

On the Water



Volume 16, Issue 6

JUNE 2013

24th Annual Veteran's Home Fishing Opener Held May 4

Residents of the Minneapolis Veteran's Home near Minnehaha Falls were treated to a morning of fishing for trout in a well-stocked pond that was set up for the 24th Annual Fishing Opener on Saturday, May 4. The day turned out to be rather cold so there was not the usual "rush" of residents wanting to come down and fish first thing in the morning.

The tent housing the trout pond became fairly busy as residents braved the cold to try their chances at catching one of the trout. All-in-all, there were a fair number of successes.

Once the fish were caught, volunteers cleaned the freshly-caught trout and they were immediately fried up and served, along with "shore lunch" fixin's of potatoes, beans, buns and cookies. Because of the cold weather the serving line was moved inside. The meal was enjoyed not only by the residents who caught fish but also by all

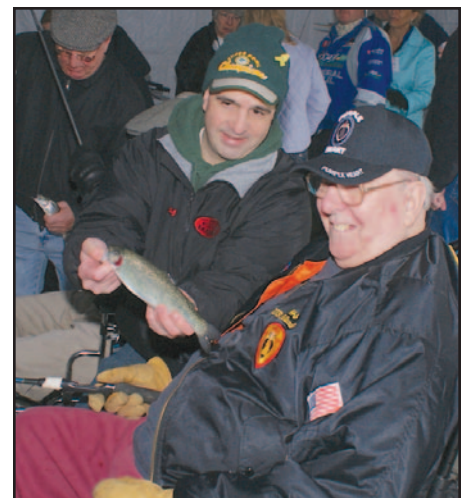
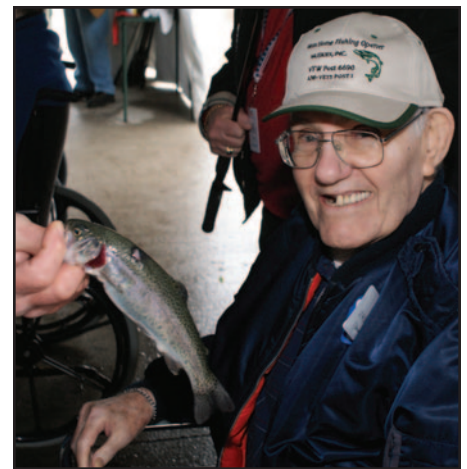
those who were unable to go outside and fish.

We appreciate former State Senator Bob Lessard and State Representatives Dettmer and Masin for sharing their time and interacting with the veterans.

Troy Zuelzke who organized the event for our chapter did an outstanding job. Thank you also to all the volunteers who helped residents catch fish, clean them, and prepare and serve the "shore lunch" to the veterans.

This event is annually co-sponsored by several VFW, American Legion, and AmVets Posts. Courtesy of them, each participant in the day's event received a Vet's Home Opener hat.

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. This is one of the best volunteer events at Veterans Homes all over the country and has been recognized as such.



From Our President, TOM KEITH

Our June meeting is the last night we will be collecting bass rods, reels, and lures. Our partner in youth activities, Fishing for Life, will repair/rebuild rods, reels, and lures in time to give to kids at the Armed Forces Family Fishing Celebration Day June 21 and other youth activities. Please bring and donate anything you are no longer using. Thanks to the people, who have already donated.

If you know a kid who would like to fish for muskies but cannot because of the cost of lures, please contact me. The Board has purchased some plastic lure boxes and filled them with 5 lures and a leader. I will get it to you and you can get it to the kid. We do not want to see lack of financial resources as a barrier to kids wanting to fish for muskies.

May 4th was our 24th consecutive co-sponsorship of the Opener at the Minnesota Veteran's Home with several VFW, American Legion, and AmVets posts. Troy Zeulzke did an exceptional job of organizing this event. Our volunteers do an outstanding job of helping veterans catch fish, clean fish, cook the food, serve a meal and interacting with the public.

