Louise's Chatter

• We, like others in the resort business, were apprehensive about the 2010 fishing season because of all the bad economic news constantly in the media. Our worst fears were realized and the economy played a huge factor in keeping many of our regular guests from taking their annual fishing vacation. Poor health kept more regular guests from their yearly trip. We sincerely thank those guests who fished with us this year.

• Jim and Rob Bell, early June fishermen at Goose Lake, reported easy walleye fishing off all the points. Jim caught a nice, chunky 26 ½ inch walleye one day but held bragging rights for less than 24 hours. The next day Ed Husting bagged a 31 inch walleye below Whitedog Falls on his first cast. There were many nice walleyes caught that week at all locations.

• Our son Scott helped Bill set up a new bulletin board for the website as the old one was not being used anymore. There was too much unwanted Spam posted throughout. If you have not checked it out yet, we invite you to look it over and perhaps offer advice or exchange ideas and experiences with other guests. New guests especially are grateful for any tips and suggestions.

• The Keith Beauchamp crew nailed the walleyes in 2 feet of water at Nechigona Lake in June. They fished the windward shore and caught some really nice fish. Doug Jones and his fishing partner chalked up an impressive 110 walleyes in 3 hours.

• Bad flying weather delayed June changeovers 3 weekends in a row. We sincerely thank the fishermen who kept their cool during this difficult time. Special mention goes to the Cherrington Lake guests, the McDermott and Theisen parties.

• 2010 will be remembered by us for all the lost and found fishing rods. The best story has to belong to Tom Hunt. He lost his brand new pole on his first cast in 2009 but I was unaware of it. The very next week Steve Johnson snagged the rod and turned it in. I emailed all the parties that had fished Goose Lake up to that week as the rod was brand new and we could tell it hadn't been in the lake long. No one claimed the rod, however, so I just hung on to it. This year I noticed Tom Hunt rigging up his brand new rod on the first day of his trip. His friends had tied an "idiot string" to it and when I commented on it they laughingly told me about Tom's bad luck the year before. I informed them I believed I had the lost rod. When Tom held it in his hand again he was very pleased. He was very grateful to Steve Johnson too.

Barry Kruse and his 30 inch Unnamed Lake Walleye.

• Ken Dawson lost his fishing pole at Haystack Island but party member Sherm Sweeney caught it 2 days later. Ken Smithson lost his pole at the Honey Hole and thought it was lost forever. Bill assured him that someone would snag it in time but even he was surprised when Sam Sweeney caught it a couple of days later. A couple of other rods were brought in by fishermen this summer but they are in pretty bad shape as they've been in the lake a few years.

• Brian DeVroy and Nils Melberg caught an impressive 249 fish in one day at Cherrington Lake. Almost all of the fish were walleyes.

• 7 good friends of Bruce Bertzyk came to Goose Lake in June. Their mission was twofold: to spread Bruce's ashes and to fish in one of his favorite lakes. Bruce was a prince of a guy who enjoyed fishing trips with his friends and his wife Kay. The fact that his friends made a special trip to Goose Lake just showed their high regard for Bruce. Who among us can count on such loyal friends to gather from states as widespread as Rhode Island, New Jersey, Florida, Illinois and Minnesota?

• Tom Butcher reported catching 9 walleye on 1 minnow. Must have been a stickleback minnow – those little guys are very hardy!

• In late June, all the lakes were covered with a thin layer of blue/green algae. This was something we don't remember seeing before. It only lasted a week or so and then dissipated.

• Jeff Maynard accompanied Gary McKee, Joseph Ison and his son Joseph on a much anticipated fishing trip to Goose Lake in June. Upon his arrival he began treating us all to gourmet specialties from his kitchen. Other fishermen were heard to exclaim "what is he cooking now – do you smell that?" We don't know when he found the time to fish hard and still turn out these fabulous meals night after night. We were all shocked and saddened when Jeff suffered a stroke on the morning of his departure. An emergency flight to health care professionals in Thunder Bay failed to revive him and he passed away. A very sad ending to a vacation with friends – Jeff will be missed by all who knew him.

• Bill and Tom Codak accompanied Eric Bereta to Woman Falls the evening before their flight out of Goose Lake the following morning. They felt they needed to throw a few more casts for the elusive "big one". Eric hit the jackpot on the very last cast of the trip – a beautiful 31 inch walleye!

Rob Bell shows off a nice 28.5 inch Goose Lake Walleye.

• On July 3rd, Fred Barnes tried a few spots he had never fished in past years. He mentioned the blue jug in the lower river as especially productive but said he caught nice walleyes everywhere.

• Mike and Doug Beck chalked up an impressive 56 walleye in 60 minutes at Unnamed Lake. Their largest was a 25 ¼ inch beauty.

• Lon Bernth's crew of 4 use only artificial bait when they visit us at Goose Lake. Even missing 1 ½ days due to adverse weather, they were still able to catch

Harold Kruse's 26.5 inch Walleye stacked up favorably against all the other nice fish caught at Unnamed Lake that week in June.