

The Dogumentary

30th Year

The Waterdogs Fishing Club

May 2012

May Meeting at Tuttle's

The May meeting will feature former member Todd Dankert who has been fishing the various local tournament trails since leaving the club a few years back. Todd is an enthusiastic guy who will talk about what he has learned about walleye fishing while fishing as a pro. It should be a fun and enlightening talk with plenty of good stories and useful tips.

2012 Waterdogs Fishing Club Calendar

May 3	Monthly Meeting
May 19	Walleye Tournament
June 1	Bass Tournament
June 7	Monthly Meeting
June 23	Multi Tournament
July 12	Monthly Meeting
July 21-28	LOTW Rock'nRoll Musky Tour
Aug 2	Monthly Meeting
Aug 17	Multi Tournament
Sep 6	Monthly Meeting
Sep 8	Multi Tournament
Oct 4	Monthly Meeting
Oct 6	Bass Tournament
Nov 1	Banquet

See the last page for 2012 Tourney Details

Upcoming Speakers:

- June: Open – looking for Bass speaker
- July: Robb Kimm – Muskies on LOTW
- Aug: Herman Fasbender – Former Dog St Croix River

From the Desk of the President, Greenstick – Dave Haberle



With two trout tournaments behind us, we can now turn our focus to really important things, like trying to remember where you put the boat plug, or wondering if that squeaking noise coming from the left rear trailer wheel means anything significant... And for some of us, it means *HOLY CRAP! I'VE GOT TO GET SOME PINK SENKOS!!!*

Congratulations to our last event winners, the Chip-Shatner team on their stellar strategy in finding the big ones... and in their wonderfully clever application of old school crappie fishing techniques which obviously mesmerized the trout, allowing themselves to be caught with those loopy dippin' sticks! Only a few years ago it was discovered that trout were suckers for Rapalas and now, they've been fooled once again! Next year, I wouldn't be surprised if some of our members might sling a muskie lure out there and drag it over the rocks of some of those Wisconsin streams!

I'm excited to listen to Todd Dankert, our May Speaker, talk about walleyes. The time couldn't be better – our next event is the walleye tournament up on the St. Louis River! I'm personally looking forward to that tournament, too – it'll be the first time I've ever fished in the Duluth area. As a reminder to the dogs who will be captains, be sure that you have adequate equipment in your boat to meet Coast Guard requirements for fishing those waters!

Please note that we will NOT be refurbishing rods and reels at our May meeting, so there is no need to bring your tools, WD-40, rags, and supplies. However, I'm sure Helen will fill us in on the 2012 plan for that activity, as well as any other service projects we will be doing as a club.

On a final note and having been a member for only five years, I never knew former member Ed Jurva, who passed away a couple weeks ago. But after listening to the personal stories last week at his memorial, I got a wonderfully warm feeling of how he touched so many others' lives. And somehow I feel almost as if I've been in a boat with him somewhere along the way. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Jacquie and Mark and their families as we all forge forward.

See you next week!

Greenstick

Troutzilla Found

The second trout tournament of the year featured a limited limit of 4 fish per team, 2 browns and 2 brook trout, for a completely different strategy than the all-you-can-eat tournament a month earlier. With the low count, all 11 teams were able to fill their cards, and search for larger fish to cull and upgrade their fish. Teams travelled far and wide to find fish, with many different streams putting out fish. In the end, it was the team of Shatner-Chips who caught the biggest fish of each specie, with Kirk getting a 19.5" brown that barely eked out Chips' 14" brookie, for the two largest fish of the tournament. Both fish were caught in the fabled "Peterson Crik", which has

put out some good fish for other Dogs in past excursions.

Most of the other teams also had good results, with a typical day-end panic run to hit a quick last stream for a possible upgrade. The team of Helen and Dr. Uno also had to contend with a landowner who threatened to call the constable for their fishing of the Willow River too close to his property. In all it was a good day with most members enjoying the early 1:00 finish for time left in the day to also enjoy some family time.

Now the trout tournaments are done, and we have some good information on what it's like to have an unlimited number of fish that count, to as very tight limit. We may or may not repeat these formats in the future, but at least we now know how it works. In the end, the same teams that usually do well in other trout formats also did well in this year's tournaments, to prove that the format of the tournament itself does not seem to throw off the results by creating any kind of advantage either way.



Next up is the St. Louis River walleye tournament on Saturday May 19. There are many different options for Dogs to fish and stay overnight, or not, as this is a first-time 1pm-9pm tournament in a location that is normally an over-nighter. More details and plans will be made at the May meeting.

