

On the Water



Volume 15, Issue 5

MAY 2012

2012 Sportsman's Banquet

The annual Sportsman's Banquet held on Saturday, March 31 was a huge success. Many thanks go to Joe Mellott and Jody Dahms for all their hard work organizing this major fundraising effort for the Twin Cities chapter. We will certainly miss them as they step down this year. They have left big shoes to fill.

Over \$22,000 in prizes were taken home by attendees through raffles, silent auctions, and fun contests. Thank you to everyone who showed up to participate. It takes your support to make this a successful event. And a special thank you goes out to all of the banquet sponsors. Without them, there would not be a banquet, so please consider them in the future when buying equipment, resort stays, guide trips, and boats.

In addition to all the fun, there were some chapter awards presented at the banquet. This year's Muskie Award was presented to Eric Schultz and Corey DeZeeuw was presented Lunker of the Year (see page 2).



The chapter's Muskie Award was presented to Eric Schultz at the annual Sportsman's Banquet on Saturday, March 31. The Muskie Award is presented each year to a chapter member who has given their time and talents to the chapter. Eric has served our chapter as the Regional Vice President, representing us at Muskies Inc. International meetings for a number of years. He also serves on the tournament committee and the board of directors. Eric is a willing worker and shows up at almost every event our chapter holds. And, he has won the chapter Summer Fishing League for 2 out of the 3 years we have been holding the league.



One of the many tables filled with prizes at the 2012 Sportsman's Banquet. Attendees went home with over \$20,000 of prizes.



George Selcke and Greg Ide taking care of one of the many raffle tables. Note the raffle tickets in George's pocket.



Banquet attendees dropped tickets at the raffle tables and relaxed before dinner.

Summer Fishing League

Dates for the chapter summer fishing league will be announced this month. Jody Dahms, who instituted the league and has run it since its inception, is unable to run it this summer. Nic Romero has stepped forward to take over the league. Everyone is welcome to join the league outings. It is intended as a fun outing with other chapter members. For those that don't have a fishing partner, we will find space in a boat for you to take part in the event. Watch for announcement of league dates on the chapter website, www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org.

From Our President

If you were to sharpen the hooks on one of your muskie lures each day, you will have less than 40 done by opening day. Now that the show season is done, it is time to get started with all of those opening day preparations. A special thanks to Greg Ide for the booths he sets up and organizes for our chapter at the outdoor shows.

Our Banquet Committee did a great job with our fundraising banquet. An amazing number of guide trips, rods, reels, lures, and assorted muskie merchandise went home that night with our members. Those tools in the hands of our membership will yield more safely released fish this year.

Our next event is the Veterans' Home Opener on May 5th. If you would be willing to help with something, please contact Toy Zeulzke. It is going to be quite a special day. We are having a ceremony at 8:45 a.m. to recognize:

- *The Minneapolis Veterans' Home for serving veterans for 125 years.*
- *The late Helen Ness for the accomplishments in her life.*
- *The TC Chapter of Muskies Inc. for co-sponsoring this event for 23 years.*

The Armed Forces Family Fishing Celebration is going to be Friday, June 22nd on Lake Minnetonka. We need volunteers from our chapter to guide military kids and families on a morning of fishing. Maynards will be providing a lunch for all guides. We will put together packages of lures and supplies for about 50 military kids. If you have any muskie or bass lures you would be willing to donate to these kids or you would be willing to guide that morning, please contact me.

Try to fish with at least one new person this year. We need to develop the inter-connectivity of our Chapter. That increased strength will pay dividends in the hyper-politicized environment of today.

Tom Keith



Corey DeZeeuw (right) won 2011 big fish honors in the chapter's Members Only Contest with this 55-incher from Lake Waconia. Member Only Contest chair Eric Bakke presented Corey with a replica of the fish at the Sportsman's Banquet last month. Lax Reproductions has created replicas of the chapter's biggest "Lunker of the Month" for several years.

