

On the Water



Volume 16, Issue 9

SEPTEMBER 2013

Do Your Part for the Metro-area Muskie Fishery – Enter the George Wahl Memorial Tournament

The George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament is unique in that every penny made by the event goes toward the metro-area muskie fishery. The tournament is scheduled for Saturday, September 28 on 13 metro-area lakes: Minnetonka, Independence, Waconia, Eagle Lake (Henn. Cty.) White Bear, Bald Eagle, Forest, St. Croix (downstream of the Hwy 64 bridge in Stillwater to the Hwy 10 bridge in Prescott), Owasso, Harriet, Calhoun, Cedar and Lake of the Isles.

The tournament was conceived as a way to honor George Wahl, long-time chapter member, an avid muskie angler and inventor of the Eagle Tail – one of the most popular muskie baits ever. We wanted to have a friendly competition that metro-area muskie anglers could participate in without having to drive to northern Minnesota. And, what better way to give back to the muskie

resource that we all enjoy so much?

Anglers who participate in the tournament this year will have two more hours to fish. Hours are from 7 am to 6 pm. The George Wahl 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.

Tournament headquarters and the Awards program will be at Thorne Bros. A pork chop banquet for all contestants will be held prior to the program. There will be raffles and other opportunities for contestants to win items to take home.

Tournament standings are figured on a point system. 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.

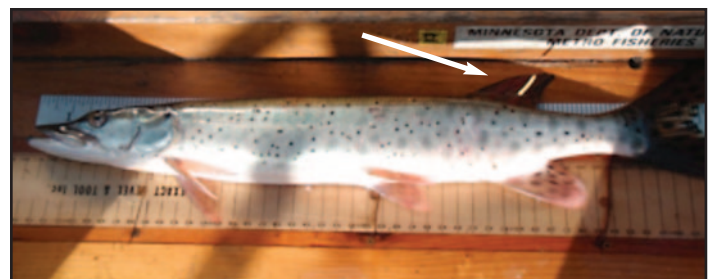
Grand Prize is a trip for 4 to Whitefish Bay Camp on Lake of the Woods and \$1000. Every person who registers a muskie is eligible for the drawing.

Register for the George Wahl tournament in person at Joe's, Blue Ribbon and Thorne's through Friday, September 27. You can also register on line at our chapter website: www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org through September 20. Entry for the tournament is \$50, a small price to pay to ensure that the quality of our local fishery will continue for years to come. If you've ever fished for muskies in a metro-area lake, do your part for this fishery. Register for the George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament.

Look for the Yellow Tag

Last year marked the last year of stocking fingerling and yearling 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 and determine when they were stocked and what size they were at the time.

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.

From Our President TOM KEITH

Nights are getting longer and hopefully the air and water will start to cool down. We are getting to that magic time of year for muskie fishing. Take a few minutes after your trip, write down your experiences and get them to me for inclusion in the newsletter. 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 anyone 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!



Kids and grown ups alike enjoyed themselves at the annual August chapter picnic at Minnehaha Falls park.

Frank Schneider Tournament is Just Around the Corner

Don't miss the 46th annual Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament held on 20 lakes in the Bemidji-Cass Lake-Leech-Winnie-Longville area of northern Minnesota, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 6, 7 and 8. On-line registration is open at our chapter website through Labor Day. If you register before Labor Day you will save \$5 on your entry.

The Frank Schneider tournament has a long tradition of being a fun get-together of muskie fishermen (and women). Most of the people who participate are not tournament anglers. They are groups of friends, dads and sons, husbands and wives, or family groups. Some contestants have been fishing in this tournament for 20-30 years and it has become a tradition for them.

There are ample opportunities for everyone to win something - guide trips, Canadian and US resort stays, rods, reels, tackle boxes, and a multitude of other items at the nightly feeds as well as at the Awards program on

Sunday at Moondance Fairgrounds.

Every person who registers a muskie in the tournament (40-inch minimum) will be entered in a drawing for the Grand Prize, a Triton 17-Pro boat/motor/trailer package with a 115 hp Evinrude E-tech, Motor Guide troller and on-board electronics. Many years a person who has had a 40-inch fish has won the boat. The grand prize comes from Triton Boats, Evinrude and Frankie's Marine in Chisago City.

Every participant in the Frank Schneider tournament will have their name entered in a drawing for a \$500 Gift Card from Reed's Family Outdoor Outfitters. You can also enter a drawing for a \$500 Cabela's Gift Card held by tournament sponsor Northern Lights Casino. So even if you don't register a fish, you may go home with \$500.

Tournament standings are figured on a point system similar to the one used for our Members Only Contest. Prizes are awarded through tenth place and for three places for juniors. Prizes include Fenwick rods, Abu Garcia

reels, Sébile baits and Spiderwire line courtesy of Pure Fishing. First place winner will get a trip to Red Wing Lodge on Lake of the Woods. Second and third place winners will also receive a resort stay.

A cash bonus for the top 3 ladies of any age who register a muskie has been instituted this year. Bonus prizes of \$500, \$250 and \$100 will be given by Abu Garcia.

Entry for the Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie tournament is \$95 (\$100 after Labor Day), \$30 for junior contestants and \$175 for a family package. This year there is a \$75 Saturday/Sunday option (\$150 family package) for those who are unable to get off work or school on Friday. Participants who fish the 2-day option will be eligible for all the prizes. You must register on-line at our website to take advantage of this option.

We hope to see all of you at the Frank Schneider tournament.

