

# On the Water



## Four Muskies Land Joe Andersen in First Place at the 2013 Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament

The 46th annual Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament was held September 6, 7 and 8 on 20 lakes in the Bemidji-Cass Lake-Leech-Longville area of northern Minnesota. For the second year in a row, it took 4 fish to earn a first place finish.

Joe Andersen from Devils Lake, ND won the event with 40.5, 42.5, 44 and 47-inch muskies from Cass Lake. At the start of the day Sunday, he was in second place, behind Tony Sommerfeld, each having 3 muskies. Joe caught the 40.5 inch fish Sunday morning to put him in first place. A muskie needs to be a minimum of 40 inches to register.

Second place finisher, Tony Sommerfeld led the event from the first day, having caught his 3 fish – 49, 50 and 44 inches – early on Friday on Winnibigoshish. Then he fished another 20+ hours and never saw another muskie. Stephan Nielson, who finished third, registered the biggest fish of the tournament, a 52.5-incher from Lake Bemidji. His second fish was a 47-incher. Stephan is from Sweden and this is the second time he has come to fish this tournament.

Levi Brion won the Junior Division with a 51-inch muskie. This was only the third time Levi has been muskie fishing and it was the first muskie he



Joe Andersen, left, registered four muskies to take first place in the 46th annual Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament held September 6, 7, 8. He was fishing on Cass Lake with his brother Jeff. Joe told the audience at the Awards Program on Sunday that he “just cast where my brother told me to.” It obviously paid off for him as his 40.5-inch fish Sunday morning moved him up to first place. Congratulations!

has ever caught. Danny Martin who was fishing with the oldest angler entered, 81-year-old John Doyle, placed second in the Junior Division with a 50-incher from Cutfoot Sioux off Winnibigoshish. 12-year-old Dawson Johnson, placed 3rd in the Junior Division. He lost one the first day, but brought in a 46-incher on Saturday.

This year 525 anglers participated in the 28 hours of fishing over the three days. A total of 49 anglers caught 57 muskies. Friday and Saturday fishing was tough. The temperature was warm, the sun was strong and there was no breeze. The fewest number of fish were registered in those two days than any year in recent history.

And Sunday the weather changed. Winds picked up, temperatures came down and the clouds rolled in. There

were almost as many fish registered in the half day of fishing on Sunday as there were either Friday or Saturday.

At the Sunday awards program, we presented \$3500 to the Region 3 DNR Fisheries to be used in their muskie program. The top 10 anglers and top 3 juniors were awarded Fenwick/Abu Garcia rods, Abu Garcia NaCl reels, Sébile bait packages and Spiderwire/Berkley line, all from Pure Fishing.

In addition, first place winner, Joe Andersen, received a week stay at Red Wing Lodge on Lake of the Woods, courtesy of owners Mike and Anne Bartlett. Tony Sommerfeld received a trip to Vermilion Dam Lodge and Stephan Nielson has a trip to Birch Villa Resort on Cass Lake.

Abu Garcia also gave a bonus to

*continued on page 4*



## *From Our President*

*Nights are getting longer and the air and water are starting to cool down. It's that magic time of year for muskie fishing.*

*Congratulations to Tournament Chair Denise Olson and the Tournament Committee for their excellent work with the Frank Schneider and George Wahl Tournaments. They consistently produce outstanding events. Thanks to John Newman for leading our two teams that recently fished the Chapter Challenge on Lake Vermilion.*

*Take a few minutes after your trip, write down your experiences and get them to me (tomk@usiwireless.com) or newsletter editor Denise Olson (olson@3pete.com). Experiences do not have to necessarily conclude with the catching of muskies. We have members with limited accessibility to fishing and they enjoy reading about what others have done. Ultimately, the positive experiences you have will benefit many.*

*If you would like to get more involved in the chapter, there are many ways you can do that. It could be as simple as volunteering at one event to even running for an office. Every one of you has the requisite skills. They just need to get matched up with your availability. Also, you get the chance to work with some outstanding people.*

*Organizations across the country are having an increasingly difficult time finding people to fill positions of leadership. Plus, as in our chapter, many currently in those positions are looking to transition themselves out, but cannot until new leadership emerges. If you have that willingness to serve, let someone know.*

