

Island 10

FISHING RETREAT

2014

Summer's Gone

So quickly the summer came and went, and now we start reflecting back on it. Why bother with a newsletter, you ask, and we do too? Well, believe it or not, we kinda like doing it, after it's done anyway. So put up with us.

If you weren't up last Spring, you really missed out. Ice went out late, the Montreal River was the highest its' ever been because there was lots of snow. In fact the ice went out Saturday May 10th, and we arrived Sunday the 11th with 8 boats, staff, their belongings, food to start, and lots of supplies. By that evening electricity was on, water was on, phone was on and the internet was running. That means even with the amount of snow, nothing broke or moved, well except for Cabin 6 chimney, which was flattened by snow. It now has what we call a "snowplow" too! Sounds easy but only because we have good staff and extras. Extras being Loran, Chris, Shelley, and luck. By Friday evening Island 10 began to look normal and that's when you arrived. No complaints about the water levels. The lake was

high, where it should be, the river tough to navigate, but not unmanageable. When the season opened on Saturday for pike and walleye, fishing was great!

Everyone seemed to think the weather this year was poor. I think it was a little cooler than usual, but not uncomfortable at all. Yes we got wet at times but on the whole the year was great. In fact this is the first year we really didn't have any violent thunderstorms. That part we really like. Opening week the walleye were still spawning but the fishing and releasing was great. This was the first time ever that we did not have walleye for fish fry i.e. they were all released. Normally within hours of us arriving back at the Island the humming birds are awaiting food. Not this year though, as it took six days for them to arrive. Lost their calendar you say?

Bev and I just got back from a Holy Land cruise. I know... how can we afford it? Well mining stocks are paying off... Who do you think I'm kidding? Anyway it was a great trip... lots to see ... and good to be back. We did

learn a couple of things, first those people over there don't know what beautiful land, lakes and beaches are, and secondly we in Canada and the US, live in the best two countries in the world... period. No, Bev didn't buy another car this year, but she did let us buy more boats. And we're not done yet. What good is an island without lots of boats anyway?

No more grandchildren yet, just Peanut, Squirt and Bumpy. They all spent a lot of time at the island this Summer. Peanut learned a little about kitchen duties, Squirt showed he could fly a plane, and Bumpy learned how to walk. They're getting old you know... 5, 3, and 1!

WIFI... We've had lots of fun with this one! Yes we can provide WIFI... but do our guests really want it? We've asked this question week after week for the past two years and just about 99% say emphatically "NO"! Over and

over we hear "we come here to get away from it" So Bev and I put it to the test and did without WIFI, e-mails or phone service for 15 days while on the cruise mentioned earlier. Guess what... the world didn't stop.

One of the highlights of the season was our family of partridge (ruffed grouse) who spent the summer with us. Mother hen, we knew was nesting but never found where. She started with 7 little ones, and ended with six. Not a bad job at all. She also seemed to know when her job was done as she left the island and her offspring about two weeks before we did. Without trying real hard they became pets. Even Dolly became accustomed to them. After seeing how they stay together, mind their Mother's remarks, communicate with each other, and trusted us to feed them berries, I know now why I gave up hunting them. Sure hope we get them or a new family back next year.





Now for a bit of trivia. You all pass the turn off to Cobalt as you come north on Hwy 11.

It's about 8 miles south of 558, or five miles north of Latchford. When you pass this turnoff you know you're getting close to Mowat's Landing and Island 10. Well here's a few things most people don't know. Cobalt now has a population of just over 1000, but in 1908 it had over 30,000 inhabitants. With 10 restaurants that were open 24/7 and 39 hotels. Silver was discovered in 1903 with the construction of the T&NO railway and between 1906 and 1928 the 100 or more mines produced \$300 million worth of silver at \$0.53 per oz. At today's price of over \$16 per oz. this equates to over \$9 billion. Apparently this was \$100 million more than the total take from Canada's famous Klondike gold rush of 1898 to 1907. No wonder it was known as the silver capital of the world! In 1910 Cobalt had an NHL hockey team (then NHA - National Hockey Association) the Cobalt Silver Kings, who at least once beat the Montreal Canadiens. Cobalt's goalie was Art Ross. In today's NHL, the top scorer each year wins the Art Ross Trophy. Until 1928 the NHL played for the O'Brien Cup which was replaced by the Stanley Cup. The O'Brien Cup was donated by Cobalt silver miner M. J. O'Brien and is in the hockey Hall of Fame.

