

Bear Lake Wilderness Camp

2003 Season Recap

November 2003

2004 Sport Shows

Cincinnati, Ohio	Jan 09 - Jan 18
Cincy Sport Boat & Vacation Show	
Charleston, WV	Jan 23 - Jan 25
West Virginia Trophy Hunter's Show	
Louisville, KY	Jan 24 - Feb 02
Louisville Sport Boat & Vacation Show	
Lexington, KY	Feb 12 - Feb 15
Lexington Boat & Vacation Show	
Columbus, OH	Feb 12 - Feb 15
Columbus Boat & Vacation Show	
Pittsburgh, PA	Feb 16 - Feb 22
Allegheny Sport Show (Monroeville)	
Indianapolis, IN	Feb 20 - Feb 22
Deer & Turkey Show at Indianapolis Fairgrounds	
Erie, PA	Mar 05 - Mar 07
Erie Outdoor Sport & Travel Expo	
Lansing, MI	Mar 11 - Mar 14
Sport Fishing Show at Lansing Center	
Hamburg, NY	Mar 11 - Mar 14
Western New York Sport Show	
Grand Rapids, MI	Mar 18 - Mar 21
Sport Fishing & RV Show at DeVos Place	
Traverse City, MI	Mar 19 - Mar 21
Traverse City Hunting & Fishing Expo	
Alpena, MI	Mar 26 - Mar 28
Michigan Regional Sportsmen's Show	
Huntington, WV	Mar 26 - Mar 28
West Virginia Sport Spectacular	
Madison, WI	Apr 02 - Apr 04
Wisconsin Deer & Turkey Expo (Alliant Ctr)	

Kim's Corner

Hi Everybody! We hope that all is well with you and your family. Bill just got back to KY from Canada. He and Steve closed up camp after the Moose Hunt.

Well, we had another great year. We got to meet all kinds of nice folks and see old friends. For the most part the fishing and the hunting were great. There were days here & there where the weather got the best of us but everyone had good weeks.

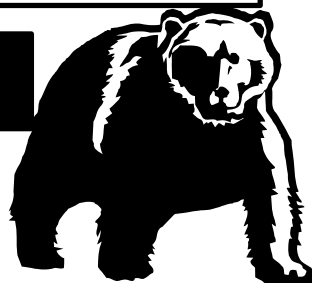
We really concentrated this year on improving the camp. All the cabins were sided and just about everything that didn't move was painted. We built a huge brand new deck on the lodge and it is beautiful. Bill & the guys tore down the old motor shed and built a brand new one. I am not saying the motor shed was old, but we did find some spare parts for the Ark.

We also added a new boat for transporting guests affectionately named "Bear Force One". This boat has really helped us on Saturday's.

We would like to thank journalists Gary Garth and Bob Byrd for writing about our camp. We would also like to thank Bob and Scott Abella who helped us open up our newest lake. It has become an immediate hit. We would also like to thank Steve Bemis. His efforts were evident everywhere.

Tight Lines & Happy Landings

Kim Drane



Inside this Issue

- 1 2004 Show Schedule
- 1 Kim's Corner
- 2 Fishing Recap & Info
- 3 Hunting Recap & Info
- 4 2003 Accomplishments - 2004 Goals

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Bear Lake Average Temperatures

AVG's	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
High	62	70	76	73	63
Low	40	50	55	53	45
Mean	51	60	66	63	54
Rain	2.8	3.3	2.8	3.4	4.1

2004 Dates and Fish Limits

OPENS	FISH	CATCH LIMITS
May 15, 2004	Northern Pike	(S) = 6 in one day (C) = 2 in one day
May 15, 2004	Walleye	(S) = 6 in one day (C) = 2 in one day
June 26, 2004	Bass Small & Largemouth	(S) = 6 in one day (C) = 2 in one day

2004 PIKE & WALLEYE SPECIAL (5/15 - 6/26)

\$375 pp (Save \$275 !!)



Come during this period and bring at least 4 adults and get some major savings. Minimum of 4 adults, the price is \$100 more if less than 4 adults.

Group Discounts

We offer discounts on groups.
Ask about our group specials!

Fishing License Information

There are two types of fishing licenses in Ontario. There is the Sport Fishing (S) License and the Conservation (C) License. Conservation Licenses promote the environment with smaller catch limits and rewards the angler with a lower price tag. A child, under 18, can fish without a license but their fish counts against the parent's limit.

2003 Non Resident Fishing Licenses (Adult)

(S) Sport Fishing License \$38 CAD @ \$29 USD which is good for 7 days.

(C) Conservation License \$23 CAD @ \$17 USD which is good for 7 days.

2003 Fishing Recap

We had a great fishing year! Of course there was a spell where we had clear skies and sunshine for several weeks straight. Walleye continue to be a little slow while most people reported catching both good numbers and quality size of Northern Pike and Bass. Kim still won't let me know where her walleye spots are.

Some Notables

The Schilling Boys! Only in camp an hour and Preston Schilling (age 8) catches a beautiful 24" Lake Trout. He only caught it on a clear day in August in 15 feet of water! Not to be outdone his brother Jeb Schilling (age 7) reels in a nice 30" pike. Later that week, they both break their own records by catching and releasing their guide!

Land Ho! It seems that a certain Dr. from Louisville that will remain nameless (as long as the blackmail \$ keeps coming in) chose to park his boat on our floating water trampoline. From our observations, it appears that the parking was the easy part; extraction was something else.

