



November
2010

Editor: Tom Raschke (traschke@globaldialog.com) or 608-233-6765

Club Web site: <http://www.yaharafishingclub.org>

How to Further Enjoy Musky Fishing Of the Madison Lakes From Shore or a Boat.

By Ron Schell, UW Professor of Microbiology

From the notes of Jim Zegers

Ron gave a dynamic presentation that was drawn from a 145 slide collection. 80% of the time he fishes from shore, which our president Charlie Grimm noted after the meeting was refreshing – you don't need a boat to fish the Madison chain.

He began with a discussion of the origin of tube baits and how to rig them. Bobby Garland invented tubes back in the 1970's when they were considered a finesse bait. Then Guido Hibdon and Denny Brauer began using solid-head 5-inch tubes. Ron uses a bass rod and 4-inch tubes when fishing Wingra Creek. 5 ½ -inch tubes are good for casting and skipping the tubes into place. Gary Garland of Canyon Plastics was another pioneer, who pushed the size to 7 inches, which he fished for both Bass and Musky.

One of Ron's major points is that tube baits, properly rigged, are great for the weedy Madison area. As long as the tube is skin-hooked, this presentation works fine in weeds, rocks, trees and around docks. You should not get hung up. Steve Heiting, a prominent Musky pro, said in a February article that tubes are a good way to fish over weeds. Ron uses Grant Tora tube baits. He doesn't consider color important, but often uses black or white.

Ron said that the tubes have to be hollow, so that the bait will collapse as the fish bites the lure, exposing the hook. Pre-rigged Musky lures are not weedless, whereas a week-walled tube with a wide-gap hook is weedless. Several times Ron emphasized that you need to develop casting skills - to throw across, thru, and down.

Because the head of the tube is not solid, this means the hooks can rip out from use. Ron uses small squares of green pot scrubbers – maybe 3/8 inches square – to reinforce the inside of the tube where the hook goes thru the hitchhiker. (You may need to look at a diagram of this kind of hook to follow this). You can make your own hooks inexpensively, using Sluggo hooks or the Berkley power grub as an alternative. Weighted hooks can cause the lure to sink too fast, so you can use a small piece of polyfoam (from pipe insulation) to make it float. As for leaders, he says none are perfect, and he just uses a normal thin-wire.

He fishes from bottom to top, keeping the tube's tail always moving. In a recent issue of Musky magazine, Jeff Knapp noted this will catch both bass and Muskies. He wants people to enjoy fishing, and not get hung up on the perfect equipment. A good local choice is Wingra Creek in May, or Spring Harbor a bit later. Keep your rod tips up.

In the question and answer period, he said he always uses 9" leaders and an 80# braided line, which is cheap but effective. He makes sure he always has pliers and gloves. Because this kind of fishing utilizes a single hook, releasing the fish is seldom a problem.

And he reminded us that he uses a cheap, heavy casting rod. Again, just get out there and enjoy fishing.

Notes From the Prez

Well, it's Halloween night.....long night for our little dog! Every time the door bell rings.....she figures there's somebody new out on the front porch to murder us. The Pack just shut out the Jets a few minutes ago.....unreal! It's been a very nice fall.....and more of it coming I hope. After Doreen gets the gutters cleaned out real good and winterizes my boat, I can really start to relax. Maybe go pheasant hunting later in the week.....or go out to Grant Co. and put up my new tree stand.....or just go walking around somewhere with a rod and a bucket and catch some bluegills.

And so next up is November. Amazing how fast the old calendar rolls on! I've been retired exactly 1 year today. It literally flew my friends. A few good fishing trips.....Gulf Shores, Oklahoma, and Lac Seul.....kept the time hummin' along. Much of my tackle is still a mess, since each of those destinations required a little different set of baits and ideas. Sounds like another job for my wife. I hope she sharpens all the hooks when she sorts it all out.

And soon Thanksgiving will be just a memory (and a few burps). And then Christmas, which is my favorite. I have really come to love the lights on our tree or front porch or anywhere else I see them. Spending some extra time with family and friends is just what the doctor ordered for me. It's also time to start thinking about ice fishing. Won't be long, even though it seems too nice out to be true. I think our club should have a couple ice outings this winter. Nothing too far away or too complicated. Maybe just a little blue-

gill fishing on Little Green or Delavan.....and then a burger and a beer! Bring your ideas for possible destinations to the November meeting.....talk to Tom Klein.....and then we can all talk about it.

Speaking of the November meeting, we have a lot going on so please try to attend. Elections are coming up, the fishing contest is ending (and starting over), we have to talk about our new club posters and flyers, and discuss our Tenney Park cookout and walleye outing on Nov. 11. As most of you know, YFC is now on Facebook.....pretty cool, even though I don't understand all of it. I will eventually figure it out. I know it's a great way to communicate and showcase our club and all that we do.

