

On the Water



Volume 18, Issue 7

JULY 2015



Congratulations to Brent Fox who turned in the biggest fish caught during the Metro Muskie Tournament held June 13 on over 20 metro-area lakes. The 56-inch came out of Lake Minnetonka. Brent, who doesn't currently have a operable boat, was able to go out for the Metro Tournament with Dave Gustafson on his pontoon. Dave has guided a number of people on his pontoon to successful catches this month.

Annual Summer Picnic August 11

The chapter's August meeting, our annual summer picnic, will be held this year at the Veteran's Memorial Park pavilion in Richfield. It is conveniently located just 2 blocks south of the Portland Avenue exit off of the 62 Crosstown Highway.

The chapter will provide brats, burgers, buns, beverages and plates and silverware. Please bring a side dish or dessert dish to share.

Veteran's Park has free parking at the pavilion and more parking at the adjacent ice arena/pool. There are hiking trails and a miniature golf course for the kids. So, plan on seeing us there and bring the whole family.

Mini-Challenge is July Meeting

White Bear Lake or Bald Eagle Lake will be the site of our July on-the-water meeting. The evening will be a "Mini-Challenge" between Twin Cities and North Metro chapters. That is also a one of the events for our chapter Summer Fishing League. So, come on out and help us win the Challenge and get credit for participating in the summer league. Each time you participate in a league event, you get your name in for a drawing for a DH rod at the end of the season. You can also choose to participate in the league for cash prizes.

Fishing hours are from 5 - 9 pm and you can fish either lake. We would like to see that at least one person in your boat is someone from the North Metro chapter. That way each boat will have at least one person from each chapter. More than 2 people can fish from a boat. Your partner from the other chapter must witness your fish's measurement. The chapter that catches the most fish (points awarded using Muskies Inc point system) will win.

All participants are invited to Rudy's Red Eye Grill for treats after fishing. The losing chapter will treat the other chapter. Rudy's is located is located on the east side of Hwy. 61 in the Best Western White Bear Country Inn.

At last year's mini-challenge our chapter footed the bill for the pizza. Let's not let that happen again.

From Our President

Come one, come all! Your help is needed in the Mini-Challenge on July 7th. It will be held on Bald Eagle or White Bear – your choice. Let's beat North Metro this year. Loser will buy the snacks after. It is a Chapter League fishing event.

Thank you to all that helped out at the Armed Forces Family Fishing Celebration. Our "Master Guide" John Newman put one of his fishing partners on to a very nice Minnetonka Northern Pike. Winning big fish honors. We even had a Shawn Kellett sighting! Glad you could make it.

There will be no meetings in July. Our next "meeting" will be August 11th, for our summer picnic. It will be held at Veterans Memorial Park in Richfield – located at Portland and 64th street. It will start at 6pm. Please bring a dish to share.

Remember, the best way to catch a fish is to have a line in the water! Hope to see you on the water.

Until next time

ERIC SCHULTZ

Muskies Inc 50 Year Anniversary Banquet

Muskies Inc. will be 50 years old in 2016. A 50 year Anniversary Banquet is planned for March 12, 2016. Muskies Inc. members from throughout the country are expected to attend. Our chapter and the North Metro chapter will be responsible for hosting the banquet.

An event the size of the banquet will take many volunteers to make it happen. Volunteers are needed to help with planning the dinner, sponsorship and donations, games/silent auction/raffles, merchandise sales, media/advertising. If you would be willing to work on one of the planning committees for the 50th Anniversary please contact Eric Schultz at tcmi.president@gmail.com.



The team of Christian Donovan and Brayden Snow from Watertown/Mayer placed first in this year's qualifier for the Minnesota High School Muskie Tournament. Chris boated the 51-incher at 8:50 am. The muskie hit a double-10 just 5 feet from the boat.

2015 High School Tournament

from Terry Schar, Youth Program Director

One June 12th, six 2-man teams competed on Lake Minnetonka in one of the qualifiers for the opportunity to compete in the 6th annual Minnesota High School Tournament. The six teams represented the following schools: Wayzata, Rosemount, Shakopee, Watertown/Mayer and Lakeville (2 teams). The tournament started at 5:30 am with cool, clear skies and light wind. By the time the qualifier ended at 1:00 pm, the 12 contestants had boated 3 muskies and 4 northern pike.

