

# On the Water



Volume 13, Issue 3

MARCH 2010



*Rick Lax of Lax Reproductions, left, presented a replica of the 54-inch lunker boated by Dean Roll, right, at the Sportsmen's Banquet. The muskie, from Lake Vermilion, was the largest fish registered in our chapter's Members Only Contest for 2009. The replica is courtesy of the Twin Cities Chapter and Lax Reproductions.*

## 2010 Twin Cities Chapter Sportsmen's Banquet a Success

The Sportsmen's Banquet was held on Saturday, February 20 with nearly 170 people in attendance. The evening included both silent and live auctions as well as numerous raffles for approximately \$24,000 in prizes that included resort stays, a hotel stay, ice fishing equipment, guns, guided muskie fishing trips, and more rods, reels and tackle than anyone could imagine.

The Sportsmen's Banquet is a second fundraiser for our chapter, along with the Frank Schneider Memorial Tournament. Money raised helps our chapter fund events such as the Fishing Opener at the MN Veterans Home, our youth events, and an outing for military kids as well as for stocking and rearing efforts. The numbers are not all in yet, but it looks like this year's banquet brought in more than ever before. Final results will be released later.

A big thank you goes to everyone who attended for making the 2010 banquet a great success. Special thanks to Joe Mellott, Jody Dahms, Troy Zuelzke, and Shawn Kellett for their hard work organizing this year's event. And thanks also to all the volunteers from the

**BANQUET** *continued on page 3*

## Rod Building Class

Have you ever been interested in building your own muskie, walleye, or ice rod? Well, here's your chance. Come learn how to build your own custom, high-quality fishing rod on Sunday March 21, from 10 am - 4 pm, at the Gander Mountain in Lakeville.

In this class you will find the spine on the rod blank, fit the handle, reel seat and fore grip to the rod blank and glue them on. You will then properly space the guides on the rod blank and hand wrap each with thread. Completed fishing rods will be monogrammed with your name.

After the class, rods will be taken to Gary's Custom Rod and Reel shop in Anoka for gluing. Finished rods will be returned to Jody Dahms and will be available at the next Muskies Inc. meeting. Class participants are welcome to visit the shop and glue their own rods if they choose.

All rods will be constructed using only the highest quality components: high-end graphic blanks that are extremely light-weight and sensitive; titanium oxide cushionless guides which can be used with any fusion line and will not wear; handle and fore grip constructed using only the highest quality cork; and reel seats that are cushioned graphite with self-aligning hoods. Completed rods, depending on craftsmanship, can be valued in excess of \$300.

If you are interesting in joining the class, please contact Jody Dahms at 952-356-6047 for additional details and pricing. Payment for the rod kit will be due at time of signing up. There are only 20 openings for the class. Also, if you have any rods or reels that need repair, bring them to the class as Gary can provide that service to you. Those fees vary depending on what the problem is and will be handled directly with Gary.

## From Our President

Well, March is here and next thing we know, we should be back on the water in a little over a month fishing for the "other fish". I just wanted to take this chance to thank the sponsors who donated to the Winter Sportsmen's Banquet. Without them it would not be what it is today. Make sure we thank them at the coming shows, and also show them support.

And, I would like to thank those that attended. From the feedback it sounds like you enjoyed the event. Thanks for the great support.

