

# On the Water



Volume 18, Issue 10

OCTOBER 2015



First place winner, Tim Hinrichs (right) shared stories about his fish with tournament emcee Bill Sherck. In addition to his plaque, an Abu Garcia rod and reel, and Spiderwire line courtesy of Pure Fishing, Tim received a week stay at Red Wing Lodge on Sabaskong Bay, Lake of the Woods.

## Frank Schneider Tournament

Over 500 anglers participated in the Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament September 11, 12 and 13 held in the Bemidji-Cass Lake-Walker-Longville area of northern Minnesota. This marked the 48th year that anglers have gathered in northern Minnesota for this annual fishing event. Anglers had their choice of 20 lakes in the area that they could choose to hunt muskies in. A change in the weather made fishing a little more difficult. Seventy-eight muskies 40 inches or over were registered during the three days.

Participants were able to fish for three days, and enjoy complimentary feeds at four different locations on Friday and Saturday nights. The tournament ended on Sunday with an Awards Program at the Northern Lights Casino Events Center in Walker.

First place finisher was Tim Hinrichs from Bemidji, MN. Tim boated 2 muskies from Big Lake, 47 and 48 inches, earning him the most total points. His efforts earned him a week-long trip to Red Wing Lodge on Lake of the Woods, as well as an Abu Garcia rod and reel, and Spiderwire line. Each of the top ten winners and the junior winner received the rod, reel and line courtesy of Pure Fishing.

Eight of the top ten anglers came in with 2 fish this year. Jesse Wendolek registered 50.5 and 42.5-inch muskies from Leech Lake to take second place. Third place winner Chris Whitney registered a 48 and a 40.5 muskie caught on Cass Lake.

Two 52.5 inch muskies were the longest fish in the tournament. John Porter boated the first one on Friday on Leech Lake. Jeff Anderson boated the second one on Sunday morning on Cass Lake. Those big fish earned them 9th and 10th place in the tournament.

Junior winner was 11-year-old Connor Dicks from Minneapolis, who caught a 47 inch muskie on Leech Lake the first day of fishing.

Mike Lundberg caught a nice 40-inch northern while looking for those elusive muskies. The fish earned him a week stay at Huddles Resort on Leech Lake. Owner Roy Huddle says he wants to remind everyone that there are northerns in Leech also.

Each year a Ladies Bonus, courtesy of Dan Smith, father of 2 muskie fishing daughters, is given to the top three muskies caught by a female angler in the tournament. This year, two ladies registered muskies. Shannan Dryer caught a 50-inch



Grand Prize winner, Larry Turner, with his winnings. Every person who registers a muskie in the tournament gets entered in the Grand Prize drawing.

**Frank Schneider Tournament** continued on page 4

## Summer Fishing League Final Event October 11

from Greg Kappes, League Chair

Don't miss the last opportunity for time out on the water with other chapter members. The last scheduled event for the chapter Summer Fishing League is Sunday, October 11 from 7 am to noon at Eagle Lake off Highway 169 at 63rd Avenue N. Let me know that you participated at by email at [tcmi.FishingLeague@gmail.com](mailto:tcmi.FishingLeague@gmail.com).

The Summer Fishing League is a way to get more members out fishing and to enjoy each other's company. Everyone who fishes in a league event will be entered in a drawing for a rod donated by DH Custom Rods. If nothing else, come out to have a chance at a new custom rod.

Lots of fish have been seen during Fishing League outings – some missed opportunities and some lost fish. Matt Olson is still leading the chapter's Summer Fishing League with two fish – a 42- and 49-incher – caught at the Lake Calhoun/Lake Harriet outing. Steve Smythe is in second place with a 38-incher caught at the Mini-Challenge which also was league event.

If you catch a fish, email a picture of the fish on a board and a picture of you holding the fish to [tcmi.FishingLeague@gmail.com](mailto:tcmi.FishingLeague@gmail.com). Scoring is the standard Muskies Inc. method, with a 36 inch minimum for the league. Fish are measured to the nearest half inch and must be over for credit.

If you have questions please email me or call me at 612-750-4641.



