

# THE FISHWRAPPER



Never miss a wave  
**BluefinBay**  
ON LAKE SUPERIOR

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## CURING THE WINTER BLUES ONE WAVE AT A TIME.



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Twin Cities, MN

Never miss a wave  
**BluefinBay**  
ON LAKE SUPERIOR  
TOFTE, MN 55615





DEAR GUESTS,

In so many ways, 2011 has been a year to remember. We've enjoyed spectacular weather through each of the seasons, witnessed great community strength during the Pagami Creek fire in the BWCAW, and had the pleasure of welcoming so many guests – both familiar faces and newfound friends.

We feel blessed that so many of you have chosen to spend time with us at Bluefin Bay and look forward to helping you create lasting vacation memories long into the New Year.

As a token of our appreciation and a celebration of the majestic beauty of Lake Superior's North Shore, please enjoy the enclosed complimentary 18th Annual Bluefin Bay Calendar. We hope its images inspire happy memories of time spent in our area's breathtaking wilderness.

From all of us at Bluefin Bay, happy holidays and best wishes for the New Year.

Dennis Rysdahl,  
Owner and General Manager

## Legends of the skinny ski



*Editor's note: The story of the Nemini brothers originally ran in the 1978 winter issue of the Tofte General Store Gazette.*

With 400 kilometers of pristine trails, it's not hard to understand why cross country skiing has long been a favorite local winter activity. Ski enthusiasts religiously head north each year to trek portions of North America's largest ski system, many during February's Volks Ski 400 – a fun, all ages event that attempts to cover all 400 km in one single day.

But while today's ski trails are a family friendly destination, they once played a more nefarious role thanks to two beaver pelt bandits named Nemini...

In a year long enough ago to be legend but recent enough to be remembered, the Nemini brothers arrived on the North Shore to work in the logging camps. Far from the game warden in Two Harbors, the brothers built a small cabin near the headwaters of the Onion River.

Industrious folk, the two stayed busy when logging was slow by trapping and crafting Nordic skis by hand. While the skis became gifts for Tofte locals, the trapping became a lure for the authorities.

Hearing rumors of illegally poached beaver, the game warden headed north, strapped on his snowshoes and hiked the hilly terrain between Tofte and the Onion River cabin.

His effort paid off. Finding two sacks of pelts, the warden arrested the men and ordered them to carry the evidence out. The Neminis stepped into their handcrafted skis and followed the warden's snowshoe-clad lead. Until they crested a hill.

The brothers raced down the slope, leaving the warden in their snowy wake. When he reached town, the Neminis were nowhere to be found...and no locals were talking.

Many years and pairs of Nordic ski gifts later, the legend of the Nemini brothers snowy escape lives on.



**Waves of Superior Spa Winter Hours:**  
**Sun – Thurs 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Fri - Sat 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.**  
**Appointments can be made at Guest Services or**  
**at [www.wavesofsuperiorspa.com](http://www.wavesofsuperiorspa.com).**

## Bluefin Bay Up Close

### Enjoy the warmer side of winter at Waves of Superior Spa

In a winter wonderland like the North Shore, it's easy to spend an entire vacation outdoors. But some of the season's best oohs and aahs are found inside, at our very own Waves of Superior Spa. Here's a closer look at our new spa...

- Our full service spa is the only resort destination spa on Lake Superior's North Shore and features a complete range of spa services (e.g. massage, body wraps, skin care, and manis and pedis). Inspired by our spectacular natural surroundings – Lake Superior, the forest and the mountains – our treatments are perfect for keeping bodies supple and healthy during the harsh winter months.
- Ideal for girlfriend getaways, spa weekends or a ski and spa vacation, our 3,800 square foot coastal oasis was designed to relax the mind, relieve the body and rejuvenate

the spirit. Relax in our shimmering indoor pool, whirlpool, and sauna. Or, tune up in our fitness center before or after your Waves of Superior spa treatment.

- Hitting the slopes? Nothing says ahhh-pres ski like our luxurious Back to Nature Experience, soothing Hot Stone Massage or Waves Signature Massage – all inspired by local resources. We've extended our hours on Friday and Saturday to 7 p.m. for those who want to play outdoors all day and unwind with a relaxing massage.
- Two locations make relaxation easy: The full spa experience and menu is available at our Waves of Superior Spa, located at Surfside (just one mile south of Bluefin Bay). Or enjoy a soothing massage onsite at the Bluefin Bay Wellness Center, just outside your condo or suite.