*Get on the water and have a great Fall!*

*TOM KEITH*

## **Chapter Team Places in 2013 Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge**



**Eleven members represented our chapter at the Chapter Challenge held September 18, 19, 20 on Lake Vermilion. Left to right they are: Eric Schultz, Tom Keith, John Newman, Doug Malsom, Terrie Dube, Jack Hilbert, Kathy Keith, Jim Kroupa, Greg Perritano, Greg Ide and Mike Renstrom.**

**T**he recent Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge on Lake Vermilion was 30 hours of tough fishing. The weather was constantly changing and it was hard to develop a pattern.

Teams representing Muskies Inc chapters across the country were there and prepped. Our chapter's two teams were lead by Captain John Newman. He had done the research and given them a solid game plan. People were seeing fish during the pre-fishing and everyone was upbeat.

Even though our teams were staying on the west end of the lake, they ended up fishing throughout the 40,000+ acres of water. The first morning everyone was on their prime spots in anticipation of the feeding window from the previous day. However, the night before the tournament started, a front came through and disrupted fishing.

That first morning Mike

Renstrom nailed a 47-incher and the word was out that we were on the board. Optimism ran high and so did the burning bucktails, but the next 26 hours consisted of coulda, shoulda, woulda. Stories abound and legends developed throughout the event. Doug anchored for hours in one spot and brought his lures through and around a school of muskies (yes, that's right, a school of muskies) for hours. He can tell you the rest of the story.

Ultimately TC Chapter Team #1 finished tied for 5th place as a result of Mike's fish. While that was the one and only for both our teams, some people and teams figured it out. Star of the North chapter from Grand Rapids was the winning chapter with 7 fish. Two of their members each caught three muskies.

Thanks to our team members for their hard work and great spirit!



## 2013 George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament

Over 180 muskie anglers contributed a little something toward our metro-area muskie fishery this past Saturday, September 28 by participating in the George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament. The tournament was conceived as a way to honor George Wahl, long-time chapter member, avid muskie angler and inventor of one of the most popular muskie baits ever – the Eagle Tail – who passed away in 2008. We wanted to have a friendly competition that metro-area muskie anglers could participate in without having to drive to northern Minnesota. Every penny made by this event goes toward the metro-area muskie fishery.

Saturday turned out to be a rather dreary, damp day as evidenced by some soggy newspapers in the mandatory photos of fish registered. Twenty-seven muskies were caught in four of the 13 tournament waters. Minnetonka produced the most with 16 fish. Forest Lake and White Bear Lake each had five. Waconia produced only one fish, but it turned out to be the biggest fish registered, a 52.5-inch muskie caught by Mitch Carlson in the first hour of fishing. The fish earned Mitch fifth place.

Marco Brinatte won the tournament with 3 muskies, a 40-inch and two 43-inchers from Lake Minnetonka. He walked away with \$500 in addition to the \$50 gift card, a commemorative Phantom lure created by Todd Cleveland, and a shadow-box plaque that each of the top ten anglers received. Second place angler, Ben Olsen, also fishing Minnetonka, registered 44-inch and 50-inch muskies. Third and fourth place winners, Chris Weglinski and Ben Forrest, also doubled. Cash prizes of \$400, \$300, \$200 and \$100 were paid out to the second through fifth place winners.

The day ended with a pork chop feed at Thorne Bros. The A wards Program culminated with the Grand Prize drawing. Every person who registered a muskie was entered in the drawing. Winner of a trip for 4 to Whitefish Bay Camp on Lake of the Woods and \$1000 was Wayne Klemz. Wayne, who was a good friend of George's, is looking forward to fishing in Lake of the Woods, one of George's favorite fishing holes.

Thanks to all the anglers who participated in the tournament contributing to the preservation of metro-area muskie fishing.



