

The Dogumentary

Lake of the Woods Edition

32nd Year

All the News that's Fish to Print

August 2014

2014 Waterdogs Fishing Club Calendar

August 7	Monthly meeting at Tuttlles
August 16	Mega Multi Species-Lake Pepin
September 4	Monthly meeting at Tuttlles
Sept 13	Small Mouth-Big Birch
July 2015	Lake of the Woods

July Speaker: Jeremy Schreiner



Jeremy Schreiner has many years of river experience, both hunting and fishing. Having been introduced to the Chippewa River and Red Cedar rivers at a young age, Jeremy became familiar with moving water techniques and methods. He continues to be fascinated with

moving water fishing and has always chosen the rivers.

From the Desk of the President:

I write this as we journey back from LOTW after a half-week of fishing, and now onto meet up with the wife and kids, and Metro's family, for a few days on Bass Lake in Grand Rapids. It was a fairly slow week for the Dogs with only 38 muskies caught, including our two newest members, Big Bird and Metro, hooking their first musky.

The most active bite for us came on Tuesday, just after a storm pushed through the previous night. Heading out for our annual Party Cabin outing, we decided to hit the Big Narrows. Fishing with the Fluffmeister, we worked our way to Outer Bay, where raised an active fish on our very first spot. This was a good sign, so we continued to look for similar structure throughout the day – scattered boulder rock, mixed weeds (pads, cabbage, reeds and frags) and bays. This pattern worked well as we raised 10 muskies (most of them active fish), boated three, and caught four nice-sized pike in the mid to upper 30s. All of our fish were raised, and caught, on an MG spinner bait with either yellow/brown or yellow/black hair with two brass blades

that provided good thumping in the water. Both the lure and structure produced well for us that day!



In one spot, where we raised a fish in a small bay, we decided to work the shoreline to an opposite bay that held the same structure. That was where we ran into the three-man of Shorty, Duper and Meat as they had just finished the bay and welcomed us to the endearing



serenade of their 'dickhead' song. As they pulled off the spot, we moved in to see if throwing a different bait (our spinner baits) might raise a fish. To our surprise, we raised a mid-40s musky and caught a 37.5, 35.0 and 32.5-inch pike. All in, it was a great day of fishing. That was until the Jager that night. Party Cabin tradition!



For the second half of the week, we did some fishing with the kids on Bass Lake – a beautiful lake with a depth of 80 feet, crystal clear water, and known for its nice panfish and decent walleye. Trolling spinners, the kids caught a bunch of hammer-handles that put up a fun fight. We even got into a hot walleye bite one evening with Rylan (my youngest) catching his first walleye.

I want to again thank Carmen and Kojak for their great work planning the trip – the hotel arrangements, partner pairings, the great walleye dinner and all the other details. Nice job, boys!

See you all at our August meeting, where we'll be gathering at Tuttle's in Hopkins.

Banana Boy

Lake of the Woods Report

Dr. Uno's Big Adventure

This year's annual fishing trip to Lake of the Woods had 21 current and former Waterdogs making the trek to the Angle Outpost fishing camp at Angle Inlet, Minnesota.

After all the Dogs had signed-up for the trip, we had determined that we were short two boats to allow us to have two Dogs per boat and one spare boat in case of break downs.

Fortunately Felix and Nasty Boy were gracious and agreed to bring their boats. Nasty had an issue though as he was only staying the first half of the week and was not returning home right away.

Rather he was joining his son at Boy Scout Camp on Tuesday evening. So Griz agreed to tow Nasty's boat home. Nasty also said he would allow Griz to captain the boat in case of a breakdown by any of the other boats. So we were all set.

Unfortunately, the week before we left for Lake of the Woods, Janitor was involved in a traffic accident returning from the Lake Mille Lacs smallmouth tournament. Janitor was rear ended at a stop light in Elk River. The impact of the truck that hit him tore the motor off his boat, shoved the boat forward on the trailer into the rear of his truck. Janitor's truck also was shoved forward into a trailer of the vehicle in front of him. The trailer in front of Janitor was hauling a new Harley Davidson motorcycle.



