

On the Water



Don't Miss the Sportsman's Banquet



The Twin Cities chapter's Sportsman's Banquet is Saturday, January 21 at the Minnesota Valley Country Club in Bloomington. This year's banquet features new-for-2017 rods and reels from several manufacturers. Prizes also include resort stays, guide trips, tackle storage, custom painted one-of-a-kind lures, art prints, fishing equipment and tools, and outdoor gear.

Raffle tables valued at more than \$1,000, as well as a "mystery" table, gun table, and rod table plus numerous games are being planned for this year's event. Proceeds for the 100-square board this year will be going to the Minnesota Muskies Pike Alliance (MMPA)

Seating is limited so make your reservations soon. Purchase one of the Bonus Packages before January 7 and you will qualify for one or both of the Early-Bird drawings for a St. Croix rod and Shimano Calcutta reel

A \$155 Platinum Bonus Package will save you \$60. You get \$180 worth of muskie bucks and dinner – a \$215 value. A \$105 Gold Bonus Package includes \$100 worth of muskie bucks and dinner. Muskie bucks are used to purchase tickets for the raffle tables and enter some of the games. Dinner only is \$35. Attendees can choose either roast pork dinner or salmon. Last day to make reservations is January 16.

Purchase on-line at www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org with a credit card or PayPal. Go to the Banquet tab, click on "Make your reservations now" and follow the prompts. You may also use the form in this newsletter and mail it in. We will also have banquet reservations available at the January meeting.

It will take a great number of volunteers on the day of the banquet to make it happen. If you can help out checking in people, selling raffle tickets, working at one of the special raffle tables or games, or running prizes to the winners, please let Eric Schultz (eschultz33@comcast.net, 651-917-8272) or Denise Olson (tcmi.sponsor2@gmail.com, 612-804-4687) know. And, don't forget to invite your friends. This is a fun night out whether a person is "into" muskie fishing or not.

2017 Chapter Officers Elected

Elections for our chapter's Board of Directors and officers for 2017 were held at our December meeting. Elected to serve two-year terms on the Board of Directors starting January 1 were veterans Jim Doyle, Casey Friskney, Pete Kemmer, John Newman, Denise Olson, Eric Schultz, and Steve Smythe. Shawn Kellett who recently rejoined the Board and Elaine Randolph who has been a board member in the past were also elected.

Retiring from our board this year was Peter Janik. We want to thank him for his years of service as a board member.

Once the election for board members was done, officers were elected. Officers of the chapter must be members of the Board of Directors and are elected to serve one-year terms.

Officers of the chapter for 2017 are President, Shawn Kellett; First Vice President, Eric Schultz; Second Vice President, Terry Schar; Treasurer, Andy Wayt; Secretary, Jim Doyle; Regional Vice President, Jon Meyers.

The chapter Board of Directors meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at the Knights of Columbus. There are still a few open spots on the Board. The Board needs people who are interested and willing to participate in the chapter and its future. If you want to be more involved contact President Shawn Kellett (612-201-0209, tcmi.president@gmail.com or tonkamuskie@gmail.com), or a current board member.

From Our President, **SHAWN KELLETT**

*Merry New Year muskie nuts!
Hopefully, your stockings were full of new
lures, reels, and other muskie fishing toys from
Santa.*

*Thank you for electing me to represent you all
as your President for my second go around.
This was a historic election of sorts, being that
we had two very qualified candidates to bring
before the club. The last time this happened was
probably around 15-20 years ago. I personally
believe this is because the conditions around
muskies and muskie fishing have been
changing as of late. We now need to all band
together and get to the business at hand.*

*Today, more than any time I can remember,
we have more threats to our sport. Where it
used to just be the dark house organization
that opposed us (and they still do), we also
have new lakeshore groups opposing us as well.
These groups have considerably more resources
than any opposition we've faced and have
considerably more resources to throw against
us.*

*We have been successful to this point opposing
them, but looking into the future I can only
see this opposition getting stronger and more
effective – spreading their half truths in order
to keep others off “their” lakes. We will need
to work together to make sure we ensure our
rights to fish these and new lakes in the future.*

*The habits of how muskie fishermen learn
have been changing as well. 20 years ago, MI
was one of the only outlets for information
on muskies. Today, not only are there other
muskie websites, but a whole host of social
media avenues that people can use to get
information.*

*We are going to have to look at the value
we bring to our members and the muskie
community and come up with some new ways
to be relevant in the years to come. This will
prove to be an interesting challenge as well as
an incredible opportunity for us all.*

*Last, I will leave you with the reminder to
everyone to be as active as you can in the
organization. Muskies, Inc. is nothing on its
own, but the collective engagement of ALL of
our members.*

*Come to the banquet! Come to the meetings!
When you come, bring a friend and help us
continue to make the Twin Cities Chapter #1!*

Hugh C. Becker Nominated to Fishing Hall of Fame

One of the many programs of the Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame, based in Hayward, Wisconsin, consists of recognizing individuals, organizations and institutions who have made significant and lasting contributions to the sport and heritage of freshwater fishing. The Hall of Fame recently announced 11 individuals and one organization as the 2017 Hall of Fame inductees. One of the individuals to be inducted this year is Hugh Becker, long-time active Twin Cities chapter member who passed away in 2007.

