

Hello!!

December 18, 2016

Well, here it is, Christmas once again! It sure looks the part as I look out on Outpostland. There is already about one foot of snow on the ground and so cold that Bo and I have decided not to venture out. We seem to have been plunged into winter with it being  $-18^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $0^{\circ}\text{F}$ ). We are hoping for a bit of a break in this next week as we will be travelling in to the Soo for Christmas with Jamie. We are just back from our 'summer' vacation, as Jim calls it, to Veradero, Cuba. It was an historic time to be there, in the days after the death of Castro. The first days there were very quiet as playing music was prohibited during the nine day mourning period. On the resort, we were able to drink beer and alcohol but the local people were not. We had such a wonderful time doing nothing more pressing than floating in the ocean and eating food cooked by someone else!! We did a little hiking and spent a day wandering around the old part of Havana. The days were sunny and quite calm, with temperatures between  $28$  and  $34^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $85$  and  $95^{\circ}\text{F}$ ). It is such a treat for us! We also had a nice visit with Sean who is doing well and happily working at a GM dealership in Guelph.

This past season was a great one- nice weather, fish and people, new and repeat. In fact, we now have more weeks filled for next season than ever before! Give us a call to make your plans for 2017!

It was quite a dry year but we were lucky enough to get some rain just when it was needed. Water levels remained quite high throughout the season making for good fishing. We enjoyed many warm beautiful swimming days on Jobam. It was very windy however making us stick to small campfires. It has become such a hit for everyone to come together on the front deck. Now, thanks to Gus and Doris, we have a wood burning Darth Vader to oversee these fires!!

The season wrapped up with a celebration of our 30 years as the Keepers of the Lodge and the burning of our mortgage. We were joined by most of our close family for a beautiful warm week of fun in September. This warm stable weather also gave us the opportunity to put another section of metal on the Lodge roof. Cottage #4 also got a new roof!! We have lots of plans for the spring schedule too!!

As the year comes to an end, we look back at a successful season full of wonderful guests having enjoyed all of the activities of our friendly, beautiful area. We are looking forward to 2017 and really hope that you will join us once again!!

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Much love to you all, Jim, Ann, Jamie, Sean and Bo