The good news is that both Janitor and his passenger Old Fart were okay. The boat and trailer had absorbed much of the energy from the pick-up truck that hit him. The bad news is that Janitor's boat was a total loss and would not be available for the annual trip.

Again we had a Dog step up to help out. Sticky agreed to get his boat ready to be available for the first half of the week, but he would have to delay his departure to Saturday. With him doing that we were to have an extra boat for the first half of the week.

Friday – July 18th

The Friday group made the trip north to Warroad without incident. This year they stayed at a different motel, called the Patch. The Dogs felt this was a better motel than the Motel 8 they had been using. The place also had a restaurant which turned out to be better than the restaurant they had been using that was now closed.

Friday evening, Sticky called Kojak to report that he was having a problem with his boat trailer. After getting everything ready he noticed smoke coming from one wheel as he was towing it home from the storage place. He said he could not make the ride North with the group as he planned to take the trailer into the dealer in the morning. He said he would come up later in the day after the trailer was fixed. It appeared the brakes were hung up. He also mentioned his ride up partner, Bertha, would need a ride with someone else.

Saturday, - July 19th

The Saturday group met at the Rogers McDonalds and also made the trip to the Angle without incident. Bertha joined Kojak and Duper for the ride. Sticky was in communication with us as he dealt with his trailer. He started to get to the dealer, but never made it. The smoking wheel got worse and he eventually had to have it towed in. Apparently a normal flat bed tow vehicle cannot take a boat and trailer. There are specialty tow trucks for this purpose and he had to wait two hours for a tow. After the boat was at the dealer, Sticky headed for the angle, arriving at 11 PM.



Dr. Uno's Big Fish 48"

Meanwhile, the Friday group got up to the Angle Outpost and into their cabins and out on the water by 10 AM. The Saturday group arrived about 2:30 PM and got out fishing about 5 PM.

Saturday was a good start on the Muskie count. Seven Muskies were caught, two by Dr. Uno, two by Metro, two by Puddin and one by Felix. Dr. Uno, having a great year on the Waterdogs tournament series continued to demonstrate his prowess or luck by setting the mark high by getting a 48 incher on the first day. Nasty also had a good day, catching a 41 inch northern. Skies were partly cloudy and winds moderate for the evening but very windy earlier in the day.



Nasty 41" Pike

The high water was evident everywhere. The marina water level is so high the water had risen higher than the banks on the Eastern side. Makeshift walkways of planks and palettes were needed to cross the casual water to get to the docks. The electrical power poles are all in the water with all the cords as well that we use to charge out boat batteries.

Sunday – July 20th

With Sticky's boat down, we no longer had an extra boat. Partners had to be shuffled. If a boat breaks down now we will need to get a rental.

Yesterday evening, Shorty got on the radio asking for help to tow him back to the Camp from Onion Island. Perp was the nearest boat available so towed him in. Somehow the fuel filter came loose and was spraying gas all over the inside of the cowling. Shorty screwed the filter back in and the boat was again back out on the water.

A slow day. Water temperatures were in the high 60's early in the day but warmed up a little into the low 70's as the day progressed. Fishing was slow for Muskies, with only two being caught, for a total of nine for the trip. However, with the cooler than normal water temps, many northerns were caught.



With the rising water, weed beds that were small and few last year are virtually gone. Any spot you could imagine from a previous trip looks drastically different this year. For example, the tail on Whale Tail is all under water. The sandy beach at Wonder Bay is all under water. The high water has also opened up areas that were not fishable last year.

