

The official publication of the
BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB

Birch Barker

Weekend of August 14, 2010

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Thanks to Mr. Bob for helping us get our ducks in a row

Tuesday morning hummingbirds

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

I think I will try to find a calendar with only Tuesdays on it. Half of the time, I don't even know what day it is, but I've become acutely aware of Tuesday's arrival this summer. As usual, I'm sitting at the kitchen counter and looking out over the lake at the west shore, which gets brighter with each passing moment as the sun moves higher in the sky.

I've been watching the hummingbirds as they recharge with sugar water and begin their day. For such cute little creatures, they sure have a mean streak. Three or four of them have been battling over one feeder, while two other feeders sit empty. Those empty feeders seem to be guarded by possessive little daredevils that hurl themselves at breakneck speed at any other bird that encroaches on their territory. It's like watching aerial dogfights between fighter



plane aces. The new crop of young hummingbirds seem to be learning the tricks of survival and also their place in the hummingbird pecking order. (did I really say "pecking"?) They're fascinating to watch and just like the star stuff, it's free.

Before I forget, I was reminded this morning while reading the South Bend Tribune about the rash of day-

2010 BLYC Calendar

August 14	Garage sale
August 21	Waterski Challenge
August 28	Fall dinner
	Camp T Fun Fest
	Camp T Silent Auction
September 11	Board meeting 9 am
September 18	Birch Lake Trivial Pursuit
October 9	Chili cook-off
July 9, 2011	House Walk
July 22, 2011	Ladies Golf Outing

time home break-ins in Southwest Cass County that I wrote about a few weeks ago. Well it seems that the burglars have expanded their range to at least nine townships, including Newberg to our north and Penn. The break-ins take place when residents are most likely to be at work or running errands. Keep your eyes open for any suspicious vehicles or persons around the lake. Try to get descriptions of persons or vehicle license

We are always soliciting and accepting materials for publication. Please E-mail your materials to sailorphil@philvitale.com, or if you must, put the items in the red newspaper box at my home, 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore), or mail to: Phil Vitale, 102 So. Broadway, Cassopolis, MI 49031, or fax to (269) 445-9200. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want the materials returned. To contact us by phone, call Phil at (269) 476-1680 or (269) 445-9200, or BLYC Commodore Bob Waddle at (269) 476-2293. -Phil Vitale, editor
The PRINTED BARKER is online every week at <http://www.philvitale.com/Barker/pvBirchBarkerNew.htm>

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

numbers if you see suspicious activity and call the Cass County Sheriff's Office at 269-445-1560.

In my comments last week I tried to explain the purpose of the Birch Lake Yacht Club. A few days ago, on one of my trips to the YC, I stopped to talk to Mike Machalleck, who has been a fixture here at the lake since he was a kid. Not only did Mike serve two terms as our Commodore, he also was the YC Treasurer for many years. "Why don't you publish the Yacht Club's "Objects" from our by-laws in the Barker?" Mike asked. He had read my feeble attempt to explain in last week's Barker. Another good idea, so here goes:

SECTION 2 OBJECT. The object of this club shall include:

(a) To promote and conduct sailboat racing, and other water activities at Birch Lake, Vandalia, Michigan.

(b) To prevent pollution in Birch Lake, to preserve navigation thereon, and generally maintain said lake as a desirable place for recreational activity.

(c) To foster good social relationships, sportsmanship and fellowship among members and families.

There it is, verbatim. These are principals that have been preserved by every Birch Lake Board of Directors that I have ever been associated with. I think that all of your interests are being protected by a

smart and very dedicated group of volunteers. Exclude me on the smart part, but at least I'm dedicated.

Speaking of dedicated, the word on the street is that the Corn and Sausage Roast this year shattered past attendance records. Bernie and Blair Garceau again led their experienced crew and fulfilled my predictions last week of a fresh and tasty dining experience. Throw in our spiffy looking Yacht Club and all the good fellowship and the evening was complete. This event is a shining example of the spirit expressed in Part (c) above. A big thank you to all who gave of their time to make this Birch Lake tradition a success.

The Birch Lake pictorial calendars are here and are available for sale. They will be available at all future 2010 Birch Lake Yacht Club functions. I forgot to ask strategically spaced Lakers to also help sell calendars to make it easier. I will rectify this in next week's issue, or you can just call me at home at 476-2293 and I offer free delivery here at the lake. The calendars are \$15 each and proceeds will be donated to Camp Tannadoonah camperships, which benefit underprivileged children, who might not ever be able to attend camp.

