



FISHING RETREAT

Byberg's Island 10

Important Issues...

Fishing finally gave way to weather. In fact we could have remained open for three more weeks, but on Sept. 17, 2016 we gave in and closed down. Signs are down, barge pulled and



tarped, fishing boats out, scrubbed and overturned, larger boats (8) trailered and stored away from the island, plane gone, river barge high and dry, doors and windows boarded up. Those 20 or so weeks sure flew by in a hurry. After closing, Bev and I went on a Mediterranean cruise, and both came back with the flu. Can't say we'd do it again. So many criticisms we could write a book. In comparison, Lady Evelyn Lake wins hands down. Enough said!

2016 was a beauty of a year... no snow, no frost, no bad storms, no major



difficulties, water levels great, and, well... the fishing of course. Andrea and the little ones were up from time to time, Mike for the most of the summer, and Bev and I got away twice. Once was to help celebrate Mom's 102nd birthday. Bev's busted ankle (Sept 14/15) steadily is improving. She now can get back into some shoes, is able to scrub boats, and clean fish again. *Yahoo!*



Now the important stuff: A few things happened or changed during the year. Boardwalk revamping was completed, we think we have the answer to boat seats and they're not Lund, added another large ice maker, added a couple new Lund Furys, barged one of our trucks at the dam out to be re-conditioned this winter, and most importantly added fly



swatters to each boat's inventory. They even float! We also removed water logged floatation from most boats. This, believe it or not added up to 10 miles per hour to some boats. Lund says this is not a problem if we would store our boats inside like most people do.



The most important boat we own, the grey water barge, has been in operation for over 23 years, without a hiccup. The floats however were beginning to show their age, being made of metal. We decided to replace it with plastic floats, larger capacity (875 vs 650 gals.) console rather than tiller, and upgrade from 9.9 to 25 hp. Yes it was a huge success, a lot of the pre-fab carried out by Mike and Bruno. We now take fewer



trips and it is much safer having a console. The old barge has found a home with Mr. Ben Gilmour on the river. It already has come in handy hauling the truck from the dam to the landing. Launching the new barge was tougher than the Queen Mary. Lots of advice... little know how! "It floats" was Becky's observation.



This spring, again we were honored to have a roughed grouse (partridge) nest and hatch her little ones. Cabins 1 and 9 had windows flagged in case mother hen flew into them returning from the mainland. We could not however figure out why she



continued from page 1

only had two, then one, and then none, and why she often looked “beat up”. But then we saw brere’ weasel. Now you know the rest of the story.



A number of our long time guests have switched to barbless hooks, i.e. easier to release, less damage to fish, and fewer medical visits. This year we purchased a large number of barbless worm harnesses and gave them away with just one stipulation, “Feedback!”, the results were overwhelming. We didn’t get any... that is feedback or results!



(25C). Anyway so as not to embarrass poor Karl too much, yours truly wore a USA jersey!

The tu-tu shown here and modelled by Karl Hofmann is really getting good mileage. It’s always worn by someone foolish enough to bet against Canadian hockey. Poor Karl, we all felt so sorry for him having to wear it at fish fry. Notice his legs aren’t showing thru his long johns. He claimed it was too cold, but we all know it was in the high 70’s



Around The Island

The Texas Rangers are apparently looking for one of their native sons Keith and his accomplice Matt who used the wrong boat in Lady Sydney. Rob now refers to Keith as Jesse James.



In late May the father/son team of Al and Linas, trolling in opposite directions caught each other. A committee of peers recommended fishing in alternate parts of the lake.

A new club arose in June... “The no catchum club” consisting of Bernie, Chris, Bruce, and Mike.

Raymond Duncan practices CPR... catch, photograph, release.

The boys from Pa... Don, Matt, John, Tom. When asked “when were you last in Canada replied 1 hour ago”... apparently had missed Duty Free so did a “U” turn back to the Canadian Duty Free, purchased wayyyy too much, found their way back to the US... another U’ee, and back to Canada. The Canadian crossing guard was so confused she gave up and told them to go fishing.

Bob Skulski had a change of heart and said he would represent us against any and all hook removal litigants. John of the Don Phillips group dropped the suit when he heard “hang-man Bob” was on board.

Tom Smith of Pa, always writes cheques in the many thousands of dollars, hence provided Island 10 with a cheque containing an additional 0. Consequently the rates did not go up this year.

This year David Jack did not leave his tackle box at home.

Dolly sure does like Bob Luck and Billy Dye’s jerky... Followed them around like a puppy.

Mick Dempsey’s grandson, Mike found a monkey in his clothing hamper. It kept showing up in the strangest of places, even Spike Island. Could a mother be to blame?

Seen written in the guest book... “they can’t keep me out of Canada or Island 10”

Dan and Jeff Christoffers finally made it to Long Lake. Left Willy at home. Apparently he was to blame for getting lost last year and he wasn’t even along.

Whenever a chain saw started on the island, Brent, Jodi and Caleb from KY began weeping. They miss their saw mill that much.



