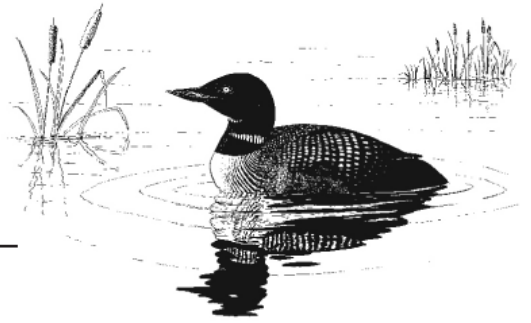


# Tremolo



*Tremolo... the laugh-like call of the Loon*

2023 Newsletter produced by Loon Haunt Outposts, Box 1344, Red Lake, Ontario, Canada, POV 2M0 807-735-2400

## Loon Haunt Outposts – Reflections on our Season of 2023

As the start of a new season approaches, we are filled with a sense of anticipation and eager to begin the process of, once more, getting all the cabins and boats ready to go. This inevitably comes with some apprehension about the state of the cabins after another winter. Ryan and Bill loaded up the airplane and flew to Goose Lake in mid-May and were relieved to find no surprises after their annual walkabout. Right away it was apparent that the lake level was unseasonably low for spring. Next locations to visit were Monroe and then Unnamed. We were thankful the dock at Monroe was intact because a lot of work went into fixing the ice damage of last year. We readied the cabins for guests and hung the motors on the boats. Ryan and Bill walked the portages and cleaned them of fallen trees and we were ready for the arrival of eager fishermen.



*Tim G always posts a "big one" on the bragging board at Unnamed.*

While we were relieved we did not have to endure all the obstacles and hardships of last year's record high water, we were confident that the spring rains would eventually arrive. Ryan's father Shaun and his mother Linda arrived along with Eliza, Scarlett and new baby Evelyn to open the cabins at Goose Lake as well as the Poirier and Whitelaw cabins.

The month of June had to go down in the record books as one of the warmest

we can remember. The lakes warmed up in a hurry and the bite was ON! Ryan was kept busy topping up the minnow tank as the demand was great. Our bragging board started to fill up with countless entries of nice fish. All the regular spots held fish but some locations were visited more frequently. Father's Day rock was a popular fishing spot in June. There was a noticeable absence of mosquitoes and black flies due to the dry conditions. A few forest

fires popped up but none threatened any of our locations. Many, many huge forest fires in northern Alberta, British Columbia and Quebec raged on and smoke from those fires reached us as well and many parts of United States. Ryan fielded phone calls and emails from worried guests wondering if they should cancel their trips. Although we endured days of smoke, guests were able to fly in and out and enjoy their much-anticipated fishing trips.

Ryan and Shaun began work on a new project when time allowed. Their goal was to build a new bathroom/shower building between cabins 2 and 3. The building would house 2 separate rooms, each holding a bathroom and shower, and was Ryan's idea of easing the bathroom congestion when the cabins were at capacity. Returning guests were pleased with the idea and look forward to using it next year. The idea was to build using logs and keep the same theme as the rest of the camp. Shaun was indispensable to this endeavor and spent countless hours on the job.

Another project for this year was to install new, larger solar panels, charge controllers and inverters at the outpost locations to provide power for CPAP machines and for charging of cell phones and cameras. The guys were able to complete the job at Monroe, Unnamed and Poirier but will install the system at Whitelaw in 2024.

The much-anticipated rains did not materialize and the water levels kept receding throughout the summer. New rocks popped up all over and extra reef markers were put out on Goose Lake. We kept an eye on the wild rice crop and we were cautiously optimistic for a good crop. The low water was a big concern because we needed to float the picker



*Another Poirier lunker for Ron N.*



*Look at the coloration of this beautiful walleye caught by Jeff T at Goose Lake.*

into the shallow areas to pick the stock of processed rice available for purchase by our guests.

