

The Dogumentary

25th Year

The Waterdogs Fishing Club

January 2007

February Meeting

The January meeting will be held at the Hopkins VFW, with dinner at 6:00 and the meeting starting at 7. Our guest speakers will be Joe Carlson, Regional Representative, Ranger Boats, and Pete Coughlin, Sales Consultant, Frankies Marine

Joe and Pete will discuss what's new at Ranger Boats as well as other trends in fishing boats. For those thinking about a new boat, they plan to 2007 Ranger catalogs (and possibly some other goodies).

The 2007 Waterdogs Fishing Club Calendar

Feb 1	Monthly Meeting
Mar 1	Monthly Meeting
Mar 17	Trout Tournament
Apr 5	Monthly Meeting
Apr 28	Crappie Tournament
May 3	Monthly Meeting
June 2-3	Walleye Tournament
June 7	Monthly Meeting
June 15-16	Bass Tournament
July 5 ?	Monthly Meeting
July 21-28 '07	LOTW Musky Tour
Aug 2	Monthly Meeting
Aug 18	Multi-Species Tournament
Sep 6	Monthly Meeting
Sep 15	Musky/NP Tournament
Oct 4	Monthly Meeting
Nov 1	Annual Banquet
Dec 6	Monthly Meeting

The tournament details are on the last page of each Dogumentary.

President's Corner – James Ferstenou



Where has January gone? For me it has been a busy, but also a fun month. I made my first trip of the year to Upper Red Lake for some fishing with friends (please see my previous e-mail from 1/9 for a fishing report). I traveled out to North Dakota to become a Godfather for the first time. I'm heading home to Wisconsin this weekend, hopefully I'll get out on the ice at least one of the days. Finally, I managed to make it to the St. Paul Sportsman's show along with many of the club members to help teach kids more about fishing. It was a fun and rewarding experience and I'd like to pass on my thanks to everyone that volunteered their time to help out. I felt that it was a good showing for the Waterdogs. In all I believe that 21 Waterdogs were able to attend on one of the two days.

It may still be January, but the annual LOTW musky fishing trip is already starting to creep into my mind thanks to receiving the most recent issue of Musky Hunter in the mail on Monday, Suzy's e-mails and to Perp's calendar reminding us that the Extreme Muskie Expo will be in town this weekend at the Medina

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Days to LOTW

Center. I won't be able to make it to the event myself, but I have a feeling that a few of the 'Dogs will manage to get over there. I'll throw my reminder in along with Suzy's. Now is the time to start preparing for the annual LOTW trip and get all of the proper documentation out of the way so that you don't run into any last minute surprises. If you plan to attend this year's trip please refer to Suzy's e-mails and initiate the process of acquiring your Passport (if you do not already have one), your Ontario fishing license and your Remote Area Border Crossing Permit. Also, if you have a guest joining us on the trip, please pass all pertinent information on to them as well.

I don't have much else to report on at the moment, but expect to see a few more fishing reports from me via e-mail in the weeks ahead. I have two more trips to Upper Red Lake planned for 2/2-2/4 and 2/16-2/19; hopefully the fish will cooperate. A co-worker landed a 40" northern pike with a 19" girth up there last Sunday. I don't expect to have that kind of luck, but you never know.

That's all for now. Until next month, keep your lures in the water and your hooks sharp.
Griz

The Dogumentary Profile: Kirk Duholm

By Suzy



Handle: Bubble Boy or Captain Kirk

Where you live: Eagan

Hometown: Spamtown, USA (Austin, Minn.)

Where you work: US Bank

What you do at work: SVP and Central Region Mgr for Dealer Services -- provide financing for auto and RV dealerships in 14 state region.

Where you went to college/high school: Austin High School, U of Minnesota (undergrad), St. Thomas (grad school)

Spouse's name: Karen

Kids: Steve, 20, Laura, 17

Pets: Dog named Buddy

Favorite fishing rod: Any one I'm using

Favorite fishing lure: A minnow with some WD-40

Favorite fishing reel: Any one I'm using.

Favorite species to fish for: Bass

Favorite restaurant: Famous Dave's

Favorite beverage: Corona

Favorite cut of meat: Filet

Last book you read: Can't remember

Favorite fishing pro: Old Fart

What you do for fun when you're not fishing: Outdoor activities.

