



The Executive Director's notes:

Growing up in Central MN I learned to appreciate the outdoors and what opportunities we have as residents of Minnesota. At that time in my life I lived in the moment, fishing, hunting, riding my ATV, and working on our family farm. Not really knowing what the rest of our great state had to offer other than my father choosing to leave with friends and go "up north" on hunting and fishing trips. It was not until I was old enough to go along or go on my own that I learned to truly appreciate our state's diversity and opportunities to make those choices.

Outdoor opportunity is everywhere and fortunately brings options on where, what, when, and how we pursue our outdoor activities. Spring brings trout fishing, walleye opener, turkey hunting, and panfish in the shallow bays. As with any time of year, these opportunities bring with them a responsibility to protect and preserve. I enjoy the photos on Facebook of the successful pursuits and smiles. What a gift! I also know and am not naïve to the people who feel they "deserve" or "can't stop taking" more than their legal limit. Regardless of your view, taking more than you need or more than allowed is stealing from all of us. The immediate thrill is short lived and the long term effects may never be seen or felt by their actions, but they do exist. The conscientious violator is left with anxiety and fear of whether someone is watching or "will I get caught", while the chronic or carefree violator is saying, got by with it again!

Interestingly, as an organization, the purpose or mission has stayed the same in the past 35 years and that is the dedication to protecting our natural resources from illegal and unethical activity. It is all of our responsibility to monitor, correct, and deter behavior that steals from all of us. For those that understand, follow, and teach others ethical behavior, thank you. As for the takers and those that lack ethics, know there are people out there willing to hold you accountable for your actions.



Report Illegal Activity signs to be set on public lands

The Turn In Poachers REPORT ILLEGAL ACTIVITY signs were created to deter poaching and prohibited conduct, in public wildlife areas. The signs are well suited to be posted outside, as they are created from ultraviolet resistant plastic and ink. TIP has donated over 200 of the signs to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Area Managers and is glad to be able to be part of helping protect and preserve wildlife areas for the future. **For such a minimal cost, the benefits are priceless.** Poachers should be aware, people are watching and hopefully we can get the message out to all citizens in

Minnesota that there is an anonymous hotline to contact law enforcement and report incidences in an easy way. All one has to do is pick up the telephone or mobile device, dial (800) 652-9093 or #TIP from mobile device, and you will be connected to a person who can help you with the situation. Anyone can order the sign and the retail price is \$2.00 a piece including sales tax. Please call (218) 326-8477 to order the signs, we also have NO TRESPASSING signs for \$1.00 including sales tax. Order forms are available online at turninpoachers.org Thank you to everyone who has acquired these signs and posted them -

Memberships-

Some of you may have received a letter to renew your membership. If you renewed, thank you and welcome back! Another initiative from the membership side is the opportunity to carry a membership card that can be displayed when you attend a TIP sponsored event or help volunteer at a show or expo. In the first quarter of 2016 we received 6 Life memberships! What a great statement to those members who now will not only enjoy reduced entry into TIP events, but have the satisfaction of knowing that their commitment and support of the organization are life long.

- Life Member Phil Ramola** - TIP Duelm Banquet attendee
- Life Member Michael Kelly** - TIP Bemidji Banquet Attendee
- Life Member Jason Clouse** - Learned about TIP from his family

- Life Member Shawn Matteson** - TIP Itasca Banquet Attendee
- Life Member Marty Niewind** - TIP Itasca Banquet Attendee
- Life Member Randy Niewind** - TIP Itasca Banquet Attendee

President's message- Peter Lodermeier

My hope is that the MN fishing opener was good and you were able to catch what you had hoped for! Either way, if you are like me you enjoyed your time just being outdoors. It has been a busy time for TIP as we have taken a leap forward hiring Dennis as the executive director. We are laying the groundwork for a great future and the feedback has been positive! The need for increased public relations and promoting the message of TIP is so important for all of us. We were glad to see April was filled with banquets while the remainder of summer will focus on promoting the great statewide raffle and if you are a golfer, the TIP Compadre Golf Open is coming in August. Be sure and buy your tickets when you get a chance! *On a side note*, if you would like to be a part of our board and leadership, I would enjoy talking with you about the details. Call the office at (218) 326-8477 and the staff will get me your information.

Enjoying our spring banquets

In April, TIP staff and volunteers came together to participate in three banquets! Although this makes for a busy time behind the scenes, the events were worth the effort! The format and purpose of the event is used as a fundraiser for TIP as a whole, but much more comes from these times together. Friendships, memberships, and lasting relationships are made as people came together for a common goal. In April alone Duelm (near Foley), Bemidji, and the Itasca County Area in Grand Rapids had events.



The **TIP Duelm Banquet** featured Wall of Shame #4 and we welcomed CO Mitch Sladek and CO Angela Londgren as they answered questions and showcased the Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge case. We also had Representative Jim Newberger present who took the time to come and talked briefly about the legislation on increasing poaching penalties. The volunteer committee members worked hard to put this event together, particularly Phil Ramola and Doug Bermel. It would not have happened without them! Mark Burley, a regional director for the Minnesota Deer Hunters Association (MDHA) was our MC and he did a great job. The silent auction was a great success along with a

canoe and kayak on the prize list. Participants enjoyed the long list of prizes and great food that **Jack & Jim's Event Center** have to offer.