Placing first in this year's tournament was the team of Christian Donovan and Brayden Snow from Watertown/Mayer. Chris boated the 51-incher at 8:50 am. Second place was secured by Will Nelson and Dan Monson from Rosemount when Will landed a fat 42 incher at 9:30AM. In third place was the Lakeville team of Mark Akehurst with a 25 inch muskie and Drew Akehurst with a 22 inch northern pike. Fourth place was Will Kath and Carter Sandstrom of Shakopee with two northern pike (23.25" and 22.25"). The Lakeville team of Cade Bianchi and Connor Cade finished 5th with a 22.5" northern pike. My congratulations to these youths who turned in an excellent performance.

Before leaving the dock in the morning, all 12 contestants received a package of muskie baits consisting of several spinners, a glider/jerk bait, a crank bait and a rubber body bait. Following the tournament, each participant received a muskie rod and celebrated with pizza and beverages. Thanks to the judges for this year's qualifier – Tom Keith, Greg Ide, and Doug Malsom.

The top three teams represented our region at the 2015 High School Championship on Lake Vermilion June 26. 11 teams participated in the championship and only one muskie was boated – a 53-incher that was caught by the Staples-Motley team while trolling not far from Vermilion Dam Lodge. - the fish went through the net but they were still able to get the fish on board and measured

Members Only Contest

Eric Bakke, Members Only Contest Chair

The season has been open for a couple weeks now. Have you been out fishing yet? Hello there. My name is Eric Bakke and I am back again for another season as the Members Only Contest chair.

This year the only way to get your fish registered is by going to the Muskies Inc. website (www.muskiesinc.org) and register it there. The first time you visit the site you will need your member number and to set up a password, which takes a few minutes, but after that you are set to go for the duration. We no longer take blank forms due to you having to fill out all of the information in order for your fish to count towards your total. All entries older than ONE month from the day the fish was caught will not count. Also, only fish caught during the legal fishing seasons in each state or province can be registered. If fish are caught out of season by accident, they are not eligible. If you have any questions at all about the new technology please email me at tcmi.membersonly@gmail.com or call me at 612-202-7169 and I will do my best to get you going online.

For those of you who haven't used the Lunge Log system before, it is a collection of all the muskies that have been registered by Muskies Inc members throughout the states and Canada since the 1970s. Searches are completely customizable and you can find out as much or as little information you would like to know about a certain body of water, a certain type of bait. Heck, you can even look at where all the 50s have been caught! It is a great tool if you haven't ever used it, but we do ask that if you do use this information to catch more fish, that you register the fish you catch.

We already have some great fish that have been caught. We still don't have a Junior fish registered, but it is

early. Hope everyone has been able to throw a lure or two this year. If not, find some time. Good luck to all and thanks for your participation.

WOMEN'S DIVISION

	NAME	POINTS	NO. FISH	LONGEST
1st	Heather Woods	17	1	43"

MEN'S DIVISION

1st	Eric Bakke	109	8	48"
2nd	John Harazin	59	4	48"
3rd	Erik Chrissis	55	5	49"
4th	Gary Woods III	44	3	51"
5th	Alexander McLean	35	2	47"
6th	John C Newman Jr	24	3	36"
7th	Dustan Forschen	21	1	46.5"
8th	Chad Hagel	19	1	45"
9th	Larry Proskin	18	1	44"

MEN'S HYBRID DIVISION

(points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

1st	Alexander McLean	14	1	40"
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MEN'S MASTERS DIVISION

1st	David Gustafson	61	3	55"
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LUNKER OF THE MONTH

MAY - Unofficial - Alexander McLean - 47" - 5/24/2015 - St. Croix River, WI

JUNE - Unofficial - David Gustafson - 55" - 6/7/2014 - Lake Minnetonka, MN

If there are 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!

