



ROSS' GOSSIP



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Greetings to One and All!



The 2008 season is drawing to an end this week, and we are in the process of shutting down after yet another very busy summer and fall. We like to take this opportunity to thank every one of you for sharing your vacation time with us at Ross' Camp. We truly enjoy seeing those of you who visit us every year – good friends and familiar faces every week create the wonderful memories we never forget! And to the many new guests who visited Ross' Camp for the first time – you helped make the year unique and special, and we hope that you have good memories that you can enjoy for a long time. Our thanks to all of you for making Ross' a great place to be!!

This year, we met an unbelievable number of 8 to 12 year-old budding fishers and hunters. We watched as they charged around camp excited to be on their first trip to Ross' Camp, and by the end of the week, they were just as intense and successful in their fishing or hunting as the parents who brought them. We actually witnessed the next generation of Ross' Camp guests “in-the-making”!

We always like to thank the guys and gals who work so hard to keep this place looking great – Robert and Maggie were back for another season and for a short while, Gus and Florence added their talents to the mix. And Jason and Corey were back to help Wayne out with some of the guiding.

The weather was a definite factor this year – the very late ice-out (mid-May) pushed everything back 2-3 weeks, starting with the smallmouth spawn and carried on right through to a very late rutt for the moose and

deer hunters. But the lake had ice on it this morning, so winter is certainly right on time!! The season started off cool and windy, and I think every group caught a piece of the nasty weather. Then things brightened up for a nice July-August – back to wind for September and rain for October. It poured rain for the moose hunt, and the first 2 weeks of deer hunters had to work hard for some success in the 60-70 degree afternoons.

Our year started very early in 2008 as a local mining company put drillers and geologists in camp on April 27th, and kept Pat pretty busy in the kitchen right through to the end of October. It was a bit of a challenge to get everything up and running for the fishermen who started to arrive as early as May 16th this year, but we did learn a lot about rocks over the course of the summer!

FISHING: 2008 was a great year for walleye, lake trout, and muskie fishing. The smallmouth ended up either spawning very late or not at all probably due to the cooler water temperatures, and this made our bass fishing a little less predictable all season. The walleye and muskie fishing was nothing short of spectacular. The lake trout fishing started off relatively slow for trout, but they started to bite about mid-June and stayed pretty aggressive for the rest of the season. The pike like those windy points – and we had more than our share of windy points this year! – so the pike fishermen were in pike-heaven.

The early May fishermen had to work their way around some nasty weather to find the fish – Craig Pagenkopf found that Clearwater Lake was producing some really nice bass and walleye. By the end of the month, the walleye fishing turned on for Luke & Ron and Chad & Tom. The 1st week in June is usually bass fishing crazy – but this year, ‘bass fishing crazy’ didn’t start until June 11th. Dick Mahan’s group enjoyed some good walleye fishing and the bass fishing started to pick up by the end of their trip. Stan Romine’s group worked hard to figure out the bass/walleye fishing and again had some success by the end of the week. The Dahlke clan and friends always enjoy the pike fishing . . . Bobby had some good trout fishing days, and young Danny had the biggest walleye of the trip (30” weighing 10 pounds). The Tribuzio boys caught lots of nice walleyes and Robert & Phillip Byers enjoyed some good bass fishing with lots in the 3-4 pound range. In the next week, Charles Hartwein reeled in lots of 17”-19” smallies and put together a couple of 30-50 fish days. Patrick & Bob Carson got in on some nice laker action on Pipestone and some muskie action on Clearwater. Vernon Winter’s crew found some good walleye fishing, but were really excited about all of the 11”-13” perch that they caught . . . and Philip found a feisty 40.5” muskie to fight. Jan VanWyk’s foursome had a great week that included some 3+ lb bass, lake trout up to 19 inches, and a 50” muskie to boot. The Clarin boys enjoyed their walleye fishing – big fish and lots of them. Rich Fosnot got the opportunity to fight a really nice 45” muskie.

