

The Dogumentary

26th Year

The Waterdogs Fishing Club

February 2008

February Meeting at the Hopkins VFW

Our speaker at the meeting will be Jason Moeckel, DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife, fisheries operational supervisor. He will speak on the topic "The long range plan for Muskelunge and Large Northern Pike thru 2020" He will be using us as a focus group prior to a Feb. 11th presentation he will be doing for DNR planning. He was excited to present and get our feed back on the plan they are developing, so bring your musky opinions to the meeting.

The meeting starts at 6 with burgers and tots for dinner, with Jason speaking at 7 pm.

2008 Waterdogs Fishing Club Calendar	
Feb 7	Monthly Meeting
Mar 5	Monthly Meeting
Mar 15	Trout Tourney
Mar 29	Trout backup date
Apr 3	Monthly Meeting
Apr 26	Crappie Tourney
May 1	Monthly Meeting
May 3	Crappie backup date
May 31	Walleye/SM Tourney
June 5	Monthly Meeting
June 20 or 21	Bass Tourney
July 3?	Monthly Meeting
July 19-26	Rock&Roll Musky Tour
Aug 7	Monthly Meeting
Sep 4	Monthly Meeting
Sep 13	Multispecies Tourney
Oct 2	Monthly Meeting
Oct 11	SM Bass Tourney
Nov 6	Annual Banquet

The 2008 tournament details are on the last page of the Dogumentary

From the Desk of the President, Little Angel



Sports Show

How many Dogs out there are getting cabin fever? At least being at the Sports Show in January is a good sign that spring is just around the corner!

Speaking of the Sports Show, I would like to thank all those who participated at the Shara's Kids Fishing Clinic. I talked to Perp, and he said we had a total of 19 Dogs there for the two days. Mama's Boy and I didn't have a lot of time to wonder around the show, but I did manage to check out the Ranger Reatas for 2008. I will probably dream about them for a few more years... while waiting for my ship to come in!

Fishing at Buffalo Lake

Cabin fever got the best of me and I had to get out, so last Saturday after 3 years in moth balls I got out my Clam Classic house and gear to venture out to do a little ice fishing. The gas auger worked fine, the sunflower heater died, and so did the battery for my FL8 locator. Well, \$160.00 later at Cabella's I had a new heater, bottled gas, and bait, but still no battery for my locator.

I decided on Sunday morning I would try it out anyway. I had some minor success and caught a few crappies, but none much larger than 9 inches. I realized then how valuable that FL8 would have been; as the crappies were suspended I was fishing a little blind. Now that my gear is ready to go again, I'm looking forward to a few more trips.

Bill Keye's Benefit

Last Saturday, my wife and I attended a benefit for Bill Keyes. We got to know Bill and his wife, Julie, during our years in youth ministry at our church. Bill, an avid outdoorsman who loves hunting and fishing, had an unfortunate accident last fall. While reinforcing a deer stand, he fell and damaged his back causing paralysis from the T-7 vertebrae down. This was a benefit like I have never seen. There were hundreds of people that attended the dinner, benefit, and auctions. They held both a silent auction and live auction with many donated gifts. The live auction had trips to Florida, a hunting trip to northern Canada for caribou, and even an African safari for hunting big game. The proceeds for the benefit are to help with modifications to their home and for a van equipped for Bill's special needs.

Bill and his community of fellow sportsmen reminded me of the good times we share as Waterdogs. It also caused me to think, once again, that we should live every minute to its fullest, because you never know what tomorrow brings.

Helen's New Year's Day Fishing Report

Laun and I got out ice fishing on New Years Day. Our original plan was to try some trout fishing on the Hay, but the temps kinda put a freeze on that idea. For me personally, it's the first time I haven't fished the winter trout opener in about 5 years. It's a long season and I am sure it won't be a problem getting out this winter. Besides, if all the pundits are right, global warming will make it easier to fish winter trout in the future.

Anyways, Laun and I ventured to Medicine Lake in Plymouth, a favorite locale for metro ice fishermen. In fact on the weekends there can be 200 portables on the lake. The

lake is known for good all around fishing and the decision was easy for Laun and I; the lake's only about 2 miles from our houses.

