

On the Water



Volume 16, Issue 1

JANUARY 2013

Twin Cities Sportsman's Banquet



At last year's Banquet Eric Bakke (left), Members Only Contest Chair, presented Corey Dezeeuw a LAX Reproductions replica of the 55-inch muskie that earned him Lunker of the Month 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 Muskies Award will also be presented at the banquet.

The annual Twin Cities Sportsman's Banquet, our chapter's winter fundraising event, will be held Saturday, March 9 at the Minnesota Valley Country Club in Bloomington. Last year's banquet, with over \$20,000 in prizes, resulted in record profits that were used to help achieve our stocking and rearing goals as well as fund several other chapter functions.

We want to thank Lowell Kruger who has taken over the banquet this year. With the help of his committee, Brent Guyen and Jon Meyers, the banquet should be as good as ever.

Prizes this year will again include resort stays on premier muskie lakes, fishing trips with renowned muskie guides, guns, custom rods, reels, tackle boxes, custom painted one-of-a-kind lures, art prints, plus loads of tackle, storage and other outdoor gear. The themed raffle tables format with each table valued at more than \$1,000 each, plus cash raffles, games and the "mystery" raffle can again be found at the banquet.

Dinner and raffle ticket packages that will save you up to \$70 are available again this year. If you purchase a package before February 15, you will qualify for the early-bird drawing for St. Croix Legend muskie rod and a Shimano Calcutta reel. Seating is limited and will go fast, so get your orders in as soon as possible. Use the order form in this newsletter and mail in your reservations. Purchase on-line after January 15 with a credit card or PayPal at our chapter website www.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.

The banquet committee will need volunteers to help at the event on March 9. Please contact Lowell Kruger at lkruger1@comcast.net or 612-644-8994.

Directors and Officers Elected

Elections for our chapter's Officers and Board of Directors were held at our December meeting. Tom Keith has been elected to serve as our President again for the upcoming year. Eric Bakke and Shawn Kellett will again serve as 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents. Dianne Dahl will again serve as treasurer and Jim Doyle will again serve as Secretary. Elected to a two-year term starting in January are Jim Doyle, Peter Janik, John Newman, Denise Olson, Eric Schultz, and Troy Zuelzke.

Muskies Award Nominations

The Muskies Award is presented each year at the chapter's Sportsman's Banquet to a deserving chapter member who has "constantly and unselfishly devoted time and energy over the years to promoting and improving the goals of Muskies, Inc." The first Muskies Award was presented to Muskies Inc founder, Gil Hamm in 1974 and the award has continued ever since.

Nominations for the Muskies Award must be submitted in writing. Include a history of the person's involvement with the Twin Cities Chapter over the years. Send your nominations to Jim Kroupa at 6311 Steller Circle, Excelsior, MN 55331. Or email them to jkroupa@ties2.net. Call Jim at 952-474-5967 if you have questions. Nominations must be in by January 31. The winner will be selected by secret ballot at the February Board meeting.

From Our President

Even though your boat may be resting, now is the time for your preparation for next season. Whether it is developing a new lure that will turn muskies into hormonally-crazed eating machines, or hitting the gym to work out the kinks from 400 hours of double 10s and pounders, you have about 5 months to plan and implement.

Information on the annual Sportsman's Banquet on March 9 will shortly be coming out. It is a very important event for our chapter. It not only increases the sense of collegiality among those who fish for muskies, but it also generates important revenue for activities that our chapter sponsors. A major thrust for next year is stocking. The DNR has asked for our help in stocking muskies in the following lakes next fall: 400 yearlings in Lake Minnetonka and a total of 245 yearlings to be split between Lake Independence and Lake Waconia. We look forward to helping the DNR as we continue the work started by Gil Hamm and others to create an outstanding Metro muskie fishery.

At the meetings in April and May, we will have collection nights for bass rods, reels, and lures. Fishing for Life co-sponsors several of our youth activities. They have several committees that will repair/rebuild rods, reels, and lures in time to give to kids at the Armed Forces Family Fishing Celebration Day on June 21. Even those spin casting reels you have not used for a

decade are accepted. They will be repaired and given to kids at the event.

The Armed Forces Family Fishing Celebration Day is sponsored by our chapter and Fishing for Life. We will again be looking for guides to take military families out for that morning of fishing on Lake Minnetonka. If you previously were a guide, you will be contacted by Fishing for Life. If you want to try guiding a military family for the first time, please contact me at tomk@usiwireless.com and I will set you up with Fishing for Life.

Larry Dahlberg will be the presenter at the next General meeting. He will talk and demonstrate about making plastic lures.