FISH	FISHERMAN	SIZE	LAKE
Walleye	Scott Borchelt	31"	Bear Lake
Northern Pike	Frank Dreischarf	40"	Remote
Largemouth	Rod Snyder	7 lbs	Remote
Brook Trout	Charles Anderson	4 lbs	Mile Lake
Smallmouth	Tom Gorter	6 lbs	Remote
Lake Trout	Daniel Brown	12 lbs	Bear Lake

Bear Hunting 2004

Aug 14 - Aug 21. Opening week of Archery Only. (Bow & Crossbow)

Aug 21 - Aug 28. Second week of Archery Only. (Bow & Crossbow)

Aug 28 - Sep 04. Opening week of Firearms. Gun/ Archery/ Black Powder

Sep 04 - Sep 11. Second week of Firearms. Gun/ Archery/ Black Powder

Sep 11 - Sep 18. Third week of Firearms. Gun/ Archery/ Black Powder

Sep 18 - Sep 25. Last week Bear Hunting. Gun/ Archery/ Black Powder

**ARCHERY
ONLY
WEEKS**

**GUN
ARCHERY
OR
BLACK
POWDER**

2004 Cast & Blast SPECIAL (9/18 - 10/09)

\$500 pp (Save \$150 !!)



**Combine Fishing with hunting
for Ducks, Geese, and Grouse.**

Bear Season In Review

What a season! Despite a bumper crop of berries almost everyone saw multiple bears and every bear that was shot was retrieved from the bush. 16 hunters that took home Bear. Our 62% kill rate **does not** count any passed up bears, missed shots, or multiple bear sightings. We hear a lot of outfitters boast 90% & up. Their inflated numbers generally include a lot of explaining with counting missed shots and passed up bears. **Our numbers are just substantiated facts.**

2003 Bear Hunting Recap

We are very pleased with this year's Bear Hunt.

We had 26 hunters that bagged 16 bears.

Ontario's Average (MNR) is 1 out of 4. We salute:

Eric Thorn	Andrews, IN	Bow
Matt McKinnon	Commerce, MI	Bow
Mike Foran	Sunman, IN	Bow
Joe Scane	Chesterfield Twp, MI	Bow
Gary Hawkins	Franklin, TN	Bow
Allen Craig	Oldenburg, IN	Bow
James Poynter	Somerset, KY	Gun
Tim Poynter	Somerset, KY	Gun
Shawn Perdue	Reading, OH	Gun
Rich Robbins	Reading, OH	Gun
Mike Beagle	Hebron, KY	Bow
Brian Burgett	Chattaroy, WV	Bow
Brian Campbell	Ft. Gay, WV	Bow
Gene Campbell	Ft. Gay, WV	Bow
Eric Schunk	Aurora, IN	Gun
David Bemis	Frankfort, KY	Gun

SEASON SUMMARY

Bears Seen	67 / 26 =	258 % Sight Ratio
Bears Taken	16 / 26 =	62 % Harvest Rate
Bow Only	10 / 15 =	67 % Harvest Rate

Our bow hunters did extremely well with carbon arrows and mech. broad heads doing most of the damage.

Added Stands & Baits

This year we added more baits and continued our famous baiting program where we bait each and every day for a month before the season starts. The numbers show that our system really works.

Git-R-Done Crew

A special thanks needs to go out to Steve Bemis & Deniel Brown who made sure that our Bear Season was one of our best. Thanks guys . . .you are the greatest.

Bill Drane

2003 Improvements

Bear Force One - We added a new water taxi (22 ft Starcraft w/140 hp Suzuki 4-stroke). It is a hauling machine and boy is it quiet. Kim calls it Bill's Disney Tour Guide Boat.

Beaver Retriever - Our old water taxi got a brand new 140 hp Suzuki 4-stroke outboard. It too is amazingly quiet and jumps on plane.

New Motor Shed - Our old motor shed had seen better decades. We built a new shed that is both bigger and wider and allows us to repair, maintain, and store our fleet of motors.

New Fuel Depot - We constructed a building dockside to store our fuel, oil, and propane. This keeps all the gas and propane off the dock.

New Dock - Cabin 6 got its own floating dock. Now each cabin has its own dock. .

New Deck on Lodge - We built a beautiful two-tier dock off the main lodge. Complete with two large picnic tables and a patio door for access from the lodge.

New Siding - Cabin 6 & 7 were sided. So now all cabins have new siding. We also sided the new showers, fish cleaning shed, fuel depot, and the new motor shed.

New Lakes - We cut trails and opened up two new lakes. One lake is a good walleye lake while the other is a great bass lake..

Boat Repairs - We took 18 boats off back lakes and had them rewelded and their transoms repaired.

New Boats - We added 2 new RamX bass boats to Cat Lake and 8 new RamX canoes for back lakes..

Wee Sexy Boat - Kim got a new speed boat for taking kids for rides and tubing.

2004 Goals

2 New Campsites - We plan to add two camp sites on the backside of the island. They will have picnic tables, grills, water, electric, and be available July - September.

New Lakes - Our plan is to open up at least two new lakes each year.

New Roof on Lodge - Our intent is to put a new roof with skylights on the main lodge. This project will be dependent on weather, staffing, and exchange rate.

New Roof Cabin 3 - Cabin 3 is due for a new roof. Tree to be removed from behind cabin.

Repair Docks - The docks in front of the lodge will be a major point of emphasis.

New Steps & Hand Rails - The plan is to make sure that everyone can access our cabins easily. Pads will be poured for propane tanks.

Picnic Tables - Each cabin will get its own outdoor picnic table.

Boat Repairs - We will continue our program of rewelding back lake boats as needed.

New Boats - We plan to add more RamX bass boats and Pelican Canoes for back lakes. to Cat Lake and 8 new RamX canoes for back lakes.