Our first picking was on August 20th and was a good 10-12 days earlier than normal. This year we were able to pick North Bay and that was a first for us. The guys were kept busy ferrying the picker between North Bay and South Bay as the rice ripened. The weather cooperated and the geese and ducks were conspicuously absent so we were able to harvest most of the crop! The grand total for 2023 was 17,500 pounds of green rice! All of that was shipped to our wild rice buyer in Winnipeg. We do, however, keep a

Fishing was stellar at all locations and we have the photos to prove it - many, many smiling fishermen with their catches! All large fish were released, of course.

Our annual outpost shutdown began in late September as the last guests departed and we finally finished in early October. The weather co-operated all fall and we were able to enjoy our flower gardens right up to the day we finally left for home. ❖

## Louise's Chatter

- Our 2023 weather was “one for the books”. There were plentiful warm and dry days and Nature rewarded us with beautiful flowers, an amazing tomato garden and a bumper crop of wild rice! All the animals and birds we share this piece of paradise with seemed to do very well. Unlike last year, the seagulls had quite a few young ones and were able to raise them until maturity. We looked forward to daily flyovers by our raucous resident Trumpeter Swans in the early part of the season at Goose Lake. The Bald Eagles, however, exhibited very cautious behavior we thought. They were very timid this year and easily bullied by the Seagulls. We figured they definitely were not the same ones from years past.
- Returning guests at Goose Lake were surprised by the appearance of Evelyn Scott. Evelyn is Ryan and Eliza's daughter and was only a few weeks old when she made her debut at camp along with her big sister Scarlett. Ryan and Eliza very much appreciated all the assistance from Linda, Ryan's mother. She delighted in helping take care of her small grandchildren. She took care of laundry duties and helped with meal preparation. In her “spare” time, she also helped plant the flower gardens and tended to them along with “help” from Scarlett.
- Goose Lake guests first met Ryan's father Shaun on the dock as he helped unload the airplanes and helped deliver gear to the cabins. He became indispensable to the smooth

running of the camp and helped out in all areas whether it was getting minnows, helping launch the boats, doing small repairs and problem solving. He was always available to assist Ryan on any job and was sincerely appreciated.

- The month of June was extremely busy for us as we welcomed old guests and became acquainted with new folks. Often, we host new guests referred by our loyal fishermen and we are grateful to them for recommending our camp. Several groups made an appearance after an absence of 15 years or more and we appreciate their loyalty and a chance to catch up on the intervening years.
- There was a long fire ban in June because the scarcity of precipitation had left the bush tinder dry.
- The annual mayfly hatch was early this year. It was noted and dismissed by our fishermen as it did not affect the fishing at all.
- A fishing trip with family and friends is an excellent way to catch up and enjoy each other's company and slowdown in this hectic world. Each year we see friends and family reunite and pick up right where they left off in the previous year. The fish stories get bigger but the camaraderie remains the same. We figure any reason is a good one to go on a fishing trip. This summer two couples celebrated their wedding anniversaries with us- Kent and Liz at Goose Lake and Dave and Rhonda at Poirier!



*Barry H can catch (and release) the larger walleyes at Unnamed.*

- Each season we look forward to hearing about the results of the Gregorski fishing trip at Unnamed Lake. This group is the most consistent of our northern fishermen and always has notable entries on the bragging board.
- On behalf of our new outpost guests, we would like to thank anyone who took the time to help familiarize them with a new lake and new fishing spots. Frank W. helped out new guests on Monroe Lake and saved them time in locating some prime fishing spots. And every party at Poirier is outstanding!
- Speaking of Frank W... many years ago, Frank and his young daughter Sarah left a Geocache on the shore of Monroe Lake and provided the coordinates to the Geocaching website. It was their hope that someone, someday would find it. Years passed and they visited Monroe Lake again several times and checked on it to find it still there. After all the years, it turned out to be the world's oldest unfound Geocache and this year, 3 intrepid explorers decided to find it and traveled to Red Lake and then consulted maps and

