

The Dogumentary

26th Year

The Waterdogs Fishing Club

June 2008

June Meeting at the Hopkins VFW

The June meeting speaker will be Larry Hansen, a skilled local bass fisherman, who will talk about the possibility of catching bass on the black-box lake, Sylvania.

A dinner of burgers and tots starts at 6, with Larry speaking at 7 pm.

2008 Waterdogs Fishing Club Calendar

June 5	Monthly Meeting
June 20(Fri)	Bass Tourney
July 3?	Monthly Meeting
July 19-26	Rock&Roll Musky Tour
Aug 7	Monthly Meeting
Sep 4	Monthly Meeting
Sep 13	Multispecies Tourney
Oct 2	Monthly Meeting
Oct 11	SM Bass Tourney
Nov 6	Annual Banquet

The 2008 tournament details are on the last page of the Dogumentary

★ 47 Days ★

Until LOTW

Read 'Muskie on the Shield' to your family.

From the Desk of the President, Little Angel



We finally got the first tournament on the water on the books!

Fluffy and I did a little pre-fishing on Friday only to be greeted by some nasty weather when we finally arrived at the landing. After waiting for about an hour and a half for the weather to clear we were able to get out for a few hours. We had some luck catching both large and small mouth near a large drop off dragging shiners on lindy rigs. Things were slow but we managed to land several fish.

Saturday did not turn out so well. We picked up a couple of smaller fish early and struggled to catch a third smallmouth by the end of the day. Fishing was tough for a number of dogs but it was great to be on the water and the day was beautiful.

I am going to pre-fish Lake Sylvania on Tuesday the 3rd with Larry Hanson, our speaker for Thursday. I will not be able to fish Sylvania later in June, but hopefully Larry and I can give you all some suggestions. *Remember no Dogs fishing the June tournament can pre-fish.*

Larry is a long time friend and belongs to a local fishing club as well. He also guides on several lakes in the area with Minnetonka being one of his favorites. He fishes for many different species but bass is his specialty. I look forward to fishing with Larry and think he will do a great job on Thursday at our meeting.

Just a quick note: The tournament committee will meet at 6:00 prior to the meeting.

See you Thursday.
Little Angel

**Analist and Perp Dominate at
Green Lake Smallie* Tournament**

*and walleye

The second tournament of the year featured a multi-species tournament for walleyes and smallmouth bass on Green Lake by Spicer. In a non-traditional fashion, the day was sunny and near-calm during the tournament, which may have made the fishing more difficult on the clear lake. Pre-fishing teams on Friday were driven off the lake by some thunderstorms late in the afternoon, but did manage to get out for a few hours later. Many members enjoyed a leisurely 2-hour feed at the Legion Hall in New London. Overnight accommodations for many were provided by Farm Boy, but some guys stayed in a motel, and others slept in their vehicles and other places. A small group also drove up early in the morning before the 7am start.

In the end, it turned out to be a Smallmouth tournament, as only one walleye was caught by the 27 guys who fished the event. But, at least the smallies were large, thanks to an 8-year catch-and-release rule for Green Lake, up until this year. Several teams caught smallies in excess of 18", and the top places were separated by fractions of an inch.

The most successful methods for catching the smallies turned out to be using either Lindy rigs or bobber rigs with spot-tailed shiners. The best locations were in rocks in the 6-10' depth range. A few fish were

caught on other baits, but the shiners accounted for most team's catches. Many of the minnows were provided by little Buddy-of-the-Year hopeful Bud, who brought back several dozen minnows at a reasonable price from one of his local bait providers.

The only walleye of the tournament was caught by the team of Perp and Analist, who finished in first place with many good smallies of 19, 18, and 18", along with their 21" walleye. This was the second win of the year for Mr. Bystrom, who is now well out in front in the yearly standings.

In second place was the team of Kojak and Carmen, with three smallies of 19, 18.5", and a 20-incher, which was also the largest fish of the tournament, caught by Kojak. This was also Kojak's lifetime personal best smallie, which is a special treat to get at tournament time.