## Great Waves, *Great People*

We're thrilled to provide our guests with warm and friendly hospitality, something we couldn't do without an exceptional staff. This new column is our way of introducing you to some of the faces behind the service we provide our guests every day at Bluefin Bay.



*Tommy Somn's*  
**Maintenance &  
Snowplow Services**

**Hometown:** *Isfte, MN*

**I've been with Bluefin Bay ...since**  
*1984, while Bluefin Bay was still  
under construction*

**My favorite spot at Bluefin Bay is...**  
*the maintenance shop, the place  
where I can get things done*

**Some of the things I do include...**  
*Snowplowing, maintenance, welding,  
grounds care, equipment, vehicle  
service and any other behind-the-  
scenes necessities*



*Charlie*  
**Snowplow Support Staff**

**Hometown:** *Isfte, MN*

**Breed...***Saint Bernard*

**I've been with Bluefin Bay for...**  
*10 years (that's 70 in dog years)*

**My favorite spot at Bluefin Bay is...**  
*the back of the snowplow truck,  
where I can slide back and forth  
when Tommy hits the brakes. Or  
wherever a hand waits to pet me*

**Some of the things I do include...**  
*Drool, charm guests, sleep, follow  
Tommy wherever he goes*

## OUR WAVES, OUR DAYS

Featuring happenings in and around Bluefin Bay and our North Shore neighborhood.

### GIVE THE GIFT OF BLUEFIN BAY

This holiday give a gift that will keep on giving long after it is unwrapped — the gift of a seaside vacation getaway to the Bluefin Bay Family of Resorts. Gift cards can be purchased in any dollar amount and used for lodging, restaurants, gift shops and the Waves of Superior Spa. Gift cards are mailed within a few days of placing your order, and each card comes in special holiday packaging with a place for a personal message — all making your job of giving even easier. **Call 1-800-BLUEFIN (258-3346) or 218-663-7296 locally to order your gift cards today.**



### NIGHT LIFE AT THE BLUEFIN GRILLE

Stop by the Bluefin Grille for live music on Sunday, Wednesday and Friday nights from 9-11 p.m. throughout the winter season. And while you're there, check out our late night menu offering an array of appetizers, burgers and sandwiches, not to mention ½ off select bottles of wine. We're pleased to offer a little dose of "night life" at the Grille this season.

### GUEST CHEF DELIGHTS AND THE GIRLS HEAD NORTH

On Nov. 4-5, the Bluefin Bay culinary team welcomed Executive Guest Chef Jack Riebel, formerly of the Dakota Jazz Club and Restaurant, for Fall Food and Wine Lovers Weekend. Chef Riebel gave the sell-out crowd a sneak peak of what they can expect at his new restaurant — Butcher and the Boar — opening this January in Minneapolis. The following weekend we welcomed Minnesota Monthly Magazine's fashion editor Katie Dohman and dining critic Dara Moskowitz Grumdahl for a fashion and wine tasting event at our fourth annual Girls Gone North Weekend. Mark your calendars now for our 2012 Spring Food and Wine Lovers Weekend, May 4-5, and the fifth annual Girls Gone North Weekend Nov. 9-11.

### COMPLIMENTARY GUEST WINTER ACTIVITIES

Bluefin Bay offers a full array of complimentary activities and outdoor equipment to help guests take full advantage of the area. Join us for guided snowshoe hikes, guided cross-country ski tours, kids' activities and crafts, ice skating, campfires and smores, and more. We also provide free shuttles to and from Lutsen Mountains Ski Resort and area trailheads.

## The Way We See It

Bluefin Bay and the surrounding area are bursting with outdoor adventure and breathtaking sights. Here are some favorite activities and tips from those in the know — the Bluefin Bay team. For more details on any of these suggestions, our Guest Services staff will be happy to help.



**Favorite Snowshoe:** Oberg Mountain  
*by Tami Enggren, Guest Services*

Many of our return guests have hiked Oberg Mountain during the summer/fall months, however this 2.5 mile loop is just as accessible in the winter. Enjoy breathtaking panoramic vistas from the eight overlooks around the mountain, including fantastic views of Lake Superior, the snow covered Superior National Forest, and the frozen Oberg Lake.

