

## Chapter Summer Fishing League Wraps Up Season

The chapter's summer fishing league was wrapped up the weekend of October 8-9 on Lake Minnetonka and all the results have been accounted for. During the last outing four fish were caught on Saturday. Kris Astorp turned in a 41" and a 43". Eric Schultz also caught 2 fish, a nice 45-incher and one less than 30".

With the final results, Eric Schultz is the 2011 league winner. This is the third time he won in the four years our chapter has been holding the summer league. Congratulations Eric, way to pull through the last event to win.



Eric Schultz caught this 45-incher at the Summer Chapter League's last outing to capture first place.

### 2011 CHAPTER SUMMER LEAGUE RESULTS

NAME	FOREST LAKE JUN 11	LAKE INDEP. JUN 29	LAKE MTKA JUL 12	LAKE MTKA AUG 18	LAKE WACONIA SEP 14	LAKE MTKA OCT 8 9	TOTAL POINTS
Eric Schultz	5	5	5	5	5	29	54
Matt Murtha	5	5	5	5	20	10	50
Kris Astorp	0	0	0	0	0	42	42
David Bond	5	5	5	5	8	10	38
Nic Romero	5	5	5	0	0	0	15
Brad Hjemvick	5	5	0	0	0	0	10
Dan Bakaylar	0	5	5	0	0	0	10
Karen Larson	0	5	5	0	0	0	10
Dustin Host	0	5	5	0	0	0	10
John Newman	0	0	5	0	0	5	10
Greg Ide	0	0	5	0	0	5	10
Chris Meyer	0	5	0	0	0	0	5
Samantha Meyer	0	5	0	0	0	0	5
Jim Kroupa	0	0	5	0	0	0	5
Bailey Meyer	0	5	0	0	0	0	5
Lowell Kruger	0	0	5	0	0	0	5
Bob Venturin	0	5	0	0	0	0	5
Steve Smythe	0	0	5	0	0	0	5
Bob Culbertson	0	0	5	0	0	0	5
Greg Kappes	0	0	0	0	0	5	5
Jody Dahms	0	0	0	0	0	5	5
Brycen Dahms	0	0	0	0	0	5	5
Brad Coyne	0	0	0	0	0	5	5
Tom Batina	0	5	0	0	0	0	5

## Hugh C. Becker Foundation Grants

Requests are now being accepted by the Hugh C. Becker Trust Foundation for grants of up to \$10,000 to be used for qualifying activities and projects. According to Hugh Becker's wishes, money that the chapter will receive each year can be used for: projects or activities that will aid in muskie propagation, stocking (either raised or purchased) fingerlings for public use in designated waters, habitat protection and improvement, research by qualified personnel, or expansion of the current muskie range with special consideration given to the Missouri river system in North and South Dakota. Applications must be submitted by January 31. The procedure for submitting a request is outlined in this month's *MUSKIE* magazine.

## Chapter Elections to be Held at December Meeting

Nominations for members of the chapter's Board of Directors will be taken at the November meeting. Board members will be elected at the December meeting and serve a two-year term starting in January.

The chapter Board meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at the Knights of Columbus. Consider taking part in making decisions that affect you as a member of this chapter. The Board needs people who are interested and willing to participate in the chapter and its future.

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 International, the DNR, or other muskie clubs, become a board member.

Contact Troy Zeuzlke (952-955-3890 or tzeuzlke@yahoo.com), Eric Schultz (651-917-8272 or eschultz33@comcast.net), or a current board member if you're interested in becoming a member of the Board.

## Nominations for Muskie Award

The Muskie Award is presented each year at our Winter Banquet to a deserving chapter member who has constantly and unselfishly devoted time and energy over the years to promoting and improving the goals of Muskies, Inc.

The first Muskie Award was presented to Muskies Inc founder, Gil Hamm in 1974. At that time, our International umbrella had not yet been formed and the award recipient was chosen from among all Muskies Inc members, regardless of chapter affiliation. Once there were a number of chapters, it became too difficult to choose a recipient from the entire organization and the Muskie Award was dropped. The Twin Cities chapter made the decision to continue it for our chapter.

Nominations of an individual for the 2010 Muskie Award must be submitted in writing. Include a history of the person's involvement with the Twin Cities Chapter over the years. Send your nominations to Jim Kroupa at 6311 Steller Circle, Excelsior, MN 55331. Or email them to jkroupa@ties2.net. Call Jim at 952-474-5967 if you have questions. Nominations must be in by January 31. The winner will be selected by secret ballot at the February Board meeting.