We often hear stories about guests meeting guests, like on a beach, in an airport, etc. In fact a few years ago Rich Hilmer of Michigan when touring at an open house, spotted Island 10 hats hanging. ... Yes, you're supposed to hang them up. They met and became friends with Loran and Mary Ellen Sherwood. Recently, in Loews in Cincinnati, Bill Gregory spotted Mark Weller wearing this year's hat. Both have been coming to



the Island for years and always later in the year, so they have undoubtedly rubbed shoulders. Of course we had to call Bill and ask where his hat was?

On tall tale/story night this year's prize up for grabs was a moose lure carving by Martin Mudrak of Oh. Marty wasn't on site to hear the truth. One by one after supper the lies, and truths came out. Participants included Tony Brown, Dave Wilson, Steve Herbert, Ed Paxton, Ron and Donna Stahl. Thanks Marty! This year it was won by Jansen Stahl, age 9 of Mi. who gave his tall tale as follows:



When I was a kid - went fishing with my Grandpa at Island 10. We caught 100 fish but the biggest one was so big it pulled us back to our cabin. But that was good. Because the bell rang and it was time for dinner. After dinner we went back out fishing and we saw Mr. Ken in his salmon pants, in his boat with Dolly. It was a good day.

Jansen Stahl
August 8, 2014

Why is it we seem to spawn tall tales? If a new guest arrives squeaky clean, he or she certainly leaves tainted. Young folk especially become indoctrinated. "The Missing reel" a short story for school by Dan Messman son of Tom Messman, and grandson of Chuck Whitaker, all of southern Indiana, is an example of this. Chuck has been coming to the Island for years, Tom not so long, and Dan is a rookie. Now you know where Dan's gift came from.

Yes we do listen to our guests... sometimes! We've been told it's time we threw away the boat measuring stickers we got in NY and Mi. and make our own, so we did. Also let's ponder for a while, the Sat AM talk. Everyone, we believe, wants it longer. They say it's soothing! Well, we're going to help shorten it and make it even more soothing by putting a few reminders in each cabin. You have to remember we can't rush progress.

The Missing Reel

When Tom and Ken were younger, they would always go to the creek and fish. They would catch blue gill, smallmouth bass, and catfish. One day, Ken moved to Canada because his father inherited the Island 10 retreat on Lady Evelyn Lake, Ontario, Canada. Tom was upset about Ken moving away and that he might never see Ken again. After Tom graduated from St. Joseph's College, Ken mailed Tom a letter that he was now the owner of the Island 10 retreat and he wanted Tom to come to Lady Evelyn Lake in July.

In July, Tom went up to Lady Evelyn Lake. When Tom got to the lake, he saw a sign that stated, "Welcome to the Island 10 Retreat." Once Tom found Ken, they were off to the North end of the lake. The place Ken took Tom was the best fishing spot to catch Great Northern Pike and Whitefish. Tom cast his line into the water and he waited for a bite. After an hour, the bite Tom was waiting for finally happened. Tom needed help get the fish out of the water. Ken jumped in the battle to help. They both struggled to bring in the fish. After the long battle, Tom caught his worthy opponent. Following the long battle, Ken opened his eyes and was startled to see the fish was on top of Tom and him. He recognized that the fish was as long and as wide as the boat and that it was a whitefish.