**Favorite Intermediate/Advanced Cross Country Ski Trail:**  
The Homestead Loop *by John Wolf, Accounting*

It's hard to go wrong anywhere in the Sugarbush Trail system, but one of the favorites of skiing enthusiasts is the Homestead Loop (Britton Peak trailhead). Recommended for more advanced

skiers, this 13 km trail offers challenging terrain and a great chance to experience the solitude and tranquility of the Superior National Forest. Ask Guest Services for a map and directions or we'll shuttle you to and from the trailhead.

**Favorite Relaxation:** Back to Nature Experience  
*by Jolita Rysdahl, Marketing*

Every treatment at our spa is one-of-a-kind and the Back to Nature Experience is no exception. This luxurious 75-minute treatment uses the purifying properties of local resources like birch, pine and wild rice during a tension-melting scalp massage and cool stone massage, and then finishes with a generous application of sumptuous blueberry soufflé crème. Perfection.



# HOT Winter Deals

## North Shore Holiday Special

Valid Nov. 27-Dec. 25, 2011

Celebrate the holiday season at Bluefin Bay and enjoy 20% off two night stays or three nights for the price of two. Then kick off your holiday shopping with coupons for local businesses, live music, family friendly activities and more!

## January 3 for 2 & February 4 for 3

Valid January 1-Feb. 4, 2012 and Feb. 5-29, 2012

Stay three nights in January or four nights in February and get one of those nights completely free!

## Ski & Stay Packages

For those who love to ski and stay at Bluefin Bay, we offer packages combining discounted lodging with discounted lift tickets to Lutsen Mountains Ski Resort. Visit [bluefinbay.com](http://bluefinbay.com) and click on Packages, or ask your reservationist for details.

## Extended Stay Package

Valid all winter on new reservations, excluding Christmas through New Years. Cannot be combined with other offers. With this progressive savings deal, stays of five nights receive 10% off, stays of six nights receive 15% off and stays of seven nights receive 20% off!

## Winter Cyber Deal

Valid Dec. 1, 2011-March 31, 2012 (excluding Dec. 26-31, 2011)

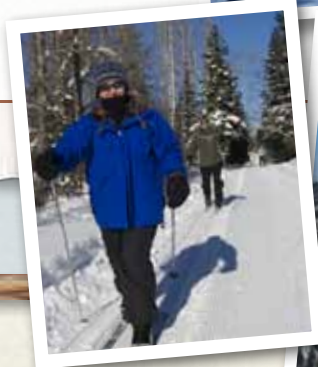
Cannot be combined with other offers. Book two nights or more online at [bluefinbay.com](http://bluefinbay.com) and receive 15% off the regular winter rate. But hurry! You must book by Dec. 31, 2011. Good for online reservations only.

## March Weekends at Midweek Rates

Valid March 1-31, 2012

Stay three nights over a weekend and receive ALL nights at our lower midweek rates.

Visit [www.bluefinbay.com](http://www.bluefinbay.com) for more information on these and all our other unbeatable deals!



## Snow much winter fun

From frosted shop windows to freshly groomed ski trails, the area surrounding Bluefin Bay is bursting with winter fun.

### North Shore Holiday

**Nov. 24-Dec. 25, 2011**

[www.anorthshoreholiday.com](http://www.anorthshoreholiday.com)

Celebrate the holidays with family friendly activities and one-of-a-kind shopping during five themed weekends featuring live music, sleigh rides, skiing, art, holiday teas, handmade gifts and more.

### Winter Tracks Festival

**Feb. 3-12, 2012**

[www.visitcookcounty.com/wintertracks](http://www.visitcookcounty.com/wintertracks)

The winter festival that puts all other winter festivals to shame. With snowshoeing, sleigh riding, dog sledding, craft making, snow sculptures, live music and more fun activities. This is one celebration of the season you simply can't miss.

### Volks Ski 400

**Feb. 11, 2012**

[www.volksski.com](http://www.volksski.com)

Nordic skiers unite! Help us ski into legend as we attempt to cover all 400 kilometers of North America's largest ski system in one single day. Not the team type? Vie for the individual challenge crown by logging your progress on the system's trails throughout the season.

### Music & Entertainment

**All season long**

[www.lutsen.com](http://www.lutsen.com)

Local favorites, regional stars and national acts alike will grace the stage of Papa Charlie's at Lutsen Mountains. Headline events include hip-hop queen Dessa on January 14, jam band Big Wu on February 18-19 and the Gear Daddies, on March 17.



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For more on Bluefin Bay events and specials check us out on:

