

Moose Lake News

by Jim Onarheim

After many months of planning and preparation the Moose Lake Fest has arrived and is now behind us. Last week was a busy week for the Fire Department auxiliary and Fire Fighters. To make sure that everything was ready for Saturday morning, Firefighters and the Fire Department Auxiliary was kept busy the week prior to the festival. They were still selling tickets, picking up donated prizes and some last-minute planning. It was a big job for everyone.

Last Thursday evening firefighters met at Louies Landing to set up the tents that were going to be used on the grounds for the Saturday event. Twelve Round Lake firefighters arrived at Louies Landing at 6 PM Thursday July 31. Three tents were set up on the grounds that would give shade to those in attendance if they needed it.

Many tables and chairs were also brought in by the firefighters so the attendees would have an area to sit and eat their meal and have a place to relax and visit with friends. There was going to be food and refreshments served during the day on Saturday. Burgers and delicious, sweet corn. In fact, the sweet corn was donated to us from Mike and Amy Scharberg who have a farm in southern Minnesota. We would like to thank them for their generosity.

The next workday for everyone was at 8:00 AM Saturday morning August 2nd, the day of the event. Upon my arrival I assisted with erecting another small tent. Other firefighters put out garbage cans for waist, started to boil sweet corn, brought in firefighting equipment for display and set up the tent that was to be used for all the bucket raffles.

Other things that were offered to the people that attended our event were several 50/50 raffles for cash, Spin the wheel for prizes, many bucket raffles for a variety of different donated gifts. There were also bean bag games going on most of the afternoon. Many different kids' games were a big interest for the little ones. The tug of war was a big hit. Firefighters water games were also a lot of fun for the kids.

Several years ago, Bill Vogel of Moose Lake started teaching our Moose Lake kids how to build bird houses. It became a remarkably interesting and exciting event at the Moose Lake Festival. The Round Lake Fire department auxiliary felt that it would be nice to bring bird house building with the kids back to the Fire Festival. It is a big hit.

The Pie Auction was the most exciting of all. The pie auction, this year generated forty donated pies which included a few Bunt Cakes and some specialty items. There were only two items that brought in less than \$50. The most expensive pie generated \$370. WOW! Total sales brought in \$5000.

Another item that gets auctioned off each year is a Float Plane ride for one half hour around Sawyer County with Pilot Mike Williams. Mike donates a ride in his Float Plane each year. This year Mike's plane ride was auctioned off for \$900 to Mike Scharberg. Mike Williams thanks for your generosity each year.

So, I do not forget, the sweet corn was fantastic. Many people made good comments about how tasty the sweet corn was, especially with Wisconsin Grade A butter.

It was also announced that Ethel Richter found several more copies of her book that she wrote titled Moose Lake Past and Present. If anyone is interested in purchasing a copy before they are all gone please give me a call and I will get a copy to you.

At four o'clock on Saturday afternoon the five big drawings were held. The drawings for two rifles were held. And the winners are Dave Wells of the Moose Lake area and Don Fogal of Hayward. Congratulations to both of you. The Big Money winners are Shannon Geisber taking home \$3000 to Wanamingo, Minnesota. Second place in the Big Money went to Chad Schroeder from Eyota Minnesota, he won \$2000. The third-place winner won \$1000 that went to Vern Wilson of Amarillo Texas. Congratulations to all winners.

The Round Lake Fire Department Auxiliary and Firefighters would like to thank everyone for attending our 2025 Round Lake Fire Festival event. We hope to see all of you again next year. Remember it will be the first Saturday in August.

Birthday wishes this week are extended to Pete Sievert on the 7th of August. Jack Metcalf and Eli Geidel and Pete Vukovich. All three have their birthday on the 9th of August. Doug Sanders has his birthday on the 11th, Penny Broberg on the 13th, Peggy Rafferty (Miller) on the 15th, John Levis and Pam Dahlstrom-Jorgenson both have birthdays on the 19th. Happy Birthday to everyone.

Anniversary greetings this week are extended to, Ray and Marcia Whaley on the 8th and Stanley and Jackie Olson on the 10th of this month. Happy anniversary to both couples. Enjoy your special day together.

Stay safe everyone and enjoy your week with beautiful weather, with wonderful comfortable temperatures, and possibly some moisture in the forecast. Please send your items of interest to my new e-mail address emta984@gmail.com or call my landline at 715-462-4448 or my cell at 715-577-8880. Moose Lake Improvement association website is <http://mliahaywardwi.org> The Town of Round Lake Web site is <https://www.townofroundlakewi.org> and the Round Lake Fire Department website is <https://townofroundlakefire-rescue.org> JO.

