

Dear Friends:

It's time once again to say hello from Canada. We are in the midst of a winter with lots of snow and very cold, but we don't let this cold weather dampen our enthusiasm for going ahead with plans for the coming season. We want to thank all of you nice folks for being with us in 1969. It was a wonderful summer for us and a very busy one which of course makes us very happy. So many of you have already made plans for a visit this summer and we are truly looking forward to having you with us. It's at this time each year that we start thinking of the past summer and the one to come, with memories to hold as we enter into another year which somehow always seems to be just a few months away. We get lonesome for the island, and all of you who make life on the island so wonderful. We so enjoy the visits we have and it is great to see you folks come in from a day of fishing looking happy and a bit tired, but it's a good kind of tired, won't you agree?

NORTHERN TOOK THE 1969 SPORTSMAN AWARD

The Sportsman award goes to Mr. Richard Venske of Wakefield, St. Paul, Minn., and I want you to read Richard's letter:

"Dear Patsy and Lloyd:

It certainly is thrilling to hear I won your fishing contest. You folks surely provided us with the most enjoyable fishing trip that we have ever had!

Patsy, your kitchen talents are well worth coming back for, and that, coupled with your beautiful lodge, excellent fishing, and Lloyd's quiet efficiency in making everything go, without a wasted minute for your guests, makes the time go by much too fast. Jim Stouffer and I are surely glad Terry Blomberg introduced us to your island hideaway — we both echo Terry's sentiments that each visit is one to be remembered.

We're planning on making this an annual trip (whether we win again or not!)

Thank you both for your cordial hospitality. Best wishes from all of us.

Sincerely,

Richard Venske"

Richard's fish weighed 12 lb., 10 oz., only 10 oz. more than the one Richard Frenz caught on June 16th.

Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Mueller of Park Ridge, Ill., wrote this letter after returning home from their Free vacation in September '69:

"Dear Patsy and Lloyd:

Rudy and I want to thank you for the pleasant week we spent as your guests at New Moon Lodge.

We are certainly grateful to Wayne for catching that big muskie last year so that we could enjoy the fishing once again. We tried our best to catch the big one again this year, but no luck. Guess we needed Wayne.

Now that we are home our first thought is to take off those pounds put on by all that good food. And soon, we turn to planning next year's vacation and one week is always fishing. Hopefully it will be with you at New Moon Lodge. Take care.

Anne."

Now then, for the 1970 Sportsman Award. The fish to catch will be a Smallmouth Bass. The largest one caught will win a free vacation for two people.

EVENTS FROM 1969

We moved out to the island April 29th and began the cleaning and getting ready. Renovated the Drake cabin, the laundry, and some work in the main lodge, did some more work on all of the cabins, and now they are getting to look pretty good. Like Lloyd says, "No matter how much I do, Patsy always has something else for me to get done before the guests arrive."

It is with much sadness that we have to report that Lloyd's father passed away last April, and in June that one of our guides, John Daniels drowned. And after returning home from what Dick Lutz of Chicago said was his best duck hunting trip he had ever had, he was in a fatal car accident. We do mourn the loss of these wonderful people, and our sympathy goes out to their families and friends.

The fishing was very good all season, and the duck hunting was the best we have had for a few years. Our deer hunting is not that good and we do not try to encourage people to come for deer hunting. But a combination of fishing and duck hunting seems to work out very nice.

Last fall before we left camp, Lloyd and the boys poured the cement for our new addition, which will be a new guest dining room, and this way we will be able to enlarge our kitchen, and I am really looking forward to this and can hardly wait to get back to the island and start working on it.

One thing to remember when coming fishing is to have enough rain gear for all members of the party. It happened just this way last summer, when Pop passed out the rain gear. Sorry, Pop, there isn't one for you.

It's was a nice surprise last October to have Mr. Robert Buehler as a guest at New Moon Lodge. We hadn't seen or heard from Bob for at least sixteen years, when Lloyd used to guide him at his dad's resort. It was real nice to fill in the gap of time, and find we never tired of talking of those days gone by, and to have his approval on our venture, as Bob is a long time fisherman and he gets around.

NEWS FOR 1970

Our plans for this summer is to get as much done as we can on our lodge, with the new addition comes a lot of changes to the rest of the building. We hope to have it all in shape before the arrival of the first guest. Our plans are being held up right now due to too much snow and slushing conditions on the lake — and this morning it was 40 degrees below zero!

Our June vacancies are about filled, but we do have some openings from May 15th to 28th, and still a lot in July and August, so for those of you who do plan a trip let us hear from you soon. August is a real nice time to be up here — it always seems that the weather then is so nice, and families can enjoy a complete vacation at this time, with swimming and water skiing to add to the fishing.

The Bell Telephone people tell us that we are going to have dial phones this year, and our new number on the Island will be 807-488-5744. You can reach us at this number from May 1st to October 31st — and at 807-488-5611 from October 31st to May 1st.

TIME TO CLOSE

The end of 1969 and we have so much to be thankful for. It has been a good year, and leaves us with lots of pleasant memories, and so many new friends. Now as we enter into a new year with hope and the promise of one even better ahead, we hope it will be our pleasure of having you all with us this season. For those of you who haven't been able to visit us for a year or two, just remember we never forget the good times we had while you were here, and maybe this is the year to make plans for a trip to Lake of the Woods.

We look forward to hearing from you all soon. Now is the time to get in touch and arrange for a few days away from your busy schedule and relax and let us take care of you at New Moon Lodge.

For those of you who have already made plans to visit us, we thank you, and very much appreciate these early dates. For those who have tentative dates, we ask you to please confirm these soon. We look forward to serving you the best we know how. Our aim is to please you.

Our family and staff join us in wishing you and yours the very best of health and happiness in 1970. It is our pleasure to be your hosts at New Moon Lodge on beautiful Lake of the Woods.

The Moens

Lloyd, Patsy, Dwight, Donna and Rocky