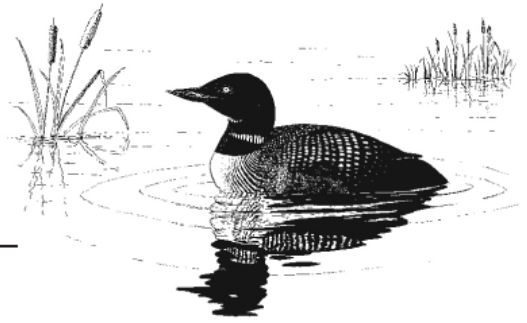


Tremolo



Tremolo... the laugh-like call of the Loon

2022 Newsletter produced by Loon Haunt Outposts, Box 1344, Red Lake, Ontario, Canada, POV 2M0 807-735-2400

Loon Haunt Outposts – 2022 Season Highlights

As our season winds down, we take time to reflect on another successful season and to thank you all for making Loon Haunt your annual fishing destination! It was heartening to see the many guests who made the trip this summer after a couple of years of missing their favourite lakes. We were so grateful to be busy again!

We were very apprehensive as spring approached in April because of high snow levels and abundant spring rains. The combined duo pointed to high lake levels once the temperatures warmed up and the ice began to melt. We knew the roofs could withstand the snow load weight because we support them in the fall. Our main worry was the damage to docks and, boy, were our fears realized! Four of our docks sustained damage, some more serious than others. The Monroe Lake dock was a real mess and unusable for the larger airplanes of Superior Airways. We ended up doing all the flying for this outpost as we knew which areas of the dock to avoid. The dock at Unnamed Lake was under several feet of water, in fact the lake was almost at the cabin steps. We had to wait for the water to recede before Ryan and Bill were able to make the necessary repairs to the dock and walkway. We lost the batteries for the solar panels at Unnamed as they were submerged. The dock at Poirier Lake was not affected at all because it is a "floater" and Ryan just



*Woman Falls on Goose Lake was spectacular this spring.
Note the eagle's nest above the falls.*

boated over to its winter resting place and brought it back to its location. The boat ramp there was pushed up and boards were damaged but was fixed in short order. Our dock at Whitelaw Lake took a real hit and sustained serious damage. When Ryan first landed there to do an inspection, he found the gas tank and propane bottles scattered and floating along the shoreline. He and Bill spent some time moving things back to their original locations. The dock took some effort to be made usable in the short term. The dock at Goose Lake was a setback with much damage and unusable. Bill and Ryan built a

temporary docking place down the shore past cabin 4 using the floating dock which was not damaged at all. We take the floating dock to the river mouth and pull it into a weedy shoreline for the winter to protect it from ice damage.

High water was a real problem for most outfitters and some were more affected than others. Generally, we heard that docks were the main problem but other operators suffered with water in their cabins and service buildings, in some cases feet of water. Flooded equipment, lost propane tanks and washed-out roads for the drive-in camps were endured by many. The

relentless rains washed-out portions of highways and it was necessary for us to monitor the highway situation daily to know what to tell our first guests brave enough to make the trip. Highway 105 was impassable for some of its length and guests had to make detours.

We made the decision to offer our first outpost guests the choice of coming to Goose Lake instead to give us time to do the necessary outpost repairs to make things usable and were so grateful you helped us out. Poirier Lake was still iced over and we were thankful that Bob and Drew came to Goose Lake for the few days it took for the ice to melt and the half day it took us to prepare things there. Our cabins and all service buildings at Goose Lake were high and dry so Ryan and Bill got some boats ready and floated the boat ramps into place in front of the cabins.

With high water everything was such a challenge and it seemed 10 times harder than a normal spring start-up. To give you an idea of how high the lake was, there was water under the service building/fish house and all the way and under our cabin at Goose Lake. Lots of

water! The guys had waders and they were necessary to walk around the front part of the camp. Eliza and I only had knee high boots and the water was way over the tops of those. We used a boat to pull ourselves along a rope strung from our cabin to the service building.

Very gradually the water started to recede and by June 4th our outpost guests were able to use all the cabins again. Wearing boots was a necessity for a couple more weeks as the soggy ground dried up. By July the flooding was a distant memory, although there were still many reminders everywhere we looked.

