

# The Dogumentary

31st Year

All the News that's Fish to Print

August 2013

## Lake of the Woods Edition

### 2013 Waterdogs Fishing Club Calendar

September 14th	Minnetonka Multispecies
October 5th	Small Mouth
November 7th	Banquet

### August Speaker: Doug Warren

Doug grew up fishing Minnetonka and has been guiding professionally since 1995. He enjoys pursuing fish of all species and is a multi-species angler/guide. His life passion is fishing and he enjoys teaching others how to catch fish. He has conducted several fishing seminars, kids fishing outings, radio shows, tv shows and also writes fishing articles for publications and [UpNorthOutdoors.com](http://UpNorthOutdoors.com). He has been competing in competitive fishing tournaments since the early 90's and has logged many top 10 finishes in both bass and walleye tournaments across the upper midwest.



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### *From the Desk of the President,*

Well the Lake of the Woods trip has come and gone. Thanks to Carmen for all his work!! In spite of the weather I think we all still had a great time. No one was seriously hurt although the boats may not have fared as well. It was great being out on that lake again and I already am starting to think of next year! It always seems that the summer really starts to cruise by after we return. Now I have to decide where to put that milk can ...(maybe sneak it into Fluffee's place...)

Looking ahead we have two remaining tournaments. Looking forward to hearing all the ins and outs about multi-species fishing on Tonka at

the next meeting. I hope to be able to get out and fish more before then but the way work is looking it may be a challenge. Hopefully it won't be another frustrating weather situation as it was for the attempted bass tournament!

We will also be having a formal board meeting and I can't wait to see what controversial topics will be discussed. Is there finally a scandal for this presidency? Let the Chairman know if there are other topics that need to be hashed out.



*Dr. Meat/John Schaffhausen*

### Shot in the Dark Bass

It was truly a shot in the dark. Barely got light enough between the 8" of rain that fell to even get out of the truck. A few Dogs enjoyed a good breakfast at local cafes. FD and I attacked the box of brownies I'd made for lunch. Mostly we just sat around until 10:00, drove home and took a nap.

### Lake of the Woods Report

Scott "Kojak" Hennessy

#### Saturday

Officially, Saturday is the first day of the Waterdogs annual trip to Lake of the Woods. However, several of the Dogs start the trek on Friday, driving to Warroad and staying overnight so they can get an early fishing start on Saturday.

Unfortunately, Saturday turned out to be a day of troubles. The first Wienie award nominees of the trip are the combination of Griz and Puddin Man. Puddin graciously towed Buick's boat to the Angle and offered to launch it for him so it would be in the water and ready to go when Buick arrived with Kojak later in the day. The problem was they forgot to put the drain plug in when they launched the boat. So naturally, the boat started to fill with water. It was some time before the mistake was noticed and the boat was pulled back out and launched with the plug in.



Chips also had water in the boat problems. He had been having problems with his live well leaking. He thought it was fixed. Maybe the trip over the gravel roads shook loose his repair so that it made the water flow into his boat from the lake. A quick temporary plug solved the problem.

The second nominee for the Wiennie Award is Kojak. Shortly after the gas stop at Cass Lake, Kojak remembered he had forgotten to bring his passport. So he off-loaded Buick to Perp and returned home to get the passport. It took him until just after midnight to make it to the Angle. It turns out he should have continued to the resort. Canada will let you enter on a driver's license. The passport is just needed to get back in the USA. His passport could have been overnighted to him during the week.



But the problems were not over for the group. Fluffee heard a clicking noise from his motor and had a hard time getting the boat in gear later in the day. Apparently he had hit a rock earlier in the year that caused some hidden damage in his lower unit. He had it checked by a dealer before the trip but the dealer did not find the damage.

Some changes were noticeable at the Angle Outpost. The Old Guy's Cabin has been totally remodeled. A new metal roof, siding, flooring,

bathroom, kitchen, and appliances have been installed. Also the bedrooms have been renovated. New linens, sofas, a 46" flat screen TV and a new gas fireplace have really made the cabin comfortable. The cabin is now the new home of the Blind Squirrels.

