



BASS

BUZZ

Remembering 2011

May 2011 was totally different than the previous spring! The ice was on the Rainy Lake for a good week longer and then the spring weather made 3 or 4 half-hearted attempts to warm up before it finally jumped into early summer temperatures. The warm weather is always a boost in this part of the world – we wait so long for it to return - and this year we it arrived with less wind so we could really enjoy the season change.

LB Keller and Jim Lewis organized a group of 10 fishermen to start us off this year. The group as a whole caught some nice smallies - LB played a few that were just shy of 20 inches, and Hoyt reeled in a few 4.5 lb+ beauties! And most of the boats got to see some of those Rainy Lake-sized walleyes.

Jim Orr & Ralph Scott were back for some smallmouth action and were not disappointed! Good bass fishing. Jim found the biggest bass of the trip - - just over 5 lbs. - - and Ralph pulled in a nice 12 lb pike along with some 3-5 pound walleye.

Paul Thieberger brought a group of 6 guys to enjoy fishing Rainy Lake; the weather warmed up, the fish started moving, and the fishermen were catching! Good numbers of bass for everyone with 35-per-boat most days. Paul played a beauty at 19 ¾ inches, and both James and Louis landed bass over 19 inches as well. Some nice walleyes in the 20” to 25” range were caught throughout the trip, and Phil and Dennis will never forget the big pike action that they got into one day when the 38” to 41” pike were on the move!!

Oda Inglis – one of our very first guests – was back this year with a group of 6. They all found some good bass action with some 30-40 fish-days. Ray & Justin both found a feisty 4 ½ pound smallie to play, but Oda managed a best-of-the-trip bass at 4 ¾ pounds. Jordan & Logan went looking for some big walleyes and came home boasting a 30+ inch personal best! Robert & Philip Byers experienced the best smallmouth fishing days that they have ever seen on Rainy Lake.... 40-50 fish some days with lots of 19” smallies in the mix. Nice weather rounded out the trip – not to mention the fair number of 24” to 26” walleyes!

Frank Hutton & Phillip Williams arrived to find nice June weather and a top-water bite that was heating up. The mix of top-water and underwater presentations produced 40-50 fish-per-day, and one day highlighted the trip with 50-70 hits. Frank had the biggest pike honors with a 15 lb beauty (top-water), and Phillip pulled in the biggest bass measuring 19 ¾ inches.

Gerald & Cheryl Henning had some good hot weather for their 1st trip to Campfire --- and hit the May-fly hatch, which happened very late this year (1st week in July). They both had a lot of fun with the top-water action and good numbers of fish.... the biggest being a 36” pike (Cheryl) and a 5 lb smallmouth (Gerald)!

2011 was a good year - - more guests than 2010 but all in the first couple of months. Our only regret was that nobody was here to experience that August smorgasbord of big fish!! Dean had some fabulous help in the kitchen this year – Jodi Caul had everyone singing her praises! Thanks Jodi!

After 12 years, Dean was happy to head home and spend some summer-time in Kenora.

Art: We missed you! It has been a long time since we produced a newsletter without your name in it several times!!

Oda: So good! Dean had a great time – hope being back at Campfire was good for you as well!

Steve Knox, Eric & Laura, Jeff Gorsuch, and Bill Roller: Sorry that your plans didn't gel this year.... next year!!

There will not be a price increase in the Package Rates this year so you can enjoy those 2011 rates for another year. Hopefully we'll see you back at Campfire Island in 2012!!

Take care! Thanks for the summer of 2011! See you next season!

Dean, Wayne, and Pat

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