



FLATLANDERS

TAILS

June 2016

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

Wisconsin fish are finally starting to show up

*By Steve Ruhmann
Release chairman*

Howdy Flatlanders, the warm weather is here and we are starting to see fish from both Illinois and Wisconsin. This month's report starts with Travis Brady. Travis was down on McMaster and cranked up two nice fish that bumped the boards at 42 and 35 inches. Jeremy VenHuizen also made the trek to McMaster and popped a 37.5. Since he was feeling comfortable that this was the hot lake, we went down the following weekend and I was able to get a 35.5 on the eight on Friday and then on Saturday he got a 32.5 on one of his homemade crankbaits that also munched on the 8. Joe Rausenberger was back out on Carlton and boated two nice looking fish measuring 39 and 32. Our first Wisconsin fish goes to Mike Kruger. Mike was out on Waubesa with Stu Adrian and slimed Stu's new boat with a 45.5. Our resident Bone Lake Specialist is on the boards. Frank Wilary did very well for himself by banging fish that measured 35, 36, 45, and 34 inches.

This warm water has me itching and hitting the water every weekend. As of this writing, it is only four weeks until we leave for Lake of the Woods for the Flatlanders Outing. I know there are others that are heading up there early and we still have the Squaw Lake outing this month. So get those hooks sharp and ready to "SET THE HOOK"!

Remember to send your release forms postmarked within 30 days to:

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

LOTW update

*By Steve Ruhmann
Release chairman*

I received a call from Frank Walsh at Baystore Camp this week. His ice machine went down. So he decided to purchase a brand new machine that is top of the line and has a service technician available to make it out on the island in case he has any problems. The only thing that



Mike Kruger's 45.5-incher was the first Wisconsin fish reported in the release contest.



Scott Grabow got on the board with this 44-incher.

will be different for us is there will be a onetime \$10 service fee for the week. That is a really good deal, I know, buying ice at the other resorts would cost a TON more. So please be advised. In regards to fishing, he has been out Pike and bass fishing and is seeing a lot of Muskies while doing so. Water is about 1.5 foot down from mean pool currently. In years past, this is the

approximate depth where we have had our best years as a group. So see you folks in a month for our annual trip to Lake of the Woods, It will be a memorable one I am sure.

Notes from the bow of the boat

By Dick Cholke

Flatlanders president

It must be summer because there is a lot to do: fishing, concerts, outdoor theater, festivals and did I mention fishing? And you need to get your article to Wally for the newsletter! Here is a short repeat of the reminder I sent out last week with some additional information. With the outings to Squaw Lake and Lake of the Woods coming up, Thursday's meeting should be a very informative.

June Outing for the Flatlanders June 25, 26, and 27 will be our trip back to Squaw Lake. This outing also includes Squirrel Lake, Booth Lake and Buckskin for the weekend of fishing. Note, this is Saturday, Sunday and Monday outing due to the conflict with the general meeting on Thursday night. Our first trip to Squaw was very successful with eleven anglers bringing 10 fish to the net. Travis Brady has already got a 38" and Jim Goebel lost a nice fish at the boat over this Memorial Day weekend on Squaw. Travis indicated he was seeing green weeds. We will discuss the lake in more detail at the June meeting.

Join us for a great weekend. We have the same cabin rented Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights on Squaw Lake as our first trip. The cabin has been remodeled and is located on the water. It is nice to have the group in one location to share information, a few good stories and a "soda." Squaw is known to be an action lake with the typical fish measuring in the high 30s to low 40-inch range, with larger fish seen by previous members. Contact Dick Cholke to reserve your spot in the cabin - we still have room for more folks. 815-222-1062 or cholke@mchsi.com.

At the June meeting we will also discuss the Lake of the Woods trip. Steve Ruhmann will head up the discussion and review what to bring, community fishing spots, and the arrangements. Make sure to bring your maps to the meeting and a waterproof marker to make notes on your maps. Yes, it does rain occasionally on LOTW and maps get wet. This is our big trip for the year with 24 guys heading up for a great week of fishing at Bay Store Camp. If you do not have a CB radio start shopping or look to borrow one - it helps on the trip up and back.

Also remember we still have four spots available for the Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge August 20-27 on Lake of the Woods. This is a great trip of fishing and meeting other members of Muskie Inc. Contact Dick Cholke for more details and to reserve a spot.

Quite a few of us have been fishing locally. Make sure to be at the meeting to get the scoop on which lakes and baits have been hot.

Also heads up - since so many of the members will be in Canada during August, we will cancel the August meeting.

We hope you join us for the Squaw Lake outing!

Get on the water and get on the board.

Report those Illinois muskies

We have a good number of fish being caught in Illinois. The Illini Muskies Alliance and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources jointly sponsor a muskie creel survey. The purpose of the survey is to gain valuable information regarding muskies caught that only you the angler can provide. Go to ifishillinois.org/science/muskie_survey.php to fill out a form.

Outings schedule

June 24, 25, 26: Squaw, Squirrel, Booth and Buckskin

July 16-23: Lake of the Woods - Bay Store Camp

Sept. 16-18: North Twin

Oct. 28-30: Deer, Bone, Apple River and Wapogasset

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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