

## Moose Lake News by Jim Onarheim

As many of you may know the Youth Conservation Alliance (YCA) is a charitable organization that focuses on teaching children about the environment through fishing and hunting. The YCA was founded by my good friend Kevin Bushnick some 13 years ago in Illinois. Kevin and several of his friends were members of the Fox River Valley muskies Inc club. Kevin had a vision that he wanted to start an organization that worked with the youth.

Kevin does this not only to ensure the future of these family-oriented sports, but also to provide kids with a tremendous opportunity for environmental education outside of the classroom. The Youth Musky Hunt was just one of the many events that the YCA sponsors. The YCA just completed the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Youth Musky Hunt on Moose Lake last September. This event has grown in popularity in leaps and bounds. Some of you may remember that last fall I reported that because of the popularity in the event the event was forced to expand to a new location. The reason was because of lodging meals boat docking along with many other things.

Kevin said, we outgrew Moose Lake because of the large number of kids that wanted to get involved with our event. Last fall there were 52 kids involved in the event, that caught and released 50 muskies and several bass and walleyes. Kevin said that the musky can be a challenging fish to catch sometime, even though we have some excellent guides helping the kids. Kevin wanted to move the event to a larger lake and open it up to all species of fish. Round Lake was the best pick because of the size and local business in the area that were interested in assisting with the event.

The 10 annual Youth Musky / Fishing event will be held this fall but on Round Lake. As a warm-up, Kevin has been talking with President Dan Kollodge of the Round Lake Property Owners Association about having a Youth Fishing event in June of this year. This past Father's Day weekend was the date of this event that was held at Timber Trail Resort. There were approximately 100 area kids that were involved with the event that occurred on Saturday and Sunday June 20 & 21<sup>st</sup>. Due to COVID, they it was suggested not to do a multi-State event, so they kept things local. All kids are from the area. Kevin said all fathers got a Hall Pass to attend the event with their son or daughter.

Everyone had a great time and there were many different species of fish caught. I think the kids had a lot fun just catching fish no matter what they were. There were 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place trophies awarded for the Monster Bass, largemouth or smallmouth category. Big monster Walleye first and second place trophy. There was also a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place trophy for the largest Crappie. There was also a Grand Champion trophy that was awarded. Area guides included Mike best, Trevor Bushnick, John Myhre and Erik Thue. Please see the complete story on this event elsewhere in this paper.

Town of Round Lake Fireworks Reminder (From Town of Round Lake website) Possessing or using fireworks that explode or leave the ground without a valid permit is illegal. The sale of these restricted fireworks to a resident of Wisconsin without a valid permit is also illegal. Many people feel just because they are up north they can do what they want when it comes to fireworks. That is not the case and the Town of Round Lake is taking a firm stance on this in 2020. Keep in mind the permits that are handed out at the fireworks stands are not legal.

Restricted fireworks include: Anything that explodes or propels into the sky just to keep it simple. These include but not limited to, Firecrackers, Roman Candles, Bottle Rockets & Mortars. Wisconsin does allow

(without a permit) the sale, possession and use of fireworks that do not explode or do not leave the ground. Some examples include but not limited to, sparklers not exceeding 36 inches in length, stationary cones, fountains, toy snakes, smoke bombs, caps, and noisemakers, confetti poppers with less than ¼ grain of explosive mixture, novelty devices that spin or move on the ground. Please be conscientious about when and where you display permitted fireworks.

Avoid setting them off over water or within heavily forested areas. Be respectful of the time of day, your neighbors and wildlife. Wis. Stat.167.10(3)(a), (c) and (f); Sawyer County, WI Ordinance 1.04; Town of Round Lake, WI.

A 46- inch musky was caught and released this past week on Tuesday June 16<sup>th</sup>. John Myhre was guiding a Joe Davis from Indiana. They were trolling a #5 Flicker Shad when the fish hit. It took a while to get the fish into the boat, but she was not harmed and was released quickly back into the water.

Birthday greetings this week go out to Jason Frame on the 25<sup>th</sup>, Mark Frisch on June 26<sup>th</sup>, and Mark Dahlstrom on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Happy Birthday to all.

There is one anniversary this week. Anniversary greeting are sent out to Muriel and Wayne Janitschke on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June. Happy anniversary Wayne and Muriel.

Well that is all we have for this week. Please keep the news coming my way. I cannot do it without your information and help. Please give me a call at 715-462-4448 or send any information to me by e-mail at jonarheim@centurytel.net so I can include it in the column. Have a great week enjoy our beautiful weather. Stay safe!