

Moose Lake News by Jim Onarheim

Signs of fall are around us. Advertising of back to school sales in our local stores, Farmers markets are in full swing with many fresh vegetables being sold locally, football schedules being handed out and a small sign of few trees starting to lose their green color. Yes, I have seen a few trees with some red color to the leaves. This should also be a sign that fishing in our area lakes should start to improve. Things have been a little challenging lately on our area lakes.

I was out with a very good friend of mine and his father last Saturday on Moose Lake. Todd Frank is a Firefighter from the Eau Claire Fire Department. Todd and I worked with for several years together prior to my retirement. Todd who holds the position of an Engine Operator at the Airport Fire Station in Eau Claire came up to Moose Lake this past weekend to visit his family who are vacationing on the Lake. Todd, his father Ted Frank and I went fishing in the afternoon on Saturday August 17th.

We had our work cut out for us, because everyone I talked to said in the past few weeks it really has gotten tough to catch any good number of fish on many of our area lakes. Moose always has a huge bug hatch around this time of the year. I have always said it is like the fish going to a smorgasbord when it comes to food in July and August. They have plenty of food to pick from at this time of the summer. May fly hatches, leaches, minnows and many other things that are in the water column at this time of year. We all like a challenge so let's do it I said.

After fishing for about 4 hours we caught perhaps 7 walleyes rather small, several perch and a few small Smallmouth Bass. We wanted to catch something that was worth bragging about at least. I knew of a very good spot that I have fished before for Smallmouth Bass, but it was way on the other end of the lake.

We went for about a 20-minute boat ride and worked our way back into this spot that not too many people fish. After about 10 minutes Todd tied into a real nice smallmouth. After netting the fish we quickly brought the fish into the boat and measured her. Took a few photos and released her. 20.5 inches. Wow, what a beautiful Moose Lake Smallmouth Bass. After another 10 minutes Todd caught another Bass that we estimated to be 16 inches. A real fighter. Both fish were in less than 2 foot of water and caught on a 1/16 oz. jig with half of a night crawler and a bobber. We kept it simple.

It was getting dark, so we had to head back to the boat landing at Louie's. After loading my boat back on my trailer, I had to take Todd and his father into Louie's. As some of you know Jack Brown is a retired Firefighter from the Brooklyn Fire Department which is near Madison WI. Jack has many Firefighter collectible items in his back room or what is called the porch that is located just off the side of the bar area. Todd being a firefighter from Eau Claire had to see, all the interesting items that Jack had on display.

It was a great day and just maybe we will have to do it again. When we retire is perhaps it not the job that we miss so much, it is the good people that you have worked with over the years and Todd is one of these. Thanks Todd.

On Saturday August 17th Frank and Esper Leuschen witnessed the new beginning for their son Frank W. Leuschen III as he married Breanna M. Rady. The reception was held at the Steakhouse and Lodge in Hayward. Barb and I were not able to attend this beautiful event because of another commitment but we would like to wish, both the very best in their life together. Congratulations Frank and Breanna.

Birthday greetings this week go out to, John H. Myhre and Jane Galles both on the 22nd, Tommy Briggs and Christopher Seeger both on the 25th, Janet Bajek the 26th of August, Zanna McFerson the 27th and Jim Manning & Tom McFerson both will be celebrating their birthdays on the 28th of August. Happy Birthday to all. There are two anniversaries this week. Happy anniversary to Eric & Joan Tamm on the 27th and John & Janice Levis on the 28th. Happy anniversary to both couples.

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 so I can include it in the column. 715-462-4448 or jonarheim@centurytel.net Have a great week & Stay safe!

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