

# On the Water

Volume 21, Issue 9

SEPTEMBER 2018

## Support Your Local Fishery: Participate in the George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament on September 29

If you've ever fished for muskies in a metro-area lake, do your part for this fishery. Make plans to participate in the 10th annual George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament on September 29. The price of your entry to participate in the tournament guarantees funds to be able to stock at least one muskie in a metro-area lake. One hundred percent of the proceeds will be put back into the local metro-area muskie fishery.

Funds raised at the George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament have enabled the Twin Cities chapter to purchase and stock close to 10,000 muskie fingerlings in White Bear Lake, Bald Eagle Lake, Lake Independence, Lake Waconia, Lake Minnetonka, and the St. Croix River over the past several years. The chapter has also been able to provide funds to the Minnesota DNR to purchase equipment for their hatcheries and to provide pit and floy tags for their studies on stocking.

Tournament anglers have their choice of 13 metro-area lakes: Minnetonka, Independence, Waconia, Eagle (Hennepin County), White Bear, Bald Eagle, Owasso, Forest, Harriet, Calhoun, Lake of the Isles, Cedar and the St. Croix River. Tournament hours are from 7 am to 5:30 pm.

First place is \$1000 cash. Second and third places will also win cash. Prizes, including Thorne Bros. Gift

## President's Award Presented to Bartlett Family and Red Wing Lodge



Mike and Annie Bartlett, left, owners of Red Wing Lodge were presented with the Twin Cities chapter's President Award by John Newman at the recent Chapter Challenge.

The President's award is given to a person (or persons) and/or a business that has shown incredible support of our chapter year after year. The Bartlett family and Red Wing Lodge on Lake of the Woods, has donated a week stay for the first place winner of the Frank Schneider tournament as well as providing a week for our joint outing with the North Metro chapter for many years. They have also stepped up with stays at Red Wing for other special fundraising activities.

They have hosted the Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge 12 times over the years.

Certificates are awarded through 5th place. Every person who registers a muskie during the tournament is entered into a drawing for the Grand Prize – a trip for 4 to Whitefish Bay Camp on Lake of the Woods and \$500.

Tournament headquarters and the Awards program will be at Thorne Bros. in Blaine. A meal will be served prior to the program. There will be raffles and other opportunities to win prizes.

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. You can register through September 25 on the chapter website: [www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org](http://www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org), or in-person through Friday, September 28, at Blue Ribbon Bait & Tackle in Oakdale, Joe's Sporting Goods in St. Paul and Thorne Bros. in Blaine.

We hope to see everyone doing their part for the local muskie fishery by participating in the George Wahl Tournament on September 29.

## *From Our President, JIM DOYLE*

### *It's Tourney Time!*

*Hello everyone, the big late summer cool down is upon us and things typically pick up all over the Muskie range. We have the Frank Schneider Memorial Tournament coming up fast – September 7-9th across the Bemidji, Cass Lake, Leech Lake, Longville area in northern Minnesota. Be sure to sign up if you can. It's kind of a big deal. For the last 51 years with around 500 anglers vying for fantastic prizes.*

*Not long after that we have the George Wahl Memorial Tournament coming up across the entire Twin Cities Metro area. The George Wahl is set for Saturday the 29th of September. On-line sign up is coming up after Labor Day so check in soon for that one.*



**CHAPTER CHALLENGE TEAM.** The Twin Cities chapter was represented at the Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge held August 29-31 at Red Wing Lodge, Sabaskong Bay, Lake of the Woods. Team members are, left to right, Dave Rouse and Mike Rouse in back, Steve Smythe, Stu McIntosh, John Newman, Greg Perritano, John Olson, Chris Smythe, and Dave DuBe'. Missing is Alex Worobel.

Teams from Muskies, Inc. chapters throughout the country gathered together for the week of the Chapter Challenge. The event was hosted this year by the Bemidji-Cass Lake chapter who were the winners of last year's event. The Challenge was won by the Star of the North chapter from Grand Rapids who will be hosting the event next year. Our two teams caught 8 muskies between them and placed 7th and 11th of over twenty total teams. Our biggest fish was a 47-incher caught by John Newman. Biggest fish of the Challenge was a 52-incher.

## **Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament**

*from Casey Friskney, Tournament Director*

**D**on't miss the Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament, September 7, 8, and 9 northern Minnesota on over 20 lakes from Bemidji to Longville. This is the 51st year our chapter has held this event. Started by Gil Hamm as a competitive chapter get-together, our chapter's flagship event has kept the get-together feel while turning into an event that rivals all others in the world of muskies.