The rekindling of the **TIP Bemidji Banquet** was a great time had by all! Lead by TIP friends Lori and Roger Wing of the Bemidji area, we had great participation at the **Eagles Aerie #351** and fun with radio host Dave Brooks from KB101 radio in Bemidji. Brian Gray, retired CO, talked about the start of the TIP program back in 1981 as he was the representative helping



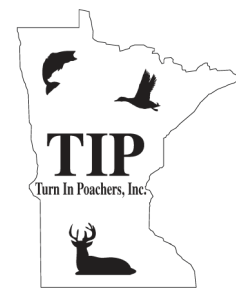
to develop the program back then. Roger Tietz was presented with the 2015 "Joe Alexander" TIP Conservation Officer of the Year award on this evening. Mark Mathy, CO from the Cass Lake area shared a story about a TIP call where violators flushed walleyes down a toilet. Enforcement ACTION was taken! The night was filled with great food and prizes to many lucky individuals. It was great to see many current and retired CO's present to support the program.

Tom Sutherland and crew up at the **TIP Itasca County Area Banquet** were as steady as always. Prizes and games lined the walls of the event room at the **Sawmill Inn in Grand Rapids**. There was a buzz in the air of enjoyment by participants. New faces and yearly supporters alike took part in multiple games of chance with hopes of winning. Many did, but the true winner was the TIP program. A couple of key highlights were that we had 3 new life members join at the banquet. Their life long dedication and support is great for the program and mission! Additionally, the Itasca County Area chapter is credited for sponsoring the TIP organization to the 2016 State High School Clay Target League Finals in Alexandria. Thank you!



TIP 2016 Activity Report

Summary of Calls/Arrests	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	YTD TOTAL
Total Calls	61	56	76	113	306
Total TIP Calls	43	33	57	84	217
Calls referred to CO's	43	33	56	80	212
Case Numbers Assigned	0	0	15	9	24
Number of Arrests Made	0	0	24	14	38
Number of Cash Rewards Paid	0	0	4	0	4
Amount of Rewards	\$0	\$0	\$375	\$0	\$375
TIP Prints as Rewards	0	0	3	0	3



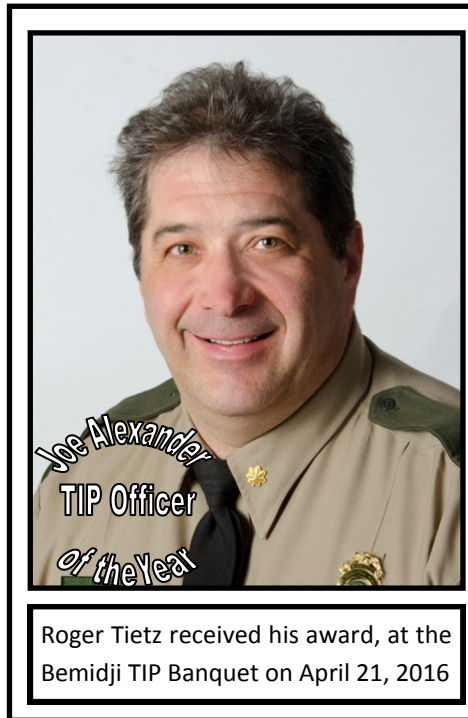
Turn In Poachers (TIP), Inc.

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Brainerd, MN 56401-6005

(218) 326-8477

www.turninpoachers.org



Roger Tietz received his award, at the Bemidji TIP Banquet on April 21, 2016

2015 Joe Alexander TIP Officer of the Year Roger Tietz

Each year the Turn In Poachers (TIP) Board of Directors sends out applications to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to request candidates for the TIP "Joe Alexander" Conservation Officer of the Year award. This conservation officer (CO) is recognized for their dedication and support of the TIP program through the course of their duties.

Although he retired in October, 2015, Roger Tietz was selected as the 2015 TIP "Joe Alexander" Conservation Officer of the Year for his long list of projects, leadership, and enthusiasm he brought to the program. As a new and young officer within the DNR, Roger started taking interest and working with the TIP organization back in the early 1980s. He served on multiple banquet committees early on including South Metro, chairing the events in New Prague, and Waseca. He served for 4 years as a volunteer on the Board of Directors. He also worked and served as the chair on 4 Compadre Golf Tournaments and is the co-chair for 2016. While in Bemidji, he worked on banquets as part of their committee. In 2007 became the TIP/DNR liaison for the DNR until his retirement in late 2015.

"Even though I made many arrests with help from the TIP program, what I felt the most proud of is being a part of the organization and working to help raise over \$100,000 to support the mission and programs of TIP", Roger Tietz.

Plans are being finalized for the "Turn In Poachers" Compadre Golf Open

Registrations are now being taken for the upcoming Compadre Golf Open on August 16, 2016. This is a fun event and there are limited spaces available. The Refuge Country Club golf course in Oak Grove, MN near Anoka will host the golf event. The tournament will start at noon and participants are asked to check-in between 10:00 A.M. and 11:15 A.M. The event registration form can be found on the Welcome Page or under the Banquet and Events tab at turninpoachers.org. There will be a burger/brat buffet dinner with all the trimmings, a gift bag for each registrant, a general raffle and silent auction. **"It is a great day for a great cause."**



TIPSTER

May 2016

Turn In Poachers, Inc.

7187 Wise Road, Brainerd, MN 56401

Upcoming Banquets:

TIP Compadre Golf Open, August 16th - Roger Tietz (218) 820-3923

TIP Rochester Banquet, October 6th - Graham Luck (507) 234-0340

Call the TIP Office with (218) 326-8477 or send an email to info@turninpoachers.org



AUGUST
12, 13, 14 & 19, 20, 21
FRI & SAT 9-6, SUN 9-5

A special thanks to Tracy Jones of Emily, for all the mounting work he has done for Turn In Poachers
Emily Meats
Jones Taxidermy & Wild Game Processing
(218) 763-6328 or (218) 851-5866

