

# On the Water



## Veteran's Home Opener is May 6



Residents of the Minneapolis Veteran's Home will be treated to a Fishing Opener on Saturday, May 6. Our chapter, along with several VFW, American Legion, and AmVets Posts have sponsored the fishing opener for over 20 years at the Minnesota Veteran's Home.

A large, well-stocked trout pond will be set up in the yard at the home and residents will be able to come down to the pond and spend the morning fishing for the trout. Volunteers will prepare a "shore lunch" of fresh-caught trout, potatoes and beans and serve it to the veterans.

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 come out and get some fishing in. Many of them are lined up waiting bright and early in the morning. The fishing opener event has been recognized for being one of the best volunteer events at Veterans Homes all over the country. Everyone who can should take some time Saturday morning and come out.

Volunteers are needed to help residents with the fishing, cleaning the fish, cooking and serving the meal, and generally making this a fun event. Last year we served many hundreds of meals to residents and their families and caregivers.

It takes a lot of people to make this happen for the residents. Volunteers need to be at the Minneapolis Veterans Home around 7 am. The home is near Minnehaha Falls – use park entrance off Minnehaha Parkway at 46th Ave.

If you can bring 10 pounds of boiled potatoes with you, please contact event 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.

## Spring Fever!

Don't miss the spring events that will be happening this month at our favorite stores.

### Blue Ribbon Bait & Tackle Open House – April 8, 10-6

Talk with professional guides, lure makers and tackle distributors at the 10th Annual Spring Open House. 10-50% off rods, reels, and tackle. Guests include John Kleczewski from Lake X Lures and Guide Service, Rick Lax from Lax Reproductions, guide and outfitter Jake Nelson, guide and lure maker Noah Binsfield from Get the Net Guide Service, as well as host Josh Stevenson of Mighty Musky Guide Service and owner of Blue Ribbon. A number of other vendors will have displays inside 2 big tents. Boats from Hannay's Marine will be on display. From 11-3 pm there will be grilled food from Jordan Meats & Deli. Don't miss it.

### Joe's Sporting Goods Fish Fest – April 17-23

Save 20% on rods, reels, lures all week. Save up to 50% on closeouts and rep samples. The week features fishing seminars Monday through Friday at 6 pm each night and Saturday at 10 am and 1 pm on all species. Mike Keyes will give a seminar on River Hunting for Muskies on Tuesday, April 18. The 1 pm Saturday seminar features Humminbird pro staffer Scotty Peterson. Saturday you can take an extra \$25 off the lowest price of any depth finder.

### Thorne Bros. Annual Spring Sale – April 21-23

Everything in the store will be on sale. Saturday will feature a tent with factory reps and pro-staff members from across the industry. Shimano factory reps will be available to clean and lube one reel. Seminars with Joe Bucher and James Lindner are scheduled for Saturday. A muskie guide panel will be featured on Sunday. A trout pond will be set up for the kids. Cheese curds and other fair-style food will be available.

## *From Our President,* **SHAWN KELLETT**

*Greetings Muskie Nuts!*

*Another month closer to muskie opener and I have to say that after spending too much money at George's Muskie Expo I can't wait. That's a good thing since there's a lot of things to do over the next couple of months.*

*Throughout the month one of our chapter's sponsors will be having an "open house/spring sale" event. Here's your chance if you missed out on the deals at the show. Blue Ribbon Bait: April 8th, Joe's: April 17-23rd, Thorne's: April 21-23rd.*

*For those that can't wait for June 3rd, the Iowa Heartland Chapter of MI has their annual "Spring Tune-up" event April 29th. This is a fun way to get out and try that new gear we've been buying all winter long and it's a less than a 2 hour road trip to do it. We even have some members who have won this event in the past so the home field advantage doesn't always hold true. Check out [heartlandmuskies.org/](http://heartlandmuskies.org/) for more information.*

*Another event to put on your calendar is the Vet's Home Opener this May 6th where we host a trout pond and fish fry at our local vet's home. If you haven't had a chance to attend this event, you really owe it to yourself to go and serve. It honestly will change you to your core.*

*Last but not least is the Armed Forces Family Fishing Celebration. This is an event that we kicked off with the aid of the Fishing for Life folks and has grown every year. Mark off June 16th on your calendar now and we'll get more information out as it gets closer.*

*One last update from the legislature. It looks like our past efforts have helped us this session and the anti-muskie language seems to be dead. There is a chance there could be some language allowing for 2 lines in the state, but at this time it is not in the final Game and Fish bill.*

*See you next week at the meeting where we are having our annual swap meet. Dig through your boxes and see if your trash can be turned into someone else's treasure.*



### **George's Tackle Shop**

Over 400 kids came to make their own muskie lure to take home at George's Tackle Shop at the recent Minnesota Muskie Expo. Participation at the Tackle Shop seems to grow each year. The kids enjoy creating their lures very much with many reports of big smiles from them proudly showing off their new baits up and down the expo isles.