Of course, December comes after November. See, I still remember a few things! We hope to have a successful Christmas party this year.....no snow dammit! And it's not too soon to start thinking about the Madison Fishing Expo. Only a couple months down the road folks. We have a super bunch of speakers lined up for this years show. Among them will be Joe Bucher, Ted Takasaki, Greg Bohn, and Lee Tauchen. Start making plans to attend on February 25-27, 2011. Your help is always needed to run the show, starting with putting up a few posters and later by selling tickets for a few hours. And also plan on helping out at the club's booth. A chance to spend time with old friends and meet a few new ones. Want more info about the Expo? Ask me at the November meeting.....or call me at 220-8934.

Charlie



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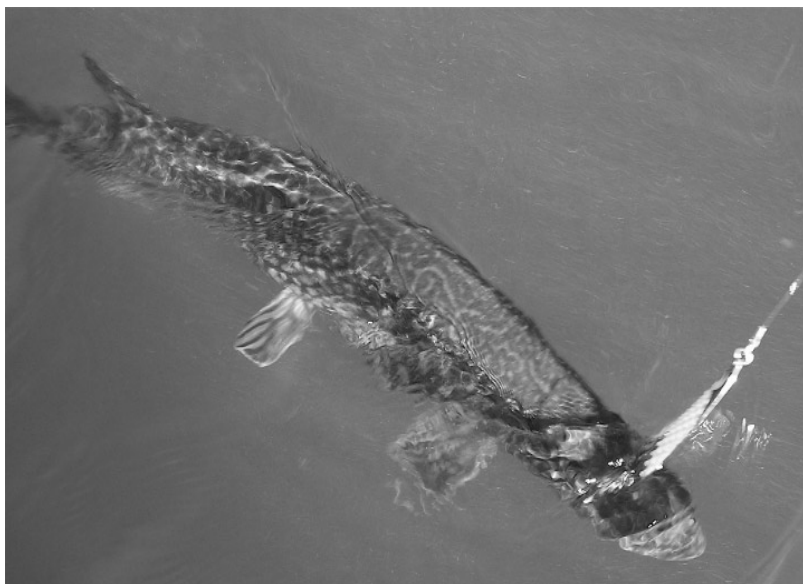
A bad idea

Wingra Park Boat Launch Closed

Beginning October 19, the Wingra Park boat launch pier will be removed. Beginning Monday, morning October 25 the boat launch will be closed periodically for the next three weeks in order for construction of a concrete abutment and boat launch asphalt patching.

Regular updates of openings/closings will be posted on the Madison Parks website. <http://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/boatPark.htm>

Construction is anticipated to be completed by November 19, 2010. The pier will be reinstalled the spring of 2011 per the regular pier installation schedule.



DuffyKopf caught this with a Gator Spoon. He says fishing on Mendota has been good!

Please don't imbed pictures into articles for the newsletter.

With the release of Microsoft Office 2007 came a new format called DOCX. I am guessing that almost all new computers will come with the new version of Word. All word documents created in Microsoft Word 2007 will be saved in DOCX format (the extension is .DOCX instead of .DOC) unless you specifically save them in DOC format using the SAVE AS format.

While I don't have Office 2000, I can read the words in DOCX documents, but most of the time I can't see or process pictures you imbed or include in the document. Because the newsletter is done in black and white, I have to first convert the pictures from color to B&W using Photodraw. It is either difficult or impossible if the picture is inside a DOCX document.

So, email articles to me to publish in ANY format, but please ATTACH pictures, don't include them in the document. Any questions give me a call at 608-233-6765.

Editor (Tom Raschke)

Raffle News for the November meeting

WOW -the feature item is a \$50.00 gift card from the west side Wal Mart. Wal Mart has been an outstanding sponsor for the club and special thanks to Rick , the sporting goods manager, for helping put this together.

Of course we will have a board full of baits, tackle items, flashlights, a nice little tackle box, and much more so everyone has a good chance to win something, so buy those tickets, win something, and help our club at the same time.

Tom Klein

Sturgeon Outing - report by Trip Leader Tom Klein

It was a fine outing – good weather, great company, good fishing, nice scenery.

We had two boats and seven guys. Jesse Tougas, Rodger Swensen, Mike Hutchen, Paul Nichols, Dan Corfman, myself and guest Garret Klein (Tom's son from Mpls). Every one caught a Sturgeon w/ most guys catching 2 or 3. Our gear was Muskie and Salmon rods, 50+ lb braid, using a 1 oz to 3 oz sliding pyramid weight w/ 40 or 50lb. fluoro leader tied to a big circle hook. Bait was mostly a gob of nightcrawlers or some cut bait. Most of the action was on the crawlers.



