

The Dogumentary

24th Year

The Waterdogs Fishing Club

May 2006

May 2006 Meeting

We are at the Hopkins VFW for the May meeting, as usual. Dinner is at 6:00 and the meeting at 7:00. As of now, we have no speaker, however rumor has it that the most experienced Gull Lake fisherman, The Janitor, will share a fishing mind-meld with the club.

Waterdogs Calendar

May 4	Monthly Meeting	.
June 1	Monthly Meeting	.
June 3-4	Walleye Tournament	.
June 16-17	Bass Tournament	.
July 6	Monthly Meeting	.
July 22-29	Rock'N Roll Musky Tour	.
August 3	Monthly Meeting	.
August 19	Multispecies Tournament	.
Sep 7	Monthly Meeting	.
Sep 9	Musky-Pike Tournament	.
Oct 5	Monthly Meeting	.
Oct 14	Smallmouth Tournament	.
Nov 2	2006 Banquet	.

Lake of the Woods Countdown

82 days

What to do now:
Get Citizenship Id's in order

President's Corner: Steve Haagenson



AAAAHHHH!! Back to 24 dogs at the April Meeting. Thanks to everyone that came and thanks to those who let me know they wouldn't be able to make it. It's nice to know when you will be gone as, believe it or not, people do ask, "Where is _____?" You are missed. Thanks, Jerry for getting Humptie to the meeting. It was fun to hear of his adventures and do some reminiscing about past days of the club.

AAAAHHHH 2 My boat is home. I've even had it on the water twice. Everything weathered the winter well except my trolling motor foot pedal. I could pretty much just make left turns. I felt like those old geezers, driving down the freeway with their left blinker always on. I took my trolling motor to Motor Clinic in Bloomington and they replaced the foot pedal. I'm back to right turns again. By the way, Motor Clinic did a great job for me. I called three places who told me it would take 1-2 weeks to get the trolling motor fixed. Motor Clinic said they would test it right away and they did. The guy was extremely nice and helpful. It might have taken them longer to fix

it if it wasn't just a replacement, but I sure appreciated not having to make another trip back to pick it up and not having to do without it for a couple weeks. I don't know how they are on price as Mr. Warranty picked up the cost for mine, but I would be interested to know if any of you have had experience with them and what your impression of them is.

I picked up two bits of information from them. The first is that they all run Minnkota's. They work on all kinds, but they seem to have the most trust in Minnkota. The second thing is that sand is the arch enemy of the Minnkota Powerdrive or Autopilot foot pedal. He suggested dipping the pedal in the water occasionally to wash it out. He said that sand wears through the seals on the boards causing them to get dirty and rust. I guess clean equipment is happy equipment.

I took my dad and son out on Medicine Lake just before Easter. I motored my boat to the farthest end of the north channel only to see three people just walk off the path with their fly fishing rods and just haul in Sunfish one cast after another. It's a little embarrassing to bring \$20,000+ of boat and equipment up next to these guys and catch almost nothing. My excuse is that my smallest tackle was still in my Trout vest and it seemed like that is what was doing it. Or, maybe it was my trolling motor malfunction. Yea, that's it. I took my wife back last Saturday and we kicked some Sunfish butt. We also caught one small Bass and one Crappie. The lake had just been treated and the advisory said not to keep fish yet so we didn't get to taste any Sunfish morsels.

Now for my AARRGGHH. It's killing me to miss Saturday's tournament. It looks like we're having a stellar turnout of 26 guys. I sure wish I could be there. After all my talk about participation I'm one who can't make it. I'm off on another trip to Moorhead to move my kid's home from college. But, just like I have told the guys who have let me know about not being able to make the meetings, family and work come first.

We are reminded again of the importance of that family time as our sympathy goes out to Fluffee on the loss of his Dad. May you find great joy in the memories of your time with him

and in passing along the things he taught you to your own children. God bless you.

Good luck to all in the tournament and see you at the meeting.

