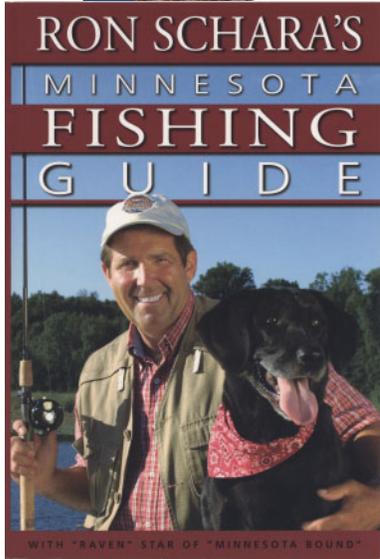


JULY 2003

VOL 1, NO. 5

MIN BOUND JOURNAL

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Ron's Minnesota Fishing Guide sequel hits bookstores

Ask your Dad or Grandpa...or maybe even you yourself remember... back in the late 1970s when *Ron Schara's Minnesota Fishing Guide* was helping people catch fish long before Lindy rigs, depth finders and graphite rods.

The original book sold more than 50,000 copies and was said to be one of the most successful books of its generation.

Now *Ron Schara's Minnesota Fishing Guide* returns in a brand new, updated format designed for today's readers. This is the ONLY hard copy of vital Minnesota DNR lake statistics, useful how-to information and stories as only Ron can tell. This breathtaking book contains more than 100 full-color photos, multiple technical drawings and highlights every major fish species found in Minnesota. Printed on gloss art paper, the 276-page book is beautiful enough to sit on a coffee table and useful enough to be in a tackle box.

"I think this is the perfect book for both the beginner and experienced angler who want to broaden his or her knowledge," Ron says. "I am proud of this book and feel it truly captures the celebration of fishing."

You'll find a copy (some autographed) at Twin Cities area Gander Mountain stores. Or you can order a copy directly from the publisher at www.tristanpublishing.com.

Ron Schara's new Minnesota Fishing Guide and the copy above that Dad would remember!

HELP WANTED

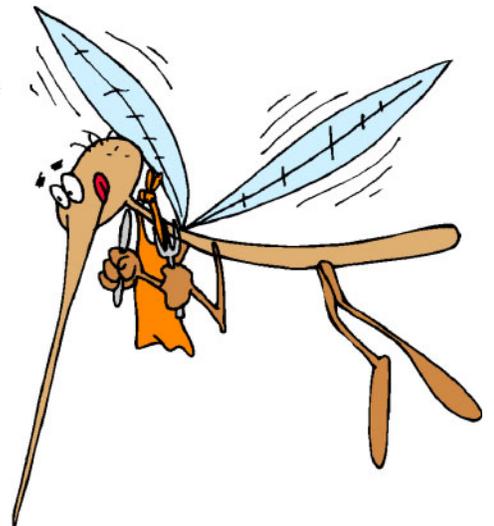
We're looking for **HELP** at the Minnesota Bound booth at the Minnesota State Fair. Must be at least 16, work every day of the fair, flexible, have transportation, honest. Email rick@mnbound.com for more details.

What's the (SLAP!) buzz?

So you think you know mosquitoes? We thought so too, until we did a little research. Here's a few mosquito tidbits that may surprise you!

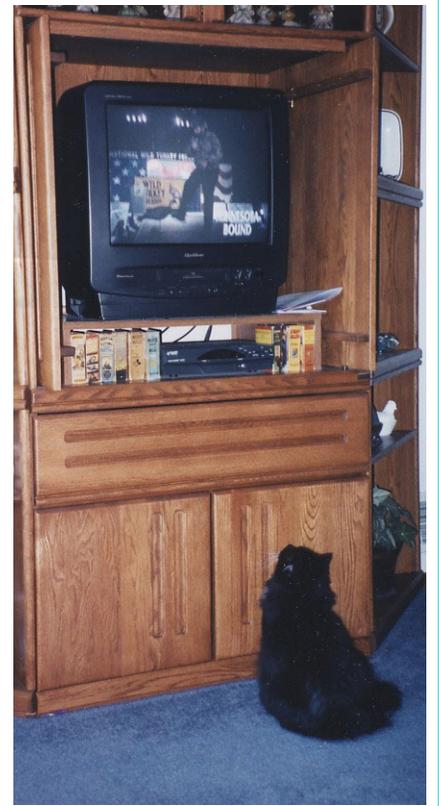
- Contrary to popular belief, the female doesn't poke through the skin, but saws through it with her jagged mouth.
- Females do not always need blood to lay the first batch of eggs.
- Some mosquitos are only active at night; some only in the day.
- Humans are slightly allergic to mosquito saliva, so that's why the bites itch

- Once she has the protein she needs from your blood, the female will lay her eggs in soil, near a water source
- Like people, mosquitos don't like being out in hot sunlight
- The average life span of the aedes vexans, a common species in this area, is about 30 days
- "Mosquito" is a Spanish or Portuguese word meaning "little fly"
- The "*Know Mosquitos*" board game is a fun tool for elementary grade kids to learn about mosquito biology, habitats, and reducing mosquitoes around the home.



- West Nile virus is hardly new. It emerged from its origins in 1937 in Africa.
- Both male and female mosquitos feed on the nectar of plants

Feelin' itchy yet? Find out more about your friendly pests at www.mosquito.org.



