

Island 10

FISHING RETREAT

Byberg's Island 10

2015 Summer's Over!

No complaints ... Not with the weather, fishing, catching, costs, work ... How could there be? But, of course there always is news.

Over the past few years, we have tried to update emergency medical supplies, equipment and training. Yes, even extra rye and bourbon for hook removal. Well, last winter we took delivery of a brand new stretcher... the old one just wasn't good enough. Well guess who got to use it first? You're right... Bev!

On September 14, when called for lunch, Bev tripped over Dolly lying on the top step to our quarters, tumbled to the bottom and broke her ankle... badly. The stretcher worked well and the ambulance cost just \$45. With the ankle back in place an operation in Niagara was needed and took place Oct 2 after the swelling went down. Now is rehab time. Can't say housework is my forté. One thing she did mention, even before the pain started to subside, was something like... "be careful buster or I'll tell them you did it" Found out she's not real fond of "pea soup", too.



So, on sport close-up was without us, (Bev and I). Seems they never missed a beat. Like other years, the Polley/Hayward group from Hamilton/Burlington helped pull the floating docks at the harbor, and the "bus stop" bench was moved to its' winter home by the last guests leaving. It's pretty long you know! In keeping with this tradition, Loran Sherwood of Mi. was told he had to stay and help close as well. Kori, the owner of Maximum North Aviation in North Bay flew the plane out.



Previous plans were to have Bev drive one of the trucks south after closing. Not this time however. We were lucky enough to be friends and neighbors with Patti and Otto Heinrich who live 5 miles from us in Niagara and who also own the cottage with the green roof, just downstream from the Dam on the Montreal River. Otto and Patti were up north at that time and brought the extra truck home, along with a ton of office files, right to our doorstep.

This is the third year we have not attended sport shows in Canada or the USA. I think it was 1998 or 99 that Bev and I did 9 shows, and if a day was added travelling at the beginning and end of the show, we used up 90 days that winter

So, on sport shows. So, not doing them is a blessing, except of course the time we miss visiting with guests. The point is, it's a lot of work. Yes, the internet surely does help with marketing, but it's our guests passing on to others just how good and beautiful the lake really is. Thank you All!



Year after year we struggle to write about what really goes on at the lodge, without spending time on props, lower units, burned toast, rain, storms, mosquitoes, (there are none), wind and waves, etc. etc.

Well, here are a few memories that go on year after year.

- Stopping the barge midway to the portage, regardless of



weather, to talk about where we are and where we're going. Every now and then someone does take over as master. Anyone on the barge when Troy Timney from SC, took the reins, got a real treat to remember.

- The Saturday morning orientation that gets shorter each year.

- The July 1'st fireworks, with bag piper Rick Campbell entertaining us

- The same piper "Rick" piping the guests departing on Saturday morning as the barge arrives at Mowatts Landing. Incidentally we tell those guests aboard that we do this every week.

- Fish fry and how we've managed to keep rain from the door step.

- Fish fry taste tasting. If at all possible we try to get a sampling of all species in



season including suckers and whitefish. Yes, and we've proven that suckers from Lady Evelyn Lake taste as good as walleye. We all know it's the cold clean water.

- Waiting for the weekly photographer to fall off the dock on Saturday morning.



- Realization that the dinner bell sounds different... broken!

- There's nowhere on earth that you can see skies and sunsets like on Lady Evelyn Lake.

We actually listen to comments once in a while and this year put a reminder list in each cabin. Funny though we got a lot of "HUHS" when asked if it was seen.



The Three Questions

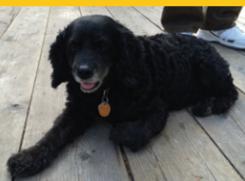
For the past three or four years each Saturday morning we have asked the following questions of our guests in camp.

1. Do you want the main lodge telephone (I seldom use it) to be changed from rotary to touch tone?
2. Do you want a flat screen, 70 inch television hanging in the lodge?
3. Do you want WIFI?

