

The Dogumentary

31stYear

All the News that's Fish to Print

May 2013

2013 Waterdogs Fishing Club Calendar

April 20	Trout Backup Date
May 2	Monthly Meeting
May 18	Southern Fried Walleye
June 7/8	Mille Lacs Flip-Flop

MarchSpeaker

We are having a special roundtable discussion with 3 waterdogs; surprise members. They will be discussing walleyes in general, but in particular how they would approach the upcoming tourneys: Southern Fried Walleye and Mille Lacs Flip Flop

Late breaking News



23" MN Brown caught by Kirk on Saturday in what he thinks was Johnson Crik

From the Desk of the President,

Well here we are at the end of April and it appears that Spring is finally approaching. It is good to see the ice leaving the lakes. I was getting worried that the walleye tournament may have been through the ice. Could only image what it would have been like to have planned for crappies. It does seem strange

to already have two tournaments down and still feel like winter.

We had another good turnout for the second trout tournament this year. It seems as though everyone had a good time and again, no injuries. As I have stated before, I have come to really enjoy these tournaments. Getting out there and exploring new water and getting some exercise at the same time is great. Janitor and I had a great time even though we didn't catch as many as we had hoped. I especially enjoyed when he started yelling after he had gone up stream a ways. I took off running after landing a 10 inch brookie thinking perhaps we had a fisherman down. I finally catch up to him and he is laughing and having the time of his life. He had found a productive spot which held both brown and brook trout. He was basically catching something with every cast. Unfortunately, the hole held more browns but it sure made for some fun.



I would like to thank Mamma's Boy for offering a new opportunity for special services. I am looking forward to the report at the next meeting to see what those able to attend the training session have to say about the program. Hope to see you all at the next meeting.

Dr. Meat/John Schaffhausen

The Winner's Circle: Little Miss Brooks

Nasty and I started on the South Fork of the Kinni and ended up staying there all day. Nasty dropped me off behind the college and he went upstream to the next bridge which he fished upstream from. Plan was for me to pick up the vehicle and drive to the next bridge and pick up Nasty. We had walkie talkies to stay in contact. Water was up a little but very fishable. Nasty caught the first fish and several more. I did not catch nor see a fish in the stretch I walked. Behind the college power plant there is a nice hole where a culvert comes in. I threw several casts but nothing. To get around



OF and Nasty perform a traditional "Pole Dance" to celebrate their win in the brook trout tourney

the hole I walked on a shallow sand bar and proceeded to get my right right foot stuck in the sand. My left foot was free but I could not get the right foot to move. I worked on it for 10 to 15 minutes but it would not move. I radioed Nasty for help. He responded and was there in about 15 minutes. Meanwhile a college kid comes walking

thru the woods and I ask him to get me a stick. He grabs a 1 inch diameter stick and I tell him I need something bigger.

He finds a a 10', 5" diameter limb and gets it to me. I hand him my rod. I still cannot pull myself out. I am able to remove sand from around my foot with my right hand and can feel the top of the boot and the laces but the foot will not move. Nasty arrives and of course has to take a couple pictures first. He then comes in the water and hands the kid the camera and asks him to take some pictures.

He balances me and the pole and I dig some more until I can get my hand under my right heel. About 10 jerks later my foot is finally free and we get out of the water. We drive back to the bridge Nasty was at and Shatner and Felix are there now. We fish behind then for a little ways and Nasty catches a couple more. We decide to go higher on the S branch and go to a bridge further East. I walk downstream and fish back and Nasty fishes upstream. We both catch several fish. We end the day there and head for lunch. Nasty caught the big fish. I think we only used one of my fish on the card. I have an excuse, I was busy with a personal issue.

OF



Miss Brooks Shines on Dogs

What was threatened to be another harsh spring day with a cold rain turned out to be a very pleasant

morning for the second tournament of the year in search of the multi-colored Brook Trout. Twenty-One Dogs plied the waters of Wisconsin with a variety of lures, and oddly, the fish-catching results were about the same as the Brown Trout tournament a few weeks earlier. Half the teams filled out with their limit of ten measurable fish that had to be at least 8" long, with the biggest fishes coming in at 12.5", caught by both the Analist and Nasty. A range of 8"-12.5" doesn't leave a lot of room for size differences, but as it turns out, the team scores were not that bunched up. The winning team of Nasty and OF weighed in ten fish for a total weight of 7.8 pounds, or about 3/4 of a pound per crappie, er trout. The second-place team of Fluffee and the Analist got ten fish also, but theirs averaged less than a half-pound each, and the average sizes went down from there. What is lacking in size is more than made up by the pretty outfits that Miss Brooks like to wear.

