



February 2019 newsletter

Big fish. Big events. Be there.

Don't miss our annual banquet March 23 or Rockford All City Muskie Night on April 10



Doug Wegner will be the featured speaker at Rockford All City Muskie Night.

By **Dick Cholke**
Flatlanders president

This is a busy season for the Flatlanders. Make sure to read this entire article because we have a new event! I am not sure where to start – I guess chronological order would make sense but I would like to jump ahead! Here goes:

Feb. 19 is our next general meeting. This month we will have the “Flatlanders 2018 Season in Review” presentation. At the last count it was 101 slides of photos with big fish, some unusual data that should help next year on LOTW, just good outing “stuff” and a bunch of great miscellaneous chapter photos. I look forward to

see how the data changes from year to year. There are some real differences in the 2018 season compared to previous seasons.

March 23 is our annual Banquet and Fund Raiser at the Thunder Bay Grille. The evening will feature a buffet dinner similar to last year with fresh tossed salad, sliced roast beef, chicken chardonnay, mashed potatoes, fruit salad, fresh vegetables medley and our traditional best photo of the year cake. We have the same room as previous year and it will be loaded with trophies and plenty of raffle items. This year raffles should feature a wider

assortment of merchandise and again we will have special raffles for the ladies. We have received donations from manufactures, local businesses, and individuals. We encourage you to donate an item for the raffles. It does not have to be fishing related, just a desirable item that would look good in someone's back seat on the way home. Let's fill up the room - invite a friend or neighbor. Sign up for the banquet at the next meeting or get your tickets before March 17 by sending your check for \$28 per person to:

Jack Pertz
15955 Cannell Rd
Rockton IL 61072

This will also be a busy, long day for those attending the 18th Annual Intermediate and Advanced Muskie School on the same day as the banquet, March 23. The school wraps up midafternoon so you can make our banquet. This event is one of Capital City's Chapter informative days that feature your choice of three sessions on local muskie fishing. You have a choice of over 38 different presentations. A number of us are going back for our fifth straight year.



All right now the new event!

"The Rockford All City Muskie Night"

Rock Valley Anglers and the Flatlanders are combining efforts for a joint meeting. Look for our ad in the next Muskie Inc. magazine.

The speaker, Doug Wegner was the cameraman for Joe Butcher, a guide on Lake of the Woods and is currently working with Bret Alexander on the Bay of Green Bay.

He has recently presented at the Chicago Muskie Expo and the January Capital City Chapter meeting in Madison. The contacts in Madison and our folks that have seen his presentation were very impressed. This will be a great preparation for our outing on the Bay of Green Bay Sept. 27-29. We are promoting this event heavily and hope to see a large crowd. We have sent invitations to all the muskie clubs within a two-hour drive of Rockford. Admission is free and open to the public. Both clubs are combining to make a larger joint raffle with a full day guiding fishing for two anglers with Doug on the Bay of Green Bay to be raffled off. I am excited to see our clubs working together for a fun night. We have discussed this event for over a year and Rock Valley Anglers are also looking forward to a joint meeting. Thus, our schedule will change and we will NOT have our regular

	Flatlanders Chapter and Rock Valley Anglers Joint Meeting to Present	
<i>Rockford All City Muskie Night</i> Featuring Doug Wegner		
Presenting on fishing the Bay of Green Bay		
April 10, 2019 6:30 PM Hoffman House 7550 East State St. Rockford IL Open to the Public		
Win a day of guided fishing with Doug Wegner Plus raffles, silent auctions, and fishing info		

third Tuesday of the month meeting on April 16.

Doug will be on Lake of the Woods the month of July. He will be located in a private cabin east of Bay Store Camp.

Jumping ahead, we have two full teams (12 anglers) heading to the Muskie Inc. Chapter Challenge in August. We were lucky to get accommodations for both teams at Mylie's Place resort in Morson, about 5 miles from Red Wing Lodge. All the resorts in the area were booking up early due to the Challenge. Red Wing Lodge on Lake of the Woods has hosted this event for the last three years. We have a very talented group of anglers on the teams and we should do well (and have fun!). It will be good to share the resort that week with the Capital City Chapter. We are in the process of setting up a joint event with the Madison-based group early in the week. For those of you that may need a new passport, I just received my new one. It took exactly one month turn around for the process. I also established my account to use the ROAM (Remote Offsite Arrival – Mobile) for border crossings. It is not real straight forward – I would make sure to get it done before you get to Baudette.