From the Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame announcement: Hugh C. Becker began his personal fish-tagging program in 1953 which led to many early practices regarding catch and release of muskellunge. Becker was a catalyst in the development of Muskies, Inc. serving on the Board of Directors from 1967 through 1983. In 1976 he personally funded a three-year fish-tagging program directed by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. This study was the basis for the adoption of the catch and release program for Muskies, Inc. and the adoption of utilizing the Leech Lake/Mississippi River strain of muskellunge as the brood stock for that state's stocking program. Through the Hugh C. Becker Foundation almost a million dollars to date has been issued in the form of grants for muskellunge related research.

Other inductees this year are Dan Basore, Clem Dippel, Joseph Flater, Shaw Grigsby, Gary Howie, Bob Jensen, Ned Kehde, Steve Pennaz, Gordon Schuler, Irv Snell, and Driftless Area Restoration Effort (DARE).

Help Wanted

The chapter is looking for volunteers to take over from the current job-holders. Greg Ide has been in charge of our show booth for many years and he would like to retire. This is not a board position and could be done by anyone who would be willing. It involves setting up the booth at shows and scheduling volunteers. The booth folds down to a compact size and is easy to move. Our show booth is at the Northwest Sports Show and the Minnesota Muskie Expo each year. 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 if you're interested.

Our chapter treasurer, Andy Wayt, will be leaving the job at the end of 2017. The chapter has several accounts that need to be managed and uses Quicken for the task. Ideally, Andy would like to be able to work with the new treasurer throughout the year. The treasurer is a board position, so the new treasurer would become a member of the chapter board of directors. If you would like to learn about the treasurer's job or volunteer, please contact Andy at tcmi.treasurer@gmail.com or 651-353-6456.

Members Only Contest Wraps Up 2016 Season

from Members Only Contest Chair, Casey Friskney

This should do it for us in our 2016 Muskie Season. Over the last month we had a few more November fish get reported and one single December fish, with suckers, big cranks, big rubber, and some fly fishing big keys for late season success.

Noteworthy action on the Members Only Contest Board:

- Jeremy Knutson is, as of the time I'm writing this, is the only member to log a December fish, with a 45.5-incher that he suckered on December 1. Capping off the Minnesota season, strengthening his hold of the third place spot on the men's division podium, and securing him what looks to be "Lunker of the Month" for December.
- Muskies Inc. Twin Cities chapter Board Member John Newman Jr. got out on the third to last day of the season (11/29) and jiggged himself a 49 inch "East Metro" muskie.
- Muskies Inc. Twin Cities chapter Board Member Erik Bakke had a very productive late season up north. Throughout the month of November Bakke put time in on Vermilion, Plantagenet, and Lac Seul, where he boated 9 of his 13 registered fish. It's interesting to note that of those 9 November fish caught, 6 of them were on Supernatural Big Baits! In doing so, Bakke trolled his way to the second place spot in the men's masters division.

With the 2016 Season coming to a close, as well as the chapter's 2016 Members Only Contest, pending no last minute additions to the scoreboards here's some things to highlight:

- We're going to have to find more ladies to fish in the Women's Division! Sole entrant and dominating contender Tera Castillo will be leaving the Women's and graduating to the Women's Masters Division to compete with the likes of 2016 champ Cindy Hegdahl and runner-up Linda Knutson.
- Alexander McLean has edged out Nolen Ryba and Jeremy Knutson as the Men's Champion with 258 points from 15 fish, and will join the likes of 1st Place Brent Hirsh and 2nd Place Eric Bakke in the Men's Masters Division.
- Lastly, Paul Hartman's super tanker of a Mille Lacs muskie will earn him the "Biggest Fish" award and the replica that our chapter gives to the Biggest Fish. Paul's 56" November Lunker of the Month and potential (released) "State Record Beater" was likely the heaviest fish caught by a chapter member this year, and second longest only to Josh Borovsky's 56.5" Lunker of the Month from June. Josh has already won the "Biggest Fish" award/replica once before within the 20-year grace period, so Paul will take the honors this year. Congrats to both on catching two legal-to-keep-fish of a lifetime – and both are still swimming!

