

On the Water



Volume 14, Issue 10

OCTOBER 2011

Brian Truax Wins Grand Prize in Frank Schneider Tournament



Grand Prize winner of a Skeeter 1790T boat/motor/trailer package in the 44th annual Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament in September was Brian Truax. Every person who registered a muskie in the tournament was included in the drawing. Brian registered 2 fish and came in fourth place. The boat came from Frankies Marine in Chisago City and Skeeter Boats.

Keeping with a 44 year tradition, the annual Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament was held September 9, 10 & 11 in the Bemidji-Cass-Leech-Longville area of northern Minnesota. Approximately 500 anglers spent the three days under a hot sun with little wind searching for muskies. Seventy-two muskies and one northern were registered by sixty-two people.

Eric Streich, with three Cass Lake muskies, took first place honors. He received a plaque as well as a Fenwick rod, Abu Garcia reel, Sébile lure package and Spiderwire line courtesy of Pure Fishing. In addition, Eric will be enjoying

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Travis Hultgren Takes First Place in George Wahl Tournament

Saturday, October 24 turned out to be a good day muskie fishing for 19 anglers participating in the 3rd annual George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament. It took two fish to make it to the top. Travis Hultgren earned top honors with a 42.5 and 46.5-incher from the St. Croix River. Steve Dickie who was at Lake Harriet also had two fish, a 42.5 and a 43-incher, to take second place. Lake Independence and White Bear Lake produced the biggest fish of the day, 48-inchers. Third place winner Chris Fusco caught his at Independence and fourth place winner David Rask got his from White Bear.

Top 10 anglers each received a commemorative Phantom lure in one

of George Wahl's color patterns, a \$50 Thorne Bros. gift certificate, and a plaque. First place winner Travis Hultgren also received a check for \$500. Steve Dickie received \$400, Chris Fusco received \$300, David Rask received \$200 and fifth place winner received a check for \$100.

Every contestant who registered a fish was entered in the grand prize drawing for a week's stay at Whitefish Bay Camp on Lake of the Woods and \$1000 cash. The lucky winner was Matt Olson who had a 41.5 inch muskie from Eagle Lake.

One hundred percent of the profits from the George Wahl Memorial Muskie tournament will go to improve our metro-area muskie

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Travis Hultgren was presented his first place plaque by tournament director Denise Olson. In addition, Travis received \$500, a custom commemorative Phantom lure in a George Wahl color pattern, and a \$50 Thorne Bros. gift certificate.

Frank Schneider Tournament

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Sunday Awards Program host, Bill Sherck from TV's *Due North* and *Minnesota Bound* interviewed first place winner Eric Streich to learn about the three muskies that earned him top honors.

the hospitality of the Bartlett family during a week's stay at Red Wing Lodge on Lake of the Woods.

The remainder of the top ten places qualified with two fish each. They received a plaque, Fenwick rod, Abu Garcia reel, Sébile lure package and Spiderwire line. In addition, second place finisher Craig Marusic received a stay at Vermilion Dam Lodge and third place finisher received a stay at Sah-Kah-Tay Resort on Cass Lake.

Three juniors registered muskies during the tournament. Nick Braden placed first of the juniors with a 46.5-incher from Leech. In addition to a plaque, Fenwick rod, Abu Garcia reel, Sébile lure package and Spiderwire line, Nick received \$250 from Just Big Muskies DVDs. Ben Fries and Kendall Hill each had 41.5-inchers to qualify for second and third place for the juniors and each received a plaque, Fenwick rod, Abu Garcia reel, Sébile lure package and Spiderwire line.

Abu Garcia bonus awards were earned by contestants registering fish caught using an Abu Garcia reel. Chris Pikus, with the biggest fish of the tournament, a 51.5-incher from Cass Lake, received a \$500 bonus from Abu Garcia. Chad Odell and John Pikus each registered 51 inch muskies to earn Abu Garcia bonuses of \$200 and \$100.

Guy Minnich registered the only northern of the tournament, a 40.5-incher from Cass Lake. The fish earned Guy a week's stay at Huddles Resort on Leech Lake. Guy also received "beer for a year" from Northern Beer.

Brian Truax was the lucky winner of the Grand Prize drawing. Every person who registered a fish in the tournament was entered into a drawing for the Grand Prize, a Skeeter WX1790T with a Yamaha 75 hp 4-stroke. The boat/motor/ trailer package came from Skeeter Boats and Frankies Marine in Chisago City.

