lake Mille Lacs
- 13 General Meeting

NOVEMBER

- 10 General Meeting

DECEMBER

- 8 General Meeting: Chapter Elections

tc chapter contacts

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www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org

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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

SEPTEMBER 8

**SPEAKER:
JOSH BOROVSKY**

Just in time for the George Wahl Metro-Area tournament, Josh will talk about a number of metro-area waters – what to expect and some tips and tactics to try.

CHAPTER SUMMER FISHING LEAGUE

*Saturday, September 19
6 am to 12 pm
Lake Minnetonka, Gray's Bay Landing*

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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