

Moose Lake News by Jim Onarheim

Is spring in the air? Last Saturday evening my wife Barb and I were watching a movie around 9 PM when we heard a crack of thunder. Yes, we had our first thunderstorm last Saturday evening March 28th. A short time later the Hayward Fire Department got paged out for a lightning strike at a home in the City of Hayward. I did not get a report of any damage that was done.

Over the years I will always remember what my grandfather always told me. Approximately 6 months from the first spring thunderstorm we would have our first frost of the fall. If this holds true this year, that would mean September 28th should be our first frost of next fall. I wrote it on my calendar so we will see. At least the thunderstorm last weekend reminds us, that spring should be just around the corner.

With most of us now spending more time at home, it is a great time to replace that old fishing line on our reels. This is something that does not get done because of how busy most of us are in the spring. Especially because most of us are working during the day and maybe doing yard work in whatever spare time we may have. Getting our fishing gear ready for the most part gets overlooked or put off until we experience a problem with our line while out on the water. We are then forced to change that line or fix whatever as soon as possible.

Other things we can get done are to charge up our boat batteries, making sure that we have new oil and a new filter on our outboard motor that is if we have a 4-stroke motor. We must also make sure there is no fishing line wrapped around our prop. This line could take out our seal and barring in the lower unit. Hopefully the lower unit grease was checked last fall before freeze-up. The trolling motor prop is another area to check for fishing line. Fishing line wound around your trolling motor prop will be hard on your battery and could do damage to the trolling motor itself.

Hopefully by the time the Wisconsin Fishing Opener occurs May 2 we will have everything ready, so we don't experience any problems. Also let's hope by that time we can be able to be out in our boat at least by our self, if not with a friend. Speaking of the fishing opener remember that all fishing licenses have expired as of March 31st. You can go on-line and buy your new license without going to a Sport or Bait shop. Use the website www.dnr.wi.gov then click on Licenses & Regulations. Remember if you are 65 years of age or older your fishing license will only cost you \$7.00. What a deal! I purchased mine this past weekend and it was easy to do it on-line.

I spoke with John Myhre over the weekend and he informed me about the Podcast that he posts every week. They are his radio shows that he records for WHSM or Musky 101 radio station. These podcasts are very interesting and can be found under Wisconsin Northland Outdoors. I have been listening to several of his radio shows while typing my Moose Lake News. These shows do get you excited about open water fishing.

I spoke with our Dam Keeper Frank Leuschen over this past weekend also and he told me there is a fair amount of water coming into Moose Lake after our weekend rainstorm that occurred. Even though we got some rain the lake will not be brought up to summer levels until after ice-out. The ice must be gone before the water levels will begin to rise. This is because we don't want any floating ice to take any docks out or to do any damage to anyone's property.

The Chippewa Flowage is down about 10 feet. I'm sure they will perhaps start to capture some of the water that is flowing into their lake as soon as possible. They need a lot of water between now and the fishing opener. There are very few perminate docks on the Flowage compared to Moose Lake where most of our docks do not get removed in the fall but stay in all winter. X-Cell energy manages the dams on both bodies of water.

Jack Brown at Louie's will be switching his menu around for Saturday evenings. Jack said the best thing for people to do is check his Face Book page for current items that he will be serving on Saturdays. His Broasted Chicken will be served on Thursday evenings, Fish Fry on Friday & a variety of different items on Saturday. It is very hard to order the correct amount when you do carry outs only. Jack will keep his Face Book page current.

Birthday greetings this week go out to, Betty Krohn on April 2nd, Linda Seeger April 6th, Paul Miller on the 7th, Beth Miller & Amy Picchietti both on the 8th of April. Again, this week there is no anniversaries in the Moose Lake area.

That's it for this week. I hope everyone enjoys your week and stays safe! Send your items of interest to myself Jim Onarheim at 715-462-4448 or jonarheim@centurytel.net

For information on the Town of Round Lake government, check the website: townofroundlakewi.org.
For Moose Lake Improvement Association (MLIA) information, view the website at MLIAhaywardwi.org.