



FLATLANDERS

TAILS

August 2016

MEETINGS: 7:30 P.M. ~ FOURTH THURSDAY ~ LOVES PARK VFW ~ 2018 WINDSOR RD ~ LOVES PARK, ILLINOIS

More big fish wind up in the bottom of the bag

*By Steve Ruhmann
Release chairman*

Well here we are into the month of August and the Flatlanders had an outstanding July.

We start with Mary and Russ Hoernecke on their annual trip to Canyon, Mary popped fish measuring 35, 40, 30, 34, 36, 40, and 30 inches. Russ added to their totals by releasing fish measuring 34, 32, 36, 42, 34, 33, 32, 31, 33, 37, 31, 30, 38, 38, and 40.

He then went to St. Clair with Kevin, Jack and Wally where he added to his totals boating fish measuring of 40, 31, and a 50.

Kevin Stenzel is having an outstanding year, he first went to St. Clair where he boated fish measuring 32, 45, and 50.

That is two 50s in consecutive years for him on that trip. Jack Pertz was also on the same trip and he popped fish of 38.5, 41, and 35.

Wally banged fish measuring 31, 42, and 36.

Aaron Wiegel was out on Carlton and stuck Esox of 33 and a 34.5 inches. Travis Brady was up on Squaw where he boated a 38. Stuart Adrian was on Waubesa and released a 38.5 and then went to Monona and banged a 39 the next weekend.

Bob Cholke was up on Squirrel and dawged up a 38.5 incher. Ben Wilary made the boards from his home waters of Bone Lake by releasing a 44. Frank was also hitting the home water and stuck fish of 39, 43, 35, 41, 44, and 39.

Jeremy Ven Huizen made the annual Flatlander trip to Lake of the Woods and proceeded to stick Lunge measuring 39.5, 42.5, 45.5, 44.5, and 39.5.

His partner Greg Lehmann had a trip of a lifetime by banging fish of 31.5, 38.5, 40, 36, 33.5, 40, 40.5, 41.5, and a new personal best and longest for the group of 50 inches. Congrats Greg!

Kevin Stenzel added to his personal best year also on the trip releasing Esox of 39, 40, 37, 36, 32, 34, 39, and 34.

Bob Cholke had a great trip too by popping Toothy Critters of 38.5, 38.5, 31.5, and 35.5.

Brother Dick Cholke also got in on the action by sticking a 46 and a 30.5. Dick Estes made the boards with a LOTW 35-incher. Harvey Gustafson also joined the party with a



Aaron Wiegel caught this 50-incher on Eagle Lake.

40 and 41 inch Esox. Steve Ruhmann kept the ball rolling by releasing fish of 48, 38.5, 33, 36, 35.5, and 42.5.

Stu Adrian is heard from again and his LOTW Lunge measured 31, 38, 49, and 40. His partner Mike Kruger was another who had a great trip. He banged fish of 45, 33, 42, 44, and 31.

Jerry and Becky Oestreich also made the trek to LOTW with Becky sticking Esox of 34, 34, 35, 41.5, 34.5, 43.5, and 37. Jerry also had an impressive trip by bumping fish of 33.5, 39, 33, 39.5, 45, 46, 34, and 48 inches.

Partners Dave Jack and Tim Scruggs hit it hard with Tim popping a 40.5 and Dave boating fish of 42, 44, 41, 35.5, 39.5, 42.5, and 35.5 inches.

Doctor Mark Carlson has been back out and released a TON of fish on one trip, they measured 42, 49.5, 45, 44, 38, 46, 44, 52, 53, 44, 38, 38, 52.75, 38, 40, 38, and 44.

WOW! And we finish this month's report with Gerry Larson. Gerry was on St. Clair and banged fish measuring 43.5, 38.5, and 42 inches.

Remember to send your release forms in post marked within 30 days to:

Steve Ruhmann
14728 Whispering Wind Way
South Beloit, Illinois, 61080
Or email: steve.ruhmann@gmail.com



Notes from the bow of the boat

By Dick Cholke

Flatlanders president

There is no meeting in August, but there is a lot to discuss. We cancelled the August meeting because of the number of members fishing in Canada that week. Most of the executive committee is at the Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge or with the group that is going for the big fish on Lac Seul. We are happy to get another shot at a big fish in some of our favorite waters.

Last meeting we voted on the outings for 2017. To meet the Muskie Inc. calendar deadline in late September, we have set the outing schedule for next year early. We tried to pick some proven winners and mix in some new bodies of water. You will note that we did not schedule a June outing. The last few years, it has been difficult to get a sizable group to any body of water in June. I think we are competing with Father's Day, weddings, and graduation parties. I am personally excited about the lineup for 2017 – schedule your vacation early!