Farm Buoy

In honor of his procuring Humptie for the last meeting, the fresh spelling of the month goes to Shane Saw. (I always knew Jerry was a preppie at heart.)

Waterdogs Bring Bad Weather to State

A wide area of cold, rainy and windy weather washed over the state last weekend as the Waterdogs held their second tournament of the year on South Lindstrom/Chisago Lakes. State climatologists are offering top dollar for the complete Waterdog Tournament Schedule, which has been called the greatest weather predictor since Dopler radar. Lucky for us, we know the drill and were prepared for a rugged day on the water.

Twenty-Six Waterdogs fished for Crappies, with most teams catching limits of keeper-sized fish, and a few teams catching over 100 fish. The fishing was not only hot for crappies, but other species, as well, with many largemouth, sunfish, and a few northerns also caught. The trouble is, all the fish were 8 to 10.5 inches long, with only one 11" caught by Griz as the tournaments big fish.

At the end of the wet day, it was a close call for the top places with the winning team being Griz and Fluffy with their 11" fish. They were 0.02 pounds ahead of the second place team of Nasty and Juan, which is about the weight of one minnow-head. In third place was the team of Bubble Boy (Kirk Duholm) and Kojak, with fourth going to The Janitor and Father Bertha. Rounding out the top six teams were Old Fartte and Lowell Bromander in fifth, and Mamas Boy and DR Meat in sixth.

Honorable mention goes to Brian the Perp Karsjens and his catch of a 20" largemouth on crappie gear. The lake has a 12" and over catch and release rule for bass, which may make it attractive as a future bass tournament spot.

Complete details of the winners strategies will be divulged at the May meeting.

Fishing Reports

Edited by Suzy

Buick's Hillbilly Fishin' Experience Delivers Sassy Trout and other Surprises

(As told by Buick): Lynne, my spouse, and I met an old friend of mine and his family in Charlotte, N.C. over Easter weekend. They rented a cabin up in the Blue Ridge Mountains near Linnville Falls. We got up there around noon on Thursday and the resort owner says they're leaving in the morning for the weekend to go bass fish'n further south. He left us the keys and told us to have a good weekend. Before JimBob left though, he was kind enough to tell us about a couple of spots on the Linnville River where they had been catching 3+ pound rainbows. He kept calling them lake trout and I finally figured out that they were trout that live in Linnville Lake but find their way into the river. So JimBob tells us to go up to this gravel road that turns into a dirt road and then we were to drive across the field to the dam. They had just drained the lake so they could repair the dam and all of the lake fish (including those lake trout) were concentrated in the river. Sure enough we drive up there, 'bout twenty miles, turn left on this gravel road which turns into a dirt path and then we drive across the field and park by a stand of woods. We walk up to the river through the woods and started to throw little spinners like Panther Martins (sound familiar?). Well, over the course of a couple of hours, I caught four rainbows (lake trout, I suspect) around two pounds each. And literally, from the same spot, a rock on which I was standing, I caught a couple of largemouth bass up to three pounds, sunfish (JimBob calls'm brim), and crappies (JimBob also calls crappies brim). My friend and his 9-year old son equaled my catch. We ate southern-fried brim for dinner, which was very tasty. We went back the next afternoon and my buddy proceeded to catch four really nice 1-1/2- to 3-lb. rainbows (lake trout I suspect). I walked right up to the base of the dam, where a security guard (let's call him BillyBob) was spotting trout for me from the top of the dam. I caught four more trout, some bass, and a bunch of brim. We had lake trout for dinner and S'Mores over the campfire afterwards. Beautiful country and very few fisherman this time of year.



Buick, Bass, Boy and Banjo

Kinny Trout

Old Fart has been to the Rush and Kinny rivers within the past couple weeks. He caught about 15 to 20 fish each time but nothing over 12 inches. Maybe he needs a ruler like the kind Janitor uses to catch the 15 inchers there.



The Janitor has been Busy Scouting the Kinni and Rush Rivers this Spring

Lake Michigan Cohos and Lakers

Griz ventured down to Hammond, Ind. two weekends ago with a co-worker to do some salmon and trout fishing on Lake Michigan. They chartered a boat for Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. The fishing was very slow, they think because of a recent ladybug hatch, which made the coho salmon tougher to catch and moved the main school about 25 miles off shore. They did manage to catch three coho salmon on Saturday and three lake trout on Sunday. The weather was great, sunny with a 10 mph wind, so they only had to deal with 1- to 2-foot waves, even though they were fishing nine miles off shore.

Although the fishing was slow, Griz says he still had a good time. "It was my first time on Lake Michigan and my first time salmon fishing," says Griz. "Our captain was good and gave us a great effort. We were just faced with difficult fishing (none of the others charter boats reporting information on the radio were doing any better than we did either). I was able to learn a lot from watching and talking to him as we fished and was able to help run the boat and set lines on Sunday when just the three of us were on board his 21' vessel. I'm looking forward to trying it again in the future."



Team Griz Defeats the Lakers

Cheesehead Trout

Helene Keller fished the Rush River, near El Paso, Wis. (nice tip Juan) a few weeks ago with his boss. They did very well, he reports. The key, Helene says, was fishing the fast water directly in current with orange rapalas (working them slowly up stream). He catch as many as his boss (wise career move). His trout averaged about 14-15 inches. Combined, they caught about 40 fish with more than half over 12 inches.

Rock 'n Roll Musky Tour Just Weeks Away

With the annual Lake of the Woods musky fishing trip literally, just weeks away, the Annual Trip Planning Committee is in full gear in its preparations. Here's a rundown of the action:

Brandy Happel has joined the trip as the 29th participant.

T-shirts and caps will be ordered within the next two weeks and will be ready for the July monthly meeting.

Thorne Brothers will be extending a 10% discount to the Dogs on all fishing lures and tackle, when the club meets at Thorne Brothers for its July meeting. In addition, Thorne is offering some exceptional deals on three rod/reel combos, which can be ordered in advance and will be ready to pick up at the meeting.

Cabin assignments have been made. Cabinmates should meet within the next month to start planning their food and other items they intend to bring. Each night of the trip, the fishing boards will move from cabin to cabin, so each cabin should also think about what to serve as appetizers on their "board night." Here are the cabin assignments for the trip:

Party Cabin: Boudreaux, Dupont, Mueller, Raymo, Sturchio, Happel, Schaffhausen

Skunks: Haagenson, Hennessy, Kjarsjens, Sanderson

Libby's Lads: D. Squire, B. Squire, S. Squire, Kregelberg

Old Guys: R. Anderson, D. Anderson, Blakely, Lantto, Hamre, Dickey

Video Boys: Nasty Johnson, Ferstenou, Yanta, Glenn Johnson

Woodies: Reigle, Downey, Keller, Wagner

LOTW Fall Fishing Trip Drawing

The drawing for a week-long trip for four to stay at Angle Outpost (anytime after Aug. 15 through ice up) will be conducted at the May meeting. Each chance costs \$20. Funds raised go into the club's treasury to pay for speakers, and other special items. So far, the drawing has raised \$380. If you haven't paid for your chance yet, bring your \$20 to the meeting (make checks payable to Waterdogs Fishing Club).

One more shot...



Kevin Miller Strays Afield after Tom Turkey

Waterdogs 2006 Tournament Series

Mark Your Calendars Now and Plan to Attend!

Date	Species	Location	Dogs in Charge
✓ March 18	Trout	Whitewater River	Mueller - Johnson
✓ April 29	Crappie	Chisago Lakes area	Lantto
June 3-4 (Sat-Sun)	Walleye	Gull Lake	Mueller – Johnson
June 16-17 (Fr-S)	Bass	Carver County Lakes area	Blakely – Dupont
Aug 19 (Sat)	Multi	Lake Wissota, WI	Ferstenou
Sep 9 (Sat)	Muskie/Pike	Minnetonka	Blakely – Karsjens
Oct 14 (Sat)	Smallmouth	Rum River - Anoka	Karsjens - Dupont