Questions 1 and 2 are batting 1000 while question 3 is batting 996 on the "NO" side. Now you know the "rest of the story" So ... Should we update our web site to state that "we don't have WIFI"? It appears the rest of the world brags about having it, while we brag about not wanting it.

Little Known Facts

1. We have almost lost the Island twice by fires. Anyone awake Saturday mornings have heard the "be careful" message.
2. When seated on a cabin deck, one cannot view other cabin's decks.
3. Dolly is the best Dog we have ever had.
4. Andrea's last dog's name was Milli. Some folks have created a new name for Dolly that is ... Molly
5. Lady Evelyn Lake has over 90 km. of fishing length. To get miles just multiply by 0.6
6. The wooden numbers on the cabins were courtesy of Bill Tidd. At that time Bill lived in Indiana. Now he's in the state of Washington.
7. Muskoka chairs at the lodge are all of cedar not plastic. We've lost count of the total but know it exceeds 50.
8. One can never have too many boats. Can a lady have too many shoes? At last count we're over 35 not including those on other lakes. Boats that is!
9. We transport almost 2000 gals of waste water daily to one of our five septage pits almost one km. away. The barge holds 650 imperial gallons and is considered our most important boat. Each barge trip is entered and signed in a log book. Waste water tanks are measured at least three times daily.
10. All boats are refueled as soon after docking at the island as possible, in case of emergencies.
11. We use over 30,000 litres of gasoline yearly.



Around The Island

May 11, 2015 arrived at the island, - usual problems, plumbing, boats, etc. First guests arrived May 15, first 4 days were beautiful, 70 F, then May 19 and we woke up to snow. Great fishing - 37 trophies

Jon Pitcher maintains he may start wearing a catcher's cup. Apparently after being chased from evening fishing at American Point, ended up in loon territory at the rock slide. Got a heavy hit, up popped a loon, one-eyed him, and spit the line under tension. Now you know where the lure hit him.

Linus Pilypaitis lives in Ottawa and is always on the losing end of bets because he sides with Ottawa teams. Someone bet the Niagara Ice Dogs playoff series with him and of course won, hence Linas wore an Ice Dogs sweater all week at the lodge.



Poor depressed Joe Mundier, caught but did not land the biggest pike of his lifetime. Being like a big brother should, Tom, after seeing Joe depressed for two hours, told him he was acting like he had just lost his girlfriend. Joe foolishly replied, "I can always get another girl friend, but I'll never get another one of those.

Steve Shirkman in one of his moments suggested we colour code the boats so he could recognize others in his group. The sub committee studying this concept suggested we color code his group.

Elmer Tremblay (Mi.) forgot his long pants. Ernie at the Leisure Inn loaned him a pair of track pants, which he wore under his shorts. He auctioned them off at week's end. Ernie never got the money.

According to Bob Skulski (makeshift attorney), Island 10 may belong to Vince Daluz due to ancestry issues. He's from Ottawa too!

Tip your hats at the S turn going into Sucker Gut Lake. An honour to have Dante's ashes there.

Tom Munn Jr. (Pa) claims June 23 evening was the best fishing in 14 years. Dave Facchine agreed.

Dom Dempsey (now Bubba) caught his 1st, big'un, 1st day, 1st cast.

Mandy's back.

Joe Smith keeps complaining about lack of sleep in his boat. Too many big ones, too much action!

John Epstein misplaced Donna ... again.

Russ felt sorry for Warren so after many years gave in to the grovelling and gave Warren his "red nose, white head" lure. A 40 inch northern was all Warren could get with it.

On the July 4 Saturday trip from the dam, one of the cruisers abruptly stopped. Normally this signifies motor trouble. Not this time, seems it was bladder trouble for young Mr. Duncan Fenn.



Not only did Rick Campbell play the pipes on Canada Day for us, but also "Amazing Grace" at the Landing in memory of Ed Shields (NY). Thanks Rick!

Again this year Bill Christoffers showed his 70 years of wisdom, letting Dan and Jeff get lost on the way to Long Lake. They never made it. Claimed the map didn't have WIFI.

