

Moose Lake News by Jim Onarheim

In the past week we lost two very well known, Round Lake / Moose Lake residents and friends. On Sunday morning March 24th at approximately 3AM Jim Henschel passed away at the Nursing Home he was residing at in Menomonie, WI. Jim as some of you may know was our Town Chairman for the Town of Round Lake for several years. He loved doing things and being involved with our town government.

Jim also was always a big supporter of the Round Lake Fire Department and ambulance. Jim was always the first one to say that he wanted to donate something for the Moose Lake Festival each year. He knew that a portion of the money made from the festival went toward the fire department for equipment.

I remember about three years ago Jim called me up and asked if he told me how to build it, would I physically do the labor of building one of his backyard swings. He wanted to donate another one of his swings to be auctioned off at the Moose Lake Festival. I said of course I would. He did round up one more person to help me. It was a lot of fun and I learned how to build his swing.

Jim loved wood working and spent many hours in his wood working shop in his barn. He made many toys out of wood including several train sets. I remember several years ago he fell in his wood working shop and injured himself. He needed help with getting back up. We responded with the ambulance to help him. Upon our arrival I will never forget Jim's Great Dane dog was lying right next to him with his head resting on Jim's chest. It was in the winter and I think that his dog was trying to help keep Jim warm.

I'm sure Jim's obituary will be in the Sawyer County Record perhaps this week. Please look for it. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his wife Joan and family.

Another long time Moose Lake resident Bill Vogel passed away in Arizona while in the hospital. Bill passed away on Monday afternoon March 25th. Betsy called us Monday afternoon to inform us. I'm sure Bill's obituary will also be posted in the paper soon.

As most of you know Bill was a big supporter of the Moose Lake Festival also. Bill loved working with wood and has constructed many beautiful items over the years. Bill's favorite thing was to oversee helping the kids build bird houses during the Moose Lake Festival. He loved organizing this annual event and working with the many kids that built their own bird house.

You would always see Bill helping prior to and during the festival. He loved being involved and helping when he could. One thing we must remember, even though we have lost two wonderful friends and Round Lake residents one thing we will never lose is all the good memories that many of us have experienced with these two wonderful men. These memories will be with us forever. Joan and Betsy our prayers and thoughts are with both of you and your families.

Many people are still fishing on some of our area lakes. You must be very careful because it is getting to the point where it will hard to get from shore to some safe ice. The shore lines are melting away. The shorelines with southern exposure are going first. Lake Hayward is starting to open up now. This is normally the first lake in the area that becomes unsafe.

The West Fork of the Chippewa River that comes into Moose Lake is open in front of Mystic Moose Resort. This will normally continue to melt toward the dam. Moose Lake has three rivers flowing into it and has a lot of moving water. If you are still ice fishing be careful!

Pool League last Thursday evening the 28th had 4 teams competing. First place was awarded to Don Rossiter & Mike Williams. Second place went to Dean Broberg & Brad Daywitt. The TP award was wiped up by Jack Brown and Tom Koehler. Four teams participated that evening.

Well that is all we have for this week. Remember if you have any news items please give me a call or send it to me by e-mail, 715-462-4448 or jonarheim@centurytel.net so I can include it in the column. It's very hard to come up with news without you. Have a great week enjoy the melting snow & ice. Stay safe!

For information on the Town of Round Lake Government go to their web-site at <http://www.townofroundlakewi.org>. For Moose Lake Improvement Association (MLIA) information, view their web-site at <https://mliahaywardwi.org/>.