Linda and Dave Knutson, who have been in charge of the Tackle Shop for a number of years, enjoy the task of making all those lures happen. A vital part of the success of the Tackle Shop is the growing list of many volunteers who come to help out each year. Linda and Dave want to thank everyone who helped this year. Your time spent is much appreciated by the kids as well as the Knutsons! Thank you.

### **Be a Part of the Chapter Challenge**

Represent the Twin Cities Chapter in the Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge this year. Teams from Muskies, Inc. chapters throughout the country will be gathering at Red Wing Lodge, Sabaskong Bay, Lake of the Woods in August for the 2017 Gil Hamm Memorial Chapter Challenge. The Challenge is being hosted by the Star of the North chapter from Grand Rapids, MN this year as they were the winners of last year's Challenge.

Each team can have up to 6 people and our chapter has registered for two teams. The group could use a few more people to fill out the teams and invite any chapter member to join them at the Challenge. The Challenge is officially Wednesday-Friday, August 23-25, but most participants come for the entire week to pre-fish. There is a rules meeting on Tuesday.

We already have lodging reserved for our teams for the week. Participants pay for their own lodging and share the costs of food. Wednesday and Thursday the host chapter will provide dinner and on Friday lunch is served at the Awards program.

Stu MacIntosh is heading up our Challenge teams this year. Contact him at [s McIntosh@horwitzinc.com](mailto:s McIntosh@horwitzinc.com) or 651-699-9817 if you're interested in representing our chapter at this event.

# Summer Fishing League

from Greg Kappes, Summer Fishing League Chair

I would like to welcome and encourage you all to participate in the chapter's Summer Fishing League this season. It is an opportunity to fish with chapter members and to showcase your skills or learn from others. League participants can choose to compete for cash prizes. Prizes are awarded to the top two individual anglers, top three if we have over fifteen participants. Points are awarded for fish caught and are accumulative throughout the season. Fish must be over 36 inches to qualify. The scoring system starts at 10 points for a 36 inch fish and go up for each half inch after that. Fish measurements rounded down. A picture of the fish caught on a board must be submitted to [tcmi.FishingLeague@gmail.com](mailto:tcmi.FishingLeague@gmail.com) for verification to qualify for points. If you choose to participate for the cash prizes, you must make a \$50 donation to the Twin Cities chapter stocking fund before fishing to qualify for the prizes. For full rules list and access to make donation visit [www.TwinCitiesMuskieInc.org](http://www.TwinCitiesMuskieInc.org) and click on Summer League. We hope to see many more of you out this year.

## Summer Fishing League Schedule

DAY	DATE	LAKE	TIME
Thursday	June 8	Minnetonka	5:00 to 9:30 pm
Thursday	June 15	Waconia	5:00 to 9:30 pm
Tuesday	June 23	Mini Challenge with North Metro	5:00 to 9:30 pm
Sunday	July 9	Harriet/Calhoun	6:00 am to noon
Sunday	July 30	Rush	6:00 am to noon
Thursday	August 10	Minnetonka	5:00 to 9:30 pm
Sunday	August 20	Bryant	6:00 am to noon
Thursday	August 31	White Bear	5:00 to 9:00 pm
Sunday	September 17	Forest	6:00 am to noon
Saturday	September 23	George Wahl Tournament	
Sunday	October 8	Independence	7:00 am to 1:00 pm

## Make Your Own Double-10 at Next Chapter Meeting

In addition to a Lure Swap at the April meeting, we will have components and the necessary tools available for attendees to be able make a double-10 to take home. Various colors for blades and flashabou will be on hand. First come gets their pick of colors. We only ask that you pay for the components used – \$15 per lure. If you bring your own parts and want to use the forming tools available, there is no charge.



Tom Goodrich, center, Executive Director of Fishing for Life, was presented a check for \$5500 from the Twin Cities chapter by chapter Youth Chairperson, Terry Schar, left, and chapter President, Shawn Kellett, right, at the recent Minnesota Muskie Expo. You can see by our logo on the Fishing for Life fish pond, that we sponsor them in their efforts to bring fishing to youth throughout the metro area. The chapter partners with Fishing for Life at the June Armed Forces Family Fun Celebration at Lake Minnetonka.

## Qualifier for State High School Muskie Tournament

Area high school students in grades 9-12 are invited to participate in this year's Twin Cities chapter qualifier for the State High School Muskie Tournament. The event will be held on Friday, June 9 on Lake Independence (sun-up until noon).

Each school may register an unlimited number of teams (2 students per team). If members know of an area student who is interested in participating in the High School Muskie Tournament, they should have the student check with their high school principal or administrative office for additional information. If the high school does not have the tournament information, they can contact Terry Schar, chapter youth chair at 612-865-4200 or [twschar@yahoo.com](mailto:twschar@yahoo.com).

The top two teams from this qualifier will participate in the State High School Muskie Tournament being held Friday, June 23 on Lake Vermillion.

If anyone is interested in helping, please contact Terry Schar at 612-865-4200 or [twschar@yahoo.com](mailto:twschar@yahoo.com). You can also contact Terry at the monthly chapter meeting or Board of Directors meeting.