We ask that people who make their own bucktails bring their tools. Throughout the evening we will be making double 7s for our youth projects. All supplies will be furnished, but we need you to bring your skills. We need to make at least 50 bucktails for our summer youth activities that night. If you want to bring your own materials and make bucktails for yourself, experienced lure makers will be on hand to look at your work and provide support.

I am looking forward to working with all of you as we make 2013 a great year for muskie fishing!

Tom Keith

Dr. Charles Huver

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of one of Muskies Inc.'s thirteen founding members, Dr. Charles W. Huver, who passed away unexpectedly on December 5. Dr. Huver was a former University of Minnesota Professor of Ichthyology and Environmental Biology. His tireless work on behalf of various environmental causes earned him friends and admirers from all walks of life. In later years Charles enjoyed researching, consulting and teaching adult education classes including literature, astronomy, and fishing. He directed the early radio studies of the movements of muskies in the mid 1970s. Charles was a lifelong environmentalist and when asked to identify his proudest Muskies Inc. accomplishment, said it was the writing of the legislation requiring the DNR to have an annual muskies program.

A "Muskie Tale"

Tell us your story from this year's season. 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.

Last year's winner of the Muskie Tale Award, Tim Hoene, will pick the winner. The person with the best tale will have the honor of keeping the Muskie Tale Award for a year.

Banquet Donations

We are looking for your help as members to gather items for the auctions and raffles for the Sportsman's Banquet. We all know or frequent places that may be willing to donate to organizations like ours. Items like gift cards, free services, goods and other items are perfect. Some examples: restaurants, golf courses, service stations, car dealers, health and beauty places, sporting goods stores, and many others. Our new Sponsor Committee is working hard to gather prizes, and your help would be appreciated. If you have questions, contact Eric Bakke or get more info at our next general meeting.

Members Only Contest

from Eric Bakke, Members Only Contest Chair

And there it was...Gone!! Just like a hooked fish that found a weak spot in your tackle. Another season of adventures left only to the memory of those lucky enough to get on the water and chase the muskellunge.

As a club we caught a total of 271 muskies with a total length of 11,137 inches. That is a 41.1" average catch for the season. This is about par for the last few years on average size of fish, but we are way down for numbers of fish caught. That could be because of a few factors, but ultimately I think it is because more and more people have decided to not record their fish and be part of the lunge log.

All of you have the right and privilege as a member of Muskies Inc. to be part of the continued log of when and where these fantastic fish are being caught. However, if we all decide not to do this we will lose all this type of data from year to year. There are many who think this type of recording has run its course and we shouldn't do it anymore and there are those who like the idea and continue to participate.

No matter your stance, please know that at Muskies Inc. our goal is to improve and strengthen our resource and some day we will need all of this data to help prove why or why not things are the way they are.

Thanks to all of you who participated. Here are the final standings:

JUNIORS DIVISION:

- 1ST Robert Chance - 69 points - 6 fish - 44.5" longest
- 2ND Simon Black - 28 points - 1 fish - 54" longest
- 3RD Gregory Batina - 14 points - 1 fish - 39.5" longest

WOMEN'S DIVISION:

- 1ST Libby Hoene - 78 points - 5 fish - 53" longest
- 2ND Barbara Zappa - 15 points - 1 fish - 41" longest

WOMENS MASTERS:

- 1ST Cindy Hegdahl - 68 points - 5 fish - 54" longest
- 2ND Linda Knutson - 42 points - 3 fish - 44" longest

MENS DIVISION:

- 1ST Peter Janik - 281 points - 19 fish - 50" longest
- 2ND Tim Hoene - 209 points - 12 fish - 48.5" longest
- 3RD Jeremy Knutson - 168 points - 11 fish - 47.5" longest
- 4TH Corey DeZeeuw - 147 points - 10 fish - 49" longest
- 5TH Eric Bakke - 144 points - 9 fish - 53" longest
- 6TH Chad Hagel - 140 points - 10 fish - 45" longest
- 7TH Pat McAllister - 100 points - 6 fish - 49" longest
- 8TH John Newman - 99 points - 7 fish - 50" longest
- 9TH Tom Batina - 85 points - 5 fish - 48" longest
- 10TH Ryan Bublotz - 82 points - 5 fish - 46" longest

MENS HYBRID DIVISION:

(points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

- 1ST Ryan Bublotz - 29 points - 2 fish - 41" longest



Corey Dezeeuw shared this picture of this November 46-incher. Send photos to olson@3pete.com to share in the newsletter.