bush roads to see how close they could get to Monroe Lake. 2 of the people had just completed a week long canoe trip in a nearby park and 1 person traveled to Red Lake solely for the adventure. They met up in a prearranged location and discussed the plan. They brought along their canoe and portaged it miles while navigating bogs, creeks and other waterways while using Google Earth and their GPS. After one day and one night spent in the bush they arrived at Monroe Lake and paddled right to the Geocache! It was a physically challenging trip but they were pleased with themselves. As it turns out, they knew there was a second Geocache on the lake and they found that as well. Then began the grueling trip back to their vehicles and then to civilization and then home. Unknown to them, possibly, our guests at Monroe at that time did see them on the lake but they did not meet up.

- This year the Dawson party introduced some new friends and family to Goose Lake. They took them to all their tried and tested fishing holes and one of the guys snagged



*Debbie H shows her fishing skill at Unnamed Lake.*

Sherm S.'s fishing rod that was thought to have been lost forever 5 years ago!

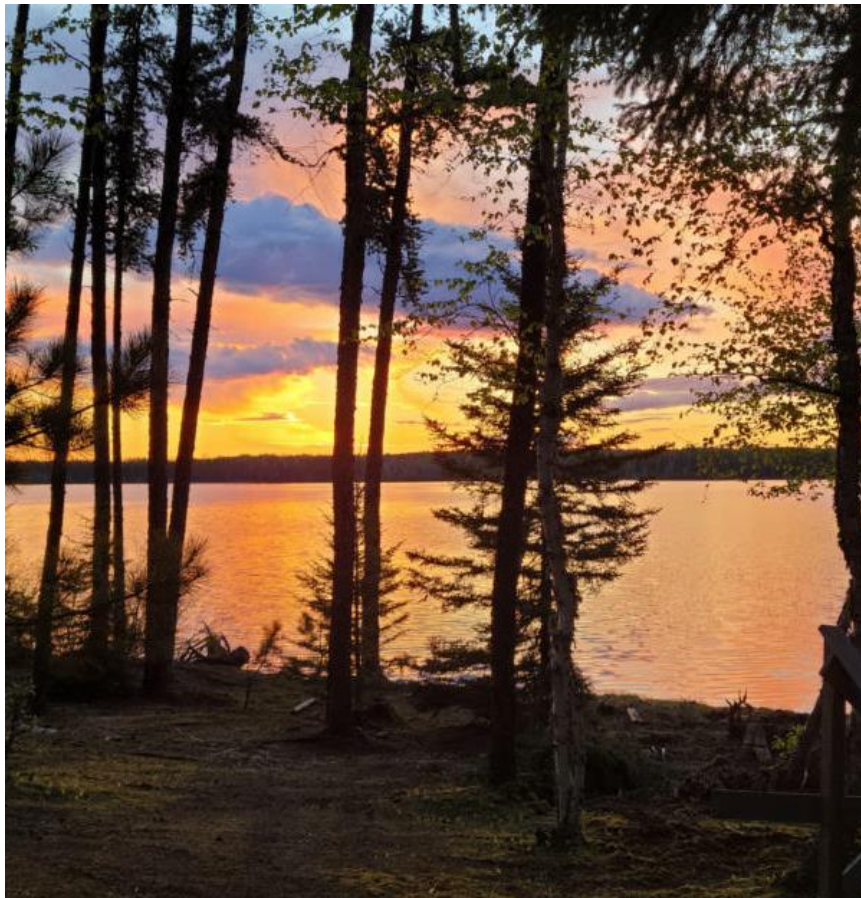
- Our much valued guests come from all parts of the globe. This season we again welcomed our friends Rudi, Bernie and Hans from Switzerland! Monroe Lake is a special place for them and they have been visiting there for years now. We appreciate all the effort it takes to make this happen for them.
- 2023 brought another birthday for me and once again I thank Ron S. for baking and delivering a special cake to celebrate the occasion! It was delicious and much appreciated!
- The weather this season was wonderful and the flower gardens flourished. We all agreed that they have never looked so spectacular. Ryan moved the vegetable garden to a new place by the solar panel array and he hoped for good results from this location that received full sun all day long. This proved to be a game changer and the harvest of 100 pounds of tomatoes was the proof. We did have to chase the



