

On the Water



Volume 15, Issue 9

SEPTEMBER 2012

George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament Gives Back to the Metro-Area Muskie Fishery

If you've ever fished for muskie in a metro-area lake (probably every one of you out there), you will want to sign up for the 4th George Wahl Memorial Muskie tournament on 13 metro bodies of water Saturday, September 29. One-hundred percent of the proceeds from this tournament will go back to the metro muskie fishery.

George Wahl was the inventor and manufacturer of the Eagle Tail lure who passed away in 2008. The tournament was conceived as a way to honor George's 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.

Grand Prize is a trip for 4 to Whitefish Bay Camp on Lake of the Woods and \$1000. Every person who registers a muskie 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.

Entry to the George Wahl tournament is \$50. If you've fished before, you should have received a mailing with tournament information and registration forms. You can register by mail using that form, or pick up a mail-in form at Blue Ribbon Bait & Tackle, Joe's Sporting Goods or Thorne Bros. You can register in person at either of those stores through September 28 or on-line through September 21 at our website www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org.

Participating in the George Wahl



Two 48-inchers tied for longest fish in the 2011 George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament: Chris Tresco's from Lake Independence (left) and David Rask's from White Bear Lake.



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.

Frank Schneider Memorial Tournament

It's not too late to register for our chapter's Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie tournament held September 7-8-9 on 20 lakes in the Bemidji-Cass-Leech-Longville area of northern Minnesota. Register through Labor Day on line at www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org. Or, register Thursday, September 6 at Reed's in Walker or One Stop in Longville.

Every person who registers a muskie (40" minimum) in the tournament will be entered in a drawing for the Grand Prize, a Triton 17-EXP boat/motor/trailer package with a 115 hp Mercury, MinnKota troller and Hummingbird electronics. There will be many chances to win a prize, even if you don't catch a fish. Every person who registers for the tournament this year will have their name entered in a drawing for a \$500 Gift Card from Reed's Family Outdoor Outfitters. At the feeds Friday and Saturday night as well as Sunday, there will be raffles for muskie rods, tackle, air guns, sports memorabilia, beer for a year, resort stays, guide trips, and much more.

If you don't register a fish, Temple Fork Outfitters is giving you a chance to win one of their brand-new muskie rods on Sunday. Pure Fishing will also have new products on display with chances to win some.

Entry for the Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie tournament is \$95 before Labor Day, \$100 after Labor Day, \$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.

From Our President

Water temps are going down and the fish are becoming active. Now until the end of the season will provide some great action. Take advantage of this wonderful time of the year and enjoy the fact that our chapter is responsible for the stocking of many of the muskies you are catching.

Our chapter is currently participating in the Chapter Challenge in Canada. We will have information in the next newsletter about the event. If you have not been a member of the team, it is a terrific experience interacting with other chapter members and Muskies Inc members from across the country. You might want to take advantage of the opportunity next year.

Many of us are participating in the upcoming Frank Schneider Tournament. This is the largest and longest running muskie tournament and is annually run by the Tournament Committee from our chapter. The committee does an exceptional job and creates a wonderful experience for anglers from the upper Midwest.

We were saddened to report the untimely death of member Matt Nelson. Matt was very active in the muskie community, owning two lure companies. We are helping his family by letting you know that his father wants to sell Matt's boat, motor, trailer, and fishing equipment.

I have been very pleased with the numbers of people, who are stepping up to fill vacant positions. If you are looking for increased involvement, we still have one opening on the Board of Directors. I promise that you that you will have a great time as we pass on the muskie-fishing tradition to the next generation.

Keep safe on the water!

TOM KEITH



Chapter members enjoyed the annual August picnic meeting at Minnehaha Falls.

Matt Nelson

We are saddened to report that Twin Cities Chapter member, Matt Nelson unexpectedly died recently. Matt was manufacturer of Wolftrap and Huntetail lures. A number of Chapter members attended his memorial service and learned, in addition to his muskie fishing, he impacted many people with his music and teaching.

We were asked by Matt's father to help the family with the sale of his boat and personal fishing gear. The boat is a 14' Lund with a 35 hp Johnson Seahorse and trailer. It also comes with a Minnkota 36 trolling motor on front and depth finders - Eagle Magna and the Lowrance X55A - in the back and front of the boat. The asking price is \$2500. If you are interested, please contact Matt's father Ken Nelson at 612-866-0019 or email him at: joanyandkenny@gmail.com

There will be a silent auction at the next general meeting of Matt's personal fishing equipment. It will start at 6:30 p.m. and run until the end of the meeting. Items include, rods, reels, a rod case, buckets and boxes of baits, and nets. The family will be donating a portion of the proceeds to the Stocking Committee of our chapter to stock muskies in honor of Matt.

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 both the Frank Schneider and the George Wahl tournaments this year. If your boat will have been in any waters other than the body of water you will be fishing for either 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.

For the Frank Schneider tournament, units will be at Walker City Park on September 5 & 6 and at the Northwoods access along County Road 21 on the west side of Lake Bemidji on Thursday, Spetember 6. Units will also be stationed at Gull Lake (turn west off Hwy. 371 on Cty Rd 115) and at the Garrison Wayside rest area (half-mile south of Garrison on Hwy. 169) for anglers who are coming from the cities and need to have their boat decontaminated.

Every angler in either tournament must sign and turn in an Aquatic Invasive Species Compliance form found in packets mailed to them.

Members Only Contest

from Eric Bakke, Members Only Contest Chair

Well, we survived the super-hot water temps here in the cities. Hopefully, all the fish did too! It is now time to get out there and spend some quality time on the water!