The Birch Lake Garage Sale happens this Saturday, July 14th, from 8 am until 2 pm. We placed ads in The Elkhart Truth, S.B. Tribune and on Craigslist. We will also put up signs

at local strategic intersections. You may need to supplement these with signs on your own. Again, items for sale can be brought to the YC, where they will be sold with proceeds going to Water Quality. I haven't gotten a lot of feedback, so I hope many of you are planning to participate.

As per usual, I am running out of space and time. I must get in a plug for Vice-Commodore Stan's Annual Fall Dinner coming up on August 28 at Camp T. Stan and his helpers have a super evening planned for us all. Don't forget that tickets must be purchased in advance. Plus, I can sense the level of anticipation rising around the lake as we await the new Vice-Commodore's identity.

Also, don't forget to get registered for the Camp T Fun Fest, which happens on August 28 in the morning.

The days are getting shorter, as is my term as Commodore. Gee, the sun is even setting before 9 pm nowadays. So far for me, this has been kind of a magical year. Everything the Yacht Club has tried this year has been a success. I think I need to thank all of you out there for that. After neglecting the fishermen all summer, here's a little zinger from Hank Thoreau, "Many men go fishing all of their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after." I'm going to have to think about this one for a while.

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— Birch Lake Notes —

Please Note

I will be out of town all of next week so please don't send/deliver anything to my house or office that you want in the Barker. If all goes well, I will produce the Barker remotely (via email and the Internet) from northwest Wisconsin ... so please get your materials to me as early as you can! Thanks,

-Barker Editor Phil

Garage Sale

The annual Birch Lake Garage Sale will be Aug. 14, from 8 am until 2 pm. Many individual homes will participate, but there will be a community sale at the BLYC (with proceeds going to the Yacht Club).

Corn & Sausage

The 2010 Annual Corn and Sausage Roast was a huge success. Close to 200 people were served. It would not have been such a great event without the superb help of the cook and kitchen and set up crew. Big thanks to: Sandy and Phil Vitale, Patty and Bill Luecht, Deb and Jim Bolinger, Lind and Don Harman, Patty and Rick Russwurm, Vickie Rogers, Karen Brovold, Stan Pitakos, Dave and Judy Olson, Davis Olson, Amy Lutz, Roger Lutz, Paul and Celia Fallon, Bob King, Bob Waddle, and Greg Bolin. Parking was a little tricky this year with wedding guests and diners competing for spaces but it was well handled by Cal King and Neil Troeger.

Also thanks to Ilene Golden for set up and being on hand to fill in. Lastly, thanks to Julie Sheffieck and Karen Brovold's good friend (name unknown at time of press) for the delicious cookies. It was a great night with great food, friends and family. We look forward to seeing you there next year.

Bernie and Blair Garceau

Birch Lake Directory Updates

Dear Birch Lake Community,

In the spirit of community, fellowship and accuracy, I would like to invite you to send additions, corrections, deletions and updates for the Birch Lake Directory at any time. The printing of a new directory is not on the agenda in the near future; but feel free to send new information to me at any time.

If you see new neighbors, please welcome them to our Nirvana and send them my way for a directory. Phone: 269-476-1467 (landline) Email: philcele@comcast.net Or mail: Celia Fallon, 63600 Birch Road Vandalia MI 49095

p.s. I'd like to take this opportunity to say "thank you" to all the neighbors who kindly allow trespassing on their yards so I can walk the lake on occasion. It's one of my favorite things to do.

Fourth annual Sausage Fest

It's that time once again, Kinzler's 4th annual sausage fest returns to the west side of Birch Lake Aug. 20-22. It's

the growing and ever popular all-guys trip to the lakehouse. You may remember the waterskiing pirate and last year's waterskiing hot dog. Rumor has it the "dynamic duo" will be making a special appearance on the water! Don't be alarmed if you see 30+ guys barbecuing in matching Sausage Fest T-shirts. So be on the lookout for the "dancing sausage" and feel free to stop by for a game of bags, beer darts, or pong and the coldest beer on Birch Lake!

Fall Dinner!

Who will be the new vice-commodore? Come to the Fall Dinner and learn the identity of the new Birch Lake Yacht Club vice-commodore. The new vice will be announced, Saturday Aug. 28, at Camp Tannadoonah.

