

The Dogumentary

31st Year

All the News that's Fish to Print

July 2013

2013 Waterdogs Fishing Club Calendar

July 11	Monthly Meeting Thorne Bros.
July 13	Shot in the Dark Bass
July 20-27th	LOTW
September 14th	Minnetonka Multispecies
October 5th	Small Mouth

July Speaker

Our July speaker is Brett Erickson. Brett has been fishing since the age of 4 and has fished all the Midwest. He is also a successful tournament angler where he's fished in muskie tournaments across the Midwest as well. Approximately 33 years ago Brett began fishing muskies in Canada and now spends most of his time there at either Muskie Bay Resort or Moosehorn Lodge. He chases lake trout in the winter, sturgeon and smallies in the spring and muskies all summer and fall. Brett is on the Pro Staff with Ranger Boats and Evinrude Outboards.



Brett Erickson

From the Desk of the President,

Well, half way into the year and no scandals yet for this administration. You guys must be slacking. Another great tournament on Mille Lacs even though my captain was a little disappointed in the numbers and size of fish in the boat. No rain? No

wind? The gods must have forgotten to put us on their calendar. Hard to believe only three tournaments left. I liked the idea of the split tournament format and thought it went well. Looking forward to the bass tournament and hopefully we are NOT fishing on Rush!



July! Can't believe it is less than three weeks to the LOTW. Muskie fever is definitely starting to settle in but our annual meeting at Thorne Brothers will kick it up a notch. Every year I think I will be prepared but I know this year will be no different. Have to get all the gear out and make sure the reels are up to the challenge this year. Heaven forbid I am wearing the Fluffee cam and lose a muskie to faulty equipment! Someone recently asked why I like the LOTW trip so much and I was somewhat surprised. I thought it was obvious but I suppose not everyone would share my views. Sure

the search for that ever bigger muskie drives the trip but for me I really think the draw is the lake itself. I love being out there and hardly ever seeing another boat. The fishing is great and if you tire of muskie, plenty of walleyes and smallies around (but who tires of fishing for muskie?!). It is also perhaps the only time of the year where I feel like I am away from work. It truly is a great place to fish with great friends. Go Party Cabin!

Dr. Meat/John Schaffhausen

Double the Pleasure, Double the Fun

On the spot reporter: James "Griz" Ferstenou
On Friday, June 7th and Saturday, June 8th the Waterdogs took on Lake Mille Lacs for our fourth and fifth tournaments of the year. One tournament would be for smallmouth bass while the second would be for walleye. In a unique twist, angling teams were left to decide which fish/tournament that they would fish for on which day, having to declare their choice before the start of the first tournament. Anglers were greeted with light winds and sunny skies on Friday afternoon with the occasional dark cloud popping up throughout the afternoon and evening. The group made their choices and set out on the water with different teams chasing different species at the same time. At the end of day one there were reports of finicky walleye and smallmouth bites, but also reports of limits of both species of fish having been caught.

On day two anglers awoke to a beautiful morning as it was slightly overcast and calm. The breeze would pick up to create a "walleye crop" on the water and the sun eventually broke through the clouds. By 12:30 PM the tournaments were over and everyone gathered in the parking area near the boat ramps at Eddy's eagerly awaiting the results of both tournaments.

When the numbers were crunched for the small mouth tournament there were a total of 72 smallies registered, including seven limits of eight fish, for a total weight of 239.092 pounds. The tournament was won by the team of Perp and Nasty (30.853 pounds) who finished over three pounds ahead of the second place team of Boo Boo and Dr. Meat (27.733 pounds). The three man team of Spanky, OF and Bud came in third (27.683 pounds), followed by The Analist and Carmen in fourth (26.901 pounds), Captain Kirk and Father Bertha in fifth (26.041 pounds) and Hilary and Dr. Uno in sixth place (25.827 pounds). The largest smallies of the tournament were 21" fish caught by Perp, The Analist and Janitor.