Our guest speaker at the May general meeting was Josh Stevenson. An added bonus for the presentation was

that Josh brought Travis Hultgren and "the Griz". They had great information and many stories about fishing the St. Croix.

Stocking chair, John Newman has purchased muskies for stocking this year. We will be working with the DNR to stock them in Waconia, Independence, and Minnetonka this year. They have already had their first birthday and are looking forward to swimming with the big fish. The biggest issue we have is always the availability of fish for stocking and when they are available.

The Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge will be on Lake Vermilion this September. It seems to me that Chapter #1 should be able to put together three teams and ultimately win this event. Please contact John Newman who is coordinating our teams for more information.

With the muskie opening just around the corner, I encourage everyone to vigilantly practice safety for themselves and boat partners, the fish, and the waters. We need to be outspoken defenders of the muskie fishery and an important part of that is water and habitat quality. Stretch yourselves and take out someone new to muskie fishing. Whether it is fishing or a general meeting, there are many opportunities.

Capable Partners Outing

Share your love for the pursuit of muskies with a fellow outdoorsman. An outing with physically challenged members of the Capable Partners organization is planned for Sunday, June 2 from 6:30 am to "shore lunch" time on Lake Minnetonka. 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 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 local-area tournaments during the month.

METRO MUSKIE TOURNAMENT

The Metro Muskie Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, June 8 this year. Several new lakes have been added to the Metro tournament this year: the Calhoun Chain, Crystal Lake (Dakota Cty.), Crystal Lake (Henn. Cty.), Lake Gervais, Lake Harriet, Lake Nokomis, Orchard Lake, and Lake Phalen. Because of DNR restrictions, Forest Lake and Bald Eagle are not part of the Metro tournament this year.

Cash prizes are paid to fifth place. All

muskies caught qualify anglers 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. Flyers with entry forms have been mailed to past participants. You can register at Thorne Bros. or Blue Ribbon Bait & Tackle until June 7. For entry forms or more information go to their website www.metromuskietournament.com.

JUNE JAM

The North Metro chapter of Muskies Inc.'s June Jam is June 15-16 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 \$50. 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 is June 21



On Friday, June 21 the Twin Cities Chapter of Muskies Inc. will collaborate with *Fishing for Life* in the 5th annual Armed Forces Family Fishing Celebration. Approximately 40 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 these people on fish, and safely bring everyone back to the dock at Lord Fletchers.

The day will start about 7:00 am with the Pledge of Allegiance and the Star Spangled Banner. Shortly after that, everyone will head out to the lake for a morning of fishing. About 11:00 am the anglers should return and while the fish are weighed, everyone will be treated to a great

meal. After the meal, there is an awards program and everything should wrap up by noon.

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 chapter president Tom Keith who is organizing the event with *Fishing for Life*. Worms and larva will be provided if you want to fish for panfish with your boat. We do need people to guide these families.

Last year all kids were given a complimentary pack of lures. These were either donated by members of our chapter or purchased with money donated by our members. 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!"

If you have questions, can guide families or want to donate money or lures, please contact Tom Keith at tomk@usiwireless.com.

Minnesota High School Tournament

The Twin Cities Chapter is hosting the Regional event for the Minnesota High School Muskie Tournament June 14 on Lake Minnetonka. Teams from Elk River, Mayer Lutheran, Minnetonka, Shakopee, and Wayzata high schools will be competing. The teams meet at the Gray's Bay ramp and get on the water by 5:30 am. Every team will be given a complimentary gift bag consisting of lures and supplies.

On June 28 the top two high school teams from qualifying events in St. Cloud, Brainerd, Bemidji/Cass Lake, Grand Rapids, North Metro, Fargo/Moorhead, and the Twin Cities will meet for a one-day final tournament on Lake Alexander.

