



FLATLANDERS

TAILS

August 2013

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

Want big fish? Go ask (about Lake) Alice

Some of you may have that song stuck in your head until Thursday. (White Rabbit by Jefferson Airplane, 1967.) You're welcome. Fellow Flatlander Lee Bach will tell us this month where and how to catch fish on Lake Alice, which is near Tomahawk, Wis. Lake Alice is a 1,438 acre lake with a maximum depth of 32 feet. (not 10-feet tall!) It's the site of our September outing (Sept. 21-22). There aren't any good lake maps of Alice so what Lee will tell us will be very valuable not just as advice to find fish, but how to avoid obstacles such as tree stumps. In addition to Lee's information, you'll hear a recap of various fishing trips and other insightful stuff. We all love to hear fish stories, so don't be too shy to share. Also, if you have a good story and/or picture you'd like included in the newsletter, please send it to me at whaas17@comcast.net.

Canadian adventures, part 3

If you attended last month's meeting, you heard about Flatlander exploits on Lake of the Woods. More on that later. Some of our brethren will be up on LOTW while we listen to Lee tell us about Lake Alice. Between those two trips, four Flatlanders ventured to LOTW and managed to boat a combined 20 muskies.

Mark and Rhonda Thiessen boated 11 with Mark hooking not one, but two 50-inch fish. The biggest was 50.25 and you can see that beauty at right. Rhonda boated a personal best 48, so both caught big fish.

Steve Ruhmann and Kris Lamendola were at Bay Store Camp with Mark and Rhonda and they put nine fish in the boat. The biggest was a 45.5. One person caught all the fish; I'll let you guess who. Steve also had a nasty incident with a hook in his knee. He was off the water for five hours and needed to go to the emergency room in Roseau. Ouch. You'll have to get details from Steve.

Canadian recap

Last month's newsletter was a bit of a tease. All you were told was that three 50-inch muskies were caught on the Flatlanders annual LOTW trip. If you didn't make last month's meeting, here are the details. Lots of fish were



seen, but they were a bit sluggish because of the hot weather. Three Flatlanders got skunked, which may be a record, but that indicates how tough the fishing was. Still, fish were caught. Our group of 21 anglers boated 48 muskies. Tim Scruggs caught the biggest, 51. Stuart Adrian and Doug Simonson caught personal best 50s. Dave Jack had the best trip with nine fish, several in the high 40-inch range. It was a great trip and our goal next year, besides catching more and bigger fish, is to fill Bay Store Camp. A full camp is 30 anglers. LOTW is a great fishery where you're one cast away from the fish of a lifetime. Plus, you get to hang out with a bunch of great people. What more could you want?

Upcoming outings

The next outing is Sept. 21-22 on Lake Alice, as mentioned above. Oct. 19-20 is the Lake St. Clair outing. Mike McClammer gave us info for that outing in February. Nov. 1-3 is the Vermilion outing, which Jeff Blanck will tell us about during the October meeting.

Get your arms in shape

Our September meeting will be our second annual bean bag toss tournament. This is the family game that many of you have played or heard about where you and your teammate toss bean bags at a board with a hole in it. There is a point system that will be explained that night right before you play. We will be inviting ANYONE that wants to attend. Teams will be determined by drawing names out of a hat for partners, so you can come single if you don't have a partner. This way we can keep it fun with no "ringers" coming in to make a clean sweep of the winnings. We hope you will join us and bring a couple of friends for the heck of it.

Turn in your fish

We hope you've had a good season so far. Remember, when you catch fish, you can enter them on the Muskies Inc. website and print out the form to give to our release chairman, Tim Scruggs. Also, we're doing a 50/50 for the release contest again this year. Last year for every fish that was turned in to the Members Only Contest, you had a chance to give a dollar for each fish that would enter you into the 50/50 raffle for the season. This year, however, the stakes are higher. You will get more chances the longer the fish is that you release. The new raffle entry is as follows:

30" - 39" is a \$1 entry with 1 ticket in the raffle

40" - 44" is a \$2 entry with 2 tickets in the raffle

45" - 49" is a \$3 entry with 3 tickets in the raffle

50" and longer is a \$5 entry with 5 tickets in the raffle. Enter a fish, one fish per form, and don't forget about the 50/50 tickets for the end-of-the-year drawing.

We've had this information in a previous newsletter, but even the most informed among us have been forgetting to turn in our money for the 50/50. The more fish you enter, the better your odds of winning. However, I think last year's winner Larry Ohda, only entered one fish so anything's possible.

Chapter challenge reminder

The 2013 Gil Hamm Memorial Chapter Challenge will be Sept. 18-20 on Lake Vermilion, headquartered at [Spring Bay Resort](#). The deadline to enter is Sept. 1. Registration fee is \$25 per team. Make checks payable to Chicagoland Muskie Hunters. Send payment to: Dean Rosset, 7600 Kilbourn, Skokie, IL 60076. If you have questions regarding registration, contact Dean at: drosset@sbcglobal.net or (847) 677-0017.

Meeting reminders

Aug. 22: Lake Alice – Lee Bach

Sept. 26: Bags tournament

Oct. 24: Lake Vermilion – Jeff Blanck

Nov. 21 (week early because of Thanksgiving): Annual election of officers.

Dec. 19 (week early because of Christmas): Lure swap, Christmas party

January TBD: Moonlight Bowl

Muskies all over

At least 35 states have fishable muskie populations so you can travel just about anywhere to catch the toothy critters we love. So, if you happen to be in Idaho, Little Payette Lake is the place to be. A 50.5-inch 44.26-pound tiger musky with a 25-inch girth was caught there earlier this month. That's the state record. The previous record was a 38-pounder.

Photo contest

Send your photos to Kris Lamendola, who is in charge of the Flatlanders photo contest. The picture could be of you with a big fish or it could be a scenic shot. Send your best shots to Kris at krislamendola@gmail.com

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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Tim Scruggs 270-0014

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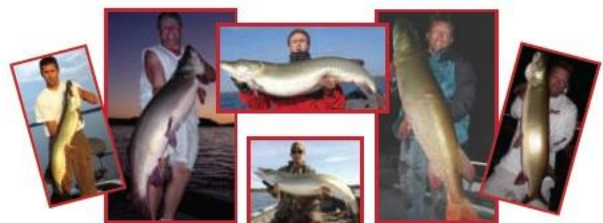
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