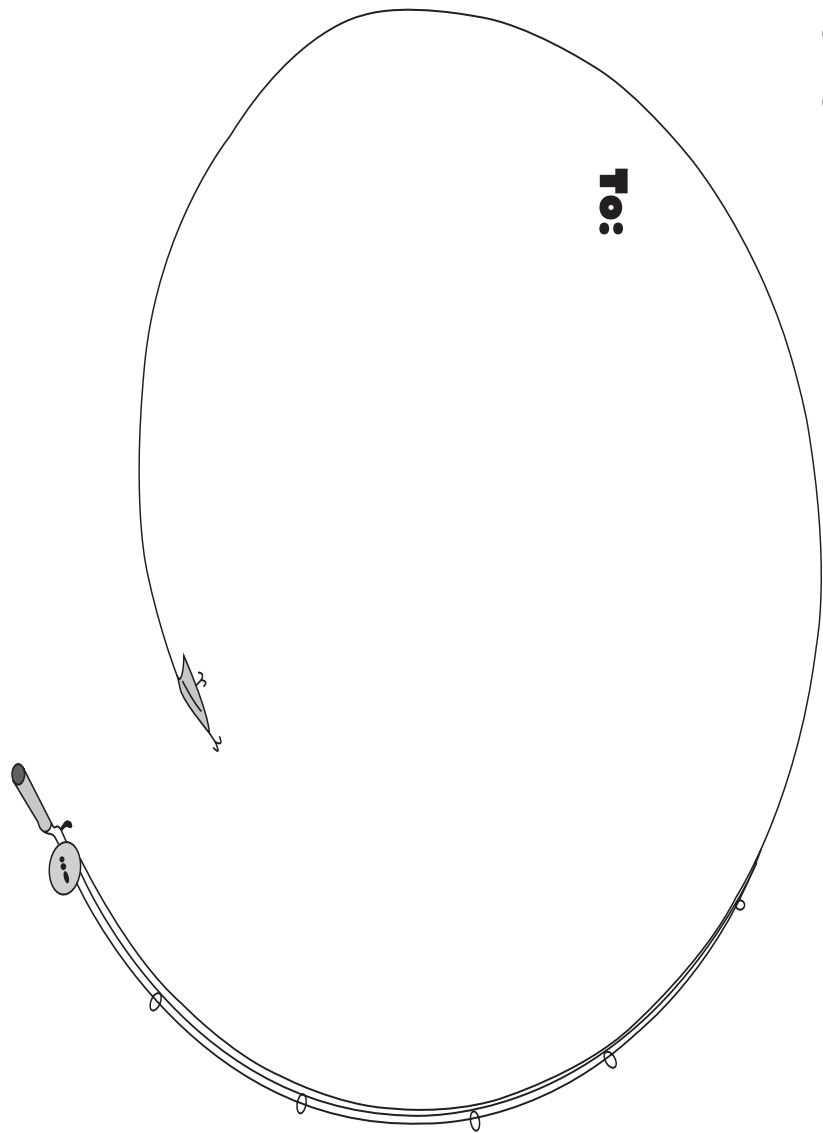


INDIANAPOLIS BOAT,
SPORT & TRAVEL SHOW
Indianapolis, Indiana - Indiana State Fair Grounds
February 14th - February 16th
February 19th - February 23rd
(Show closed Monday & Tuesday)

ALL CANADA SHOW - MILWAUKEE
Brookfield, Wisconsin - Brookfield Conference Center
January 17th - January 19th

ALL CANADA SHOW - GREEN BAY
Green Bay, Wisconsin - Oneida Hotel (Oneida Casino)
January 23rd - January 26th



Gold Arrow Camp
2104 N. Binkley Rd.
Larwill, IN 46764

Smoke Signals *from* GOLD ARROW CAMP 2024 – A Year In Review

Volume 12



NOTE: This paper is not intended at anytime to represent the proper use of grammar, spelling or editorial etiquette. It will vow, however, to report the news as we see it and stretch the truth as far as possible and from spending so much time in the woods takes no responsibility for its content.