## Chapter Outing at Red Wing Lodge

Okay, we all understand the fun of picking up a new “secret weapon” or two. But now consider this different question: Do you need more opportunity or more baits for catching that big muskie? Big fish opportunity is awaiting you at Red Wing Lodge on Lake of the Woods, Canada. Schedule in big fish opportunity with a reservation for the annual August Muskie Inc. Outing to Red Wing Lodge.

This opportunity has been provided for years by the cooperative support of Mike and Anne Bartlett of Red Wing Lodge, North Metro chapter and our chapter. Dates for the outing are August 12-19, 2017.

Red Wing Lodge has been family owned and operated for 50 years, is clean and comfortable, where everything works. The Bartlett family has hosted Muskie Inc. outings for years with personal and friendly service, so they understand what muskie people need and like. Red Wing Lodge is a ten-time Chapter Challenge headquarters. Check out the muskie information, including the Red Wing Lodge Hall of Fame, as well as the first live cam in Morson, at [www.redwinglodge.net](http://www.redwinglodge.net)

Cost per person in housekeeping cabins remains at \$350 (US Funds) for 2017, just \$50 per day for big-time Canadian muskie fishing. Included is dockage (\$72 value), launch (both ways, \$25 value), free dinner one night and one free trip - given away in drawing - courtesy of the Bartletts, wireless internet service, 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. First come, first served. To make reservations, or any questions or suggestions for improving the trip, contact: John van Ingen, (651) 336-3622 [maxjo@mac.com](mailto:maxjo@mac.com), 2108 Palace Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105 or John Genosky, (651) 329-4898 [John@Protacinc.com](mailto:John@Protacinc.com), 904 81st St., Lino Lakes, MN 55014



*Every year the chapter presents a replica of the biggest fish caught by a member and registered in the Members Only Contest. Paul Hartman, center, received a replica of his 56-inch Lunker of the Month during the Minnesota Muskie Expo last month. Pictured with Paul, are chapter Members Only Contest chair, Casey Friskney, left, and Rick Lax, from Lax Reproductions, right. Rick and Lax Reproductions generously donate part of the cost of the replica every year to the chapter. This year, the biggest registered fish (56.5 inches) was actually caught by Josh Borovsky. Josh, however, has already received a replica for his Lunker of the Year in 2009. Contest rules state that you can only take home one replica every 20 years. So now Paul has this replica of a beautiful 56-incher and to grace his walls.*

## — this n’ that —

### Seeking Part-Time Seasonal Employee

Hannay’s Marine, 630 Arthur Street in Minneapolis, is looking for a part-time seasonal employee, possibly a high school student, to start soon with a few hours to learn the ropes and work into more hours during the summer. The most important qualification is knowledge about fishing and boating and to be able to talk to the customers. Compensation based on experience and fishing/boating knowledge. If you, or you know someone, who might be interested, call Joe Hausladen at Hannay’s, 612-781-7411.

### Chapter Show Booth

The chapter is looking for a volunteer to take over from Greg Ide who has been in charge of our show booth for many years. Greg would like to retire from taking care of the show booth. The job involves setting up the booth at

the Minnesota Muskie Expo and at the Northwest Sports Show and scheduling volunteers during those events. The booth folds down to a compact size and is easy to move. This is not a board position and could be done by anyone who is willing. Occasionally there are additional places that the booth is set up during the year. Greg would help whoever takes over for him. Contact him at 612-331-5034 or [gregide@aol.com](mailto:gregide@aol.com) if you’re interested in taking on the chapter show booth.

### Advertise in our “On the Water” Newsletter

Classified ads to run in the newsletter may be submitted by Twin Cities Chapter members. Charges are \$5.00 per month per ad. Ads can include a photo of an item for sale. Send ad information to Denise Olson at [olsonat3pete@gmail.com](mailto:olsonat3pete@gmail.com).



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Eric Schultz  
651-917-8272  
tcmi.vicepresident@gmail.com  
**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**  
Terry Schar  
612-865-4200  
tcmi.vicepresident2@gmail.com  
**TREASURER**  
Andy Wayt  
651-353-6456  
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**SECRETARY**  
Jim Doyle  
952-920-9818  
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**REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**  
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952-240-4083  
tcmi.rvp@gmail.com  
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Elaine Randolph  
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Steve Smythe  
612-369-8075  
Alex Worobel  
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[www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org](http://www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org)

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# next meeting

## APRIL 11 Swap Meet/ Lure Building

It's time to go down to the basement, or out to the garage and go through all your lures, reels, rods, electronics and anything else you might use for fishing – or not use for fishing any more. Bring it to the meeting and be prepared to deal.

We'll also have components and tools available for those who want to make their own double-10s.

**EVERY NEW MEMBER ATTENDING THE MEETING WILL RECEIVE A WELCOME GIFT.**

**EVERY YOUTH MEMBER AT THE MEETING WILL RECEIVE A NEW LURE.**

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*Muskies Inc. Twin Cities chapter 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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*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.*

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## Thanks to the Sponsors Who Donate to the Twin Cities Chapter

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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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