

The Dogumentary

25th Year

The Waterdogs Fishing Club

March 2007

March Meeting

The March meeting will be held at the Hopkins VFW on Thursday 3/1, with dinner at 6:00 and the meeting starting at 7. Our guest speakers will be John Goplin, former Waterdog, and long-time trout fisherman. John will share some ideas on how to approach our Wisconsin multi-river trout tournament that is now just two weeks away. Bring your maps and data recorders to gather up some good information.

Last month, Joe Carlson, Regional Representative, Ranger Boats, and Pete Coughlin, Sales Consultant, Frankie's Marine gave a good talk on the different boat models that are available to anglers, and also gave some good info on Johnsons and other motors. A new boat was given away, and Shorty won, but unfortunately he was not present to receive the gift, so back it went.

The 2007 Waterdogs Fishing Club Calendar

March 1	Monthly Meeting
March 17	Trout Tournament
April 5	Monthly Meeting
April 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	LOTW Musky Tour
August 2	Monthly Meeting
August 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.

149

Days to LOTW

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The seminar committee, under the stern leadership of Nasty Boy, has pretty much filled out the meeting calendar for the year. The schedule looks like this:

March: John Goplin – Trout  
April: Swede's Minnetonka Guide Service  
May: Mark Fisher – Rapala  
June: Wayne's World talks Muskies  
July: Thorne Bros pre-LOTW  
August: Tackle Terry Tuma  
September: Farm Boy hosts the Waterdogs 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party  
October: open – working with Schara

It looks like an exciting and action-packed line-up with some new and big names that we will be hearing from. Way to go Nasty and crew!

### From the Secretary...

There are three names on the waiting list. There were no roster changes this month. If you have a roster change, please get the info to Perp.

In anticipation of a Waterdog 25 year event, I am looking for rosters for the years 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003. If you have one from any of those years, please make a copy for me.

## President's Corner – James Ferstenou



Another month has passed quickly and the start of the Waterdogs 2007 tournament season is fast approaching, only a few more weeks to wait. I'm looking forward to wetting a line in open water, but ice fishing still remains my focus. This February I managed to make two ice fishing trips to Upper Red Lake. I reported on the first trip in an email sent on 2/5/07 and I'll take a few moments here to give you a brief report on the second trip now.

Four friends and I made the journey to Upper Red Lake and stayed in a five-man sleeper rental fish house from Friday, 2/16/07 – Monday, 2/19/07 for our 6<sup>th</sup> annual trip. All went well and we had a great time. The weather was much nicer than on my previous trip and overall we managed to bring home 44 crappies ranging from 12.5" to 15" and four walleyes between 15" and 16.75". We lost several crappies "in the hole" or we would have limited out. We also caught and released at least 15 walleyes under 15" and at least 15 more between 17" and 22". The first afternoon and morning provided the best action with 30 of the crappies being caught during that timeframe. As odd as this may sound, approximately 25 of the 44 crappies were caught in the same hole of the fish house and two of the ten holes did not yield a single fish of any species for the entire trip. Another side note to the last two trips is that for some reason the crappies seem to be biting better during the day than in past years. Previously the best bite was usually near dusk and dawn, this year We've had better luck catching the crappies between 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM (i.e. during the day) and the night bite has been almost nonexistent.

These two trips also served as my first test runs with a new piece of fishing equipment that I recently purchased, the BSX Biosonix Fish Activator (check out their website at [www.biosonix.com](http://www.biosonix.com)). Essentially it is an underwater speaker system that projects various natural sounds (and patterns of sounds) made by baitfish. More sounds will be made available in the future on memory cards. There is nearly 20 years worth of research behind the technology and several bass tournament pros have been using it with great success in recent years. The system is portable and the speaker can be floated in an ice-fishing hole, hung off of a dock or over the edge of the boat, or attached to your trolling motor.

My initial testing has been interesting, but the jury is still out until more tests can be completed, I'll keep you posted on my findings, but here is what I've seen so far. We've caught more fish with the system on than with it off. The fish that we have caught with the system on hit more aggressively and were hooked more solidly than the majority of those that were caught when the system off. We've also had multiple fish caught within the first minute after turning the system on after not having caught (or in many cases even having graphed) a fish within the previous 45 minutes to one hour. So far my testing has consisted of randomly turning the system on and off and playing one of the preset sequences that is recommended for panfish and crappies at random times during the day and night. Testing has occurred over portions or seven days and five nights while ice fishing on Upper Red Lake this February. One caveat, the system is meant to activate fish that are already in an area, so you still need to do your homework and find fish. It will not call them in from the other side of the lake (perhaps that's what they are working on for the next upgrade for five years from now).