Feline Fan

James & Edith Barber of Eden Prairie sent us a picture of Sammy, their cat. They write: "Every Sunday she comes running to the TV the moment the show begins and sits in that position the whole time. Then she leaves - she watches no other TV! We think it's a hoot & thought you might, too."

We do, we do!

Introduce a Kid to the Outdoors

Outdoor books will educate & entertain

Ron ends every episode of Minnesota Bound asking viewers to "Introduce a Kid to the Outdoors." That doesn't mean you have to pack up the whole crew and haul them into the woods.

You and your child can have outdoor learning experiences by just opening a good book.

A visitor to the Red Balloon (Grand Avenue in St. Paul) children's bookstore recently ran into Rick Chrustowski. Rick, who lives close to the Twin Cities in River Falls, Wisconsin, is working on his third book after two successful ones called "Hop Frog" and "Bright Beetle."

These are brightly drawn books that appeal to young children, with a text that educates as well as entertains.



Author Rick Chrustowski and his two kid books.

At the Red Balloon, Rick showed up with some pre-print "signatures" of a new book he is working on which will be released later this year. He did some sketches for the children in attendance and talked of his love of the outdoors.

The best way to choose a good outdoor book for kids is to check with the children's librarian or the bookseller. And check out this month's Great Outdoor Lynx on this page. The outdoor book awards has a great children's category.

Great Outdoor Lynx



OK, Ron has a new book, which we highly recommend (wink), but there are award winning outdoor books out every year. Check this site to see the National Outdoor Book Awards winners:

www.isu.edu/outdoor/bookpol.htm

Building a home? Log cabins may surprise you

If you stop by the Minnesota Bound log cabin at the Minnesota State Fair this year, you'll admire the log cabin, built by Lost River Log Cabins. We asked the folks three basic questions about building a real log cabin.

Minnesota Bound: What kind of trees do you use and where do they come from?

Lost River: We use Englemann Spruce and Lodgepole Pine. Both are straight growing and have a light color to them. When called for, we supply Douglas Fir for purlins, loft floor joists or other structural members. Douglas Fir has a reddish/pink color similar to Cedar. Most of our wood comes from the East slope of the Canadian Rockies. It is a dry climate and the trees grow slower, giving them tighter growth rings.



MB: Do you bring the logs to the site and build there?

LR: No. We have our mill in Montana and the trees are brought to the mill and processed there. The logs are turned on a huge lathe, then coped, notched and drilled to the specifications needed for that particular cabin. They arrive at the site wrapped and numbered so that they can be "stacked" similar to the Lincoln Log packages you played with as a kid - just bigger.

MB: What would people find most surprising about the difference between a conventional building and a log cabin?

LR: The biggest surprise would be finding out how much emotion and personality every log cabin has. With a conventional structure it is not so much the building but where the building is. With logs the focus is on the cabin itself and its natural beauty. People will stop by just to admire the building and dream of their own cabin. Log lovers are a different group all on their own and when you start building a log cabin they seem to come out of the "woodwork." Because of this difference, the appraised and resale value of a log cabin is higher. When a log cabin goes on the market it gets snapped up fast.

GET THE LEAD OUT

Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance (OEA) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) are partnering with retailers, conservation, and outdoors groups to offer lead tackle exchanges across the state this summer. Anglers can bring lead sinkers and jigs to the event to trade for non-lead ones. Here's the schedule for July and August.

- Maplewood:** July 2 (2pm-7) Gander Mountain
- Duluth:** July 11 (2pm-7) Gander Mountain
- Fridley:** July 11 (2pm-7) Gander Mountain
- Rochester:** July 11 (2pm-7) Gander Mountain
- St. Paul:** July 16-17 (3pm-6) Joe's Sporting Goods
- Alexandria:** July 19 (10am-Noon) Lake Mary Association (Kensington Runestone County Park)
- Bemidji:** July 18 (2pm-7) Gander Mountain
- Minnetonka:** July 25 (2pm-7) Gander Mountain
- St. Cloud:** July 25 (2pm-7) Gander Mountain
- Maple Grove:** August 1 (2pm-7) Gander Mountain
- Wabasha:** August 1-2 (11am-4pm) Eagle Days (Upper Mississippi National Wildlife Refuge, downtown on the Waterfront and Lawrence Blvd)
- Woodbury:** August 8 (2pm-7) Gander Mountain
- Farmington:** August 9 (2pm-7) Dakota County Fairgrounds
- Bloomington:** August 15 (2pm-7) Gander Mountain
- Dent (near Fergus Falls):** August 16 (Noon-2) Marion Lake Association (Lions Club Shelter)

Rapala's Quick Outdoor Tip

The more distance you can keep between you and the fish you want to catch, the better chance those fish are going to "act naturally." Too many anglers don't realize how important it is to keep your distance. Always strive to at least make that first cast from a long ways away. *Courtesy of Rapala.com.*

ON THE OL' TRAIL



Feel like star gazing this summer? Join noted astronomer Mark Nook the evening of July 26 (starting at 8:30) at William O'Brien State Park near Stillwater. Nook gives a great presentation on the galaxies, stars and beyond. It's a night you will never forget! Learn constellations and you'll view the night's delights through a good telescope.

Please register: 651-433-0500