

The Fishwrapper



CAPTAIN DARREN PECK AND HIS SON JACK

TOFTE CHARTERS

This summer you might think you are seeing double! Tofte Charters is expanding by adding a second captain and boat to the fleet. Along with the expansion comes the ability to offer shorter fishing trips and scenic cruises. A two hour fishing trip is perfect for introducing younger kids to fishing and a two hour scenic cruise would be just long enough to take the “On the Road with Jason Davis” Manitou Falls excursion. They will still be offering 1/2 Day charters which are popular with most fishermen and women. Half days are long enough to catch a good number of fish and see the sights. You could even get a hike or a round of golf in before or after the trip. For the dedicated fishing crowd Tofte Charters also has Full Day charters, so you can seek out that trophy fish after you have caught your limit of fish to eat.

Tofte Charters is owned and operated by one of Bluefin’s very own Guest Service Managers, Darren Peck. Darren has been with Bluefin for over 12 years. Darren is entering his ninth year as a Captain and says he still can’t get enough time on the water. “I feel very fortunate to have found a job doing something I love ... and the view from my ‘office’ isn’t bad either.” If you have been to Bluefin in the summer you have probably seen the blue and white Tofte Charters fishing boat either parked beside Guest Services or cruising past Bluefin on Lake Superior. Having two boats, which are nearly identical Bayliners, also allows larger groups to get out on the water at the same time. Whatever your needs and desires for time on the Big water of Lake Superior, give Tofte Charters a call at 866-663-9932 or email them at darren@toftecharters.com. They will arrange a fun filled trip with lasting memories.

For up to date fishing reports and pictures of the latest catch log on to www.toftecharters.com

Gales Special

IT’S BACK!! Stay 3 nights at Bluefin Bay and pay for just 2
October 22 - December 21, 2006
Except Holiday Periods
AND
That’s in addition to our already low
QUIET TIME RATES

Call 1-800-BLUEFIN today
Or go online at www.bluefinbay.com

HISTORY LAKEWALK

Imagine taking a walk through Bluefin Bay and learning about the history of Lake Superior and the area around Tofte. Well, imagine no more, because now you can do just that as you stroll along the Historic Tofte Lakewalk which winds its way from the North Shore Commercial Fishing Museum, through Bluefin Bay and on down to the Tofte Town Park. On July 8, folks came from far and wide for the Grand Opening Ceremony held at the Museum and Bluefin Bay. As result of many years’ labor of love by a great many people and contributions from folks like you, Phase 1 is now complete and Phase 2 is in process. Always spurred on by the leadership of Mary Alice Hansen, Museum Board Chairperson for longer than she might have hoped, the Lakewalk is a tremendous extension of the Museum and a great addition to Tofte. With its interpretive panels and replica of the Hans Engelson Boathouse located next to the Bluefin Grille, you feel as though you have stepped back in time. When you are next at Bluefin Bay on America’s North Coast, give the Lakewalk a try. You are sure to enjoy it.

(Pictures on back)

Rare Opportunity

To own a Bluefin Bay
Grand Superior Townhome.
Call Rob at 612-599-2757.

Seniors’ Weeks

August 27 – September 7, 2006
Except Holiday Periods
Seniors’ Weeks Special Includes:
25% off Lodging Sunday–Thursday
Discounted Greens Fees
at Superior National
Valid for those ages 62 and older
2 night minimum

Calendar of Events

JULY 2006

- 1 Canada Day
- 1-3 Go Back for Murder - Mystery - Grand Marais Playhouse
- 4 Independence Day (Tofte Parade, Tofte Trek, Fireworks over Lake Superior)
- 22 West End Garden Club Flower Show
- 27-30 The Spitfire Grill - Grand Marais Playhouse
- 28-30 North Shore Dragon Boat Festival

AUGUST 2006

- 2-6 Grand Marais Fisherman’s Picnic (Food, crazy days, fun, fireworks, street dances and parade)
- 3-5 The Spitfire Grill - Grand Marais Playhouse
- 11-13 Rendezvous Days - Grand Portage
- 24-27 & 31 Lend Me A Tenor - Grand Marais Playhouse
- 27-31 Seniors’ Weeks at Bluefin Bay

SEPTEMBER 2006

- 1-3 Bayou Boogie Festival - Grand Portage
- 1-3 Lend Me A Tenor - Grand Marais Playhouse
- 4-7 Seniors’ Weeks at Bluefin Bay
- 4 Labor Day
- 20 Fall Equinox

OCTOBER 2006

- 9 Columbus Day
- 9 Thanksgiving Day (Canada)
- 19-21 MEA Weekend
- 21-23 & 27-28 An Evening of One Act Plays (Grand Marais Playhouse)
- 22 Gales Special and Autumn Quiet Time begin at Bluefin Bay
- 31 Halloween

NOVEMBER 2006

GALES OF NOVEMBER SPECIAL

- 1 All Saint’s Day
- 3 & 4 Wine & Food Lover’s Weekend at Bluefin
- 11 Veteran’s Day & Remembrance Day (Canada)
- 23 Thanksgiving