Garrett, Tom, Dan, Paul, Roger, Jesse, Mike

Friday afternoon was quite cool and windy so Jesse, Rodger, and I didn't venture too far, but we still caught a Sturgeon. The rest of the guys arrived Friday night. Saturday and Sunday were beautiful days. We left Hudson about noon on Sunday. Of the Sturgeon caught, 3 had tags from the MN DNR which we will send in.

I have heard Sturgeon fishing has been the ruination of many a Muskie hunter (Sept only)

I asked the guys to submit a sentence or two relaying their first experience Sturgeon fishing. Here are their responses:

This was my first Sturgeon fishing trip and it was great. I lost what we thought would have been the biggest fish; it bent my musky pole into a horseshoe shape. However, I did catch a couple of Sturgeon.

Thank you Tom Klein for putting all your time and effort into an awesome trip. In addition, being with other club members was very enjoyable, I would definitely go again.

Roger

(note from Tom – Rodger hooked a monster Sturgeon which made a spectacular jump totally clearing the water. Unfortunately the release was before we got it to the boat)



Roger with 40 inch plus sturgeon

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I remember...

- Paul almost going into the St Croix River on not 1, not 2, but 3 separate occasions. I seriously thought a sturgeon was going to pull him in, Mimi* almost got him once, and he went down on the back casting deck once clearing a line. All 3 were pretty close calls.

- Mike meeting the girl of his dreams. Her name was Mimi*, and she was a beauty.

- What a cool looking fish the sturgeon is. It was worth the trip just to see them first-hand.

* Mimi was a gigantic ship that would have looked more at home on the Atlantic Ocean than the St Croix River. She produced a boat wake akin to a class 3 hurricane and was doing laps in the part of the channel near where we were anchored. Needless to say, we had some carnival ride type moments.

On a more serious note, I learned a tremendous amount on this trip. I had never seriously fished a river. I had never tried to precisely position a boat via anchor. I had never tried to tight line out of a boat. There really is an art to these things that I had not previously considered. By the end of the second day, I think we were starting to get the hang of it and having a blast riding the learning curve. I can't wait to try it again a little more locally. I may turn into a Lake Mendota catfish's worst nightmare before it's all said and done.

I also need to add how enjoyable it was getting to know the other participants - just quality people that were a great deal of fun to be around. I have a sneaky suspicion that Paul, Mike, and I will be chasing muskies around Waubesa and Monona this fall. Roger, Jesse, and Tom be warned. I will be hitting you guys up

for tutelage in your areas of expertise soon. So, Tom – when's the next outing?

Dan Corfman



Hey Dad-

Can you email me some of those photos? I hope you have one of Jessie sleeping on the dock! Was a blast, hope to do it again next year!

Garrett



Garrett with 52 incher

Hey Tom here are a few photos from the trip. I had an amazing time on the Lower St. Croix!! The crew that went was a blast to fish with and everybody caught lots of fish. To me this trip encompassed everything that we are as a fishing club. Having fun and catching fish in a beautiful location. Seeing bald eagles along the shore as we traveled down the river to catch sturgeon was a pretty cool experience. We all pulled in sturgeon which was just icing on the cake as far as I'm concerned. I also slayed the hell out of the damn sheephead so that was a little extra excitement. Thanks again for planning the trip and I can't wait to go back next year!

Paul



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Sturgeon outing, continued



Paul's First Sturgeon

Hi Tom. What a great weekend. Thank you Tom for setting this up and supplying the boat and gear. Well here's the way I remember as it happened. Friday we were on the water about 3pm. We anchored by the green channel marker. The wind was quite strong. The temp about 60. Shortly after we got set up I caught my first sturgeon ever. It was to small but a good fighter. We didn't measure it but I guess it to be about 30 inches. That was by the green channel marker just past the I 94 bridge. Sat. was a nicer day. We all enjoyed the breakfast at the Quality Inn and by sunrise we were on the water. About 7.30 Roger caught a catfish. Then an hour later Garrett caught a 52 inch sturgeon. Not much happened after that and we moved in to Afton state park for shore lunch about noon. We had a smorgasbord of ham, turkey, and beef sliced onion rye bread, a little beer and a nap time for Jess. We went out about 1 pm and anchored off Afton . About 4:30 Tom caught a 30 inch Sturgeon. Then Jess hooded into a humongous sheep head. Shortly after Roger hooked a large heavy fighting whopper must have been a 60+ it just came up for a short peek then was gone for good. Later Roger hooked a larger sturgeon 45 inches
 Sunday morning Garrett caught 30 inch sturgeon at 7:50 am and 8:00am he landed a sucker. Then at 8:15 am jess caught a sucker. At 8:50am Tom caught small sturgeon and at 9:50 Jess caught a 39 inch sturgeon. There were other fish caught like smaller cats and red horse. And a hitch hiker Lamprey eel .We had a wonderful time and I look forward to the same thing next year. Thanks again
 Jesse