*Above: Marco Brinatte registered three muskies, a 40.5 and two 43-inchers to with the George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament. All three fish were caught before 1 pm in the rain. Below: Mitch Carlson caught and released the longest fish of the tournament, a 52.5 muskie from Lake Waconia.*

*The tournament follows the Catch-Photo-Release format. When you catch a fish, take a photo - being sure to include Saturday's paper somewhere in the photo - and release it safely. Then, call in the information to tournament headquarters. Photo of the fish must be downloaded to complete the process. You can tell how wet the day was by the soggy papers.*



## 2013 George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament Standings

PLACE	NAME	FISH LENGTH	LAKE	PLACE	NAME	FISH LENGTH	LAKE
1	Marco Brinatte	40, 43, 43	Minnetonka	13	Andy Hutter	43.5	Minnetonka
2	Ben Olson	44, 50	Minnetonka	14	Cory Gale	43	Forest
3	Chris Weglinski	42, 48	Minnetonka	15	Mike Magnuson	42.5	White Bear Lake
4	Ben Forrest	43, 40	Forest	16	Wayne Klemz	42.5	Minnetonka
5	Mitch Carlson	52.5	Waconia	17	Mathew Lodin	42	Independence
6	James Beheba	48	White Bear Lake	18	Dave Borek	41.5	Minnetonka
7	Greg Kappes	46.5	White Bear Lake	19	Mark Jefferson	41	Minnetonka
8	Shawn Johnson	45	Forest	20	Terry Schar	41	Minnetonka
9	John E. Olson	44.5	White Bear Lake	21	Steve Smythe	40.5	Minnetonka
10	John F. Olson	44.5	Minnetonka	22	Paul Hartman	40.5	White Bear Lake
11	Brian Dzekute	44	Forest	23	Chris Dolan	40.5	Minnetonka
12	Tony Carlyon	44	Minnetonka				

## Frank Schneider Muskie Tournament continued from page 1

The Frank Schneider tournament proved to be successful for a group from the Twin Cities Chapter including Tony Sommerfeld (Chaska), Jim Doyle (St Louis Park), John Doyle (Brooklyn Park) and non chapter member Danny Martin (Deer River) who were fishing on Lake Winnibigoshish.

At 9 am on day one of the tournament Tony boated a 50-inch fish, released it, called it in and immediately set about replacing the treble hook that was cut to hasten release of the fish. On the very next cast with the same white weighted sledge bait, Tony caught and released a small northern. Cast number three proved productive again with a 49-inch muskie. Just before 10 am Tony boated a third muskie of 44 inches to cap off one extremely productive hour of the 28-hour tournament. All this activity took place from the back of Jim's boat (apparently about the best place to fish that day) and proved good enough for Tony to take second place for the tournament overall.

John Doyle, 81, winner of this years oldest participant, entered a 38.5 inch northern on day 2, leading that category until the late in the runing only to finish 2nd in that division.

Very late in the day Saturday John's boat partner, fifteen-year-old Danny Martin (last year's winner of largest northern) caught his fifth muskie ever, a 50 incher that earned him second place in the youth division.

In netting the 50-incher John tripped over a dead trolling motor battery on the boat floor and nearly fell in the lake. And to top off that, the car keys slipped into the net as he was scooping up the fish. After the fish was measured, photographed and released, Danny's luck held as they discovered the car keys lodged in the net mesh over the side of the boat. All this action and almost unimaginable luck and they still faced a 50 mile drive to get photos to the tournament site for proof of the day's catch under the fast-approaching 9 pm deadline.



Levi Brion caught his first-ever muskie, a 51-incher from Leech Lake, to win the Junior Division. During the release of the fish, the muskie bit Ben. All the blood in his picture is from Ben's thumb, not the fish.

Stephan Nielsen registered the longest fish of the tournament, a 52.5 inch muskie from Lake Bemidji. Stephan lives in Sweden and this is the second time he has been able to fish in this tournament. This year it paid off for him.



Dave Bretschneider, right, was presented a replica of the 53-inch muskie that was the biggest fish of the 2012 tournament by Eric Bakke. Lax Reproductions provides a replica of the biggest fish of the tournament, 53 inches or longer, each year.

the top 3 fish caught during the tournament using an Abu Garcia reel. Stephan Nielson with his 52.5-inch muskie got a \$500 Abu Garcia voucher, Levi Brion with a 51-incher got a \$200 voucher and Steve Zeece with a 50-inch muskie received a \$100 voucher.