Facebook Trivia Contest

Visit the Twin Cities Muskies Inc. Facebook page and answer the monthly trivia question that is posted the first week of the month. Trivia questions have to do with Muskies Inc. and/or the Twin Cities chapter. Questions may range anywhere from the size of a certain fish caught, the date of a historic event for Muskies Inc., or to certain a member's claim to fame. Even though some of the answers may require a bit of research, all of them will be attainable through the Muskies Inc. website or other related material.

Everyone who emails the correct answer to the trivia question is entered in a drawing. The lucky winner is

awarded a Twin Cities Muskies Inc. give-away at the next meeting. The winner to last month's trivia question drawing was Turk Guderjan. Congratulations, Turk!

Go to the chapter's Facebook page and answer this month's trivia question and become eligible for the monthly give-away drawing. Submit your answer by EMAIL to tcmi.fbcontest@gmail.com. Please DO NOT post or share your answers in the comment section on Facebook. This will keep the correct answers to a minimum while increasing your chance of winning the give-away prize. Good luck!



Red Wing Lodge Outing in August

Join members of our chapter and the North Metro chapter this summer on the annual outing to Red Wing Lodge on Sabaskong Bay, Lake of the Woods. Dates: August 8-15, 2015.

Red Wing Lodge offers a resort base that has been family owned and operated for more than 50 years. The Bartlett family has hosted Muskie Inc. outings for years with personal and friendly service, so they understand what muskie people need and like.

The cost per person in house-keeping cabins will be \$350 (US Funds) for 2015, just \$50.00 per day for big-time Canadian muskie fishing. Included in the full value of the 2015 Muskie Inc. trip: free dockage (\$72 value), free launch (both ways, \$25 value), free dinner one night courtesy of the Bartletts, one free trip - given away in drawing - courtesy of the Bartletts, free wireless internet service throughout the resort, a free daily bag of ice, and door prizes.

Reservations require a \$50 non-refundable deposit, made out to Red Wing Lodge. Deposits officially confirm reservation holds. They are on a first come, first served basis. To make reservations, or any questions or suggestions for improving the trip, contact:

John van Ingen, (651) 699-5172, maxjo@mac.com, 2108 Palace Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105 or

Pat Miller, (651) 429-1629, donnapatmiller@gmail.com, 1645 Ridgewood Ave., White Bear Lake, MN 55110

For answers to detailed questions regarding the Lodge, e.g., about the cabins, you are invited to call the Bartletts toll free at 1-888-488-5601.

Annual Outing with Capable Partners

Members of our chapter and members of Capable Partners met at Surfside Park in Mound on Lake Minnetonka early on Sunday, June 7 for a morning of muskie fishing. Capable Partners is a non-profit organization that provides hunting, fishing, and related opportunities for physically-challenged individuals.

Thirteen boats set out in pursuit of muskies. Five muskies were boated. The Capable Partners in Dave Gustafson's pontoon boated three – a 38-incher, 41-incher and 43-incher. Muskies were also boated by people in Wayne Klemz and Doug Malsom's boats.

After the morning of fishing, everyone was treated to a lunch of burgers, brats and all the fixin's. Thanks to Paul Hartman for organizing the event again this year, to all the guides who took out the Capable Partners, to Tom Lund for doing the grilling, to Carol Heath for taking care of the rest of the lunch. All-in-all a great time was had.



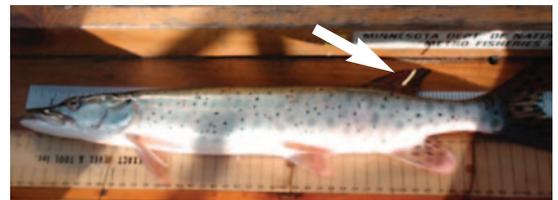
This is one of three fish that were caught on Dave Gustafson's pontoon by members of the Capable Partners members who participated the the outing on Lake Minnetonka.

Look for Muskies With the Yellow Tag!