This winter has been crazy but spring and open water are just around the corner. Get your boat and trailer in for service during this down time. You don't want any issues on the road or the water this season. Reminders for traveling to Canada, check your passport, get registered with the ROAM app, and check your plates on the trailer. Also our first outing to Lake Storey in Galesburg is not that far off.

Here is our 2019 schedule for the Flatlander's events:

- Feb. 18:** Flatlanders General Meeting – presentation of the “Flatlander’s 2018 Season Review”
March 23: Flatlanders Annual Banquet.
April 16: Flatlanders General Meeting.
April 27: Flatlanders Outing at Lake Storey and Lake McMaster.
May 21: Flatlanders General Meeting.
May 18: Flatlanders Outing at Lake Evergreen.
June 18: Flatlanders General Meeting - Prep for the Lake of the Woods Outing.
July 12 – 20: Flatlanders Outing at Lake of the Woods.
Aug. 17-24: Flatlanders Outing at the MI Chapter Challenge.
Sept. 17: Flatlanders General Meeting.
Sept. 27, 28, 29: Flatlanders Outing at the Bay of Green Bay.
Oct. 15: Flatlanders General Meeting.
Oct. 18-20: – Lake Alice.
Nov. 19: Flatlanders General Meeting – Elections.
Dec. 17: Flatlanders General Meeting – Christmas Party and Lure Swap

Get on the water and get on the board

Room for more on LOTW trip

By Steve Ruhmann

The LOTW 2019 trip July 13-20 will be here before we know it. Currently we have (18) people staying at Bay Store Camp. By the time you read this, those who have supplied their deposits will be sent in. We still have room for more but need to know immediately if you are interested. We need to allow Laura and Frank of Bay Store time to rent out the remaining spaces that we are not going to use. So if you are interested, PLEASE let me know immediately and get your deposits in. This trip is my favorite one that I take every year and I am sure once you join us you will want to go back in years to come.

Steve Ruhmann
14728 Whispering Wind Way
South Beloit, Illinois, 61080

Paperwork reminder

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources stopped sending out renewal notices in 2013. Registration of watercraft in Illinois is good for three years and expires June 30. Go to the DNR’s website, dnr.illinois.gov, click on boating and go to the link “Please use Online Renewal if your boat is currently registered in your name.” Follow the instructions from there.

Flatlanders gear

I haven’t promoted this in a while, but we do have Flatlanders T-shirts and a hat or two for sale. However, you don’t have to settle for what’s in stock; I will have our logo put on any kind of apparel you want: shirts, hoodies, shorts, etc. You can choose your own colors and style, within reason. Also, I have some leftover shirts from the LOTW trips. Even if you didn’t go, they’re cool shirts that not only are stylish, but the no-wick fabric will help protect you from the sun. You can get one at a 40 percent discount. T-Shirts Etc. has done a great job for us and is willing to work with us on our orders. If there’s something you want, let me know at a meeting or send me an email: whaas17@comcast.net.

If you prefer embroidery, our logo is on file at Custom Apparel & Promotions, 4602 E. State St., Rockford. You can bring in an article of clothing and they will sew our logo on it. They have a large logo that you might have seen on some of our club members’ jackets and a smaller logo suitable for hats and shirts. I haven’t done any business with them in a while so you should call before you go: 815-398-9823.



President
Dick Cholke
815-222-1062

Vice president
Lee Bach
815-494-7258

Treasurer
Jack Pertz
815-629-2562

Secretary
Wally Haas
815-262-2891

Release chairman
Steve Ruhmann
815-558-3666



Carlson Orthopedic Clinic

Mark E. Carlson, M.D.
Kelly Magoon, PA-C

1848 Daimler Road
Rockford, IL 61112

Phone: 815.398.9100
Fax: 815.986.6770
E-Mail: Carlsonorthoclinic@gmail.com



LEADERS & LURES Leaders:
All Sizes & Weights
www.leadersistlures.com • 815-654-0902
Gene Seuring • Rockford, Illinois
E-mail: leadersistlures@gmail.com

A Division of
GS Specialties Inc.

YAMAHA
EXPECT A LOT.™
SALES — SERVICE — PARTS
CRESTLINER — CROWNLINE
SYLVAN
EVEN KEEL MARINE INC.
Even Better Than You Think
6621 W. State
Rockford, IL

963-1105

ACEBAITS

www.ACETANDEM.com
612-210-6312

LOVESPARKMOTORSPORTS.COM

LOVES PARK MOTORSPORTS

DAVE JACK
(815) 636-7636
FAX: (815) 633-2746
9902 N. SECOND ST. MACHESNEY PARK, IL 61115

can-am
SEA-DOO
ski-doo
ARCTIC CAT
SHARE OUR PASSION™