

# The Memquisit News

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## Welcome to our eighth Newsletter.

Believe it or not, as I am writing this edition of our monthly newsletter, we have already been shut down for a month. The cold weather has found its way to us and winter is basically just around the corner. All the toys have been put away and the snowplow is all ready to go as we await our first real snow fall. I could wait forever for the latter even though we are well equipped to handle the load. We have it made when we compare ourselves to what Jeanne and her mom went through as they were left to handle the operation by themselves as there beloved dad/husband had just passed away. Imagine this place without any roads leading in or electricity or telephones to communicate with the outside world.

Jeanne and her mom were about to begin their first winter without him at the helms. I am not sure if they spent the winter here in the beginning however if they did a lot of things needed to be ready for the long harsh weather ahead. Number one on the list would have been to shut down the camp so that

nothing was destroyed over the winter months. Since no roads lead into the camp, it was also necessary to bring in ample supplies ahead of time so that venturing in and out of the camp would be kept to a minimum. At the time, the Trivets depended on a small farm located at the back of the lodge as part of their survival. A few livestock including cows, chickens and pigs provided them with some of their basic food requirements. There still exist to this date a few tools and machinery lying around at the back of the house near the bush. These always serve to remind us how lucky we are that we just need to hop in the car, drive to the grocery store and pick whatever we need and of course don't need to fill in our never empty stomachs while we crank up the thermostat to assure a constant summer like temperature engulfs our homes.

No thermostats were available during Jeanne's early days here at the lodge. A significant amount of firewood was thrown in the wood stoves on a daily basis to barely keep the almost non-insulated house at a somewhat decent temperature. There was no room for errors since a slight miscalculation

could have serious consequences. I remember Jeanne telling me that during the winter months the local natives, who they hired and provided shelter to, would cut out large blocks of ice from the lake and then store these blocks under sawdust and straw to eventually be used in the operation during the summer months. I can't imagine how difficult this must have been since I know for a fact that the average thickness of the ice on Lake Nipissing in the winter is 3 feet. In addition these blocks must have weighed a ton making them very difficult to handle.

The story continues next month....



## The Fishing Report

For all you musky fisherman, a group of 6 fishermen who stayed in cabin 17 from Nov 2nd to Nov 9th, was rewarded with a total of 13 muskies for their week. We have no idea on what the sizes were, however we do know that the numbers were there. It was cold to fish but it was well worth it. No need to say that the group has re-booked for next year at the same time. Our hats off to the MNR for extending the musky and pike season till the end of November.



## What's New?

The crew has begun the long grueling and not always pleasant process of setting out their budget for the 2008 season. This will then lead to establishing our new rates for the upcoming season. We will keep you posted.

Have a safe and joyous holiday season. May God protect you and your family in the upcoming year. Thank you very much for your patronage and hopefully we will see you next year.

## The Guide Report

None to report



## Weather Update

The weather is on what we call the yo-yo effect where one day it's nice and mild and the next day is very much the opposite.



Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year



## Lake Condition

The ice is slowly making its way into the bay, as the perimeters close to the shores are now a solid sheet of ice. The main channel is still wide opened, however if Mother Nature does not play the trick she played on us last year, the channel should be covered with ice in the next couple of weeks.



Quote of the month ; There is no ideal Christmas; only the one Christmas you decide to make as a reflection of your values, desires, affections, traditions. - Bill McKibben Author,