Summer Outings

The chapter had two outings scheduled for this summer, one in July to Paradise Cove, Minaki, Ontario and a joint outing with the North Metro to Red Wing Lodge, Lake of the Woods.

MINAKI OUTING, July 13-20

The Minaki outing was attended by fourteen people: four couples and six individual males. Weather conditions dictated various approaches to fishing: “pitching” as well as trolling; fishing major and minor periods as well as early morning and late evenings (and in between). Results also varied.

A total of thirty muskies were boated and released; with many strikes and misses reported by everyone. Chris Corliss and Troy Zuelke scored the most; nine and eight respectively. Dave Knutson won honors for the largest, a 48-inch. Besides the strikes and misses, there were a number of Northerns between 36 and 44 inches caught and released. And of interest is that Dave Gustafson and George Selcke caught and released seven walleyes between 23 and 29 inches trolling “Jakes” and “Grandmas”.

RED WING, August 10-17

18 fishermen from both chapters once again enjoyed Bartlett family hospitality. Mike and Anne Bartlett, along with daughters Molly and Kate, went all out again preparing for and hosting Muskie Inc. fishermen with the fun and solid service with which the family has built and maintained their strong reputation in the business.

61 muskies were caught and released by our Muskie Inc. group. Troy Billbrey took big fish honors with a 48” released muskie. Troy will have his name engraved on the Big Fish plaque.

All Red Wing Lodge anglers had a very good week! In addition to our 61 muskies, other guests in camp added 33 additional releases, ringing in a total of 94 muskies caught and released by Red Wing Lodge guests. As usual, stories, jokes and good-natured ribbing were enjoyed by all, but the stats on these were not officially recorded.

Dates for the 2014 Red Wing Lodge outing will be August 9-16. Don’t just wish, make it happen.

If you have any questions contact: John van Ingen 651-699-5172 maxjo@mac.com or Pat Miller 651-429-1629 donnapatmiller@gmail.com.



It was a tough day on Mille Lacs for one individual who shall remain nameless. That’s an ankle you’re looking at.

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. The person with the best tale will have the honor of keeping the chapter Muskie Tale Award for a year.

2013 Chapter Summer Fishing League

The league is intended as a fun outing with other chapter members. It is a great way to meet other muskie fishermen, make friends, and learn more about muskie fishing. Everyone is welcome to join league outings.

Contact Nic Romero at 651-214-5269 or at nicromero@gmail.com if you are interested in taking part in fishing league events or need a partner.

2013 SUMMER FISHING LEAGUE STANDINGS

	Indy 08-Jun	Forest 26-Jun	WBL/ Bald Eagle 09-Jul	Mtka 15-Jul	Mtka 15-Aug	Waconia 11-Sep	Mtka 8-9 Oct	Total Points
Eric Schultz	5	5	5	5				20
John Newman	5	5	5		5			20
Doug Malsom	5	5	5		5			20
Greg Ide	5		5					10
Tom Keith	5		5					10
Nic Romero	5		5					10
Rob Venturin	5	5						10
David Bond	5							5
Brad Hjemvick		5						5
Matt Murtha	5							5

Members Only Contest

from Eric Bakke, Members Only Contest Chair

Well summer has come and gone...or has it? These weather patterns in Minnesota are about as non-typical as the people who chase this apex predator! Now that is saying something, ah? This heat and humidity will have to cease at some point and maybe we can get back to the natural progression to fall patterns that I know I have been waiting for.

We have had some really nice fish registered so far this season, but all in all the numbers still seem to be down across the board. For those of you getting out on the lake for the Frank Schneider or just for a Sunday night session over Labor Day weekend, be sure to bring your wife or a kid with you. We are still looking for the first Woman and Junior to register a fish, so that means there may be some pretty cool prizes that can come with just one registered fish over 30 inches.

WOMEN'S MASTERS

- 1ST Libby Hoene - 44 points - 2 fish - 49.87" longest
- 2ND Linda Knutson - 36 points - 3 fish - 42.5" longest
- 3RD Jody Maronick - 16 points - 1 fish - 42"

MEN'S DIVISION

- 1ST Gary Woods III - 182 points - 12 fish - 47.75" longest
- 2ND Bob Culbertson - 181 points - 20 fish - 46" longest
- 3RD Corey DeZeeuw - 124 points - 8 fish - 51" longest



Roger Ecklund caught this 53.5-inch muskie AND a 53-inch muskie during the same week in July. This fish earned Roger the July Lunke of the Month in our chapter Member's Only Contest.

- 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 Jeremy Knutson - 59 points - 4 fish - 49.25" longest
- 9TH Phil Groth - 51 points - 5 fish - 42" longest
- 10TH Nicholas Day - 41 points - 2 fish - 50" longest
- 10TH Matt Murtha - 41 points - 3 fish - 40.5" longest

MENS HYBRID DIVISION

(points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

- 1ST Tom Kenefick - 29 points - 2 fish - 41" longest
- 2ND Bob Culbertson - 15 points - 2 fish - 35" longest
- 3RD Jeremy Knutson - 14 points - 1 fish - 40" longest

MEN'S MASTERS DIVISION

- 1ST Dave Knutson - 159 points - 12 fish - 48" longest
- 2ND Brent Hirsch - 117 points - 8 fish - 52" longest
- 3RD David Gustafson - 99 points - 7 fish - 45" longest

MENS HYBRID DIVISION

(points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

- 1ST Dave Knutson - 22 points - 1 fish - 48" 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 - Unofficial - Libby Hoene - 49.87" - Aug 3 - Lake Minnetonka

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!

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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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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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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.

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