



August 2020 newsletter

No meetings while we sit through the pandemic. Stay safe

Big fish from Vermilion, Green Bay

Flatlanders are catching some nice fish, but not a lot of them



There's nothing tiny about this 49-incher Tim Scruggs caught on a blue and silver grandma on Vermilion.

*By Dick Cholke
Flatlanders president*

This season is just weird. I enjoy our chapter and the events that we plan. We all really

missed heading up to the Lake of the Woods in July. Meeting at the Flying J, a few sodas behind

the Walleye Inn, the group supper Friday night at Rosalie's and eating fresh cherries heading out to Oak Island are all part of the LOTW experience. I think next year we will all be wound up on that first Saturday afternoon of fishing. Some of us will be burning baits due to the energy level. Maybe we should put on double 10's just to slow ourselves down a bit. That does not mean a bunch of us have not been fishing. Kyle should have a summary of some of the fish of the summer in his article. If he does not mention it I got my "Finally Fish" last Saturday on my 14th day of fishing this season. It was not big at 32 1/2", but it smelled a lot better than that skunk that has been following me this year.

We did hold our EC meeting last month out at Rock Cut to get some fresh air and be safe. We should be on the same format this coming Tuesday for the August EC meeting – 6:30PM at the Bay View Shelter. We discussed that we are going to let the deposits for LOTW and tickets for the banquet stand as is, but anyone wanting a refund for the banquet should contact Jack Pertz putebackjack2@aol.com and Steve Ruhmann for the LOTW outing steve.ruhmann@gmail.com. Muskie Inc. did issue a new liability waiver to be used at chapter events. I need to get clarification where to draw the line when this form is needed.

The EC committee did vote to cancel all events until further notice. This is not good news. Some folks may still fish the previously scheduled outings but they will not be sponsored events. The decision to fish is the responsibility of each person attending the trip etc. that they feel they are in a safe condition for the status of the virus. The chapter did purchase a half day of guided fishing with Jon Ghinazzi for the banquet. Jon is going to defer that half day into next year's season. We are working the items related to the new mission statement of Muskie Inc. We will keep you abreast of any developments.

All meetings, outings /events are cancelled at this time.

Get on the water and get on the board (Safely!)

Now for the good stuff:



Fishing with Teddy

Last week, Bob and I spent five days fishing up north and had the opportunity to fish with Teddy. He asked if he could bring his buddy along - Jeff Blanck. We of course could make room in the boat for both of them and had a great day of fishing on Upper Gresham and Big Arbor Vita. One thing nice about our chapter is that you get to meet and fish with individuals that you may not have the opportunity to fish with on any lake – Teddy was no exception. Both Teddy and Jeff were well behaved and did not have any accidents in the boat. Jeff held up well the entire day but Teddy would take an occasional nap / much like some other members in our chapter. Water temperatures were 75° on most of the lakes in the Boulder Junction area. Notice the photo of Bob with a young fish while it is being carefully inspected by Teddy to ensure all proper catch and release methods were used. He confirmed the fish was healthy and approved the release after the photo opportunity. If you are ever up north and have the opportunity to fish with Teddy, Bob and I would highly recommend his expert advice. It was only his first time muskie fishing but he did know his stuff!

Release contest update

This year has proved to be a very tough year so far, whether it be restrictions on the border or extremely HOT temps throughout musky country. Not much is coming in to the Members Only contest. I have been hearing of a few fish



This 47.5-incher hit Steve Ruhman's white Ace Tandem on Green Bay.

and seeing a few pictures but have not been receiving many forms. If you are one of those members catching a few fish and would like them to be in the contest please remember to send me a release form.

Jerry Oestreich put a nice double in the boat on Forest Lake, MN. Both coming on Ace baits. Jerry landed a beautiful 38 and 41 inch musky within an hour of each other. Window was open, way to make it count.

Jeff Blanck is starting to settle in on his new home waters of Eagle River, by landing 2 more muskies measuring 32 and 31. The 32 incher was Jeff's 300th musky registered into the Flatlanders Chapter. That is a great milestone to hit. Congratulations Jeff.

Summer is winding down which means fall is right around the corner. With water temps on the decrease that should increase the musky activity. So get out on the water and get on the

board. For members turning in release forms, please send me a little write or note of your catch along with the form for the newsletter. Thanks

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