

On the Water



Volume 21, Issue 12

DECEMBER 2018

Ben Tollefson Wins Summer League



Ben Tollefson, left, was presented the Twin Cities Chapter Summer Fishing League traveling trophy by League Chair Jon Best at the November chapter meeting. In addition to the traveling Phantom, Ben received a \$300 custom rod by Joe Oprosko, his choice of lures, a plaque and some muskie apparel. A drawing for a weekend at Timber Trails Resort and a collection of lures was also held for all participants in the league this season. Every time someone fished in the league, their name went into the drawing. The drawing was won by Ernie Heifort.

Chapter Elections at Next Meeting

Become an active member of your chapter. We need people who are interested and willing to participate in the chapter and its future to step up and join the Board of Directors. All it takes is a few hours a month. The Board meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Knights of Columbus and most meetings last around 2 hours. There hasn't been a new person on the board for a couple of years. We always looking for new faces and fresh ideas.

Board members who will serve 2-year terms starting in January for 2019 and 2020 will be elected at this meeting. Chapter officers must be members of the Board of Directors. Once the board members have been determined, we will elect our officers for 2019. Officers serve one-year terms.

If you want to be more involved and have a say in what the chapter does on a day-to-day basis, become a board member. If you like to help plan events, or have a say in how they are planned, become a board member. If you want to be able to have a say in how the chapter uses its funds, become a board member. If you would like to influence how the chapter deals with Muskies, Inc. National, the DNR, or other muskie clubs, become a board member.

Contact Jim Doyle (952-920-9818, tcmi.president@gmail.com or doyle_jim@hotmail.net), or a current board member if you're interested.

Serve as Chapter Secretary or Youth Chair

The chapter is looking for someone to take over as Secretary and a person to take over as Youth Chairperson. We have been operating without a chapter secretary since January. Elaine Randolph, who has been serving as Interim Secretary, will be moving on. This is a Board position. In addition to attending the monthly board meeting and taking minutes, being Secretary takes about an extra hour a month typing up and making copies of the minutes and an agenda for the monthly meeting.

The Youth Chair does not necessarily need to be a member of the Board of Directors. Our chapter's current chair, Terry Schar, will be retiring soon and moving out of state. The Youth Chairperson coordinates and hosts a qualifying one-day tournament in June for the state High School tournament and work with the sponsorship committee to obtain prizes and awards for that event. They also work with the chapter to complete and submit an application and accountability report for a Hugh C Becker grant for the youth program. The chair coordinates working with Fishing for Life including the club's donation which helps FFL run activities like the Armed Forces Family Fishing Celebration. They also hand out lures to youths at monthly meetings.

Terry also works with the other club members to make approximately 100 spinners which are given to high school tournament participants and at Fishing for Life events.

Contact president Jim Doyle (tcmi.president@gmail.com, doyle_jim@hotmail.com or 952-920-9818) or a current board member if you're interested in joining the Board or helping the chapter as Youth Chair.

From Our President,
JIM DOYLE

Happy holidays! Time to wish for more tackle for next season!

At the last meeting we had several new attendees and meeting veterans that got a very good start with rods and baits from the typical welcome table and raffle, as well as prizes for those who participated in the chapter league.

By this time the DNR has done their fish stocking for the year and all are tucked under the ice with the season closed.

We are actively seeking input from anyone that may have an idea for a Hugh C. Becker grant supporting youth fishing, muskie fisheries, and research associated with muskies. If you, or you know of someone please bring the idea to the attention of the board or submit a grant form found on the chapter web site for consideration. There is a sizable amount of funds for projects and a wide range of projects get considered for funding.

We look forward to seeing more of you at the winter chapter events, we try and save the best for when more people are able to make it.

Holiday Gifts for Muskie Fishing Friends

Looking for a holiday gift for your muskie fishing friends or relatives? Think about giving them a Muskies, Inc. membership. Just fill out the form on our website and mail it in or go to muskiesinc.org to complete on line. Or, how about some Twin Cities chapter apparel? Eric Schultz will be on hand at the December meeting with some finished apparel or to take orders.

Bring an Item to Share at Gift Exchange at December Meeting

We will again have a gift exchange at our December meeting for those who want to participate. We've done this several times in the past and it always has proved to be interesting.