Veteran's Home Fishing Opener

Residents of the Minneapolis Veteran's Home will be treated to the 23rd Annual Fishing Opener on Saturday, May 5. Our chapter annually co-sponsors this event with several VFW, American Legion, or AmVets Posts. A trout pond will be set up at the site and stocked with trout. Our volunteers help the residents from the Vet's Home catch the fish, clean them, and prepare and serve a "shore lunch" of fresh-caught trout, fried potatoes and beans to the veterans.

This year will include a recognition ceremony starting about 8:45 am for Twin Cities Muskies Inc. chapter member, the late Helen Ness. Helen was a nurse in World War II and served in Europe as a Lt. Colonel. That was a very high rank, as the highest ranking women were Colonels back then. She returned to Minnesota and served at the VA Hospital for nearly 30 years. During that time she became the fishing partner of Hugh C. Becker, who also worked at the V.A. Both were members of our chapter. Helen spent the last year of her life as a resident at the Veteran's Home. Our chapter is presenting a plaque and a 53-inch muskie Helen caught to the Veteran's Home to recognize Helen and her accomplishments for veterans. Our chapter will also be recognized for 23 consecutive years of service to the veterans of our country.

Everyone who can should take some time Saturday morning and help out. You'll be glad you did. If you don't attend any other chapter event, this one is well worth it. It's extremely rewarding to see our veterans who may never get the chance any other time during the year to come out and get some fishing in. Many of the residents are lined up waiting bright and early in the morning.

Volunteers – and many are needed – will help with the fishing, cooking, cleaning fish and generally making this a fun event. Be at the Veterans Home (by Minnehaha Falls) around 7 am. If you can bring 10 pounds of boiled potatoes with you, please contact Troy Zuelzke at tzuelzke@yahoo.com and let him know you can help in that way. Otherwise, he will be boiling potatoes galore the night before.

Capable Partners Outing

An outing with physically challenged members of the Capable Partners organization is planned for Sunday, June 10 from 6:30 am to “shore lunch” time on Lake Minnetonka. Share your love for the pursuit of muskies with a fellow outdoorsman. The outing will be held in conjunction with a Military Fishing Event sponsored by Libby and Tim Hoene. Volunteers are needed to take guests out for a morning of fishing. About one-half of participants will need space for wheelchairs, but any size boat can be matched with one of the Capable Partners. You don't have to have a boat to join in. A “shore lunch” will end the event and help is needed for that as well. And if you show up, someone with a boat might invite you to continue fishing in the afternoon. Please contact Paul Hartman at 651-269-2144 or Libby Hoene at 763-755-2482 or Tim Hoene at 763-370-3802 to volunteer.



June Muskie Tournaments

Anglers who want to add a little competition to their June muskie fishing have the opportunity to participate in two tournaments during the month.

METRO MUSKIE TOURNAMENT

The Metro Muskie Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, June 9 this year. The tournament includes 16 metro-area lakes. Cash prizes are paid to fifth place. All muskies caught qualify angler for the Grand Prize, a one-week stay for two at Musky Bay Resort on Crow Lake in Ontario, a Slammer Lure Package, an Abu Garcia 6500C3 Reel and Fenwick Muskie Rod. Entry is \$35.00 per participant. Newsletter with entry forms will be mailed to past participants. You can find entry forms and more information at their website www.metromuskietournament.com.

JUNE JAM

The North Metro chapter of Muskies Inc.'s June Jam is June 16-17 on seven premier muskie waters in Polk County, WI: Deer, Bone, Blake, Cedar, Round and Wapogasset Lakes and the Apple River flowage. Entry fee is \$45 if postmarked before May 1 and \$50 after. Junior entries (15 and younger) are \$25.00. For entry forms and more information go to www.nmmuskies.com or email northmetromuskies@yahoo.com.

Armed Forces Family Fishing Celebration

On Friday, June 22nd the Twin Cities Chapter will collaborate with Fishing for Life in the 4th annual Armed Forces Family Fishing Celebration. Approximately 50 military kids and 20 adults with connections to the military will be taken out for a morning of fishing on Lake Minnetonka. We are looking for volunteers from the chapter to guide, get people on fish (any species), and safely bring everyone back to Maynards dock.

