

The Dogumentary

22nd Year

The Waterdogs Fishing Club

September 2004

September Meeting – Chippewa Flowage

The September 2nd Meeting will again be at the Hopkins VFW. The meeting starts at 7 pm, with dinner starting at 6 pm. Our speaker will be my bro and former Dog, Bill 'Clem' Dickey, who has been guiding for the past year on the Chippewa Flowage. He will discuss methods and spots for our upcoming tournament on the Flowage on Sep 11&12, so bring your maps, pens and notepads.

The 2004 Waterdog Calendar

Sep 2	Monthly Meeting
Oct 7	Monthly Meeting
Nov 4	Annual Banquet
Dec 2	Monthly Meeting
Jan 6	Monthly Meeting
July 23-30 2005	RockNRoll Musky Tour

****See the tourney calendar for other dates****

Hot and Cold Vermillion

The fifth tournament of the year was a team multi-species event on Lake Vermillion on August 21&22. The weather was a record cold for the date, with Tower, MN recording an overnight low on Friday of 20 degrees. So, on Saturday morning, it was long underwear, gloves and caps as the tournament began for the 19 Waterdogs who attended. The fishing was as cold as the weather, at least to start, with a few teams catching three species, but many other teams struggling to catch one or two. The weather improved on Sunday, and so did the action.

The winning team for the two-day event was Nasty Boy and Bertha, who blew away the field with a catch of five species, including the only musky and walleye of the event. In multi-species tournaments points for each specie are determined by the converted weight of the fish compared to the size needed for a catch-and-release patch in the club. For example, Bertha caught the biggest point-value fish of the tournament, a 44" musky, which was over the 40" patch size, and after the weight conversion, was worth 123 points. Nasty and Bertha had three species the first day, including a walleye and both bass, so they went after muskies and pike on Sunday, and came through on both. The musky bit on a Nasty-modified Vibrax on the first cast as they motored up to a musky-looking spot. Other muskies were seen and even hit for some Dogs, but Tim and Paul were the only ones to measure one. Apparently, Bertha was still the hot hand after being at Leech Lake earlier in the week, where he caught a 51" musky with his brother.

In second place at Vermillion was the team of Griz and Brian Karsjens, with three species, including the biggest smallmouth of the event at 17 ½". In third was the team of Kojak and Felix, with the tourney's biggest largemouth of 18", and also the biggest northern, which was 28 ½".

The rest of the top finishers were:

- 4th: Buick / Shaffhausen
- 5th: Little Angel / Buttshot
- 6th: OJ / Carmen

The accommodations were great at the Fortune Bay Resort and Casino. It was convenient for fishing, reasonably priced, and the food was great. Just ask Mr. Meat, who

had 4 pieces of prime rib for \$12.99. Also, the team of OJ and Carmen used the location and their gaming skills to win enough to pay for their first night's dinner with just a few quick pulls on the bandit.

One of the other highlights, at least maybe for someone, was the appearance of Libby's dad, Mr. Libby, who somehow managed to corner several Dogs with his tales of glory, as he is so good at doing. Talking to him for any length of time can somehow make you thankful for many things. Libby may have been there, but was not seen, and may have been hiding from the big guy.

Fortune Bay Resort is not just a good place for the club, but could also be a decent spot to stay for another fishing trip, or with the family. We look forward to going back some day.

Yearly Standings:

The year-to-date standings have changed little over the past several tournaments, with three guys out in front of the pack. It will take a couple of high showings by other members in order to move into one of the top three spots. It's possible, but quite challenging from this time of the season.

The top six spots and scores in the year-to-date tournament standings are:

Paul Jounson	70
James Ferstenou	67
Steve Dupont	64
Ron Reigle	46
Tim Yanta	43
Scott Squire	41

President's Corner – Matt Mueller:



I want to apologize to my fellow Waterdogs. The better part of the fishing year, or at least tournament year, has passed us by and I feel as though I've barely been a part of it. My year

as president should have had me more engaged than usual, not the other way around. A special thanks to Mama's Boy who's done more than his share of filling in for me. Unfortunately a high school graduation/college freshmen, home construction project and so many other things have come my way and circumvented my 100% participation.

No bother though. Even without Fluffee, the shows goes on and Duper and Griz continue to duke it out. While I haven't been in the race since the second tournament, I've had plenty of fun moving from a potential contender (we all are within the first two months) to a spectator. To me it's almost like watching the American League Western Division; still a few very good teams in contention and it could go down to the wire. Who knows, the Waterdogs 2004 tournament year may go down to the last fish on the last day.

As the Dog's head to the Chippewa, I'll loading packing up to head north for my annual Rainy Lake trip. 28 years in the making and I think we've finally nailed down every fishing spot on the Canadian side. This will be the extent of my fishing since the LOTW (see, I told you I was having too much downtime this year). The sole exception being the 3 days I stole with my son on the North Shore. Just my 15 year old and I hiking up and down all those beautiful little streams from Duluth to the north side of Thunder Bay. The fish aren't big but the whole setting is beautiful (yes Nasty, they loved my # 0 Panther Martin). While I haven't had that much time on the water, I shouldn't complain, it's been quality time all the way; LOTW with the Dogs, the North Shore with my son and a week on Rainy friends that go back 3 + decades. Life isn't too bad I suppose. Not to ruin anyone else's, but I will be at the monthly meeting Thursday. I look forward to seeing you all there. I want Vermillion pictures and stories! -Fluffee

Hooked and Set on Tom Keller

Edited by Suzy



Handle: Still fishing for one.

