



Don't Miss the Twin Cities Sportsmen's Banquet

The Twin Cities Sportsman's Banquet, our chapter's winter fundraising event, will be held Saturday, February 20 at the Minnesota Valley Country Club in Bloomington. This year's banquet will be bigger and better than ever with over \$15,000 in prizes including week-long stays at Retreat Lodge and Spring Bay Resort on Lake Vermilion and Horseshoe Bay Resort on Leech Lake. Fishing trips with renowned muskie guides, St. Croix rods, Shimano reels, Eskimo ice fishing gear, H30 sunglasses, entertainment packages, guns, and loads of tackle, storage and other outdoor gear are also among the prizes that will be seen. There will be themed raffle tables worth more than \$1,000 each, cash raffles and numerous door prizes.

It was previously announced that Larry Dahlberg would be the speaker. Unfortunately, there was a mix-up on the dates and Larry will be out of town the evening of the banquet. Jason Sloan from the Badfish Outdoors film crew has agreed to present a series of never-before-seen footage that promises to be entertaining! Badfish Outdoors has produced several outstanding videos and has recently introduced a new TV series.

The deadline is fast approaching to take advantage of pre-event early-bird packages. February 6 is that last day to get in on the savings. By purchasing a Gold or Platinum raffle

ticket package that includes your dinner, you can save up to \$75.00.

Attendees who purchase Gold early-bird packages will participate in an exclusive bonus drawing for a Shimano Calcutta reel. Those who purchase Platinum early-bird packages will participate in an exclusive bonus drawing for a St. Croix Legend rod as well as the drawing for the Shimano Calcutta reel.

Seating is limited to the first 200 who purchase tickets and they are going fast, so get your orders in as soon as possible. You may purchase your tickets several ways. Use the order form in this issue and mail in your reservations. Purchase on-line with a credit card at our chapter website www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org. Order forms are available to print out at the web site.

Dinner reservations and early-bird packages will be available for sale at the February chapter meeting. Cost of the dinner only is \$35.00 per person.

The banquet committee can use help if you are planning to attend. Volunteer to help with check-in or man one of the many prize tables. Please contact Joe Mellott, Troy Zuelzke or Jody Dahms or email banquet@twincitiesmuskiesinc.org.

Don't forget to invite a friend. This is a fun night out whether a person is "into" muskie fishing or not.

Did you know?

The Twin Cities Chapter of Muskies, Inc. uses funds raised from events like this banquet for:

- Financing and staffing a Military family fishing day on Lake Minnetonka
- Playing an integral role in getting public support to stock Lake Pokegama
- Providing a day of fishing and shore lunch for every resident of the Minnesota Veterans Home
- Working with the MN DNR to develop a new long-range muskie management plan to include new muskie lakes
- Hosting outings for physically disabled members of the Capable Partners organization
- Maintaining muskie rearing ponds to stock muskie yearlings in Lakes Minnetonka, White Bear and other metro lakes, dramatically improving survival rates and increasing numbers of catchable fish sooner
- Hosting youth outings in the metro area in cooperation with the Fish-A-Thon organization

From Our President

As my first letter as president, I would just like to thank all the past presidents of the Twin Cities chapter for their hard work and making our chapter a huge success. I hope to continue in that tradition. We have a lot of activities planned again this year, Vet's Home Opener, Capable Partners outing, kid's fishing events, two tournaments, and the winter banquet.

It's often asked what does Muskies Inc. do for its members? To me, it's what do we want to get out of Muskies Inc? These are all great programs and participating in them is a very fulfilling reward. Through these events you will get the chance to meet some great new people in the chapter, and maybe find a new fishing partner.

The key for our chapter's growth is total involvement by all members, getting more people to help in the work load that is in front of us, making it an enjoyable time, and making sure we are extending a hand to new members. I hope to see many new faces at upcoming events, and look forward to sharing my boat with some new-found friends this year. It has been pretty good for newcomers, the new Vice President happened to get a 50-incher while fishing with him on our first trip. May you share those exciting experiences with others this year.

It is the dead of winter and now is a great time to take inventory of your tackle collection to determine what will be on your shopping list at the upcoming muskie shows. Everyone needs to have a good selection of lures. You don't want to be caught out there without having the latest colors or lures.

This is also a good time to get maintenance done on your reels, check your rod eyes, and replace bad hooks on baits.

Here's your tip of the day. Go steal some of your wife's clear nail polish and touch up your wood baits. This will help seal them and prevent them from getting water-logged. Just don't get caught buying nail polish at the local Target; people will look at you funny.

