

## Moose Lake News by Jim Onarheim

What a perfect weekend for the 2019 Wisconsin fishing opener. The temperatures were just what everyone was hoping for. In the low 70's and high 60's all weekend. Many people that I talked with came many miles to fish Hayward this past weekend. Most of the people that fished Moose Lake were very satisfied with the success that they had both Saturday and Sunday.

Mike Polister one of our regular guests for the past several years came up from Madison, WI. He came with 5 other friends & regular guests. They had a great time and caught many walleyes both days. They kept a few for their annual shore lunch and released everything else. The hot bait was the simple 1/8 oz. jig and a minnow. These guys are excellent fishermen and they know the lake very well. That always helps to catch fish.

I spoke to Jack from Louie's last Sunday afternoon and he had very good reports from many different fishermen. Many fish were being caught near moving water. Moose Lake has three rivers flowing onto it. All of these spots produced fish. Two different groups of guys & gals floated the West fork of the Chippewa River. I heard that they caught a 17 inch and a 19-inch walleye and several smallmouths which were released. Many fishermen were very happy with the size, but the numbers were not there in the river. They were hoping to find more fish still up the river after spawning. Smallmouth are in the pre-spawn mode. On Moose Lake the numbers were great. There were not too many complaints.

I must remind people that the Musky season and bass season is not open yet. Muskies cannot be targeted until the last Saturday in May. Bass, Largemouth and Smallmouth can be fished for but it is catch and release only. They must be released immediately. If they are put into a live well just for 10 minutes, just to show the fish to someone else, this is a violation. Know your fishing regulations because you are responsible for your actions. Fines can be in the hundreds of dollars. I spoke to a relative of mine who went trout fishing south of Sawyer County this weekend. He had very good luck fishing a beautiful trout stream that he fishes very often. The trout were very active. Worms & crawlers were the hot bait for the trout. Overall it appears that fishing in our area was very good. There are many good stories that were shared this weekend. Let's hope that fishing continues to be good for the remainder of the spring. We have waited many months for this time of the year.

Marilyn Karns reminds everyone that the Round Lake Fire Department Auxiliary will be holding its annual spring meeting on May 21st. It will be at the town hall on A and will begin at 4:00 PM with dinner to follow around 5:30. Members of the Town of Round Lake Volunteer Fire Department will be preparing and serving the food. Everyone is invited. This is the meeting where we stuff two thousand envelopes for the annual Moose Lake Festival sweepstakes.

The MLIA board met for its monthly Board of Directors meeting at Louie's Landing last Thursday May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Many interesting things were discussed. The annual Northwest Wisconsin

Lakes Association conference will meet this year in Hayward on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Don Rossiter reported, that 10 people showed up for the annual roadside cleanup on Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup>. There was a lot of trash that was removed from along side our area roadways.

It was reported on that some of our hazard buoys are showing some serious wear and may need to be replaced. Some have started to leak and take on water, some have been damaged due to low water and hitting on the rocks. Jack Brown and I did pick up two new buoys from the manufacture when we were at the Milwaukee sport show. This saved us the shipping cost. It looks like there may have to be more buoys replaced very soon. We will keep you informed on this issue. I reported to the board members that the 2019 General fishing regulations

for Moose Lake have been posted at each boat landings and at the area restaurants. Please take time to read these regulations. Thank you Dr. Dave Wiltout for doing this.

There was a report that the annual Moose Lake Festival, which is always the first Saturday in August is in full swing. Area supporters should be thinking about volunteering and items that you may want to donate to the White Elephant sale or the pie auction. We are starting to get ready for our big annual event. We will have more on this in the weeks to come. A complete copy of the minutes from the May 2nd monthly meeting will be posted on the MLIA web-site shortly. Please refer to our web-site for more detailed information.

Read next weeks article about a story of an area Boy Scout Troup that went shed hunting for elk and deer antlers with an area guide. I will also share some interesting information on the history of Moose Lake with you.

Birthdays this week as follows. Alexandria Sanders on May 10<sup>th</sup>, Sharon Koontz the 12<sup>th</sup>, Julie Ann Richter and Denise Johansen Melhus both on the 13<sup>th</sup> & Sharon Streiter on May 15<sup>th</sup>.  
Happy Birthday to all. There are no anniversaries this week.

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. Have a great week & 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>.