

On the Water



Volume 15, Issue 7

JULY 2012

High School Regional Tournament



High School teams (left to right) from Shakopee, Minnetonka, Wayzata and Buffalo participated in the regional qualifying muskie tournament on Lake Minnetonka July 21. The team from Shakopee won with a 44.5-inch muskie. They, along with the team from Wayzata, will represent our region at the state final on July 2 on Lake Bemidji.

The Twin City regional qualifying high school muskie tournament leading to the state final event was scheduled for June 19. However, an early morning line of severe thunderstorms forced a two-day postponement.

Teams from Shakopee, Wayzata, Minnetonka, and Buffalo High Schools showed up early on tournament day, ready to compete. Each team was given a prize bag of Ron Schara books, new lures, used lures, hooks, and other fishing supplies. Before fishing started, there was also a drawing for a new Fenwick rod, a used Lowrance sonar/GPS, and a case filled with lures. After a brief talk about safety and invasives, the four teams set out on Minnetonka for their adventure.

The positive attitudes continued as teams started catching multiple species right away. Fish were active and teams were calling in fish. The team from Shakopee, Robbie and Michael Chance, landed a 44.5 inch muskie that ultimately won the event.

Everyone was seeing fish and several teams had fish on, but only one was landed. Most teams continued to see fish until the event ended at 1:00 p.m. when everyone went back to Gray's Bay for pictures and prizes. Members of the winning team each received a rod from Muskie Innovations. They will go on to represent this region in the state event July 2 on Lake Bemidji. The second place team from Wayzata HS each got a rod and reel donated from a chapter member. Each member of the remaining two teams was awarded a new bass rod from a member of our chapter. We had a great day and the teams look forward to participating next year.

Stocking and Rearing Report

The Twin Cities Chapter recently purchased 1073 year-old muskies from Oswald Fish Farm for \$14,000. The majority of these fish were placed in two western Hennepin county rearing ponds. The 15-acre Dubay pond (27-0129) was stocked with 450 fish and the 12-acre Pasenow pond (27-0195) received 360 fish.

Since this is the last year of the Lake Minnetonka, White Bear Lake and Eagle Lake DNR stocking study and considering the difficulty we have had in obtaining yearlings the past several years, it was decided that we would attempt to over-summer fish for our own use. The two ponds the West Metro DNR came up with are of sufficient size and depth that should be suitable for these fish to survive the summer, and yet be harvestable in the fall.

The DNR felt that a 50% minimum return would be very realistic for this project and didn't have any concerns with their ability to harvest the ponds in the fall. So, even at the worst projections, the chapter would have a value of around \$28 per fish which would equate to a savings of \$7 per fish based on last year's quotes.

The remaining 263 fish went into Lake Independence in order to free up some of the DNR's fall fingerlings. With our help, the DNR will now use their fingerlings for that portion of the study this fall. It is possible that the DNR may ask for more assistance with fingerlings, but has held off requesting anything until their harvest has been complete.

From Our President

The Armed Forces Family Fishing Celebration was Friday, June 22nd on Lake Minnetonka. Our chapter did a great job of getting members to guide military kids and families for a morning of fishing. After fishing, Maynards had a terrific lunch for all military kids, military families, and guides. All kids were given a complimentary gift bag of lures and fishing supplies. One of our members told me he remembered how important it was to his son, when he won a rod and reel. He wanted to make sure those types of memories are available to kids. So, for the second year in a row, he purchased a rod and a reel for the kid, who won the Muskie/Northern Pike Division. We will have more information in the article.