Kojak Cradles his 20

In third place was the three-man team of Farm Boy, Helen and OF, who got three smallies of 18.5, 19, and 19.5". Right behind them was the team of FD and Bud, with fish of 18, 18, and 19". In fifth was Shorty and Nasty with their three largest bass of 17, 17.5, and 18" and in sixth were Buick and Bertha with big fish of 17, 17 and 18".

Here is a breakdown of how the largest smallies 'weighed in' by size:

20"	1
19.5"	1
19"	4
18.5"	5
18"	6
17.5"	1
17"	5

And, Perp and Analist actually released a few fish of 17-18" that did not make their card.

Oddly, this is about the opposite of the scoring from the same tournament on Green Lake some 15-20 years ago, where many walleyes were caught, but only one smallie at that time.

Next up, Largemouth Bass on the virgin waters of Lakes Sylvia and Twin by Annandale. (No pre-fishing is allowed before this event.)



Perp Pops a Pig

Green Lake Strategy:

By: The Analist

On Friday before the tournament my partner Perp & I had a chance to pre-fish. We tried 10-12 different locations--shoreline inside turns, reef points, reef flats, and even backwater channels. While we caught fish in several different locations, we had tagged two large Smallies (18" and 18 ½") in about 15 minutes outside the deep break in front of the old mill (20' of water). While we didn't catch a Walleye we knew they were likely down there given the incoming water flow which always attracts them. That's where we decided to start the tournament.

We started deep (20'-30') Lindy rigging the secret spot-tail shiner outside the old mill. Fishing was very slow as over the course of 2 hours we only boated only two fish--one 17 ½ inch Smallie and luckily a 21" Walleye to boot. We got it in about 30 ft of water slowly dragging a hand-made lindy rig with a shiner. The fish's stomach was engorged with food--it looked like it was carrying eggs! I'm guessing that's why the bite was non-existent (too much bait). After we caught the Walleye we headed in shore to the shallower water in search of smallies.

Although there was a LOT of boats in front of the mill, only a few boats were catching them. There was one boat in particular anchored in about 10 ft of water that was just killing them! Dickey's boat and ours were very close by and we couldn't believe it. In addition to probably 5-7 18-19 inchers, they bagged a 22 inch Smallie and a 23" plus Walleye --both of which sadly they kept. My partner and I were trying everything to catch them, but were having limited success. Their minnow bucket broke loose and we retrieved it and while returning it, I finally caved in and informed them of our situation. They kindly obliged and quietly told us what they were doing. They were 3 guys from Iowa and they were simply casting hand-made lindy rigs with shiners out behind the boat (only 5-6 ft behind the boat), setting down there rods, and watching for bites. Once they casted out, they never moved their rods. After anchoring in the current my partner and I tried to mimic their technique.

It was painful to just sit there, but it paid off. We caught several fish just dead-sticking it as well as several using a slip bobber set just off the bottom and letting the current move the bait. Because the fish were being so finicky, we used a very simple and subtle rig. We tied a 5 ft fluorocarbon leader with a small #6 Gamagatsu hook—I used a small red bead in front of the hook. While I believe Brian mouth-hooked the majority of the shiners, I hooked my bobber-rigged shiners on the underside by the anus. The minnows hate being upside down and continually struggle to right themselves—attracting fish all the while. The fish definitely preferred the larger minnows. After we ran out I started tail hooking two minnows (near the anus) on my rig and

caught two 17-inch plus fish in the last 15 minutes. I wish we would have tried it earlier.



Analist Holds a Football with Fins

In the end we got lucky by catching the lone Walleye. Patience and careful observation--and a bit of inside information--paid off. So that's our story and we're sticking to it.