If you would like to participate in a gift exchange at the December meeting, please bring a wrapped lure or other small item to exchange. It does not necessarily have to be new. Go through your tackle box, you might have something that you've only used a couple of times that just hasn't produced for you, but it might for someone else. You could also bring a "white elephant" gift. Those who participate can take their chances. As we said, it has sometimes proved to be interesting.

Participation is not mandatory – only bring something to exchange if you want to participate.

Two 50-inch Muskies Caught at Red Wing Lodge Outing

During the annual Outing August 11-18, 32 fishermen from the North Metro and Twin Cities chapters once again enjoyed Bartlett family hospitality. Mike and Anne Bartlett, along with daughters Molly and Kate, and son Matt, went all out again preparing for and hosting Muskies, Inc. fishermen, once again exhibiting the fun and solid service with which the family has built and maintained its strong reputation in the business.

Red Wing Lodge, and the amazing resource at its shore, showed once again in 2018 why Red Wing has been chosen 13 different times to be the headquarters for the famous Muskie Inc. Chapter Challenge, which takes place later in August. (Next August, 2019, will be the 13th Chapter Challenge at Red Wing Lodge.)

The annual outing started with a cold front and a tough bite. Thirty-eight muskies were caught and released, for a 38.8-inch average, with 21 of these fish at 40-inch or larger. Linda Knutson took big fish honors by landing a 50-inch muskie late on Wednesday night. Linda's name has been engraved on the Big Fish plaque. Then on Friday Spencer Olson also landed a 50-inch fish. Two 50-inch fish for the week! Linda won the award since her 50-inch fish was the first caught. Spencer's great week also included 5 other muskies, two of which were 44.5-inch fish. Other releasers of big fish: John van Ingen (46.5-inch), Cecil Cochran (46-inch), Dan Guderjan (46-inch), Dave Knutson (46-inch), James Nielson (45.5-inch) and Roger Mandt (45-inch).

As always, stories, jokes and good-natured ribbing were enjoyed by all. The stats on these remain not part of any official record, but memories of the fun remain with us all year long. Keep an eye out for the detailed invitation that will officially begin the sign-up period for the 2019 August joint Twin Cities/North Metro chapters Red Wing outing. Dates for the 2019 outing are August 10-17.

Don't just wish. Make it happen. Any questions or suggestions for improving the outing, please contact:

John van Ingen
(651) 336-3622
2108 Palace Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55105
maxjo@mac.com

or
John Genosky
(651) 329-4898
904 81st Street
Lino Lakes, MN 55014
john@protacinc.com

Twin Cities Chapter Members Only Contest

from Mike Darley, Chapter Members Only Contest Chair

Most lakes are now iced over, and serious anglers will need to find rivers or head south. Over the month of November, most of the fishing strategies have still been running live bait and trolling crank baits. I'm not expecting too many more fish to be caught, yet at the time of writing this article, we still have two legal days left of Muskie fishing in Minnesota.

This has been our slowest month yet with registrations only totaling 12 as a club. We've got some big fish yet again to mention this month. Brian Hanson caught the lone 50-inch fish this month, with Dale Mueller coming in a close second with a 49.5-inch fish. Most November fish have been put in the boat by suckers, with a few coming trolling and a few coming on casting rubber.

Last month, I got a revised list of men who have qualified for the chapters Men's Masters division. This month I received the list of women who have qualified for the chapters Women's Masters division. The results will reflect that moving forward.

We are getting close to the finish line here. Don't forget to register those muskies. Lastly, if you have any fun pictures of your catches this year that you'd be willing to share, please send them to me at Michael.Darley@libertymutual.com. It'd be great to have some more pictures available for our annual awards ceremony. Please do me a favor, and put your name, and size of the fish with the picture. Thank you in advance.

All results through 11/29.

