

# On the Water



Volume 23, Issue 1

JANUARY 2020

## Don't Miss the Chapter's Annual Sportsman's Banquet on January 18



Things to look for at the annual Sportsman's Banquet include the infamous pink hat and the just as infamous heads and tails game.

This year's Twin Cities Sportsman's Banquet, our chapter's annual fundraising event, features over \$20,000 in prizes. The Sportsman's Banquet is Saturday, January 18 at the Minnesota Valley Country Club in Bloomington. As always, there will be hundreds of muskie lures, over \$4,500 worth of rods, raffle tables worth over \$1,000 each, cash raffles and games, bucket raffles, silent auction, and, of course, the infamous "pink hat".

Items that could go home with you at the end of the evening include:

- \$580 St. Croix Legend Elite rod
- Tranx reel
- Garmin side-imaging graph
- Stay at a premier US or Canadian resort
- Tackle storage from Just EnCase and others
- Simms bib/jacket rain gear set

### Make Your Reservations by January 5 for Early-Bird Drawing

Reservations are a must. Deadline is January 13. anyone who purchases a Platinum or Gold package by January 5 will be entered in an early-bird drawing for an Abu Garcia rod/reel combo. Seating is limited, so get your reservations in early.

Purchasing a Gold or Platinum package can save you up to \$60. The Platinum package (\$220 value) includes dinner (choice of chicken or salmon) and \$180 in Muskie Bucks for only \$160. The Gold package (\$140 value) includes dinner and \$100 in Muskie Bucks for only \$110. Muskie Bucks are used to purchase tickets for table raffles and bucket raffles. Cost of the dinner only is \$40 per person.

You can register on-line at [www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org](http://www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org) or use the reservation form in this issue. Don't forget to invite a friend. This is a fun night out whether you are "into" muskie fishing or not.

If you are planning to attend, volunteer to help with check-in or man one of the prize tables or games. Please contact Denise Olson, Elaine Randolph or Dale Mueller or email [tcmi.sponsor2@gmail.com](mailto:tcmi.sponsor2@gmail.com).

## Chapter Elections Held in December

The Twin Cities chapter held annual elections at the December meeting. Re-elected to the Board of Directors serving a 2-year term starting in January, are Greg Ide, Jim Kroupa, and Doug Malsom. Officers re-elected to a one-year term for 2020 are: Jim Doyle, President; Casey Friskney, First Vice President; Jim Kroupa, Second Vice President; and Elaine Randolph, Treasurer.

We want to thank retiring Board members Eric Bakke, Mike Darley, Jon Meyer, Tom Keith, and Terry Schar for serving on the Board for the past several years.

The retirement of Tom Keith and Jon Meyers leaves two positions needing to be filled for the chapter. We need a person to serve as the chapter's secretary. The position entails taking and typing up minutes at the monthly Board meetings on the first Tuesday of the month. We also need a person to represent our chapter at the Muskies, Inc. Region 1 meetings. Region 1 meetings are held by phone conference once each month. The representative reports any pertinent information back to the board.

If you're interested in taking over each of the open positions, contact Jim Doyle (952-920-9818, [tcmi.president@gmail.com](mailto:tcmi.president@gmail.com) or [doyle\\_jim@hotmail.net](mailto:doyle_jim@hotmail.net)), or a current board member.

## *J*rom Our President, JIM DOYLE

*Another TCMI year is in the books! We appreciate everyone that led, organized, attended, participated in and supported all of the chapter activities this year. A Special Thanks goes out to the organizers of the many events we run and support every year. Without them these events simply would not happen. Here are some of the major events for our chapter last year.*

*Last March we had a good showing at the annual Sportsman's banquet. It was a success with lots of happy prize winners from both chapter and non-chapter guests. We greatly appreciate all the donations and prizes collected from across the industry. Funds raised at the event were critical to our stocking and rearing efforts this year.*

*In early May, the Vets Home Opener was once again one of the highlights of the year. We had many vets from the Minneapolis home come out and fish for trout with friends and family. Again we seemed to get well above average weather conditions for the event making it all that much better for everyone. Chapter members helped with fishing in the pond, cleaning fish, and cooking and serving over 500 people at the home. Funds for this activity come primarily from donations outside TCMI, however we provide the skilled labor. This is always a fun event for all involved.*

*In early June, chapter members supported a Capable Partners outing doing some Muskie fishing on Lake Minnetonka with guide boats, and help with the lunch-time cookout for all. Members also supported the Armed Forces Family Fishing outing in June on Lake Minnetonka in cooperation with Fishing For Life with guide boats.*

*Later in June our then-youth director, Terry Schar, and others ran the regional qualifier for the State High School Muskie Tournament. We are always happy to take people out fishing to ensure there are new muskie fisher-persons coming up to enjoy the resource in the future.*