Current standings:

JUNIOR DIVISION

	NAME	POINTS	NO. FISH	LONGEST
1ST	Elijah Woods	25	1	50.5"
2ND	Olin Knutson	10	1	36"

WOMEN'S DIVISION

1ST	Tera Castillo	178	6	54"
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WOMEN'S MASTERS DIVISION

1ST	Cindy Hegdahl	209	16	55"
2ND	Linda Knutson	64	4	49.5"

MEN'S DIVISION

1ST	Alexander McLean	258	15	47.5"
2ND	Nolen Ryba	245	15	48"
3RD	Jeremy Knutson	244	13	45"
4TH	Todd Lindberg	126	7	50"
5TH	Casey Friskney	121	10	44"
6TH	Ben Tollefson	108	6	46"
7TH	Mike Dahlstrom	95	6	49.5"
8TH	Tom Kenefick	91	7	48"
9TH	Dave Knutson	89	6	47.5"
10TH	Gary I Woods III	86	7	43"

MEN'S HYBRID DIVISION

(points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

1ST	Jeremy Knutson	16	1	42"
2ND	Jesse Carpentier	15	2	34"
3RD	John Harazin	10	1	36"

MEN'S MASTERS DIVISION

1ST	Brent Hirsch	303	26	46"
2ND	Eric Bakke	213	13	47"
3RD	Mark Fredrick	137	11	52.5"

MEN'S MASTER'S HYBRID DIVISION

(points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

1ST	Eric Bakke	6	1	32"
2ND	Brent Hirsch	4	1	30"

LUNKER OF THE MONTH

APRIL - Official - John Harazin - 4/30 - Clear Lake, IA - 46"

MAY - No fish registered 45" or over

JUNE - Official - Josh Borovsky - 6/20 - Vermilion - 56.5"

JULY - Official - Tera Castillo - 7/4 - Minnetonka - 54"

Alan Albrecht - 7/21 - Vermilion - 54"

AUGUST - Official - Mark Fredrick - 8/28 - Plantagenet - 52.5"

SEPTEMBER - Official - Brian Hanson - 9/14 - Little Sand Lake, Ontario - 49"

OCTOBER - Official - Cindy Hegdahl - 10/23 - Plantagenet - 55"

NOVEMBER - Official - Paul Hartman - 11/12 - Mille Lacs - 56"

DECEMBER - Unofficial - Jeremy Knutson - 12/1 - Bald Eagle - 45.5"

That's all for now, I'll see you that the banquet, expos, and our monthly meetings!

-Casey

TWIN CITIES SPORTSMAN'S BANQUET RESERVATION ORDER

Saturday, January 21, 2017 – Minnesota Valley Country Club – Doors open at 5:00 pm

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

PLATINUM BONUS PACKAGE – \$155 (\$215 value) Includes dinner and \$180 in raffle tickets	QTY
<input type="checkbox"/> Salmon Dinner <input type="checkbox"/> Roast Pork Dinner	
<i>If purchased before January 7, will be entered in EARLY-BIRD drawings for an Abu Garcia Beast muskie rod and an Abu Garcia Best reel.</i>	_____ \$ _____
GOLD BONUS PACKAGE – \$105 (\$135 value) Includes dinner and \$100 in raffle tickets	
<input type="checkbox"/> Salmon Dinner <input type="checkbox"/> Roast Pork Dinner	
<i>If purchased before January 7, will be entered in EARLY-BIRD drawing for an Abu Garcia Beast rod.</i>	_____ \$ _____
Dinner Reservation Only (\$35 ea.) <input type="checkbox"/> Salmon Dinner <input type="checkbox"/> Roast Pork Dinner	_____ \$ _____
I cannot attend but would like to make a donation	_____ \$ _____
Total	\$ _____

DINNER, RAFFLE TICKETS OR PACKAGES WILL NOT BE MAILED AND CAN BE PICKED UP AT THE DOOR.

MAIL COMPLETED FORM WITH CHECK PAYABLE TO MUSKIES INC. TO: Denise Olson, 7125 17th Avenue South, Richfield, MN 55423

MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE JANUARY 15, 2017

North Metro Banquet

The North Metro chapter annual banquet is Saturday, February 25, 2017 at the Coon Rapids VFW Post 9625, 1919 Coon Rapids Boulevard. Social hour begins at 3:30 pm and dinner will be served at 6:30 pm with raffle drawings following.

Dinner tickets are \$35 in advance, \$45 after February 11. Dinner/raffle combo packages are available. Muskie Package is \$185, Tiger Package is \$130, and the Pike Package is \$85. Dinner and Package tickets can be purchased online at the North Metro website: www.nmmuskies.com or at the door.