Every person who attended the tournament had the opportunity to win prizes which included trips to Canadian

and US resorts, rods from Temple Fork Outfitters and Joe's Sporting Goods, Reed's gift cards, guide trips with local guides and merchandise from Bernick Beverages.

Many thanks go out to Sunday's Award Program host Bill Sherck. Thank you also to the generous donations from Reed's Sporting Goods, Red Wing Lodge, Vermilion Dam Lodge, Sah-Kah-Tay Resort, Huddle's Resort, Allen's Crow Lake Lodge, Amason's Obabikon Bay Resort, Pine Beach Resort, Trappers Landing Lodge, guides Jim Murphy and Mark Christianson, Pure Fishing, Cabela's, Phantom Lures and other bait manufacturers, Just Big Muskies DVDs, Cold Spring Brewing and Musky Hunter magazine. Thanks to feed locations Anchorage Inn, Northern Lights Casino and Cass Lake Lodge and to Moondance Events for hosting the Sunday awards program.

If you were unable to join us this year, we hope to see you next year at the Frank Schneider tournament.

2011 FRANK SCHNEIDER TOURNAMENT RESULTS

MUSKIES

	NAME	FISH	POINTS	LAKE
1	Eric Streich	41, 40.5, 45	36.5	Cass
2	Craig Marusic	49.5, 45	34.5	Leech
3	Jim Wolters	48, 46	34	Kitchie/Cass
4	Brian Truax	47, 46	33	Bemidji
5	Mike Crawford	43, 49.5	32.5	Cass/Bemidji
6	Eric Nelson	47.5, 41	28.5	Leech
7	Jeremy Doerhoefer	44, 43	27	Leech
8	Todd Rasmussen	45, 41	26	Bemidji
9	Brian Kruger	42, 42.5	24.5	Big/Bemidji
10	Kevin Greenberg	40.5, 42.5	23	Cass
11	Chris Pikus	51.5	21.5	Cass
12	Chad Odell	51	21	Leech
13	John Pikus	51	21	Cass
14	Kevin Valley	51	21	Bemidji
15	Kyle Johnson	50.5	20.5	Winnibigoshish
16	Kendall Klaus	49.5	19.5	Leech
17	Josh Opatz	49.5	19.5	Big
18	Bob Shindeldecker	49	19	Leech
19	Duane Hill	49	19	Big
20	Jason Hauser	48.5	18.5	Leech
21	Kyle Aronson	48.5	18.5	Leech
22	Mike Lundberg	47	17	Leech
23	Jeff Cumtston	47.5	17	Leech
24	Roger Bienusa	47	17	Leech
25	Derek Sorenson	47	17	Cass

JUNIORS

1	Nick Braden	46.5	16.5	Leech
2	Ben Fries	41.5	11.5	Leech
3	Kendall Hill	41.5	11.5	Leech

NORTHERNS

1	Guy Minnich	40.5	10.5	Cass
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complete listing at www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org

Chapter Members Only Contest

from Eric Bakke, Members Only Contest Chair

The transition from Summer to Fall is underway. The leaves are turning, temps are dropping, and visions of the "Monsters of the Fall" are vivid in some of our heads! There is no question that the fish are going to be putting on the feed bag in the weeks to come and the biggest fish of the year will be swimming in our lakes. Be sure you are out there soaking a line to get your chance at a fish of a lifetime. There have been some good fish caught so far this year, but any movement in the standings going forward will be determined by that one or two big bites that end up in the net. So get out your parkas and stocking caps, it's time to go Pig Hunting!

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 - 31 points - 3 fish - 39" longest

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

3RD Sharon Rouse - 12 points - 1 fish - 38"

WOMENS MASTERS DIVISION:

1ST Cindy Hegdahl - 4 points - 1 fish - 30"

MENS DIVISION:

1ST Marko Brinatte - 304 points - 19 fish - 47" longest

2ND Pat McAllister - 248 points - 13 fish - 50" longest

3RD Dave Knutson - 184 points - 11 fish - 47.5" longest

4TH Jeremy Knutson - 182 points - 10 fish - 50" longest

5TH Eric Bakke - 173 points - 12 fish - 48.5" longest

6TH John Newman Jr - 160 points - 15 fish - 46" longest

7TH Larry Maronick - 145 points - 10 fish - 49" longest

8TH Corey DeZeeuw - 139 points - 10 fish - 55" longest

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

10TH Dave Weyland - 111 points - 10 fish - 45" longest

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

1ST Corey DeZeeuw - 1 fish - 33"

MENS MASTERS DIVISION:

1ST Kris Astorp - 772 points - 43 fish - 52" longest

2ND Dean Roll - 721 points - 40 fish - 51" 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"

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

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

See you On the Water!

