

# The Dogumentary

**32nd Year    The o-fish-ial newsletter of the Waterdogs Fishing Club    March 2014**

## 2013 Waterdogs Fishing Club Calendar

March 6th	Monthly Meeting Pier 500
March 22nd	Fishing for Life Banquet
April 3rd	Monthly Meeting at Tuttle's
April 12th	Trout Tournament WI
April 26th	Trout 1 backup

### March Speaker: Marty Engel

Our speaker this month is Marty Engel, fisheries biologist for the Wisconsin DNR. Marty works out of Baldwin, WI. Among the many subjects he is in charge of are fisheries habitat management and restoration of trout streams and inland trout management.

Our meeting this week is at: Pier 500, 500 1st St, Hudson WI (715)-0386-5504 Meeting is in the Walnut Room with dinner starting at 6 PM and Marty speaking at 7PM

### *From the Desk of the President:*

Hope everyone is enjoying this beautiful winter – the bone-chilling cold and persistent snow. At this rate, we'll be lucky if we see green grass by June. With this harsh winter, I'm sure many are questioning what we'll see for winterkill come spring given the deep snow cover and thick ice conditions. From what I've read, sounds like it's already happening on a number of smaller, shallower lakes – but we likely won't know the full impact on our larger lakes until ice out. On a somewhat positive note, the DNR did mention in one article that winterkill is a natural process on many shallow lakes that can actually benefit the fishery – thinning out numbers, including those tasty carp, to create a better environment for other species. And, that populations of game fish can rebound quite dramatically in years following a winterkill.

On the bright side, our first tournament of the 2014 swing is just a little over a month away. So, time to get started on your endurance training and working on your high-steps to

battle through the deep snow. It also should be interesting whether the ice will be off before the walleye opener and our crappie tourney on May 3. Keep your fingers crossed.



Not sure who's made the pilgrimage, but did make my inaugural trip to the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Eelpout Festival on Leech Lake. Quite the experience, and more beer drinking than fishing. We setup on the outskirts of the ice city, and thought we might have some luck at a pout, walleye or perch – but not ONE fish.



I could see why with all the snowmobiles, music and drunkenness – but it sure was fun. Have to believe those that had any luck were as far from the area as possible. One highlight of the trip, besides smooching my first pout, was dropping my iPhone down a fish hole and watching it glide into the depths. Figured it was better than my car keys, but probably will see myself with an honorable mention for weenie of the year.

Shifting gears, want to thank Duper and the Seminar Committee for lining up Brian Klawitter with In-Depth Outdoors as he got this Iowa River Rat re-energized to go catfishing again. Was even surprised to hear the bait of choice for flatheads is bullheads. Here I thought they weren't good for anything – who knew! Looking forward to our March speaker in Marty Engel with the Wisconsin DNR to get us geared up for our upcoming trout tourney. Remember, we're meeting at Pier 500 in Hudson, WI. Hope to see you there.

Branden (Banana Boy) Happel

**St. Valentine's Day Massacre:**

Kirk (Shatner) Duholm

Spanky and I really tested our marriages when we went fishing on Valentine's Day during a recent vacation my wife and I took in Naples.



Cap'n Spanky

Last year Spanky hosted me in his boat for a great day of backwater fishing while I was on a business trip to Florida. That's why this year on our Florida vacation I wanted to find another

chance to get on the water with Spanky. It so happened that Valentine's Day was the only time that worked for our schedules.



Kirk with the "Ladies"

Our goal was to go off shore for some Grouper but just like last year the Gulf was a bit too rough. This put us in the back waters very close to Spanky's water front home to use our 3 hour spousal permit. Mine was very costly as my wife went to an upscale mall and returned with 2 new pairs of shoes while I was fishing. I am not sure what it cost Spanky but I don't think it was cheap.



Florida Dreamin'

We pulled up to Spanky's first spot and didn't move until we used the 50 shrimp we had for bait and went home. We anchored casting distance from shore in about 7 fow and it was game on. Stu liked this spot near the

Mangroves with the rising tide providing for some moving water.

The first 3 casts with Texas Rigged live shrimp put 3 Lady Fish in the boat. For the next couple hours we just massacred the Lady Fish. There were a few Sheep's Head, a Jack Crevalle and a Snook mixed in with Ladies. It is probably a good thing we ran out of bait or we would have violated our spousal permits.

Maybe next year we will get another chance to go off shore for the Groupers.  
Shatner

**Fishing for Life Banquet:**

By Doug (Mamas Boy) Squire

**Fishing for Life  
10th Annual  
Fundraiser & Banquet  
March 22, 2014  
6 - 9 PM**

**New Location: Courtyards of Andover**

**Casting Our Nets  
Together**

So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.  
~ Luke 5:7



**Live Auction Items Include**

Al Lindner Guided Fishing Trip, Voyageaire 4 Night Houseboat Trip, Ron Schara Guided Fishing Trip, BWCA Canoe Trip, Canvas Boat Cover, Bowling Party for 40.

For those new members of the club, we have done some volunteer work for Fishing for Life over the years, and some of the members have attended the banquet in years past. If anyone is interested in the banquet you can sign up on your own, or we could discuss the interest in a group table at Thursday's monthly meeting.

