

## Moose Lake News

by Jim Onarheim

(Jim) On Saturday April 13 there will be a Surprise 90<sup>th</sup> birthday party for our past Moose Lake resident Dan McCormick. The party will be at the American Legion in Libertyville Illinois. The party is a surprise, so we must keep it quiet if you happen to talk with anyone about it. We do not want Marge or Dan to find out about this. Here is their daughter Nancy's Plan and hopes. She would like Moose Lake folks to give a birthday card with a brief note about their memories of Dan when he lived here. These notes will be read at the party. The cards can be dropped off at the Y-Pine's bar by April 6. Nancy will be here to pick them up. Memories can also be sent via email to Nancy Adams at: Fish/[hunt33@gmail.com](mailto:hunt33@gmail.com)

(Final 5 items that could burn your house down. By Bob Vila)

21. Placing Glass Objects in the Sun's Path - In March 2021, investigators in Stoneham, Massachusetts, determined a recent fire had been caused by a rare but dangerous combination of curved glass, sunlight through a window, and combustible materials. Sometimes called solar magnification, the potentially hazardous phenomenon involves glass objects (in this case beer bottles) in direct path of sunlight. The curved glass magnifies the sun's effects and can focus intense heat on a small area if exposed for hours. Prevent this from happening at your house by checking the location of glass decorations or discarded bottles to ensure they cannot concentrate sunlight onto furniture, fabrics, or paper piles. Another step to take is to draw curtains in the room when you are away from home during the day.

22. Not Keeping an Eye on the Christmas Tree - At least 47,000 fires occur each year in the United States during the winter holidays, claiming more than 500 lives. One cause is those sweet-smelling holiday candles; another cause is Christmas trees and lights. Although Christmas tree fires are a small percentage of home fires, the number is still significant considering that the trees are displayed only a few weeks out of the year. More than 40 percent involve electrical or lighting equipment, and other tree fires start because of wiring, plugs, or proximity to space heaters and other heating equipment. To prevent Christmas tree fires, make sure your tree is fresh and always watered, or invest in a fire-resistant, high-quality artificial Christmas tree. Make sure to place a tree out of traffic areas and at least 3 feet away from any heat or flame source. Replace worn lights, and always turn them off when you are sleeping or away from home.

23. Dumping Ashes Near the House - In April 2023, Cleveland firefighters rescued a man from his home's roof after the house caught fire. The cause of the fire was contributed to discarded hot coals from his charcoal grill. He threw the hot coals into a garbage can even though the can was stored outside, the fire climbed up the back of the house and the wind enriched the flames. Coals and ashes from grills, fireplaces, and wood stoves can stay hot sometimes for several days. When you are done grilling or using the fireplace, let the ashes remain there for many hours or even a day or two. if possible, since these heating and cooking devices are designed to contain flames. Store disposed ashes in a metal container away from the house or other combustibles and douse the ashes with water. Never add anything else to the bucket or store coals and ashes in combustible containers.

24. Leaving Lighters Within Kids' Reach - The adage "don't let children play with matches" rings true, even if matches are not as common as lighters. According to Nationwide Children's Hospital, children

playing with fire cause about 20,000 fires a year. What is more, they seldom play out in the open, but behind a closed door in rooms filled with flammables like clothing or bedding. Keep those cigarette, grill, and candle lighters out of reach, of preschool and kindergarten age children. Always supervise children under age 6 when they are around candles and stoves. Teach them fire recognition and fire safety.

25. Not Sweeping Up Sawdust in the Workshop - Weekend DIY warriors might not want to spend their limited work time cleaning up after their home improvement or woodworking projects, but clutter—especially piles of sawdust—can be combustible. It takes only a small spark to trigger an explosion or fire in an enclosed space where sawdust has collected. Since work on many projects takes place in garages and sheds near a house, it is important to keep up with cleaning regularly. The best way to dispose of dust is to suck it up in a vacuum approved for combustible dust and then empty it. A 2019 fatal fire in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., was caused by spontaneous heating and combustion of sawdust that filled a floor sander's dust collection bag that was in the home's living room. Place wood pieces and other project debris in a safe outdoor space.

(Tammy) Well, it looks as though the winter that never was is winding down and spring is getting near. We saw two robins the other day. It is, however, difficult not to feel bad for our snowmobiling friends and visitors, as well as local businesses, as this has been a winter for the record books.

Because of the lack of snow, I wanted to start with an important subject that should constantly be on our minds, fire. As I write this, our fire danger is high. Lack of snow has made this year more dangerous than previous, and we will not see any improvement until spring rains and greening of the woods. All I can say is, if you burn, remember your burning permit, check the daily fire conditions with the DNR (or the fire signs along our roads) and know what you can burn and when you can burn. A complete explanation of fire restrictions and lists of do's and don'ts, as well as DNR website links, can be found on the MLIA website at <https://mliahaywardwi.org/special-messages>.

I wanted to pass along that beginning in April, your MLIA Board of Directors will be making some meeting changes. Starting in April we will no longer alternate Saturdays and Thursdays but meet only on the first Thursday of the month, 9:00 AM, alternating between Louies' Landing and Christina's Y Pine. Double check the calendar on the website for updates. Everyone is welcome to attend. And thank you so very much to Bruce, Vaughn, and Christina for letting us meet in your establishments.

We are still in search of a committee chair to head up the roadside clean up. We will provide plenty of assistance, and it is only once a year. Your help would be appreciated. Contact me, or Dane Resh, [daneresh11095@gmail.com](mailto:daneresh11095@gmail.com) if you are interested or have any questions.

Last, but not least, we may have the need for a new buoy or two which would mean sponsorship may be available. You can read the rules here, <https://mliahaywardwi.org/mlia-buoy-sponsorship> and watch for future emails.

Well, that is it for this edition, remember not to put your snowblower away until your boat is in the water. I made that mistake last year and jinxed the entire spring. Friends and neighbors were quick to point out that the late snow was my fault. Happy Spring to all and feel free to contact me at any time with questions or comments. It is always great to hear from our members. Tammy

(Jim) Good friend of mine, retired Firefighter and Paramedic from the Eau Claire Fire Department Mark Mernitz passed away at his home in Eau Claire last Thursday March 14<sup>th</sup>. Mark and his family lived in Hayward before moving to Eau Claire several years ago. He volunteered for Sawyer County Ambulance.

Pool results this past week. First place went to Vaughn Christison and Brad Daywitt. Second place went to Scott Gilkey and Russ Smith. The TP award went to our bartender Holly Christison and Dane Resh. We had six teams this past week.

Birthday wishes this week are extended to Mikie Schmidt on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, Sally Myers on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, Tex and Pat Maina both on the 26<sup>th</sup>, and Fred Duray on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Happy Birthday to all. There are no anniversaries this week. There will be some cooler temperatures but beautiful dry weather. The Fire Danger is HIGH be careful. Stay safe everyone and enjoy your week. Please send your items of interest to my new e-mail address emta984@gmail.com or call my landline at 715-462-4448 or my cell at 715-577-8880. Moose Improvement association website is <http://mliahaywardwi.org> The Town of Round Lake Web site is <https://www.townofroundlakewi.org> and the NEW Round Lake Fire Department website is <https://townofroundlakefire-rescue.org>

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