WARNING: FROM THE “SURGEON GENERAL”, the truth of any news event reported in this paper may be stretched so far as to be hazardous to any honest fisherman’s integrity. But will be okay for most of our guests to read.

ATTENTION: No names have been changed in these articles to protect the innocent. There weren’t any.

EDITORIAL

You know the year is coming to a close when the Gold Arrow Newspaper is officially out! Looking back, we are amazed at what a year it was with so many guests once again gracing us with your presence. Not exactly sure how we manage to attract so many great people year after year and we certainly don’t take it for granted. Overall, it was a very busy, successful season as well as an extremely smooth one. All of you were awesome leaving your cabins extremely clean, and the equipment well taken care of. Going from memory, this was the first year that not even a single prop needed replaced. Having good water levels might have had something to do with that!

Our main project this year, as promised, was spending about forty days brushing Fleet North & Fleet South Roads with access being better now than ever. In addition, the approach to Ord Lake along with all the remote portage trails were also brushed out. Our time in the brush was pretty extensive.

Naturally more road projects are already planned for next year as the brush doesn’t stop growing.

With Christmas fast approaching it means we are less than a month out from our “Sport Show” season.

Due to an extremely high rebooking rate, we plan on only attending three sport shows this winter. Last year we attended five shows and during the

last two, we didn’t have a single cabin left to offer! There is nothing worse than meeting new people at a show, getting them excited to come up, and then having to tell them we’re full. If you’re not already booked for 2025, consider giving us a shout prior to the sport shows starting to ensure getting the dates you want.

Thank you to every one of you who may have sat by the bon-fire with us, shared a cup of coffee in the camp store during the morning, or joined us during desert night. Getting to visit with you all is the main highlight of being your hosts.

In closing, thanks to all of you who make Gold Arrow what it is. We couldn’t be more blessed. Wishing you all a very *Merry Christmas* and a fantastic 2025 filled with many new memories! *God Bless.*

Todd & Angie



2024 LARGEST FISH AWARDS

Species	Length	Caught By
Walleye	29"	Linda Simpkins & Garrett Carlson
Northern	44"	Amy Schmidt
Small Mouth	19.5"	Kristine Ostertag
Perch	13"	Niki Blankespoor & Al Kiepert
Muskie	50"	Ed Hofstra
Lake Trout	32"	David Sandridge
Crappie	15"	Kolten Gifford & Kevin Blankespoor
Large Mouth	16"	Marty Sennett

Nice to see so many big fish caught and released again this year. Congratulations to everyone that made the board throughout the season! Your persistence and excitement for simple bragging rights are always appreciated.

Travel Lite Package Plan

To include modern cabin, boats, motors, mixed gas, life-jackets, minnow buckets, landing nets, freezers and 1 bag of ice per boat daily

2 Adults per Boat.....\$605.00 per adult per Week
3 Adults per Boat.....\$580.00 per adult per Week
Party of 5 Adults.....\$590.00 per adult per Week
(2 Boats & 2 Motors)
Children 6 thru 12.....\$210.00 per child per Week
(when accompanied by two adults)
Children 5 & UnderFREE

Housekeeping Cabin

RATES INCLUDE: Modern Cabin, Boat (no motor), Freezers, and 1 bag of ice per boat daily

Adults.....\$555.00 per Adult per Week
Children 6 thru 12.....\$210.00 per child per Week
(when accompanied by two adults)
Children 5 & UnderFREE

Travel Lite Summer Special

July 5th to August 8th

To include modern cabin, boats, motors, mixed gas, life-jackets, minnow buckets, landing nets, freezers and 1 bag of ice per boat daily

2 Adults per Boat.....\$580.00 per adult per Week
3 Adults per Boat.....\$555.00 per adult per Week
Party of 5 Adults.....\$565.00 per adult per Week
(2 Boats & 2 Motors)
Children 6 thru 12.....\$185.00 per child per Week
(when accompanied by two adults)
Children 5 & UnderFREE