## 2015 Chapter Challenge

from John Newman

This year's Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge was held on Leech Lake August 26-28. Teams from Muskies Inc. chapters throughout the country participated in this annual get-together. The Twin Cities chapter fielded 3 six-man teams. Fishing for Team 1 were Steve Smythe, Chris Smythe, Gavin Smythe, Doug Malsom, Stu McIntosh and John Olson. Gavin Smythe proved to be the hero for the team, catching 41-1/2 and 30 inch muskies. Gavin is 13 and he out-fished everyone else from the chapter. Congratulations Gavin! His two fish were all their team could catch and that gave them 17.5 for twelfth place overall.

Team two members were Larry Proskin, Andy Wayt, Matt Olson, BJ Olson, Mike Renstrom and John Newman. They managed to boat two fish – a 42-incher caught by Larry Proskin and a 40-incher caught by John Newman – for a total of 30 points and 9th place.

Team 3 was made up of Terrie Dube, Greg Pirritano, Sharon Rouse, Dave Rouse, Elaine Randolph and Denise Olson. Terrie was a real trooper as she is battling cancer. She would fish half a day then go to Brainerd for her treatments. Our alternates Elaine and Denise each fished one afternoon with her partner Greg. Team 3 came up with one fish, a 32 inch muskie caught by Dave Rouse which put them in 16th place.

Our teams were somewhat handicapped this year as we lost two participants on the first day due to illness and injuries. Dug Malsom came down with a bad respiratory infection that kept him in bed for two days. Mike Renstrom took a bad fall that knocked out his back. They are both back in action now and we will all be seeking revenge next year.

Many thanks to the Fargo-Moorhead chapter for running such a great event. I believe everyone had a good time.

The Challenge was won by the Star of the North chapter from Grand Rapids. They managed to catch 7 fish for first place. They also caught the biggest fish of the tournament, a nice 50-incher. As winners of this year's tournament, they will host the 2016 Chapter Challenge.

The dates and location of next year's Challenge have not yet been announced but if you would like to be a part of this event please contact John Newman at 651-592-9257. It's always a good time fishing and great to meet so many people from other chapters throughout the country.



# Members Only Contest

Eric Bakke, Members Only Contest Chair

It sure feels like fall more and more every day, but for the George Wahl tournament this last weekend we got one last hot summer day and had some nice fish caught. Thanks to everyone for participating in the tournament. It was great to see so many of our chapter members place in the tournament. By the time you read this we will have 60 or less days left to hunt these awesome fish and the hours the sun is above the horizon are dwindling fast!

We have had some big fish registered so far, but I think the best is yet to come. We still have two months left in the season, so don't put the boat into storage yet!

We officially have an entry in all of our divisions! Great to see so many good results so far. If there are any discrepancies in the numbers please let me know, I will adjust accordingly. Sometimes with the online submission things don't always go into the computer like you wanted them to. Let me know if there are any changes that need to be made with any duplicate fish or incorrect information in your submissions.

Here are the current standings:

## JUNIOR DIVISION

	NAME	POINTS	NO. FISH	LONGEST
1ST	Paige Sommerfeld	21	1	47"

## WOMEN'S DIVISION

1ST	Heather Woods	17	1	43"
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## WOMEN'S MASTERS DIVISION

1ST	Cindy Hegdahl	100	7	50.25"
2ND	Linda Knutson	39	3	48"

## MEN'S DIVISION

1ST	Gary Woods III	240	15	54"
2ND	Eric Bakke	204	14	48"
3RD	Alexander McLean	189	11	52"
4TH	Erik Chrissis	148	12	49"
5TH	John C Newman Jr	142	12	51"
6TH	Peter Janik	125	9	49"
7TH	Matt McDonald	122	7	50"
8TH	Phil Groth	85	6	45.5"
9TH	Pat McAllister	81	4	51"
10TH	Tom Kenefick	74	5	48"

## MEN'S HYBRID DIVISION

(points already tabulated with pure-strain releases)

1ST	Alexander McLean	14	1	40"
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## MEN'S MASTERS DIVISION

	NAME	POINTS	NO. FISH	LONGEST
1ST	Marko Brinatte	258	13	55.5"
2ND	Brent Hirsch	144	13	46.5"
3RD	Dave Knutson	143	9	47"