Chapter Fishing League



Matt Murtha is in the lead of the Chapter Fishing League after catching a 41-incher at the last outing on Waconia.

The weekend of October 8-9 will be the end of the Chapter Fishing League. This will be the last chance to catch Matt Murtha for the 2011 title. The two-day event on Minnetonka will start at 6 am Saturday morning and continues to Sunday night at 11 pm. Participants will get points for each day they fish. Note that there will not be a formal starting time to meet, come and go as you would like. If anyone needs a boat to fish from, please let league organizer Jody Dahms know and we will try to find one for you. Contact Jody at 952-356-6047 or jody.dahms@aquaticdesignsolutionsllc.com

Please contact Jody to let him know if you make it out for either day and provide him with results. Take a look at the results and let Jody know if anyone was missed for the outings.

Good luck, hopefully we will see you On the Water.

George Wahl Tournament

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fishery. Those who've participated in the George Wahl tournament in the past, have seen their \$50 entry fee used for stocking muskies in White Bear Lake, Lake Minnetonka and Bald Eagle Lake, as well as contributing to the MN DNR muskie tagging study.

Raffles at the awards program included a custom Thorne Bros rod, resort stays, gift cards for Joe's Sporting Goods, Temple Fork Outfitters rod, and many other great prizes.

Many thanks go to Josh Roundsley and his crew at Thorne Bros. who not only helped to promote the tournament and registered the most contestants, but also provided the tent to hold the "feed" and awards program. Thanks also to Bemidji chapter of Muskies Inc. president Rory Potter who made the plaques given to the top ten anglers. Plaques feature a picture of the winning fish and a George Wahl Eagle Tail. Thanks to Todd Cleveland for the commemorative Phantom lures. And, thanks also to Whitefish Bay Camp for the grand prize donation.

This tournament was conceived as a way to honor George Wahl's love of muskies and muskie fishing, his contribution to the muskie fishing industry, his generosity

sharing information with others, and his encouragement to muskie anglers.

We want to thank George Wahl's family for being a part of this event and for their contribution to the muskie fishery. And thanks to all who participated in the tournament as a way to contribute back to our great metro-area muskie fishery that we all use and enjoy.

2011 GEORGE WAHL TOURNAMENT RESULTS

	NAME	LENGTH	POINTS	LAKE
1	Travis Hultgren	42.5, 46.5	29	St. Croix River
2	Steve Dickie	45.5, 43	28.5	Harriet
3	Chris Fusco	48	18	Independence
4	David Rask	48	18	White Bear
5	John Newman	46.5	16.5	Independence
6	Mitch Frokjer	46	16	Forest
7	Josh Nelson	45.5	15.5	Minnetonka
8	Joe Peterson	44	14	Minnetonka
9	Cory Gale	42.5	12.5	Forest
10	Tony Walman	42.5	12.5	Minnetonka
11	Delaney Berger	42	12	Minnetonka
12	Tom Kelnhofer	41.5	11.5	White Bear
13	Matt Olson	41.5	11.5	Eagle Lake
14	Kirk Turpin	41	11	St. Croix River
15	Brad McClintock	40.5	10.5	Harriet
16	Tyler Peterson	40.5	10.5	White Bear
17	James Beheba	40.5	10.5	White Bear
18	Ken Thury	40	10	St. Croix River
19	Reid Larson	44	14	Minnetonka



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next meeting

**OCTOBER 11
SPEAKER:
BRIAN TRUAX**

Pharmacist Brian Truax, winner of 2011 Frank Schneider Jr. Tournament boat, has seventy-four 50 inchers in his current boat, and travels with a 50 incher wall of fame. Brian has been casting for muskies in the Bemidji area for 15 years, is a member of the Bemidji Cass Lake MI Chapter, a founding member of the Brainerd lakes Chapter, and an active Challenge participant. Come hear Brian to improve your odds in next year's Tournament, and maybe clear up the tendonitis in your casting elbow.

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.).



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