April 29: Story Lake

May 13: Lake Waubesa and Lake Monona

July 15-22: LOTW Bay Store Camp (and maybe some overflow next door)

Sept. 22-23: St. Croix River

Oct. 20-22: Deer/Bone/ Apple/Wapagasset

Nov. 11-13: Big Sissabagama area (Defined better at the next meeting)

Speaking of Lake of the Woods, we had some great discussions at the last executive committee meeting. I would like to make sure all of the board members attend the September EC meeting to organize even a better trip next year. This year was one of the best, with an average of 3.8 fish per angler. Everyone is welcome to the EC meeting and we appreciate additional input. I anticipate we will present some of these ideas at the September general meeting. It sounds like the 2017 LOTW outing may have a very sizable group of Flatlanders.

The EC meeting will be changed to Sept. 6 – the first Tuesday of the month – because of Labor Day weekend. The board is also discussing moving all of the meeting days to Tuesdays to avoid conflicts with our outings. If you have an opinion – let's hear it.

This summer we also set the schedule for the general meetings. In addition to the events listed, we will also try to book a few speakers. The general meeting schedule is:

September: Discuss the upcoming outing at Deer, Bone, Wappagasset, and Apple

October: Lure swap

November: Bean bag challenge; elections

Big Fish (from top): Kevin Stenzel bagged another 50 on St. Clair.

Bob Cholke with a pretty fish

Jack Pertz with one of his St. Clair catches.

December: Christmas party with the traditional lure exchange

January: Breakfast at the Cracker Barrel and road trip to the Chicago Muskie Expo

February: The review of the 2016 season with data on what worked last year and a lot of big fish photos.

March: The annual Flatlanders awards banquet.

Other events in the area:

Sept. 24: CCMi PIT-TAG Challenge

The Capital City Muskies Inc. chapter is hosting the annual "CCMI Pit-Tag Challenge" on Saturday September 24, 2016. This is a ONE day event with the purpose of catching PIT-tagged muskies in Lake Monona. The catch information will be used to further enhance the Leech Lake vs Wisconsin strain fish study that has been ongoing since 2007. This outing is open to all muskie anglers. Membership in CCMi is not required. Come and join us for this important and fun activity.

Date: Saturday Sept. 24th.

Place: Olbrich Boat Launch

Time: 7 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Contact Gary Hoffmann at: glhoff29@gmail.com or call 608-698-5388 for more information.

This should be an event that helps one of our home bodies of water. It would be great to show up in numbers and show CCMi that the Flatlanders can catch fish.

Nov. 4: Stoughton Opera House 7:30 PM – The Flatlanders in concert
www.theflatlanders.com - Joe Ely, Jimmie Dale Gilmore and Butch Hancock (No they are not in our chapter)

After this summer period cools down, the mid-week group will be hitting the waters again. Feel free to join us and get the reports to plan your week-end trips. Also, meet us at Busters for supper before the EC and general meeting.

Don't forget!

Aug. 25 – NO MEETING

Sept. 6: EC meeting will be the first Tuesday – 6:30 PM at the VFW (note the date change)

Sept. 16,17,18: North Twin and Big Sand outing – send an e-mail to Dick Cholke or Jeremy Venhuizen if you are going – we will try to make sure everyone going gets a plan. The guys that know the lake say to fish Big Sand during the day and North Twin at the low light conditions.

Sept. 22: General meeting back to normal

Oct. 6: EC Meeting at the VFW Hall 6:30PM

Oct. 28: General meeting back to normal

Oct. 29,30,31: Note the change from Friday to Monday for the outing to Bone, Deer, Wappagasset, and Apple

That is a lot of updates – now it is time to fish!

Get on the water and get on the board!

Do you have old issues of MUSKIE?

I'm a MUSKIES INC. member from Chicago.

I'm doing a little bit of research and looking for an old issue of the Muskies Inc. - MUSKIE magazine in which the late Len Hartman writes about his custom built, oversize tackle box. Unfortunately, I do not know specifically which issue it's in, but I do know it was 1989 or earlier.

On page 193 in Len's 1989 book "Before I Forget" – he speaks about the virtues of his own, custom made tackle box. He states: "I felt so good about it that I even wrote a column about it for MUSKIE magazine."

Would you be willing to forward my inquiry to your chapter members to ask if someone might have old issues of MUSKIE from the 1980s and if they would be willing to take a look for this article?

I will pay a reasonable amount for a photocopy or scan of the article, or the actual magazine itself. Finding this article is very important to me and my research.

Kurt M. Kuhlman muskyhound@speakeasy.net

Purposes of Muskies, Inc.

- To promote a high quality Muskellunge sport fishery
- To support selected conservation practices based on scientific merit and carried out by authorized federal and state agencies
- To promote Muskellunge research
- To establish hatcheries and rearing ponds and introduce the species into suitable waters
- To support the abatement of water pollution
- To maintain records of habits, growth and range of species
- To disseminate Muskellunge information
- To promote good fellowship and sportsmanship among men, women and children

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