

Moose Lake News

After working 4 weeks preparing for the Wisconsin Indianhead Country's 55th annual Governors Opening Fishing Opener, I can finally say it is over. I covered over 1000 miles and too many hours to count. I made several trips back and forth to Eau Claire, while stopping at many businesses & towns along the way getting auction items. One thing that I learned; it sometimes takes several stops at a business to solicit for an auction item. I am a type of person that likes to make face to face contact with the manager or owner of the business and not use the phone. I feel this is more professional. The auction items that we get are auctioned off at the Saturday evening banquet. The money that is raised, is used to promote tourism for NW Wisconsin and the Hayward area.

Our event this year started off on Friday morning at 11:00 AM with a Free Northwoods Fish Fry at the Fishing Hall of Fame parking lot. We served about 300 people. There were several vendors set up in the parking lot with several displays. The crowd was steady for the 3 hours we were open.

At 5:30 things got under way at the Casino banquet hall with a social hour. The Wisconsin Indianhead Country's banquet started at 6:30 with a nice meal. There was a program that followed messages from the Governor by video and a message from the Secretary of the DNR. A Fishing forecast was given which was positive for Saturday morning.

Saturday morning started off with a Breakfast at the Landing on Hwy CC then several people moved to Trelands Resorts where Governor Tony Evers was to arrive about 9:30 along with Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes. Upon their arrival I had the pleasure of fishing with Lt. Governor Barnes for about 2 hours. We had Jason Slagstad from Tracker Boats as our Captain Jason is the General Manager for Tracker Boats out of Rice Lake. He also is an exceptionally good fisherman. Jason had about 6 northern in the boat. Lt. Governor Barnes did catch a fish and lost one northern at the boat. In our boat also was Terrell Boettcher from the Sawyer County Record. Please see his article elsewhere in the paper for more details on this event.

Upon the completion of our short fishing outing, we went back to Treland's Resort for lunch. Lt. Barnes introduced me to Governor Evers and of course we had a photo opportunity. It was short lived because the two of them had to get back to Madison. Governor Evers flew into Hayward and Lt. Governor Barnes drove. This was quite an experience and a fun one at that. There was a lot of security for the two of them which I did expect.

Saturday afternoon at 4:30 the Social Hour began at the Casino just prior to the Saturday evening banquet. Again, the Casino furnished a delicious meal. There was a short program and then the auction. There were around 100 items that got auctioned off. It seemed to be a successful evening to help promote tourism in our area for the next year.

Fishing & Activity Report from Moose Lake:

I spoke with Jack Brown from Louie's on Monday morning about the activity there was around Moose Lake over the weekend. He said there were a lot of fishermen on the water but did not get to any fishing reports. His business was remarkably busy both Friday and Saturday evening. When you're so busy you do not get the time to visit with people about fishing he said. I totally understand. I also spoke with Joel

Miller from Mystic Moose. Joel said his people had a great time with a lot of fish being caught. Walleyes were active but none of record size. The crappies that were caught were of good size. Many of the crappies that were kept did still have spawn in them. The walleyes that were kept & cleaned had no spawn in them.

John Myhre was out also catching several walleyes of the 14-inch size. He did have one at 16 inches. Virgin Timber Resort reported that their guest had a good fishing weekend with a lot of action. Tammy said that some of the guests that stayed with them this weekend has been coming up to Moose Lake longer than she is old. WOW! Good repeat business.

Summer hours for Louie's are 10:00 AM to close Tuesday through Saturday. Sunday hours are 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Closed on Monday. Robin's Nest Restaurant is now open everyday 7:00 AM until 2:00 PM.

The MLIA Board of directors will meet this Thursday May 6 at Louie's for the monthly meeting. The drawing for the buoy sponsorship will take place at the meeting. President Koehler will then get in touch with the individuals who were selected for the sponsorship.

Birthday greetings this week are extended to Tom Thara on the 8th of May, Alexandria Sanders on the 10th & Donna Arbs had her birthday on the 12th of May. Happy birthday to all. There are no anniversaries this week.

Remember this weekend is the Treland Walleye Challenge May 7- 9. This is the 36th annual and it should be a good one. We have had an early ice out this year and these fish should be highly active. Moose Lake residents, plan to attend.

Well, that is it for this week. If you have any information for our column please send it off to me. jonarheim@centurytel.net or 715-462-4448 Have a great week and stay safe.