

The Dogumentary

29th Year

The Waterdogs Fishing Club

September 2011

Most of the world is covered by water. A fisherman's job is simple: Pick out the best parts.

September 2011 Meeting

The next meeting will be at Tuttle's Bowling Bar and Grill on Thursday Sep 1. Our speaker will be Larry Hanson from the Lake Minnetonka Guides who will talk about fishing Minnetonka, which he does more than 100 times a year. Bring your Minnetonka Map and plan to learn some new things about the big lake.

2011 Waterdogs Fishing Club Calendar

Sep 1	Monthly Meeting
Sep 10	Multispecies Tournament
Oct 6	Monthly Meeting
Oct 8	Smallmouth Tournament
Nov 3	Banquet!
Dec 1	Monthly Meeting

From the Desk of the President, Captain Kirk



Dog Days

The Dog Days of summer are nearly behind us now as we look forward to the fall fishing season and our two remaining tournaments. I think most members took a break after the intense week of Muskie fishing at LOTW and the sultry days that followed. I know I did but now have done some bass fishing over the last couple of weeks.

With the long break from LOTW to our Minnetonka event on September 10th we decided to hold a family outing last Friday for the first time. Considering there was not a lot of advance notice or planning we had 14 participate on a beautiful day for a late lunch on Maynard's outdoor deck. Those who fished in the breezy Minnetonka chop that day were able to catch a few bass. We plan to recognize the family members catches at the annual banquet. This event may be something to consider again for next year. With a bit more advanced planning I think it may be a good addition to the clubs activities.

As I think most Dogs would agree handles are an important part of our club. We have a couple new

members who seem to be developing a lasting handle. Dr Uno seems to be sticking with Peter after the recent LOTW trip. Based on Steve Clinton's reaction when being referred to as Hillary during our family outing last week I think that handle may stick for him. Sorry Steve it could be something worse like Monica. After all women's names seem to be popular in our club like Suzy and Helen.

After four of our six tournament series events this year the Griz is pulling a way with a big lead in the standings. With three wins already under his belt he is shooting for a record four wins in one season. Can anyone stop him? It will be especially difficult now that he is paired with 3rd place holder Nasty for the Minnetonka event. Someone will need to put a banana under Nasty's boat seat. I would but Karen and I will be at the North Shore that weekend celebrating our 30th year of marriage. Good luck to all on Minnetonka.

We plan on having a speaker on Minnetonka for our September meeting which will be right before our Multi-Species event there on the 10th. I will also bring along a Tonka map and try and share some of my experience on the lake. I have spent a lot of time on the lake over the years and have been there several times in the last couple weeks. Fishing has been real good there recently for both LM and SM.

I look forward to seeing you all at Tuttle's on September 1.

Shatner

"One thing becomes clearer as one gets older and one's fishing experience increases, and that is the paramount importance of one's fishing companions."
John Ashley Cooper & OF

A Day of Bassin'

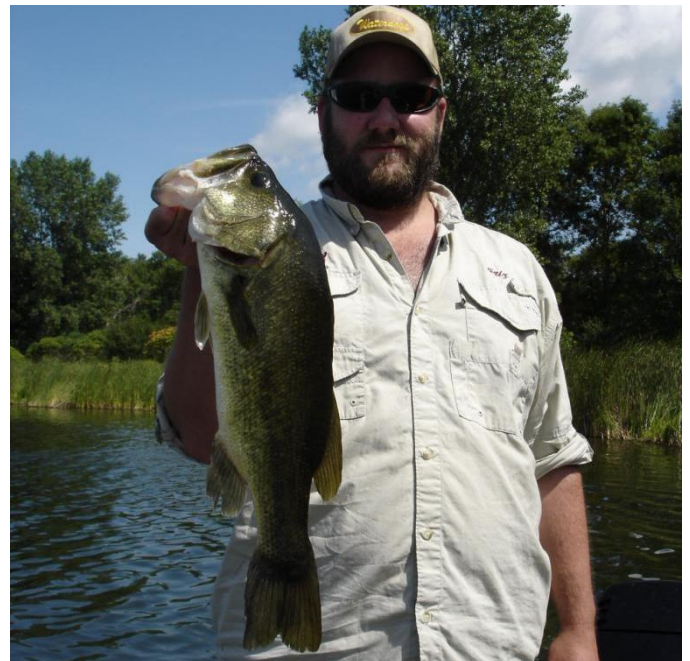
By James "Griz" Ferstenou

Kirk Duholm and I got out for some bass fishing on Saturday, August 13th. We started our day on Reitz Lake at about 7:00 AM under slightly overcast skies and with little wind. We used a variety of lures and colors throughout the morning, but eventually determined that cinnamon colored Senkos and both black/blue and pumpkinseed colored jig and pigs

were the best producers. The usual spots (docks, beach, etc.) produced on Reitz but we didn't manage to find any really large bass with only one or two approaching the 18" mark. We fished from near shore to about 8'-10' of water and caught fish at all depth ranges in between. Many areas held multiple fish and it paid to work slowly and thoroughly after catching the first fish in an area to determine if more were there and could be caught.

At about 10:30 AM we fished through a short mist/rain shower before the sun began to poke through the clouds for the rest of the day. By 11:30 AM we decided that it was time to switch lakes, so off to Steiger Lake we went. Overall we managed to catch 15+ bass on Reitz with the majority of them being between 14"-16" (we also missed at least 6 more bites).

The same lures also worked well on Steiger. The jig and pig worked along the deep milfoil edges yielded several fish but Senkos cast shallow, especially near the edges of floating bogs, also produced. Overall we managed another 15+ bass (and missed another 6 or more bites) before leaving the lake at around 3:30 PM. The quality of the fish on Steiger was better than what we had previously caught on Reitz. We managed to boat 5-6 bass in the 18" range as well as a 19.5" and a 21" bass for our largest two fish of the day. Surprisingly (at least to us) the two largest fish came on Senkos in 2 feet of water or less near the edge of a floating bog. There was also a clump of milfoil near where the 21" bass was caught.



The 21" largemouth was caught near the end of our day and is now my new personal best largemouth based on length alone (the fish was a bit skinny though and I know that I've caught heavier bass in the past). Kirk was surprised that I hadn't caught a longer largemouth in the past based on how much bass fishing that I've done. The fact is though that a lot of my bass fishing prior to joining the club was done on lakes (mainly around my parents' place or the family cottage) that simply don't hold that caliber of fish. A good example of that is Sand Lake, where our cottage is located. There are

plenty of bass in the lake, but I may only crack the 16" mark once or twice a summer there. Eighteen inch bass are relatively common in other area lakes, but 20" bass are few and far between (2-3 per summer for me in those lakes) and a 21"+ largemouth had been eluding me for years. It felt good to finally reach that mark. Thanks to Kirk for taking me out that day and for showing me around Steiger. I had not fished there previously and it was fun to learn (or at least start to learn) a new lake. Capping the day with a new personal best was a great added bonus.

2011 Tournament Series Schedule

Date	Species	Location	Dogs in Charge
√ Saturday April 2	Trout	Wisconsin	Janitor - Shatner
√ Saturday April 30	Crappie	Prior Lake	Griz – Banana - Suzy
√ Sat-Sun May 21-22	Walleye	Mille Lacs	Fluffy - Carmen - Lil Angel
√ Saturday June 18	Bass	Big Birch Lake	Analist - Bud
Saturday Sep 10	Multispecies	Minnetonka	Chips - Spanky
Saturday Oct 8	Smallmouth	Rum River	Perp - Buick