Waconia Memorial Day Bass Bonanza

By Buick

I pulled Roid's hungover butt out of bed Monday morning and dragged him out to fish Waconia – my favorite bass opener lake. We didn't get on the water until 7 AM and immediately headed up to my favorite reed beds. Where we expected find the big reed beds, there were a few stragglers sticking up but 90% of those huge reed beds were still under water. It reminded me of what the lake looks like right after ice out. Water levels were the highest I've seen out there in a few years. It was quite windy and cool – probably low 60's and sunny. We started on one end with the intent to drift down the outside edge where the reeds usually are located. I was throwing a yellow/chartreuse spinnerbait with brass willow leaf blades and a yellow curly tail grub trailer. Second cast, I hook into a nice 17'er. We drift down 2/3 of the reed bed without another bite. Then I decided to slip in and fish the inside weedline. Where the water back there is usually 12" deep, there was a good 24" of

water depth. I started throwing my spinnerbait into the calm pockets while Roid worked a jig'n'pig. Bam! I nail a nice 18" bass and proceeded to catch 3 or 4 more that were all 16 to 17 inches. Roid hooks a big 18.5 incher. After a while we decided to head over to the west side and ended up fishing all of the reed beds from north of the camp all the way down to the far southwest corner. We caught bass in every bed, though for some reason they were all smaller fish. All of the fish were sitting in the middle of the reed beds or out in the open pockets. Even when the cold front came through and the skies clouded over, we continued to catch bass though they started to hit short and we missed as many as we caught. We ended our morning by going back to our original starting spot where I caught another 18 incher and a few smaller fish. The really weird thing was that even though there were a couple dozen boats on the lake, no one was fishing bass in the shallows except us. We finally ran into another bass fisherman near our last spot – he was also throwing a yellow spinnerbait. In all we caught around 30 with an 18.5, (2) 18's, a bunch of 17's, and 16's and of course the smaller guys. Most of the fish we caught on the yellow spinner baits with brass willow leaf blades and big profile plastic tails. Roid caught a few on his jig'n'pig and I caught one of my 18's on a Outcast senko worm. Roid and I have fished Waconia many times over the years but we have never had as much fun as we did on Memorial Day. And we have the pictures to prove it!



Not all of Buick's Ladies have Sharp and Pointy Teeth

Fishin' Funnies

Contributed by Mama's Boy

David, the fisherman, had driven by the lake many times and had seen some other anglers about, so he decided to give his luck a try. On his first day of fishing he had no luck at all but noticed that another fisherman near him that was scooping in one after another. He had to know The Secret. "Excuse me sir, but would you mind telling me what sort of bait you are using?" he asked. The other man looked around a bit embarrassed. "Well, I am a surgeon, and quite by accident I found that human tonsil works very well."

David thanked the man, thought about what sort of bait to try next time, and left.

The next day, David returned to the lake, tried a different bait and still had no luck. Just as the day before, there was yet a different man reeling in fish after fish. "Excuse me," asked David, "but could you suggest a bait that I could try?"

"Well, I can, but I am not sure it will do you any good. I am using a bit of human appendix."

"Hmm," thought David. It seemed that the fish in this lake would require a little more effort than normal. He left, willing to give the lake one more try.

On the third day, David still had no luck. As was usual, there was yet another man near him bringing in fish left and right. David wanted to confirm what he already knew. "Excuse me sir, but are you a doctor?"

"No, I am a Rabbi." replied the man.



A Minnesota Story

All of his life, Kirk had heard about an amazing family tradition. His father, grandfather, and great-grand father had all been able to walk on water on their 21st birthdays. They walked across the lake on their way to the boat club for their first legal drink.

When his 21st birthday came around, Kirk and his pal took a boat out to the middle of the lake. Kirk stepped out of the boat, sank like a rock, and almost drowned!!

Confused, he went to see his grandmother. He asked, "Grandma, it's my 21st birthday, so why can't I walk across the lake like my father, his father, and his father before him??"

Granny looked into Kirk's eyes and said, "But their birthdays were in January. Yours is in June!!"

2008 Waterdogs Tournament Series

Date	Species	Lake	Dogs in Charge
✓3/15	Trout	WI Streams	Helen, Perp
✓5/3 Cancelled	Crappie	Pokegama by Pine City	Griz, Banana Boy
✓5/31	Walleye/SM	Green Lake (Spicer)	Farm Boy, Bud
6/20 (Friday)	Bass	Sylvia by Annandale	Lil Angel, Chips, Fluffy
9/13	Multi	Mille Lacs	Mama's, Greenstick, Otis
10/11	SM Bass	Rum River	Suzy