JUNIOR DIVISION

	NAME	POINTS	NO. FISH	LONGEST
1ST	Finn Knutson	89	5	49.5"
2ND	Olin Knutson	67	4	48"

WOMEN'S DIVISION

1ST	Lauren Stout	75	4	50.25"
2ND	Sharon Rouse	25	1	51"

WOMEN'S MASTERS DIVISION

1ST	Cindy Hegdahl	141	11	47"
2ND	Kimberly Hartman	76	6	47"
3RD	Linda Knutson	24	1	50"

MEN'S DIVISION

1ST	Dale D Mueller	408	25	53.5"
2ND	Nolen Ryba	376	21	55.5"
3RD	Jeremy Knutson	345	21	50"
4TH	Matt McDonald	339	20	51.5"
5TH	Ethan Stout	216	16	49.25"
6TH	Ben Tollefson	188	13	53"
7TH	Ryan Boomer	120	12	54.5"
8TH	Mike Darley	117	9	48.25"
9TH	Todd Lindberg	108	6	48"
10TH	Chris Dahl	103	5	54.5"

MEN'S MASTERS DIVISION

	NAME	POINTS	NO. FISH	LONGEST
1ST	Brent Hirsch	253	20	48.5"
2ND	Eric Bakke	147	9	48"
3RD	Mark Fredrick	97	8	43"

HYBRID DIVISION

1ST	Luke Manthey	28	5	35"
2ND	Kimberly Hartman	26	3	37"
3RD	Josh McCabe	12	1	38"

LUNKER OF THE MONTH

MAY - Casey Friskney - 5/26 - 38" - Bone Lake (WI)

JUNE - Brent Lenke - 6/2 - 54.5" - Mille Lacs

JULY - Nolen Ryba - 7/26 - 53" - Minnetonka

AUGUST - Nolen Ryba - 8/31 - 55.5" - Minnetonka

SEPTEMBER - Paul Hartman - 9/23 - 55" - Leech Lake

OCTOBER - Tom Kenefick - 10/25 - 53" - Lake of the Woods

NOVEMBER (unofficial) - Brian Hanson - 11/3 - 50" - Little Sand Lake (ON)

Tell Us a Muskie Tale

The person with a great story from the 2018 season will have the honor of keeping the Muskie Tale Award for the year. This "Muskie Tale" is a replica of the tail of the biggest muskie on record.



As you reflect back on your muskie season, keep in mind events that happen that might make a good "Muskie Tale". We're not necessarily looking for the "big fish" story.

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. Maybe some kind of mishap happened while you were out fishing. Maybe you found something interesting on the end of your line. Maybe something or someone went overboard during a fishing expedition.

Muskie Tales will be told at our chapter Awards Program at the end of the year and we'll vote on the best one.

Take home the Muskie Tale. Share your story with us by emailing your "tale" to Denise Olson at olsonat3pete@gmail.com.

Schneider Tournament Shirts

We will again have Frank Schneider tournament t-shirts available at our chapter meeting. The 2018 shirts are a softer, sport-tek fabric in a heather grey with dark green imprint. Ladies size shirts in 2 styles and a variety of sizes are \$15, men's S-XL are also \$15. Men's 2XL and 3XL shirt are \$18.

There are also a few long-sleeved Simms shirts and gaiters available at discounted prices. Also at the December meeting will be Schneider tournament t-shirts from previous years for \$5 each.

Musky Innovations Apparel



Musky Innovations is making their best-selling items available just in time for the holiday season. Get some for yourself or for your friends or relatives.

Their 80/20 cotton/poly heavy-weight fleece (330g, / 11oz.) in full covered zipper hood available in two colors as pictured: black and heather gray. Sizes are S-XXL. Cost is \$25 and includes shipping.

Also available is their 100% poly performance quarter zip with moisture management (220g, 7oz.) available in

charcoal/black with white trim (pictured) and charcoal/blue with blue trim. Sizes are S-XXL. Cost is \$30 and includes shipping.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with Dennis Lappen. All orders with checks made out to Dennis Lappen can be mailed to:

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Clean Out Your Tackle Box

Take time this month to go through your lures, rods, reels and other fishing equipment. We will have a donation box at our meeting for new or gently-used items. Our Youth Chairperson, will use the donated lures, rods, reels for youth activities throughout the year.

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Speaker:
Josh Borovsky

Josh is an accomplished guide and tournament angler with a PMTT championship and top gun title to his credit. He has been featured in a wide variety of tv shows, radio programs, and publications. Josh guides on Vermilion and in the Metro. He has caught his largest fish of the year on a "pink" day about 75% of the time over the last 16 years. Josh will reveal his 2019 pink day calendar.

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

Muskies Inc. Twin Cities chapter meetings (except summer) 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.

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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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 fund raising 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.

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