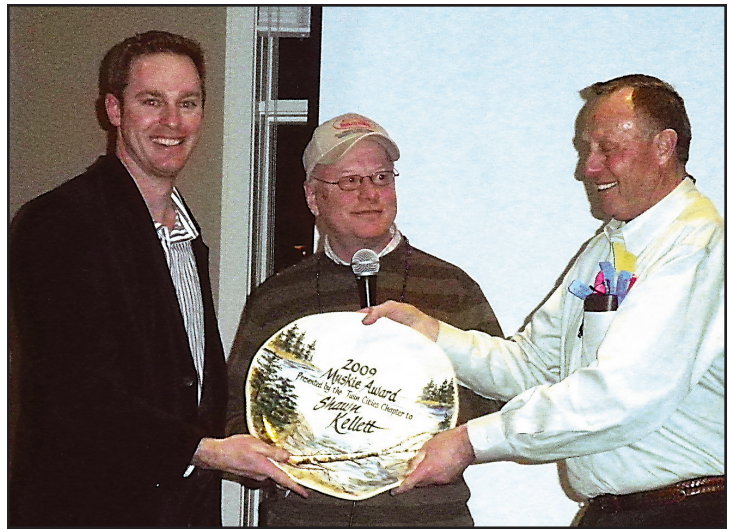
Make sure to thank Joe Mellott who took the banquet over a couple of years ago as a way of getting a second leg (in addition to the Frank Schneider Memorial Tournament) for our financial fundraising efforts. This will allow us some financial freedom in stocking more fish this year. Also, a big thanks to Jody Dahms who was a big part of this. If you have any feedback or suggestions for next year's event, please let us know so that we can keep making this a bigger and better event for you.

Some other new is the Cass Lake spearing. This is being pushed by some local people in Cass County. Shawn Kellett should have some information at the March meeting about this. He also has some petitions also to sign about the new lakes that the DNR proposed to be stocked with muskie. We need your support to make this happen by calling representatives, and also showing up at the public hearings.

We will be looking for volunteers to work with kids making lures for George's Tackle Box at the Muskie Expo coming up in April. For those interested we will have a sign up sheet up at the March meeting.

As the summer is closing in, make sure you take a look at the chapter-sponsored trips coming up. They are a very reasonable cost and a great chance to get out and fish with fellow members on some new waters and make some new friends on the water. Don't be shy – if you don't know anyone on the trip, you will when you're done.

Troy Zuelzke



Shawn Kellett, left, was presented the chapter's Muskie Award by Jim Kroupa, center, and George Selcke, left, at the Sportsmen's Banquet.

## Muskie Award

The chapter's prestigious Muskie Award was presented at the Sportsman's Banquet to Shawn Kellett. This award is presented each year to a deserving chapter member who has constantly and unselfishly devoted time and energy over the years to promoting and improving the goals of Muskies, Inc.

Shawn deserves this honor for all the time and effort he has given to our chapter and to Muskies Inc. When he was a fairly new MI member Shawn stepped up to serve on the board, becoming first vice president his second year. The next year he took over the chapter presidency and served for over four years in that capacity. He also worked closely with the tournament and stocking and rearing committees.

Shawn has been an asset to our chapter, working closely with the DNR and fish sources for our stocking efforts and to grow the muskie fishery statewide. He has given our chapter presence statewide attending MMA meetings, roundtables, rallies at the state capital and working with other MI chapters throughout the state.

Shawn is no longer chapter president, but he continues to work tirelessly for the local and statewide muskie fishery as well as working to see that the fishing industry as a whole is represented in the tax benefit allocation passed last year.

## Poolside Demo Meeting Moved

Our poolside demonstration meeting, originally announced for the March meeting, has been changed to the April meeting due to pool scheduling conflicts. Thorne Bros. will demo a variety of new lures. This is a great opportunity to see how they look in the water before you purchase.

The upcoming March meeting will feature the awards presentation for our Members Only Contest winners and the Muskie Tale Award.



*Frank and Barb Zappa, winners of over \$500 in the cash raffle; John and Linda Newman sold beads for the Heads 'n Tails game; Joe DeMars with one of many rods in the raffles; a great time was had by the crowd; one of the many raffles; Russ Peterson with rewards from one of several raffles his numbers were drawn for; part of the Lax Reproductions had display; Tony Sommerfled and Jim Doyle sold tickets for the mystery box raffle; Marilyn Dahlberg with Deb and Frankie Dusenka.*

## 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).

## BANQUET

*continued from page 1*

chapter who manned the raffle tables, sold raffle tickets, and ran prizes.