Apparently it is bad karma for a fly fisherman to touch a whitefish according to Rick and Jon Lindeman. Or was it that perhaps the martinis would be spilled.



Jack Stabile cried and cried all week for blueberry muffins. He then hid them away from Swede and Chuck.

Dale and Ed smiled all week. Dale said may stay on.

Tom Poston (WV) said he shaved off half his beard just for the Lake.

Why would Mark Weller bet on anything with Andrea? It's a lose-lose situation. He sure looks good in a tu-tu though Some SC flavour. At fish fry July 22, Troy, Terry and Jim brought boiled peanuts. Damn ... they were good. Also vodka flavored watermelons.

Taught everyone how to eat watermelon the "Southern" way.

On the barge ride to the dam, Greg Travillo explained how he and his two daughters escaped the earth quake in Nepal this past year. They had reached the base camp a day and a half prior and were returning when it struck. Base camp is at 18000 ft. Pilots are not to go over 12000 ft. without O2. Why Greg? Bucket List? Don't you know what airplanes are for?

Steve and Hank didn't sell anything at their #7 window. Very depressed they were.

Seems Tom Bradford lost his (our) boat right there at the lodge with all their gear. Good hearted Danny Falter retrieved it.

It was noticed in the parking lot that a KY truck licence plate says Peaches and Chuck (Chuck Collins) By end of week, Chuck thought he was Peaches. Signed guest book that way.

RJ and Bob... 28 in walleye gets an Oh Boy... 16 in. walleye an Oh Boy, everything an Oh Boy. RJ claims next time he may leave him in Cleveland. (And they're from Indiana.)

Mary Stauner (IL) caught largest sucker this year @23.5 in. Got to be good to get one that big.

Eric Lahey (On) wasn't having a good day. Put tab from pop can above his jig. .. Caught 3, last one took his tab. Now we're selling them!

The story of Marty (Carvan) and the raincoat. From KY, Marty had been given permission by his wife to purchase a "too costly" raincoat. Last thing she said was "don't lose it". Well it disappeared from his boat one day, while hurrying back to the island for supper. Marty's lip dragged for two days until it was found on shore near cabin 6. Marty had somehow tied the wrist of the coat, perhaps when taking it off, which formed a pocket of air and the coat floated and found its' way home. So, did Marty explain all this to his wife?

Who can forget twinkle toes Brian Thrasher (AL) doing the Walmart shuffle. Duff's group doesn't want to take him anywhere.

Brothers Kyle and Chris Dutra (NJ) claim Kyle lost a pike with a blue lure but was retrieved by Chris with a similar blue lure.

The Sylers reminisced about when Island 10 was called Gilmour's Lodge. Apparently came here many times, recall pumping gas by hand.

Rick and Cheryl Drake (OH) are back after a hiatus of 3 years. First thing Cheryl said was "what's the interest on our deposit?"

We love how everyone asks for scores. Pattons ask for Steelers, Spears for Buckeyes, Hillmers for Wolverines, Thanasides for Yankees and Karl and Becky called for Sabres. Karl and Becky didn't show up this year. Incidentally Karl was supposed to wear a tu tu at fish fry due to you guessed it, losing a bet with... uh uh! Yes we do give out previous season's scores.

Tall tale stories night-- Marty Mudrak gave a carving for the best story. Contestants were Phil Woodruff - how we left him standing at the main sign on departure day, Craig Wagner - fishy story, and Ken Sharp - Katrina's big pike landed him a "whoopee" night. A show of hands picked Linda Kerka as the winner, who said she didn't have a story, but on this trip she learned how to pee in a boat. Marty's prize was a carving of a urinal... How appropriate!