The walleye tournament also proved to be a successful one with many large walleyes being

caught, although fewer limits of fish. A total of 48 walleyes were registered, but only two limits of eight fish, for a total weight of 239.400 pounds. Of the 48 walleyes registered, only one was less than 20" in length. The largest fish of the tournament was a 28.5"er caught by Banana Boy. In the end, that fish became part of a truly impressive bag for the winning team of FD and Banana Boy who blew the competition away with what is likely a Waterdogs record eight walleye weight of 53.700 pounds (that's an average of 6.71 pounds per walleye). Trailing 18.300 pounds behind was the second place team of Hilary and Dr. Uno with 35.400 pounds. Third place went to the team of Farm Boy and Griz (32.200 pounds) followed by Janitor and Puddin' Man in fourth (31.200 pounds), Chips and Felix in fifth (24.00 pounds) and the top six was rounded out by The Analist and Carmen (21.400 pounds).

These were definitely two fun days on the water and I look forward to reading about the winning strategies and techniques later in this Documentary.

The Winner's Circle

By Brian "The Perpetrator" Karsjens,

The weather forecast for Friday was 2 mph winds and Saturday was up to 12 mph and that created a dilemma for us in choosing what to fish for when.



Should we go with the traditional night bite thinking and fish walleyes on Friday or go for the chop on Saturday and fish smallies on Friday. The discussion continued and our plan changed about every 10 minutes on the way up Friday. About 1:30 we made the decision to stay with the traditional night bite and look for smallie spots as we fished walleyes on Friday.

Friday night we lost more walleyes than we boated and ended up with 3 on the card. Saturday had to be better. We listened and eavesdropped as much as possible Friday evening, but didn't get a lot of information. Saturday we headed south to the Cove Bay area and fished both the west shore and the point on the east. The only fish caught were a walleye and a muskie by Nasty.

After a couple of hours we made the decision to try something different and headed north stopping at Andersons Reef and Rock Reef but again no sign of a smallie.

Sometime after 9:00 AM we again moved. This time we headed to Sherman's Point and Wigwam bay.

We began casting the shore line along the SE side of the point and worked our way around the North side. I had a 4" grub in summer



craw pattern with red sparkles on a 1/8 oz ball jig. About 10:00 I finally hooked up with a fish. As we landed it I said to Nasty that this had to be a PB for me and sure enough at 20 inches it was. A couple of casts later I landed a 19 incher. Shortly after that Nasty was also using the grub. He had a big fish on but it snapped his new line. We moved west to the rock pile in front of the resort and caught another four fish (two at 15, an 18.5 and 18). In the mean time we also had picked up a couple of walleyes.

It slowed down and we were still hoping for two more fish in the last 45 minutes so we headed west to the next buoy hoping it also marked a rock pile. We fished it to no avail and Nasty said one more cast and let's go back to the rocks in front of the resort. He no more than made the cast and hooked up with our 7th fish, another 18.5 inch smallie. Needless to say we agreed that the buoy deserved a couple more casts. Nothing.

We went back to the rock pile in front of the resort and spent another 10 minutes there but couldn't raise anything. We were down to our last 15 minutes and wanted to hit the first productive spot one more time.

We moved close with the big motor, then worked along the shore and to the first spot and nothing. We were down to our last 5 minutes. A couple of casts later Nasty said it would be nice to get just one more before we go in and I said you mean like the one I just hooked. He said that would work. It put up a good fight and afraid of losing it, I was extra cautious in bringing it in. With the clear water you could see it was a big fish a long way out and that just increased the pressure of not screwing up. It dove under the boat a couple of times and didn't want to come in but we finally got it in the net. It was a pig but until I measured it, I didn't realize that it also was a PB. We looked at each other, shook hands, wrote the fish on the card and headed in.

The clear water made it interesting and added a new dynamic to fishing. Being able to see big fish swimming around instead of just hoping something was down there was different. We saw three muskies, two in the mid to upper 40's, multiple big walleyes and small mouth bass. Being able to see the beds of zebra mussels made me realize how big the problem with them is. Watching a fish thrash around as it fought to get off gave a new appreciation for any fish that actually gets landed.