*Our Swiss friends Rudi, Bernie and Hans travel a great distance to enjoy the fishing and isolation at Monroe Lake.*

woodchucks away from the gardens and they seemed to be peskier than the rabbits this year.

- We did not have any bad storms this summer or cleanup to do.
- Eric and Renee V. were our first and also our last guests this year. Renee, never one to sit idle, joined in the wood splitting chores and we are grateful for the help.
- Our guests are very “hands on” and always lend a hand when something needs to be moved, lifted or loaded. Many hands make short work and provide quick turnarounds to maximize efficiency for ourselves and the airlines. We thank you all for helping load and unload the airplanes, haul lumber and even take the fish entrails out for disposal.
- From the air, Ryan and Bill monitored the overall area of wild rice plants over the summer and were pleased with what they saw. The rice covered a large area and was very thick. This year North Bay also had a sizeable stand of rice so once the summer progressed a bit it was time to take a boat ride to see the plants up close. The low water was a great help in aiding the plants to maturity. Ryan was very happy with how the plants were ripening and it looked like we would be harvesting early. Plans began to service and launch the rice picker in mid August. First picking was August 20th and the guys put quite a few bags in the boat. The next few weeks saw the rice picker working hard between the two stands of rice and our best day total was 48 bags.



*Our fortunate guests appreciate the many stellar sunsets throughout the summer.*

The bags weighed between 60 and 73 pounds and had to be lifted many times. Surprisingly, the migrating geese and ducks were not passing through yet and we did not have to compete for the rice as in past years. Some of the thickest stands were in water too shallow to pick and the men longed for a good rain to bring the lake up so they could reach it. The rains never materialized but we were very pleased with the harvest. The rice was shipped to our buyer in Winnipeg.

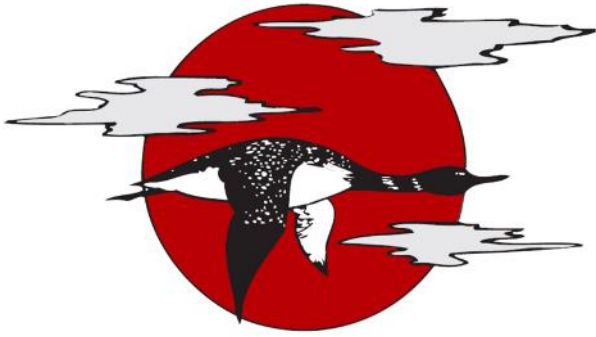
- The end of the season always see us stockpile more firewood and friends

Pat and Trish and their 2 girls were a big help with the job. Thanks guys!

- A big thank you to all our guests who thoughtfully brought us garden veggies, reading material, canned delicacies, wine, coffee, candles and baked treats! We especially enjoy shared meals as well!
- I recently read a quote that applies to anyone still thinking about their first fly in fishing trip and I think it is worth sharing.....“If not now - then when?” Ryan is just a phone call or email away and is always available to talk fishing with you! ❖

## Reservations for 2024

Early interest for next season has resulted in many bookings already and we thank you. Please contact Ryan for available slots to lock in your favorite week and favorite location.



# Loon Haunt Outposts 2024 Rates

All rates include: boats, motors and unlimited gasoline. All cabins feature: hot and cold running water and showers, propane stove, refrigerator, chest-type freezer, pots and pans, dishes, cutlery and utensils, beds with coil spring mattresses, pillows and solar electric lights. We supply, potable water, ice and emergency communication radios at no charge. If you are prepared to meet our flying schedule, which will enable us to utilize the aircraft both ways, flying is included in the rates quoted.