I'm certainly not ready to proclaim this the next best thing since sliced bread, but it does seem to have some merit so far. If the BSX system does prove effective it may be as common as a fish finder on boats in the future, or maybe it's just the latest gadget to hit the market and grab my attention. I guess time will tell.

Moving on to other club business. As Rick Anderson mentioned at last month's meeting, Kevin Miller's family (as a memorial to his father) has donated \$100 to the Waterdogs with the instructions to spend it on something for kids and fishing. The Special Services Committee has been tasked with gathering ideas to present to the Board of Directors for discussion and a vote as to how this money should be spent. If you have any ideas or know of any groups that could benefit from this donation please share them at the meeting and/or email them to Karl Hamre (Special Services Committee Chairman) and me.

Time for a few reminders. If you have not already done so, 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.

Another reminder, especially for the bass guys in the club, the 2007 CITGO Bassmaster Classic is taking place right now on Lay Lake in Birmingham, Alabama. Keep up to date with the current standings online at [www.bassmaster.com](http://www.bassmaster.com) and follow the coverage of the daily weigh ins and bonus coverage on ESPN2 on Saturday, 2/24/07 and Sunday, 2/25/07. Check your television listings for times.

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

Griz

### **Rock 'n' Roll Musky Tour Update**

By Suzy

We're closing in on the annual Lake of the Woods Rock 'n' Roll Musky Tour. Here's a quick update:

24 guys who are confirmed for the trip.

Now is the time to secure your RABC permit and your Ontario fishing license. To print a RABC permit application, go to

[www.angleoutpost.com](http://www.angleoutpost.com) and download. For the fishing license, call Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources at 1-800-667-1940. You do not need a passport to get through customs this year, but next year, mostly likely, you will.

Jessica Fandrich is 4 months pregnant and her due date is July 31. She's planning a C-Section at a hospital in Grand Forks on that date. They are preparing in the event that she should go into labor during our trip. Because of Jessica's pregnancy, we will probably scale back some of the meals that AngleOutpost typically prepared for us in the past.

The water levels have gone down further, and at the end of last season, Angle Outpost dredged their boat channel some more, taking out 55 truckloads of muck. They anticipate that water levels will rise, but will still be below normal. In a worse case scenario, they are securing additional docking at Young's Bay.

The ice thickness this year is 4 ft., which is much thicker than normal because of the low snowfall and subzero weather during January. This could possibly benefit us as the water temperature may warm later in the summer, rather than earlier as in the past few seasons because of the warm winters.

Instead of bringing up beer or other alcohol on the trip, we can place an order for a number of U.S. and Canadian brands through Jerry's Bar at Young's Bay, including orders for kegs.

Here are the cabin assignments so cabinmates can start planning their trips:

# 5 - Party Cabin: Boudreaux, Dupont, Mueller, Raymo, Schaffhausen

#8 - Old Guys (the original Old Guys cabin): Dickey, Anderson, Blakely, Lantto, Hamre

#9 - Video Boys: P. Johnson, Ferstenou, G. Johnson, Dupree

#10 - Woodies: Reigle, Liebrock, Downey, Wagner and Dick (Rick's son-in-law)

#11 - Blind Squirrels: Karsjens, Haagenon, L. Sanderson, R. Sanderson

## **The Documentary Interview: Dave Haberle**

By Suzy

**Handle:** None yet (but I'm sure I'll earn one that's appropriately embarrassing...)

**Where you live:** Plymouth, Minn.

**Hometown:** Born in Thief River Falls, Minn., grew up in Edina back when it was known as Edina-Morningside.

**Where you work:** Club Data Corp, Eden Prairie, Minn. We create custom accounting and point-of-sale software solutions.

**What you do at work:** Product Manager - responsible for software development, testing & support systems. (I like the product manager title better than co-owner because I get fewer weird calls.)

**Where you went to college/high school:** Edina (HS), Brigham Young University and the U of M, where I was a music composition student.

