



George Wahl Tournament To Benefit Metro-Area Fishery

Take a day to go muskie fishing and help improve our metro-area muskie fishery at the same time. 100% of the proceeds raised by the 2nd annual George Wahl Memorial Tournament held on 13 metro-area lakes this Saturday will be used for the muskie fishery.

Waters included in the tournament are Lake Minnetonka, Lake Waconia, Lake Independence, Eagle Lake, Bald Eagle Lake, Lake Calhoun, Lake Harriet, Lake of the Isles, Cedar Lake, Lake Owasso, White Bear Lake, Forest Lake, and the St. Croix.

The grand prize winner will be able to fish one of George's favorite fishing waters – Whitefish Bay on Lake of the Woods. A week-long stay at Whitefish Bay Camp for 4 people plus \$1000 cash is the grand prize. Every person who enters a muskie is eligible for the grand prize drawing.

Prizes will be awarded through 10th place and to the top-placing juniors. There will be opportunities for everyone to win resort stays, guide trips, a custom Thorne Bros. rod and many other prizes.

A Mary Villnow Memorial cash bonus – created to encourage women muskie anglers of all ages – will be awarded to the top three female anglers. The Fly Angler is giving a \$250 bonus for the biggest muskie caught using a fly.

Tournament entry is \$50 per angler or \$100 for a family of four. You can register through Friday

evening at Thorne Bros. in Blaine, Joe's Sporting Goods in St. Paul, Blue Ribbon Bait and Tackle in Oakdale. Entry includes fishing from 7 am to 4 pm and a feed. Friends and family are invited to the Awards Program and feed at Thorne Bros. Meal tickets can be purchased for a nominal fee.

George passed away in 2008 and the tournament was conceived as a

way to honor him, 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.

Fishing in the George Wahl tournament is a fun way to contribute to the muskie fishery that we all use and enjoy. We hope to see all chapter members on October 2.

A photograph of a man in a green jacket sitting in a red Skeeter boat. A large white banner is attached to the front of the boat. The banner features the text 'Win this boat' in large, bold, red letters. Above it, it says 'GRAND PRIZE FOR THE Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament'. Below that, it reads 'ANYONE WHO REGISTERS A MUSKIE IS ELIGIBLE FOR GRAND PRIZE DRAWING'. At the bottom of the banner, it lists '21 LAKES IN BEMIDJI-CASS-LEECH-WINNIPEGOSHISH-LONDVILLE AREA' and includes logos for 'SKEETER', 'FRANKIES', and 'NORTHERN LIGHTS'. The man is smiling and looking towards the camera.

He Caught a Muskie and Won a Boat!

Mike Crawford from Bemidji was the lucky winner of the Frank Schneider Muskie Tournament Grand Prize, a new Skeeter SX190 fully rigged with locators and trolling motor and a Yamaha 150 Optimax. Frankie Dusenka from Frankies Marine drew Mike's name to end the tournament held September 10-11-12. Everyone who registered a muskie during the tournament was eligible for the Grand Prize drawing. Mike caught a 47-inch muskie on Sunday morning which put him in 24th place, but made him eligible for the drawing.

Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament

Three days of wind and cold produced seventy-seven muskies and one northern for Muskies Inc's oldest fishign contest, the Frank Schneider Memorial Tournament held September 10-11-12 on lakes in the Bemidji-Cass Lake-Walker-Longvile area of northern Minnesota. Because of the strong winds, this year's tournament saw a number of fish from some of the smaller lakes.

The biggest fish of the tournament was a 54" from Lake Bemidji brought in by first place winner Kirk Willberg, who had a fantastic three days of fishing. He also registered a 53" and a 45.5" muskie and was the only participant to have tripled.

For his efforts Kirk earned himself a one week stay for 4 at Red Wing Lodge on Sabaskong Bay in Lake of the Woods and will be able to experience the hospitality of the Bartlett family. He will also receive a replica of the fish courtesy of Lax Reproductions and our chapter.

