Louise's Chatter

900 fish. These guys know the lake better than we do and routinely fish in places off the beaten path.

- Eagles again occupied the nest close to the Poirier Lake cabin so our guests were able to watch the adults rearing their young eaglet. Ron and Kathy Neider were there the day the eaglet flew for the first time on August 8th.
- This summer we noticed that the robins raised 2 batches of young ones. We don't recall the last time that happened.
- At Unnamed Lake, Michael Pettit caught 28 and 39 inch northerns on his fly rod (8 pound line). Must have been quite a tussle!
- The resident Whiskeyjacks at Unnamed Lake entertained guests all season long. They delighted everyone by showing up daily for food offerings. You have to admit it is cool when a wild bird perches on your finger.
- Many guests at Goose Lake commented on our very healthy eagle population. Several even mentioned we should rename the camp because they didn't see as many loons as in other years.
- There were many wildlife sightings this season: Moose sightings at Goose Lake were prolific. Gary McKee's group, members of the Fleming party, Jim and Rob Bell, Eric Bereta, Mark Brahmer's threesome, Ken Smithson and Mike Hubbard all were lucky enough to see moose (mostly cows and calves). Mike Hubbard saw the most – a total of 4. He was fishing the 10 foot hole in September when a cow and calf emerged from the bush and crossed the river not too far away. Shortly after, a bull followed them. The very next day Mike returned to the same spot and saw another bull, (possibly the same one), swimming across the river again and heading southwest. A couple of hours later Bill and I were returning from the rice field with a load of rice and came upon a bull swimming from Joe's Island to the west shore. We believe it was the same bull and took a video of it. It emerged from the water but stayed just behind some young trees so we were able to observe it while Bill practiced his moose calls. I don't know what Bill "said" to the moose but it responded with a series of grunts and crashes. Joseph Ison, Jim and Rob Bell spied mink. Otters were seen by some members of the Beauchamp party, Jim and Rob Bell, Scott Bittner and Duke Strever. Gary McKee's group also saw a caribou. The rarest wildlife sighting was made by members of Lon Bernth's group. They saw a wolverine at Nechigona. This is the first confirmed sighting of a wolverine although Ron Shave swears he saw one a few years ago at Poirier. Usually guests are thrilled to glimpse a wild animal but Brad Wessel went one better. A seagull became entangled in his fishing line so he reeled it in and had the precarious job of freeing the bird. Apparently the seagull cooperated while Brad worked to free it and flew away unharmed.

Cam Zimmer and his crew know Unnamed Lake better than any of our guests. This 27 inch Walleye was one of many caught that week in May.

Ed Husting, Mr. Newbie, caught this impressive 31 inch Walleye below Whitedog Falls in June.

- We are thankful for the help with loading and unloading freight this year. The Lucas McDermott crew helped carry mattresses, a new refrigerator, the old freezer, drums and propane cylinders at Cherrington. Doug Harwick's guys, Ken Homann's group and Jim Roller's twosome muscled freight on and off the airplanes at Goose Lake. Lon Bernth's party helped unload lumber for Bill's building projects. Mike and Doug Beck interrupted their fishing to help Bill load a boat on the plane at Unnamed. Skip Rambo's men made short work of unloading the steel siding and propane cylinders at Cherrington Lake. Ken Smithson's guys and Sherm Sweeney pitched in to load wild rice for the flight to town.
- Every year we are the recipients of our guests' thoughtfulness. Shirley Leibert sent along her "personal favorites" cookbook with her husband Mike. I will be putting it to good use, thank you so much. Nell Abramajtys brought along a quilt she sewed for our granddaughter – thank you Nell! Bob Rupel had extra tomatoes from his garden to share and they tasted wonderful! We appreciated the dinner night with Ken Dawson's party and Lon Bernth's crew. Be assured that it was much anticipated and appreciated! Paul Nearing's group brought along a bottle of Illinois wine that we are saving for a special occasion – thanks Paul! Thank you Sherm Sweeney for your thoughtfulness in sending us the jars of special mustard. Bill will enjoy them this winter!
- August 25th was the day we saw the first flock of geese fly over. As in years past, it seemed much too early but was actually right on schedule.
- Nothing makes us speed up our fall shut down better than colder weather. A few snowflakes fell in mid September to remind us that colder weather was around the corner and to kick start us into a higher gear.
- Pleased with our accomplishments, we left Goose Lake on October 3rd.
- This year we have a couple of items in our lost and found department. A brown jacket and a depth finder were found in our van. Please give us a call if these belong to you.