

# On the Water



Volume 15, Issue 8

AUGUST 2012

## Upcoming Fishing Events

You won't want to miss either of our chapter's two tournaments this September. The 45th annual Frank Schneider Memorial Tournament is Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 7, 8 and 9 on 21 lakes in the Bemidji-Cass Lake-Leech-Winnibigoshish-Longville area of northern Minnesota. The 4th annual George Wahl Memorial Tournament is Saturday, September 29 on 13 metro-area lakes.

### Frank Schneider Memorial Tournament

Every person who registers for the Frank Schneider tournament this year will have their name entered in a drawing for a \$500 Gift Card from Reed's Family Outdoor Outfitters.

The Grand Prize is a Triton 17-EXP boat/motor/trailer package with a 115 hp Mercury, MinnKota troller and Hummingbird electronics. Every person who registers a muskie in the tournament will be entered in a drawing for the Grand Prize. Many years a person who has had a 40" fish has won the boat. The grand prize comes from Triton Boats and Frankie's Marine in Chisago City.

Standings are figured on a point system similar to the one used for our Members Only Contest. Prizes are awarded through tenth place and for three places for juniors. Prizes include Fenwick rods, Abu Garcia reels, Sébile baits and Spiderwire line courtesy of our friends at Pure Fishing. First place winner will get a trip to Red Wing Lodge on Lake of the Woods. Bonus prizes of \$500, \$250 and \$100 will be given by abu Garcia. The junior with the biggest fish will receive a \$250 bonus from Just Big Muskies DVDs.

There will be ample opportunities for everyone to win guide trips, Canadian and US resort stays, rods, reels, tackle boxes, and a multitude of other items with raffles and 100-square boards at the feeds both Friday and Saturday nights as well as at the Awards program on Sunday at Moondance Fairgrounds.

Entry for the Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie tournament is \$95, \$30 for junior contestants and \$175 for a family package. Funds raised at the tournament augment our general budget and are used for a multitude of projects.

### George Wahl Memorial Tournament

If you are unable to make it up north for a three-day event, stick around town and fish in the George Wahl Memorial Tournament. Grand Prize is a trip for 4 to Whitefish Bay Camp on Lake of the Woods and \$1000. every person who



### Minnesota High School Muskie Tournament

*This 45-inch muskie from Lake Bemidji caught by Nick Retka earned the team from Little Falls first place honors in the Minnesota High School Muskie Tournament. (more inside)*

registers a muskies is eligible for the drawing. Prizes, including a Thorne Bros. Gift Certificate and a commemorative Phantom are awarded through 10th place. The first 5 places also win \$500, \$400, \$300, \$200, \$100 cash.

100% of the proceeds from the George Wahl tournament will go toward the metro-area muskie fishery. Participating in this tournament is a good way to ensure that the quality of our local fishery will continue for years to come. Even if you can't fish, register and contribute to the fishery. Entry is \$50.

### Aquatic Invasive Species

Due to the concern about the spread of zebra mussels and other aquatic invasive species, the DNR has asked us to make changes to the tournaments this year. If your boat will have been in any waters other than the water you will be fishing for the tournament 30 days before the tournament, you will need to have it dry for 5 consecutive days before entering tournament waters or have it decontaminated by a DNR-approved unit and obtain a certificate. Every angler in either tournament must sign and turn in an Aquatic Invasive Species Compliance form.

### Tournament Registration

Everyone who has fished in either tournament, should have received a mailing with tournament information and registration forms. You can register for either tournament by mail, on-line at our website [www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org](http://www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org), or after August 6 in person at Thorne Bros. in Blaine, Joe's Sporting Goods in St. Paul or Blue Ribbon Bait & Tackle in Oakdale. You can also register for the Frank Schneider tournament through Labor Day at Reed's in Walker or One Stop in Longville. Frank Schneider tournament entry will go to \$100 after Labor Day.

## From Our President

We really have gotten hit with a hot summer. Water temperatures hit 80+ early and are showing no indication of backing off. Eventually we will get some cool nights and/or heavy rains that will bring the temperatures down. Now can be that perfect time to get some of those household projects done, so when the cooler water feeding rampage begins the family will encourage you to spend some time fishing.

I am glad that the muskie fingerlings our chapter bought are being over-summered in ponds with some depth. We hope for a high survivability rate when we net this fall. Remember that the DNR already stocked 263 of them in Lake Independence. We will keep you updated.

A reminder to check out the website <http://www.twincities-muskiesinc.org/> for information about the annual picnic at Minnehaha Falls. This replaces the August General Meeting and is a great time to renew old friendships and make some new ones.

We previously announced that Board member Eric Schultz has been named a Regional Representative for Region #1. He and two others have responsibilities for communications with all the chapters in Minnesota, North Dakota, Nebraska, New Mexico, and Washington. Board member Brent Geyen has accepted an appointment to the RVP position Eric vacated. Both Eric and Brent will be strong advocates for the resource.