*In September, once again, chapter members ran the 3-day Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament in the Bemidji-Cass Lake-Walker-Longville area of northern Minnesota. It's the longest-running and largest Muskie tournament in the state if not the country. It takes a tremendous effort to organize and run this tournament, not to mention efforts to update and upgrade the operation. In the last few years there have been significant changes in running an event this large with boat inspection changes and regional AIS rules, moving to digital fish registration, social media support, etc. This event now has many thousands of people keeping track of the action via social media. The Frank Schneider tournament is a big fund-raiser for the TCMI chapter, helping fund our yearly operations as well as stocking and other projects each year. We donate funds from this event to the DNR in the event area as well.*

*In October the chapter ran the one-day only George Wahl Memorial Tournament across the entire metro. Conditions were less than pleasant, but we had participation of 150 anglers. The event culminated in a feed and prize presentation at Thorne Brothers so people could pick up some much needed additional fishing equipment! 100% of funds raised by this event are dedicated to metro stocking.*

*In late October, the chapter was able to stock the largest number of fingerlings we have ever been able to purchase. Nearly 3,000 fish were stocked in Lake Minnetonka and Lake Waconia. This stocking was done to ensure stocking targets are achieved every cycle for the most utilized waters in the Metro area. This stocking effort in addition to years of chapter support to improve the MN DNR production of fry and fingerlings culminated in stocking of record or near record number of fish state wide. All 2019 stocking targets were met and additional fish we stocked in the major muskie waters designated as surplus waters. Mother nature always has a say in fish production but we hope to continue this type of assistance to improve fishing state wide over the long haul.*

## Chapter Members Only Contest

from Members Only Chair, Mike Darley

The 2019 Muskie season has come to an end. Results published last month are official. The chapter will have our Members Only Contest awards program at our February 11 meeting where winners will be honored. Join us to hear some great stories about the season, and lunker(s) of the month.

I am collecting fish pictures from all the winners and lunkers of the month to put together our end-of-the-year slides. If the winners can send pictures to me in advance of me reaching out, it will be a great help. Please email them to me at Michael.Darley@LibertyMutual.com with subject 'Muskie(s)'.  
I am collecting fish pictures from all the winners and lunkers of the month to put together our end-of-the-year slides. If the winners can send pictures to me in advance of me reaching out, it will be a great help. Please email them to me at Michael.Darley@LibertyMutual.com with subject 'Muskie(s)'.

Hope to see a lot of people at the Members Only Contest award program!

## A Muskie Tale

While reviewing the past season, keep in mind events that might make a good "Muskie Tale". We're not necessarily looking for the "big fish" story. We all hear enough of those.

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 from fishing. Maybe some kind of mishap happened while you were out fishing; or you found something interesting on the end of your line.

The Muskie Tale award is a replica of the tail of the longest muskie on record. Our chapter presents this award each year to the person who has the best "muskie tale" from the previous season.

Send your "tales" to Denise Olson at [olsonat3pete@gmail.com](mailto:olsonat3pete@gmail.com).



## Lures For Youth

As part of our ongoing commitment to live up to the three core values of Muskies Inc: Fisheries, Research, and Youth, the chapter has been making lures and distributing them to youth at our meetings and events we sponsor or co-sponsor for ten years. This year we were awarded a \$500 grant from Muskies, Inc. to continue this practice. We also received a very generous donation from Hedron Industries. The process has been going well and we currently have assembled about 100 bucktails ranging from size 5 blades and 2/0 hooks to size 10 blades with 7/0 hooks.

If you have any components you would be willing to donate, please bring them to a general meeting and drop in the marked box at the table with the door prize drawings. This would include any bucktails you have been meaning to rebuild, but you know you are not going to get to them. Even damaged ones can be deconstructed and then rebuilt with new materials. No donation is too small. Thanks for your support in developing the next generation of people who like to fish for muskies.

On the Water

## MN Muskie Expo Is March 27-29

Don't miss this year's edition of George's Minnesota Muskie Expo in March. The Expo will again be held in the Ganglehoff Center at Concordia University in St. Paul.

Hours are 2 am-8:30 pm on Friday, March 27, 10 am-6:30 pm on Saturday, March 28, and 10 am-4:00 pm on Sunday, March 29. Entry is the same as it has been for over 20 years, \$10 daily or a 3-day pass for \$17. Children 12 and Under are free.

The Expo, now in its 26th year, was founded by chapter member George Wahl, inventor and manufacturer of the Eagle Tail lure. The Expo is dedicated to muskies and muskie fishing. Make plans now to attend.

