



# FLATLANDERS

# TAILS

June 2017

MEETINGS: 7 P.M. ~ THIRD TUESDAY ~ LOVES PARK VFW ~ 2018 WINDSOR RD ~ LOVES PARK, ILLINOIS

## June meeting: Get in on the action

**Four Muskie Innovations/ Gander Mountain Rods on Silent Auction**

**One Muskie Innovations Rod up for Raffle**

**Silent Auction - Half day guided fishing with Duane Landmeier on Shabbona Lake**

**Lake of the Woods – Pre-trip discussions – Bring your maps**

### Notes from the bow of the boat

*By Dick Cholke*

*Flatlanders president*

There is a lot of news – make sure to read this one! You are probably wondering, how did the June meeting become such a loaded meeting? We held over the raffle on the Muskie Innovations 8'6" extra heavy rod and the Silent Auction for the half day guided trip on Lake Shabbona with Duane Landmeier. We are giving the members a little extra time to get lucky. About two weeks ago Muskie Innovations offered up a deal on the Gander Mountain private labeled rods. With Lake of the Woods just around the corner we jumped on the offer and ordered four rods. We thought the membership could use a good deal just before our big annual trip to Bay Store Camp. The rods were \$125 retail price and they will go up on silent auction with a minimum bid of \$60. The silent auction will close near the end of the June meeting. Three of the rods are 8'6" Heavy action and one is an 8' Medium Heavy action. I received them a few days ago, and they are nice rods. Depending on the bidding activity level on these four rods, we may try to place a second order. If they are available, we could possibly get a few more deals for our members. Contact me ASAP if you think we should get a couple more. What can get you in the spirit of Muskie fishing more than our discussion of Lake of the Woods? Bring your maps and waterproof marker to mark up the chapter's community spots. The EC committee agreed on some new ideas for this year's trip that will help all of us catch more fish. We will present those new additions at the



*Travis Brady (top) and Randy Brady scored during the first outing of the year.*

meeting. Make sure to get with your cabin crew and confirm your week's meal plan. Steve will also lay out some of the arrangements for the trip. Here are a few things to check.

- Passport
- Remote Area Border Pass
- Last year's I-68 paperwork to speed up the process at customs Friday night
- Reservations for Friday night

- ☑ Check your CB radio – you would hate to miss all the good jokes and stories of past trips
- ☑ New rain coat

After Lake of the Woods you will say "That was a great time, I would like to go back!" We have one opening for the August trip back to Lake of the Woods for the Chapter Challenge August 19-26. Reservations were made last week at Mylies Place in Morson, ON near the Challenge headquarters. We have cabin number one which is good for the team of six. It will be great to share the resort with the Capital City Chapter and show them how well Flatlanders can fish LOTW.

We will not have meetings in July and August due to so many members out on side trips.

We will kick off the fall season with a big meeting in September. We have booked Michael Hanson to speak on river muskies. He agreed to tailor his presentation to cover Lake Wisconsin and the Wisconsin River. If any of you heard the rumors last fall, the Wisconsin River produces a lot of muskies (without the noise from the Beltline and John Nolan Drive). We will also make our plans for our September outing to the St Croix River Sept. 22-24. This will be a new location for the chapter. It has a great reputation based on the PMTT results in past years. The chapter will also highlight the fall with two more outings:

**Oct. 20-22:** Deer, Bone, Apple River and Wapogasset

**Nov. 11-13:** Big Sissabagama Area

Don't miss the June meeting and feel to join us for supper at Busters before the meeting. We will also have the local fishing reports from those of us who have beat the water to look like a head of Guinness.

Get on the water and on the board!

## Some quality fish are being caught

*By Steve Ruhmann*

*Release chairman*

Hello Fellow Flatlanders, the month of June started with a bang but has fizzled since. The unwanted cold weather put our fish in a funk for a bit. The good news, is some of you got out there and put some quality fish in the boat. We start this month off with Jeremy Venhuizen. Jeremy was out on McMaster and popped a 37-inch. The father and son team of Randy and Travis Brady were also on McMaster. Randy drowned the skunk immediately this year by banging a 36 incher. Not to be out done, Travis released two fish also.

He stuck fish measuring 39 and 42 inches. Since the lake theme is McMaster, we go to Greg Lehman. Greg jerked up a 41.5 incher from there. The week previous, he stuck a 37.5 form Johnson Sauk Trail. This is an Illinois lake we have not seen very many if any fish from. Nice job by all four of you on your fish.

Well, the warmer weather has finally come and I hear rumors of fish starting to bite a little more consistently. So get out there and get after it! The next report will be after the Lake of the Woods outing, I am hoping that will reflect that the season is kicked into full gear.

See you on the water!!!

**Steve Ruhmann**

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## LOTW update

Please make sure you have your passport, RABC, outdoor card and license. For those of us going in out of Morrison, we will also need to get the I-68 pass. If you have yours from last year bring it. This will save you time in getting processed.

Remember, we are not supposed to arrive at the Bay Store before noon. This allows them time to get the cabins cleaned up from the previous visitors and prepare for our arrival. If you don't make the meeting, travel safe and we will see you there.

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## Other fishy stuff



**Big carp:** An angler fishing a private gravel pit within the Minnesota River floodplain near Redwood Falls caught a massive bighead carp measuring nearly 4 feet and weighing 62 pounds. The fish is the largest invasive carp captured in Minnesota, the Department of Natural Resources said Thursday.

**Big cat:** Minnesota angler Jake Robinson caught and released a 49-inch catfish on the Minnesota River, near Savage, on May 15, according to the Minnesota DNR. It had a girth of 33.5 inches, equaling the record set on June 7, 2016 – also by Robinson.

**Not a tiger:** Terry Livingston thought the 50.25-inch (25-inch girth), 36 pound 4 ounce mucky he caught May 9 was an Illinois record. However, after being tested by the DNR, it was determined the fish was a true musky.