Our big project this summer was to update our solar system and Ryan began by cutting down the many trees necessary to clear out a large area behind the cabins and close to the radio tower where we planned to install the solar panel frame. We were grateful for the assistance offered by family members Shaun and Leelan in pouring cement for the ground anchors, hauling timbers and constructing the solar panel frame. Our mini excavator came in handy for digging holes, hauling the



Matt E couldn't believe the good fishing at Goose Lake this June.

heavy, (200 pounds,) Surette batteries off the dock to their permanent location and digging trenches for the power cables. It wasn't all work though and we made sure to do some fishing and enjoy some tasty walleye dinners! Thanks to Joni for helping in the kitchen! By July 15th, the new solar system was operational and we were officially off grid! It is our hope that this investment will lower our dependence on our diesel generator and will cut down on the amount of propane and diesel fuel needed to run the camp at Goose Lake. Flying costs should also be reduced and the life of our diesel generator will be extended.

The new solar system ran for approximately two weeks without a hitch but then the inverter overheated and shut down. This was a manufacturing defect that the warranty covered but we were still inconvenienced for 24 hours. Bill and Ryan flew the defective part to Kenora and the supplier exchanged it for a new one. Once they were back in camp, it didn't take long to install the new part and we were back in business.



It doesn't get any better than this! Shore lunch with friends.



The Lynn V family group was the largest of the season at Goose Lake.



Bethany H took this amazing shot of the sunset in July.

We were hoping for a wild rice crop this year but were apprehensive as to what effect the extended high water would have on it. Ryan monitored the crop from the air and made a few boat trips to check it up close and was encouraged by the prolific plants but was concerned by the many empty husks. It took its time ripening in September and then the pesky ducks and geese found it and munched their way through whatever they could find. We were not able to pick this year but are

hoping for a crop next year, and fewer of our feathered friends 😊

Our lone moose hunter was unsuccessful this year. He did see moose the week before his hunt started but the moose seemed to know when the hunt began and were elusive.

After shutting down the outposts in September, we worked away at putting things right at Goose Lake and were finally done with our fall chores. We left camp on September 28th and arrived home in Red Lake to enjoy a few weeks of lovely fall weather. ❖

Louise's Chatter

- We were anxious to get to camp this spring and arrived on May 15th to a flooded landscape. We knew we were in for a few weeks of work after surveying all the damage. Goose Lake was still not ice free but the main body of ice was floating in the middle and at the east end of the lake so we had a large enough area to land.
- We surmised that the lake was easily 2 1/2 feet higher than the previous high-water mark of 2009, so a total of approximately 5 feet. Once we were able to assess the damage, we found a flooded lawn mower, gas pump, batteries and well as other assorted equipment. Luckily, all our flooded implements were "old school", none of which contained computers. After taking them apart and drying out components, they were reassembled and fired right up. The batteries were



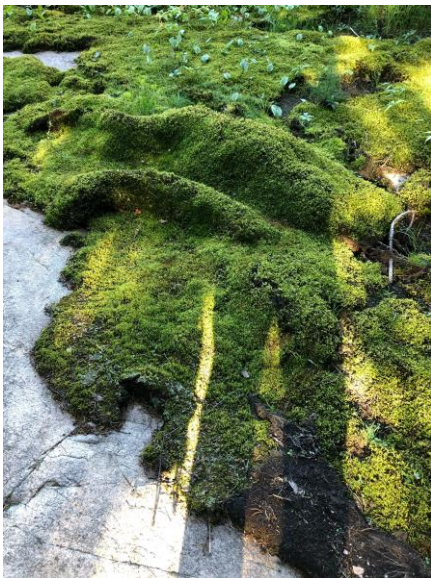
We used a boat to get from the service building to our cabin.

toast though and we had to replace those in a hurry. The ice had moved the shore lunch structure and it was askew and unusable until repairs were made.

- Ice out on Goose Lake was on May 19th. The lake water was very cold and the walleyes were still spawning. Guests ventured up the river to Woman Falls and were very impressed with the sheer volume of the water cascading there. It sure was something to behold! There was a new eagle's nest at the mouth of the river so that was noteworthy as well.
- Scarlett Lynn Scott was born to Eliza and Ryan in October of 2021 and we all enjoyed watching her thrive at Goose Lake. We were able to share in her many "firsts" and she especially enjoyed her frolicking time in the lake on warm days, ice cream

and the boat ride to feed the seagulls and eagles!!