Keep safe on the water!

TOM KEITH



Teams from eight schools competed in the third annual Minnesota High School Tournament. The top two in regional qualifying events fished in the tournament.

## Third Annual Minnesota High School Muskie Tournament

from Tom Keith

The top two high school teams from qualifying events in St. Cloud, Brainerd, Bemidji/Cass Lake, and the Twin Cities met July 2nd for a one-day final on Lake Bemidji. We were expecting a strong field, as the Brainerd and St. Cloud Chapters held a combined regional with 16 teams.

Because of the heat this year, we met at the ramp, gave the student teams instructions, introduced the judges, and got them on the water by 5:30 a.m. Every team was given a gift bag to share of lures, supplies, and fishing books. In our scoring system, a small muskie beats a big northern, but teams documented northers to get themselves on the board. Judges reported that most boats were contacting muskies, but there were no hook-ups.

Everyone fished until 1:00 and then headed to Cattails for the awards ceremony. We found that everyone had caught fish. We all shared stories of the day and the follows that people had.

State High School champions this year are Nick Retka and Lee Skajewski representing Little Falls HS with a nice 45-incher. They were eating lunch and still fishing when Nick caught the only muskie of the tournament. Second place went to Cody Dumler and Eric Skajewski from Royalton HS with a 30 inch northern.

Special thanks to our judges, for their excellent presence and support of our students. They are: Brian Johnson, Rory Potter, Mike Winther, and Rob Yuretich. Without people like them, we would not be able to put on the event.

I am grateful to the individuals and groups that support this event: Tackle Industries, Hedron Industries, The Hugh C. Becker Foundation, The Twin Cities Chapter of Muskies Inc., The Bemidji/Cass Lake Chapter of Muskies Inc., Just Encase, Designosaurus Inc., Tee Squared, Partners and Hunt Creative Group, Inc., Musky Innovations, Dennis Lappen, Jim Kath, Aaron Meyer, Kevin Cochran, and the Minnesota Muskie and Pike Alliance (MMPA). Without their help, this event would not be possible!

It was a great group of kids. We can be very confident in their ability to lead us to the future. At both the TC Regional and the State event, teams approached me, saying how much they appreciated the chance to participate in events like this and since they will be too old to participate next year, they offered to help by being a judge boat. It doesn't get much better than that.

# Members Only Contest

from Eric Bakke, Members Only Contest Chair

The summer heat is here and so are very high water temps. Please use your best judgment on whether or not to fish on certain waters. Once water temps get above 80 degrees it is really hard on the fish to be caught. Recovery time can be long and sometimes no matter what you try these fish won't make it. Be sure to get the fish unhooked as soon as possible and limit the time the fish is out of the water. Remember, there are many who have worked hard to create and protect this wonderful resource we have, so if it isn't a trophy for you please keep the fish in the water and pass on the traditional picture and measure. Take a picture of the fish in the net and let them go right away. You can do your best to estimate the length and report your best guess. Let's not be careless in the chase for these great fish.

I just got back from the Chapter Outing to Minaki, Ontario and let me tell you, the sun won. I choose the dates for this year's trip to coincide with the best moon phase of the season. Just goes to show you that weather trumps all!

The only division left without an entry is the Women's Division. So ladies, get out there and catch one of these 'Ski's and it may just get you a plaque!

Good luck to all and thanks for your participation

## JUNIORS DIVISION:

1ST Robert Chance - 19 points - 1 fish - 44.5"

## WOMENS DIVISION:

No entries

## WOMENS MASTERS:

1ST Linda Knutson - 42 points - 3 fish - 44" longest

2ND Cindy Hegdahl - 28 points - 1 fish - 54"

## MENS DIVISION:

1ST Eric Bakke - 117 points - 8 fish - 52" longest

2ND Brent Hirsch - 73 points - 6 fish - 46" longest

3RD Ryan Bublotz - 62 points - 4 fish - 43" longest

4TH George Selcke - 54 points - 3 fish - 51" longest

## TELL US YOUR "MUSKIE TALE"

*It might earn you the chapter's "Muskie Tale Award. We're looking for stories that are something a little out of the ordinary – what happened while fishing; on the way to fishing; on the way back from fishing; maybe you found something interesting on the end of your line; or some kind of mishap happened while you were out fishing. Share with us by emailing your "tale" to Denise Olson at [olson@3pete.com](mailto:olson@3pete.com). Or mail it to 7125 17th Ave. So., Richfield, MN 55423. The person with the best tale will have the honor of keeping the Muskie Tale Award for a year.*



Cindy Hegdahl caught this 54-incher, the longest fish turned in so far this year.

