# The Tundra Times

WEEK 4, DAY 4 June 28, 2017

## All The News That's Fit To Catch

#### <u>Yesterdays Trophies</u>

**Phil Robers** 44", 40" Pike **Randy Doerter** 43", 40" Pike **Dave Paulus** 42.5", 41" Pike **Dani Grunberg** 42.5" Pike Allen Wortz Jr. 42", 41" Pike **Mike Rogers** 42", 41" Pike **Connor Dannewitz** 42" Pike **Nowell Rush** 41.5", 40", 40" Pike Ian Vaagenes 41", 40" Pike **Greg Paulus** 41", 40" Pike **Andy Johnston** 41" Pike **Mira Lechowicz** 40.25" Pike Andre Lechowicz 40 25" Pike **Charles Pebbles** 38.5" Trout Joe Novicki 37" Trout **Bill Calabresa** 36.5" Trout John Grainger 35" Trout **James MacDougall** 17.5", 16.5", 16" Grayling

















#### **Mission Statement**

The mission of Scott Lake Lodge is to provide guests with the most memorable fly-in fishing experience in North America, offering uncompromised customer service and safety.

# A SHORT HISTORY OF SCOTT LAKE LODGE



Imagine putting your home in an Airplane. Quite a thought. Now imagine putting a collection of 30 buildings of various sizes into a bunch of Airplanes, a big bunch. Now you get the concept and complications of building a fishing lodge 350 miles from any paved road. Every piece of wood, every nail, every window, every light fixture, every generator, every boat, every refrigerator, every piece of furniture, EVERY PIECE OF EVERYTHING AT Scott Lake Lodge got here in an Airplane.





Most of the materials used to build this modern edition of Scott Lake Lodge came in a twin-engine DC-3 on skis. For many years one was based at Points North, a transportation hub 110 miles east of Scott Lake. That DC-3 made 93 trips here with a payload of around 6,000 pounds per trip before it tragically crashed on Ennadai Lake in March of 2000 due to a load shift, killing both pilots. Since that crash all freight has been brought to the island in Twin Otters or Turbo Otters, either on floats or skis-- too many trips to count.

Scott Lake Lodge has a curious history. In the early 1960s a group planned to commercially fish Scott for the abundant lake trout and whitefish. They constructed on the island six huge red wood boats. Two were massive, probably 22 feet long with a beam of five or six feet and four were smaller but still much bigger than the current watercraft on the island. All have sunk but three are still visible in shallow water, one in Red Boat Bay just east of the lodge, one north of the lodge and one above the rapids at Kimiwan Falls, south of the east end of Scott Lake. They built a few small buildings but those have not survived to current days. Within a couple of weeks of working nets, their commercial fate was sealed; they discovered that the lake whitefish (the fish in Scott Lake with real commercial value) had internal parasites, making them a

Grade B product, virtually an unsalable product. They packed up what they could and left. There are still fragments of fishing nets on the island. So, the harmless internal parasites in the whitefish in effect saved Scott Lake. Had they been Grade A fish you would not be reading this right now. Scott would have had a hollowed-out fishery that probably would not have recovered.







n 1968, Slim and Hap Cave who had run an un-L successful fishing operation on Lake Athabasca, acquired the lease on the island and purchased the red boats, apparently then still quite serviceable. The first season he built a small cabin and over the next five years started growing the lodge, building eight cabins, all of different colors. According to Mike Woloshyn, the business was not doing well. Mike and his wife Lenna decided to dive into the fishing lodge business. They sold their home in Chilliwack, British Columbia and purchased Scott Lake Lodge in 1973, bringing their young son, Steve, to the island. Steve later became a Scott Lake guide and pilot. Mike worked off-season at the Uranium mine in Uranium City, on the north shore of Lake Athabasca about 80 miles southwest of Scott Lake. That story is worth a quick aside.