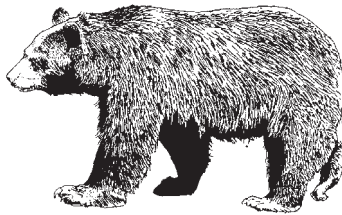
Housekeeping Cabin Summer Special

July 5th to August 8th

RATES INCLUDE: Modern Cabin, Boat (no motor), Freezers, and 1 bag of ice per boat daily

Adults.....\$530.00 per adult per Week
Children 6 thru 12.....\$185.00 per child per Week
(when accompanied by two adults)
Children 5 & UnderFREE

Black Bear



Spring & Fall Hunt Archery or Firearm

38 Years in the Field Experience

The difference between just a Hunt and a Successful Hunt.

6 Days on Baited Stand
Sunday thru Friday

\$2300.00
Per Hunter

To ensure the date of your choice – please send in your reservation early.
Spring season begins May 24th
Fall Season Begins August 15th



Garrett Carlson - Walleye



Linda Simpkins - Walleye



Amy Schmidt - Northern



Kristine Ostertag - Small Mouth



Niki Blankespoor - Perch



Al Kiepert - Perch



Kolten Gifford - Crappie



Kevin Blankespoor - Crappie



David Sandridge - Lake Trout



Ed Hofstra - Muskie



Marty Sennett - Large Mouth

BEST HOOKED AWARD PIERCE GETS PIERCED

Seems like each year someone ends up with a hook in their finger and occasionally that means a trip to the local ER to get it removed. This year, Pierce wanted to make the newspaper with the biggest bass caught but instead he is getting

published for the most original, *Best Hooked Award*. Taking a break from fishing, Pierce decided that he would lay down across the boat seat.

Unfortunately, he forgot that he had set his lure on the bench precisely where he decided to stretch out. First time ever that we have had a hook in the back! Luckily one of his

fishing partners was a nurse and was able to successfully remove the hook but his shirt didn’t fair quite as well and ended up having a few holes in it for the trip home.

Congratulations Pierce, you made the newspaper. Next year, try catching a big fish instead of yourself!



RESERVATION REQUEST • GOLD ARROW CAMP

Perrault Falls, Ontario POV 2KO • Phone: (807) 529-3137 • Website: www.fishandhuntontario.com • Email: Goldarrow@embarqmail.com
Winter Address: Todd & Angie Heath, 2104 North Binkley Road, Larwill, IN 46764 • Phone: (260) 327-3406 (Oct. 1st – May 1st)

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State/Prov _____ Zip Code _____ Phone No. (_____) _____

e-mail _____

Housekeeping Cabin ☐ Travel Lite Package ☐ Summer Special Package ☐ Extra Boat ☐ Motor ☐

No. in Party: Men _____ Women _____ Children _____ Total No. _____ Deposit Enclosed \$ _____

ARRIVAL DATE: _____ DEPARTURE DATE: _____

• Personal checks accepted for deposit only. Balance must be paid in cash or traveler’s checks. Sorry, no credit cards.

• Deposit of \$125.00 required per person. • All Rates in U.S. Funds.



Tim Adrian didn't waste any time. Shot his bear 10 minutes after sitting down!



Captain Don Moore taking us and Rob & George Hamm on a speed boat ride on Perrault Lake. Beautiful, warm fall day for a pleasure cruise.



Chase is in Awe of the big perch you can catch at Gold Arrow



Steve & Riley Diny both had success during their spring bear hunt. Made for a nice 3 generation picture with Dad/grandpa Bill who just came along to fish.



Beautiful eagle posing so nice for this candid shot!



We had a bumper crop of blueberries and raspberries this year. Great spring and summer with perfect rainfall each week. Been a while since we've seen berries in these numbers



The Smoker's Bar...aka Gold Arrow fire pit. Grab a cigar or pipe and your favorite beverage and join the fun.



First time ever we had a Hat Burning ceremony in camp. Next year, who knows, maybe the ladies will burn their bras.