**It's a Bird, It's a Plane, It's...** Eric Bakke out fishing this summer. Eric rigged up a hockey helmet with a camera. He wears the contraption while fishing. It can be a little disconcerting to anyone not expecting to see "helmet head" out on the lake. He has some fantastic footage. Ask him to see it sometime.

## Get the Most Out of Your Membership – Volunteer

Volunteering your time at a chapter event is one way to get the most out of your membership. Whether you volunteer to help people who don't always get the chance to get out and fish or spend time helping at one of our fundraisers, you will have an enjoyable time. The chapter has a number of events on the calendar that could use your time and/or services. Volunteering for any of these events is a one-time thing. You don't have to join the Board or commit long-time to volunteer for a specific event.

The banquet committee needs volunteers to help plan the event and also to man one of the many prize tables at the banquet. Please contact Joe Mellott, Troy Zuelzke or Jody Dahms or email banquet@twin citiesmuskiesinc.org.

Other one-time events that don't require a long-time commitment but could use your help include the the booths at the Northwest Sports Show and the MN Muskie Expo, the Minnesota Veteran's Home Fishing Opener in May, the Capable Partners outing in June, the Military Family Fishing Day also in June. Information about volunteering for these events will be in upcoming issues of *On the Water*.

The committee that plans and executes the Frank Schneider Tournament and the George Wahl Tournament in the fall meet the first Tuesday of the month at the Knights of Columbus Hall to plan for these two events. If you want to be a part of the tournament committee contact Denise Olson, 612-866-5369 or olson@3pete.com.



# Chapter Members Only Contest

from Eric Bakke, Members  
Only Contest Chair

I can't believe it, but there are only about 30 days left before all of our fishing will be done in our dreams and in memories of summers past! Water temps are in the low 50s and turnover is either happening now or in the process of completing. Hopefully the water stays open until the end of the season, but I wouldn't hold my breath. There is still a chance to get out there and move up in the standings before the ice moves in. The biggest fish in the lake are swimming around as you read this, so get off the couch, put on the warm clothes, and put a line in the water. That's the only way it can happen. See you on the water!

Good luck to all and thanks for your participation. Here are the standings:

## JUNIOR DIVISION:

1ST Zach Weyland - 28 points - 3 fish - 41" longest

**JUNIOR HYBRID DIVISION:** (points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

1ST Zach Weyland - 1 fish - 35"

## WOMENS DIVISION:

1ST Linda Knutson - 38 points - 4 fish - 39" longest

2ND Jody Maronick - 25 points - 1 fish - 50.5"

3RD Sharon Rouse - 23 points - 2 fish - 38" longest

## WOMENS MASTERS DIVISION:

1ST Cindy Hegdahl - 177 points - 16 fish - 48" longest

## MENS DIVISION:

1ST Marko Brinatte - 357 points - 22 fish - 47" longest

2ND Pat McAllister - 295 points - 16 fish - 50" longest

3RD Dave Knutson - 254 points - 15 fish - 48.5" longest

4TH Jeremy Knutson - 239 points - 13 fish - 50" longest

5TH Eric Bakke - 192 points - 14 fish - 48.5" longest

6TH Tim Hoene - 191 points - 12 fish - 51" longest

7TH John Newman Jr - 177 points - 17 fish - 46.5" longest

8TH Corey DeZeeuw - 162 points - 12 fish - 55" longest

8TH Larry Maronick - 145 points - 10 fish - 49" longest

9TH Jack Hilbert - 125 points - 9 fish - 44" longest

**MEN'S HYBRID DIVISION:** (points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

1ST Corey DeZeeuw - 1 fish - 33"

## MENS MASTERS DIVISION:

1ST Dean Roll - 1214 points - 74 fish - 51" longest

2ND Kris Astorp - 1011 points - 55 fish - 52" longest

3RD Gus Gustafson - 160 points - 12 fish - 50" longest

## MEN'S MASTERS HYBRID DIVISION:

(points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

1ST Kris Astorp - 2 fish - 36" longest

## LUNKER OF THE MONTH

APRIL - Official - no fish over 46"

MAY - Official - no fish over 46"

JUNE - Official - Peter Janik - 51.5" - June 19 - Waconia

JULY - Official - Greg Randolph - 53" - July 10 - Cass

AUGUST - Official - Brent Hirsch - 53.5" - August 10 - Vermilion

SEPTEMBER - Unofficial - Corey DeZeeuw - 55" - September 17 - Waconia

OCTOBER - Unofficial - Kris Astorp - 52" - October 22 - Minnetonka

If there are any discrepancies in the numbers please let me know.