The Winner's Circle

"Banana Boy"

I'm beginning to think FD is my good luck charm. First, we had that nine muskie day on the 2009 LOTW trip, we won the Rush Lake Bass Tournament by a large margin – and, during the more recent Mille Lacs 'Flip Flop' tournament, our best eight walleyes weighed in at around 53 pounds. Given our LOTW success, I was excited to hear we were paired together for the Flip Flop. With neither of us having pre-fished before the tournament, we were planning to rely on some spots fished in past. Then, as a few Dogs dropped, we landed a three-man with Fluffee. Thankfully, for FD and me, Fluff had pre-fished the week before at Spirit Island and caught several nice sized walleyes fishing jigs and twister tails. So, that's where we were headed! With Fluff coming up on Friday evening, FD and I decided to try our luck the first day on walleyes. Our strategy was to hopefully hit the evening bite – and, more importantly, get walleyes off the list.

After grabbing a quick bite of the fine cuisine at Eddy's restaurant, we were out on the water. We scouted a couple spots, but nothing quite grabbed our interest, so we headed to the ripe smells and white 'painted' rocks of Spirit. Once there, we quickly realized what made this spot so appealing. Off the island, the water held table-size (or larger) rock as the speaker mentioned, perfect for ambushing prey, along with occasional spots of small gravel rock. Another feature of the island was a finger of boulder rock that jetted from the south end about 200 feet out – with the saddle coming up to 5 feet and dropping off quickly on both sides to about 10+ feet.

Moving our way around the island, we started tossing toward shore. The approach was a slow retrieve just off the bottom. FD was throwing a jig and picked up several nice smallies – one of which was a fat football of 19 inches. As we kept fishing the contours of the submerged rock, I made a toss toward shore. Landing my crawfish crankbait within a few feet of shoreline, I made a couple of cranks – and WHAM! Not fighting much like a smallie, but showing signs of a good fish, I was amazed to see it was a walleye – and a personal best of 28.5 inches. We continued to fish the shoreline and then followed the saddle out. By this time, we both made the switch to a 1/4oz jig with 3-inch purple twister tail with gold flake. Eventually making it back to where we started, FD made a cast to shore. Within a foot of the shoreline, a 26-inch walleye slammed his bait. After releasing the fish, and on his very next cast to the exact same spot, he had another fish. As he was bringing it to the boat, I joked that it was the exact same fish. He proved me wrong, when this fish measured a half inch longer than the previous at 26.5 inches.

For the rest of the day, we circled the island probably 10 times and surprisingly saw only three boats the entire day – all fishing deeper water with bait rigs. On each pass, we picked up a number of nice walleyes measuring in the mid-to-upper 20s and an equal number of smallies – including another fat 19 incher. Working in our benefit, the winds were calm, allowing us to easily navigate the island, and water unbelievably clear. This made for seeing structure on the bottom, even sight-fishing the occasional walleye or smallie as they worked the bottom. Interestingly, FD hooked a smallie earlier in the day that broke his line. A couple of passes later he hooked that very same smallie with his line/lure coming out of his mouth. All in, it was a

great start to the two-day tournament with a lot of action and our eight counters measuring 24 to 28.5 inches. The only downfall was the constant racket and screeching (and windblown stench) of the cormorants, seagulls and pelicans. Worth the sacrifice for a great day fishing.



With the start of Day 2, we had Spirit in our sights once again, but thought we'd try one of FD's spots on the way – the boulder rock flats just outside of Cove Bay. On the first cast, Fluff landed a mid-20s walleye. Thinking this was a sign of things to come, that was our only bite on the spot. The structure here was much different than what we had fished at Spirit in that it held small boulder rock the size of basketballs. Moving back to Spirit, we started throwing the same baits as the day earlier with limited success. FD was mostly bouncing a crawfish plastic off the bottom and picked up a number of smallies. Fluff and I jumped between several baits – with me having the greatest success fishing a Mepps spinner and Fluff catching fish on a few different lures. We had to work hard to fill our card of smallies, but the walleyes were pretty active on the island once again. My biggest walleye of the 2-day trip, and besting the previous day, was a 29.5 incher on a blue and black jig-and-pig. We couldn't have asked for a better two days of good fishing, and thank Fluff for his scouting.

Kids Fishing Clinic

Doug Squire "Mama's Boy"

Little Angel and I helped out with the Kids Clinic Saturday June 15th. We arrived about 7:30 to help with the setup of the event and worked on putting together fishing rods for the kids to fish from the



see. Our biggest bass consistently come from those areas.

