

The Dogumentary

27th Year

The Waterdogs Fishing Club

January 2009

January Meeting at VFW

The January meeting will be at our usual stomping grounds at the Hopkins VFW. Some committees are meeting early at 6pm, but otherwise the regular meeting will be at 7:00.

The seminar committee has lined up a speaker for the meeting. His name is John Laub, who is a local guide, and tournament pro who will talk about the local fishing scene in regard to our upcoming tournaments. The talk will be largely Q&A, so bring your questions for John.

2009 Waterdogs Fishing Club Calendar

Jan 8 2009	Monthly Meeting
Jan 17-18	Schara's Kids Clinic
Feb 5	Monthly Meeting
March 5	Monthly Meeting
March 21	Trout Tournament
March 28	Trout Back-Up Date
April 2	Monthly Meeting
April 25	Crappie Tournament
May 7	Monthly Meeting
May 30-31	Walleye Tournament
June 4	Monthly Meeting
June 19	Bass Tournament
July 2	Monthly Meeting
July 18-25	2009 RockNRoll Musky Tour
August 6	Monthly Meeting
August 22	Bass Tournament II
Sep 3	Monthly Meeting
Sep 19	Multispecies Tournament
Oct 1	Monthly Meeting
Nov 5	Banquet

See the last page for the 2009 Tournament Details

Only 6 Months until the LOTW Trip
If gas stays below \$2.00, the trip will cost about \$150 less per guy.

From the Desk of the President, Helen Tom Keller



Wow, it's 2009! Can you believe another year has passed? Where does time go?

I heard that the older you get, that time seems to move faster because your age in relative years increases compared to a single year and that's why time seemed to move so slowly as a kid and so quickly as an adult. It must be true; time seems to be moving faster every year.

I am looking forward to the year ahead and hope I can add value to the club as President. Thanks to Little Angle for a great 2008 and to those of you who volunteered to chair and take part on the many committees. We're off to a good start, with 6 tournaments already scheduled and of course the famous Rock & Roll Musky tour in July.

We'll continue to meet and "feast" at the Hopkins VFW. Same time as usual, with dinner at 6 pm and the meeting at 7pm. We'll also break-up into our sub-committees like we did last year for a quick organizing get-together. I also expect the sign-up sheet for

the St. Paul Sportsman show fishing clinic will be available, so please consider taking part this year.

Looking back, it's been an eventful fall, figuratively and literally. We've experienced a presidential election, a stock market crash, rising and then falling gas prices, increasing unemployment, continuing financial instability, yada, yada yada. The press makes it sound like we should roll up the carpets and turnout the lights. The evening news begins with "Good evening" and then proceeds to tell you why it isn't. Well I think we forget how flexible and resilient the USA is; kind of like fishermen, when it's a tough bite, we adjust and find a pattern that works.

With all the troubles surrounding us, it seems that C&R fishermen are the best prepared to handle such a pessimistic environment. Think about it, fishermen spend money to get up at 4 am, drive two hours, sit out in a cold wind driven rain with the hope of catching a slimy creature, and after catching something toss it back with great satisfaction with only the moment to remember. If that's not an example of optimism, then I don't know what is! Of course some just call it crazy.

With that being said, I have some fears. The economy will further challenge fishing as a past time for many. Fishing's become expensive and many people could be priced out of the hobby. It's increasingly harder to get kids involved in the sport. There are more excuses to not get kids involved. There are more distractions and parents are less motivated. I believe \$25 musky lures won't keep the sport alive, but the \$0.10 jig will, but only if the sport is passed down to the next generation. Bait shops and manufactures are

struggling while at the same time there are special interest groups who want to destroy the sport. So I ask and challenge the club what can we do to help? Are we doing all we can to promote this great past time? I don't have any answers or any great ideas, but there's probably lot we can do, so I ask you to ponder the question.

Let's go fishing!

Dues are Due

The clubs annual dues are \$75, payable at the January meeting. The Lake of the Woods deposit is \$175 for those that are going. Checks should be made out to the Waterdogs and will be collected by the Grand Procurator, Rick Anderson.

2009 Elections

Elections for VP and board members were held at the December Meeting, with Perp getting the nod for VP, and Juan, Greenstick, Banana Boy, and FD picked for the 2009 board of directors. 'Lots of Fun and No Major Changes' is the mantra for 2009.

Schara's Kids Clinic Jan 17&18

The annual St. Paul Sportshow is scheduled for the weekend of January 17-18, and once again the club has committed to help out Ron Schara with his Kids Fishing Clinic. The hours are expected to be the same as usual, at 12 noon to 2:00 on Saturday, and 11 to 1:00 on Sunday. Chainsaw will have more details at the meeting. Come and help with the kids, and collect your 2 early tournament points.

2009 Waterdogs Tournament Series

Mark Your Home and Work Calendars Now!

Date	Species	Location	Dogs in Charge
Saturday, March 21 (March 28 Backup)	Trout	Pierce and Rush Counties, WI	Janitor, Nasty, Shatner
Saturday, April 25	Crappie	Washington Lake	Mama's Boy, Griz
Sat-Sun, May 30-31	Walleyes	Big Stone Lake	Duper, Analist, Perp
Friday, June 19	Bass	Clearwater Lake	Helen, Buick
Saturday, August 22	Bass	Chisago Lakes	Chips, Farm B, Fluffy
Saturday, Sep 19	Multispecies	Minnetonka	Greenstick, Shorty, Kirk