In second place was Damien Williams with 53" and 47" fish. He earned a week stay at Vermilion Dam Lodge on Lake Vermilion. Bill Keilen with a 50.5" and 43" fish took third place and has a week stay at Birch Villa Resort on Cass Lake.

Scott Smith came in first place of the junior anglers. He brought in a 43" muskie from Big Lake. Scott earned the Just Big Muskies \$250 bonus for junior anglers for his efforts. Austin Michaud came in second for the juniors with a 41" muskie from Leech Lake.

Tony Sommerfled registered the only northern in the tournament, a 39-incher from Lake Winnibigoshish. He received a stay at Huddle's Resort on Leech Lake.

All of the anglers in the top ten, junior angler winners and northern winner received a plaque, a Fenwick rod and Abu Garcia reel provided by Pure Fishing, and a bait package.

The awards program was held Sunday at Moondance Fairgrounds. The event included a feed for all participants, and raffles and drawings for door prizes. Bill Sherek from Due North Outdoors did an excellent job keeping things moving during the program. In addition to honoring



Kirk Willberg's 54-inch muskie from Lake Bemidji was the biggest fish in the Frank Schneider Tournament.

the top anglers, there were other honors. Bob Kubista presented a print in honor of his grandfather Walter to the oldest angler who had not won the award before. Chad Cedarstrand from Pure Fishing presented Abu Garcia bonus prizes to Damien Williams, Michael Wolters and Joe Ahlstrom, the anglers who caught the three biggest fish using Abu Garcia reels. The culmination of the program was Frankie Dusenka from Frankies Marine drawing for the grand prize, a Skeeter SX190 and won by Mike Crawford.

We would like to thank all the sponsors that help make this tournament possible, especially Reed's Outdoor Family Outfitters in Walker for allowing us to use their store for headquarters and for providing prizes for raffles and door prize drawings, and also Moondance Fairgrounds for hosting the Sunday feed.

Tournament Director Denise Olson presented a check for \$3000 to Harlan Fierstine, DNR Area Fisheries during the Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament. Dirk Peterson, Chief of Fisheries Management sent the chapter a letter that reads in part: "On behalf of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, I would like to acknowledge receipt of your donation in the amount of \$3,000 from the 43rd Muskies Inc. Frank Schneider Memorial Tournament in the Walker area. As your organization has requested, these funds will be used for our muskie fingerling production program... Thank you again for your support."





The crowd watched as Dennis Wolters accepted a print for being the oldest participant who had not won the award before. Vince Cafaro at xx was the oldest participant. He has been fishing the Frank Schneider tournament for many years and received the honor of Oldest Angler before.



Rick Lax, left, presented Dwight LaBrosse, right, a replica of the 54-inch fish he caught in the 2009 Frank Schneider tournament. The fish came out of Lake Bemidji and was the biggest fish registered in the tournament last year. Lax Reproductions and the chapter will give a replica of this year's biggest fish to Kirk Willberg who also registered a 54-inch muskie.



Bill Sherck unveiled a "top secret" lure to the crowd.

Tournament Standings

	NAME	LENGTH	PTS	WATER
1	Kirk Willberg	54, 45.5, 53	74.5	Bemidji
2	Damien Williams	47, 53	48	Bemidji
3	Bill Keilen	43, 50.5	41.5	Big
4	Matt Siefert	46, 47	41	Bemidji
5	Bob Landerville	46, 45.5	39.5	Leech
6	Nathan Buth	45.5, 45	38.5	Wabedo
7	Steve Sweetland	43, 43.5	34.5	Leech
8	Ron Honza	40, 45	33	Cass, Kitchi
9	Tim Hinrichs	42, 41	31	Big
10	Bruce Black	43, 40	31	Wabedo
11	Chris Thury	53	27	Bemidji
12	Mike Wolters	52	26	Kitchi
13	Todd Aronson	50	24	Leech
14	David Vranish	50	24	Wabedo
15	Gary Stay	49.5	23.5	Little Boy