The Twin Cities chapter, the North Metro chapter, and the MN DNR have collaborated on a multi-year stocking program of Lake Minnetonka, Bald Eagle Lake and White Bear Lake, leading to some longer-term data collection. The purpose is to determine if it is more effective and efficient to stock yearling muskies or fingerling muskies. From 2008-2012 a total of 5,896 fingerlings and 1,664 yearlings were stocked in those lakes. All stocked fish have a small yellow tag near the dorsal fin.

When fishing those three lakes, you should be looking for fish in 18-45 inch range to have the yellow tags. If you see a yellow tag on any muskie, the DNR really needs data from you. Specifically, they need the name of the lake, the number on the yellow tag, and the length of the fish. They would also appreciate your name and phone number in case they need to follow-up. **DO NOT REMOVE THE YELLOW TAG.** It is important that they get data on the re-catchability of fish. You can go online to the DNR tag reporting website page http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fisheries/tagged_fish_reporting/index.html or leave a message for BJ Bauer at 952-826-6771.

Additionally, the fish have an internal PIT tag. Our chapter and the North Metro chapter have each purchased two PIT tag readers. Several people from each chapter have been asked to use the readers on all muskies caught on the lakes.



Participate in the Chapter's Summer Fishing League

Matt Olson is leading the chapter's Summer Fishing League with two fish - a 42- and 49-incher - caught at the last outing on Lake Calhoun/Lake Harriet. Everyone else who has participated in the league fishing so far is tied for second.

The Summer Fishing League is a way to get more members out fishing and to enjoy each other's company. We are hoping to gain more participation this year by adding incentives. A fishing rod donated by DH Custom Rods will be given away by a drawing for participation. For every event you fish you will get a ticket in the drawing. If you fish all ten events, you will earn ten chances. If you only fish seven events, you will only get seven tickets in the drawing.

You can also choose to participate for cash prizes in addition to the Summer League traveling trophy. The cash prizes will be awarded to the top three finishers who have signed up to be eligible for them. A \$50 donation for the season to the chapter stocking and rearing fund is required to be eligible to receive one of the cash prizes. You do not have to fish all events but logic says the more you fish the better your chances.

If you are fishing for the cash prizes, your \$50 donation must be made prior to the event you intend to fish for points to count toward the cash incentives. You can sign up for the cash prize incentive at our website: twincitiesmuskies.org. Click on Summer League and then Donate... You may also pay either Summer League chair Greg Kappes or Stocking and Rearing chair John Newman directly. Or, mail a check made out to Muskies Inc. to Greg at 4948 Vinehill Rd, Excelsior, MN 55331.

Please let Greg know by email at tcmi.FishingLeague@gmail.com when you participate in any of the events so you are entered in the rod drawing.



Matt Olson is leading the chapter's Summer Fishing League with two fish - a 42- and this 49-incher - caught at the last outing on Lake Calhoun/Lake Harriet. Everyone else who has participated in the league fishing so far is tied for second.

Muskies must be caught during the posted hours to be entered. A picture of the fish on a board and a picture of you holding the fish must be submitted by email to tcmi.FishingLeague@gmail.com.

Only fish over 36 inches will earn points. Fish are measured to the nearest half inch and must be over for credit. Scoring is the standard Muskies Inc. method, a 36 inch fish is 10 points,

a 38 inch fish would be 12 points and a 42-1/2 inch fish would be 16-1/2 points. Points are accumulated throughout the season. No cheating will be tolerated. Any cheating reported may result in disqualification.

You must be a current member of Muskies Inc. Twin Cities chapter. If you have questions please call Greg at 612-750-4641 or email him at tcmi.FishingLeague@gmail.com.

2015 Chapter Summer Fishing League Schedule

DATE	DAY	LAKE	TIME
July 14	Tuesday	Bald Eagle/White Bear Lake Mini-challenge with North Metro	5:00 pm - 9:30 pm
July 23	Thursday	Lake Minnetonka	5:00 pm - 9:30 pm
August 2	Sunday	Lake Waconia	6:00 am - 12:00 pm
August 13	Thursday	Lake Independence	5:00 pm - 9:00 pm
September 17	Thursday	Lake Minnetonka	5:00 pm - 9:00 pm
September 26	Saturday	George Wahl Tournament (any lake in tournament)	
October 11	Sunday	Eagle Lake	7:00 am - 12:00 pm

Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament is Muskies Inc.'s Longest Running Competitive Event

Our chapter has been holding tournaments as a way to support all our activities and stocking since its inception. The first tournament was organized by founder Gil Hamm in 1967. It was held the weekend after Labor Day because most resorts reduced their rates after Labor Day. That first event on the Cass Lake chain in northern Minnesota has continued to this day.