KIM NELSON Bluefin Activities Director

Bluefin is pleased to have found Kim Nelson who joined the Bluefin staff approximately 3 months ago, as our new Activities Director. Prior to moving up to the North Coast seven years ago, Kim served in the recreational departments of Minneapolis, St. Louis Park, and Golden Valley. While living “Up North” she has worked within Community Education and the School District programming and teaching activities. You may have seen her on the Grand Marais Playhouse stage, during her Board commitment as Education Chair (she did get talked into auditioning for a few plays). She’s traveled extensively with her husband’s military career where she lived abroad for three years. She has quite a crew, with 4 children ranging from second year in college to second grade. Her creative side still tries to find time to quilt which seems to be less and less these days. When you get a chance to talk with her, she’d be glad to share her experience in the Amazon jungle with you or help you make the most of your stay at Bluefin with a hike, massage, bike ride or more.

“The struggle on the lake, fighting the storms in small boats, or trying to ‘meet the boat’ on rough days ... was a melodrama woven into the history of Tofte.”

- Hans Englesen



MOOSE WAITING TO CHECK INTO #49, BLUEFIN BAY

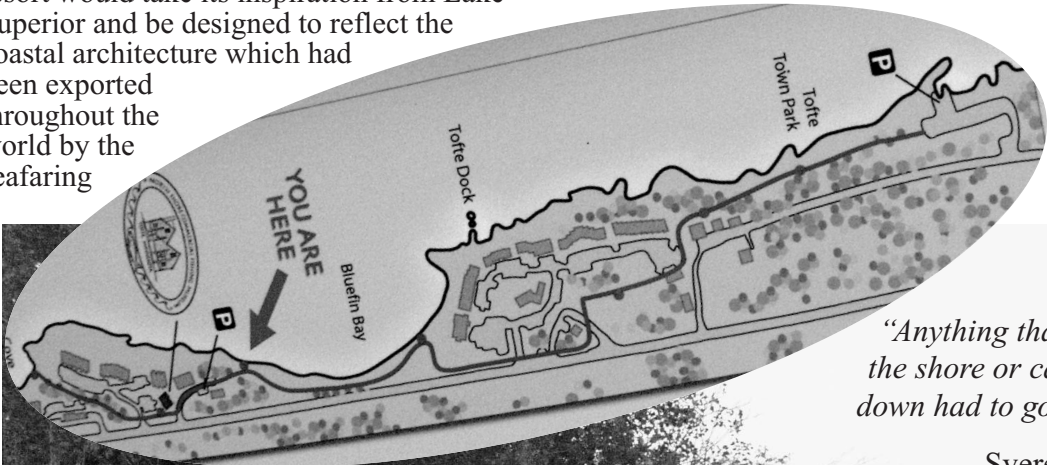
THE BLUEFIN VISION BEGINS Twenty Five Years Young

Twenty Five Years Ago, in April of 1981, Rob Buntz, a young developer from St. Paul, was driving up the North Shore with his dog, Bumper, on their last cross-country ski trip of the season. As they passed by the Edgewater and the Olson’s Motel in Tofte, Rob marveled at the unique and beautiful setting on the Bay. He had grown up mostly on the East Coast and spent time along the coast of Maine and so envisioned a resort which would pattern itself after a coastal fishing village. That afternoon, he stopped by to pay a visit to Charlie Skinner, who had recently purchased the Lutsen Mountains Ski Area from the Nelson Family. In the course of their conversation, Rob mentioned The Edgewater and, as serendipity would have it, Charlie knew the owners, The Olson Family, and had heard they might be interested in selling. Charlie phoned them and by the next day, negotiations began for Rob to purchase The Edgewater Inn and the Olson’s Motel. Within two weeks they all had agreed to the purchase of each - closing The Edgewater purchase May 15, 1981.

A developer of condominiums and other real estate in St. Paul, it was Rob’s vision to create a condominium resort on the property. The resort would take its inspiration from Lake Superior and be designed to reflect the coastal architecture which had been exported throughout the world by the seafaring

people of Great Britain and the Scandinavian Countries. His goals included creating a resort which would reflect the natural elegance of Lake Superior and provide owners and Guests alike with the opportunity to experience the wilderness while being able to come home to all the “creature comforts.” Rob found the hallmarks of the style - simple, clean lines, pitched roofs and clapboard siding - embodied in a building, in the Twin Cities, designed by Architect Lloyd Jafvert of Jafvert, Mueller and Associates, Bloomington. Lloyd was retained and agreed to initially work without compensation to help get the project off the ground. Together, they created the look and style of Bluefin Bay which was based in part upon the Twin Fishhouse of Tofte Founders, John and Andrew Tofte & Hans Engelson, and was then so beautifully refined and executed by Lloyd and his staff.

In those early years, it was a struggle to operate the Edgewater Resort while planning for the development to come, but the Tofte Family and others were great supporters. More on that in our next installment of the history of Bluefin Bay which will appear in the next issue of THE FISHWRAPPER.



“Anything that went up the shore or came back down had to go by boat.”

- Svere Mathisen