JUNIOR DIVISION

1	Scott Smith	43	17	Big
2	Austin Michaud	41	15	Leech

NORTHERN DIVISION

1	Tony Sommerfeld	39	13	Winnie
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Complete listing available at www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org

A Muskie Tale from Greg Ide



When you are president you have to learn to tread lightly. Our chapter president Troy Zuzelke was on an outing to Andy Myers Lodge last year. Other members had not even arrived for the week by the time Troy had already returned from the hospital. What a way to start a week fishing in Canada. You'd think a PMTT Champion would be a bit more careful about the placement of lures in his boat.

Members Only Contest

Eric Bakke, Members Only Chair

Fall is here! Fall is here! At least that is what it has felt like the last few days. The sooner the better, so we can get some looks at some true GIANTS!

I had that opportunity earlier this month. I was lucky enough to net a 55-incher for my fishing partner, Larry Maronick. It was his first 50-incher in a dozen years of fishing muskies. It is truly remarkable being around a fish of that size for the few minutes that we were.

I would love to see that fish in November! The fish are about to put the feed bag and the thickest fish of the year are yet to be caught. Grab your stocking hat and warm clothes and hit the water! You could be only one cast away from YOUR next MONSTER!

Here are the standings:

JUNIORS DIVISION


1ST Gregory Batina - 27 points - 2 fish - 40" longest
2ND Thomas Batina - 17 points - 1 fish - 43"

WOMENS DIVISION

1ST Carole Janik - 46 points - 2 fish - 51" longest
2ND Christine Rein - 7 points - 1 fish - 33"

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WOMENS MASTERS

1ST Linda Knutson - 123 points - 8 fish - 48" longest
2ND Cindy Hegdahl - 20 points - 2 fish - 38" longest

MENS DIVISION

1ST Dave Knutson - 367 points - 19 fish - 49" longest
2ND Pat McAllister - 294 points - 14 fish - 53" longest
3RD Marko Brinatte - 264 points - 16 fish - 48.5" longest
4TH Eric Bakke - 193 points - 16 fish - 47" longest
5TH Brent Hirsch - 179 points - 13 fish - 55" longest
6TH Jack Hilbert - 161 points - 11 fish - 47" longest
7TH Matt Olson - 152 points - 12 fish - 46.5" longest
8TH Corey DeZeeuw - 151 points - 9 fish - 47" longest
9TH John Huss - 149 points - 9 fish - 48" longest
10TH Chad Hagel - 113 points - 8 fish - 47" longest

MENS HYBRID DIVISION

(points tabulated with pure-strain releases)

1ST Dave Weyland - 1 fish - 43.5"
2ND Nathan Kjellman - 1 fish - 39"
3RD Corey DeZeeuw - 1 fish - 38.5"

MENS MASTERS DIVISION

1ST Kris Astorp - 707 points - 40 fish - 51" longest
2ND Dean Roll - 606 points - 36 fish - 49" longest
3RD Phil Groth - 158 points - 13 fish - 50" longest

MENS MASTERS HYBRID DIVISION

(points tabulated with pure-strain releases)

1ST Kurt Hostager - 3 fish - 46" longest

LUNKER OF THE MONTH

APRIL - official - James Beheba - 47" - April 24 - Clear Lake, IA

MAY - no fish over 46"

JUNE - official - Pat McAllister - 52" - June 18 - Rush Lake

JULY - official - Brent Hirsch - 55" - July 28 - Lake Vermilion

AUGUST - unofficial - Chris Mueller - 51" - Mille Lacs - August 23

SEPTEMBER - unofficial - Larry Maronick - 55" - Lake Bemidji - September 9

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Chapter Fishing League

The last outing for the chapter league is a two-day outing scheduled for October 9 & 10 on Lake Minnetonka. Unfortunately the PMTT is having their championship October 9 & 10 on Lake Minnetonka. At press time, League coordinator was looking to re-schedule our outing. Anyone who has participated this will be sent an email with updated information.