I personally haven't casted for muskies since July 21st on the chapter trip to the Winnipeg River/Minaki. Let me tell you it has been tough to have work dictate my fishing time, but that is the case for me these days. I am really looking forward to the Frank Schneider Tournament to get back into Muskie Shape. I'm sure my hands, forearms, and back will be screaming at me from such a long break, but ohh well. Like I have ever listened to them anyways!

Here are the standings for all the divisions and still the only division left without an entry is the Women's Division. So ladies, get in a boat and enjoy some of the final days of summer on the water!

Good luck to all and thanks for your participation

JUNIORS DIVISION:

- 1ST Robert Chance - 19 points - 1 fish - 44.5"
- 2ND Gregory Batina - 14 points - 1 fish - 39.5"

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 Brent Hirsch - 174 points - 15 fish - 46" longest
- 2ND Eric Bakke - 117 points - 8 fish - 52" longest
- 3RD Corey DeZeeuw - 86 points - 6 fish - 49.5" longest
- 4TH George Selcke - 64 points - 4 fish - 51" longest
- 4TH Chad Hagel - 64 points - 5 fish - 42" longest
- 6TH Ryan Bublotz - 62 points - 4 fish - 43" longest
- 6TH Jeremy Knutson - 62 points - 3 fish - 47.5" longest
- 8TH Larry Maronick - 54 points - 5 fish - 44" longest
- 9TH Tom Batina - 52 points - 3 fish - 48" longest
- 10TH Nathan Kjellman - 52 points - 3 fish - 46" longest

MENS HYBRID DIVISION:

(points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

- 1ST Jim Kroupa - 19 points - 1 fish - 45"

MENS MASTERS DIVISION:

- 1ST Marko Brinatte - 437 points - 27 fish - 49.5" longest
- 2ND David Gustafson - 250 points - 15 fish - 47.5" longest
- 3RD Dave Knutson - 71 points - 4 fish - 46" longest

MENS MASTERS HYBRID DIVISION:

(points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

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



Members Only Contest Chair, Eric Bakke recently boated this 52-inch on Lake of the Woods.

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 - Official - Cindy Hegdahl - 54" - June 28 - Lake Plantaganet, MN
- JULY - Official - Kurt Hostager (Hybrid) - 50" - July 10 - Lake Elmo, MN
- AUGUST - Unofficial - Marko Brinatte - 49.5" - August 5 - Lake Minnetonka, 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!!

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. 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.

— *this 'n that* —

STOCKING AND REARING

The chapter purchased approximately 800 yearling muskies this spring that are being summered over in 2 west metro ponds. The DNR recently harvested a few fish from one of the ponds to meet state requirements for full harvest in the fall. They estimate that the average size of the fish being summered over is around 18 inches. The remaining muskies are slated to be used to complete the DNR stocking study in Minnetonka, Bald Eagle and White Bear lakes. Muskies from both ponds will be harvested in late September or October. It's extremely interesting to watch the harvest. Keep checking our website for a more information on when the harvest will happen.

REDESIGNED WEBSITE

If you haven't been to www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org, our chapter website lately, check it out. It has been redesigned to make it easier to keep current. We want to thank Mike McGrath who for the past several years has kept up the website totally by himself. He has done a great job, but we didn't want the job to fall on the shoulders of only one individual.

SEND US YOUR FISH PICTURES

We love showing muskie pictures (or pictures of other things for that matter) in the newsletter and on our website. However, if no one sends us any pictures, we can't show them. Please send your pictures (don't have to be of a giant) to olson@3pete.com and we'll put as many as we can in the newsletter and/or up on the website. Many thanks to Cindy Hegdahl and Eric Bakke for sending pictures used in the last two issues.

EMAIL ADDRESSES

The chapter sends out the newsletter by email to the majority of readers. There are about 20-25 people who are currently not receiving their newsletter or other correspondence because they no longer have the email address we have on record for them. Remember, if you change your email please notify us at olson@3pete.com.

BALLARDS BLACK ISLAND RESORT

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.

calendar of events

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.

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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.

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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Cabela's	Mighty Muskie Guide Service – Josh Stevenson	Pro Musky Guide Service – Josh Borovsky	Bob Turgeon's Guide Service
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Chaos Tackle	Minnesota Valley Country Club	Reed's Family Outdoor Outfitters	Vermilion Dam Lodge
Mark Christiansen Guide Service	Moondance Events	Sah-Kah-Tay Resort	Viking Bay Resort
Coot Lures	Murphy Guide Service	Sébile	Paul Villnow
Enduro Guide Service – Paul Schlagel	Musky Hunter Magazine	George Selcke	Wades Custom Tackle
Fenwick Rods	Musky Innovations LLC	Bill Sherck	Whitefish Bay Camp
Frankie's Live Bait & Marine	Musky Madness Guide Service – Kris Astorp	Shimano	
Frank's Rods			
Gander Mountain			

next meeting

SEPTEMBER 11

**GUEST SPEAKER:
RYAN MCMAHON**

AUCTION

East Metro guide Ryan McMahon will talk about the differences between early fall and late fall fishing. Ryan will also give information about his favorite waters: White Bear, Forest and Bald Eagle lakes.

Starting at 6:30 p.m. there will be an auction of fishing equipment that belonged to Matt Nelson, manufacturer of Wolftrap lures and Hunter-tail lures, who recently passed away. A portion of the proceeds will be used for the stocking of muskies in area lakes.



MUSKIES INC.

7125 17th Avenue South
Richfield, MN 55423

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.).

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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