It was originally known as the "International", but in the 1990s it was renamed the Frank Schneider Jr. Muskie Tournament by then-tournament director George Wahl to honor Frank Schneider who, while never elected to office, worked tirelessly with the state legislature to improve hunting and fishing for the people of Minnesota.

The Frank Schneider tournament is the main fundraiser that keeps this chapter going. It raises between \$12,000 and \$15,000 each year that not only provides funds for stocking efforts, but also funds our chapter's other activities. Without the tournament our chapter would not be able to give door prizes at each meeting, to have a meal at our annual August picnic or the February awards, to take the Capable Partners on an outing, to co-partner with Fishing for Life at the Armed Forces Family Fishing Day. All those things that make this the organization you're a part of happen because of the

money raised at the tournament.

Today that first tournament started by Gil Hamm 48 years ago has grown to a three-day event, held on over 20 lakes in the Bemidji-Cass Lake-Leech Lake-Longville area. Over 500 people participate. Feeds Friday and Saturday nights in different locations across the tournament area give contestants not only a good meal, but provide time to visit with other participants, see the day's results and find out where the fish are. Sunday all participants come together for a feed and the awards program and Grand Prize drawing.

The Frank Schneider Memorial Tournament is not a cut-throat, professional type event. The great majority of the people who fish in this event never participate in another tournament. We have found that many have made this a yearly tradition for their family or favorite group of guys.

You can imagine that an event of this size needs lots of volunteers to make it happen. We're not asking for anyone to join the committee, just to step forward and do ONE thing to help make the tournament happen – a few hours of your time, one time during the year. Please contact Tournament Director, Eric Bakke, at tcmi.fstourneydirector@gmail.com or 612-202-7169 to volunteer.

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next meeting

JULY 14

ON-THE-WATER Mini-Challenge with North Metro Chapter/ Summer Fishing League

Join members of our chapter and the North Metro chapter on White Bear Lake or Bald Eagle Lake for a "Mini-Challenge" between chapters. Fishing hours are 5 to 9 pm. Meet at Rudy's Red Eye Grill in the Best Western White Bear Country Inn after for treats and beverages. Winner of the challenge buys the treats!

This will also be an outing for the chapter's Summer League. Let Greg Kappes know you are participating by email at tcmi.fishingleague@gmail.com. If you want to participate in the summer league for cash prizes, sign up at our website www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org before Tuesday.



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7125 17th Avenue South
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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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Big Wood Musky Lures	Lakewood Products	Phantom Lures	Third Street Brewhouse
Blue Ribbon Bait & Tackle	LAX Reproductions	Pro Musky Guide Service – Josh Borovsky	Thorne Bros
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Kevin Cochran Musky Guide Service	Mantrap Lodge on Big Mantrap Lake	Save A Memory	Vermilion Dam Lodge
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Elk River Rods	Minneapolis Gun Club	Shimano	Wellman Sports Marketing
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Fishing for Life	Musky Hunter Magazine	Spring Bay Resort and Guide Service – Lake Vermilion	
Fishing Hardcore – Ben Olsen	Musky Innovations LLC		
Frankie's Live Bait & Marine	Musky Madness Guide Service – Kris Astorp		
Gary's Custom Rod & Reel	Musky Mayhem Tackle		

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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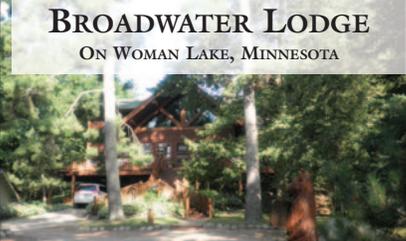
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