**Spouse's name:** Susan

**Kids:** Nick (24), Ben (21)

**Pets:** None, but my son Ben (who still lives at home while going to college) has a couple zillion fish in some big tanks and an English bulldog puppy that can gnaw your toes off in a New York minute.

**Favorite fishing rod:** Anything that catches fish.

**Favorite fishing lure:** Common jig head with a Gulp! worm.

**Favorite fishing reel:** Most anything.

**Favorite species to fish for:** Anything I can bring into the boat, but bass is probably my favorite. I'm discovering that the more I read or listen about various species the more difficulty I have in remembering which habitat is for which species. Apparently, the perfect species for me would be an Alzheimer's fish.

**Favorite restaurant:** TGIF or Applebee's.

**Favorite beverage:** Iced tea.

**Favorite cut of meat:** Ribeye.

**Last book you read:** I recently re-read *Alone Against the Atlantic* (Gerry Spiess' autobiography of his solo journey back in 1978). Otherwise, I read a lot of technical software programming books that generally have very little plot and absolutely no action or sexual content.

**Favorite fishing pro:** Al Lindner. You can hear his passion for fishing in every word he says.

**What you do for fun when you're not fishing:** I love music, sing a great deal, attend concerts at Orchestra Hall, and once in a while, I even compose a little. I also do a lot with computers, audio/video editing, photography, electronics and web sites. But sometimes I just daydream or read about fishing.

**Favorite body of water to fish on:** Minnetonka, because it's quite close to my house and has just about every kind of fish.

**Your boat:** Bayliner 175, 135 hp I/O. I designed a removable fishing platform for it to convert it into a fishing rig. I tested it last year, may make some refinements this year and maybe market it in the future for bowrider-type boats -- there are a million of 'em out there.

**Your dream boat:** Probably either a Triton or a Ranger bass boat, but it'll never happen.

**Why the Waterdogs?** I was flattered to get an invitation and it sounded like fun. The group has just enough structure to operate without getting bogged down in the minutia that can kill a small non-profit organization.

**MASH or Cheers?** Cheers. I can relate to Sam's "former pro athlete" struggles. Been there...done that...

**Shirley Partridge or Carol Brady?** Shirley Partridge. (played by Shirley Jones, she was a wonderful singer!)

**Star Wars or Star Trek?** Star Trek -- the original TV series. Hokey, some *really baaaaaad* acting, but a lot of interesting moral conflicts were addressed.

**Favorite type of music/band and/or artist?** Opera, Classical or Baroque orchestral music (you can't go wrong with Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Schubert or Beethoven!), or just about any type music is pretty great.

**Favorite on-the-water snack food?** Jerky

**Best largemouth bass fishing tip?** Set fast and keep tension on the rod.

**Favorite fishing tackle store?** Gander Mountain.

**Body of water that you've never fished that you would most like to fish within the coming year?** Lake Okoboji in NW Iowa.

**One of your all-time favorite fishing memories:** Camping/fishing with my dad when I was about 11 years old.

**Word that best describes you:** Quiet.

**Favorite dessert:** Anything that doesn't have coconut or rhubarb on or in it.

**Your fishing vehicle (for towing your boat or your dream boat):** Probably an AWD van.

**Favorite fishing magazine:** In-Fisherman

**Favorite fishing TV show:** Midwest Outdoors

**Volunteer or community activities (other than Waterdogs):** I sing about 5 hours/week in my church's choir and serve on a few other church committees.

**Favorite fishing tip (any species)?** Be more patient than you think you should be.

**Biggest musky:** Still waiting to land one -- I've lost a lot of lures on what were likely muskies or really big northerns.

**Biggest northern pike:** About 7 lbs.

**Biggest walleye:** About 5 lbs.

**Biggest largemouth bass:** A couple years ago I hooked one on Minnetonka that measured a shade over 23." I didn't weigh it -- I had seen some pros on bass fishing shows who were pulling in some in the 10 lb. range so I figured the state record was probably a lot bigger than what I caught. Mine may have been a state record, I don't know. But I released it so it may still be out there...and even bigger now...

**Biggest smallmouth bass:** About 3 lbs.

**What fishing "personal best" would you like to hit in the coming year?:** My wife would say I should try to get through the season without falling out of the boat. I'd like to think I can set my sights a bit higher than that.

## Waterdogs Fishing Club 2007 Tournament Schedule

Gentlemen, Mark Your Calendars!

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