- The lake water was slow to warm up as the weather remained cool, rainy and windy. In looking back at our photos of early guests, all of them were bundled up against the weather.
- The lake level was unprecedented for us and we thought it might have altered the prime spring fishing areas but early fishermen still found the walleyes stacked up in the usual places-the Honey Hole and the base of Woman Falls were "hot". Unknown to most of our guests, there is another rapids at the far end of North Bay that is usually not accessible because of water level. This year, however, that spot was fishable and a nice trip to parts of the lake seldom seen.



This mossy rock cover resembling a carpet was pushed up by the force of the high water at the portage to Nechigona Lake.

- Our bragging boards started to fill up as guests recorded their catches. Numbers and size of fish were impressive as many large Walleyes and Northerns were entered on a daily basis.
- Eric and Renee V. had plans to fish Monroe Lake but ended up fishing Goose Lake instead because of the damaged dock. It was their first trip to Goose Lake and they took time to explore everywhere. They fished a spot that was new to us as no other guests have reported fishing there. Perhaps because of the record high water level, this location between the long island and the mainland to the east in the river mouth acted like a flume and the fish were stacked up and waiting. It turned out to be a Walleye bonanza!
- The guys in the Ewig party found a creek just past the Honey Hole that was loaded with spawning shiners. The mouth of this creek was a magnet for hungry fish and the group reported great results at this location.
- We dissuaded our guests from making the portage to Nechigona Lake as the high water actually flooded the portage and washed away much of the topsoil and exposed the rocks underneath. We figured that the lake here was about 10 feet higher than normal. This was easy to measure because, each fall, our boats are pulled up high onto the embankment behind the boat ramp and Ryan reported the lake was almost lapping at the boats! Once the water receded, we realized the true scope of how the rushing water had changed the landscape. Particular attention had to be paid for foot placement for our guests making the portage.
- Bryon J. and Tom V. reported their historic best fishing this year! They targeted different areas of Goose Lake each day and had stellar results everywhere. Their very best fishing, though, was at Coonass Point in South Bay.



Steve R can only make a 4-day trip but still caught this beauty.

- We noticed that Canada Geese were still winging their way north the early part of June and even though this is normal behavior for them, it seemed like they had to fast track their reproduction process once they finally arrived at their preferred nesting spots. There was a pair of geese that stopped to nibble on the grass in front of the cabins again as in past years.
- Our first outpost guests were able to fly to Monroe and Unnamed lakes the weekend of June 4th and Whitelaw Lake the weekend of June 10th. Our Poirier Lake guests were able to fish that lake as soon as the ice left the lake.
- With the high water, our resident seagulls were unable to nest on their customary spots but had to move to higher ground on some of the islands. Truth be told, there weren't many immature seagulls seen in August and September so it didn't appear to be a successful year for them.



Rich S took this amazing picture early the morning of his departure from Goose Lake.



Frank W waited 2 whole years to fish his favourite fishing hole again at Monroe Lake.

- Our guests travel from near and far but Tor EA from Norway ventured the greatest distance to fish Poirier Lake with his friend Tim S. The David V. group of Skye, Nick, Emma and Eric also visited us from the United Kingdom and made special memories with their large family group.
- Monroe Lake guests reported the appearance of a lone Canada Goose that shared the island with them in June. The goose may have been injured somehow and was recuperating and gaining strength before moving on.
- Jerry and Theresa N. fished Poirier this June and left this message for us on the bragging board. "Best fishing of our lives! Took us almost a full day to catch within the slot to have for dinner. They ran HUGE!!"
- The record high lake levels did not deter the Trumpeter Swans from once again nesting on lakes in the area and guests reported seeing them throughout the summer.

- Ed and Will R. made the portage one day along with their buddies Mark D. and Dave S. They loaded their fishing equipment into the boats at Whitedog Falls and pushed off to fish the prime areas below the falls. After some time, Will felt something brushing his leg and looked down to see a muskrat moving around under his feet! He didn't know how or when the muskrat got into the boat, but it was a big surprise for sure! Once they herded the animal to the bow of boat, father and son were able to net it and return it to the water where it swam to shore. Believe it or not! You can't make this stuff up!
- Mark P. unpacked his rod case when he first arrived at camp in September and assembled his rod and reel. He left his rod tube outside the cabin as in years past. When the time came to pack up for the trip home, he reopened his rod tube and was surprised when a dead squirrel tumbled out! This is a first for us at Goose Lake!