## Large Group Specials

At all locations for 7 day packages only

Deduct \$50 per person if group of 5 adults

Deduct \$130 per person if group of 6 or more adults

## 7 Day Fishing Packages

Lake	Occupancy	In	Out	US Each
Goose	2-24	Sunday	Sunday	\$1,695
Monroe	4-6	Sunday	Sunday	\$1,695
Unnamed	4-8	Sunday	Sunday	\$1,695
Poirier	2	Saturday	Saturday	\$1,695
Whitelaw	2-6	Sunday	Sunday	\$1,695

## Our Conservation Policy

No one is to harm in any way a Walleye over 18 inches or a Northern over 27 inches.

We encourage you to enjoy meals of fish during your stay, but insist that no fish be taken home with you.

To ensure future generations will enjoy the same fantastic fishing we have today, this policy is mandatory for all our guests.

## 3, 4, 5 & 6 Day Fishing Packages

Lake	Occupancy	Package	US Each
Goose	2-24	3-Day (as available - call for openings)	\$1,565
Goose	2-24	4-Day (as available - call for openings)	\$1,715
Goose	2-24	5 or 6-Day (as available - call for openings)	\$1,865
Whitelaw	2-6	3-Day (as available - call for openings)	\$1,565
Whitelaw	2-6	4-Day (as available - call for openings)	\$1,715
Whitelaw	2-6	5 or 6-Day (as available - call for openings)	\$1,865

*Shorter stays can also be arranged at other locations. Please contact us for availability.*

Baggage limit is 100 pounds per person, 75 pounds on the 3, 4 and 5 day packages. Excess baggage will cost you and extra \$1 per pound.

- Rates are quoted in United States Dollars (US).
- Children 16 and under deduct 10% from price.
- Deposits of \$300 US per person are transferable (on 60-day notice). Our policy is intended to be fair to our guests yet prevent the loss of income to our business. Our location is such that we do not have a large volume of traffic past our facilities. We must depend on advance reservations. Once a cabin is reserved, we remove it from the market, refusing all other requests. A booking must be accompanied by a deposit within 2 weeks – if not the cabin becomes available to other fishermen.
- Personal checks are acceptable for reservation deposit only. Balance to be paid with cash or cashier's checks.
- Please no personal checks.
- Sales taxes (HST) are extra. The total tax will be 13% of the total charge.
- Vehicle parking at the airlines is included in the price.
- Beer and soda, if ordered at least 3 weeks in advance, will be delivered to your outpost ahead of time at no extra cost to you.
- Prior to your visit, you will receive a detailed information package containing a helpful grocery list that you can use to plan your shopping or fax to our local grocery store. The store will prepare your order, charge it to your credit card and deliver it to the airlines for you.

## Thank You

Renewing old friendships and making new ones – this is what we look forward to each season! As we wind down for another year, we take the time to remember the special moments and the wonderful friends who have helped make our 45th Anniversary special. Bill and I have come to accept the end of our tenure at camp and look forward to slowing down some. Several years ago, Ryan Scott joined our team and most of you have come to know him as a very personable man with all the skills needed to carry on in our footsteps. In the intervening years he has found his soulmate Eliza, married and they now have two precious little girls, Scarlett and Evelyn.

We are confident we have found the perfect stewards to take over as your future hosts. Ryan and Eliza will do their best to carry on the tradition of customer satisfaction and pledge to make positive additions to the operation and maintain the facilities so that you'll enjoy outstanding fishing in an uncomplicated and relaxing environment. As in our own family, their children will enjoy growing up with Nature at their back door. Ryan and Eliza look forward to sharing their part of the country with you and are excited for what the future might bring!



