



# *The Klotz Lake Kronicle*

## **News From Klotz Lake Camp, Longlac, Ontario Eighth Edition – January, 2007**

Hello and Happy New Year! We missed our 2005 newsletter, so we thought we'd take a little different approach. With the numerous changes in our industry, we wanted to concentrate more on information with current events that could affect your trip north. Oh, don't worry, we still are highlighting our largest fish category and we certainly will continue mentioning notable catches and hunts! We won't be doing our "mass" mailing anymore, as we just can't afford the postage, but we will have copies here at camp for you when you arrive and we'll have it posted on our website.

Well folks, believe it or not, Klotz Lake Camp are celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2007. Yes, in was in 1957 when Big Mike and Ann moved here – Michael was only a year old. We are trying to decide what to do for our anniversary celebration, so if any of you have any great ideas, we'd love to hear them! We hope you will notice our anniversary label on all our envelopes, letters and such. One of our snowmobiling customers from New York works with a label company and donated 7,000 labels to us.

During 2005 we built a new "temporary" store between Moose cabin and the gas pumps. We'll be in the process of tearing down the old store/residence in 2007. We also managed to put up some beautiful cedar siding on the new store and Mike & Toni's house.



earn your patronage.

Overall things have been going well. Business is down a bit, but there's a lot going on in the world and it seems vacations sometimes have to take a back seat to more important life issues. We understand that. It's also why we want you to know how very much we appreciate you and your patronage. You could go a lot of places; and you come here. We've been keeping the wolf from the door over the last couple of years. We wish we could speed up our plans to get the new lodge/store underway. There are many things we'd like to accomplish, but they all take money – and lots of it. We promise we will continue to work hard and

The fishing has been excellent, the grouse/partridge are on the upswing and are abundant, and the bear hunts have been very successful. During first weeks in September, 2006 there was a total of 252 fires in Ontario; many of them around here. The McKay Lake fire completely engulfed Longlac in smoke for several days. We have a couple at the east end of Klotz Lake, going north towards Flint. We actually had guys nearly get scooped up in the water bomber on Klotz and their bear-hunting buddy in his tree stand felt the spray of the water being dropped on a nearby fire! There was over a week that none, not even one, of Michael's bear baits



got hit. He's never had that happen. Much of the wildlife was disrupted and it took almost a month for things to get back to normal. We woke up to smoke in camp several mornings in a row. Fire is probably the thing that scares us the most living here, but it's the price you pay to live in the great white north!

### **Some Things You Should Know:**

- Let's talk a little about **passports**. In 2005 the US government announced that all US citizens traveling outside the US, as well as anyone wishing to enter the US, would require a passport. The passports were required as of January, 2007 for flights and January, 2008 for driving outside or through the US. Given the amount of controversy this decision sparked, a task force made up of mayors from border towns in the US and Canada formed to discuss alternative arrangements. They changed the driving requirement to January, 2009, and most recently the US government announced they have moved the date for driving outside the US from January to **June, 2009**. This does give us a bit of time. More than likely the focus group will recommend some sort of plastic "ID" card likes ones used currently for frequent border crossers. Rather than the cost of the passport (around \$97.00), the ID card would probably be around \$15.00 or so.
- Below is a website link that all US residents will find useful about **coming into Canada**. It is a Canadian Government website, so all legal and correct. It's a publication from the Canadian Border Services Agency and is an overview of restrictions, laws and entitlements affecting visitors to Canada. You can check on alcohol and tobacco, food, duty, taxes, pets, etc. It is, however, only an electronic report, so you can't print it. <http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/E/pub/cp/rc4161/rc4161-e.html>
- We hate to be the bearer of bad news, but the Canadian government, in its infinite wisdom, saw fit to cancel the **GST rebate to visitors** in Canada. The good news, which those of you who were here after July, 2006 got to take advantage of, is that they gave reduced the Goods & Services Tax (GST) from 7% to 6% and are promising to make another reduction this year or next. So, if you haven't sent in your rebate forms, it's best to get it done as quickly as possible. Please let us know if you need forms or help in submitting them.
- As many of you know, there are some changes underway in the **fishing regulations** and regions in 2007. Unfortunately, the changes have not received final approval and until that approval is granted, we are working under the 2006 regulations. Ontario is reducing the number of fishing districts by over half. That will make it much easier for everyone, especially for those of you going through check-points and having to explain fishing in 2 different divisions and having two different set of regulations. The regulations they are suggesting for our area will be the same as area 19 (the south side of the highway). If you would like to read about the regulations, here's a link to the MNR website:  
<http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/MNR/fishing/gen.html>
- We have the new rates for **licenses in 2007**. For non-residents, they are as follows:

Seasonal Sport:	\$64.90	Seasonal Conservation:	\$39.64
8-Day Sport:	\$41.62	8-Day Conservation:	\$24.28
Small Game:	\$91.66	Black Bear:	\$183.32
Moose:	\$366.64	Crown Land Camping:	\$ 9.91

The reason for the odd amounts is the price includes GST and when the GST was reduced in July, 2006 by 1%, the prices had to reflect the discount. If the GST is reduced further in 2007, these prices will

change to reflect the additional discount. We will continue carrying all non-resident licenses and most of the resident licenses available.

