

On the Water



Volume 16, Issue 5

MAY 2013

Veteran's Home Fishing Opener is Saturday, May 4

Residents of the Minneapolis Veteran's Home will be treated to the 24th Annual Fishing Opener on Saturday, May 4. Our chapter annually co-sponsors this event with several VFW, American Legion, and AmVets Posts.

A large, well-stocked trout pond will be set up at the Vet's Home. Residents of the home can come down to the pond and spend the morning fishing for the trout. Volunteers help residents catch the fish, clean them, and prepare and serve a "shore lunch" of fresh-caught trout, fried potatoes and beans to the veterans.

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

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 (near Minnehaha Falls, use park entrance off the Parkway at 46th Ave.) around 7 am.

If you can bring 10 pounds of boiled potatoes with you, please contact Vet's Home organizer, 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

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.

From Our President

The April 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 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.

A special thanks to our members for their work with the fishing shows. They do an excellent job of interacting with the muskie fishing public. That is extremely important as the ratio of Muskies Inc members in the state to the general muskie fishing population is about 1 to 15. They are not aware of how much of their muskie fishing experience is related to the hard work of all of our chapters.

May 4th is our 24th consecutive co-sponsorship of the Vet's Home Opener with several VFW, American Legion, and AmVets posts. Troy Zuelzke has done an exceptional job of organizing this event and if you are willing to help, please contact him. We need volunteers to show up by 7:30 am and be wearing Muskies Inc clothes. The event will provide you with a hat. Please be up to date with what we do as an advocacy group for muskies and social service activities. A number of politicians will be attending, viewing us as an organization and what we do for veterans.

John Newman is coordinating our teams for the Chapter Challenge on Lake Vermilion in September. Even though it seems like a long ways away, the registration and payments are due soon. Please contact John for more information.

We are grateful that our stocking grant requests were approved by the Hugh C. Becker Foundation. We will be buying fish and working with the DNR to stock them in Waconia, Independence, and Minnetonka this year. The Stocking Committee is currently looking into purchasing the fish from private hatcheries. The biggest issue will be the availability of fish and when they are available.

TOM KEITH

Join Us for the Chapter Summer Fishing League

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 again organizing the chapter fishing league 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.

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

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 NicRRomero@gmail.com if you are interested in taking part in the events and for event changes.

Come fish in a league outing and join in the fun!

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@usewireless.com.

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 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 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 \$45 if post-marked 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.



Veteran Eric Amidon who was fishing with guide Ben Olsen caught this 53 inch muskie, his first ever muskie, at the Lucky Libby Muskie Fishing Event in 2012.

Lucky Libby Fishing Event Honors Returning 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 elizabethlhoene@yahoo.com.

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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.

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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 (donnag-miller@comcast.net, 651-429-1629) to make your reservation.

Join the 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 Gil Hamm 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 being hosted by the Chicagoland chapter, the 2012 Challenge winners. 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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612-925-1109
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First Vice President

Eric Bakke
612-202-7169

Second Vice President

Shawn Kellett
952-380-1218

Treasurer

Dianne Dahl
651-699-9817

Secretary

Jim Doyle
952-920-9818

Regional Vice President

Brent Geyen
612-695-0848

Members Only Contest

Eric Bakke
612-202-7169

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Denise Olson
612-866-4730

BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

Dave Christenson
651-775-5402

Brad Coyne
763-412-6697

Corey DeZeeuw
612-867-7952

Greg Ide
612-331-5034

Peter Janik
952-649-9576

Jim Kroupa
952-474-5967

Lowell Kruger
612-644-8994

Doug Malsom
612-759-3407

Stu McIntosh
651-699-9817

Jon Meyers
952-240-4083

John Newman
651-699-8676

Eric Schultz
651-917-8272

Troy Zuelzke
952-955-3890

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SPEAKER: JOSH STEVENSON

Josh has guided professionally for nearly 20 years. If you've seen Josh on Larry Dahlberg's "The Hunt For Big Fish", you've had a glimpse of the enthusiasm and impressive results that he is known for (like landing several giant muskies on Larry's show)!

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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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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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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