The Schneider tournament offers participants hours of fishing over a three-day period to catch and register a muskie over 40 inches. At the end of tournament hours Friday and Saturday, there will be five registration stations/feeds across the tournament area for anglers to register their fish. Participants can enjoy a meal, enter a raffle for great prizes, and talk to other anglers about what was going on out on the water. All three things in themselves worthy of a stop after a long day on the water, whether you are fortunate enough to register a fish or not.

After completion of the tournament on Sunday will be the Awards program at the Northern Lights Casino and Events Center. This event brings participants all together and really provides everyone with a great time to reflect on the three days. Before the program begins there will be a hot meal,

different vendors and sponsors available to chat with, as well as raffles to enter. We will be awarding various prizes, getting the fish stories from all of the winners, and drawing the name of the lucky winners of the grand prize.

It's not too late to register for the tournament. You will be able to register on Thursday, September 6 at Reed's in Walker until 5:30 pm, at Northern Lights Casino Hotel from 6-10 pm, at One Stop in Longville through closing time, and at Destination Sports in Bemidji from 3-8 pm.

We work hard every year to make sure that we are growing this tournament with the changing times and technologies, while keeping as many traditions as we can.

The Frank Schneider Memorial tournament is the chapter's main fundraiser, providing funds for stocking efforts and all our chapter's other activities. Over the years participation in the Frank Schneider tournament from our own members has dropped off even though they benefit the most from the event. This is the year to change that, call up that old boat partner that you fished this event with year ago and come celebrate the tradition!

Please contact me at [tcmi.fstourneydirector@gmail.com](mailto:tcmi.fstourneydirector@gmail.com) or 715-439-1187 for more information or to volunteer.

Hope to see you there!



# Twin Cities Chapter Members Only Contest

from Mike Darley, Chapter Members Only Contest Chair

We've had some constant conditions with a lack of rain throughout most of August. We had a lot of smaller lakes well over 80 degrees for a lot of the month. Nights are starting to have that fall feel, days are getting shorter, and plenty of fish are being registered by Chapter One members.

I hate to admit this but it looks like John Newman has been right all along, there is no need to troll (at least this August). Only two fish all month came from outside casting, and one was drifting with a jig! Fish are coming out of all bottom types and structure. The two most popular seem to be sand and junk weeds, but not by much. Natural colored baits dominated the registered fish, with black bucktails being a notable force to reckon with. A lot more fish this month have been eating crank baits as well.

The most notable August catches have been Nolen Ryba with a (48.5" and 47.5"), Matt McDonald (50"), Linda Knutson (50") and the man taking the August cake so far, Tom Batina (52").

There is a lot of good fishing to be had in the near future and as I write this article. The Chapter Challenge is underway, the Frank Schneider is nearly approaching, and the George Wahl is right around the corner. Make sure to grab a friend and get signed up for these tournaments, you won't want to miss them.

All fish registered as of 8/29/18. Standings so far:

## White Bear, Bald Eagle and Minnetonka Tagged Muskies



Muskies stocked in Lake Minnetonka, Bald Eagle Lake and White Bear Lake for several years are part of a multi-year DNR study on stocking. All muskies stocked in those lakes have a small yellow tag near the dorsal fin. When fishing those lakes, you should be looking for fish that have the yellow tags. By this time, the tags may be covered with algae and other material, so look closely.

If you see a yellow tag on any muskie, the DNR needs data from you to complete the study. **DO NOT REMOVE THE YELLOW TAG.** It is important that they get data on the re-catchability of fish. They will need the number on the yellow tag, the name of the lake, and the length of the fish. They would also appreciate your name and phone number in case they need to follow-up. You can go online to the DNR tag reporting website page [http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fisheries/tagged\\_fish\\_reporting/index.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fisheries/tagged_fish_reporting/index.html) or leave a message for BJ Bauer at 952-826-6771.

## WOMEN'S MASTERS DIVISION

	NAME	POINTS	NO. FISH	LONGEST
1ST	Cindy Hegdahl	42	3	46"
2ND	Kimberly Hartman	37	3	45"
3RD	Linda Knutson	24	1	50"

## MEN'S DIVISION

1ST	Dale D Mueller	339	21	53.5"
2ND	Nolen Ryba	223	13	53"
3RD	Matt McDonald	179	11	50"
4TH	Mike Darley	108	8	48.25"
5TH	Chris Dahl	82	4	54"
6TH	Dave Niewolny	77	6	44"
7TH	Brent Lenke	66	3	54.5"
8TH	Tom Batina	66	4	52"
9TH	Jeremy M Knutson	64	4	45.5"
10TH	Derek Boomer	60	5	42.5"

## MEN'S MASTERS DIVISION

1ST	Brent Hirsch	171	12	48"
2ND	Eric Bakke	147	9	48"
3RD	Mark Fredrick	11	1	37"

## HYBRID DIVISION

1ST	Luke Manthey	22	4	35"
2ND	Cindy Hegdahl	18	1	44"
2ND	Kimberly Hartman	18	2	37"

## 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 (unofficial) - Tom Batina - 8/11 - 52" - Lake of the Woods

## Seeking Youth Chair

The chapter is looking for a person to take over as Youth Chairperson. Our chapter's current Youth Chairperson, Terry Schar, will be retiring soon and moving out of state.