Favorite body of water to fish on: Lake Itasca

Your boat: 1999 R83, 18-9 length, 150 hp Mercury EFI

Your dream boat: A newer Ranger

Dynasty or Dallas? Dallas

Mary Richards or Rhoda? Mary

Who's more believable: Babe Winkelman or Al Lindner? Al Lindner

Favorite type of music/band and/or artist? Beatles

Favorite on-the-water snack food? Smoked Turkey Jerky

Best largemouth bass fishing tip? Deep water (10-20 feet) hard bottom (rocks) with blue fleck worm or watermelon centipede. Second tip, never fish with OF if you want to fish deep.

Body of water that you've never fished that you would most like to fish within the coming year? Rainy Lake for smallmouth.

Favorite moment fishing with a Waterdog:

Still to come.

One of your all-time favorite fishing memories: Fishing a small stream from a big willow tree when I was very young.

Word that best describes you: happy

Favorite dessert: apple crisp

Your fishing vehicle (for towing your boat or your dream boat): Chrysler Pacifica

Favorite fishing magazine: Outdoor News

Favorite fishing TV show: In Fisherman

Volunteer or community activities (other than Waterdogs): YMCA Board, Eagan Chamber of Commerce President, City Economic Development Commission, Various church-related activities

Topwater or plastic worming? plastic worming

Biggest musky: 47 in.

Biggest northern pike: 39 in.

Biggest walleye: 28.5 in.

Biggest largemouth bass: 22.25 in.

Biggest smallmouth bass: 21 in.

What fishing "personal best" would you like to hit in the coming year?: Largemouth bass

Why you like being part of the Waterdogs: A bunch of fun guys and chance to learn new techniques.

Guys Gone Grabbin'

January 6th is a time of the year that is spent dreaming about summer fishing, but with the unusual warm stretch of temperatures this year, it was enough to get 6 dogs down to the Whitewater River for a little warm up with the winter trout season. On the outing were Felix, FD, Carmen, Shatner, Nasty and Fluffy, who all made the last-minute e-mail arrangements to go fishing the day before. The water was lower than we have seen, and the fishing was mostly average, with about 25 fish caught by the six anglers on mostly spinners, but also jigs and Rapalas. We fished Beaver Creek and the North and South Branches, and saw very few other fisherman, but a good amount of other wildlife. On the way down, a flock of about 15 eagles were seen sitting in a farm field – very weird, and some Texas longhorn cattle also tried to block the way out of the River for FD and Felix. It was a good day to be out, but if your name rhymed with 'Muffy', you had a heck of a day.

Here's Fluffy's account of the day that he had with Carmen and Mr. Brown:

The second half of the Waterdogs Trout convoy; Carmen and Fluff, followed Shatner (aka Captain Kirk Duholm) & Company to the Whitewater.

They day was full o' promise with mild temps and overcast skies. Shatner and the boys stopped for a morning on Beaver Creek as Carmen and I decided to try our first luck on the North Branch of the Whitewater.

After an hour or two, the North Branch did little to impress us. A hit or two, but nothing in the books. We beat a hasty retreat to our old stand-by, the South Branch. I've always had better luck on the SB as well as the Middle Branch (not the Main Branch). Any stretch of the SB is better than all stretches of the NB in my book.

By the time we worked the SB, the sun was out and no doubt keeping the fish down in the water. As in the NB, the water was as low as ever. The water in the deeper spots tends to take on a greenish-blue hue which is a great indicator as to where to throw your baits. Carmen and I were rewarded with some early hits and a few of 10 - 12 inchers at our second and third holes. Carmen had some action on his little Rapala while a jig-and-twister was what worked for me. We had a 12:30 lunch date with the crew of the Starship Enterprise at the Elba Cenex where we compared notes. One sandwich later had Carmen and I heading back to the SB where a few more 10 - 12's came our way. As Carmen tackled the top of one pool, I started with a throw to the bottom of the next. A nice logjam sat at the bottom and I threw my jig to the front of the pile. Two seconds worth of drift later my biggest brown in 8 or 9 years hits the bait. Hard. This fish took drag and ran the water, coming up and out at least once. For once in my life I ignored the multitude of opportunities to screw-up the deal and managed to slow the fish down and hold him steady in mid-stream. Early on it was clear the fish was big. I believe I indicated "as big as a log" several times at top volume to Carmen.

The pronounced kype on the lower jaw indicated it was a large male. The tale of the tape showed him at 20 1/2 inches, my second

largest Brown trout ever, beating my old #2 by a half inch. My largest came out of the Middle Branch years ago. Without the benefit of a tape measure, it was projected at about 22-24 inches (caught on a Vibrax!). Both of those previous fish were caught near sun down. This fish hit around three in the afternoon with bright skies. Hungry I guess.