- We are sure we had more rabbits and woodchucks than ever at Goose Lake this summer. There was even a mink that we occasionally saw who seemed to have a regular "beat" of exploring under each cabin as it moved along the property. It was not bothered by us walking beside it and we got the idea that it was living unseen in our midst for some time and not fazed by humans at all.
- Record Northern for the year were 42 inches and caught by Eli P. at Unnamed Lake and Mike L. at Goose Lake. John H. had bragging rights for the record Walleye for the season – 31 inches, caught at Goose Lake in July. Not to be outdone, Bethany his wife, caught a 28 ½ inch Walleye the next day!
- As the month of July approached, we were eager to get started on our planned upgrades to the electrical system at Goose Lake. Ours is a 48 Volt, 7.2 KW solar system capable of handling all 5 cabins and the service buildings. We are looking forward to the impressive increase in solar and battery capacity



Scott S and his crew love fishing the Honey Hole because these beauties are bound to make an appearance.

- With the help of family members Shaun, Leelan and Joni, the solar project at Goose Lake very quickly became a reality and we thank them very much for coming to help us.
- The new, larger, electric refrigerators and freezers were a big hit with our guests!
- Our annual mayfly hatch was 2 weeks later than usual and we chalked it up to high water and cooler temperatures. In fact, it seemed that most of Nature's Calendar was 2-3 weeks off. Mid-September is usually the time of the year that we notice robins showing up in large numbers at Goose Lake and feeding voraciously to fatten up for their epic journey south. However, this year there were no robins at all, I think they must have arrived after we left camp already. Our friendly Whiskey Jacks usually show up in August to eat from our hands but they did not arrive until September 1st. The annual bird migration starting with Sandhill Cranes on August 31st and Canada Geese on September 4th was right on time though.
- Ryan and Eliza fished Bunny Ear Island one evening in August with great success. Eliza caught a 26-inch Walleye and Ryan a 25-inch Walleye. They were entered in the Red Lake Fall Classic Walleye Tournament at the beginning of September and hoped to repeat their luck then. As it turns out, they came in 6th in a field of 120 boats so ended up "in the money"!!

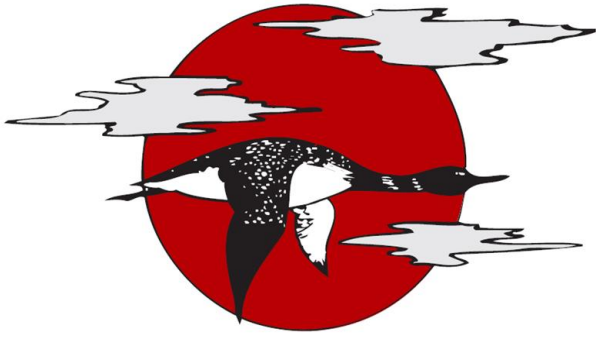


The Northern Lights display in early September was awesome.

- Because of high airline costs, it is necessary for us to maximize efficiency for ourselves and for the airlines. This means airplanes always fly with a full load. We appreciate your help in loading and unloading the planes whether it be your gear, someone else's gear or lumber/propane/gas for us. Sometimes it means a slight delay as this takes time. Special thanks to all of you who helped out to provide quick turnarounds for the aircraft, we appreciate it!
- We were the recipients of many treats and shared meals over the summer and would like to thank you all for thinking of us and bringing along specialty items from your part of the country. The garden veggies were a special treat as our little gardens struggled this year due to the weather and the annoying rabbits and woodchucks! Thank you again for your thoughtfulness Ron in baking and presenting me with a birthday cake that was shared by all at our August shore lunch!
- A special thank you to the Nearing group for assembling the new barbecue at Unnamed Lake!
- We were pleased that forest fires were not a concern this year. 'Looks like all we had to do was purchase a couple of brand-new fire pumps, 600 feet of hose and sprinklers to lessen the threat!!
- Conditions must be just right for the Northern Lights display and our early September guests were thrilled to witness this spectacle of Nature. ❖

Reservations for 2023

If you haven't already made your reservations for 2023, now is the time to finalize your plans. We have more early interest for next season than ever and fishermen have been locking in their favourite weeks at all of our locations. We would be happy to set up a trip for you!