The Youth Chair does not necessarily need to be a member of the Board of Directors. Duties include completing and submitting an application for a Hugh C Becker grant for the youth program and submitting an accountability report; hosting a qualifying event for the state High School tournament; working with the sponsorship committee to obtain gifts and awards for the qualifier; coordinating work with Fishing for Life including the club's donation which helps FFL run activities like the Armed Forces Family Fishing Celebration; and handing out lures to youths at monthly meetings. Terry also works with the other club members to make approximately 100 spinners which are given to youths (HS qualifier and HS State Championship participants, also Fishing for Life).

Contact Terry at [twschar@yahoo.com](mailto:twschar@yahoo.com) or 612-865-4200 or any current board member if you would be interested in taking over for him.

# Chapter Summer Fishing League

The Chapter Summer Fishing League is an opportunity to participate and enjoy a little friendly rivalry with fellow members on lakes throughout the metro area. It runs through mid-October with different lakes each week.

When fishing for the league, you pick the time and lake that is best for you. Check in at the boat ramp using your smart phone. Once you've checked in, you'll have 5 hours to fish. When you catch a fish, snap a couple of pictures and send them in using your phone.

A drawing will be held at the end of the season for prizes including a custom rod from Joe Oprosko. Every week you fish, you'll get a ticket in the drawing. So the more time you put in, the more chances you have in the drawing.

Points will also be given each time an angler participates. Each fish registered will earn points following the Muskies, Inc. Members Only system. At the end of the season prizes will be awarded for the most points earned, the longest fish, and the longest tiger.

Register for the league at [www.fishingclash.com](http://www.fishingclash.com) with a user name and password of your choice. Once registered at the site, click on the chapter's Summer League and click the "Enter with \$0" button. You will be asked for an ID. This is your Muskies, Inc. member number.

Jon Best is heading up the league. If you have questions, please contact him at [tcmi.fishingleague@gmail.com](mailto:tcmi.fishingleague@gmail.com).

## League Standings

League standings can be found at [www.fishingclash.com](http://www.fishingclash.com). Follow the league on Facebook.

Ben Tollefson June 6 - 53 inches (27), August 21 - 36 inches (10)	77 Points
Jim Harmon June 12 - 40 inches (14), June 19 - 41 inches (15)	69 Points
Jesse Amundson June 12 - 45 inches (19), August 28 - 40 inches (14)	63 Points
Jeff Borchardt	40 Points
Luke Manthey July 13 - 35 inches (9)	39 Points
Ernie Heifort, Nate Seeger, Craig Centofanti, Tim Norris	35 Points
Nolan Ryba	30 Points
Cory Owen August 20 - 40 inches (14)	29 Points
Casey Friskney, Jim Doyle, Ethan Stout, Jon Best	25 Points
Lauren Stout	20 Points
Shawn Kellett June 12 - 39 inches (13)	18 Points



## Share Your Muskie Tale

While you're out chasing muskies, 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; or you found something interesting on the end of your line.

Muskie Tales will be told at our chapter Awards Program at the end of the year. The person with the best Muskie Tale will take the Muskie Tale Award home with them for the year. The award is a replica of the tale of the biggest muskie on record.

Share your story with us by emailing your "tale" to Denise Olson at [olsonat3pete@gmail.com](mailto:olsonat3pete@gmail.com).

**ADVERTISE IN ON THE WATER.** 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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## 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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# next meeting

## SEPTEMBER 11

**Speaker:**  
**Adam Glickman**

### **Fishing Pressure and Muskies**

*Estimating and understanding the amount and effects of fishing pressure will allow for successful planning and tactic choices. Adam will concentrate on two areas: First, tactic and tackle choices to effectively trigger heavily pressured Twin Cities metro muskies. Second, how to choose and access waters in MN and WI that receive very little musky fishing pressure with "classic" musky tactics.*

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*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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## **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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Fishing Hardcore – Ben Olsen  
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Whitefish Bay Camp – Lake of  
the Woods

# 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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