## LUNKER OF THE MONTH

MAY - Official - Alexander McLean - 47" - 5/24/2015 - St. Croix River, WI

JUNE - Unofficial - Brent Fox - 56" - 6/13/2015 - Lake Minnetonka, MN

JULY - Official - Marko Brinatte - 55.5" - 7/5/2015 - Lake Minnetonka, MN

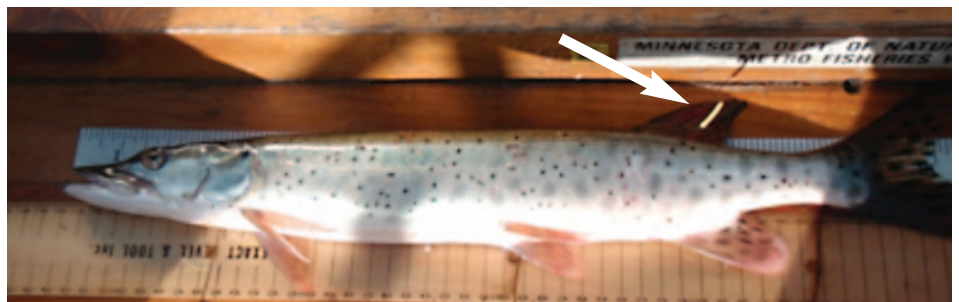
August - Unofficial - Gary Woods III - 54" - 8/5/2015 - Lake Minnetonka, MN

September - Unofficial - Mark Frederick - 52.5" - 9/16/2015 - Lake Bemidji, MN

Thanks again to everyone for your participation. See you on the Water!

# Keep an Eye Out for Muskies With the Yellow Tag!

The Twin Cities chapter, the North Metro chapter, and the MN DNR have collaborated on a multi-year stocking program of Lake Minnetonka, Bald Eagle Lake and White Bear Lake, leading to some longer-term data collection. The purpose is to determine if it is more effective and efficient to stock yearling muskies or fingerling muskies. From 2008-2012 a total of 5,896 fingerlings and 1,664 yearlings were stocked in those lakes. All stocked fish have a small yellow tag near the dorsal fin.



When fishing those three lakes, you should be looking for fish in 18-45 inch range to have the yellow tags. If you see a yellow tag on any muskie, the DNR really needs data from you. Specifically, they need the number on the yellow tag and the length of the fish. They would also appreciate your name and phone number in case they

need to follow-up. **DO NOT REMOVE THE YELLOW TAG.** It is important that they get data on the re-catchability of fish. You can go online to the DNR tag reporting website page [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.

## Frank Schneider Tournament

*continued from page 1*

muskie earning her a bonus of \$300 and Patty Eastvold caught a 49.5-inch muskie earning her \$200. They were both fishing on Leech Lake.

Abu Garcia gives a bonus of \$500, \$200, and \$100 to the top three fish that were caught in the tournament using an Abu Garcia reel. Those bonuses went to John Porter, for his 52.5-inch muskie, Jeff Anderson also for a 52.5-inch fish and Tim Milo for his 51.5 inch muskie.

Thorne Bros. gave each of the anglers who caught a 50-inch or longer muskie a \$50 Thorne Bros. gift certificate. Those winners were John Porter, Jeff Anderson, Tim Milo, Bob Landreville, Jesse Wendolek, Shannan Dreyer, and Mark Poradek.

The youngest angler and the oldest angler who participated in the tournament were also honored. Seven-year-old Jake Ashby who fished Plantagenet with his dad was the youngest participant. Gordon Danielson was honored as the oldest participant who had not won the award in the past. John Doyle and Vince Cafaro are older, but had before. Jake and Gordon received complimentary entries to next year's tournament.

Culmination of Sunday's Awards Program was the Grand Prize drawing. Every angler who registered a muskie during the tournament was entered in the Grand Prize drawing. This year the Grand Prize was \$15,000. Larry Turner was the lucky winner of the big check.

We want to thank Bill Sherck who spent his Sunday making sure that everything went smoothly on stage.