Jesse

This was my first time fishing for sturgeon, and I'm certainly hooked! There was plenty of big fish caught, and it was a great weekend all around. Be sure to sign up for it next year.
 Mike



Mike's smile says it all

There was a lot more to be said – the pandemonium clearing lines when a big fish was on, a lot of humor and smart talk, great camaraderie, and so on. My thanks to all who participated, it allowed me to go Sturgeon fishing again, share this adventure, and have a great time.

Special thanks to:

The friendly staff at the Quality Inn in Hudson for their hospitality , for setting up breakfast really early so we could get out on the water at sunrise, and reserving a block of rooms at special rates.

Sturgeon outing, continued

Dan and Paul for picking up the flat of crawlers at D&S.

Dan and Tom for trailering their boats up. Dan taking command of our Saturday night pizza party at the Quality Inn.

Jesse and Rodger for taking the time so I could have lunch w/ my granddaughters and family on Sunday, and Jesse for his generosity. Take care and tight lines.

God willing, we will try for next season
Tom Klein



Duffy Kopf sent this story from Gary Engberg's website.

Rare Albino Muskie Caught in Rusk County, Wisconsin 10-20-2010

gengberg October 20th, 2010

Rare albino musky caught in Rusk County Weekly News Article Published: October 19, 2010 by the Central Office

RUSK COUNTY - The musky Paul Parise boated on Oct. 6, 2010, from the lower Flambeau River in Rusk County is truly the rarest of the rare: a 51-inch albino musky.



albino musky
Paul Parise landed this 51-inch albino musky on Oct. 6, 2010, from the lower Flambeau River.
Contributed Photo

"That is a pretty fantastic catch," says Tim Simonson, co-chair of the Department of Natural Resources musky committee. "Albino musky are pretty rare to begin with, and for one to survive to that size is pretty uncommon given they don't have the protective camouflage to hide from predators or sneak up on prey. This fish stood out from day one, but through luck and maybe some skill, it survived."

The fish is the second albino musky to surface in Wisconsin waters in recent years. In 2005, a DNR fisheries crew caught a white musky in their fyke nets during population surveys. But that fish was much smaller — 32.7 inches long and 7.9 pounds at the time.

Albinism is a heredity condition in humans, other mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians, in which there is a total or partial lack of pigment that gives color to the skin, hair and eyes.

The growth and development of an albino is the same as that of a normal individual. **They also have the ability to reproduce offspring.**

The complete story about **Paul Parise's unique musky catch and release will appear in the December 2010 issue of MUSKIE Magazine**, the official publication of Muskies, Inc. [www.muskiesinc.org]

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Tim Simonson (608) 266-5222

[View all articles in this issue](#) or check our [previous Weekly News Issues](#)

Yahara Fishing Club Membership Application

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Annual Dues:

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- Family.....\$35
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Except for special Summer "On the water" dates, meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the Lakeside VFW Hall, John Nolan Dr, & Lakeside St. in Madison.

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The next meeting is on **Tuesday, November 9th**, at the Lakeside VFW Hall (John Nolen Rr. & Lakeside St.)

The Board Of Directors meet at 6:00 pm, The **General Membership meeting starts at 7:00 pm.**

Speaker : Don Hollatz

Calendar of Upcoming Events

November Events

November 9th - Monthly club meeting at the VFW hall. Don Hollatz, a member of Madison Muskies, Inc., will be our Nov. speaker. He will discuss trolling for muskies.

November 11th - Tenney outing on the park pier.
November 21st - Packers at Minnesota, 12:00 pm

December Events

December 14th - Monthly club meeting at the VFW hall. This will be a pot luck.

The Yahara Fishing Club's doors are open to **EVERYONE**, so invite a friend to the meeting!

President - Charlie Grimm ...249-9694	Director - Tom Wilke834-9554	Director - Roger Swenson 752-6825
Vice Pres. - Paul Murunich ...219-4449	Director - Jeff Wydeven .848-4542	Director - Jim Kloth635-0116
Secretary - Paul Nichols 309-335-6815	Director - Jim Pankratz ...288-9789	Director - Karlette Schoen 242-8803
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Check out our web page at:
www.yaharafishingclub.org



Yahara Fishing Club
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