

# On the Water



Volume 15, Issue 2

FEBRUARY 2012

## ***Dont Miss the Twin Cities Sportsman's Banquet***

**T**he Twin Cities Sportsman's Banquet, our chapter's winter fundraising event, will be held Saturday, March 31 at the Minnesota Valley Country Club in Bloomington. Last year's banquet, with over \$20,000 in prizes, resulted in record profits that will be used to help us achieve our stocking and rearing goals. Prizes this year include resort stays on premier muskie lakes, fishing trips with renowned muskie guides, guns, St. Croix rods, Shimano reels, Just Encase tackle boxes, Gary's custom rods, Frank's custom rods, custom painted one-of-a-kind lures, H30 sunglasses, plus loads of tackle, storage and other outdoor gear. This year we will continue the themed raffle tables format with each table valued at more than \$1,000 each, plus cash raffles, games and the "mystery" raffle.

Early-bird dinner and raffle ticket packages that will save you up to \$70 are available again this year. If you purchase an early-bird package before March 10, you will qualify for a drawing for St. Croix Legend muskie rod and a Shimano Calcutta reel. If you miss the deadline, you can still order an early-bird package prior to the event and save.

Seating is limited to the first 200 who purchase tickets and they will go fast, so get your orders in as soon as possible. The banquet facility requires us to pre-order food so reservations must be purchased prior to the event.

You may purchase your tickets several ways. Use the order form



*At last year's Sportsman's Banquet Eric Bakke (right), Members Only Contest Chair, presented Brent Hirsch a LAX Reproductions replica of the 55-inch muskie that earned him the Lunker of the Month title in our chapter's contest. This year at the Banquet we will again present a replica to the winner of the chapter's Lunker of the Month. The chapter's Muskie Award will also be presented at the banquet.*

inside and mail in your reservations. Purchase on-line with a credit card or PayPal at our chapter website [www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org](http://www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org). Or you can print an order form from the website and mail in your payment. Dinner reservations and early-bird raffle ticket packages will be available for sale at the February chapter meeting.

The banquet committee will need volunteers to help at the event. Volunteer to help man one of the many prize tables. Please contact Joe Mellott, Troy Zuelzke or Jody Dahms or send an email to [banquet@twincitiesmuskiesinc.org](mailto:banquet@twincitiesmuskiesinc.org).

And don't forget to invite your friends. This is a fun night out whether a person is "into" muskie fishing or not.

## ***Members Only Contest Awards Presented at "Winter Picnic"***

**O**ur February meeting will be a "Winter Picnic" dinner followed by an awards program.

We will honor the chapter's Members Only Contest winners as well as present the "Muskie Tale" award to some deserving storyteller. Come to have a good time and be prepared to hear muskie stories about the big ones caught this year, and also some that were not caught.

We will begin serving at 6:30 p.m. so come early if you can.

## From Our President

*Each month I will use this column to communicate with the membership and will also highlight the activities of the Board.*

- The Board has been looking at ways to further develop our website and will be meeting with a website designer. Our goal is to keep it current and relevant.*
- The General Meetings will start at 7:00 p.m. and the Welcome Table opens at 6:45 p.m.*
- John Olson will be coordinating the Chapter Challenge teams. Teams will compete against chapters nation-wide. It always is a great trip.*
- Eric Bakke is coordinating the chapter annual outing to Minaki. You can talk to him for more information about the trip.*
- Eric is also planning the February meeting, where he will present the awards for the Members Only Contest. The Board will be providing a meal and dessert. We are reviving this concept and will have a great night.*
- Armed Forces Family Fishing Celebration is going to be Friday, June 22nd. We need volunteers from our chapter to guide military kids and families on a morning of fishing on Lake Minnetonka. We will have an article about this next month.*

*As you think about our Chapter, what can we do to expand opportunities for current members and involve new members? If you have any thoughts, please let me know at tomk@usiwireless.com.*

*Tom Keith*

## Start Making Plans for Summer

The Twin Cities chapter has a number of opportunities to join in some muskie fishing fun with other Muskies Inc members this summer.