We also want to thank all of our sponsors and donors that made our banquet a success. Without these companies and individuals, we would not be able to do such a great event. Please keep them in mind when you consider buying tackle, trips, resort stays, guides and other products.

*Resorts: Retreat Lodge – Lake Vermilion; Spring Bay Resort and Guide Service – Lake Vermilion; Andersons Horseshoe Bay Lodge – Leech Lake*

*Guides: Josh Borovsky Muskie Guide; Kevin Cochran's Musky Guide Service; Dave Williamson's Musky Stalker Guide Service; Bob Benson's Guide Service; Brett Waldera's Guide Service; John Hoyer's 'Ski Patrol Guide Service; Josh Stevenson's Mighty Musky Fishing Guide Service; Gregg Thomas' Battle the Beast Guide Service; Bob Turgeon's Guide Service; Paul Schlagel's Enduro Fishing Guide Service; Matt Seifert Musky Mercenary Guide Service; Kris Astorp Musky Madness Guide Service*

*Retailers/Manufacturers:*

*Frankie's Live Bait & Marine; Chaos Tackle; Muskie Treats Tackle; Trophy Hunter Accessories – Glittertail Muskie Lures; Holcombe Tackle; Muskie Innovations; Muskie Mafia Lures; Musky Mayhem; Minnesota Valley Country Club; Northland Tackle; Phantom Lures; Rapala; Minnesota Twins; Shack Attack Lures; True Glide; Gander Mountain; Blue Ribbon Bait & Tackle; Lax Reproductions; Lakemaster; Tackle Industries; St. Croix; Shimano; Hilton Minneapolis; H3O Sunglasses; Musky Hunter; Eskimo; Marcum*

— *this 'n that* —

**CHAPTER MEMBERS ONLY CONTEST**

Awards for our chapter's Members Only Contest will be presented at the upcoming March meeting.

**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.

**2010 CHAPTER CHALLENGE**

Contact Matt Olson at 612-423-2404 if you would like to represent our chapter at Lake Vermilion August 25-27 at the

Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge. We want to field one more 6-man team at this gathering of chapters from all over the country.

**2010 CABIN FEVER CHALLENGE**

The Kentucky Chapter of Muskies Inc. is hosting the 19th annual Cabin Fever Challenge April 23 & 24, at Green River Lake, Campbellsville, Kentucky. The winning chapter will take home a traveling trophy. \$70 entry fee includes meals and seminars both nights. Anyone interested in forming a team for some early-season muskie fishing contact Denise Olson at 612-866-4730 or [olson@3pete.com](mailto:olson@3pete.com).

**upcoming events**

**MARCH**

- 9 General Meeting – Chapter Members Only Awards
- 24-28 Northwest Sportshow

**APRIL**

- 9-11 George's Minnesota Muskie Expo
- 13 General Meeting – Poolside Demonstration

**MAY**

- 8 Vet's Home Opener
- 11 General Meeting

**JUNE**

- 5 State Muskie Opener
- 8 General Meeting
- 12 Metro Muskie Tournament
- 13 Capable Partners Outing

**JULY**

- 13 General Meeting

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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 Muskies, 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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[www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org](http://www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org)

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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, remember 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're looking for a muskie trip, keep the sponsoring resorts in mind.*

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 Kevin Cochran's Musky Guide Service  
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 Brian Truax Guide Service  
 Vermilion Dam Lodge  
 Paul Villnow  
 Wades Custom Tackle  
 Walker Wireless  
 Whitefish Bay Camp

## next meeting

**MARCH 10**  
**SPEAKER:**  
**PAUL KLEIN**

*Paul has been a Muskie guide for 25 years and was frequent author for Essox Angler magazine. He pioneered the fishing of structure in open water for suspended fish.*

*Awards for our chapter's Members Only Contest as well as the Muskie Tale Award will be presented.*



**MUSKIES INC.**  
 7125 17th Avenue South  
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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.).*