Loon Haunt Outposts 2023 Rates

All rates include: boats, motors and unlimited gasoline. All cabins feature: hot and cold running water and showers, propane stove, refrigerator, chest-type freezer, pots and pans, dishes, cutlery and utensils, beds with coil spring mattresses, pillows and solar electric lights. We supply, potable water, ice and emergency communication radios at no charge. If you are prepared to meet our flying schedule, which will enable us to utilize the aircraft both ways, flying is included in the rates quoted.

Large Group Specials

At all locations for 7 day packages only

Deduct \$50 per person if group of 5 adults

Deduct \$130 per person if group of 6 or more adults

7 Day Fishing Packages

Lake	Occupancy	In	Out	US Each
Goose	2-24	Sunday	Sunday	\$1,595
Monroe	4-6	Sunday	Sunday	\$1,595
Unnamed	4-8	Sunday	Sunday	\$1,595
Poirier	2	Saturday	Saturday	\$1,595
Whitelaw	2-6	Sunday	Sunday	\$1,595

Our Conservation Policy

No one is to harm in any way a Walleye over 18 inches or a Northern over 27 inches.

We encourage you to enjoy meals of fish during your stay, but insist that no fish be taken home with you.

To ensure future generations will enjoy the same fantastic fishing we have today, this policy is mandatory for all our guests.

3, 4, 5 & 6 Day Fishing Packages

Lake	Occupancy	Package	US Each
Goose	2-24	3-Day (as available - call for openings)	\$1,465
Goose	2-24	4-Day (as available - call for openings)	\$1,615
Goose	2-24	5 or 6-Day (as available - call for openings)	\$1,765
Whitelaw	2-6	3-Day (as available - call for openings)	\$1,465
Whitelaw	2-6	4-Day (as available - call for openings)	\$1,615
Whitelaw	2-6	5 or 6-Day (as available - call for openings)	\$1,765

Shorter stays can also be arranged at other locations. Please contact us for availability.

Baggage limit is 100 pounds per person, 75 pounds on the 3, 4 and 5 day packages.

Excess baggage will cost you and extra \$1 per pound.

- Rates are quoted in United States Dollars (US).
- Children 16 and under deduct 10% from price.
- Deposits of \$300 US per person are transferable (on 60-day notice). Our policy is intended to be fair to our guests yet prevent the loss of income to our business. Our location is such that we do not have a large volume of traffic past our facilities. We must depend on advance reservations. Once a cabin is reserved, we remove it from the market, refusing all other requests. A booking must be accompanied by a deposit within 2 weeks – if not the cabin becomes available to other fishermen.
- Personal checks are acceptable for reservation deposit only. Balance to be paid with cash or cashier's checks.
- Please no personal checks.
- Sales taxes (HST) are extra. The total tax will be 13% of the total charge.
- Vehicle parking at the airlines is included in the price.
- Beer and soda, if ordered at least 3 weeks in advance, will be delivered to your outpost ahead of time at no extra cost to you.
- Prior to your visit, you will receive a detailed information package containing a helpful grocery list that you can use to plan your shopping or fax to our local grocery store. The store will prepare your order, charge it to your credit card and deliver it to the airlines for you.

Thank You

We sincerely thank you all for choosing our camp for your annual fishing holiday, whether you are first time guests or have been with us for many seasons. We know you have choices on where to cast your line and we are honored and pleased you chose us. We enjoy catching up with you each year and will work hard to keep your trust and friendship. We appreciate your emails, photos and helpful suggestions. Your kind referrals are a most important form of advertising for us and are the greatest compliment we receive – thank you!

It is never too late to send us your pictures. We will post them on our photo gallery for everyone to enjoy.

Bill, Louise, Ryan, Eliza and Scarlett



In Memoriam

We received the sad news that two of our guests had passed away this year. Ron Block and Gary Harbison looked forward to fishing Goose Lake for many years and we enjoyed their company. They will be missed.
Rest in Peace men.



2022 IMPROVEMENTS

- Unexpected dock repairs at Monroe, Unnamed, Whitelaw and Goose Lakes
- Starlink wireless internet installed by Ryan at Goose Lake
- Thanks to our daughter Kari, we have smokin' fast internet in every cabin at Goose Lake
- New electric refrigerators and freezers at Goose Lake
- New transom for one of the boats at Monroe Lake
- Major upgrade to our solar system at Goose Lake
- Overhauled the propeller for our Cessna 185
- New barbecues for the Unnamed and Poirier locations.