We made about a 3/4 mile walk from French Park boat launch to a 20' hole along the west shore (toward Kojak's house). The wind wasn't very strong, but it sure was cold and we were glade to get the portable up and the heater going. Our goal was to spend a few hours catching pan fish and perhaps get a chance at a walleye.

We were fishing with wax worms on small jigs that had worked pretty well on this spot in the past, but the first hour was pretty slow. Using both a flasher and a camera to watch the fish react, we switched to small pink shrimp imitations and wham the sunfish started to hit. The fishing wasn't wild but it was steady, with pauses every 20-minutes while a pesky pike cruised the area. As soon as the pike left, the sunfish came back. It's pretty cool when you can watch how the fish react to these situations. After some steady action and some nice sized fish, the pike came back to stay, so we decide to try and catch it. Laun skillfully work the camera while I bounced a jig and a fathead minnow on the bottom. We watched the pike moved to the jig then backed off and stare and repeat, and repeat again. The fish was so close that we could only see half of it on the screen. We didn't catch the fish, didn't have what it wanted, but it sure was fun screwing with it for 20 minutes.

A camera is a pretty neat tool. (plus it keeps kids entertained). I always thought cameras were "cheating" until I bought one. They're great tools to use for learning, but I think the entertainment factor is the best part.

Helen

Dogs go a Wading

The first weekend of the Minn. winter trout season was January 5&6, and six Dogs, spurred on by the forecast of high 30's temperatures, made the trek to the Whitewater River to check out the post-flood fishing. It was a calm and foggy day on Sunday, and just perfect for walking the streams. The fishing was slow to start, but picked up around noon for a few hours of decent action for the six dogs. Everyone caught some fish, and the rivers looked pretty

good for the most part, with still good structure and what seemed to be an OK population of fish as well. The highlights of the day were a 17" brown caught by FD on a Panther Martin, a 15" caught by Felix, and more than 12 fish caught by Buick. Nasty, OF, and Shatner were also part of the crew and all caught fish. The boys were pleased to report a successful outing with no broken bones or hooked heads. It appears that the trout in the Whitewater survived last year's flood in good enough shape to be worth making the trip, so if you see a warm stretch coming, give a Dog a call and check it out!



OF Plies the Winter Waters

Dog Tips, Tricks, and Facts

To measure trout, try a carpenter's tape measure with a belt clip, as popularized by Griz. It works great, but can pop off your belt if you're not careful. It's the best thing until the trout measuring mats come out.

For trout fishing, you can add the tiniest of clips to your line in order to change baits more easily. Oddly, it does not seem to effect the action of jigs and other lures.

A small needle-nose pliers works best for removing hooks and also bending the barbs down for trout fishing.

On cold days, carry your camera and phone in a warmer inside shirt pocket to keep them working better.

If your feet get cold fishing in cold weather, try some Heat Treat Toe Warmers that are

chemical warming pads that stick to the end of your socks.