5TH Chad Hagel - 52 points - 4 fish - 42" longest

6TH Chris Williams - 41 points - 3 fish - 47.5" longest

7TH Corey DeZeeuw - 31 points - 3 fish - 40.5" longest

8TH John Newman Jr - 22 points - 2 fish - 44" longest

8TH Dwight Geisler - 22 points - 1 fish - 48"

10TH Matt Olson - 19 points - 1 fish - 45"

## MENS HYBRID DIVISION:

(points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

1ST Corey DeZeeuw - 16 points - 2 fish - 34.5" longest

## MENS MASTERS DIVISION:

1ST Marko Brinatte - 309 points - 16 fish - 46.5" longest

2ND David Gustafson - 240 points - 14 fish - 47.5" longest

3RD Dave Knutson - 51 points - 3 fish - 46" longest

## MENS MASTERS HYBRID DIVISION:

(points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

1ST Kurt Hostager - 24 points - 1 fish - 50"

## LUNKER OF THE MONTH:

MARCH - Official - Dwight Geisler - 48" - March 12 - Cave Run, KY

APRIL - Official - Matt Olson - 45" - April 29 - Clear Lake, IA

MAY - Official - Tony Sommerfeld - 48" - May 29 - St. Croix River, MN

JUNE - Unofficial - Cindy Hegdahl - 54" - June 28 - Lake Plantaganet, MN

JULY - Unofficial - Kurt Hostager (Hybrid) - 50" - July 10 - Lake Elmo, MN

If there is any discrepancies in the numbers please let me know, I will adjust accordingly. Sometimes with the online submission things don't always go into the computer like you wanted them to. Let me know if there are any changes that need to be made with any duplicate fish or incorrect information in your submissions. Thanks again to everyone for your participation.

See you On the Water!!

## calendar of events

### AUGUST

- 11-18 Red Wing Lodge, LOW Outing
- 14 General Meeting / Annual Picnic - Minnehaha Falls
- 16 Chapter Summer League Outing - Lake Minnetonka - Gray's Bay Landing - 6-10 pm
- 25-9/1 Chapter Challenge, Red Wing Lodge, LOW

### SEPTEMBER

- 7-9 Frank Schneider, Jr. Memorial Muskie Tournament
- 11 General Meeting
- 12 Chapter Summer League Outing - Lake Waconia - 6-10 pm
- 29 George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament

### OCTOBER

- 6-7 Chapter Summer League Outing - Lake Minnetonka - Gray's Bay Landing - TBD
- 9 General Meeting

## Chapter Outing - Minaki, Ontario

from Eric Bakke

Another year of the Annual Minaki Trip has come and gone and this year THE SUN WON! As many of you know no matter how much you plan, you can't predict and/or control the weather. 5 of the 7 days we were at Minaki it was in the low 90s with no wind or clouds. That kind of weather makes fishing awfully tough, but takes an even greater toll on the body.

We had 15 people participating in the outing this year. There were 45 muskies caught by the group with big fish being a 48" caught by newcomer Matt Murtha on the first night of the trip! Top muskie producer of the trip was Troy Zuelzke with 11 fish for the trip. We had no 50s caught this year, which was a first since my first trip in 2007, but had 21 fish in the 40s, 20 fish in the 30s, and 4 fish in the 20s. There were plenty of fish seen by all and we even got some walleyes from the dock for a fish fry on Thursday afternoon for the group.

In comparison to years past we were similar in numbers of fish caught, but down in the numbers of big fish caught and seen. All-in-all we had a very respectable trip with 87% of the people in the group catching fish. If you are interested in more info on this annual chapter outing, contact me and we can have a chat about all that is Minaki.

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*Place a classified ad in On the Water. 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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## Fish the Chapter Challenge

Due to some health issues, 2 of the anglers scheduled to represent our chapter at this year's Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge August 25-September 1 have had to drop out. We need to fill those spaces. If you're interested in filling someone's shoes, please call John Olson at 612-866-5369. The Challenge is being held at Red Wing Lodge, on Lake of the Woods.


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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.*

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Frankie's Live Bait & Marine	Musky Madness Guide Service – Kris Astorp	Shimano	
Frank's Rods			
Gander Mountain			

next  
meeting

**AUGUST 14**

**ANNUAL PICNIC  
MINNEHAHA FALLS**

*The August meeting will be our annual Pot Luck Summer Picnic at Minnehaha Falls Park. Burgers, brats, buns and pop will be provided. Everyone should bring a side dish or dessert to share. Meet at 6:00 pm at the pavilion on Minnehaha Parkway by the falls.*

*This is an enjoyable night for the whole family, so bring the kids. Everyone is invited.*



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*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.).*

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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 welcome table at each meeting. You will see ads from our sponsors who have made major donations to our chapter in the newsletter throughout the year. The sponsors with ads here have made major donations to the chapter of products, gift certificates, guide trips, and resort stays for our banquet, tournaments and welcome table. The ads are one of the ways we thank them.

Please consider these resorts and/or guides when you are planning a fishing trip or just a day of fishing in the metro area. 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're in the stores, please tell them thank you from our chapter.

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