Dan Sr. of the Dan and Dan group didn't make it this year, but here's how we remember him from past years.



Augie Holmes' cane was not for balance, it was to settle down the Mihailuk group.



Martini day at cabin 2 can only be improved on by having two martini days.



The Harley group do not need coaching when it comes to relaxing. Rick

entertained us again with his pipes... always a thank you!

Rich Buchenic's jerky sure was tasty! No wonder claimed Swede, it was his pet apple fed deer "Jumper".



Ted and Cathy Connor spent a lot of time in their cabin this year. Mary claimed it was not the long walk but rather indoor games.

Nick Wilson (VA) sure learned lots from Grandpa Dave... All fishing stuff!

According to Ed Paxton and Jim Sexton, Cuban cigars don't contain enough rum. Also it takes two days to smoke one of Ed's.

Debbie is up to her old tricks. Beat Dave Greynolds on the trophy count, she claims badly.

Poor Ross Shannon ... won't admit it but lost all his gear when he took time for a Mother Nature call. Lesson 1... pull line out of water first.



Gary Duff's group of seven (sounds like painters) each caught and released at least one trophy. Not the first time they've done it either! Some say there were full moons over their cabin 6 this week too.

Tom and Shelley celebrated their 10th at the Island this Sept. Congratulations to you both. Apparently on the day in question Tom rolled over and said "Happy Anniversary Shelley ... you've lasted the longest!"

Jeff and Dawn now have 102 consecutive shore lunches. Funny, but Ed and Tim now have 103.



On August 30/16, Best story night... Tall tale or otherwise. The prize was a carving by Marty Mudrak. Stories included Ken Sharp... how their two boys partied in the new house when they were away. Ed Huber and the bears, Darren Peters and his charter in Mexico. He claims they came close to jail time for fishing in a sanctuary. The winner was Ray Peters ... came to Island 10 one day after wife had shoulder surgery. All agreed his wife should have won for letting him go. Thanks Marty for this yearly event.

Kudos to John Sollinger... hook in ear... No meds just bourbon and a biting towel.

Tim and Jason went up the Lady Evelyn River... Said they must have been close to Elk Lake????

Do ask Tom Hansberger why he and Cris cancelled their shore lunch when using his own Coleman stove.



At fish fry Eddie Browning (Oh) was the first ever to guess all 5 species correct. This was Eddie's second week, so did he have a better chance?

Troy and Terry once again blessed us with boiled peanuts and southern watermelon. Yummmeee! And Jerry Newman of the Brodrick group has used the Island 10 secret batter often. The secret is good in his keeping. He claims he won't even share it with his wife.

The Otter Club is alive and well! Initially started by the Koch group about 15 years ago, from Cincinnati. It needed a little help. This is where grown individuals throw themselves into Lady Evelyn in mid-September, just after dark at the west end of the island. A bottle or two of bourbon or good Canadian whiskey helps the chills. This year's members include Rich Barna, Justin Florioli, Ed Andrus, James Durham, Bert Dalla Riva, Ken Thomas, Jeff Hayward, Yvan Dagenais, Bruno Crisci, Mike McNamara, and the author. What a crew!

We are sorry to hear Joe Derrico of Parma Ohio passed away this Summer. Joe was a long time guest and friend of the lake and Island since the early 70's. We will miss you Joe.

So... Fishing...

We were asked many times this year 'how the fishing was'. I thought it was a little slower than last year, but many guests stated it was their best year ever. Here is what we do know: There were 557

trophies caught and released that is +23.5 in. walleyes, +27 in. pike and +17 in. bass. In our lake these are fish over 25 years of age. Of these, 63 were pike, 236 were smallmouth, and 254 were walleye. Largest pike (38 in) were caught by Joe Nuttle, John Harper, and Seth Lanhardt. Largest smallmouth (20 in.) by Seth Lanhardt, Tom Girard, and Bob Laws. Largest walleye (31 in.) by Dan Christoffers. The 10 or more trophy release club includes Tim Cutter, Rich Barna, Joe Florioli, Steve McMillen, Dennis Mathews, Bob Laws, Tom Quasey and Gary Peebles. The winner of the free trip for release of a trophy was Steve Bates who on Sept 13, 2016 caught and

released an 18 in. smallmouth. Bev drew the winning number, and Steve was present in the lodge which is the first time in 20 years

the winner was present. Bob Barna called Steve's wife to see if it was okay for Steve to accept the winnings and return next year. Another interesting statistic was that 233 different fishermen released these 557 trophies. The best week this year was Sept 10th to 17th when 120 trophies were caught and released. The week of July 16th to 23rd wasn't bad either with 76 entries. Mark Gianunzio was sure that last year entries this week were over 100. Mark was wrong as last year's total was 82. All in all, a pretty darn good year for fishing.

Catching started May 21, 2016, and it didn't take Ken Sharp long to put the first trophy (a walleye) in the trophy book.



We could go on and on with stories... every week brought something new. So...

Remember... Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit... Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

*Merry Christmas
and God bless.*

Ken Lew

Andrea Mike

Peanut, Squirt & Bumpy