A zip-lock bag will help to protect your electronics in case of an unplanned swim.

~~~~~  
Use your Waterdog calendar as a fishing log. You may have to write small or use more than one box for a trip, but it does help to keep a lot of good info in one place.

There are now 11 Ranger boats in the club, with a threat of adding one or two more this year.

Three Dogs have family lake cabins where they spend time during the summer. They are Suzy, Mama's Boy, and Helen. Invites are possible.

If you're in the market for new fishing gear of any kind, look on Ebay, where you can find many items at half of their regular retail price, or less.

### **Website News from Greenstick**

#### **On-Line Tournament Entries**

Last year, the concept of being able to register for a fishing event via the club web site was mentioned, and this year, it's a reality. It's set up and active – some dogs have probably used it already. Check it out by going to [www.waterdogsmn.org](http://www.waterdogsmn.org) and clicking on the On-Line Entry Form button. After you select an appropriate option, you'll get a confirmation page that you should print out on your printer. Comments, suggestions, or criticisms are welcomed, of course. Greenstick

#### **Fish'n Funnies**

*One Saturday morning he gets up early, dresses quietly, gets his lunch made, puts on his long johns, grabs his dog and goes to the garage to hook up his boat to the truck and down to the driveway he goes*

*Coming out of his garage the rain is pouring down: it is like a torrential downpour. There is snow and sleet mixed in with the rain. The wind is blowing at over 50mph.*

*Minutes later he returns to the garage. He comes back into the house. Turns the TV to the weather channel and he finds it is going to be very bad*

weather all day long, so he puts his boat back in the garage, quietly undresses and slips back into bed.

There he cuddles up to his wife's back, now with a different anticipation and whispers, "The weather out there is terrible". To which she sleepily replies, "Yeah, can you believe my stupid husband is out fishing in it?"

This could never happen to a Waterdog as all our events have perfect weather!



Knock knock  
Who's there?  
"Shorty"  
Shorty who?  
Shor to be at the next Waterdog meeting???



#### Take The Bait

It was a cold winter day, when an old man walked out onto a frozen lake, cut a hole in the ice, dropped in his fishing line and began waiting for a fish to bite.

He was there for almost an hour without even a nibble when a young boy walked out onto the ice, cut a hole in the ice not too far from the old man and dropped in his fishing line. It only took about a minute and WHAM! a Largemouth Bass hit his hook and the boy pulled in the fish.

The old man couldn't believe it but figured it was just luck. But, the boy dropped in his line and again within just a few minutes pulled in another one.

This went on and on until finally the old man couldn't take it any more since he hadn't caught a thing all this time.

He went to the boy and said, "Son, I've been here for over an hour without even a nibble. You have been here only a few minutes and have caught about half a dozen fish! How do you do it?"

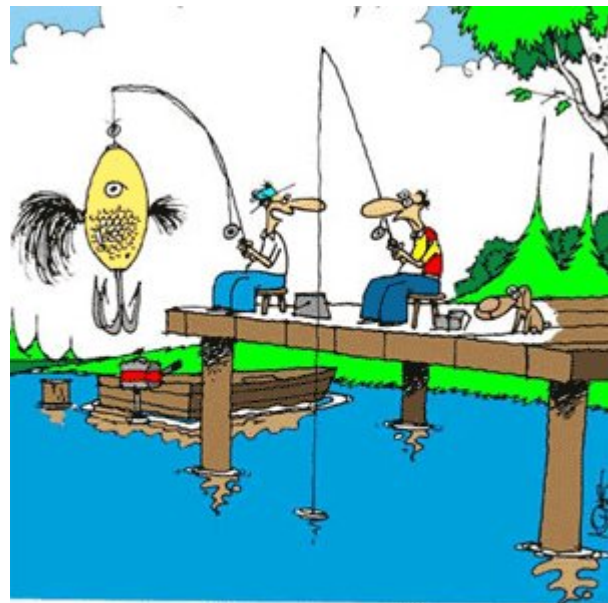
The boy responded, "Roo raf roo reep ra rums rram."

"What was that?" the old man asked.

Again the boy responded, "Roo raf roo reep ra rums rram."

"Look," said the old man, "I can't understand a word you are saying."

So, the boy spit into his hand and said, "You have to keep the worms warm!"



"I listened to a motivational tape on the way over here. It said to think big."

Dog's - If you have any favorite (family friendly) fishing jokes that you want to add to the Dogumentary you can e-mail them to me at:

[doug.squire@ryerson.com](mailto:doug.squire@ryerson.com)

Mamas Boy

## **2008 Waterdogs Tournament Series**

**Gentlemen, Mark Your Calendars!**

| <b>Date</b>              | <b>Species</b>    | <b>Lake</b>                    | <b>Dogs in Charge</b>           |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>3/15 or 3/29 alt.</b> | <b>Trout</b>      | <b>WI Streams, Rush, Kinni</b> | <b>Helen, Perp</b>              |
| <b>4/26 or 5/3 alt.</b>  | <b>Crappie</b>    | <b>Pokegama by Pine City</b>   | <b>Griz, Banana Boy</b>         |
| <b>5/31</b>              | <b>Walleye/SM</b> | <b>Green Lake (Spicer)</b>     | <b>Farm Boy, Bud</b>            |
| <b>6/21</b>              | <b>Bass</b>       | <b>Sylvia by Annandale</b>     | <b>Lil Angel, Chips, Fluffy</b> |
| <b>9/13</b>              | <b>Multi</b>      | <b>Mille Lacs</b>              | <b>Mama's, Greenstick, Otis</b> |
| <b>10/11</b>             | <b>SM Bass</b>    | <b>Rum River</b>               | <b>Suzy, Wags</b>               |



# Seen at The Schara Kids Fishing Clinic