New this year was a Women's Bonus provided by Daniel Smith, himself the father of 2 muskie-fishing daughters. The Smith family has participated in this tournament for many years. Judy Coyle with a 41.5-inch Leech Lake muskie won a \$300 bonus. Paige Swenson received a \$200 bonus for her 41-inch muskie, also from Leech. Tina Monette with a 40-incher from Leech took home a \$100 bonus.

The final event was the Grand Prize drawing. Every contestant who

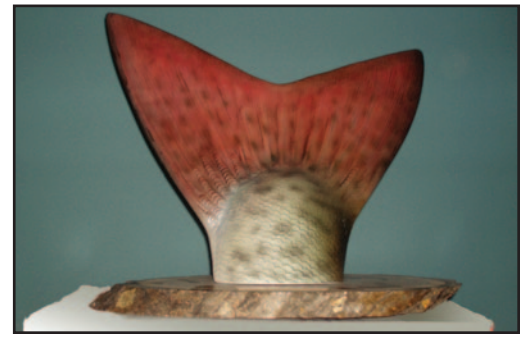
registers a muskie in the tournament is eligible for the drawing. Paul Thorne's name was drawn, but he was not present. Since the tournament was started, the winner must be present to accept the Grand Prize. A second name was then drawn. Unfortunately, in the years between the typewriter and converting to electronic files, the rule that the winner must be present was left out of the printed material. The boat was ultimately awarded to Paul Thorne.

Thank you to Daniel Smith for making the Ladies Bonus possible this year. And to Bill Sherck, Minnesota's "Man About the Woods" who emceed the Sunday program. And to the tournament committee, whose hard work makes the event happen. We're looking forward to another successful event next year.



## 2013 Frank Schneider Tournament Standings

PLACE	NAME	FISH LENGTH	LAKE
1	Joe Andersen	42.5, 44, 47, 40.5	Cass
2	Tony Sommerfeld	50, 49, 44	Winnibigoshish
3	Stephan Nielson	52.5, 47	Bemidji
4	Jason Cation	50, 48	Leech
5	Will Walkoviak	46, 43.5	Leech
6	Mike Strickland	52	Bemidji
7	Steve Zeece	50	Leech
8	Jim Danielson	50	Leech
9	Matt Pence	49	Leech
10	David Ceplecha	48	Cass
11	Derek Sorenson	48	Cass
12	Steve Culhane	47.5	Leech
13	Damien Williams	47.5	Bemidji
14	Chad Odell	47	Leech
15	Jason Eslinger	47	Bemidji
16	Ron Labrosse	47	Bemidji
17	William Carlson	46.5	Leech
18	Terry Schwartz	46	Cass
19	Bob Landreville	46	Leech
20	Ron Sorenson	46	Cass
21	Joe Ahlstrom	45	Cass
22	Paul Thorne	45	Cass
23	Mike Rouse	45	Leech
24	Patrick McDied	45	Leech
25	Brandon Speath	45	Leech
26	Scott Buss	45	Leech
27	Casey Friskney	44	Cass
28	Brian Truax	43	Leech
29	Jesse Zemlicka	42.5	Bemidji
30	James Behiba	42	Cass
31	Todd Blechinger	42	Big Lake
32	Jason Higgins	42	Cass
33	Chris Padmos	41.5	Bemidji
34	Judy Coyle	41.5	Cass
35	John Hoyer	41	Cass
36	Paige Swenson	41	Leech
37	Dean Peterson	41	Leech
38	Jeff Maschka	41	Leech
39	Larry Turner	40.5	Little Boy
40	Al Wurm	40.5	Cass
41	Mark Capouch	40.5	Cass
42	Rick Franklin	40.5	Leech
43	Jason Hauser	40.5	Leech
44	Daryl Riley	40	Cass
45	Ben Brion	40	Leech
46	Tina Monette	40	Leech
<b>JUNIORS</b>			
1	Levi Brion	51	Leech
2	Danny Martin	50	Winnibigoshish
3	Dawson Johnson	45	Leech
<b>NORTHERN</b>			
1	Mark Johnson	40.5	Leech