Thanks to the individuals and groups that support this event: Hedron Industries, Members of the Twin Cities Chapter of Muskies Inc., The Hugh C. Becker Foundation, The Twin Cities Chapter of Muskies Inc., Designosaurus Inc., Tee Squared, Partners and Hunt Creative Group, Inc., Musky Innovations, Jim Kroupa, and Dennis Lappen. Without their help, this event would not be possible!

Lucky Libby Event Honors Soldiers

The tenth annual "Lucky Libby" Muskie Fishing Event is Sunday, June 9 at Bay Park in Mound on Lake Minnetonka. Chapter members Libby Hoene and her father Tim will be hosting this event to honor returning soldiers. Boats, guides and fishing equipment will be provided to the vets participating. A complimentary noon barbeque will be served after fishing. To volunteer to serve as a guide, help with the barbeque, or if you have questions, contact Libby or Tim Hoene at 763-755-2482 or 763-370-3802 or email Libby at elizabethhoene@yahoo.com.

Summer Outings

The chapter has two outings scheduled for this summer. They are open to any chapter muskie angler and/or their friends. Chapter members have been enjoying these trips for many years.

PARADISE COVE, MINAKI, ONTARIO July 13-20

The outing will again be headquartered at Paradise Cove. The resort offers: guide service, free boat launch, free dock facilities, a restaurant and lounge, and Hot Spot depth maps. George Selcke will be organizing the trip. Contact him at 952-933-2608 or gselcke@yahoo.com with any questions you may have or to make your reservation. Lodging is \$315 for the week. A \$50 deposit to George is required. Get your deposit in if you would like to secure a spot.

RED WING LODGE, LAKE OF THE WOODS August 10-17

The Bartlett family at Red Wing Lodge 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 is located on beautiful Sabaskong Bay. 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 \$325 (US Funds) for 2013, which breaks down to just \$46.43 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 Bartletts, one free trip given away in a drawing and door prizes. Reservations require a \$50 non-refundable deposit, made out to Red Wing Lodge. Contact John van Ingen (maxjo@mac.com, 651-699-5172) or Pat Miller (donnagmiller@comcast.net, 651-429-1629) to make your reservation.

2013 Chapter Summer Fishing League



Eric Schultz, winner by default in 2012, is keeper of the Chapter Summer Fishing League traveling trophy, provided by Todd Cleveland of Phantom Lures.

The first outing of the chapter fishing league will be on Lake Independence June 8. Note that this is the same day as the Metro Muskie Tournament. Join us for the chapter league and register for the tournament. The fish you catch will earn you honors in both events.

Nic Romero is organizing the chapter fishing league again this year. Rules for the league are simple:

1. This is an individual league with as many people in a boat as desired.
2. All participants shall meet at the designated boat launch on the lake at time listed for the league event. If you are going to be late, please contact Nic to let him know that

- you will be participating.
3. Anglers may not use any live bait.
4. All catches shall be verified by another league member for fish to count.
5. A digital camera shall be used to take photo of fish to provide proof of catch to other league members.
6. League members can fish in as many of the events as they want. Scoring: 4 points for a 30" muskie and 1 point for each inch over 30". This is the same as the member's only contest; 5 points per event fished (weekend event counts 5 points per day). Bonus: 3 points will be awarded to each boat partner of a successful catch during the league.

Please note that dates and lake locations are subject to change. Cancellations of the outings may occur due to weather conditions or if lake water temps reach 80 degrees.

The league is intended as a fun outing with other chapter members. It is a great way to meet other muskie fishermen, make friendships, and learn more about muskie fishing. Everyone is welcome to join league outings. Please let Nic know if you are in need of a partner and he will try to find one.

Contact Nic Romero at 651-214-5269 or at nicromero@gmail.com if you are interested in taking part in the events and for event changes.