*Ryan and Eliza are looking forward to welcoming you back in 2024!*

## 2023 IMPROVEMENTS

- Dock repairs at Unnamed, Whitelaw and Goose Lakes
- New boat ramp at Poirier and repairs to the floating dock
- A new propane bottle platform for Poirier
- New barbecue for the Whitelaw location
- New barbecue for cabin 2 at Goose Lake
- New, larger solar panels at the Monroe, Unnamed and Poirier locations with charge controllers and inverters for running CPAP machines and charging batteries
- Began construction of the new bathroom/shower building at Goose Lake

## PLANNED FOR 2024

- New, larger solar panels for the Whitelaw location along with larger charge controller and inverter
- Complete construction of the bathroom/shower building at Goose Lake
- New stove for cabin 2 at Goose Lake
- New barbecue for Monroe Lake
- Replace shingles on Whitelaw cabin
- More brushing out at all locations
- New motors for Unnamed location

The winner of the

## FREE TRIP DRAW

for 2024 is Roger Buntent!

Roger is never seen without his camera and shared a few photos with us again this year. Congratulations Roger!!





*Kyle V made Bunny Ear Island a regular stop on his Goose Lake fishing trip and it paid off!*



*Our flower gardens flourished this year!*





*Another nice northern from Tim G at Unnamed.*



*Theresa N and her husband Jerry love fishing Poirier Lake as these nice walleyes are bound to make an appearance.*



*Yet another nice walleye to enter on the board for the Hager group.*



*Sherm S's fishing pole was caught by his party after several years of being submerged at Goose Lake!*



*Whitedog Falls taken from the top in September. Not much water cascading over this year.*



*Jason M shows off his impressive stringer of perch caught at North Bay on Goose Lake.*



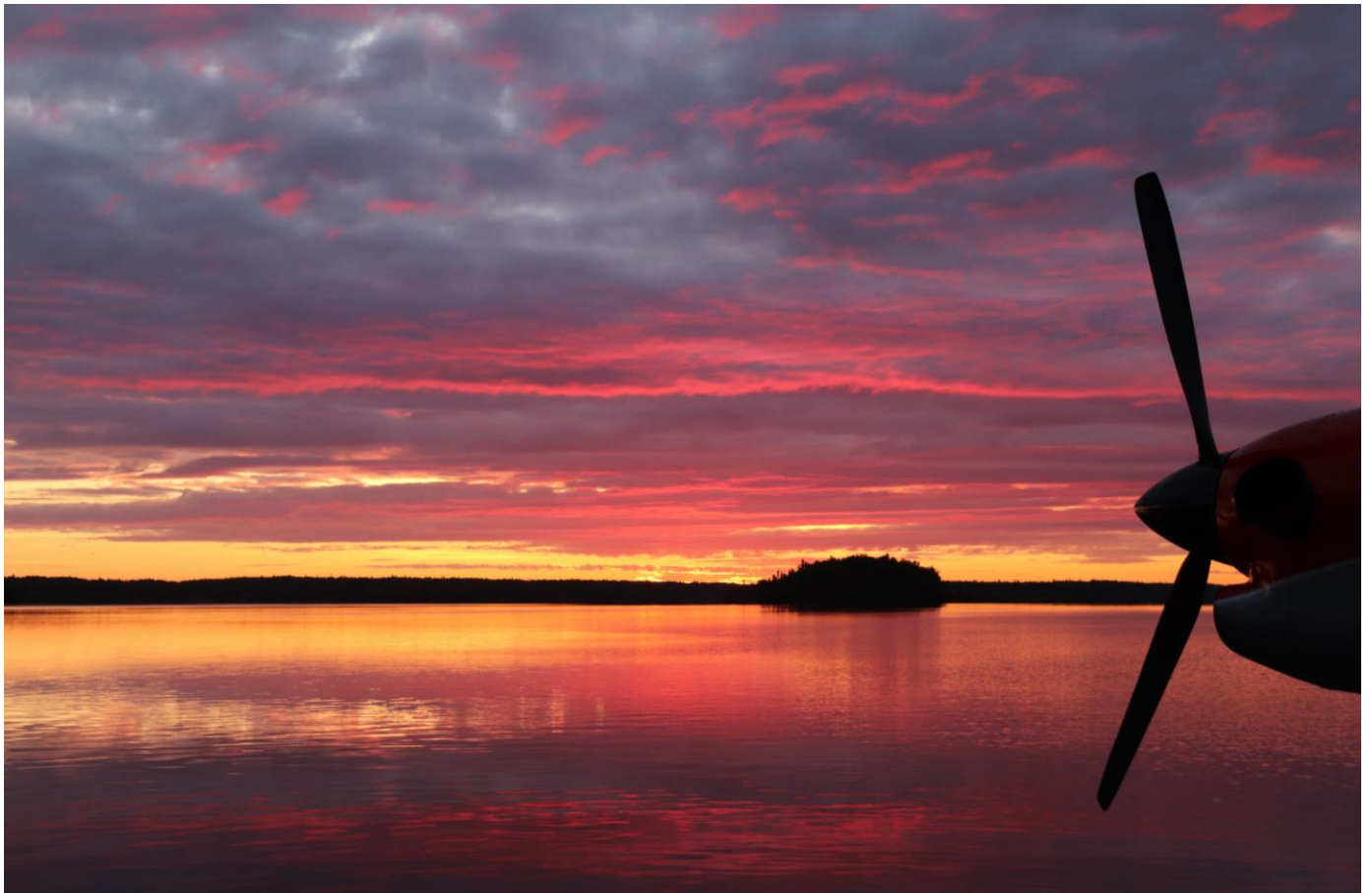
*A daily occurrence at our outposts - beautiful walleyes, caught and released!*