Mark Wedeward posing with the biggest bear harvested this year. Congratulations, Mark!



FAMILY IS THE BEST

This year we did something that we have never done before. We completely closed down camp for a week to spend precious time with our family.

Three out of five of our boys, their wives, 2 grandkids (ages 10 months & 4 years), and a cousin were all able to arrange their schedules so that they could be in camp the same week!

Getting a chance to unwind and relax for a week with them was amazing! So many memories made, stories told and laughs shared. From our grandson catching a pike with a blueberry as bait to Todd's son thinking he had the perch record, when in fact he had caught a small mouth bass (been outta Canada a little too long, I think!) and every memory in between, we treasured our time with them all and are excited for 2025 when we do it all again with hopefully all 5 of our kids and their families.

So, thank you to our kids for making time to be with us in the place we love and thank you to our guests for understanding why we closed down for a week.

I know we say it a lot, but we are truly blessed with the best family and guests that anyone could ask for!!

THINGS THAT MAKE YOU GO, HMMM...

Over the years of ownership, we have had several incidences that make us scratch our heads and wonder what people were thinking. We've had a snapping turtle brought back to camp in a cooler, which is okay, but why did they feel the need to put our boat cushion in the bottom of the cooler for the turtle's comfort? Believe it or not, the cushion they ruined didn't comfort that turtle at all!

There have been guys that thought it would be a good idea to put tackle boxes, coats, and all their trash in the landing net to carry it to the truck. Surprisingly, our landing nets aren't made to carry 50 pounds of junk to the truck, they are made to land fish. Not surprisingly, they do break and guess who just bought a broken landing net?

We have stories that go on for days but this year we had two new incidences that we felt we needed to share. Now we know that our ice bags aren't as strong as they used to be and we try to explain to everyone that if you drop them gently a few times, it is better than slamming them down once and having ice explode everywhere. Who would have ever thought that another way to break ice would be to use an expensive cast iron skillet like a hammer. Well, unfortunately, cast iron wasn't made to beat solid blocks of ice and they will crack...surprisingly before the ice does. Get out your wallet, you just bought a cracked skillet.

The second incidence luckily wasn't as costly, but could have been the end of cabin #10. Have you ever burnt eggs and just put water in the skillet over a fire to loosen it up for easier clean up? Well, that is a great way to do it, but when you add a plastic spatula in the skillet and head out fishing without turning off the gas burner, bad things tend to happen. My morning routine of collecting trash ended up being not only a cabin saver, but also a life saver. Upon opening the cabin door, I was not only greeted by a cabin full of smoke from the melted spatula in the skillet, but also a dog that was looking for some clean air to breath. Yep, their prized hunting dog was stuck inside with all the windows shut. So thankful that I did my chores first thing that day.

Mistakes happen, and thankfully this one didn't end in tragedy.

YOUNGEST GUESTS OF THE YEAR

It's been a while since we have had a little one in camp but, this year, we had two that were under the age of one year old. Faith Waldock came up with her parents, Adam & Dani in June at the age of 6 months making her our youngest this year. Coming all the way from Arkansas, not only did she have a lot of hours in the ride up but she had a lot of hours in a boat.



I think she is destined to be a great fishing partner for mom and dad. The runner-up for youngest guest was our granddaughter, Everly, who was 10 months old in September. She came up with her parents, Garrett & Kelsey and her brother, Jeremiah (4). She also had a long ride coming from Indiana and loved her time in the boat too.



Kudos to both families for raising their kids to love the outdoors, enjoy new adventures and realizing that they are never too young to come to Canada!

PEE-WEE COMES TO CAMP

Not exactly sure why bad movies from my youth seem to stick with me. Often a flashback to the 80's (my youth era) might be triggered by a current guest's appearance, demeanor, or even their possessions.

When Heath Knepp pulled into camp this fall there was just something that took me back to the 80's. Forget the fact that Heath has been coming to Gold Arrow forever, there was just something different this time. At first, I thought it was the ZZ Top beard, they were definitely popular in the 80's but, no, I had seen that before. Maybe it had to do with the fact that Heath was attempting to be the first guest to take a bear with his self-made bow, after all recurves were popular in the 80's. Nah, that wasn't it either.