Sticky was fishing with Metro today. Sticky caught a fish that was netted. Sticky asked Metro to cut the line to set the rod aside. After the fish was released, and some time had passed (maybe 10 minutes), Sticky says, "Hey where's my rod." Sticky had just purchased a new 9 foot rod and reel. As they could not find it in the boat, they looked out upon the water and saw it floating nearby. Lucky, but not so lucky as to avoid a weenie nomination.

Weather was hot, about 90 degrees.

The dinner break today was at the lodge. Lisa and Jason served the group a walleye dinner, with baked potatoes, cole slaw and baked beans. It was fun to have the group together for a good meal early in the week and also share our enthusiasm for the week ahead.

Monday – July 21st

The forecast had been for early morning rain/storms and then mostly sunny until strong storms redeveloped about 5 PM. The forecasters got it half right. There was no rain in the morning.

The day turned out to be great for weather early on. Winds were light, mostly sunny skies to warm the water. Early morning water temps were in the low 70's. By afternoon the temps were up to as high as 76 degrees.



Muskies caught was a little better than yesterday, with three muskies caught. Dr. Uno's 48 is still the biggest caught so far. But lots of big fish were seen today



Bertha's Bloody Girl

The second half of the forecast was true. Strong storms did develop between 5 and 6 PM. But the storms passed just to the North of the Angle Outpost. We all were in for dinner and watched the storm cells pass. Most of the Dogs elected to stay at the cabins, but a few went out during a break in the storm cells. They were out for a short time as a new cell developed and headed toward the Angle. Those of us who watched them racing in saw Fluffee and his new boat come completely out of the water twice as it bounced waves coming into the marina.

Bertha caught a nice muskie today but mishandled the fish and got his thumb sliced by a muskie tooth. He bled all over himself, the fish and Chips boat. Chips got him patched so he could continue to fish. At dinnertime Bertha consulted with the three doctors on the trip, getting different opinions and decided to have Sticky check his wound. The result was 5 stitches as fish had cut his thumb right down to the tendon. During the stitching procedure apparently Carmen was unavailable, so Nasty was the attending nurse holding the flashlight.



Tuesday – July 22nd

The day started out windy and was windy all day. Even though it was windy it did not prevent us from fishing. The Dogs mostly fished the calmer side of islands. The day also was sunny, high in the upper 70's.

The wind must have been a good thing as ten muskies were caught, Banana Boy caught three of the ten, taking the lead for the most muskies. So the hopes were high that the fish are turning on.

The Party Cabin had intended to journey beyond Skeet Island to where our speaker Bob said the

muskies were crazy. However the windy conditions prevented that from happening.

The most common phase heard this week, "Wow, this sure looks different." This was followed by "this is weird." The water is so high nothing looks as it should.

The wind in the evening did not prevent Kojak and Janitor from trolling Lambert Island for walleyes. The boat was rockin and rollin in the waves but Janitor hauled in two 22" fish and also a 19" walleye.

Nasty left about 5 PM to join his son at Boy Scout Camp

Fluffee, however, has decided to stay another day.

Wednesday – July 23rd

Banana Boy, Metro and Sticky leave this morning for home after fishing half the week. I think Banana Boy was especially sad to leave as he was in the lead with four muskies caught.

Another decent day catching Muskies. The day was warm with light winds. Today the Blind Squirrels took advantage of the nice weather conditions and made their way to crazyland out past Skeet Island. The only thing crazy about the trip was they were crazy to go. To be fair, that part of the lake water is also high and it was hard to find



Griz 47 1/2"

good spots to fish, as we are not familiar with the structure below the water. In addition, the water had a fair amount of algae, which made fishing difficult. So after a couple hours they left for more familiar waters.

Seven muskies were caught today, for a grand total of 29 with only two days left.

Fluffee has again decided to stay another day.