2013 LEAGUE SCHEDULE:

Date	Lake	Time
Saturday, June 8	Lake Independence	6 - 11 am
Wednesday, June 26	Forest Lake	6 - 10 pm
Tuesday, July 9	Mississippi River Pool 2 Hidden Falls Landing	6 - 10 pm
Monday, July 15	Lake Minnetonka - Gray's Bay Landing	6 - 10 pm
Thursday, August 15	Lake Minnetonka - Gray's Bay Landing	6 - 10 pm
Wednesday, September 11	Lake Waconia	6 - 10 pm
Sat/Sun, October 4-5	Lake Minnetonka - Gray's Bay Landing	TBD

Milting Muskies: A High School Student's Experience

by Robert Chance

In 2006, at the age of 11, I entered a fishing contest on Lake Miltona near Alexandria, Minnesota. The 21-inch walleye I netted that year literally hooked me on fishing. Today, I spend as much time as I can on Minnesota lakes, angling for bass and trolling for monster muskies. I am also taking a class on the environment at my high school, and recently had a wonderful opportunity to make "give back" to the fishing community.

I would like to thank the folks at the west metro fisheries office for allowing me to come along with them to Lake Rebecca in Delano to help collect Leech Lake strain muskie eggs for future stocking efforts. While there, I was able to participate in the fertilization process as well.

We began the morning by checking the trap nets they set out the previous day. After checking all of our nets, we managed to collect 11 males and 4 females, the smallest being 32 inches, and the largest 43 inches.

The muskies were brought back to our "base camp" on the beach and placed into holding pens based on gender. Immediately after sorting through our fish we set up the equipment for the fertilization. We began our attempt to net one of the females we placed into the female pen. Each of the muskies stocked had either its left

(LP) or right (RP) pectoral fin clipped or no clip, all based on year class.

Once we had our female (RP) we tried to find a two suitable mates from a different year class (LP). We then placed the muskies into separate holding tanks on the boat and used sedatives in order to calm the fish down to prevent any harm during the fertilization. Once the males were sedated, we used an aspirator to collect the milt and placed the milt into test tubes.

The process for the female required us to "massage" the abdomen towards the vent, releasing her eggs. We placed half of the eggs into a sterilized bowl along with the milt with one of the males. To fertilize the eggs we used a feather to stir the eggs and milt together, keeping the process as natural as possible. We repeated the process with the rest of the eggs and the remaining milt, and waited one full hour for the fertilization process to finish. After all this, we drove the fertilized eggs to the St. Paul fish hatchery.

When all was finished, we managed to fertilize 30,000 eggs, of which, only about 300 will survive to adulthood, all the more stressing the importance of Catch and Release fishing methods.

About the author: Robert Chance, a member of our chapter, is a senior at Shakopee Senior High School. He will attend Bemidji State University in 2013 to pursue a degree in Environmental Studies.



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 chapter Muskie Tale Award for a year.

Be Respectful While On the Water

At our last General Meeting, guest speakers Josh Stevenson, Travis Hultgren, and "the Griz" talked about problems they are seeing on the water and the general increase in the lack of civility of some. Here's an example from chapter President, Tom Keith, of what some are experiencing .

My wife and I were working a shoreline for bass on Minnetonka and I was almost within casting distance of a particularly good dock. Just then a boat roared in and started to fish the dock. He said, "Sorry man, but I'm in a tournament and need another fish." He caught his fish and roared off, leaving us in no position to fish that dock. Just because you are in a tournament, you have no right to be rude to other anglers.

Twin Cities Chapter Members Only Contest

Eric Bakke, Members Only Contest Chair

Did we think it would ever arrive? After a long 6 months of waiting the season is finally here! I am excited for the competition of another Members Only Contest. For those of you who haven't been a part of this before, it can be a great way to keep you involved and thinking about what is working and what isn't for more than just your boat.

