

Moose Lake News by Jim Onarheim

The Moose Lake Improvement association met for their monthly board meeting last Thursday Oct. 3rd at Louie's Landing. The number one thing that was discussed was the removal of our Hazard buoys from the lake for the winter. Doc Grayson reported that the water level on Moose Lake will be lowered starting on Monday October 14th. The plan is to remove the buoys on Saturday the 12th and clean them on Sunday the 13th.

There is plenty of help lined up for the removal, but help is needed for Sunday the 13th. They plan to start cleaning at approximately 10 AM at Dan McCormick's place. If you can assist with cleaning please call the Grayson's at 715-462-9538. Because of the stained water that Moose Lake has, the buoys must be cleaned each fall. They then will be stored for the winter.

I spoke with our Dam Keeper Frank Leuschen the other day and he will begin the draw down on Monday morning the 14th of October. He will start off slowly but then increase the outward flow during the week. This all depends on how much rainfall we will be getting. This past week we have had a heavy amount of rain and the gates presently are open wider, then they normally are for this time of the year. If you still have a boat or pontoon on a lift please consider moving it this weekend or it may get stranded on your lift for the winter.

The normal drawn down takes 3-4 weeks but all of this depends on our rainfall. The lake must be down to its winter level, which is approximately 5 feet lower than our normal full pool before the lake starts to freeze. The lake normally starts to freeze anytime, after the middle of November. Frank will put in the stoplogs after the water gets to a safe level. The stoplogs must be put in before freezing. The stoplogs keep the lake at a constant level all winter long.

As most of you may know by now Hidden Bay Graphics, Embroidery and Screen Printing had a major fire on Monday evening October 1st. The Round Lake Fire Department responded to the call to give mutual aid to the City & Town of Hayward. Several Firefighters from Round Lake responded to the call. I missed out on responding to the fire because of a class that I was teaching in Eau Claire that night. My wife Barb and I, returned to Hayward about 10 PM when we noticed many fire trucks and emergency vehicles at the location on Hwy. B. Many firefighters were still on the scene.

All area fire departments in our county work very well together giving help to each other if needed. Several area departments responded to this call to assist Hayward, because of the size of the fire. Firefighting can be very stressful and demanding on our bodies no matter how good of condition we keep ourselves in. Firefighters should only work for a short period of time on a fire, before taking a break. They are then sent to a rehab area where they can be checked by a medical team and given water and can rest.

Speaking of fire, this is **National Fire Prevention Week**. October 6-12th.

Since 1922, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has sponsored the public observance of Fire Prevention Week. In 1925, President Calvin Coolidge proclaimed Fire Prevention Week a national observance, making it the longest-running public health observance in our country. During Fire

Prevention Week, children, adults, and teachers learn how to stay safe in case of a fire. Firefighters provide lifesaving public education in an effort, to drastically decrease casualties caused by fires.

Fire Prevention Week is observed each year during the week of October 8th in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire, which began on October 8, 1871, and caused devastating damage. This horrific conflagration killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures, and burned more than 2,000 acres of land.

Another fire on the same day in Peshtigo, WI was a very large forest fire that took place also on October 8, 1871, in northeastern Wisconsin, including much of the Door Peninsula, and adjacent parts of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The largest community in the affected area was Peshtigo, Wisconsin. It burned approximately 1,200,000 acres and was the deadliest wildfire in American history, with the estimated deaths of around 1,500 people, and possibly as many as 2,500.

Occurring on the same day as the more famous Great Chicago Fire, the Peshtigo fire has been largely forgotten. On the same day as the Peshtigo and Chicago fires, Holland and Manistee, Michigan (across Lake Michigan from Peshtigo), and Port Huron at the southern end of Lake Huron also had major fires, leading to various theories by contemporaries and later historians that they had a mutual cause. The entire month of October is considered Fire safety month. I will have fire safety tips in my article this entire month.

This year's Fire Prevention slogan is, Not every hero wears a cape, Plan and Practice your Escape! For more information on fire safety go to www.firepreventionweek.org

Birthday greetings this week go out to Jon Sorensen and Sharon Bratrud both on the 12th & Ken Woodie on the 15th. Happy Birthday to all. I must wish my wonderful wife Barb a Happy Anniversary this week. Our special day is this Thursday October 10th. Happy anniversary Barb. I will fix dinner. Happy Anniversary also to Paul and Bonnie Miller who will be celebrating on Oct 12th. Well that is all I have for this week. Enjoy the fall weather and I hope we can see some sunshine this week. Stay safe!