Thanks to Carmen, ever the quick thinker for getting this boy caught digitally. A few more hits on this hole and the next, and then things got weird. A brace of dogs, beagles and other stout legged varieties show up on the bank of the river with some lads in bright hats not far off. The dogs howled and chased some form of small animal incessantly.

Blasting shot guns in our vicinity had us ducking for cover. The nearby gunshots and the canine cacophony persisted for a solid 45 minutes, during which time not another fish was secured. With strains of Dueling Banjos running through our heads, Ned Beatty and I decide not to wait for the rest of the "Deliverance" cast and called it quits.



Fluffy's Jigged Up 20.5" Brown

Lake Koronis Fishing Report

By Farm Boy

The recent cold snap finally took back Lake Koronis. My dad reported at Christmas that he

saw open water towards the middle of the lake before they came back to town. When they returned to the lake around New Years, most of the water was moving freely. The ice was thick enough a little ways down from their place to get out into fish territory. He caught a few nice perch and a couple keeper Walleyes.

They closed up the house last week in anticipation of heading toward Arizona for the next few months. Fortunately, it hardly took a suggestion to get him to head back last Saturday for another try. The lake was fully iced over now so we headed out to the "village" on the edge of the flats on the northeast side of the lake. We set up the house in about 25 feet of water and a tip up in about 30 feet and another in the other direction in about 15 feet. We got a hit on the deeper tip up and as I headed toward that one, the other flag went up. I had a small perch and Dad came up empty. That wraps it up for the action for the day. We continued to jig until dark, but no other action. The house next to us reported two small Walleyes but he said the action has been slow for a few days.

So, I guess you could say you didn't miss anything by being out on Koronis last Saturday. But, I can also say I didn't miss anything either. I didn't miss a chance to be with my dad. When it looked like we would have this chance to get out before they left, I couldn't help but be reminded of our dogs that lost their dads this year. I think one of the best ways to honor someone who has passed away is to have them make a difference in your life. So while I'm thankful that I had the chance to get out fishing and I'm even more thankful that I could do it with my dad, I'm also thankful that your dads made a difference in my life but prompting me to take this opportunity to go and to appreciate the gift of spending time with my dad. (I shouldn't leave out Mom. She didn't fish, but I appreciated being able to spend time with her on the way out and back.)

Another Perp Get-Out-of-Jail-Free Enterprise:

Did you ever wonder what the largest fish caught by a Waterdog in a tournament or event was. Last fall when Brandy caught the 49 in muskie on Lake Minnetonka I heard FD say that it was the largest muskie ever caught in a WD tournament. That got me to wondering about other species. Other WD history and records were in the bylaws, but not largest fish caught. To correct this oversight, two tables were added to the Dec. 2006 edition of the Waterdog Handbook / By-laws to document largest fish caught during a tournament or other official Waterdog event. Now your help is needed. Challenge your memory, records and gray matter and send Perp (karsjens@comcast.net) the info on the largest fish you caught or you remember someone else in the club catching. I will sort through the info and update the WD records.

Waterdogs Largest Tournament Fish				
Species	Name	Size	Date	Location
Brook Trout				
Brown Trout				
Rainbow Trout				
Lake Trout				
Crappie				
LM Bass				
SM Bass				
Walleye				
Northern Pike				
Muskie	Brandon Happel	49 in	Sep-06	Minnetonka
Waterdogs Largest Official Event Fish				
Brook Trout				
Brown Trout				
Rainbow Trout				
Lake Trout				
Crappie				
LM Bass				
SM Bass				
Walleye	Ron Reigle	31"	Jul-06	LOTW
Northern Pike				
Muskie	Paul Johnson	52 in	Jul-06	LOTW

Waterdogs Fishing Club 2007 Tournament Schedule

Gentlemen, Mark Your Calendars!

Date	Species	Location	Dogs in Charge
March 17 (alt. 3/31)	Trout	Kinni, Rush – WI	Janitor, OF
April 28	Crappie	Minnetonka	Perp, Mamas Boy, OJ
June 2-3	Walleye	St Louis River (O/N)	Griz, Nasty, Chips
June 15-16 (Fri-Sat)	Bass	Carver Co Lakes	Banana, Carmen, Felix
August 18	Multi	Pepin	Bubble, Bertha, Bud
September 15	Musky/NP	Waconia + others	Suzy, Rocky, Buick

The Minnesota Winter Trout Stream Season opened January 1st. This year has the same rules and regulations as previous years, barbless hooks, catch-and-release, etc., and is open on the following rivers: If the temp is above 32, get out and get the bend on!

http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fishing/trout_streams/winter.html

Get out and shake off those winter blues and do a little practicing for our March tournament! Unfortunately, the Wisconsin season does not open until March 1.