

Fish Tales 2011

Howey Bay Resort and Outposts –November 2011

Last night we had our first snowfall of the year which left our area of the world looking like a Winter Wonderland with white fluffy snow everywhere, open water and temperatures still mild enough that we can walk the dog comfortably. As I write this, I am watching the birds and one industrious red squirrel frequent the feeders on our deck at home, knowing that all is put to bed for the winter at the camp. We can't complain about the fast approaching winter as our summer was hot and dry!

Northwestern Ontario experienced a warm, dry summer which affected our water levels. We started the spring season with normal water levels that soon became high water levels and then decreased to find Red Lake down about 2.5 feet and our outpost lakes down 3 to 4 feet this autumn. The warm summer temperatures reminded us ol' timers of our childhood summers allowing us to spend lots of time outside, to relish eating hot weather food (potato salad goes great with walleye) and enjoyed swimming in June, July, August and even September!

You may remember that four years ago we had a wind shear storm damaging the area north of Odin Lake resulting in many downed trees and cutting off one of the four portage lakes from our fishermen. We have waited 3 years for the blow down to dry enough for us to cut it without the worry of "springback" danger. The project is complete and we are pleased to announce that fishermen can now access "Rodie Lake" (formerly Lillycrop Lake on our maps). We have renamed the lake in honour of a lifetime friend and fisherman, Gerald "Gerry" Rodeen.

After our ice went out on May 10th a good deal of lumber was loaded off our dock destined for projects at our outpost lakes. Will and Dave took the door off the plane numerous times to load and unload lumber. Not all of our lumber was flown into the outposts. Lorne, Will and Dave take time in the spring while the sap is still running through the trees to peel the bark from trees to ensure good stringers for their projects. Stripping the bark at the right time of year makes the task much easier and results in a great product.



Some of the projects done this season at main camp and the outposts were:

New Boat Ramps	New Docks	New Decks	New Roofs	New Walkways
*Pringle Lake * Kenny Lake * Moose Lake *Main Camp	* Phillip Lake * Borel Lake	* Pringle Lake cabin * Cabin #7	*Cabin #7 * Warehouse	* Little Vermilion Lake @ The Rock and @ Welcome Bay

A Couple More Changes ...Odin Lake now has a new “king size” outhouse complete with a 7 foot door so our taller guests can walk in without ducking. To the friends who helped with the deck at Pringle Lake and to those who completed the new fish cleaning table at The Rock for our fishermen, a big thank you. Cabin #6’s interior looks so

good now with its’ new flooring and bathroom fixtures. Even though we don’t offer her canvas or animal sheds/skulls Leanne likes to paint and continues to perk the main camp up with her finishing touches.



Congratulations to Joe Kaminski of Wisconsin, who landed a 55inch Northern Pike during the first week of the season. Joe was all smiles and so was the fish because after Joe took a couple of photos he released the healthy specimen. Did you know that a 40 inch Northern is about 40 years old? Yes, it takes a long time to grow in these cold temperatures. Another catch of a lifetime occurred this spring for Hazel Branning of Arizona when she reeled and reeled a fish in for a good length of time only to find the 12 inch walleye had a loon hanging on to it. The loon was fearless and Hazel’s family had to prod the loon with a paddle before it would release the dead walleye. After retrieving her line and lure Hazel offered the walleye back into the water for the loon.

Howey Bay Trivia

- CA is the abbreviation for California, CDN is the abbreviation for Canada. If you send a letter to Ontario CA it will not reach us.
- For your shopping purposes, our fish fryers hold one gallon of cooking oil.
- Loons usually lay two eggs in late May. They are very protective of their nests and often kill other birds that are anywhere in the vicinity of their nest. The young hatch on Father’s Day weekend. This year our pair proudly brought their two young chicks out on June 21st.
- Giant Coolers are not encouraged by the airlines. A couple of large size coolers hold the same amount, fit in the plane easier and the pilots stay safe and healthy while loading and unloading.



Bear baiting begins in July. This year Dave baited 11 land sites and Starr accompanied Will while he tended 12 water based sites. The competition between land and water was stiff and the fellows had fun checking out the game cameras and the different animals that entered the area. Our bear population is very healthy with most sites having one or more bears visiting regularly. We shut down any sites with sows and cubs to our hunters when they arrive in mid August but we continue to bait them. It was fun to detect animals like a white wolf, cow moose and calf, a bull moose and a lynx that visited the area and were caught on camera. Our hunters had 100% success with several animals weighing in over 500lbs dressed.

Our archery **moose** hunters arrived in the third week of September to find our weather unusually warm. The prior week was cold which started the moose rutting. With the coming of the warm weather the hunting slowed down. We had hunters in at five of our outpost lakes where they either harvested a moose or left with exciting stories to tell. After the archery hunt Dave, Will and a long time friend, Ray, hunted at Borel for eight days and didn't see a moose. Every day was either raining or snowing with high winds! They fished, hunted and built a big dock in the poor weather. Dave says after thirty-five years of hunting moose it is not about harvesting an animal but about being out in the bush with good friends enjoying whatever Mother Nature has to offer.



From now until January we take a couple of weeks to visit our family and do some catching up in our own lives after a long busy season. Sarah and the twins visited for a bit of time in July. Dave is usually the Howey Bay photographer but this time we caught him being “Papa” and teaching the twins to fish on a sunny, Sunday morning. Peter flew air shows across Canada this year. Since we live in the middle of Canada, it allowed us to see him for a couple of short visits and gave him a chance to take his Grandad fishing while he was either coming or going to his next performance. Bev and Linda, Marg’s parents, continue to live in their own home and are both looking forward to celebrating their 88th and 87th birthdays in a month or so.



In the New Year we plan to attend the following shows, so please feel free to drop by and visit us or refer an interested friend who may be researching a future fishing or hunting trip. If these shows are not near your location and you are thinking about a trip please call us @ (807) 727 - 2782 or drop us an email at info@howeybayresort.com Have a Happy Thanksgiving and Christmas Season! We thank you for your business and hope this newsletter finds you and yours healthy and looking forward to 2012.

Dave, Margaret and the Howey Bay Gang

Chicago – All Canada Show- Pheasant Run Resort in Saint Charles, January 12 – 15

Green Bay – All Canada Show- Shopko Hall in Green Bay, January 26 – 29

Milwaukee- Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Sports Show- Wisconsin Exposition Center at State Fair Park- March 7 to 11th

Minneapolis – Northwest Sportshow NMMA – Minneapolis Convention Center, March 28 to April 1, 2012.