Finally, it hit me the next day when we headed out to the bear stand. Upon unloading my ATV, I looked behind me and asked Heath if he was ready to follow me out? He gave me the thumbs up, honked the horn on his bike, and laughed heh, heh heh! With that bike we had a bona fide Pee Wee Herman impersonator in camp! So yeah, Heath was slightly picked on based on his mode of transportation getting to the stand. If only he had worn a red bow tie it would have been perfect.



Young Heath, circa 1985

Let me tell you I was skeptical about that darn bike getting to the stand but by gosh it performed way better than I had expected. And to top it off Heath was able to become the first hunter to ever succeed with a self-made bow!



A More Mature Heath, cira 2024

BLAST FROM THE PAST



Bridges

Several of the remote lakes had some sketchy bridges at them, that were used by the timber companies to access logging areas. Not sure if this is the one that gave a short cut to Gerrard Lake, but story goes that at the end of its life, you had to move the planks around to cross it "safely". In my book, having to move planks is never "safe"!!

Diving Board

Back in the day, Gold Arrow Camp had a floating dock with a diving board. Now, if you want to dive into the water, you have to go across the lake to the cliff pull yourself up a rope and then you can plunge in from about 20 feet high. Do this at your own risk...definitely not covered by our insurance!



Pickeler Creek

Many of you will remember the scary, spider infested, low clearance bridge that used to connect Jackfish Lake to Pickeler Lake. A few years ago, this relic was replaced and feels much safer to go under... and over for that matter!

These 3 VanRenterghem kids were so much fun to have in camp. Ages 4,7 and 9 again emphasizes that your never too young to spend a week in the boat. Their love for the outdoors and fishing was inspiring. Thank you Tommy & Jamie for introducing them to Canada!



Grandpa Todd showing our grandson how to bait bears. Jeremiah lead the way like it was nothing to walking into an active bait.



The Carlson family knows how to fish. Here they had a walleye triple while fishing on Smith Lake. I guess the work getting there was worth it!



MOM WOULD WASH MY MOUTH OUT

Saturday mornings can be hectic during normal weeks, but add in the fact that during bear season Todd leaves me around 9:00 am to run baits, and the pressure to get 9 cabins cleaned before guests arrive is escalated. This year was going extremely smooth, maybe too smooth, where you just know something is going to go wrong. Yep, 3rd week of bear baiting and 1st week of hunters and it happens.

If you've never been in cabin #8, let me set the stage. There are 2 bedrooms, each with 2 stand-alone twin beds with a very solid, built-in bunk above the headboard end of the twin beds. Admittingly during hot

weather, having your head under the bunk does get a little stuffy. Most people just untuck the blankets and move their pillow to the foot of the bed to get more air from the ceiling fan and window.

Not the case this week. Instead, they turned both beds 90 degrees. Now, they did strip the beds for me when they left, which would normally be beneficial in time management, but not this week. As you know, there is not a lot of extra space in the bedrooms, so turning two beds was a struggle but I managed. I was making the 1st bed and upon tucking in the blankets, I realized that when I turned the beds, I had done it backward.

Lily Carlson had a day to remember on Upper Lawrence. Not only did she catch this monster, but several more in the size range. Dad must have been a good guide!



This year we had plenty of rain which means lots of beaver dams in the creeks. Some guys turn around, others, like Rob, jump out and start tearing them apart to get to their favorite lake.



Stair step cousins. Another great group of kids that love fishing in Canada. They come up with their grandparents, Richard & Barb Knepp, and had a blast!



Dessert night is always a hit but this particular week everyone showed up at the same time. Such a bonus to have these social times attended so well.

The Wittkamper group always takes time to get a group shot before heading home. This year guys came from 7 different states to be together.



Sometimes you have the will but not the enery to fish. Laying down on the job seems to work for Sydney.