The other cabins also have been upgraded. The Party Cabin has a new bathroom and the other cabins got new bathroom countertops and kitchen flooring.

Saturday was a cool day on the lake for the early group. Chips says it was 54 degrees when they went out. However, by afternoon it had warmed into the 70's.

Generally, fishing was slow. Fluffee caught a Muskie on his third cast of the day, and caught another Muskie later on. Perp was the only other Dog to catch a Muskie, and it was a small one. So after day one, Fluffee is in the lead with 2 fish with the biggest at 38.5 inch

### **Sunday**

Weather on Sunday was very nice, temps in the mid-70's and light winds. Early in the morning the water was absolutely flat



Fluffee took his boat in to the local mechanic. He is the one that found the hidden damage. Since it is Sunday, it is not known if parts can be delivered to get his boat fixed this week.

Shorty had some boat trouble today. His motor got stuck in the down position. His power trim was not working. So at lunchtime he went up to visit the mechanic. It turns out there was some module the burned out (Shorty-go figure!) and was quickly repaired.



While Shorty was visiting the mechanic, Kojak got a cell phone call from Buick saying he and Perp were stranded by Otto's Reef. Apparently his boat had no power. When this happened, only Janitor was still on the water. Kojak called on the marine radio but he did not respond. Rather, Shorty was at the mechanic's place where the mechanic had his channel tuned to 68, so Shorty responded but obviously not in a position to help. There is some speculation the mechanic is tuned to 68 the week the Dogs are on the angle. So Kojak gassed his boat and headed to Otto's Reef. Just before reaching Monument Bay, he met up with Buick and Perp coming the other way. Apparently Buick, the third wienie nominee, had dislodged the kill switch and discovered that shortly after calling Kojak. As cell service is not the best out on the water they could not get through to say they were now OK. Buick also had trouble with the boat steering system. He solved the problem by adding hydraulic fluid.

Fishing was a little better. Six Muskies were caught. Puddin got 2, Griz 1, Meat 1, Janitor 1, and Chips 1. Griz now has the lead on the biggest Muskie at 42". Glenn and Fluffee are tied with 2 Muskies apiece. Buick caught 2 nice northernns, the largest at 36". So far no one had carded a walleye or smallmouth.

Shorty, Meat and Carmen were fishing together. When fishing 3 in a boat, sometimes casting the same spot at the same time just happens. At one point Shorty had a Muskie follow his bait, but did not see her until she was right by the boat. Carmen, reeling in his line had his bait right behind the Muskie's tail. So they had the fish bracketed, but neither of them caught her.

### Monday

We had rain and wind overnight. No one was anxious to get out on the water. Finally about 9 AM Buick ventured out with Chips in his boat. The rest of the Dogs did not go out. When returning to the cabin, it was discovered on the Accu-weather site that the winds were out of the Northwest at 23 mph with gusts to 38 MPH.

Buick and Chips returned about 4 PM. They had caught a couple small northerns, but no Muskies. In bouncing in the waves, Buick lost a rod and reel over the side.

**Tuesday** A cool start to the morning, but the sun quickly warmed the day and it was very pleasant with mild winds. The wind kicked up during the day but was not horrible.

Fishing continues to be slow. The first walleyes of the trip were caught by Puddin and Kojak. Puddin got the biggest at 21".

Only three Muskies were caught. Griz got a 46.5", Meat a 26.5", and Fluffee got a 29" fish which put him in the lead with the most Muskies at three. Griz now has the biggest Muskie so far.