Rules and Regulations to the Chapter Members Only Contest:

- 1 A muskie must be caught on legal sport fishing tackle (hook & line) in the United States or Canada in strict compliance with all local, state, or provincial laws and seasons. A muskie must be caught in season to count.
- 2 A muskie must be hooked and played by only one person, and only that person may enter the muskie in the contest. Assistance in landing is permitted.
- 3 Entrant must be a member in good standing of Muskies Inc. prior to catching the muskie.
- 4 All fish over 30" must be registered within 30 days of the catch. Only those fish over 30" will count toward your total points for the yearly contest. Fish that are not registered (or postmarked) before the 30 day limit will not count towards a members total points.
- 5 Release points are based on 4 points for each release over 30" and 1 point for each inch over 30". Any measurement of ½" or longer will be rounded up. Any fraction of less than ½" will be dropped.
- 6 The longest muskie released by a member of the Twin Cities Chapter Muskies Inc. (all divisions) will receive a free replica of their muskie courtesy of the Twin Cities Chapter Muskies Inc. and Lax Reproductions, 5455 Hwy 45, Conover, WI. (Total of 1 per year) This is the longest by total inches including fraction of inches. Here are the stipulations to win the replica:
 - a At least one verifiable witness and at least one verifiable side view horizontal photograph of the muskie is required.
 - b In the case of a tie, the fish that was caught and registered first (by catch date) is the winner and will receive the replica.
 - c Members may only win a free replica once every 10 years.
 - d Any and all discrepancies will be brought to the Chapter Contest Committee for review. Their decision will be final.

There are three ways to register your fish and they are as follow:

- a Register your fish on-line at the national website: www.muskiesinc.org. You must sign in to the site to register your fish.
- b Print out a registration form and mail it to: Eric Bakke, 290H BFAB, 516 15th Ave SE, Mpls, MN 55455
- c Fill out the registration form and email it to Eric Bakke at bakke193@umn.edu.

5 Release points are based on 4 points for each release over 30" and 1 point for each inch over 30". Any measurement of ½" or longer will be rounded up. Any fraction of less than ½" will be dropped.

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Now get out there and put some fish in the boat! Good luck to all and we will see you "On The Water"!



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- Solid Carboloy Tip-Top
- TAC handle
- Fuji TCS reel seats
- Oversized hook keeper

Represent Your Chapter in the Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge

Teams from Muskies Inc. chapters throughout the country will be gathering at Lake Vermilion the week of September 14-21 for the 2013 Chapter Challenge. We need people to fill out our teams at the Challenge. If you know Vermilion that would be helpful, but any chapter member can join the teams.

The Challenge is officially Wednesday-Friday September 18-20, but most participants come for the entire week to pre-fish. We will be staying at tournament headquarters Spring Bay Resort. The cost, based on full cabins, will be \$125 per person for the three days of the tournament or \$239 from Saturday to Saturday.

Contact John Newman at john.newman47@gmail.com or 651-592-9257 if you're interested in representing our chapter.



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**SPEAKER:
MIKE KRAMER**

Moorhead's Kramer Brothers Tackle has made a splash with its Windowmaker bucktails and a YouTube channel www.youtube.com/user/KramerBrosTackle. But Mike is much more than the flashy blades. He dissects time and place to optimize his success for the videos.

We will be collecting bass rods, reels, and lures that Fishing for Life will repair/rebuild in time to give to kids at youth activities. Please bring and donate anything you are no longer using.

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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Richfield, MN 55423

Return Service Requested

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 prizes at our Banquet and Tournaments as well as at 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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Allen's Crow Lake Lodge	H3O Sunglasses	Karen Nemer	Spiderwire
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Cabela's	Leech Lake Gaming Division	Pro Musky Guide Service – Josh Borovsky	Triton Boats
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Mark Christiansen Guide Service – Leech Lake	Mighty Muskie Guide Service – Josh Stevenson	Ron Sanders	Vermilion Dam Lodge
Kevin Cochran' Musky Guide Service	Minnesota Valley CC	Save A Memory	Viking Bay Resort
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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.

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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