**Ice Fishing at Ballard's: Lake of the woods**

Carl (NHY) Aegler

Two new guys in the club along with three outsiders traveled to Ballard's resort on the Lake of the Woods in early February to see what ice fishing was really all about. Tom O'Neill, AKA Norton, and Carl Aegler (NHY "no handle yet") were the novices who braved the minus 18 degree temperatures in pursuit of a walleye and a sauger or two. This was our second year at Ballard's in February and the results were similar both years.



Norton trying to make a 26 out of a 25 incher

The early morning bite was slow but we did manage to catch a fair number of fourteen and fifteen inch walleyes and saugers. The biggest fish of the day was an eight pound eelpout, a twenty five inch walleye and three or four in the twenty four inch range. A small number of very nice perch were also in our bag. We used a variety of jigs, with no one color proving better than another.

The guides, or bombardier drivers, leave every day at eight AM and pick up the fishermen at four in the afternoon. We felt the afternoon bite beginning around three was the best. Obviously, this only gave us one hour of good fishing, however, it did beat staying out on the

lake all night. Everyone agreed that we would try it again next year because a day of fishing beats the hell out of most anything else this time of year.



Limo that took us to Garden Island (20 miles)

Our best find was The Legion Club in Baudette which has hot appetizers and \$2 beer late Monday afternoon.

### Is Shorty still selling Insurance?



### RIP Carmen:

Steve (Farm Buoy) Haagenson



Mary Davies Orfield, whose gift for bringing joy to a generation of baby boomers as Carmen the Nurse on WCCO TV still resonates today. Mary was known and loved for her singing and television careers that spanned over 50 years.

### Bio of the Month: Don (NHY) Blasy

Who brought you into the club and what's your relationship to that person?

I work with Brian Karsjens at Honeywell and during a rare break we started talking fishing. During one of our discussions Brian mentioned his involvement with the Waterdogs. It sounded like a group I'd like to get involved with, so I mentioned my interest in joining and Brian put me on the waiting list.

What's your profession?

I'm the Materials Planning Manager at Honeywell's Golden Valley plant. I've been working in Materials Management/Supply Chain for over 25 years

A little bit about your family

I'll be celebrating my 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this June with my wife, Kim, who I met while we were both attending Iowa State. We have 2 children, Jenny (24) and Danny (21). Kim is an Account representative with Aon Benfield, Jenny is an Industrial Engineer with ConAgra and Danny is a junior at UW-Whitewater. Danny played baseball at UW-W, but now is on the Fishing Team.

What's your handle and the story behind it?

I don't really have one, but perhaps Brian has a few suggestions.

Where did you grow up and what's your history with fishing?

I grew up in Crystal Lake, Illinois and always enjoyed fishing. My dad and I would make an annual trip to Kabetogamma Lake for Walleye fishing. We took my son with on a trip to "Kaby" a couple years ago and he got hooked on fishing. We fish the metro area lakes during the summers when he's home from school.

What's your favorite species to fish? Why?  
What's your favorite technique?

I enjoy fishing Walleye using a jig and minnow, and Large Mouth Bass fishing throwing plastics with a Texas rig. I like the anticipation and patience required after feeling the first tug of a Walleye, but the excitement and fight of a largemouth is hard to beat.



What's your most memorable fishing experience?

Catching and releasing a 28" Walleye fishing with my dad on Kabetogamma. During the same trip I managed to land a 19" Smallmouth jigging for Walleye.

What do you like about being a Waterdog?  
I'm looking forward to the fishing and the camaraderie of a group of guys with the same love of fishing.

### **Tackle Tip of the Month: Plug it in, plug it in....**

This month's tip is compliments of the All Mighty Green Stick.

Here's his advice: Before the laws changed a couple years ago requiring that the plug be out when transporting your boat, I used to leave the plug in all summer. I'd screw it in in the spring and take it out when I winterized the boat in the fall. But for some reason, I'd taken it out during the summer -- probably to flush out the boat after a good cleaning. And I'd left the plug out to allow the boat to drain and put it back in the garage without remembering to screw the plug back in.

Well, we went up north on a family vacation, launched the boat and because I'd always left it in all year, it never crossed my mind to check the plug which, of course, was most definitely NOT screwed in. A few minutes later while motoring to the cabin, the boat wouldn't get on plane and was just loggy... lower unit trim was set right, but couldn't get on plane. When I saw the plug sitting on the dashboard on the other side of the boat, that's when I realized what it was. I flipped on the bilge pump and did a 180, hustled back toward the launch and shallow water. I let the boat nestle into some pea gravel on the shore as I hopped over the side into 5' water. I screwed it in by feel since the boat was now so low in the water and after the bilge pump had run for about 15 minutes, I fired up the motor and we backed out off the rocks. It took another few minutes before the hull was empty. I found out that a boat can hold an amazing amount of water beneath the floor! Now, you'd think that would teach a person a lesson, wouldn't you? Probably would for most folks. But I did it again later that same year... But now I'm fully trained and haven't missed since. That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

## Photo of the Month

### Hay Creek by FD



### 2014 Tournament Schedule

Date	Species	Location	Format
April 12	Trout	Western Wisconsin	TBD
April 26	Back -up date for Trout 1		
May 3	Crappie	Minnetonka	TBD
June 6-7	Walleye	Leech Lake	TBD
June 21	Largemouth	Tetonka	TBD
July 12	Smallmouth	Mille Lacs	TBD
August 16	MEGA Multi-Species	Pepin (Lake only)	TBD
September 13	Largemouth	Big Birch	TBD
October 4th	Multi-Species	Waconia	TBD