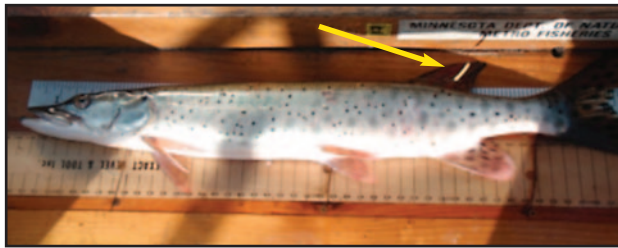
### It's a "Muskie Tale"

Share 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](mailto:olson@3pete.com). The person with the best tale will have the honor of keeping the chapter Muskie Tale Award for a year.

*Without our sponsors, the Twin Cities Chapter Tournamets would not be the successful events they are for our chapter.*

*Please make an effort to support our sponsors so they have an incentive to keep on supporting us. 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 and guides in mind.*

Abu Garcia, Ace Guide Service – Terry "Ace" Sjoberg, Advon Incorporated, Amason's Obabikon Resort, Anchorage Inn, Bernick's Beverage, Birch Villa Resort, Blue Ribbon Bait & Tackle, Broadwater Bay Resort, Cabela's, Evinrude Marine, Fenwick Rods, Fishing Hardcore – Ben Olsen, Frankie's Live Bait & Marine, Huddle's Resort, Joe's Sporting Goods, KB101, Lakeview Inn, LAX Reproductions, Leech Lake Gaming Division, Mighty Muskie Guide Service – Josh Stevenson, Moondance Events, Musky Hunter Magazine, Musky Mayhem Tackle, Third Street Brewhouse, Northern Lights Casino, One Stop, Palco, Pine Beach Resort and Campground, Phantom Lures, Pro Musky Guide Service – Josh Borovsky, Red Wing Lodge – Lake of the Woods, Reed's Family Outdoor Outfitters, Sah-Kah-Tay Resort, Save A Memory, Sébile, Bill Sherck, Sportsman's Connection, Spiderwire, Sunset Cove Resort, Thorne Bros, Temple Fork Outfitters, Trappers Landing Lodge, Triton Boats, Truax Guide Service, Vermilion Dam Lodge, Wades Custom Tackle, Whitefish Bay Camp



## Look for the Yellow Tag

Last year marked the last year of stocking muskies into Minnetonka, White Bear and Bald Eagle lakes for a DNR study on methods of stocking muskie. Each of the nearly 6,000 muskies stocked in the three lakes has a yellow external tag that will enable the DNR to identify individual fish.

If you are fishing on one of the study lakes keep an eye out for muskie with a yellow external tag on the left side of the fish near the dorsal fin. If you catch a tagged muskie, please leave the tag in the fish but record the tag number and data related to lake, date, and fish size. Report it on the DNR tag reporting website page [http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fisheries/tagged\\_fish\\_reporting/index.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fisheries/tagged_fish_reporting/index.html).

## Members Only Contest

from Eric Bakke, Members Only Contest Chair

Fall is coming, fall is coming! We got a dose of fall during the George Wahl tournament this last weekend and we had some nice fish caught. Thanks to everyone for participating in the tournament. It was great to see so many of our chapter members place in the tournament.

We still have two months left in the season, so don't put the boat into storage yet, the best is yet to come!

Here are our current standings:

### JUNIOR'S DIVISION

1ST Paige Sommerfeld - 14 points - 1 fish - 40" longest

### WOMEN'S MASTERS

1ST Linda Knutson - 54 points - 4 fish - 44" longest

2ND Libby Hoene - 44 points - 2 fish - 49.87" longest

3RD Jody Maronick - 16 points - 1 fish - 42"