The day starts about 7:00 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and the Star Spangled Banner. Shortly after that, we head out to the lake for a morning of fishing. Everyone comes in about 11:00 a.m. and while the fish are weighed, everyone will be treated to a great meal from Maynards. There is an awards program and people are done by noon.

We provide worms and larva if you want to fish for panfish in your boat. We do need people to guide these families. If you guided last year, you will be contacted by Fishing for Life, our co-sponsor. If you did not guide last year, but would like to try this year, please contact Tom Keith at tomk@usiwireless.com.

Last year all kids were given a complimentary pack of five lures, two bobbers, and two boxes of hooks. These were either donated by members of our chapter or purchased with money donated by members of our chapter. If you would be willing to donate something, please contact Tom Keith.

Tom says, “As a veteran, it is important for me to give back. These families miss their loved ones and we can create a memorable experience for them. Thanks for your willingness to help with this project!”

Summer Outings

Join in some muskie fishing fun with other Muskies Inc. members this summer.

PARADISE COVE, MINAKI, ONTARIO July 14-21

A few spots remain for the Minaki trip to Paradise Cove. Eric Bakke (bakke193@umn.edu, 612-202-7169) is taking reservations or can answer any questions you may have. Paradise Cove offers: guide service, free boat launch, free dock facilities, a restaurant and lounge, and Hot Spot depth maps. Check out paradisecoveminaki.com for more details.

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 Red Wing trip in August is a joint trip with the North Metro chapter. It is organized by John Van Ingen and Pat Miller. They have had information at our general meetings. so look for them if you have any questions.

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.

The Bartlett family at Red Wing Lodge on Sabaskong Bay has hosted Muskies Inc. outings for years with personal and friendly service. They understand what muskie people need and like.

Reservations require a \$50 non-refundable deposit, made out to 'North Metro Muskie Inc.' Contact John (maxjo@mac.com, 651-699-5172) or Pat (donnagmiller@comcast.net, 651-429-1629) if you need more information.



The display at our booth at the Northwest SportsShow stopped many people. The revolving display was "on loan" from Lax Reproductions while our own display was being repaired. Lax also created our display. Many thanks to Greg Ide who set up our booth at the Northwest Sports Show and the Minnesota Muskie Expo and the many volunteers who manned the booth during both shows.

— this 'n that —

High School Muskie Tournament

Teams representing the schools of St. Anthony Village, Bloomington Jefferson, Bloomington Kennedy, Buffalo and Farmington will be competing in the first leg of the State High School Muskie Tournament on June 19 from 5:30 am to 1:00 pm on Lake Minnetonka. The two winning teams from this regional event will go on to represent the district in the state tournament July 2 on Lake Bemidji.

Members Only Contest

Some of you have been muskie fishing in other states already this season. Remember to enter your fish within 30 days of being released. All entries older than 30 DAYS from the day the fish was caught will not count.

You can enter them yourself at the Muskies Inc. web site, www.muskiesinc.org. Use "Fish Submission." You can download blank forms at the Muskies Inc. website or from our chapter web site www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org under the members only contest icon. Mail your printed forms to Members Only Chair Eric Bakke, 290H BFAB; 516 15th Ave SE; Minneapolis, MN 55455. Or give them to him at a meeting. Please try to fill out all of the information on the form to the best of your ability. Contact Eric at 612-202-7169 or bakke193@umn.edu.

Ballards Black Island Resort Outing

Muskies Inc. chapters have been offered a unique opportunity from Ballards Black Island Resort. During the month of October we can reserve the entire resort for up to 18 muskie anglers. Anyone who wants to organize an October chapter outing to Ballards should contact Tom Keith at 612-925-1109 or tomk@usiwireless.com for details.

Triton is Grand Prize for 2012 Frank Schneider Tournament

A new Triton 17 Explorer rigged with a MinnKota troller, Hummingbird locator, and Mercury 115 hp motor will go to the lucky winner of the grand prize drawing at the Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament. Anyone who registers a 40" or longer muskie qualifies for the drawing. The boat/motor/trailer package came from Frankies Marine in Chisago City, a long-time supporter of Muskies Inc. and Triton Boats.

