



THE MUSKY NEWS



Newsletter of the Winnebagoland Musky Club October 2021

OCTOBER 6th Regular Club Meeting

A regular monthly meeting will be held at the American Legion Building on Fond du Lac Ave at 7:00 PM. A regular agenda is planned and no speaker or program is planned.

Operation Winnebagoland Muskies



On September 10-12, the “Salute the Troops Musky Fishing Outing” now to be known as Operation Winnebagoland Muskies occurred at Three Lakes Wisconsin. Over the past few years, this event has been one of our pet projects. The weekend provides a complete musky fishing weekend for Veterans including boats, fishing coaches, meals (brat fry, breakfast on the water, and fish fry), motel lodging, angler awards and a special environment for veterans to share unmatched comradery. This year, three veteran members from another veterans support group, Wisconsin Heroes Outdoors (WHO) attended the outing. This organization is a not for profit group that provides support to veterans. Check out their website: www.wiherooutdoors.org Richard wanted them to attend to get some feedback on how it compared to their outings and how we could do better...always room for improvement. We received high





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praise from all three WHO vets, with the biggest consensus compliment of all, "Change Nothing, It was Awesome!"

The weekend included for the veterans their motel stay for 2 nights, a Brat Fry on Friday evening, Breakfast Saturday morning at Sunset Grill provided by the new and old owners of Sunset Grill, musky fishing on Saturday complete with fishing coaches tackle and boat, an award winning chili lunch, and an evening fish fry and campfire social with fish donated from Dave LaPine, Paul Klein, Richard Feustel and Fond du Lac's Walleye Weekend. At the Friday evening campfire and social time the Veterans were all asked and answered "Why they joined the military?" On Saturday, September 11th, all gathered around the

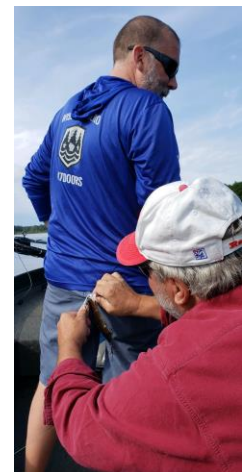
evening campfire and paused to remember those who were lost in the tragic events of this day 20 years ago and the war that followed. The veterans group included Vietnam veterans, Gulf War veterans, and three active duty sailors. One of the vets actually was scheduled to enlist on September 11th, 2001 but was delayed because of the terrorist attack and federal buildings being closed. The discussion was very impressive and emotional. The fishing was semi-productive. Four muskies were caught, only one of legal size (36") caught by Charlie LaPine. One 31 inch musky was boated by veteran Brad Kopish under the guidance of volunteer guide Charlie LaPine. There were a number of 33" northern and a few nice bass taken. The vets confirmed, everyone had a great time fishing.



On Sunday everyone met for a continental breakfast, fished for awhile, had lunch at noon back at the motel and awards were given. A neat story about Brad Kopish's musky. Brad had planned to attend the outing

with his father who also is a veteran. Unfortunately, his father passed away two weeks before. Brad was hesitant about attending but after some reassuring from Richard that the comradery of the other veterans attending may be a great support, Brad decided to join us. As it turns out, on Brad's last cast of the outing on Sunday, he hooked into his prize winning musky. Brad assured everyone, this one was for his dad who knew was attending in a very special way.

And sometimes this happens...





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We thank the following people and businesses that helped us make this weekend special for a group of 12 veterans.

Scottie's Bait and Tackle in Three Lakes - Brat Fry Friday night

The Sunset Grill in Three Lakes - Breakfast Sunday morning

The Triangle Motel in Three Lakes

Tracy Qualman, Mary LaPine, Baily LaPine, Jenni Klein, and Tuesday Klapperich

These women provided snacks, lunches, continental breakfast on Sunday and organizational support.

Richard Feustel, Dave LaPine, Charlie LaPine, Greg Stubbe, Mark Klapperich, Scott Klapperich, and Paul Klein. These guys provided boats and guiding, fish for the fish fry, and outing coordination.

Salute the Troops - sponsor/organizer of the event. Along with Fond du Lac Navy Club – Ship 75, Thrivent Financial, Natural Stone Veneers, Fittante

Taxidermy Studio, and a new sponsor this year, Klapperich's Floor Covering. These companies are awesome and their donations help make this event possible.



FISHING REPORT BY HARLAN HOPP

8/21	Jerry Loop	38"	South Twin	Special Bucktail
9/09	Beth Maeder	40"	Perrault Lake Ontario	Crankbait
9/09	Beth Maeder	36"	Perrault Lake Ontario	Crankbait
9/09	Beth Maeder	35"	Perrault Lake Ontario	Crankbait