Roger Ecklund has taken over the lead of the chapter fishing league with a 47-incher caught at 9:30 pm on a bucktail at the August 24 outing on Minnetonka .

Become a Board Member

Now is the time to consider joining the chapter's Board of Directors. Take part in making decisions that affect you as a member of this chapter. If you want to be more involved and have a say in what the chapter does on a day-to-day basis, become a board member. If you like to help plan events, or have a say in how they are planned, become a board member. If you want to be able to have a say in how the chapter uses its funds, become a board member. If you would like to influence how the chapter deals with Muskies International, the DNR, or other muskie clubs, become a board member.

The board needs people who are interested and willing to participate in making decisions for the chapter and its future. If you're interested in becoming a member of the board, please contact Troy Zeuzlke (952-955-3890 or tzeuzlke@yahoo.com). Or, contact any of the current board members and let them know.

Nominations for the board will be accepted at the November meeting. Elections will be held at the December meeting. Board members take office for two-year terms beginning in January.

Be sure to attend the next two meetings so that you may have a say in how your chapter is run.

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- Pac Bay DPL guides with SiC inserts
- Solid Carbonyl Tip-Top
- TAC handle
- Fuji TCS reel seats
- Oversized hook keeper



Share your own "Muskie Tale" – a story about something that happened while fishing, on the way to fishing or on the way back from fishing; finding something interesting on the end of your line; having trouble staying in the boat; some kind of mishap that happened while you were fishing. We hear lots of big fish stories, we want to hear something unusual.

Send your "tale" to last year's winner, Dave Rouse. E-mail it to olson@3pete.com, or mail to 1089 Stryker Ave., West St. Paul, MN 55118. Please submit by January. The person with the best tale will have the honor of keeping the Muskie Tale Award for a year, and choosing the next winner.

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.

A Boat Blessing

from Jim Kroupa

I've wanted to have my boat blessed for a long time. Things just didn't line up. A few years ago on the club Minaki trip a Canadian boater ran into my boat going quite fast. He wasn't up on plane and did not see my boat dead in the water in Paradise Bay. If it wasn't for a last second swerve he could have killed or seriously injured me or my fishing partner, Mike Gruendler.

Mike now lives in Pennsylvania, but once served on our club's board. He came back this year to fish at Whitefish Bay Camp which is one of our club's sponsors and to visit his daughter, Jennifer who lives here and is a Lutheran minister in Eden Prairie.

I asked his daughter if the boat could be blessed. Jennifer said it is surprising the things they are asked to bless. She researched an appropriate blessing that is basically for safety

from wrecks; from falling overboard in cold water; from flying hooks or whatever. I was also hoping for some positive Karma in catching fish and for myself but did not press the issue. Safety first.

It turns out there is an old if not ancient tradition to bless fishing fleets, fisherman and warships. I can only hope it brings me and my crew safety and hopefully some luck the next time I do battle with the muskie beasts. Here is the blessing Minister Gruendler found.

Blessing for a Small Boat

May Andrew and Phillip bless this craft

May angels dance above its deck
To ward off dangers fore and aft
From wind and wave and sunken wreck

All who sail it may they protect
And may all who cruise this mighty lake

Treat it always with wise respect
And no foolish risks ever take



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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, 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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Eskimo	Marcum		Whitefish Bay Camp
	Mighty Muskie Guide Service - Josh Stevenson		
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next meeting

OCTOBER 12

**SPEAKER:
TERRY HAGSTROM**

Terry Hagstrom was fishing the St. Croix for muskies before many knew there were muskies there. He is one of the few that fishes Winnibigoshish, home of the state record. Many of you also know Terry as the organizer of our chapter's Minnesota Veteran's Home Opener event, one of our most rewarding Chapter functions.



MUSKIES INC.

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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.).