Thursday – July 24th

A large number of big muskies have been seen this week. They just have not been very aggressive. A significant number of those seen have been in Portage Bay. Portage normally has very little boat traffic, by today this has changed as it seems all the dogs are here. Again, many were seen, and only 6 muskies were caught today. Griz hauled in a 47.5 inch fish, but still not enough to beat the 48” caught by Dr. Uno. Dr. Uno continues a good week by catching his fourth muskie to now tie Banana Boy at four. Weekly total is now at 35 muskies, one day of fishing to go.

Bertha, now healing nicely from the stitches and antibiotic treatment realizes he may not get back home in time Saturday to say Mass. So he decides to go home a day early and travel back with Fluffee, who also has decided not to stay one more day.

Again, nice weather, partly cloudy with light to moderate winds.



Fluffee with a 44”

Friday – July 25th

Hopes were high again for our last day of fishing as the weather has been fairly consistent for the last three days. With Bertha and Fluffee going home today, the partners fishing schedule changed again. Actually, every day of the trip saw a partner change from the original plan.

Once again, many fish were seen but few were caught. Three got on the board today, for a trip total of 38. Dr. Uno got one of the three muskies, which gave him five for the week.

You can check out Griz’s statistics for all the results. He emailed those to all Dogs last week.

The Dogs stayed out all day, not coming in for lunch. All returned to the camp by 6 PM.

On Friday evening, for the second year in a row, the Blind Squirrels and the Old Guy’s got together for a walleye dinner. These fish were caught by the group, mostly by Lambert Island, fried in Kojak’s deep fryer and added to the potatoes, salad and fruit contributed by both cabins. It was a great way to end the week.

Saturday – July 26th

The dogs were up early, packing the vehicles and boats. We had breakfast in the lodge of scrambled eggs, sausage, and pancakes. After breakfast the cash was awarded to the winners. Dr. Uno seems to have taken most of the money with his biggest muskie, most muskies, weekly slam and daily slam.



Felix with a 44”

The great news about this year was no boats broke down, travel both ways was uneventful, and no serious injuries.

Even though it was a low production year for muskies, everyone had a great time.

Mark your calendars now for next year. July 18-25, 2015.

Scott (Kojak) Hennessy

Mille Lacs Smallies:

The Winners Report

Launched out of the South Garrison access and headed to one of our guides, aka Boo Boo’s, favorite spots. We threw everything we had at them for about an hour and a half and not even a sniff.

Boo Boo seemed puzzled, and perhaps a bit irritated, that nothing was biting so we decided to pull the trolling motor up and head to our next spot. When we got there, smallies were chomping on the surface, but would not take a top water bait. Mama's Boy did land a 12" & 13" smallie using a black with red speckled tube jig. We continued to move from spot to spot in the same general area the remainder of the day. We caught a few Rock Bass along with our smallmouths. Eventually we started to have some success throwing brown or black tube jigs by dragging them across the bottom. Even Boo Boo stopped throwing his favorite lures and switched to a tube jig. Two or three casts later



Boo Boo's 20 1/2"

he landed a nice 20-1/2" fish. The fish were scattered, so we'd catch one or two and move to a new spot. Mama's Boy landed a nice 20" smallie and a few minutes later hooked a bigger fish. The fish never came out of the water like the other smallmouths caught earlier, and it ended up being a beautifully colored 27" Walleye. Almost all of our fish were caught slowly dragging dark colored tube jigs over rock and weed beds. With a few minutes left in the tournament, Big Bird started throwing a shallow water crank bait and landed a 17-1/2" smallie for the last fish of the day



Big Bird's 18"

Big Bird and Mama's Boy caught a few fish in the 17-1/2" to 19" range and we were able to fill out our card and cull out the 12 & 13 inches. Sure helps to have a captain that knows the lake. Don (Big Bird) Blasy

Personal Bests



Fluffy 28" Walleye



Fluffy 21 1/2" Smallmouth

Bio of the Month:

Steve (Farm Boy) Haagenson

Who brought you into the club and what's your relationship to that person? Kojak. He's my 2nd father on my mother's side, twice removed. Or, I worked with him.