Tom had been knocked out during the struggle and when he woke up, he realized that his fishing reel was gone and the whitefish had him pinned to the bottom of the boat. Tom finally realized that the whitefish had swallowed the reel. Tom knew that he needed to the whitefish to cough it up. Tom and Ken tried punching the whitefish's stomach and the reel didn't come up. Ken tried to look in the whitefish's stomach, but he didn't see the reel. They found an expert on fish and he didn't have any advice about how to get the fish to release the reel from his stomach. While the men pondered their dilemma, the great whitefish grew weaker. Between the struggle, the reel in his stomach, and lack of food, the whitefish was dying. Suddenly, Ken had a brilliant idea! If they gave the whitefish a ton of minnows to eat, perhaps it would make the fish so sick that he'd vomit up the reel. When they gave the whitefish minnows, it started to inhale the food. The more the whitefish ate, the bigger its stomach grew until it began gagging. With a final burping cough, the fish spewed the contents of its stomach and out came Tom's prized reel! This had been Tom's best vacation ever! He couldn't wait to come back!

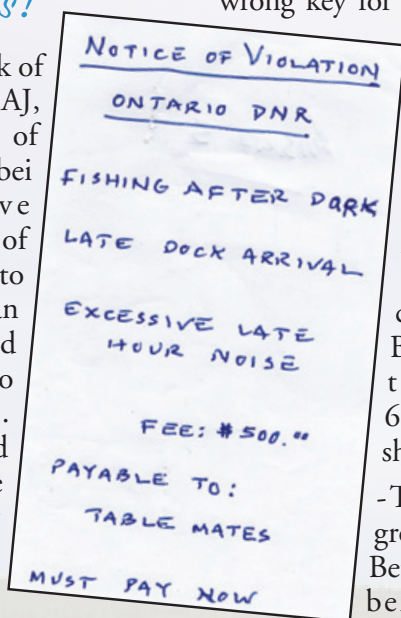
Daniel James Messman

DJ Messman
Rensselaer, IN, USA
04/24/2014



Now let's get down to business!

-The first week of the season Al, AJ, Ray and Leo of the Leo Bernabei group gave this "Notice of Violation" to Dan and Dan of WV and Ga. Come to think of it... they deserved it. We used the fine to offset Newsletter costs.



-It was noted that Linas takes carrots for lunch, except when he knows Nicollette is not watching.

-Believe it or Not – Richard Waterman, at fish fry, guessed all four fish species correctly – walleye, pike, sucker and whitefish. Did he bribe the chef? No bourbon bet on this in case you were wondering.

-Chuck Childs NY. beaten easily in arm wrestling by Island 10 ringers, Nikki and Sarah



-Steve Bennett group, Buzz, Will, Todd, Randy and Steve all got in the trophy book.

-Kyle Linscheid showed up only 1 hour late for supper. Claimed his watch was still on standard time. Huh???

-Cameron group just the same as always.

-Larry and Marie Henry were the first ones to Long Lake

since the trail was redone. Problem was we gave the wrong key for the boat They renamed the lake "No Key Lake". Next year we're giving a chain saw with every key. No...

not to cut the chain either! By the way they caught 6 pike from shore anyway.

-The Pitcher group fishing in Betty's hole, were being skunked nicely when they

spotted an eagle about 200 m. away, land one. Using the old "fish where the fish are" they ventured over, spotted a feather on the water, and as the story goes caught 60. We say divide that by two and you might be closer.

-Mick Dempsey confided that there's a favorite hole for big ones, within 1000 m. (probably 500m.) from the lodge. He won't tell which way though. Tom Munn got two trophies in that hole before breakfast.

-Where did Mandy go this year? Russ and Warren want to know.



-Thanks to Joe Patrick for accordion music we enjoyed and also Dave Cameron and Rick Campbell for their yearly pipes.

-It took Shelley Quasey almost 15 years to confess what "indoor sports" means.

Seems Tom, when visited by Ken, back then, left Shelley with nothing but a martini and a smile as their sports were interrupted. The story goes that a bottle of bourbon disappeared during the duration.

-Seems "indoor sports" has spread to Cabin 10. Cal and Loren and Rick and Marty.

-We loved our grouse and just about everyone else did too, except as Janie put it," Mark thought their chasing him wasn't fair".

-It was a strange week for Becky as Karl took one of her birth control pills, he says by accident, (it was under the bed) but consensus was it had a potato flavor.