- In 2006 it became the responsibility of the game warden (conservation officer) to verify all safety equipment in boats. In years past, this was the responsibility of the RCMP and it was rare to see an RCMP officer in this area. Now, you need to make sure you have the **correct safety items in your boat** at all times. We have the approved kits available in our store (\$25.00), or you can use your own as long as you have these items for any boat. For boat size and types, check out this website (government of Canada, Office of Boating Safety). Please note, all Klotz Lake Camp rental boats have the required safety equipment and the only thing you need to bring if you're renting one of our boats would be your Coast Guard approved life jacket for each person in the boat.  
<http://www.tc.gc.ca/BoatingSafety/equipment.htm#Safety%20Equipment%20Requirements>
- The price changed in 2006 for processing any documents for non-residents entering Canada with **firearms/weapons**. In the past you were charged a \$50.00 processing fee for up to 3 firearms on one form. They have reduced this fee to \$25.00 for the same form, and as long as you renew your firearms declaration in the same year, there is no extra charge. For information about bringing firearms into Canada, please check out the following website:  
[http://www.cfc-cafc.gc.ca/info\\_for-renseignement/non-residents/default\\_e.asp](http://www.cfc-cafc.gc.ca/info_for-renseignement/non-residents/default_e.asp)
- Many of you are aware of the problems the forestry industry is having. Mills are closing everywhere and Longlac/Geraldton area has been hard hit also. Several mills in the area have closed, one in Longlac – owned by Kruger (Longlac Wood Industries). Over 350 people have lost their jobs and over 90 families have moved away. Unfortunately for us, this also includes Michael's nephew (Dan, aka Snake). Please be aware that many of the **logging roads and access roads** you've used in the past may not be in the greatest of conditions. These roads are owned and operated by the forestry company holding the forestry license (formerly Kimberly Clark/Neenah) and now Buchanan Forest Products. Many of the bush workers and men working on the bush roads have been on strike since January, 2006 and some roads weren't plowed or graded in over a year. The roads are all still open; you just might want to check them out first before making a long haul with trailers and equipment.
- We are holding our **rates** once again in 2007 to what they were in 2005 and 2006. We are, however, going to enforce the rates as we feel they are reasonable and are completely in line with what other outfitters with similar amenities charge.
- Please make a note: we can no longer accept **American Express** cards. Evidently we just didn't send enough money through them to count, so they cancelled our contract. Sorry folks. We still accept Visa, MasterCard, Interac (Canadian debit) and cash.
- Many of you have taken advantage of and enrolled in the **Ontario Angler Award Program** and some of you may have received a certificate and decal and never knew where it came from! Here's a link for their website. Check it out – it's a great program and pretty easy to get lots of entries from just one week here! Walleyes over 25", Perch over 12", Pike over 30" and Brook/Speckled Trout over 18" will each get you a certificate for hanging and a decal.  
[www.ontarioanglerawards.com](http://www.ontarioanglerawards.com)
- In 2005 the gas station at the corner of Highway 631 and Highway 11 (**Mooseland**) **closed up** for good. Given the distance, please be sure to check your gas before you leave Hornepayne as you won't find anything till you get here! Diesel isn't available until you get into Longlac.

## *Let's Talk Fishin!*



**Clyde Bennett**



**Dave Berry**



**Harvey Miller Crew's Specs**

2005 and 2006 were both banner years for walleye on Klotz Lake. Many of you brought in remarkable catches from Klotz, and, not just the big ones – the 13 and 14 inchers were plentiful. It was really nice to see all the great walleye in Klotz. Not to mention, the largest pike for 2005 came from Klotz.

Largest Pike 2005	<b><i>Jim Helle</i></b> Denver, NC	Klotz Lake	43", 25 lbs.
Largest Pike 2006:	<b><i>Mike Robinson</i></b> Mayville, MI	Flint Lake	45.5", 25.5 lbs.
Largest Walleye 2005:	<b><i>Sam Hollis</i></b> St. Johns, MI	Klotz Lake	31", 11lbs
Largest Walleye 2006:	Still pending.....		