Personal Bests:

A number of personal bests were landed during the Mille Lacs Tournament. It was suggested we post personal bests in the Dogumentary. Here are the ones I'm aware of from the Mille Lacs Tournament. Whenever you score a personal best make a point to get a picture and send it to Juan.



Branden Happel: 29.5" Walleye



Kirk 25.5" Brown

pier as well as the dry land casting stations. At the start of the event we assisted kids in a Bass Master casting area teaching kids how to do a flip, pitch and overhead casts. The booth had a steady stream of kids throughout the day, about 250 turned in score cards for prizes. They gave away a number of new rods/reels, as well plastic baits for the kids with highest scores.

Overall the event seemed to be a good success. I would recommend any of you Dogs with young kids and grandkids with a fishing interest to make the event, plenty of things to keep them busy for a few hours.

Tip of the Month

Laun Sanderson " Juan Valdez"

Helen and I have been part of a General Mills Fishing group for the past few years. It ends up being mostly bass fishing and Helen and I frequent the areas around spring Lake Park and Spray Island on Minnetonka. The most effective warm weather way that we've found to up the size of our bass catch is: #1 Fish the more complex dock structures. #2 fish the inside of those dock structures. #3 Skip your wacky worm under the dock and/or boat to the darkest shadows you can



Chips 27" Walleye



Felix 27.5" Walleye



Perp 21" Small Mouth



Sticky Fingers 19.5" Small Mouth



Analist 21" Small Mouth

Bio of the Month:

Dave "Felix" Anderson

A little bit about your family

I have been married to Joyce since Oct. 21st, 1972 and we have two children, Matthew and Kristin. Kristin has a husband, Dan, and daughter, Jenna, who is the one of the greatest joys of our life!

What's your handle and the story behind it?

Felix is my handle and it comes from "The Odd Couple" and my inclination to keep a tidy cabin while at Lake of the Woods.

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

Grew up in Austin, MN. and did a little fishing with my Grandpa in Albert Lea and a little bit of worm fishing for trout with my Stepfather. Fished with Joyce's father, brother and assorted other relatives during our courtship and the early years of our marriage.

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

My brother, Rick Anderson, or Old Fart as he is known by most.,

What's your profession?

I am a Sales Engineer for Fabcon Precast, LLC. and have worked here since Oct. 21st, 1974.

What's your favorite species to fish? BASS

Why? Because you can find them nearly everywhere.



What's your favorite technique? I like Top Water baits like Scum Frogs as well as Senko worms. I still have a lot to learn and am willing to try just about anything, even Pig & Jig, just ask Kirk!

What's your most memorable fishing experience? I have had so many great experiences fishing with many different Waterdogs it is difficult to pick one. Fishing with my brother on Lake of the Woods the week after our mother passed away is one I think of often. Fishing Tarpon with the group at Shorty's probably created the most adrenaline!!! It's a different world when the fish are the same size you are and you are in a boat about the same size we fish in around here. I have caught personal bests in Trout and Bass with Kirk and had my biggest "stringer" of Bass fishing with Griz.

What do you like about being a Waterdog? It's a great group of guys who all have a common interest. It's fun, and can be enlightening, to fish

with someone you can learn from or , maybe, even teach something to a friend. It gets me out fishing!

LOTW update

With Sticky Dropping out and Buick's friend, Jeff Hansen, coming mid-week, we still have 12.

The latest contact with Angle Oupost on 7/5 was one guide reported muskies were prespawn with water temp in the low 70's.

At this point cabin assignments are:

Cabin 5: Ron Boudreaux, Matt Mueller, John Schaffhausen and Bob Raymo

Cabin 9: James Ferstenau, Glen Johnson, Bob Blakely and Jeff Lantto

Cabin 10: Scott Hennessy, Ron Reigle, Brian Karsjens and Jeff Hansen (arrives Wednesday)

More at the meeting!

Carmen



Photo of the Month by Meat

2013 Tournament Schedule

Date	Species	Location	Dogs in Charge
June 7-8	Mille Lacs Flip-Flop	Mille Lacs	Janitor, Duper, Chips
July 13	Shot in the Dark Bass	TBD	Kirk, Analist
July 20-27	Muskie	LOTW	
September 14	Multispecies	Minnetonka	Greenstick and Helen
October 5	Smallmouth	Rum River	Perp and Nasty