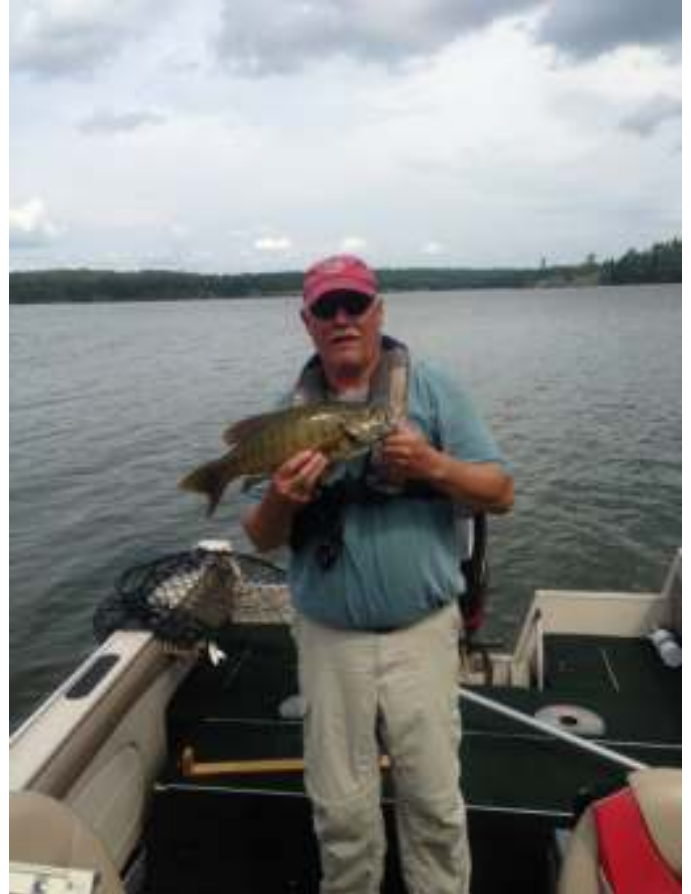
### Wednesday

We had rain overnight but the day started with cool temps and light winds. Again, the winds grew in strength during the day. The day also became cloudy and a few light showers were around in the early afternoon, with a bigger rain storm about 5 PM.

Buick's friend Nick arrived about 11 PM last night. He was bitten by a horsefly on his hand

which swelled up significantly. Dr. Meat offered him some help. Shorty continues to have boat troubles. His boat is out with some electrical problem and will not be able to have it fixed on the angle. On a more positive note, Fluffee's boat is back in action earlier than expected. Fishing still is slow. Fish are being seen but are not biting. The Muskies are not active or aggressive at all. Five Muskies were caught today, Meat got a 43" fish and a 28" fish, Perp a 36", Buick a 30" and Griz got a 23.5". Perp also got a 20" smallmouth.

The Muskie total is now 17. Griz still has the largest and Meat takes the lead for most with 4 fish.



### Thursday

We woke up to cloudy skies, with a prediction of off and on showers all day. The showers started mid-morning and some were heavy downpours. Those fishing close to the resort came in for awhile and went out in the afternoon. It was just miserable fishing in the rain. Sometimes it was so heavy you could not see good enough to drive the boat. Everybody got wet.

The good news was there was no lightening and the fish started to turn on. Everyone saw fish, and bigger fish. However at the end of the day only four Muskies were caught. Perp got a 44" fish, Shorty a 46" fish, Puddin a 32" fish and Nick ( Buick's buddy) got a 24.5" fish.

In the evening, the thunderstorms arrived. Those that were in for dinner did not go out again. On Friday it was noted that several trees had gone down in the Burnt Rock Island area.

### Friday

Friday was a breezy day. The winds were rough, but not so rough that we could not get out to fish. The day brought us a mixture of cloudy and partly cloudy skies. The overnight storms significantly lowered water temps. Most of the week we had been seeing water temps from 72 to 76 degrees. On Friday morning the water was about 68 degrees. Some places warmed up a few degrees, but that was all.

Fishing was a mixed bag. Several Dogs saw a lot of big fish moving and others did not see any fish.

Janitor managed to find a couple hungry fish and caught a 29.5" and a 30" fish. Fluffee caught a 25" fish and Chips caught a 40.5" Muskie.

Both the Dogs in Cabin 9, Griz, Puddin, Janitor and Chips, and the Dogs in Cabin 8, Perp, Kojak, Buick and Nick, had each scheduled a walleye dinner. So resources were pooled and Kojak cooked the fish and hashbrowns for both cabins.



The bill for the week came with a surprise, a \$100 a day fine smoking in the party cabin.