Many thanks to Eric Bakke who served as Chair of the Frank Schneider tournament for 2015, to all the members of our chapter who showed up to help during the three days, and those who spent the week before the tournament helping get everything ready. An event this size with over 500 participants takes a lot of manpower to make it happen and it wouldn't happen without all those who give of their time to pull this event off.



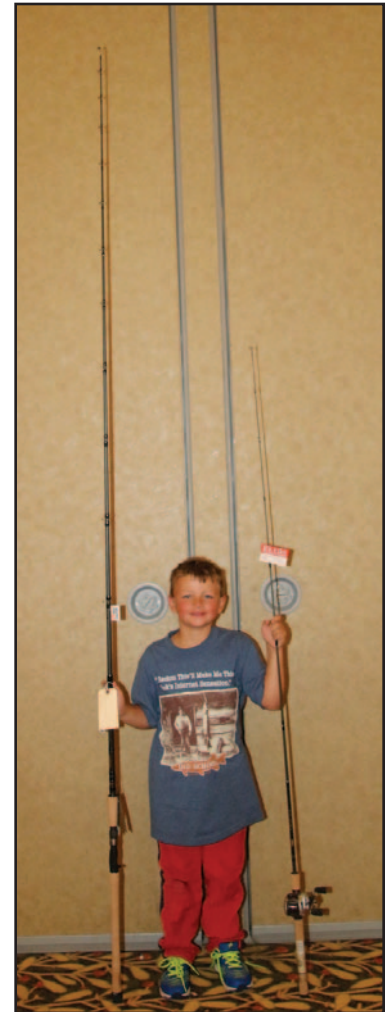
**Jeff Anderson registered one of two 52.5-inch muskies caught during the Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament September 11, 12,13. Jeff's fish was boated Sunday morning on Cass Lake.**



**Junior winner Conner Dicks boated this 47-inch muskie on Leech Lake.**



**Larry Turner, registered this 48-inch muskie that qualified him for an entry in to the Grand Prize drawing.**



**Seven-year-old Jake Ashby, won the rod and reel on the right for being the youngest participant in the tournament. He won the 9 ft. rod on the right in one of the raffles at the Sunday awards program.**



The chapter recently received this letter from the Minnesota DNR. Part of the money raised from the Frank Schneider Tournament is returned to the DNR in the area to be used for their muskie programs.

*On behalf of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, I would like to acknowledge receipt of your donation in the amount of \$3,500 from the 48th Annual Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament. As your organization has requested, these funds will be used for our Muskie fingerling production program.*

*The support of groups like Muskies Inc has been instrumental in sustaining Minnesota's world-class Muskie fishery. The Twin Cities Chapter has done a particularly fine job establishing a multi-lake format that incorporates measures to prevent the spread of invasive species. We also sincerely appreciate your efforts to provide catch data from all Muskies caught during the tournament. This information will help us track current status of the Leech Lake Muskie fishery.*

*Thank you again for your support.*

*Henry G. Drewes, Northwest Region Fisheries Manager*

## **It's a "Muskie Tale"**

**T**ell us your "Muskie Tale". 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 you found something interesting on the end of your line; or some kind of mishap happened while you were out fishing. We're not necessarily looking for the "big fish" story. We hear enough of those.

If you were at the George Wahl Tournament awards program, you heard a couple of good contenders.

Share with us by emailing your "tale" to Denise Olson at [olson@3pete.com](mailto:olson@3pete.com). The person with the best tale will have the honor of keeping the chapter Muskie Tale Award for a year.

## **George Wahl Muskie Tournament**

**T**hirteen muskies were registered at the 7th annual George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament on Saturday, September 26. A warm, sunny day with 80 degree temperatures provided a challenge to anglers. Many participants reported seeing a lot of fish, but not being able to boat them.

Winner of the tournament was Joe Tuma who boated a 50-inch muskie on Forest Lake. Joe walked away with a \$500 check in addition to the \$50 Thorne Bros. gift card, a commemorative Phantom lure created by Todd Cleveland, and a shadow-box plaque that each of the top ten anglers received.

Second and third place fish both came from White Bear Lake. Second place winner Casey Friskney registered a 48-incher and third place finisher Brad Wieck had a 47-1/2 inch fish. Fourth place winner, Marty Oian registered a 47-inch fish from Bald Eagle Lake and fifth place winner Chris Williams brought in a 47-incher from Lake Minnetonka. Cash prizes of \$400, \$300, \$200 and \$100 were paid out to the second through fifth place winners.