See you On the Water!



## You Could Be Keeper of the "Muskie Tale"

*The Muskie Tale is a replica of the tale of a world record muskie. It is given each year to the person who has the best "muskie tale" of something that happened during the season. We hear lots of "big fish" stories every season. We want to hear a "muskie tale" – a story about something a little out of the ordinary – something that happened while fishing; on the way to fishing; on the way back from fishing; finding something interesting on the end of your line; having trouble staying in the boat; some kind of mishap that happened while you were fishing. Start thinking back over the events of this season and jot down a "tale". Send it to last year's winners, Denise Olson and Elaine Randolph. E-mail the story to Elaine at e-rand@umn.edu or Denise at olson@3pete.com. Or mail it to 7125 17th Ave. So., Richfield, MN 55423. Please submit by January 15th. The person with the best tale will have the honor of keeping the Muskie Tale Award for a year, and choosing the next winner.*

# A Mystery Fish

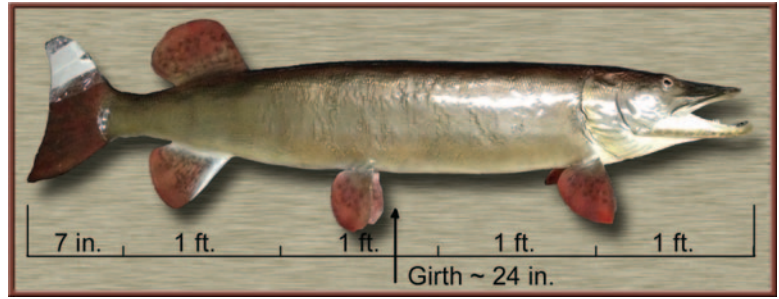
from Juris Ozols

The picture here shows the mount of a large muskie now in the possession of the Muskies Inc. History and Archives Committee. The Committee doesn't know quite what to make of it or to do with it. But this mount has a tantalizing history to the extent that we know it, and the fish just possibly might be of some historical significance.

First, the fish: The mount is in quite good shape other than a broken fin and tail. The back of it is rough and clearly indicates that this is a skin mount and not a replica. It also doesn't have the fine detail of current mounts, and thus would seem to be quite old. There are no signatures or other writing anywhere on the mount.

The mount measures 55 inches x 24 inches and the fish is slender. The standard LGG/800 formula gives an estimated weight of just under 40 pounds, and the fish probably wasn't any heavier than that.

The history starts as follows: A fellow named Lou Vidoni stumbled onto this mount at a garage sale in Phoenix, Arizona, sometime in the very early 2000s. He bought it for \$20. The person at the garage sale told Lou that he had gotten the mount from a storage locker that belonged to a man from Wisconsin.



Lou happened to know our own George Wahl, and gave the mount to George. When George passed away, the mount was bequeathed to the History Committee in a brief ceremony at Julie's in Bloomington this October. So there are the facts as we know them at present.

But some speculation. First, it's virtually impossible that the fish was caught in Arizona as only hybrids exist there. From the coloring on the front and from patches of original skin that show through on the back, the fish was not a hybrid.

So it clearly was caught somewhere up north and brought to Arizona.

Now then, who could have done that? Well, an immediate suspect: One Louie Spray, famed for catching world record muskies or not, moved to Arizona in the early 1970s and died there in 1984. His wife Mabel survived him for another seventeen years and passed away herself in August 2001.

So an intriguing coincidence? Mabel Spray dies in 2001 in Phoenix and a giant muskie mount is sold in a garage sale in Phoenix shortly thereafter?

We need more data, and we'll be contacting Lou to see what else he might know. And we'll also run it past Larry Ramsell to see if his voluminous muskie records might have some clues.

But if by any chance you might have some ideas or suggestions, we would be delighted to hear from you.

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## next meeting

**NOVEMBER 8  
SPEAKER:  
DAVE NICOLAI**

*Chapter member Dave Nicolai and buddy Frank Schneider both had cabins on Lake Inguadona more than twenty years ago, and later Dave won our Frank Schneider Tournament. Dave has fished both Up North and Metro extensively, and will talk about the differences between our native and stocked fisheries, and reminisce a bit about past members.*



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