### Awards

- Biggest Muskie: Griz 46.5"
- Most Muskies: Meat and Fluffee 4 each
- Biggest Northern: Buick 38"
- Biggest Walleye: Puddin 21"
- Biggest Smallmouth: Perp 20"
- One day slam: No winners
- Weekly slam: Perp
- Cabin Cup: Cabin 9 – Griz, Puddin, Chips, Janitor.

### Saturday

After loading up, we had breakfast at the lodge. Lisa and Jason made us scrambled eggs with

sausage chunks, blueberry pancakes and bacon. It was a great breakfast to send us on our way after awards and picture.

When going through Sprague, Buick was hailed by someone who told him that one of his trailer wheels was wobbling. Buick found a couple of mechanics to help him. The mechanic took a hammer and screwdriver and took off the hub. Unfortunately the mechanic did not understand how Ranger trailers work using an oil filled lubrication system. Half the oil was lost in the process and they did not have the right kind of oil and knowledge to fill it back up. The problem was a tread separation in the tire. Putting on the spare solved the problem and they were on their way again.

Perp and Kojak caravanned together on the way home. When near Princeton, Kojak noticed his trailer lights were not on while driving through the light rain. The light plug into the truck had come out and the light pigtail was dragging on the road. The road had ground down the plug. Fortunately there was just enough of the metal prongs left that the lights worked when the pigtail was plugged back in.

LOW July 19-26, 2014 Put it in your calendar now. Be there!

### Tackle Tip of the Month:

Modified Musky Matte

Here's a tip from the Griz:



Like many of you, I love the Musky Mat that the Blind Squirrels created years ago. I recently made a small modification to mine that I thought I'd pass on in case anyone else wants to do the same. In the past I've had times where I wanted to measure a musky or pike, laid the Musky Mat out and had it want to curl back up into the stored shape. In an effort solve this problem and to keep the mat lying outstretched and flat I simply added some decoy

strap weights to the end of the mat to weigh it down. I've been meaning to make this modification for a few years now and finally got around to it. Hopefully it will work as well as I think that it will. The decoy strap weights cost about \$15 for a 12 pack and come with a hole near each end of the strap. I simply used small machine bolts/screws, washers, lock washers and nuts to attach them to/through the mat. The modification only takes a few minutes to do and costs under \$3 (if you were



to split the cost of the weights with others). I thought about using an adhesive instead of mechanical fasteners but I was concerned about having a bad reaction between the adhesive and the mat itself, thus melting the mat material.

**Bio of the Month:**

Matt "FLUFFEE" Mueller

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

- Shorty. At one time I was nuts enough to do business with him.

What's your profession?

- Insurance Geek.

A little bit about your family.

- Married 30 years this April to Marty. We met in college in 1978. 3 kids; daughter Lauren, son Stephen, and daughter Anna. And now my first son in law as of this January - Andy, married to Lauren.

What's your handle and the story behind it?

- Some people are Fluffers. Fluffers do their work for Fluffees.

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

Most of my early years were in northern New Jersey. My earlier fishing experiences as a young teen and older were for trout - but this mostly involved worms and salmon eggs. In my mid teens I started taking trips with friends to Rainy Lake and other points Canadian where we fished for Pike and occasionally Smallies and walleyes.

What's your favorite species to fish? Why? What's your favorite technique?

- Light spinning tackle for trout and casting for Muskie and big Pike.

What's your most memorable fishing experience?

- Alaska in 2001 with 5 of my oldest friends where we spent a week on a houseboat on a tributary of the Yukon River. Our days were spent casting to 45-50" Pike and 20 pound Sheefish (a cooler fish there isn't). At night we would be greeted by a meal prepared by our on board Chef and wait for the sun to never set over cocktails.

What do you like about being a Waterdog? variety. Learning new approaches from other members and sharing some of my own. And the Lake of the Woods.

**2013 Tournament Schedule**

Date	Species	Location	Dogs in Charge
September 14	Multispecies	Minnetonka	Greenstick and Helen
October 5	Smallmouth	Rum River	Perp and Nasty