

WWC members Di (Scottie), Barb (friendly, quiet dog), Pary, Judy, Bert and Clarke were joined by friends Chris and Selena (Holly) and Jeff and Leanne at Lake Audy for an early winter camp and snowshoe over the November 11<sup>th</sup> weekend. Chris and Selena were out three nights and kindly shared their large “hot tent” for evening socializing. Fellow Paddle Manitoba Board members Jeff and Leanne were out Friday and Saturday before hurrying home to watch the Bombers loose. Clarke set up Friday and returned to Onanole to watch the morning Service and met up with Di, Barb and Pary later Saturday while the Friday nighters were snowshoeing to the dam. Di erected the (aging) Club tent with little assistance and was joined by Barb and on Sunday by Judy. The women (and their two dogs) were helping others the rest of the weekend. Pary shared Clarke’s Snowtrekker Saturday and ventured out into his 9 X 9 canvas tent (I recall purchasing the exact model in Woolco in Brandon for \$37.77 in 1973!) to “cold camp” Sunday while Bert gave the spare cot a try. Camp life was good as we enjoyed various treats including eggnog from Onanole “Booze and Screws” (Home Hardware) and fresh baking from Chris and Selena’s portable stove top oven. The washrooms were open, and the biggest challenge was the “wonky” wood!

The early winter weather was great, and the soft snow provided enjoyable snowshoe excursions to the Minnedosa campground Sunday and out onto the lake Monday to check out where wolves had brought down a deer 400 meters from camp. A pair of coyotes and assorted ravens were observed the previous day cleaning up the carcass while an eagle watched. An elk was spotted on the Central trail and a few bison drew our gaze as we drove to and from the trailhead. By noon Monday all had departed, some to dry “hot tents” and tarps and marvel at the effort Roger puts in drying three every year! We are looking forward to his “real winter” camp and more outdoor adventures.

Clarke





