

2011

Summer/Fall Newsletter

As the 2011 season ends - has come and gone it's our time to reflect back over the year. We are sincerely grateful to the many familiar faces that we see each year and it makes our hearts swell with pride - a feeling just like family coming home again.



We also appreciate our new guest, the first timers that had never been here before and hope that your experience at Wawang was as enjoyable for you as it was for us to have you here.

Overall, the memories created by each group - we hope they found plentiful and enjoyable and that the precious time spent with your family and friends will carry each of you through to the time when you can be together again. Good time with good people – Isn't that what life's all about?

FISHING



Contrary to the new faces, there are some things that never change, such as great fishing! The season started off with a bang with a trophy Northern Pike that held the record for the entire year! This monster stretched the tape at 46.5" and was caught by Joe Kish of Lacrosse, WI.

After fishing for a couple of days and not catching nearly the number of trophy walleye that his other group members were boasting, Joe sarcastically commented that he was going to change up his game and target trophy Northern and White fish. Low and behold, not only did he catch that whopping pike, but he also got his trophy white fish!

Speaking of trophy walleye, we have to congratulate Doug Ringleston for yet again proving his fishing expertise and netting 15 over 25" with ease as well as a 36" Northern Pike caught by 'accident'.



Doug and his group's first trip was the spring of 2009. In four days they caught well over 100 fish per person per day along with including 40 walleye over 25". Doug was credited for catching 5 walleye over 30" with the largest being 34"! Doug also caught one northern 42" on that same trip. Since then they've returned back each year.



In the 3 years of fishing our lake, Doug has accrued 41 Ontario Federation of Angler and Hunter Awards (OFAH), with 39 walleye over 25" along with two trophy northern pike!

The rest of the season brought several guests the trophy fish of their life as we have seen too numerous to even keep count. Though we know that our lake boasts some of the largest trophy pike and walleye in the province, I never get bored of hearing our guests telling me about each big catch of their visit and watching their excitement as they recount the details of the catch. I also enjoy seeing many of our regular guests arriving each year with their new tackle and strategies in place ready to catch something bigger than they had the previous year(s).

WINNER FOR 2011



Free Fishing Trip

For all of his efforts, we proudly present Doug with a free one week Housekeeping Package for 2012. Let's see if Doug can do it again IN 2012 AND our suggestion to the rest of our guests is to be sure to keep count of your trophy fish while at Wawang Lake because there is a BIG payoff in the end!

OUR FREE FISHING TRIP GIVEAWAY

For those of you that come out to Wawang, we would like to let you all know that we will be awarding a free one week Housekeeping Package each year to the angler that catches the most trophy fish in one season. So for those of you that have been catching a lot of trophies and not reporting them with pictures or in some cases at all, make sure that you don't miss out on the opportunity to win a free trip! It is as easy as filling out your trophy sheet and turning in your camera memory disk for us to copy the trophy pictures!



BLUEBERRIES



The blueberries were in full bloom this year, making for a spectacular sight to all those that went looking. The fields and fields of blue made filling buckets with ease a favorite past time of many of our guests.

The low bush wild blueberry thrives in the glacial soils and northern climate found in the fields and barrens of Canada. With the surrounding area residing entirely on the Canadian Shield (glacial rock) it is no wonder why our area is renowned for huge yields of the delectable berry.

Nancy Shemon, our blueberry specialist, reported that there was no shortage of berries and made more than one trip to the resort this season to be able to pick a maximum yield. Each year, Nancy turns blueberry picking into a full time job, spending each day in the field and each night cleaning and bagging her haul.

We would also like to thank her for guiding some of our guests and teaching each of them how and where to harvest the best blueberries. Upon returning to the resort after one of her blueberry adventures, Nancy and companion enjoyed watching a Cow Moose and her calf. It was just at the turn off from the Graham road onto the Wawang Road. Wildlife viewing never gets old.



BLACK BEAR HUNT

This year our bear hunt proved very successful. Using proven methods perfected by Terry over many decades, several of our hunters managed to take bears in the 300lb+ range.



The Wawang Team works tirelessly on a daily basis to keep our vast management unit properly baited and checked as well as taking care to monitor the bait site for proof of activity as well as signs of sizes as well.

We were thrilled to know that our population was on a high as Terry had predicted and there was no shortage of people spotting multiple bears on their stands. One hunt in particular yielded both husband and wife bow hunting team (separate stands) each a 400lb+ bear!! Good thing he is a taxidermist and we look forward to seeing both full mounts when they are complete.



FOURTH OF JULY

Independence Day was a sight to behold over Wawang this year. There was no need to light sparklers or set off fireworks as Mother Nature took care of wowing the crowds herself. The sky transitioned from light pinks and oranges to vivid reds and purples as the twilight poured on. The spectacle was the talk of the guests for several days to follow. It truly was one of the many times we count our blessings to live with such beautiful surroundings.

FUN & FISH FRIES

Fish fries have always been a tradition of Wawang Lake Resort and guess what?