Instead of the July 10 General meeting, we are planning to launch at Hidden Falls below the Ford Dam and fish to Downtown Saint Paul. Afterwards, we can eat at Tiffany's (2051 Ford Parkway) and watch Baseball's All Star Game. Greg Ide is working on getting a church parking lot, as it would be tough to park with a boat trailer at Tiffany's. He has launched at Hidden Falls many times and said there is plenty of parking and the launch is good. We thought of it as an "assessment" of the area. Greg knows of two 48" fish caught there. Only 16 people fished last years Minnetonka outing and 12 came to the Tonka Grille, so we thought we would try something different. He will assess Hidden Falls before that time to be sure there are no safety issues. Fishing will be from 5 to 9 that night for League, if agreed to, and I think fish or even showing up should get double points. The event will be cancelled if there is lightning.

The High School Muskie Tournament is scheduled for July 2nd on Lake Bemidji. We will have an article on it in the August newsletter. The TC Regional was won by Shakopee High School. MI members Robbie and Michael Chance won the event and are advancing to the state tournament.

Hope your season is going well!

TOM KEITH



Above: Kids from military families participated in the Sunfish Shoot-Out. The winner is the person who catches the most fish in a five-minute interval. Left: Three-year-old Dalve was the winner of the northern/muskie division. TC chapter president Tom Keith presented him with a new Calcutta reel and rod.

Armed Forces Family Fishing Celebration

A great time was had by all who participated in the Armed Forces Family Fishing Celebration on Lake Minnetonka July 22. This marks the fourth year that the Twin Cities chapter, Fishing for Life and Maynards have collaborated on this event.

The Armed Forces Family Fishing Celebration is exclusively for youth and their families who have had a family member in the Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Marines, National Guard, etc.), as well as for Wounded Warriors and veterans recently returned from deployment.

Volunteer guides from several organizations took participants out on the water for a morning of fishing action. Many participants took advantage of the great shore fishing while waiting for a turn in a boat.

Everyone came in from fishing about 11:00 a.m. and were treated to a delicious lunch from Maynards. An awards program with trophies and medals for the biggest fish in several categories followed the meal. Every kids who participated received complimentary packs of fishing "goodies" provided by our chapter.

Many thanks to all the volunteer helpers and those who took time to serve a guides that make this event a success. And, thanks to Maynards for the use of their docks and the delicious lunch.

Chapter Summer Fishing League

The first outing for the chapter fishing league was Saturday, June 9 on Forest Lake. It turned out to be a beautiful day on the water. There was a nice breeze and plenty of sun. The Metro Muskie Tournament, being held the same day, created quite a buzz around 6 am with people at the Lake Three launch on Forest Lake. Of the people that fished for league there were no fish boated.

Results from the second outing June 27 are currently unavailable. Standings will be published next month. The third outing will be July 10 for our general meeting.

Many thanks to Nic Romero for taking over the organization of the league this year. If you need more information or want to fish in any of the outings, contact him at 651-214-5269 or nicromero@gmail.com. Come fish in a league outing and join in the fun!



Veteran Eric Amidon caught this 53" muskie while fishing with Ben Olsen at the Capable Partners / Military Fishing event on Lake Minnetonka June 10. A member of Capable Partners caught a 41" fish. This is the first time in several years that any muskies have been caught at this event. Volunteer guides took physically-challenged members of Capable Partners and military from Wounded Warriors for a morning of muskie fishing. After fishing, everyone enjoyed a picnic lunch. Thanks to Libby and Tim Hoene, Paul Hartman and the volunteer guides who were willing to share a love for the pursuit of muskies with a fellow outdoorsman who can't get out fishing easily.

— this 'n that —

SEEKING NEW REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

The Twin Cities chapter is looking for an individual to represent our chapter at Muskies Inc. Region 1 meetings throughout the year. The Regional Vice President will report to the Board the results of the Regional meeting. Most meetings can be arranged to be by phone conference. Only one meeting per year must be attended in person. This year is it in October in Bemidji.

RED WING LODGE, LOTW August 11-18

There is still time to join Twin Cities and North Metro chapter members on the trip to Red Wing Lodge in August. Contact John Van Ingen (maxjo@mac.com, 651-699-5172) or Pat Miller (donnasmiller@comcast.net, 651-429-1629) to sign up to if you need more information. Cost per person in housekeeping cabins is \$300 (US Funds), 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.