PLANNED FOR 2023

- New boat ramp and walkway for Poirier Lake
- Brushing out at the outposts
- Ryan plans on building a new garden beside the solar panel frame. This location should allow for maximum sunlight and hopefully, bumper crops!
- Still looking to replace the roofing at Whitelaw Lake
- Some more repairs needed for the dock at Whitelaw Lake
- New transoms, as needed, for the outpost boats.

The winner of the

FREE TRIP DRAW

for 2023 is Matt Meyer!



Matt is pictured here with a large Northern caught at Goose Lake. Matt and his party fished around the island across from the camp and had impressive results. Congratulations Matt!!



The Beede crew hooked their young boys on fishing. We know we will see them again.



Roger B caught this 38-inch northern at the Honey Hole. He was certain his fish was caught a few more times this summer.



Tim G and his group love to catch the big northernns at Unnamed Lake.



Matt M with a beauty of a walleye at Goose Lake.



Kathy N can always be counted on to catch the big walleyes at Poirier Lake.



*Nice walleye, great cigar, beautiful day, AND it's your birthday! It doesn't get any better than that!
Oh yah, and Kent's shore lunch to look forward to!*



Sarah W caught this 37-inch northern on a fly rod so it was exciting to say the least!



Graham P with another lunker northern caught at Unnamed Lake.



Chuck P with his nice walleye caught at Father's Day rock.



After an absence of a few years Eric P once again made the trip with his buddies to Goose Lake.



25-inch walleye caught late August at Bunny Ear Island.



Eliza's 26-inch walleye was caught the same evening in late August at Bunny Ear Island.



Ryan and Eliza came in 6th in the Fall Classic in September. It was a tight race as only ounces separated the winners.

Electrical System Upgrade Project



One of the supports needed for the solar panel frame.



Ryan and Shaun nearing completion of the frame.



Lumber for the solar panel frame.



Bill and Ryan attach the solar panels to the frame.



New batteries (200 pounds) are unloaded. Ian, the pilot, must have had a sore back that day as he flew in all 4 loads.



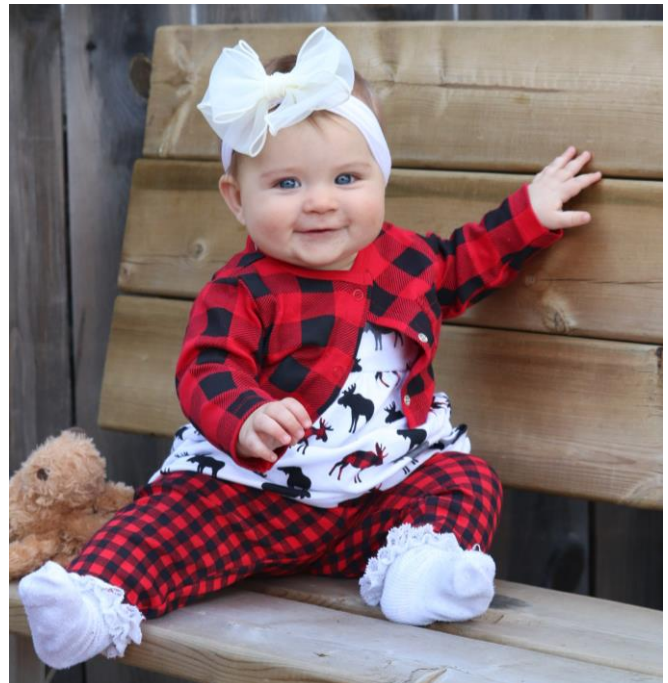
These Surrrette batteries weight 200lbs each and were lowered into the box using the Kubota mini excavator.



Eliza's parents Joni and Leelan with Ryan's dad Shaun and Scarlett. Without the help of our families, this project would have taken much longer. Thank you so much for your contribution!



The guys were pleased that the new electric refrigerators were easier to move than the older, heavier propane refrigerators.



Introducing Scarlett Lynn Scott! Thanks to Roger B for taking this picture of our camp cutie!