What's your profession? Financial Consultant and Benefits broker

A little bit about your family. My wife, Kris, is a 4th grade teacher. My daughter, Kelly, is 29 and recently finished her PhD in cancer biology. She's looking for someone to recognize her for that in the form of a salary so she can move out of our basement. My son, Peter, is 27. He lives in Minnetonka with his lovely wife, Kayte, and he works for Code 42.



What's your handle and the story behind it? Farm Boy. I successfully kept from embarrassing myself and went without a handle for a couple years. When I hosted the club at my Grandparent's

farm for a tournament on Green Lake (the Spicer one), Bertha was trying to get my attention and called out, "Farm Boy". The name stuck. The picture below shows that even my boat thinks it's an appropriate handle.

Where did you grow up and what's your history with fishing? I grew up in Crystal, MN but my mom's parents lived on a farm on Lake Koronis and my dad's parents lived nearby. Probably my earliest memory of fishing was catching frogs with my Grandpa Pete and using them to fish for bass off of shore. I also remember fishing for and scaling a lot of sunfish with my Grandpa Melvin so Grandma could fry them up with some delicious Rutabagas. Besides the club, most of my fishing has been with my dad, trolling for Walleyes on Lake Koronis.

What's your favorite species to fish? Why? What's your favorite technique? I've got to go with Muskies. There's nothing like the adrenaline rush of seeing that follow and feeling that power on your line as you fight to land them. Each cast holds the expectation of something memorable happening. My favorite technique is having my line (and lure) in the water.



What's your most memorable fishing experience? This is one of the great things about the club. There are so many memories that it's hard to pick a favorite. Kojak and Perp would hope that it was the time I got a Muskie hook caught in my knuckle and Dr. Sticky had to cut it out. They like that story. Then there's the storm that blew up on Big Stone Lake and almost wiped out Old Fart and Buick. But, I guess I have to be cliché and go with the most memorable as catching my 50" Muskie. I got a great cast right between a rock and reeds and started reeling my Johnson Silver Minnow back to the boat. As it came alongside the boat, I saw the follow, slightly slowed my retrieve, and then lost sight of the lure. She inhaled so quickly I hardly saw her twitch. I set the hook, then let her pull away from the boat a bit while Puddin' Man jumped to action and completed an expert net job.

What do you like about being a Waterdog? Of course, the fishing is great. I like learning from our fellow members and I like the variety of fishing

different species, different waters and different techniques. But the best thing about being a Waterdog is very simply, the friends!

Waterdog Bios:

The Bios are a great way to get to know a bit about the other club members Your name will appear here **in red** until Juan has your bio.:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Carl Aegler | Bob Blakely |
| Todd Bollig | Mark Bystrom |
| Bob Dickey | Chris Downey |
| Kirk Duholm | Brian Karsjens |
| Steve Haagenson | Branden Happel |
| Tim Hynes | Glenn Johnson |
| Paul Johnson | Jerry Krekelberg |
| Kevin Miller | Justin Messner |
| Tom O'Neill | Bob Raymo |
| Doug Squire | Scott Squire |
| Tim Yanta | Peter Yawn |

There's a short Word from attached. Just fill it out and e-mail to laun@sandcon.biz.

**Photo of the Month
Lake of the Woods Sunset by Duper**



A Helpful Hint

While cleaning up my boat upon my return from the Lake of the Woods my neighbor came by and offered up a helpful hint. A Mr. Clean Magic Eraser. Takes scuff marks out of fiberglass with no detrimental effects on the finish. Throw a little Goo Gone on the Magic Eraser and it takes adhesive, from duct tape and such right off. Give it a try.

- Fluff

2014 Tournament Schedule

Date	Species	Location	Dogs in Charge
August 16	MEGA Multi-Species	Pepin (Lake only)	Duper and Hynes
September 13	Largemouth	Big Birch	TBD
October 4th	Multi-Species	Waconia	TBD