The Frank Schneider Tournament is Muskies Inc.'s oldest fishing contest. For over 40 years this tournament has been held the weekend after Labor Day. This year the dates are September 7, 8 & 9. Tournament anglers can fish their choice of 20 northern Minnesota lakes.

The Frank Schneider tournament is not a big-time team event. For most contestants this is the only tournament they fish in during the year.



A Triton 17 Explorer boat/motor/trailer package is with Grand Prize for the Frank Schneider Tournament.

Entry includes three days of muskie fishing, feeds Friday and Saturday nights, and an awards program and feed at Moondance Fairgrounds in Walker on Sunday. Bill Sherck, from TV's Due North Outdoors and Minnesota Bound will host Sunday's program.

With over \$35,000 in prizes, the Frank Schneider tournament promises to be a great event. The first-place finisher will receive a week-long trip to Red Wing Lodge on Lake of the Woods. Prizes will be awarded through 10th

place for released muskies with the top three juniors also receiving prizes. Fenwick rods, Abu Garcia reels, Sébile bait packages and Spiderwire line as well as trips to Canadian and US resorts are part of the prize packages.

The event will also feature opportunities for everyone to win Canadian and US resort stays, guide trips, custom fishing equipment, and door prizes.

Tournament entry is \$95, \$30 for juniors and \$175 for a family package of two adults and two juniors or one adult and three juniors in the same family. The adult entry will raise to \$100 if you register after August 31.

Join the people who keep coming back year after year for the tradition, comraderie and fun. A mailing will be sent mid- to late-July to anyone who has participated in the past three years with information and entry forms.



Two 48-inch muskies registered by David Rask and Chris Fusco were the big fish at the 2011 George Wahl Tournament.

George Wahl Memorial Tournament

The fourth annual George Wahl Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, September 29 on 13 metro-area muskie waters. 100% of the proceeds raised by this tournament goes back to the muskie resource.

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.

The grand prize is a week-long stay at Whitefish Bay Camp on Lake of the Woods plus \$1000 cash. Every person who enters a muskie is eligible for the grand prize drawing.

The awards program will be held at Thorne Bros. in Blaine and will include a "feed" for all participants. Entry is \$50 and will be open until the day before the tournament at Thorne Bros., Joe's Sporting Goods, and Blue Ribbon Bait & Tackle.

Fishing the George Wahl tournament is a fun way to contribute to the muskie fishery that we all use and enjoy. Anyone who fishes in metro-area lakes should participate in this tournament.

Last year the tournament was changed to the last weekend in September so it wouldn't conflict with the opening of duck hunting season. And at the last minute the DNR changed the date of duck opening to the last weekend in September. Hopefully, there won't be any conflicts this year.

If you've participated in the George Wahl tournament you should receive tournament information in the mail mid- to late-July. We hope to see every chapter member at the tournament.

calendar of events

Chapter Fishing League dates announced next month

MAY

- 5 Fishing Opener at the Minnesota Veteran's Home
- 8 General Meeting, Speaker: Josh Borovsky

JUNE

- 2 Minnesota Muskie Opener
- 9 Metro Muskie Tournament
- 10 Capable Partners Outing/Lucky Libby Event
- 12 General Meeting, Speaker: Gregg Thomas
- 16-17 June Jam Muskie Tournament
- 22 Military Family Fishing Outing

JULY

- 10 General Meeting
- 14-21 Winnipeg River Outing

AUGUST

- 11-18 Red Wing Lodge, LOW Outing
- 14 Annual Picnic
- 25-9/1 Chapter Challenge, Red Wing Lodge, LOW