The most productive stream was the South Fork of the Kinni, where OF and the Analist got their fish, including a number over 10". The Analist and Fluffee got their second-place limit on Gibson Creek, while the third-place team of Buick and FD got their 10 on Pine Creek, so the fish were found on many different waters with few reports of overcrowding by club members. Some interesting events did occur, however, with OF becoming stuck in quicksand up to his shin that took 15 minutes to break free from. Apparently, some locals at the U of W River Falls came to the rescue and also took pictures of Rick's predicament, which have not yet shown up on the internet as far as we know.



Tiger Brook Trout

Duper caught a Tiger Trout in Pine Creek, which he has pictures of, and the 3-man team misjudged their drive time back to the restaurant and lost the counting of their largest and only brook trout. No one went swimming or ended up wearing any lure jewelry, at least none that were reported. In all, it was a good tournament with the weather committee holding the rain off until the ride home.

Let's go Fishing

Mama's Boy

Last month I had sent out an e-mail to the club seeing if we could get some volunteers to help out the Let's Go Fishing / Buffalo chapter. I was able to attend a training session which is required for all volunteers last week. Joining me were Farm Boy, Perp, Sticky and Little Angel.

We learned a bit about LGF from an enthusiastic trainer who was pretty passionate about the organization. The training was pretty basic, just reviewing the guidelines of the program and keeping safety of its guest in mind. The program takes primarily seniors and veterans out fishing on Lake Pulaski where they have the pontoon docked. They are scheduling trips daily starting May 19th at 9-11:30, 12-2:30 and 5-7:30 so there are plenty of opportunities to get out. Two LGF volunteers on the boat, 1 captain and 1 swabbie (called a 1st mate) and up to 10 guests. All bait, rods and tackle will be provided. The goal is just to have some fun, chat with the guests and hopefully catch a few fish. Overall I think this would be a good opportunity for the Waterdogs to participate in the community. The staff of LGF was well organized and truly appreciative that our club has showed some interest in volunteering. There will be more training sessions coming up in May; additionally new volunteers will be invited out on the boat for some hands on training in a few weeks. I was given a new updated web page for you to review the program at www.lgfbuffalo.com



I was also asked if the club could help out at a kids fishing clinic being held on Buffalo Lake on **Saturday June 15th**. The clinic is anticipated to have 2,000 kids attend. They would like our help

setting up that day and helping in the casting area. The timing would be 7:30 for setup and clinic runs from 9:30 – 1:30. You can view information on last year's event at www.fishingclinicsforkids.com
Mamas Boy

An Evening with Frank

Put the Muskie fishing into Turkey hunting. This is my fourth time out after the gobblers in five years. The first year was easily, nothing to it. I got a nice 21 pound Tom, Duper put me up on Stormy wed page with the picture. The next two times were miserable. Not even a follow (a bird coming into decoys) . So this year, I had some farmers giving me reports on a good places to hunt. The place that I had lined up just a mile out of town, usually had 30 turkeys on it during the day feeding. So I spent the week before scouting and building a blind. It was nice to keep getting fresh snow so I could see what was happening. I had a spot that looked like a turkey trail (with most of tracks coming in and not out of woods). So, I made a blind out of a cedar tree and cut branches and made a real nice set up.



The first morning up at 4 am, and set out to hear the Toms gobbling away in the trees at half hour before sunrise. There was one big google and what I thought 3 or 4 to follow. This went on for a while and I starting to yelp back. I was getting them to respond. They flew down out of trees about 100 yards behind me, I could not see because still dark and thick woods. The gobbling went on for a short while, sounded like they were coming toward me and then nothing. What the heck, I thought. What did I do wrong....this is like muskie fishing, you have a pig follow maybe even swing at your bait and you rethink it over and over. So I stayed to 11 am in the 20 degree weather.....5 and half hours sitting still, frozen. And nothing.