Four-and-a-half months to opener, cannot wait to get back on the water.

Troy

2010 Muskie Inc Outings

WINNIPEG RIVER, MINAKI, ONTARIO JULY 17-24

We will again be headquartered at Paradise Cove Resort (45 miles north of Kenora). The cost per person per day is \$42.50 (same as last year); \$297.50 for the week. Five cabins have been reserved which can house 24 to 26 people; first come, first serve! Deposits are \$50.00, non-refundable, due by May 1st, 2010. See George Selcke or call at 952-933-2608.

RED WING LODGE, LAKE OF THE WOODS AUGUST 14-21

For 2010 the special Muskie Inc. rate for the trip remains at \$250 per person. This trip is open to members of both the North Metro and the Twin Cities chapters of MI. Reservations require a \$50 non-refundable deposit, made out to "North Metro Muskie Inc." First come, first served. Over the years during this outing fishing has been very good with both numbers and size of fish. To sign up, contact either John van Ingen (maxjo@mac.com, 651-699-5172) or Pat Miller (651-429-1629).

TWIN CITIES SPORTSMAN'S BANQUET ADVANCE ORDER

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

**DINNER, RAFFLE TICKETS OR PACKAGES WILL NOT BE MAILED
AND CAN BE PICKED UP AT THE DOOR.**

Platinum Early-Bird Package* QTY _____ \$ _____
\$150 (\$225 value)

Includes dinner and \$190 in raffle tickets, plus two exclusive bonus drawings for a Shimano Calcutta reel and a St. Croix Legend rod.

Gold Early-Bird Package* _____ \$ _____
\$100 (\$125 value)

Includes dinner and \$90 in raffle tickets, plus one exclusive bonus drawing for a Shimano Calcutta reel.

Dinner Reservation Only (\$35 ea.) _____ \$ _____

I cannot attend but would like to make a donation \$ _____

Total \$ _____

MAIL COMPLETED FORM WITH CHECK
PAYABLE TO MUSKIES INC. TO:
Joe Mellott, 14927 Utah Place, Savage, MN 55378

*Deadline for Early-Bird Packages is February 6, 2010

A Little Help For Our Friends

Last month's meeting included a silent auction/grab bag sale of lures donated by club members. \$1219 was raised that went to Tom and Jeri Glander to help with expenses after Tom had a stroke last year.



— this 'n that —

MUSKIE TALES

Jot down a "Muskie Tale," a story about something that happened while fishing, on the way to fishing or on the way back from fishing in 2009. Send your tale, to last year's winner, Matt Olson. E-mail it to olson@3pete.com, or mail to 7438 Park Ave. S., Richfield, MN 55423. Call Matt at 612-423-2404 if you have any questions. So far only one person has submitted a Muskie Tale. The 2009 winner will be announced at the Winter Banquet.

2010 CHAPTER CHALLENGE

The 2010 Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge will be held at Lake

Vermilion August 25-27 and is hosted by the 2009 Challenge winners, Star of the North chapter, along with the Brainerd Lakes chapter. Cabins are being held for the week of August 21-28 at Vermilion Dam Lodge. Our chapter would like to field one more 6-man team. Contact Matt Olson at 612-423-2404 to represent us at this gathering of chapters from all over the country.

MUSKIE EXPO

George's Minnesota Muskie Expo will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, April 9, 10 & 11, 2010 at Concordia University's Ganglehoff Center in St. Paul. Mark your calendars and plan on attending.

PAY NOW, FISH LATER

Terrie Dubé is offering full-day Leech Lake guide trips for two at \$250 (usual rate is \$375). The "pay now, fish later" concept will help her with eye surgery not covered by any insurance. See Russ Peterson at meetings or call him at 612-618-0391 to schedule a trip with Terrie next season.

POOLSIDE MEETING

The March meeting will be a poolside demonstration of new lures from Thorne Bros. and other lure manufacturers. It will be held at the Richfield Junior High pool. More information and a map will be available soon.

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Let 'Em Go!*

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www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org

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Contact: Graphic Works
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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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Walker Wireless
Whitefish Bay Camp

next meeting

FEBRUARY 10
SPEAKER:
MIKE COOKAS

Mike joined the Twin Cities Chapter in 1979 and is remembered as the MC of many events. Mike is now a full-time guide and returns to talk about fishing Ontario and Wisconsin flowages. After his talk, he will show the oldest known muskie fishing film.



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.).