The Awards Program, held at Thorne Bros., culminated with the Grand Prize drawing. Every person who registered a muskie was entered in the drawing. Winner of a trip for 4 to Whitefish Bay Camp on Lake of the Woods and \$1000 was Joe Tuma.

The 180 muskie anglers who spent the day fishing contributed a little something toward our metro-area muskie



**Joe Tuma won the George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament with this skinny 50-inch muskie. Its girth measured only 14.5 inches. When they got the fish in, they realized that it had fishing line wrapped in the gills. Before releasing the fish they cut out many feet of line.**

**One requirement of the tournament is that the Saturday paper be in the picture somewhere. Joe did a great job of displaying the paper.**

fishery by participating in the George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament. One hundred percent of the profits from this tournament go back to the metro-area muskie fishery.

Funds from George Wahl tournament have contributed to the DNR stocking study on White Bear, Bald Eagle and Minnetonka. Casey Friskney reported catching a 37-inch muskie from White Bear Lake that had a yellow tag that is part of the study. Just goes to show that we can all do a little something to help our metro-area muskie fishery. Thanks to all the anglers who participated and added something to help preserve our great muskie fishing.

# Annual Red Wing Lodge Outing – August 6-13, 2016

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This annual August trip is open to members of both the North Metro and the Twin Cities Chapters of Muskies Inc. This outing is an amazing combination of great fishing in a beautiful shield environment, with a resort base that is clean and comfortable, where everything works. The Bartlett family has hosted Muskies Inc. outings for years with personal and friendly service, understanding well what muskie people need and like.

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- Huge generator has been installed for any power outages
- Services available include: license, maps, premium gas (no ethanol!), ice, tackle
- 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 remains at \$350 (US Funds) for 2016, just \$50 per day for big-time Canadian muskie fishing.

Included in the full value of the 2016 Muskie Inc. trip:

- Free Dockage (\$72 value), Free Launch (in and out, \$25 value)
- 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

Reservations require a \$50 non-refundable deposit, made out to Red Wing Lodge. Deposits officially confirm reservation holds. First come, first served.

To make reservations, or any questions or suggestions for improving the trip, contact: John van Ingen, (651) 699-5172, [maxjo@mac.com](mailto:maxjo@mac.com), 2108 Palace Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105 or John Genosky, (651) 329-4898, [John@Protacinc.com](mailto:John@Protacinc.com), 904 81st St., Lino Lakes, MN 55014

For answers to detailed questions regarding the Lodge, e.g., about the cabins, you are invited to call Mike and Anne Bartlett toll free at 1-888-488-5601.

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# next meeting

OCTOBER 13

## MYSTERY GUEST

*Our scheduled speaker cannot make it to our meeting in October.*

*Check the chapter website:  
[www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org](http://www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org)  
to see who will be the speaker.*



**MUSKIES INC.**  
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### **Return Service Requested**

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*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.).*

### **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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Blue Ribbon Bait & Tackle	LAX Reproductions	Pro Musky Guide Service – Josh Borovsky	Thorne Bros
Broadwater Bay Resort	Leech Lake Gaming	Red Wing Lodge – Lake of the Woods	Temple Fork Outfitters
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Kevin Cochran Musky Guide Service	Mantrap Lodge on Big Mantrap Lake	Save A Memory	Vermilion Dam Lodge
Custom X	Mighty Muskie Guide Service – Josh Stevenson	Bill Sherck	Wades Custom Tackle
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Evinrude Marine	Minnesota Valley CC	Sportsman's Connection	Whitefish Bay Camp
Fenwick Rods	Moondance Events	Spiderwire	
Fishing for Life	Musky Hunter Magazine	Spring Bay Resort and Guide Service – Lake Vermilion	
Fishing Hardcore – Ben Olsen	Musky Innovations LLC		
Frankie's Live Bait & Marine	Musky Madness Guide Service – Kris Astorp		
Gary's Custom Rod & Reel	Musky Mayhem Tackle		



## 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 fundraising 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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