*Hiding in Ron S's Iowa flower garden - a reminder of happy times spent with family and friends at Goose Lake.*

# Wild Rice Harvesting Underway





*Dawn breaks for some excited fishermen. This taken at the Superior Airways water base in Red Lake.*



*Kathy N always catches an impressive walleye on Poirier Lake.  
Always!!*



*Liz S enjoyed an amazing day of fishing on Nechigona Lake with her husband Kent.*



*Ken C connects with a nice northern on Unnamed Lake.*



*Another one for the board for Ken C.*



*Graham P can also catch the nice northern on Unnamed Lake.*



*Tim G strikes again!*





*Tim G really likes to target northerns.*



*I wonder what lure Tim G uses to catch these nice northerns because it works!*



*Mike W with his 38-inch northern caught on Goose Lake.*



*Carol W had a good day fishing Gas Can Island on Goose Lake.*



*Jeff T put this nice northern on the bragging board at Goose Lake!*



*A new chapter is beginning for Loon Haunt as Ryan, Eliza, Scarlett and Evelyn take over in 2024.*



*Family times! From left to right - Eliza, Ryan, Louise, Shaun (Ryan's father), Leelan (Eliza's father), Joni (Eliza's mother), Linda (Ryan's mother), baby Evelyn and big sister Scarlett.*

# Upgrade Project



*Excavator made short work of pulling logs out of the bush.*



*Moving logs to be debarked*



*Skinning logs*



*The log pile is growing - almost time to start the project!*



*Sill logs and joists go down.*

## The Shower House



*Floor screwed on*

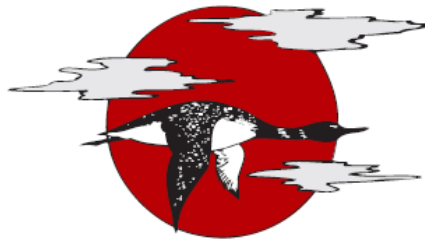


*Walls starting to go up.*



*Starting to see the final project. Still a deck and stairs to build and the inside to finish.*

# Loon Haunt



# Outposts

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