



THE PAWISTIK NEWS



A COMPENDIUM OF HARD FACT AND OTHER NEWS FROM THE BEST RIVER IN NORTHERN SASKATCHEWAN

EDMONTON TRADE SHOW — A BROTHER OPERATION



Dean and Scott Jeffrey doing booth duty at the Edmonton Boat and Sportsman's Show. The hours were long, but what more can you want than being able to talk fishing all day.

Having attended only one other trade show in the ten years since Scott bought the lodge, he decided to try out the Edmonton Boat and Sportsman's Show last March.

Part of the reason for picking Edmonton was the fact that brother Dean was within 30 minutes of the Northlands Agricom, and that he had agreed to hang out and work the show with Scott. When you stand on concrete floors for 12 hours, it helps that you know your company, and that you get along. Of course, having good booth neighbours like Kerry and Kamilla Ukrainetz of Kamkota Lodge helped to pass the time between visitors as well.

Crowds were good, and the enthusiasm shown by a winter-weary bunch of Edmontonians was encouraging. Many people will be getting this newsletter for the first time, and we hope that there will be a good number of northern Albertans at the lodge this year.



A FEW HAPPY FISHERMEN FROM LAST SUMMER...

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Kerry (background) and Kamilla Ukrainetz wondering what those Jeffrey boys are up to now.

A view of the booth. A simple but effective message to prospective visitors.



BLEVINS PARTY DOES WELL IN LATE SUMMER



This little group of Missouri boys spearheaded by Dale and Larry Blevins have been up at least once before, and this time they decided to send us up some photos documenting their trip in 2004.

We always say that late August/early September is a great time to come up, as the onset of fall seems to stimulate the appetites of our river residents. There is no doubt that the Blevins party would agree, as they enjoyed great fishing for the five days they were visiting.

When they get back to Missouri and talk about the great fishing at the lodge, and their buddies say "Show me", do you think this one will do the trick?



Yet another brag shot from Larry and Dale Blevins.

And in a letter accompanying the photos for this story, Larry indicated that he would like to bring his wife this year. Not to fish, according to Larry, but to relax and see the country. That's a great thing to do, but we bet she'll get the fishing bug and want to hook into a couple of big ones herself. 🍷



The Blevins crew didn't forget their stomachs, as this feed of walleye can attest.

CARL AND BERNICE MOVE



Bernice Galay pitches right in, helping to set the drum in place before the setting of the stones around it.

If you've received previous newsletters, you have heard about the rather measured progress of the gazebo in the circle. Well, we took a giant step last fall when neighbours Carl and Bernice Galay decided to undertake the construction of our central firepit.

Earlier, Scott had made a number of forays for rock, finding a disused quarry and coming back with some beautiful granite in a variety of pinks, blues, and greys. The grout was purchased, but time ran out before he got round to placing the stones.

Enter Carl and Bernice, who have completed two fireplace projects for their own home. They used an empty steel drum for the form, then they supplied the rocks, finishing in stone. The preliminary work was done.

Now all that needs to be accomplished is the setting of the chimney, a little crack for those night time mosquitoes, and some tables for the structure. Many thanks to Carl and Bernice for their hard work on this project. Of course we'll try it out this summer with liberal liquid refreshments on the

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DAVID AND SCOTT GO FISHING

David Knutson and Scott have known each other ever since Hal and Jean Knutson were transferred up to Creighton in the 60s. Hal was a conservation officer, and so David had lots of exposure to the natural wonders of northern Saskatchewan. In fact, he liked it so much he decided to stay, work, marry, and raise two kids in our little border town.

David also likes to fish the river, one of the few locals who is willing to work a little to get to the best fishing in the area. And so, one summer day last year when Scott was at the lodge, they decided to get out on the water for a day of fishing. They went south past Attree, first deciding to catch a few walleye for the pan.

Almost the first cast resulted in a hit, and the fishing stayed good, with about 20 caught and all but five released. It was then time to pull up and see how hungry those northerners were. There were a couple good hits, but only one made it up photo gallery.

It seemed that every place tried resulted in action, which made for an enjoyable day of finding and fishing that off with a couple of cold ones as filleting was done, and it doesn't get better than that.

We often think we're too busy to reward ourselves with long-standing friends, but when we take the time we are often rewarded with quality experiences like the one that July day. We always say "we'll have to do that more often," but in the case of David and Scott, it's likely to happen, as David has just bought the cabin next door to Lodge House. There's one less excuse now!



David with five nice ones we kept on that perfect summer day.



Scott and a decent northern caught and released at Attree.

This walleye weighed in at about five pounds, and he went back to swim another day.



THE GAZEBO WORK ALONG

completed at least one place. Using an order they began to place the first order once the

ished is the mounting filling to keep out some seating and thanks to Bernice the project, and of former, with fish and menu.



Carl and Bernice setting the first course of stones. The firepit will be plenty big for both cookouts and for simply enjoying the fire.



The completed firepit. There will still be lots of room for chairs and a prep surface for barbecuing.



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PERCY AND LYDIA VISIT FROM CALGARY



Dean and Percy with a nice catch of walleye. We hit fish just about everywhere we stopped that day.

Lydia is from Trinidad originally, so when Percy and Lydia mentioned that they were coming up to visit the lodge, I hoped for great weather so that I could claim at least a small amount of bragging rights for our little bit of paradise.

Well, it worked out, as there was an unbroken string of warm, sunny days for their entire visit, which included sightseeing, visiting, and great fishing. Unfortunately, Lydia was up to other things, and didn't get out on the water, but brother Dean, Percy, and I had a memorable trip, catching walleye virtually everywhere we decided to drop a line.

The short visit to the lodge, which was a first for Percy and Lydia, confirmed for both that this was a spot they wanted to return to, and so plans are already afoot for the coming season.



Lydia and Percy at Beaver Lake, close to where the Sturgeon Weir enters the lake.

IT'S NOT THE LODGE, BUT IT'LL HAVE TO DO



As you may be able to tell, this is not a shot of the river. Somewhere off to the west is the island nation of Japan.

My favourite place to fish in the world is the lodge, but that doesn't mean I'll refuse to fish in other places. In this case, a visit to my uncle Al in Victoria resulted in a trip to the west coast village of Port Renfrew. With next stop Japan, being on the ocean was a different experience from the relatively sheltered waters of the river, but enjoyable nonetheless.

The day started out rainy and blowing as Uncle Al, cousin Harold, and I headed out of Victoria, past Sooke and up to Port Renfrew on the west side of Vancouver Island. Everything was so wet when we set up camp that even starting a fire was a problem, but the next morning dawned clear if a little windy. We set up five crab traps, and then went fishing. As many of you know, fishing the ocean is different from most fresh

water, with downriggers and lead weights getting you down to where the action is.

Over the course of the next three days we saw enough action to keep us interested, and we managed to land two 20 lb. plus Spring salmon, plus a number of Cohos. It was of course great being on the water, and there was the added bonus of having a feed of fresh crab every evening after fishing. As a footnote, Uncle Al was born in Flin Flon but left to join the Navy, making Victoria his permanent residence. However, he has been home many times, and walleye is still his favourite eating fish.



Scott with one of the Springs that decided to take our bait. They're lots of fun, but they don't fight like a northern!



Luckily Harold is the one steering, as Uncle Al decides to take a little mid-morning siesta.

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