-Anyone on the barge on July 19 2014, will remember this one. Joe Lankford (Md) was leaning/sitting in the barge and never realized his wallet had slipped out. Kathy Connor with her sharp eyes for money spotted something floating. We thought it was a piece of wood, but upon backing up found it was Joe's wallet opened in the form of a "V". What we learned here is that US money floats real well. Thank goodness we explain all those things on the river, which makes us go slow, and Joe better have given Kathy a big kiss.

-Troy Timney wants T's with "I made Lady Evelyn". We love Troy but...

-PF - per Chuck Davis means "Pucker Factor". Apparently this can be measured on a 1

to 10 scale. He claims Tom Messman had a PF of 9.5 when he broke his seat maneuvering a big wave.

-Sunday August 10 was 90 F and by Wednesday Aug 13 it

was 46 F. If you were in that week we want compensation for depleting the woodpile.

-Overheard at breakfast ... a comment was made to the southern (and northern) gentlemen (Major, Richard, Chuck, Dante, Joe and Felix) ... "that was a metaphor you know". One of them replied "I know what that means... it's a pasture... a meadow for"... Gotta love 'em!

-We have to talk about Lisa Kuruch's first fish ever, then first walleye ever, and moreover she caught lots. The excitement was felt by all.

-And I remember during the Sat AM talk, when asked if there was any questions, some person by the name of Frank Ratliff asked if there was any beer? Just because he got one doesn't mean it's a habit.

-When a man refers to his wife as the "snag Queen" like Ken Sharp did, is this considered grounds for taking his rods away?

-The Ivan Pauley group has a "red tie" affair at the lodge each year. That person catching the largest each day wears the red tie the next day. This year, Sunday was Ken, Monday was Ivan, Tues Eddy and Wed Ken again. Appears Ken can't distinguish between inches and centimeters.

-MY Mother... This past August 19th, turned 100. She has met many Island 10 guests while at the lodge. Longevity is from lots of fresh air... no bourbon she says!



Catch and Release Fishing



Fishing... Not just a good year... it was a great year! The trophy "catch and release" free week was won by Mark Gianunzio of Florida, who on July 15 caught and released a 27.5 in. northern pike. Really it should be

credited to his wife Janie who did all the work. Peanut, on Sept 19, pulled his name from a hat containing 524 entries. Again trophies are walleyes over 23.5 in., pike over 27. and bass over 17 in. The 524 fish were released by 255 individuals meaning one out of every two guests caught and released a trophy. This was by far the best year for trophy release ever. In 2013 the Newsletter reported 504 trophies released. This

was wrong ... as it should have been 487 due to an error in recording. Remember that in 1997 the number of trophies released was 12. Is fishing getting better ...hmmm? Here are a few more stats of some mighty fine anglers. All of these were released to do their job breeding. Largest northern 40 in., Glen Reukauf, largest smallmouth 20.5 in. T Hiddink, and largest walleye 31 in. Gary Peebles. Most trophies released this year by an individual was 10, a three way tie between Rich Barna - Pa, Tom Quasey - Pa, and Debbie Greynolds-Oh. If you're wondering the location of these big ones, here's a few - Boulder Bay, Jim Q Spot, Rock, South, Franks Hump, Out There, Steve's Rock, Ed's Pike Is., Mom's Place, Flats, South Hubbitton, Grocery Store, and the famous Al's Hole.



Island 10 Artists - Kyle and Jacqueline's fine works of art pictured. Jacqueline is pictured here with Peanut and Squirt.



Sadly Andrea's dog Milli passed on June 6. She was 14, i.e. "millennium". Everyone should remember her sitting by the door with eyes that made you slip her a cookie. She was a good dog!



Yes it was a good year, not without difficulties, problems and the like. How could we not be grateful for and appreciate the year we had. It was a good one. Thank you for being part of it, enjoying the lake and lodge and for caring for it.

Chuck Whitaker took the time to send these very appropriate comments which I'll now share with you.

"Life isn't always fair but it's still good" and "what other people think of you is none of your business".

*God Bless - Be safe
Merry Christmas.*

LIFE IS SHORT! In June we were saddened and surprised by the sudden passing in North Bay, of Richard Maure one of our staff in his 4th year at the Island. His family appreciated all the messages and condolences many of you sent.

Andrea Mike