### **PARADISE COVE, MINAKI, ONTARIO July 14-21**

We will again be headquartered at Paradise Cove in Minaki, Ontario. The resort offers: guide service, free boat launch, free dock facilities, a restaurant and lounge, and Hot Spot depth maps. Check out the resort at [www.paradisecoveminaki.com](http://www.paradisecoveminaki.com). Eric Bakke (bakke193@umn.edu, 612-202-7169) can take your reservation or answer any questions you may have. Lodging is \$297.50 for the week. A \$50 deposit to Eric is required. A number of people who have gone on this trip before have signed up again so get your deposit in if you would like to secure a spot. For Eric the average trip cost including gas and food over the last 5 years has been about \$600.

### **RED WING LODGE, LAKE OF THE WOODS August 11-18**

The Bartlett family at Red Wing Lodge on beautiful Sabaskong Bay has hosted Muskies Inc. outings for years with personal and friendly service. Their cabins and services exhibit that they understand what muskie people need and like.

Red Wing Lodge served as headquarters for seven Chapter Challenges and has been chosen to host Chapter Challenge again in 2012.

You'll find floating docks, electrical hookups at each dock, and a huge generator in place for power outages. Services available include: license, unleaded gas, ice, tackle, maps, ice cream.

Cost per person in housekeeping cabins is \$300 (US Funds) for 2012, which breaks down to just \$42.85 per day for Canadian muskie fishing. The trip includes: daily bag of ice, free dockage, free boat launch, free dinner one night courtesy of the Bartlett family, one free trip given away in a drawing and door prizes.

Reservations require a \$50 non-refundable deposit, made out to 'North Metro Muskie Inc.' Contact John van Ingen (maxjo@mac.com, 651-699-5172) or Pat Miller (donnagmiller@comcast.net, 651-429-1629) to make your reservation.

### **CHAPTER CHALLENGE, LAKE OF THE WOODS August 25-September 1**

The chapter is looking for members to represent the Twin Cities chapter at the annual Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge headquartered at Red Wing Lodge, Lake of the Woods this August. Teams from MI chapters nationwide will gather August 29-31 for the Challenge.

As winners of the Challenge last year, the Star of the North chapter will be hosting the event. Although the tournament is Wednesday - Friday, we have reserved cabins at Red Wing Lodge for the entire week to allow for some pre-fishing.

A \$100 deposit per person is required for the lodging. The chapter will pay for the team entry. Meals are provided the 3 days during the tournament. Please contact John Olson 612-751-5715 or 612-866-5369 if you'd like to be part of the team.





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Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Platinum Bonus Package** QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$155 (\$225 value)

**Includes dinner and \$190 in raffle tickets**

*If purchased before March 10, will be entered  
in Early-Bird drawings for a Shimano Calcutta  
reel and a St. Croix Legend rod.*

**Gold Bonus Package** \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$105 (\$125 value)

**Includes dinner and \$90 in raffle tickets**

*If purchased before March 10, will be entered  
in Early-Bird 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

## Thank Our Sponsors

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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 spon-  
sors 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  
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from sponsoring retailers. If you're looking  
for a muskie trip, keep the sponsoring  
resorts in mind.*

## next meeting

### FEBRUARY 14 AWARDS NIGHT

*Join us for a "Winter Picnic" of  
BBQ sandwiches with accompani-  
ments and dessert. We will start  
serving at 6:30 p.m. After we eat,  
winners of our chapter's Members  
Only Contest will receive their  
awards. Also plan on hearing some  
"Muskie Tails" and see the presen-  
tation of the "Tail" to the winner.*



### 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  
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off I-494 & Lyndale Ave.).*

# Thanks to the Sponsors Who Donate to Our Chapter

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. You will see ads from our sponsors who have made major donations to our chapter in the newsletter throughout the year. The sponsors with ad 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. And if you're in the stores, please tell them thank you from our chapter.

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Northland Adventures Guide Service – Dustin Carlson  
Okuma  
One Stop  
Phantom Lures  
Rapala  
George Selcke  
Bill Sherck  
Shimano  
'Skie Patrol Guide Service – John Hoyer  
Sportsman's Connection  
Tackle Industries  
Trophy Hunter Accessories – Glittertail Muskie Lures  
Bob Turgeon's Guide Service  
True Glide Lures  
Paul Villnow  
Wades Custom Tackle