## North Metro Banquet

The North Metro chapter of Muskies, Inc. will be holding their annual All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry Banquet on Saturday, February 22 at the Coon Rapids VFW, 1919 Coon Rapids Blvd NW. Social hour begins at 3:30 pm and dinner will be served at 5:45 pm with raffle drawings following. Dinner tickets are \$35 in advance, \$45 after February 7. Dinner/raffle combo packages are available. Muskie Package is \$190, Tiger Package is \$135, and the Pike Package is \$90. Dinner and Package tickets can be purchased online at the North Metro website: [www.nmmuskies.com](http://www.nmmuskies.com) or at the door.

## Musky Insider

If you have attended any of Josh Borovsky's recent seminars, you may remember him mentioning a free weekly musky fishing email newsletter. Josh and Nick Lindner launched a free, weekly newsletter, *Musky Insider*.

They already have over 10,000 subscribers! You can subscribe at [muskyinsider.com](http://muskyinsider.com). Follow them on Facebook and Instagram as well. Their goal is to bring something fresh and new to the musky world. The publication features hardcore tips & tactics, monster musky photos, the latest news & lures/gear you need to know about, and some (hopefully) funny fishin' memes

Subscribers will hear from them once-per-week with ONLY the best of the best in the musky world.



# Join Fellow Muskies, Inc. Anglers for Red Wing Lodge Outing

Big fish opportunity is awaiting you at Red Wing Lodge on Lake of the Woods, Canada. The resource and the big fish culture that has developed over the years at Red Wing can be captured in good part with the following single stat: 15,000 muskie releases!

Package up big fish opportunity with a reservation for the annual August Muskies, 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 and our two local Muskies, Inc. chapters. The annual trip to Red Wing is a great choice for either that first Canadian trip or for the veteran's extra trip.

Dates for this year's outing: August 8-15, 2020. Save your surprises for muskie action, you don't need them at base camp. Red Wing Lodge offers a resort base that has been family owned and operated for over 50 years, is clean and comfortable, where everything works. The Bartlett family has hosted Muskies, Inc. outings for years with personal and friendly service, so they understand what muskie people need and like.

Red Wing Lodge has been chosen thirteen times as 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 is \$400 (US Funds), just \$57 per day for big-time Canadian muskie fishing. Included in the full value of the Muskies, Inc. trip:

- 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
- Free daily bag of ice; door prizes
- Free dockage (\$72 value)

One change regarding launching boats. Due to liability considerations, there will now on be a charge if Red Wing either puts the boat in the water or takes it out. However, the Red Wing boat ramp remains free to use and the government dock, that some now use, is also free to use.

Reservations require a \$50 non-refundable deposit, made out to Red Wing Lodge. Deposits officially confirm reservation holds. First come, first served. Early deposits are appreciated by the Bartletts as these funds are used to purchase materials for cabin improvements, most of which can only be made over the winter.

Any questions or suggestions for improving the outing, please contact:

John van Ingen, (651) 336-3622, [maxjo@mac.com](mailto:maxjo@mac.com) or  
John Genosky, (651) 329-4898, [john@protacinc.com](mailto:john@protacinc.com)

## TWIN CITIES SPORTSMAN'S BANQUET RESERVATION

MAIL IN THIS FORM OR REGISTER AT: [www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org](http://www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org)

ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE JANUARY 13, 2020

Name \_\_\_\_\_ INDICATE DINNER CHOICE  
 Chicken  Salmon

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE LIST OTHER PEOPLE INCLUDED IN THIS RESERVATION:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  Chicken  Salmon

Name \_\_\_\_\_  Chicken  Salmon

Name \_\_\_\_\_  Chicken  Salmon

QTY \_\_\_\_\_ **PLATINUM BONUS PACKAGE** – \$160 (\$220 value) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **GOLD BONUS PACKAGE** – \$110 (\$140 value) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Dinner Only** – \$40 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL COMPLETED FORM WITH CHECK PAYABLE TO MUSKIES INC. TO:  
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**Clean Out Your  
Tackle Box**

Take some time this season to go through your lures, rods, reels and other fishing equipment. Once we start meeting again in September, we will have a donation box at chapter meetings for new or gently-used items. Our Youth Chairperson, will use the donated lures, rods, reels for youth activities throughout the year.

# next meeting

**JANUARY 14**

**Speaker: Jeff Andersen**

*Jeff has 8000 followers of his Rawfish Media videos. He is going to speak on boatside maneuvers converting in the figure 8, and converting Muskies that follow, but refuse to bite. All with great video.*

*Jeff gave a short talk at last year's Muskie Expo, demonstrating how a boat rigged properly with cameras can see things fishermen miss.*

**YOUTH MEMBERS AT THEIR FIRST MEETING WILL RECEIVE A NEW LURE.**

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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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# 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 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.

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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