I went again Tuesday morning, you know the story, the beautiful snow, everything covered with think snow. Not even a peep. After freezing my rear end off two days in a row. I ask some guy that hunts a lot of turkeys, why do we get up this early. (this is my first time out alone and this is how we hunted before when I went). To make a long story short, he said you can get a Tom at anytime.

So I did some thinking, most of tracks I saw were into the woods, I will get them on the way back to roost. Wednesday, get out a 4:30 pm this time not am, however, the wind picked up to hurricane speed. I thought I just want to get some birds to come into my call so a least I know that I am on the right page....kinda like finally getting a muskie or two in the boat to build a little confidence. Well I did manage to call in two different groups of hens which brought a lot of confidence but no Tom with them.

Where were the Toms?

So I sat in the wind waiting and waiting...about a 1/2 hour before sunset coming over the hill 200 yards out, across the picked corn field, about 20-30 turkeys right toward me. There were 4 Toms in the group and one Tom was heads and tails above the rest, the Boss Tom.

He followed the hens and the other Toms behind him....dancing and seeing who was the next in line. As soon as they got the water hole, about 100 yards out I gave a yelp and he looked right at my decoy. To make a long story short a few more yelps and a very strange path he was finally 40 yards out and Bam...he was flopping and the other 3 Toms flew about 100 yards and started to beat him up. One would not leave him alone, he kept standing on him and looking at me and running and coming back and jumping on him. Pretty exciting. Anyway, it was a 25.5 pounder, the Boss Tom. I figured I would name him as we do 50 plus

Muskies....Frank. There is a story for the name Frank, but that is for the boat.

Fishing with Spanky

Greetings from Southwest Florida. Grouper season reopened April 1st and we went out April 2nd armed with 15 live pinfish (grouper candy) 50 live shrimp, dead shrimp, squid and sardines. We were aboard a friend's boat. It's a beauty. She's a 35 foot Pursuit with twin Yamaha 350's. The giants you see in this picture are generally out at least 50 miles in 80 feet of water and his boat can get us there quickly and comfortably .

We left at sunrise and a hour and a half later were anchored up on some good hard bottom. It was dead calm with little current movement which is not good for fishing. Grouper fishing is similar to walleye in that you want a chop on the water and some water movement for the best fishing. We caught some small fish and moved out quickly. After another 30 minutes we anchored in 85 feet of water and noticed immediately after dropping our baits that there was a current moving and the wind freshened. When my pinfish hit the bottom aided

sardines and squid with no success. There were five of us on the boat and the pinfish were running out. I decided to try a technique I had never used. The lure is a 3 oz. diamond jig. You drop it down and vertically jig it off the bottom with a quick snatch and let it drop down and repeat. After 15 minutes of it my arms were sore and I was about to quit when I felt something.

Soon my drag was screaming and everyone was pulling up their lines so as to not tangle with whatever was running around and under the boat. We knew it wasn't a grouper but until I got it to the surface some 20 yards from the boat did we know it was a cobia. Highly prized for table fare it's also a great fighter. It's the one I'm holding.

We were out of pinfish and out of energy. It was time to head home. Two hours later at the dock we cleaned fish and washed down the boat. It was a



by a 3 oz lead weight it immediately got eaten by one of the pictured red grouper. The trick with these guys is to get your rod up as quickly as possible because they want to get back into the coral hole they hide in. Once you get him up 3 or so feet and your drag is set properly your chance for success is good.

My friend who owns the boat doesn't stay long in one place so after catching 6 or 8 fish in this local he moved us again to another spot just a few miles away. By now the gulf had whitecaps and the current was so strong I went to a 4 oz. weight. We started catching the beasts pictured in this area. They were very aggressive but only wanted the live pinfish. We tried shrimp both dead and alive,



great day on the water with a good bunch of guys. My wife and I shared some cobia steaks on the grill that night, delicious!

Bio of the Month: Kojak

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

Swede (David Johnson), at the time in 1990, I referred my clients to him for legal work. We got to be friends and he was invited to my boss's cabin where we fished together.

What's your profession?

I just retired from the life insurance industry. A little bit about your family.

I have been married to my wife Shari for 46 years. We have two children, Mike and Rebecca. Mike and his wife Angie have two children. Avery is age 4, and Zoe age 2.

What's your handle and the story behind it?

Kojak. My friend Swede thought it would be funny to name me Kojak since I am follically challenged.