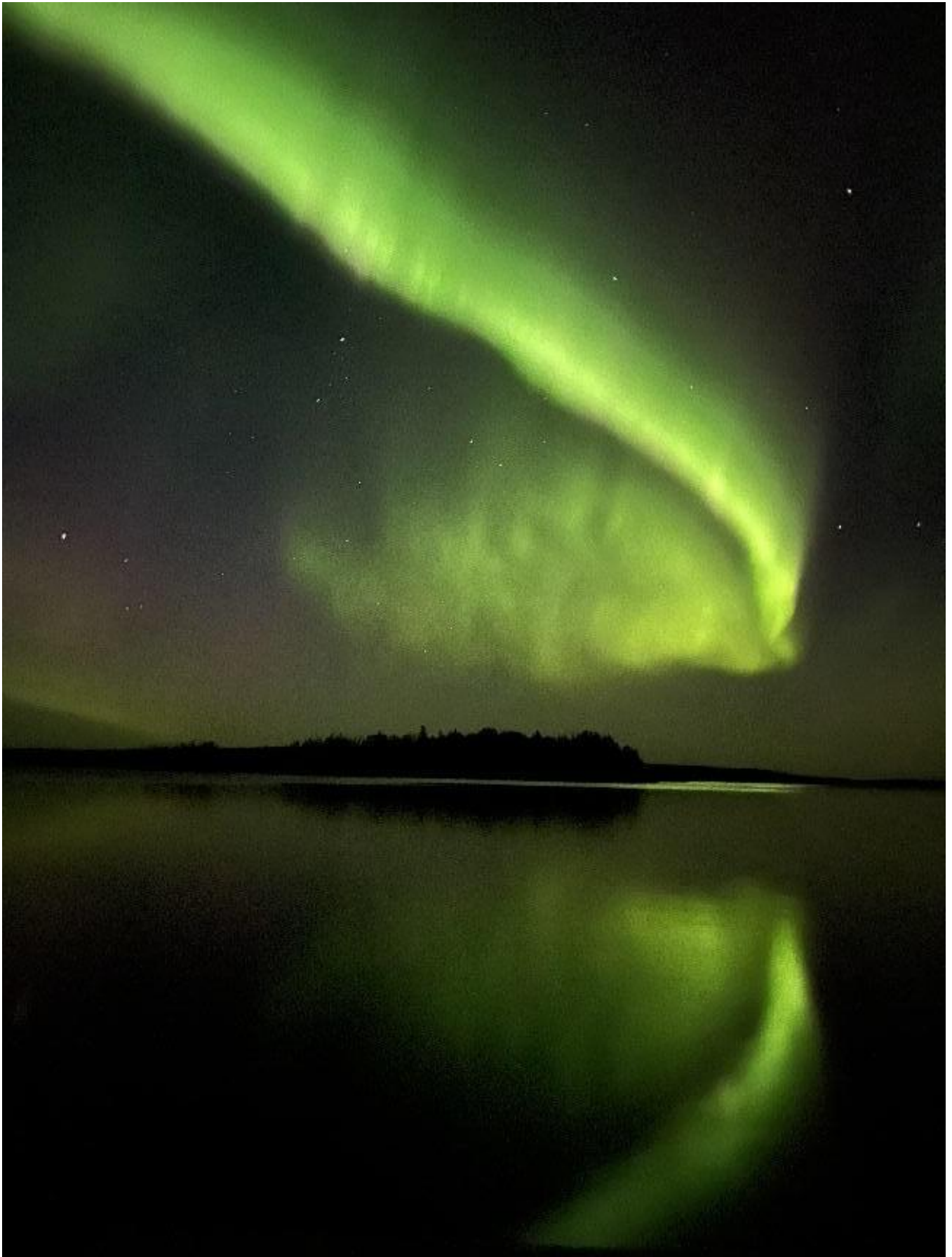
Dock repairs at Goose Lake was a 3-man job! Thank you to Brian for lending a hand.



Ryan extended the dock in town to handle the high water.

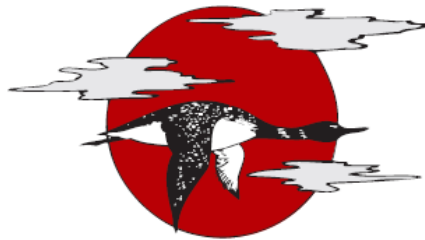


Our daughter Kari, son-in-law Brian and granddaughter Jolyn saying goodbye after a productive week. Thanks for all your help.



Another look at the Northern Lights. It was worth staying on the dock as the view changed every few minutes.

Loon Haunt



Outposts

P.O. Box 1344

Red Lake, Ontario, Canada, P0V 2M0

Phone: 807-735-2400 (October 1 - May 14),
807-773-5564 (May 15 - September 30).

Email: fishing@loonhaunt.com

www.loonhaunt.com