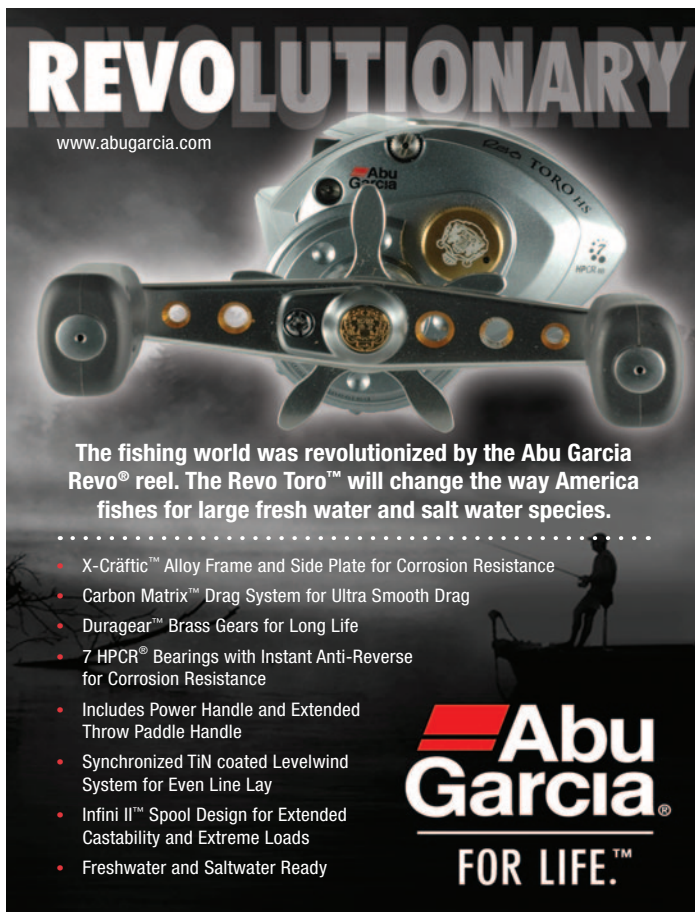
SEPTEMBER

- 7-9 Frank Schneider, Jr. Memorial Muskie Tournament
- 11 General Meeting
- 29 George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament

Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge is August 25-September 1

The chapter is still looking for two members to join the ten members who have already signed up to represent our chapter at the Chapter Challenge this year. We would like to have a full field of 2 6-man teams. The challenge will be headquartered at Red Wing Lodge, Lake of the Woods for the second consecutive year.

Teams from MI chapters nationwide will gather for the Challenge. We have reserved cabins for the entire week for those who want to pre-fish. The Challenge takes place 29-31 of August. If you can only make it for the challenge days, that would work out also. Contact John Olson 612-751-5715 or 612-866-5369 if you'd like to be part of the team.



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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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Bob Benson's Guide Service	Just Big Muskies DVDs KB101	Palco	Trappers Landing Lodge
Cabela's	LAX Reproductions	Pelican Hills RV – Pelican Lake	Triton Boats
Carbone's Pizza	Leech Lake Gaming Division	Pine Beach Resort	Trophy Hunter Accessories – Glittertail Muskie Lures
Chaos Tackle	Mantrap Lodge on Big Mantrap Lake	Phantom Lures	Bob Turgeon's Guide Service
Mark Christiansen Guide Service	Mercury Marine	Pro Musky Guide Service – Josh Borovsky	True Glide Lures
Coot Lures	Mighty Muskie Guide Service – Josh Stevenson	Red Wing Lodge – Lake of the Woods	Vermilion Dam Lodge
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Fishing Hardcore Guide Service – Ben Olsen	Murphy Guide Service	George Selcke	Whitefish Bay Camp
Fenwick Rods	Musky Hunter Magazine	Bill Sherck	
Frankie's Live Bait & Marine	Musky Innovations LLC		

next meeting

MAY 8

**SPEAKER:
JOSH BOROVSKY**

Josh won his first fishing contest at age 12 and he has been winning ever since. He has become one of the most consistent anglers on the professional musky fishing scene. He has appeared on over a dozen TV shows and is an accomplished outdoor writer and speaker. He guides statewide, but spends the majority of his time on Vermilion and Minnetonka. Bring your questions as Josh will tailor his presentation to what you want to know.



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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.

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