Red Wing Lodge Outing

This outing, August 12-19, 2017, is open to members of both the North Metro and the Twin Cities chapters. Red Wing Lodge is located on Sabaskong Bay in Lake of the Woods.

Cost per person in housekeeping cabins is \$350 (US Funds), just \$50 per day for big-time Canadian muskie fishing. Reservations require a \$50 non-refundable deposit. Deposits officially confirm reservation holds. First come, first served.

To make reservations, or if you have any questions or suggestions for improving the trip, contact John van Ingen, (651) 336-3622 maxjo@mac.com or John Genosky, (651) 329-4898 John@Protacinc.com.



FEBRUARY MEETING
**“Winter Picnic” and
 Chapter Awards Program**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Knights of Columbus • Bloomington

Starts at 6:30 pm with BBQ sandwiches and all the accompaniments.

Following dinner plaques presented to top winners
 of 2016 Member’s Only Contest.

Muskie Tale Award Presentation. Come hear all the great stories!!

Feel free to bring your significant others and families.

*Serving the Musky
 Community Since 1981*



*Staffed with knowledgeable
 personnel who are
 passionate about fishing*

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NOW TWO LOCATIONS:

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 Oakdale, MN 55128
 651-777-2421
 (OPEN ALL YEAR)

5051 Stewart Ave
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 651-202-3632
 (OPEN SUMMERS ONLY)

Monday - Thursday: 7AM - 7PM | Friday: 7AM - 8PM
 Saturday: 5:30AM - 7PM | Sunday: 6AM - 6PM

PREMIER METRO-AREA FISHING GUIDE SERVICES

Mighty Muskie Guide Service
 Josh Stevenson, State Tiger Musky Record Holder
 Dick Grzywinsky Guide Service
 Minnesota’s “The Griz”

**tc chapter
 contacts**

OFFICERS

- PRESIDENT**
 Shawn Kellett
 612-201-0209
 tcmi.president@gmail.com
 tonkamuskie@gmail.com
- FIRST VICE PRESIDENT**
 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
 tcmi.treasurer@gmail.com
- SECRETARY**
 Jim Doyle
 952-920-9818
 tcmi.secretary@gmail.com
- REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**
 Jon Meyers
 952-240-4083
 tcmi.rvp@gmail.com
- MEMBERS ONLY CONTEST**
 Casey Friskney
 715-419-1187
- TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR**
 Eric Bakke
 612-202-7169
- STOCKING AND REARING**
 John Newman
 651-699-8676

**BOARD MEMBERS
 AT LARGE**

- Brad Coyne
 763-412-6697
- Mike Darley
 715-225-0167
- Casey Friskney
 715-419-1187
- Greg Ide
 612-331-5034
- Pete Kemmer
 952-607-0861
- Jim Kroupa
 952-474-5967
- Doug Malsom
 612-759-3407
- Stu McIntosh
 651-699-9817
- Denise Olson
 612-804-4687
- Elaine Randolph
 612-708-6851
- Steve Smythe
 612-369-8075

www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org

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Contact: Graphic Works
 olsonat3pete@gmail.com
 612-804-4687



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next meeting

JANUARY 10

**Speaker:
STEVE HERBECK**

Steve is the long-time owner of Andy Meyers Resort on Ontario's Eagle Lake. Since his retirement from the resort, Steve has been a guide out of Andy Meyers, spending 140 days a year guiding there with his season ending November 8. Steve had one of the best big-fish years of his life in 2016.

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

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

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.).



MUSKIES, INC.

7125 17th Avenue South
Richfield, MN 55423

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.

Abu Garcia
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Northern Lights Casino
Okuma
One Stop
Palco
Pine Beach Resort and Campground
Pine Sunset Resort
Pro Musky Guide Service – Josh Borovsky
Red Wing Lodge – Lake of the Woods
Reed's Family Outdoor Outfitters
Sah-Kah-Tay Resort – Cass Lake

Savage Gear
Sportsman's Connection
Spiderwire
Spring Bay Resort and Guide Service – Lake Vermilion
St. Croix Rods
Sunset Cove Resort – Cass Lake
Sunset Lodge – Lake of the Woods
Supernatural Big Baits
Tamarack Island Wilderness Lodge – Lake of the Woods
Temple Fork Outfitters
Third Street Brewhouse
Thorne Bros
Timber Trails Resort – Boy Lake
Trappers Landing Lodge – Leech Lake
Wades Custom Tackle
Wellman Sports Marketing
Whitefish Bay Camp – Lake of the Woods