In the post WW II Cold War era, the Canadian federal government invested over 100 million dollars, many billions in today's dollars, to build a city around a low-grade uranium mine. It became a city of around 4,000 people in a community not connected by road to anywhere. It featured a shopping center complete with a bowling alley. When the mine was shut down in 1982 it became a surreal ghost town, a setting fit for a Mad Max film. Its current population is about 200. The mine job kept the Woloshyn family in the lodge business until 1987 when they needed a big investment to keep the place going and they put the lodge on the market. Mike recalls his fourteen years at Scott fondly. He remembers "a lot of great people and a few dingbats". He especially appreciated the support of the Southland Corporation, the parent company of the 7/11 chain, who sent three corporate groups to the lodge and got them through their critical early years. The lodge was primitive then. The cabins had no indoor plumbing and no interior paneling. There was a community shower house. The Woloshyn's lived in a cabin that is now The Last Cast Bar, one of the oldest buildings on the island. The main lodge was the structure that is now Trout/Aurora cabin. For all those years they used the big red boats powered by 20 HP Johnsons. It's speculation but All-Day Bay, at the very east end of Scott Lake, prob-

ably needed a full day to get there and back with boats that could not have run at more than 10 mph. Asked about the size of the fish back then, Mike recalls that only a couple of dozen pike over 40" were caught every season with anything approaching 50 inches "rare". There was no fly out lakes in that era.









In 1989, the Woloshyn family sold the lodge to the Gangler family who made some major investments and put Scott Lake Lodge on the fishing map. They brought in 18' aluminum boats with 40 HP Mercury motors. The cabins were given upgrades including indoor plumbing. In the early Gangler years all the buildings were painted white. Later the half-log siding was added to match the look of the main lodge built in 1993. It had a huge fireplace on the south facing wall (blocking most of the view of the lake) and the kitchen was less than half current side. The floor was carpeted and a pool table graced the center of the lodge. Capacity at that time was 18 guests.

After spending three seasons as a customer, two at the Premier Lake outpost and one at the main lodge with his wife Pat, Tom Klein knew he had to spend every summer at Scott. In August of 1996 Tom and Pat Klein purchased the lodge and embarked on a major seven-year building/remodeling/landscaping project. About half of the current buildings, including Caribou Cabin, the office, the Esox/Moose/Musk Ox complex, Grayling Cabin, Stone Haven Spa and several staff buildings and storage buildings were constructed during that period. The other half were rebuilt from the bottom up—new roofs, floors, interior paneling, exterior siding, new wiring and new plumbing. The construction has never really stopped.

In 2005 a new staff dorm was built and the kitchen was expanded. In 2009 a sauna and new guide den were added. In 2011 Raven cabin was built. In the spring of 2014 a new woman's dorm was constructed. In 2015 Ron Spork, a long time Scott customer, joined the Klein's as a proud Scott Lake owner. In 2017 The Last Cast Bar was expanded and the big deck around the main lodge was replaced, having served Scott guests since it was added in 1997. By opening day of 2018 there will be a new addition to Lake Lodge. The beat goes on. Book At The Lodge For 2018 Season-

IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY BOOKED FOR THE 2018 SEASON, BE SURE TO SEE JASON IN THE OFFICE. LOCK IN YOUR GUIDE, CABIN, AND WEEK FOR YOUR NEXT SEASONS TRIP.

#### **DINNER MENU**

### LODGE BURGER

BBQed Beef Patty, with Back Bacon, Smoked Cheddar Cheese, Spicy Onion Crisp and Roasted Garlic Mayo. Served with Maple Thyme French Fries.

### **1/4 BBQ CHICKEN**

Served with French Fries and vegetables

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## Scott Lake Lodge is Online!

We just launched our new website, with all the great content from before with some new added features!

Check us out at: www.scottlakelodge.com



## Todays Fly Out Schedule

Departure Time	Plane	Lake	Guide	Passengers
8:00 - 5:00	HPE	IVANHOE	Cody	Conrad & Judy Schmidt
		BEAUVAIS	Hammer	Andy Johnston
9:30-6:30	HPE	THOMAS	Biff	Mike Rogers, Ian Vaagenes
		WHOLDAIA	J5	Mike & Joey Manship
			Graham	Chuck & Connor Dannewitz