

Diamond Drill

Out of the Past

December 12, 1973

Intrigue highlighted the annual rabbit hunt held at the Bicigo Liver Lake complex as to the awarding of the "12th District Mafia Master Hunter Award". Originally awarded to "Bunzo" Dalpra but a dispute as to how he obtained his harvest was "discussed" in a Toscano cigar smoke filled Cabin #3 where the "Dago Red" flowed freely which may never be fully resolved, resulted in Norb Dishaw actually taking the trophy home. The rabbit hunt has a long and colorful history. First began in December 1931 by a group of sportsmen who ventured to the newly constructed Bicigo Camp, then located on the former Eli Silverman property North of Deerskin Lake (T44N/R31W Sec 30, W1/2 of NW1/4). With the building of the Way Dam in 1940 and subsequent creation of the Michigamme Backwaters, the modern era hunt reemerged in January 1964 at the Alvin Richards Camp (T44N/R32W Sec11, NE1/4 of SW1/4) jointly owned with Ozzie Casanova and Attilio Tirapelli. In February 1965 the assembly of indoor and outdoor "sportsmen" moved to the Bicigo Liver Lake property.

MANY ATTEND HUNT

The first rabbit hunt of the Crystal Falls Conservation club was held at the Bicigo cottage, Deerskin lake, last Sunday and it attracted about 40 men, some of them from the west side of the county. The cottage is a new one built by Mr. Bicigo during the past year and it was the subject of general admiration from all who were present.

A swamp about a quarter of a mile from the cottage is filled with rabbits and there was some lively shooting for a time. Fully fifty rabbits were killed in the hunt which consumed the middle portion of the day.

Upon the hunt ending the crew returned to the camp where a splendid "Mulligan" had been prepared under the direction of Dr. Frank P. Noyes. It was a hungry crew that fell to and when the inner man was satisfied there was little of the big boiler full of stew left.

The club has an invitation to hold its next hunt at the logging camp of the Cassagranda Bros. west of Sawyer lake some time in January. The invitation will probably be accepted at the January meeting of the club.

The membership of the club is gradually expanding and promises to reach the 100 mark early in the winter.

Bicigo Camp - Deerskin Lake - December 1931



SPORTSMEN'S OUTING — Assembled in the photo above are a band of pioneer sportsmen pictured during an outing held at the Emil Bicigo camp on Liver Lake. An informed estimate places the time as sometime in the spring of 1927 or 1928. Most of the men have been identified. Standing, left to right are Gust Lithen, Einar Johnson, an unidentified man wearing bow tie, Raymond Robichaud, John Calcaterra, Ernest Munns, Phil Shaw, Ike Rochon, Louis Henry, John Schmid, Casper

Bauer, Joe Andrizzi, Theodore Waldron, Charles Uren, Ben Cheney, Ed Lundberg, Gabe Dalagassa, Angelo Carlotto, Reuben Sandstrom, Bill Robichaud and Eli Silverwood. Kneeling or sitting are Doris Carry, John Carlstrom, Sigard Martinson, Emil Johnson, Adolph Hasselstrom, Emil Bicigo, Ambrose Christoferson, Patsy Olson, John Martinucci and "Fritz" Schmid. Identifications were made with the aid of Herbert Larsen Sr. and Gabe Dalagassa. The photograph is from a collection of old photos made over the years by Ed Lundberg.

Richards Camp - January 1964



THE McCUTCHEON SAFARI of last weekend is shown above posing in front of the camp at the conclusion of the day's hunt. Standing left to right are Victor Schiavo, Ed Bjorn, Chet Sartori, Roy Hagglund and Walter Hagglund. Kneeling are Joe Lessandrini, Rudy Dalpra, Joe Ebner, Jack Chervo, Al

Richards, Tom Bowman and Kenneth Menapace. The five rabbits are prominently displayed. Those not shown include Natale Tirapelli, Bob Dalpra, Angelo Albiero and Larry Simeoni. (Drill photo)

Bicigo Camp - Liver Lake - February 1965



SPORTSMEN AMASSED—Members of the large party which spent Saturday afternoon and evening at the Bicigo property on Liver Lake are shown above prior to the start of one of two hunts staged during the day. Host Emil Bicigo displays the two rabbits bagged in the first outing. With instructions on location from him the band dispersed again, and in a short

time returned with four more to bring the total to six for the afternoon. Standing are John Schiavo, Ken Menapace, Larry Simeoni, Joe Ebner, Ed Bjerne, Vic Schiavo, Roy Hagglund, Bob Bicigo, Jack Chervo, Rudy Dalpra, and Toby Lesandrini. Kneeling are Angelo Albiero, Tom Bowman, Emil Bicigo, Bay Fabbri, Norb Dishaw and Natale Tirapelli. (Drill photo)

Bicigo Liver Lake Complex Scene Of Second Annual Bunny Hunt

Bicigo Camp - Liver Lake - December 1973



THE CAMP CONTINGENT at Bicigo's on Liver Lake Saturday looked like this, displaying six rabbits, the "take" for a full day by at least half of the men. The hunt is an annual combination of fun and serious hunting. Standing are Larry Simeoni, Tony Carlotto, John Albarello, Ed Curtis, Don Davis, Red Graham, Walt Hagglund, Frank Dalpra, Lowell Leske, Chet Sarori, Louis Leske, Bud Ebner, Ray Grattan, Dick DeNell and Rudy Valesano. Kneeling are Norb Dishaw, Natale

Tirapelli, Charles Braspennickx, Vic Schiavo, Angelo Albiero, Toby Lesandrini and Ed Bjorne. Dalpra displays the "12th District Mafia Master Hunter Award," a travelling trophy each year turned over to the hunter with the most rabbits at the end of the day. Bunzo had two, although the manner by which he came by them created a debate still not totally resolved.