Yep, that's right – we don't know who got the largest walleye in 2006. Can someone please step up and make a claim? We saw lots and lots of big walleye, but nobody gave us exact pounds/length. Please send us your information (picture would be great) and we'll see who got the largest walleye. The nameplate on the plaque in the store will remain blank until we find a winner!

To the left is **Sam Hollis'** largest walleye to the right - **Jim Helle's** largest pike 2005.







Left are **Mike Robinson** and his awesome pike! **John Elzer** had a couple of great catches on Klotz through the nearly 5 feet of ice. To the left is his 41 inch pike. **Jeff Kresnak** had a great 40 inch pike in 05/06. We've got some more ice fishing planned for this winter.



Don't forget about us up here in the winter. The ice fishing is great and we keep Sunset open and heated all year. One thing is for sure – they sure can get the snow moved around here and the roads are usually in really good shape.



Klotz Lake opened on April 23<sup>rd</sup> in 2005, and froze on November 18<sup>th</sup>. In 2006, the lake opened on May 1<sup>st</sup> and froze on December 1<sup>st</sup>. The lake is freezing later and later, and opening earlier than normal. We don't know your individual stance on global warming, but we see its effects on our environment every day. Check out these pictures of the rapids going to Flint Lake and the creek (what creek?) between little and big Kassagaminee Lake. These were taken in early September of 2005. We saw the same thing in 2006. Thanks to Rudy & Larry Limberger for the photographs.

It has become even more difficult to portage over the rapids to get to Flint Lake. In 2006 we had a group who had been coming for many years get here and actually turned around and went home! We know many of you have been asking us for an easier way to get to the lake. We're torn between wanting to provide you all with great fishing opportunities on Flint with a bit less work, but at the same time, it's the work that's involved in getting there that makes the fishing great. It has, obviously, cost us some long time business, but hopefully the lake will stay in the same pristine condition. The Ministry of Natural Resources will not permit public access to this lake so there is actually very little we can do in this regard.



And, it's not just Flint, Klotz and Kass that have low water levels. All the lakes in the area have reduced water levels. Many lakes like Shacabac didn't make the cut the last couple of years due to the complexity of getting there with the low water conditions. Fish and Flynn/Batise/Peanut were still in fairly good condition for launching, as was Pagwachuan, Lukinto and Pamela.

### **The Hunts Were Great!**

Wow! 2005 and 2006 were both great years for birds. We saw the majority of our hunters go home with limits and get their daily limit every day. The ruffed and spruce grouse were plentiful as well as all of those sharptails. We're seeing a lot more women coming up to hunt; most of them with their husbands, so it's becoming more of a family sport. Grouse hunting starts September 15<sup>th</sup> and it's great to be able to combine great grouse hunting with the outstanding fishing in September!





To the left is **Bruce Shultz and Claudia** with a morning limit. To the right is **Preston and Theresa Cole** with awesome morning results.



As we mentioned earlier, the bear hunt was very successful as long as the fires weren't blazing away. 2005 was a record year with Mason Montgomery bagging a bruin over 400 lbs. 2006 saw 5 bear over 400

pounds! For the price of a hunt, we include a boat and motor for the week, your bear tag and a cabin for 2. Check out some of these bears. We couldn't

get them all in here, but here's a sample







The moose were a little more elusive the last two years. With the weather being so warm, archery season produced little tracks and fewer moose.



Rifle season was still very warm, but we still saw some beautiful bulls in camp! Hopefully we'll see some cooler weather next season.



**Playing In The Snow** – Even with the warmer temperatures, we had some cold days too. In 2005 the record low here at Klotz Lake was  $-55^{\circ}$ , in 2006 it was  $-44^{\circ}$ , so we definitely saw some cold days. January and February are our coldest months. We had about 6 feet of snowfall in 2005/06 winter, and the snowmobile trails were in perfect condition! We keep Sunset cabin open in the winter and offer overnight accommodations, food, gas, etc. for your trips up north! We would love to see you up here in the winter for some fun in the snow and ice!

Check out the groomer coming into camp in January, 2006. The trail out back goes one mile straight to the pipeline, which also serves as the OFSC snowmobile trail in the winter!

It looks like it will be another great year for fishing, hunting and snowmobiling. We hope you all get the opportunity to come up and visit us sometime this year. We're looking forward to seeing you again. We do check our email regularly and update the website as often as we can so stay in touch with us.



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