### MEN'S DIVISION

1ST Bob Culbertson - 285 points - 30 fish - 46" longest

2ND Gary Woods III - 219 points - 14 fish - 47.75" longest

3RD Corey DeZeeuw - 124 points - 8 fish - 51" longest

4TH Robert Venturin - 114 points - 7 fish - 51.75" longest

5TH Eric Bakke - 109 points - 7 fish - 46.5" longest

6TH Tom Kenefick - 101 points - 7 fish - 42.5" longest

7TH Roger Broadbent - 85 points - 5 fish - 53.5" longest

8TH John Newman Jr - 72 points - 6 fish - 42" longest

9TH Phil Groth - 65 points - 5 fish - 42" longest

10TH Jeremy Knutson - 59 points - 4 fish - 49.25" longest

### MEN'S HYBRID DIVISION

(points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

1ST Tom Kenefick - 2 fish - 42.5" longest

### MEN'S MASTERS DIVISION

1ST Dave Knutson - 178 points - 13 fish - 48" longest

2ND Brent Hirsch - 145 points - 10 fish - 52" longest

3RD David Gustafson - 110 points - 8 fish - 45" longest

### MEN'S MASTERS HYBRID DIVISION

(points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

1ST Dave Knutson - 22 points - 1 fish - 42" longest

### LUNKER OF THE MONTH

MAY - Official - Nicholas Day - 43" - May 14 - Lake Michigan

JUNE - Official - Roger Broadbent - 53.5" - June 6 - Lake Minnetonka

JULY - Official - Roger Ecklund - 53.5" - July 15 - Lake X

AUGUST - Official - Libby Hoene - 49.87" - Aug 3 - Lake Minnetonka

SEPTEMBER - Unofficial - Gary Woods III - 47.5" - Sept 12 - Lake Minnetonka

As always please let me know if there are any discrepancies in my numbers. I look forward to seeing some pig's caught and registered this fall! As always keep a tight line and we will see you On the Water!

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## tc chapter contacts

### OFFICERS

#### President

Tom Keith  
612-925-1109  
tomk@usewireless.com

#### First Vice President

Eric Bakke  
612-202-7169

#### Second Vice President

Shawn Kellett  
952-380-1218

#### Treasurer

Dianne Dahl  
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#### Secretary

Jim Doyle  
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#### Regional Vice President

Brent Geyen  
612-695-0848

#### Members Only Contest

Eric Bakke  
612-202-7169

#### Tournament Director

Denise Olson  
612-866-4730

### BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

Dave Christensen  
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  
612-709-6609

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# next meeting

**OCTOBER 8**

**SPEAKER:  
JOHN HOYER**

*Minnesota muskie guide and PMTT angler, John Hoyer will discuss manipulating muskies in Minnesota. John guides in the metro area as well as state-wide. He has many useful, impressive ideas and techniques that will put more fish in your boat.*

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



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7125 17th Avenue South  
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**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.).*

## 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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Anchorage Inn	Huddle's Resort	Northland Muskie Adventures – Dustin Carlson	St. Croix Rods
Bernick's Beverage	Mike Hulbert Muskie Guide Service	Northern Lights Casino	Barbara Steen
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Big Mama Lures	Just Encase	Onyx Outdoor	Sunset Cove Resort
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Cabela's	Leech Lake Gaming Division	Pro Musky Guide Service – Josh Borovsky	Gary Trimble Guide Service – Leech Lake
Carbone's Pizza	Loon State Rods	Red Wing Lodge – Lake of the Woods	Triton Boats
Capra's Sporting Goods	Mallard's Muskie Adventures – Matt Snyder	Reed's Family Outdoor Outfitters	Trophy Hunter Accessories – Glittertail Muskie Lures
Cave Run Muskie Guide Service – Tony Grant	Mantrap Lodge on Big Mantrap Lake	Luke Ronnestrand Guide Service	Truax Guide Service
Chaos Tackle	Massage Envy	Sah-Kah-Tay Resort	Bob Turgeon's Guide Service
Mark Christiansen Guide Service – Leech Lake	Mighty Muskie Guide Service – Josh Stevenson	Ron Sanders	University of Minnesota – Gopher Sports
Kevin Cochran' Musky Guide Service	Minnesota Valley CC	Save A Memory	Vermilion Dam Lodge
Columbia Sportswear	Moondance Events	Sébile	Viking Bay Resort
Continental Diamond	Muskie Treat Baits	Bill Sherck	Paul Villnow
Coot Lures	Muskie Underground		Wades Custom Tackle
Evinrude Marine	Musky Hunter Magazine		Whitefish Bay Camp
Fenwick Rods	Musky Innovations LLC		
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