Dipping for Trout

By Chips

I was asked by my winning partner Kirk “Shatner” Duholm to write about our winning ways that propelled us to win the “Quest for Troutzilla” trout tournament on April 14th. Now everyone knows that Shatner is a really good fisherman and is known for doing a lot of pre-fishing and exploring new techniques to try at all means to win every tournament. You also know by past history that his suburb fishing IQ has won him many tournaments as well as for his fishing partners. So when I became aware of being partners with Shatner—I was excited and wondering what he had up his sleeve for the second trout tournament.

He told me we were going to go “dippin” for trout. He sent me an article about a Japanese type of fishing called Tenkara Fishing. You use a long telescopic rod that looks like a cane pole. You tie on 3-5 feet of line attach a jig & put on a Gulp Minnow Grub. This concept allows you to easily fish from shore or down a step bank to access those hard to reach spots that the big trout hide out waiting for a nice chunk of food to appear before them.

I bought my 16 ½ foot telescoping pole at Joe’s in St. Paul. We pre-fished together on 4-7-12 on Plum Creek south of Plum City. It takes a few tries to get the process down, but we both caught fish on that Saturday—but nothing big. Shatner has fished this water many times in the past and had success with catching some very nice sized trout on it. Another plus of fishing Plum Creek is that it holds both Brook & Browns so our traveling was limited to one area of Wisconsin streams to catch our winning trout.

For those of you who have not fished Plum Creek, it is different from many of the streams that we all fish in that there are very few rocks and thus there are not a lot of the rapids to fish below as is common with trout fishing. There are lots of fallen trees across the creek that provides the areas for the trout to hide under and along. The dippin rod allows you to get your line right next to the trees without catching your bait on all of the overhanging branches as is the case with casting your spinning rod to get in close with your bait.



Chips in Dipping Country

I caught the first Brook for our score sheet at 7:05 AM along a bank next to a downed tree that came out 3 times before he hit the black jig. The 14” Brook was the biggest Brook caught for the day. Shatner caught a 13.5” Brookie about 8:05 AM to complete out the Brook trout portion of the score sheet. Shatner changed to his spinning reel with a silver Rapala to cast for Browns. I caught up to him around 9 AM & he excitedly told me he had a big Brown on and asked if I could net it for him. I jumped down into the water and netted his 19.5” Brown that was the biggest fish by points caught for the day. We were both jumping around alike a couple of school kids who were playing hooky from school to go fishin! We moved onto to a different section of the Plum & Shatner caught our last 100+ point trout a 18.5” Brown for the score sheet & we headed north to Baldwin for lunch.



Troutzilla

We sat next to Griz as he was entering the results of all the teams onto his laptop. We both sat with eager anticipation for the official results to be announced. As we spoke with other Dogs about their day of trout fishing—I told Shatner later that I noticed a number of guys kind of looking down their noses at our “dippin for trout technique”. I told him that I have a lot of fly fishing friends that look down on those of us who fish for trout with spinning gear. I guess the results of catching 4 fish that all go over 100+ points speaks for the quality of the fisherman and their technique. I want to thank my partner for a great two days of fishing and for his new ideas that provided us the opportunity to win Quest for Troutzilla Tournament.

Chips

Dogs in the News

On March 1, Griz started work as a Helium Leak Test Specialist with Jurva Leak Testing, the Analyst’s and Ed Jurva’s company. It sounds like a good fit for both Dogs. I wonder if you know you found the leaking helium when your voice goes up. Maybe Griz can give us a demonstration.

Father Bertha bought the Janitor’s 4-Runner when Bob got a new one. Bertha had it checked out by a mechanic who said it was “really clean”.

2012 Tournament Schedule

Date (Saturdays)	Hours	Species	Location	Dogs in Charge
√ Mar 17	7:30-2pm	Trout	Wisconsin	Fluffee – Shatner
√ Apr 14	6:30-1pm	Trout	Wisconsin	Fluffee – Shatner
May 19	2-9pm *	Walleye	St Louis River	Little Angel – Chips
June 1 (Fri)	1-9pm	Bass	Scott/Dakota Cos.	Felix – Banana
June 23	5:30-noon	Multi	Forest Lake	Perp – Carmen
Aug 17 (Fri)	6:30-1:30pm	Multi	St Croix	OF - Janitor
Sep 8		Multi	Pepin	Suzy - Hillary
Oct 6		Bass	Clearwater	Griz - Nasty

*St. Louis River options:

1. Fish till the 9pm weigh-in and drive home
2. Stay for dinner and drive home
3. Stay overnight and drive home in the morning
4. Stay overnight and fish Sunday for fun and keepers (limit 2 >15”)