July weather was great, and so was the walleye and bass fishing – walleyes could be found in huge schools and aggressively bit on all bait. The Beaumont group enjoyed catching walleyes up to 28” and their big bass was 18.5 inches. The Kreys caught 30-50 walleyes a day, lots in the 19” to 23” range. Craig & Sam Pagenkopf enjoyed some awesome 80-fish days on artificial baits only – including some 25” to 29” walleye and a fair number of 3lb+ bass. The Klotz/Osborne annual trip ended up with 7 muskies from 43” to 49” – best trip ever for muskies – and lots of nice walleyes as well. The Fehl family enjoyed a great walleye-fishing day with Wayne, and did well with walleye and bass for the rest of the week.

Gary Woods enjoyed a couple of good trout days with his group of guys, and that was the start of the great laker action for the rest of the summer . . . Harry Eskritt’s group (lots 5-12 lbs), Todd Howard and family, Mel Peterson, Earl & Charles, Bill & Andy Eggert, the Bellers, and Chad & Tom Myers all got in on the fun. The Kauffmans caught some nice walleyes – bass were a little tougher than normal. Jim and Ryan Bevier had a blast with the walleye fishing this August; Tom Hammons & Larry Shay found some serious bass action (30-50 a day) on Slender Lake. September produced some good big bass fishing – 18-20 inches – Ron Baird and Mike Wolowina caught theirs on spinner baits, while Wayne Rogers & Dave Sanders went to open-water

trolling for suspended bass. John Siegmeier – and all the J's – experienced some great fall walleye fishing . . . good size and lots of them.

Loonhaunt Lake produced some awesome fishing for walleye, pike and lake trout later on in the year. Bass were a little slower to get rolling, but by the beginning of July, the smallies were there for Mark & Amy Hinzmann – nice size for both bass and walleye. Lots of wind on Loonhaunt this year and I think everyone got a piece of it . . . some nasty storms rolled over that lake that we didn't get at the main camp. But, the fish did come out to play – Mark Shirley said they caught some "super nice smallies", and Tomczyk had a great mix with walleyes to 28" (Russ), 19.75" bass (Dave Smart) and lots of 18" fighters, a 27-inch lake trout, and Chris came up with the biggest largemouth (18") again this year.

HUNTING: The moose hunt started out in pouring rain, but it all went away for Ray Bennett when he took the opportunity to harvest his first moose – a nice 39-inch bull.

The deer hunt saw some pretty good success in spite of the unseasonably warm and wet weather. Amanda Dalcourt shot a nice 8-point, Denis Levesque went home with a great 12-point buck. Both Bob and Bruce MacDonald were successful with great 10-point and an exceptional 10-point, respectively. The Maxwell group hunted hard to find a great 10-point and two large 8-pointers. And Claude Clavelle harvested a huge deer – big 10-point that dressed at 235 pounds. We ended our year with John Sharp on a return visit that was totally successful this time, and Kirstyn stalked and shot her first buck – a nice 9-point.

It was great to see several guests back after extended absences: the Preuss boys, Don & Cory Gutgsell, Brion & Erik Beller, Charles & Joyce Hartwein, Bob Carson, Aaron Browder, Albert & Barbara, the Ulerick family and Todd Howard (congratulations on the September wedding). It seemed funny not to see David & Carl in June, Ed & Chris in August, Randy Johnson in July, Moe Benoit in November . . . Please know that you were missed! Brian & Juan – wasn't this your year?

The implementation date for passport requirements for US Customs is June 2009 . . . a few states and provinces are talking about enhanced drivers licenses or border ID cards – but everyone should be pursuing this now. Every All-Canada Show will have a booth where you can make your passport application.

We start sport shows on January 2nd. For those of you in St Louis, please note that the show is in January this year – not February. The list is printed below - if you get a chance, drop in to say "Hello".

Our apologies if we missed mentioning your personal trophy – fish or deer – we'll try to correct that next year. For those of you who couldn't get up our way this past summer, we hope we'll get a chance to see you in 2009. If you know the dates you want for next year, give us a call. If we already have a reservation for you on our 2009 schedule, there will be a separate letter attached. We look forward to hearing from you.