A Little History

We're often asked "how did Lady Evelyn Lake" get its' name? "Well here is a bit of info taken from the five books written by Peter Fancy, "Temiskaming Treasure Trails". "From the Cross Lake-Temagami River connection in the south, westward around to Obabica Lake in the north they continue the mineral survey, and meet Dr. Bell's party paddling in from the Montreal River past Matawapika Falls on to Lake Muskananing, which Bell has renamed Lady Evelyn Lake after Governor General of Canada, Lord Lansdowne's wife. A later quote, "Reaching Bay Lake, they continue camping up the Montreal River around Matawapika Falls into Lady Evelyn Lake, south into Nanwakiming Lake and Sharp Rock inlet into Lake Temagami". So Matawapika Falls is the Lady Evelyn Dam, Lake Muskananing is Lady Evelyn Lake, and Nanwakiming Lake is now Diamond Lake. As well an early map from this book shows Willow Island Lake as William Island Lake. It also shows Sucker Gut Lake, south of William Island. These excerpts are from the late 1800's. Next year Part two ... maybe! I doubt very much if those pioneers complained about working a 10 hour day or roughing it a bit!





Kerri

I know this is repetitive, but in 1997, 12 trophies were caught and released. (That is pike over 27in., bass over 17 in., and walleye (pickerel) over 23.5 in. Last year 524 were released, and we thought this could not be beaten. But in 2015, 695 trophies were caught and released, which included 1 blue walleye over 23.5 in., 95 northern pike, 305 smallmouth bass, and 294 walleye. The largest pike was caught by Chris Sherwood (41 in.) largest smallmouth by Shane Lanhardt (22 in.), and largest walleye by Steve McMillen (31 in.) In case you don't think these are trophies, we know from previous tagged fish that in our lake a walleye 25 in. in length is 24 years old. So how old is one 30 inches? A few more stats:- During the week of July 11 to 17, 2015, 82 trophies were released including 12 bass, 7 pike and 63 walleye. The week of Sept 19 to 25 saw 103 released, including 3 pike, 8 walleye, and 92 bass, all trophies. The first week we were open, May 16 to 22, 2015, included 10 trophy pike and 27 trophy walleye, however there were only half the anglers that week, hence the fishing must have been pretty good. Congratulations goes out to the following very good anglers, Joe Florioli who released

So... Fishing...



15 trophies, Bob Barna, 12, Tom Quasey, 12, Bob Klass 11, and Rich Barna 11. Incidentally the 695 trophies were released by 314 different anglers. The free week in recognition of release efforts was won by Scott Fela of Ohio for releasing a big walleye on Sept 6, 2015. Good job Scott!

If you watch our web site, you will see changes from time to time. Some of our regular guests and huge Lady Evelyn conservationists, are advocating the use of barbless hooks. In fact we have been asked many times why we are not encouraging this concept. Well... we do. You'll see it on the web. In fact bit by bit our anglers are snipping their barbs. There's a lot to be said for this practice, from "easier to release, not injuring the fish, lower fish mortality, and of course fewer trips for medical attention. Sure would like to hear comments from everyone.



Hats A long standing tradition at Island 10 are our hats that we provide for each guest. We always ask guests to make sure they wear an Island 10 hat to all sport shows they attend, and make sure they're noticed. We've often been asked for the year each hat represents. Well we can't remember! Good thing Rich Hillmer of Belleville Mi had enough time on his retired hands to show us with a photo. So keep it handy if you're ever wondering. Thanks Rich! He and Bebe did miss a couple of years however. In 03 the hat was red and black with a hook and in 04 who knows? The last two years we actually have put the year on the hat. This may or may not continue.



We share and grieve the loss of friends and guests, Dante Palange of Brunswick Ohio, and Ed Shields of Angola NY. Dante has fished Lady Evelyn since the 1970's, and in fact had his honeymoon at the Island when he married Patti. Ed, a member of the "bus stop" group also passed away unexpectedly this past winter.



And Finally - Help to Live By

Money will buy a fine dog, but only kindness will make him wag his tail. Always be yourself because the people that matter don't mind and the ones that mind don't matter.

Again ... thanks for joining us at one of the most beautiful lakes in the world, and for helping to keep it that way.

*Merry Christmas
and God bless.*

Ken Lew

Andrea Mike

Peanut, Squirt & Bumpy