MENS MASTERS DIVISION:

- 1ST Marko Brinatte - 571 points - 35 fish - 52" longest
- 2ND David Gustafson - 285 points - 17 fish - 47.5" longest
- 3RD Brent Hirsch - 247 points - 22 fish - 46" longest

MENS MASTERS HYBRID DIVISION:

(points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

- 1ST Kurt Hostager - 50 points - 3 fish - 46.5" longest

LUNKER OF THE MONTH:

- MARCH - Dwight Geisler - 48" - March 12 - Cave Run, KY
- APRIL - Matt Olson - 45" - April 29 - Clear Lake, IA
- MAY - Tony Sommerfeld - 48" - May 29 - St. Croix River, MN
- JUNE - Cindy Hegdahl - 54" - June 28 - Lake Plantaganet, MN
- JULY - Kurt Hostager (Hybrid) - 50" - July 10 - Lake Elmo, MN
- AUGUST - Simon Black - 54" - August 30 - Lake Vermilion, MN
- SEPTEMBER - Eric Bakke - 53" - Sept. 9 - Lake Plantaganet, MN
- OCTOBER - Michael Tichy - 49" - Oct. 13 - West Battle Lake, MN
- NOVEMBER - Chris Corless - 56" - Nov. 1 - Lake Vermilion, MN

If there are any discrepancies in the numbers please let me know, I will adjust accordingly. Let me know if there are any changes that need to be made with any duplicate fish or incorrect information in your submissions. I will be ordering the plaques for the winners and will be presenting them at the February General Meeting. Please plan to attend! Thanks again to everyone for your participation.

Our February meeting will be a "Winter Picnic" dinner followed by an awards program at the Knights of Columbus Hall. We will honor the chapter's Members Only Contest winners as well as present the "Muskie Tale" award to some deserving story-teller. 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.

Represent Your Chapter at the Gill Hamm Chapter Challenge

Teams from Muskies Inc. chapters throughout the country will be gathering at Lake Vermilion August 18-20 for the 2013 Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge. We would like to send two 6-man teams to the Challenge.

We already have 8 people who have volunteered to be on one of our teams, but we need 4 more for the second team. If you know Vermilion that would be helpful, but any chapter member can join one of the teams.

The Challenge is being hosted this year by the Chicagoland chapter, 2012 winners. The Challenge is officially Wednesday-Friday August 18-20, but most of the participants come for the entire week to get a little pre-fishing in. We will be staying at either tournament headquarters, Spring Bay Resort, or at Vermilion Dam Lodge. Depending on where we make our reservations, the cost, based on full cabins, will be \$125 per person for the three days of the tournament or \$239-250 from Saturday to Saturday.

If you're interested in representing our chapter and joining the 8 other chapter members, please contact Tom Keith at 612-925-1109 or tomk@usiwireless.com.



TWIN CITIES SPORTSMAN'S BANQUET RESERVATION ORDER

Saturday, March 9, 2013 Doors open at 5:00 pm

Name: _____

Address: _____

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 February 15, 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 February 15, 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:
 Denise Olson, 7125 17th Ave. So., Richfield, MN 55423

Red Wing Lodge Outing

The annual Muskie Inc. North Metro/Twin Cities chapter trip to Red Wing Lodge on Sabaskong Bay, Lake of the Woods, is scheduled for August 10-17, 2013. Red Wing Lodge offers a resort base that is family owned and operated with personal and friendly service who they understand what muskie people need and like. Cost per person in housekeeping cabins will be \$325 (US Funds) for 2013, which breaks down to just \$46.43 per day for big-time Canadian muskie fishing. Reservations require a \$50 non-refundable deposit, made out to Red Wing Lodge. Deposits officially confirm reservation holds. First come, first served.

To make reservations, or any questions or suggestions for improving the trip, contact: John van Ingen (651) 699-5172 maxjo@mac.com or Pat Miller (651) 429-1629 donnagmiller@comcast.net.



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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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| Fenwick Rods | Musky Innovations LLC | George Selcke | Viking Bay Resort |
| Frankie's Live Bait & Marine | Musky Madness Guide Service – Kris Astorp | | Wades Custom Tackle |
| Frank's Rods | | | Whitefish Bay Camp |
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next meeting

JANUARY 8

GUEST SPEAKER: LARRY DAHLBERG

In addition to being a pioneer in catching all species of large fish, Larry has been a visionary with his approach to utilization, adaptation, and development of new lures. The focus of his presentation will be on the new plastics and how to make them. Larry will have Shawn Kellett and Joe Peterson from Trueglide to assist you in making a soft lure.

Throughout the evening we will also be making double 7s for our youth projects.

All kids under the age of 18 get a free lure for attending.

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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Thanks to the Sponsors Who Donate to the Twin Cities Chapter

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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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