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

I grew up in North Dakota where lakes were few and far between. I did not start fishing until I was age 29. The company I worked for took its senior and middle management fishing each year to Lake Winnebigoosh. Its where I caught fishing fever. I bought my first boat two years later, been fishing ever since. What's your favorite species to fish? Why? What's your favorite technique? When I first started fishing it was only for walleyes and crappies. Now most of my fishing is for bass. I fish mostly with spinner baits.



What's your most memorable fishing experience?

There are so many good memories. Certainly memorable to me is the first muskie I caught at LOW. I think it was my fourth trip and I had not caught a LOW muskie. It was the last day of the trip, I was fishing with captain Felix, in his old red Lund boat. He was having a tough week as well and had not caught a muskie. However, he had been seeing the same muskie all week so we headed out to get her. Felix pulled up to the spot, a small pocket along a shoreline. The pocket was probably 25 feet across and 20 feet deep, with a

small patch of reeds and lily pads right in the center. Felix said go for it. I said no, he should have the first cast. He went to the left of the pads with his M&G spinnerbait. No luck. I told him he got one more before I would try. He went to the right of the pads with the second cast, again, no luck. So it was my turn to cast. Without much hope I cast to the left of the pads as well. My aim was off and my spinnerbait landed in the lily pads. The fish exploded on the bait and I managed to hook it and get it in. WOW! What an explosion of emotions I was having. I was so pumped as I finally got a LOW muskie. Then I became a little disappointed as the fish measured 39", just short of a patch. And then I saw the look on Felix's face. He had chased the fish all week, I think he too was disappointed. But hey, I got my first LOW muskie!

What do you like about being a Waterdog?

For me, the best thing about being a WaterDog is just hanging out with fellow Dogs, sharing a common passion and along the way learning from each other to be better fishermen.

Tip of the Month

Ditch the Dirt

I learned this one years ago from former Waterdog Paul Schwepe (Teach/Hadji) and have used it often ever since. When using night crawlers, especially when dragging spinners for walleyes, try to buy your crawlers a day or two before you go fishing. Take newspapers and cut/shred them into smaller pieces (I've also used strips of paper from my shredder bin) and soak them in water in the sink for a few minutes until they are saturated. Wring out the excess water from the paper and use it to replace the dirt or bedding material that came with night crawlers when you bought them. Overnight the crawlers will absorb some of the moisture from the paper and plump up a bit. The real bonus to using this method though is that you'll find that your hands and boat will stay much cleaner when using the night crawlers since you've gotten rid of the original dirt/bedding in lieu of the moist paper strips. Griz

Flirst Time Trout

My 22 year-old daughter Kathryn, really likes to fish, but fishes mostly for pan fish in the city lakes, so this year I was determined to get her out for some trout fishing, which is at least 18 times more fun. We went to Gander and I plunked down \$250 for waders and boots, and I got her a WI license and we planned a Saturday outing. I took her to Lost Creek for Brook trout a week before our tournament, to a spot where they have been really good in the past. That day was about 38 degrees

with rain, typical for this year, and the snow was still about a foot deep to add to the exercise quotient. We didn't find any brook trout, but did catch 10 Browns, 5 apiece, up to 15", and she had a real good time despite the somewhat miserable conditions. One of the most fascinating thing for her was the way you could walk through snow, water, mud, or anything with the waders and boots. You don't really go around anything. Now she's anxious to get out again, so we're looking forward to some more comfortable conditions over the next few weeks to hit some bigger water with more good action.



Photo of the Month



By "The Cap'n"

2013 Tournament Schedule

Date	X	Species	Location	Dogs in Charge
Mar 16	X	Trout	Wisconsin	Carmen & FD
April 6	X	Trout	Wisconsin	Griz & Fluffee
April 20	X	Trout	Backup for Trout 1 or 2	
May 18	TBD	Southern Fried Walleye	TBD	Little Angel, Bud & Banana
June 7-8	TBD	Mille Lacs Flip-Flop	Mille Lacs	Janitor, Duper, Chips
July 13	TBD	Shot in the Dark Bass	TBD	Kirk, Analist
September 14	TBD	Multispecies	Minnetonka	Greenstick and Helen
October 5	TBD	Smallmouth	Rum River	Perp and Nasty