They're back!! This year brought Terry and Tami back up on stage on various occasions to entertain the masses by singing telling a few jokes and let's not forget getting them dancing– NOW THAT'S FUN. For those that have been here for many years, the return brought much more than a few songs, it brought back many wonderful memories and even a few tears.

For those that got to see the show for the first time, they got to experience the very soul of Wawang first hand.

This year also welcomed Gerald and his daughters taking to the stage to earn their own place IN A FAMILY TRADIITON. We are glad to see the next generation making themselves heard.



FAMILY FUN

During the final week of July, Wawang hosted a family fun week. The events included a poker run, casting competition as well as a fishing derby. The poker run proved to be fun for all that participated. Each competitor spent the day hunting for the cards around the grounds to build the best poker hand they could. They would have to wait until fish fry night to pick their final card and unveil the winner.



The casting competition brought a family built of 2 brothers and a sister that were out in fine competitive form. Each person took turns trying to sink their hook free jigs in the various pointed buckets placed around the dock. This event proved to be not only entertaining, but much more difficult than first predicted. We want to congratulate Nicole Bablitch for her infallible casting ability and the lesson she taught her brothers, both avid fishermen. It appears that Nicole was full of luck as she also beat out her grandmother's three of a kind by pulling her final card and obtaining a full house for the win in the poker run as well!



The fishing derby was a tight neck in neck event for the entire week. The largest fish was caught by Steve Grosklaus who happened to catch this 45" beauty only 15 minutes before the cut off time! Not only was this an exciting catch, the real thrill came from knowing that this trophy was netted by his 8 year old son John! It was amazing to hear that this boy had retrieved a fish almost as big as he was! I

can only imagine the memories John will take home from this trip.



NEW ADDITIONS TO THE WAWANG TEAM

This year introduced our two new managers in training. After many years of hard work Terry and Tami have decided to step down some and let the younger generation take the helm. Oh don't worry they're not gone yet and still plan to hang around to greet our guests as usual. They simply don't want to work as hard as they have in the past and would like to spend some time enjoying the place they created! About time, right?

Many long time guests will recognize **GERALD** as he had been here for several years before and upon his return has brought with him his fiancée, **TRISH**. Both bring with them the enthusiasm & love for the outdoors. Trish has settled in and made her mark at the resort by acquiring three trophy northern pike in 2011 that includes one at 40". A real natural and enjoys fishing!

Of course Gerald made all this possible with his extensive knowledge of Wawang Lake and also surrounding lakes along with his expertise as an experience guide. Gerald has caught many trophy fish himself in the past and has many OFAH awards that attests his guiding skills.



Both Gerald and Trish look forward to meeting each and every guest and are here to help you make your stay as pleasurable and as enjoyable as possible.

WE ARE "PET FRIENDLY" & HERE ARE OURS



We also don't want to forget the cornerstones of the resort...our pets! Not only do they bring us joy at the end of a long day but they can be seen around the resort to give a friendly pat as well.

← **DAKOTA** is our matron. She is a 9 year old yellow lab that spends her days warming the office floor in the lodge. Dakota has proven herself over the years as a solid guardian to the resort and a friend to all that meet her. Her easy nature makes her a great companion. Dakota also has a little sister named Lexi whom she has 'trained' beautifully.



← **LEXI** is our one year old Shih Tzu. Lexi enjoyed her puppyhood growing up on the grounds and in the lodge as our four footed 'greeter'. With a little more size and a little less hair, Lexi can still be recognized as she holds a commanding spot of honor...on Tami's lap! She takes pride in being the lodge mascot and can often be found sharing a meal

or two with our guests. Lexi and Dakota begrudgingly have opened up their little piece of heaven to Gerald and Trish's two bulldogs, Jaxxon and Axel.



JAXXON is a 9 year old retired dogshow champion. He is as laid back as they come and can often be found draining the lake with his big tongue. His little brother **AXEL** too has begun his dogshow career but is nothing short of a contradiction to Jaxxon and bulldogs in general. He is a spitfire that only has one speed....fast! He isn't often seen as he moves far too fast, but he too enjoys long walks (runs) on the beach.



Over all of these dogs reigns **ANUBIS**, a jet black short haired cat. Anubis takes up residence in the log house spending her days patrolling the windows for any and all flies that may slip in or on her off time, sharing a bed with Dakota. She is a valued member of the family and takes pride in keeping the dogs in line.

A FINAL NOTE

All of us at Wawang Lake Resort would like to thank our guests that made this season such a fun and exciting one! It's always a pleasure to meet the newcomers that marvel at how the main road opens up into a little oasis. A GEM in the wilderness!



It is nice to know that our guests can appreciate all the hard work it took to make Wawang – the years of commitment could never have been achieved without their support and encouragement throughout what we call the hard years. Each and every one of them is included in the history of Wawang Lake Resort along with the wonderful memories we had the pleasure to enjoy with them.

From all of us at Wawang Lake - have a great winter and we'll look forward to seeing you next season where you can

FISH, HUNT, CAMP & RELAX.....