MEMBERS ONLY CONTEST

Standings of the chapter Members Only Contest will be published August-January. As of the end of June not many fish have been turned in. Remember to register your fish within 30 days of being caught. You can register online at the MuskiesInc.org website, download a form and mail or give it to Eric Bakke, Contest Chair. Good luck on the water!!

ONTARIO OPPORTUNITY

If you're interested in a fishing trip to Nestor Falls, Ontario area this might interest you. Frank Carroll owns a small guest cabin that can sleep two comfortably and more if necessary on Crow (Kakagi) Lake. The cabin is located right on the water with a knotty pine interior. He will rent the cabin on a weekly, monthly, or sea-

sonal basis, can offer a price that would be hard to match anywhere else and is willing to negotiate. Contact Frank Carroll at frank.carrollthe3rd@gmail.com.

WATCH FOR YOUR TOURNAMENT MAILING

Information for our chapter's two September tournaments – the Frank Schneider Memorial Tournament and the George Wahl Memorial Tournament – will go in the mail this month. If you have fished in either tournament in the past three years you are already on the mailing list. If you want to be added to the mailing list, email your street address to olson@3pete.com. The Frank Schneider tournament is September 7-9 on 20 lakes in the Bemidji-Cass-Walker-Longville area. Grand Prize is a Triton boat/motor/trailer package. The George Wahl tournament is September 29 on 13 metro area lakes. 100% of the proceeds from the tournament go to the metro-area muskie fishery.

calendar of events

JULY

- 10 General Meeting / Chapter Summer League Outing - Mississippi River Pool 2, Hidden Falls Landing - 6-10 pm
- 14-21 Paradise Cove Minaki Outing
- 23 Chapter Summer League Outing - Lake Minnetonka - Gray's Bay Landing - 6-10 pm

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

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.*



At the 7th annual Minnetonka Muskie Invitational Tournament, Twin Cities chapter President Tom Keith accepted a \$300 check from Tournament Director Rob Gardner. The check is to be used to help in the stocking efforts at Lake Minnetonka. The Minnetonka Muskie Invitational was held on Friday, June 15. Fifteen teams competed on Lake Minnetonka and finished the day at Lord Fletchers for the awards ceremony. People had a great time and fish were caught.

 An advertisement for Fenwick EliteTECH Muskie Rods. The background is a textured, light brown color. At the top center is the Fenwick logo, which features a stylized eagle with spread wings above the word 'fenwick' in a script font. Below the logo, the text reads 'EliteTECH Muskie Rods'. To the right of the text is a large, detailed image of a fishing rod, showing the handle with a cork grip and the reel seat. The rod is dark green with gold accents. Below the main text, there is a paragraph describing the rod's design and construction. To the right of this paragraph is the 'TAC HANDLE' logo and a short description of the handle's features. At the bottom right, there is a list of 'Rod Features' including Pac Bay DPL guides with SiC inserts, Solid Carboly Tip-Top, TAC handle, Fuji TCS reel seats, and Oversized hook keeper.

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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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Coot Lures	Mighty Muskie Guide Service – Josh Stevenson	Red Wing Lodge – Lake of the Woods	Vermilion Dam Lodge
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next meeting

JUNE 12

ON THE WATER

Plan to launch at Hidden Falls below the Ford Dam and fish to downtown Saint Paul. Afterwards, we can eat at Tiffany's (2051 Ford Parkway) and watch Baseball's All Star Game. Greg Ide is working on arranging for use of a church parking lot for those who want to watch the game. Greg has launched at Hidden Falls many times and said there is plenty of parking and the launch is good. Greg knows of two 48" fish caught there. Fishing will be from 5 to 9. The event will be cancelled if there is lightning.



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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.).

Thanks to the Sponsors Who Donate to the Twin Cities 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 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.

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 muskie resource and its members.

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Frank's Rods

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