When did you join the club: 2004

What club committees have you worked on, or leadership positions have you held: None so far, but I can't wait to join in on the fun. Any committees I can help out on?

Family: Wife, Janet; two-year old daughter. Annika; 6-month old son Sam. Yellow lab named Bailey

Age: 44

Hometown: St. Paul

Where you currently live: Plymouth

School: University of Minnesota

Your job: Corporate Quality Manager at General Mills

Your favorite fishing reel: Zebco 202, because it was my first.

Your favorite fishing rod: A custom rod my wife gave me for our wedding.

Your favorite fishing lure: A spoon – it can catch anything.

Boat: '89 Lund Tye 1750 with a rusty, but trusty old trailer. Canoe and sail boat, too.

Truck: 2002 Explorer

Personal bests:

Musky – Still waiting....

Northern pike – 38"

Walleye – 29"

Largemouth bass – 15"

Smallmouth bass – 12"

Crappie – 13"

Trout/salmon – 28"

Sheepshead – 12"

Clam – only snails, no clams

The fish that you like to fish for the most:

Walleye – still trying to figure out the sons of guns. I like to fish for them, but I don't claim to be any good at it.

Your favorite lake or river on which you like to fish: Whitefish Chain, but also love fishing in the BWCA.

Favorite pro angler: Al Lindner

Your fishing fantasy: Fishing in Alaska.

All-time favorite fishing memories: A friend and I we're leading a Boy Scout troop in the BWCA. We took the kids fishing one evening and found a school of very active lake trout. We caught several in the 8 - 10lb range. It was a blast!!

Favorite fishing techniques: Casting crankbaits and drifting with live bait rigs.

Favorite fishing magazine: The Dogumentary newsletter, of course.

Favorite fishing TV show: The Fishing Edge

Favorite fishing radio show: Bear Facts & Fish Tales – only because it is on Sunday evenings.

Best fishing tip you could give to the rest of the Dogs:

Use a closed-face spincasting reel in the BWCA. I've seen a lot of fishing line strung along portages because someone with any open bale snagged a branch.

Favorite cut of meat: Porterhouse

Favorite restaurant: Any small town "local" that can fry up a good burger and has fresh onions.

Favorite beverage: Guinness

Favorite General Mills cereal: Cheerios

Favorite musical artist or band: Jonathan Richman

Other hobbies or interests, besides fishing:

I had some before having kids!! Otherwise, I'd say travel, golf, hunting, skiing and canoeing.

I like being a Waterdog because... it's fun

and a great opportunity to get together with others that have the same interest. Plus, I like learning from others with more experience – it's like a continuing education program.

Rituals or habits you perform to improve your fishing ability: Study maps ahead of time.

Favorite fishing memory with the Dogs: I haven't been with the club long, but it was pretty fun fishing with the crowd under the bridge.

Word that best describes you: Traditionalist

LOTW Trip: Muskypoolza 2005

Following on the heels of what may be the most exciting Rock 'n' Roll Musky Tour in the club's history, planning is already in the works for the 2005 tour.

Based on a preliminary sign up for the 2005 trip, all 30 slots are already accounted for -- 25 Waterdogs and five guests are planning to attend next year's trip. Official sign-up will occur during the January meeting. As a result of this strong interest, Duper has reserved a sixth cabin (4-person) for the 2005 trip. The good news is that a number of the new guys in the club will be joining the group during next year's trip, offering the potential for a handful of new personal bests.

With that number of Dogs on the water comes a new challenge: Break the Musky University's LOTW record, which is estimated at 161 muskies.

In addition, inquiries have been made at two Warroad motels for a group of Dogs that would like to go up on Friday night, and then, drive in first thing Saturday morning to get in a nearly full day of fishing. At least six captains have expressed interest in this concept. Both motels, The Patch and the AmericInn have advised the Dogs to secure their reservations by December for next July.

The t-shirt for next year's trip also is being designed. Taking a cue from the Old Guys, the shirts will feature a retro LOTW trip t-shirt design.

The Grand Slam contest also is being redesigned and may allow a team to be eligible vs. a single angler.

And, for 2005, we're going back to big 'ol t-bones, cut 1-1/2 inches thick, just the way you boys like 'em.

If you have any other ideas for making the 2005 LOTW trip the bestest ever, send an e-mail to Duper at sdupont@oppenheimer.com.

Here is the tournament schedule for this year. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

<u>Waterdogs Tournament Schedule – 2004</u>				
<u>Date</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Dog In Charge</u>
✓ March 27	Team	Trout	Whitewater River	Fluffee
✓ May 8	Individual	Crappie	Koronis	Farm Boy
✓ May 22	Individual	Walleye	St. Croix River	Carmen
✓ June 11	Team	Bass	Minnetonka	Shorty
✓ August 21-22	Team	Multi (overnite)	Vermillion	Chips
Sep 11-12	Team	Multi (overnite)	Chippewa Flowage	Griz
Oct 2	Individual	Bass	Clearwater	Nasty Boy