All the best to you and yours!!
Keep in touch, stay healthy, and keep smiling!!!
As Always,
Pat & Wayne

***** **2009 SPORT SHOW SCHEDULE** *****

Jan 2-4:	MINNEAPOLIS All-Canada	Jan. 16-18:	ST. LOUIS All-Canada
Jan 8-11:	CHICAGO All-Canada (Pheasant Run)	Feb. 20-Mar. 1:	INDIANAPOLIS - Booth #14

2009 RATES

ALL RATES QUOTED IN U.S. FUNDS
RATES ARE PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY.

FISHING PACKAGES

CHECK-IN AFTER 2:00 P.M.

BASIC HOUSEKEEPING PACKAGE

Includes lodging, docking, portage services.

3 days/4 nights	each	\$ 300
6 days/7 nights	each	\$ 469

FISHERMAN'S HOUSEKEEPING PACKAGE

includes lodging, boat, motor, gas, portage services.

		2/BOAT	3/BOAT
3 days/4 nights	each	\$ 490	\$ 444
6 days/7 nights	each	\$ 769	\$ 690

COMPLETE AMERICAN PLAN PACKAGE

at the main camp includes dinner on arrival, lodging, meals, breakfast on departure, daily maid and dock service, boat and motor, gas, bait, portage services.

		WITHOUT GUIDE	WITH GUIDE
3 days/4 nights	each	\$ 785	\$ 1,025
6 days/7 nights	each	\$ 1,295	\$ 1,755

OVERNIGHT PACKAGE

For outpost guests: at main camp, prior to boating or flying in, dinner, overnight, breakfast.....each \$ 75

OUTPOST PACKAGE

LOONHAUNT FLY-IN PACKAGE

Includes return air fare, lodging, boat, motor, gas.

Rates are based on 4-6 people.

3 nights	each	\$ 655
Extra night	each	\$ 110
7 nights	each	\$ 950

*Luggage allowance – 100 lbs. each. Restricted by law.

***Conservation fishing licences only on Loon.**

DEER HUNTING PACKAGE

CHECK-IN AFTER 1:00 P.M.

DEER HUNT PACKAGE FOR NON-RESIDENTS

AMERICAN PLAN: includes lodging, meals, boat, motor, gas and guide.

6 days/7 nights	each	\$2,450
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FAMILY VACATION PACKAGES

Available June 21 to August 23

PACKAGE #1:

Including 2 adults, 1 or 2 children, 7-15 years, lodging, docking, portage services.

6 days/7 nights..... \$1,060 U.S.

Children 6 years and under – NO CHARGE

PACKAGE #2:

Including 2 adults, 1 or 2 children, 7-15 years, lodging, boat, motor, gas, portage services.

6 days/7 nights..... \$1,550 U.S.

Children 6 years and under – NO CHARGE

DAILY BOAT (including gas and portage) **\$155.00**

DAILY GUIDING AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

SALES TAX AND FISHING/HUNTING LICENCES NOT INCLUDED



****PLEASE, PHONE FOR A QUOTE****

If your vacation plans are not being met by one of these packages



The Ideal Place for a Perfect Family Vacation
R.R. 2, Box 47, Emo, Ontario, Canada POW 1E0

Phone (807) 482-2018
Fax (807) 482-3050
Toll Free 1-800-363-2018

RESERVATION REQUEST

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Telephone _____

e-mail: _____ Arrival _____ Departure _____ No. of persons in party _____

PACKAGE PLANS: American Plan ___ Fisherman ___ Basic ___ Family ___ Fly-in ___ Outpost ___ Overnight ___ Hunt ___

Boat/Motor ___ Guides ___ Deposit _____ VISA/Mastercard _____

All reservations require a deposit \$100-\$300 for fishing packages (varies with package), \$500 for deer package.

Confirmation of reservation and receipt of deposit will be made by return mail.

PRINTED IN CANADA – TIMES PRINTING, FORT FRANCES, ON Date _____ Signature _____