The evening will start at 6 pm with cocktails and appetizers. Northsider Deb Taghon will be creating the appetizers of bruschetta, barbecue meatballs, asparagus wrapped in philo, assorted cheese and crackers, plus a veggie tray with dips. Dinner will be at 7, catered by David Hollars (he did the Lutz's wedding and Mike's fall dinner several years ago.) The main course will be family style breaded boneless pork chops, coleslaw, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans and rolls with apple and cherry crisp for dessert. Coffee, tea, lemonade, beer and wine to drink.

The new vice-commodore will be announced after dinner and just before

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"Justin Nichols recently put in a seawall at my home on Birch Lake ... and he did an amazing job in a very short time. Thanks Justin!"

-Tom DeCocker, East Shore

"I needed a retaining wall at my new home on the hill (Kinzle St.) while it was under construction. I called Justin Nichols, and he came up and put it in for me. He does very good work!"

-PJ VandeWalle, East Side Hill

"Nichols brought in topsoil, graded my yard, buried the gutter drains and put in a short 25-foot wall ... now I'm ready to enjoy summer at Birch Lake thanks to Nichols Tree Service & Excavating."

Tim Liddell, East Side Hill

"Justin Nichols was working next door when I met him. I needed several trees removed and the stumps ground ... Justin can do it all!"

Ryan Gableman, East Side Hill

— Birch Lake Notes —

the Silent Auction is completed. So join us for a fun-filled night and get to know the vice.

Please purchase tickets in advance (by Saturday, August 21) from Sue Williams or Denny Weesner on the South shore; Linda Curtis and Judy Olson - East shore; Le King-North shore; Vickie Rogers - Cove; and Karen Brovold - West shore.

Tickets are \$20 per person and \$8 for children 5 to 10 years of age.

The new vice-commodore to be and I hope to see everyone at the Fall Dinner.

Any questions call me at 476-8862.

-Vice-Commodore, Stan

Waterskiing Challenge

The waterskiing challenge is still on, although there are no official entries.

I've heard rumors that the Sausage-Fest guys and maybe others are thinking of a plan but so far no one has phoned to tell me, "We're definitely in".

I do have commitments for judges though. Rick Doolittle, Denny Weesner, Bruce Harlan and Blair Garceau have volunteered to judge.

I have a couple of ideas for an entry but so far have done nothing with it as no serious challengers have stepped up.

Put on your thinking cap and create some kind of wonderful, creative, wacky skiing device and put on your best show. Next Saturday is the date. Let's make the time 11:00 am.

The course and the judges will probably be on the west side as it's usually pretty flat there.

Rules are minimal; you have to be towed at speed, meaning fast, 20+ mph. After all, this is a waterskiing challenge, not a boat parade. Other than that, pretty much anything goes. Call me with entries or questions so I can get this thing more organized. Good luck.

Stewart — 269.476.2113.

Don Winne

Donald Esley Winne, 92, of Three Rivers, died Aug. 3.

Don was an environmentalist and Michigan statewide advocator of riparian rights. Don worked with Michigan Lakes and Streams Associations as the southwestern Michigan regional vice-

president, executive secretary and executive director. In 1974, Don was appointed to the board of directors of The Michigan Riparian, and served as the editor and publisher of the "Riparian."

Memorials may be given to the Michigan Lake and Stream Associations, Stanton, Mich.

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday to West shore resident Julie Sheffieck!! Did we hear this is a big birthday plus one?

Art in the Park

The final Sunday Art Market in the Park will be Sept. 12 from Noon to 3 pm at the Farmers Market in Scidmore Park near downtown Three Rivers. Fine art, including fiber, water colors, metal sculpture, metal jewelry, oils, photography, fine art cards and prints, polymer jewelry, pottery and more. Birch Lake resident Carol Dugan is among the local artists exhibiting.

A Merry Como Christmas

Before the first Jingle Bells, turkey Carving, or Ho Ho Ho "The Company" gets you into the Holiday spirit with their annual "Singin and Dancin into the holidays," this year named "A Merry Como Christmas."

Tickets are \$10 for seniors, and \$11 for adults and children. We hope you find the renovations as wonderful and comfortable as we do.

Production dates are November 5, 6, 12, 13, and 19, 20. Curtain time is 8 pm, and there will be a 7:30 warm-up time. Warm up's are to up warm the singers and the audience as well. The performers will come out on stage before the performance starts to have fun with all of the cast members and get you, as the audience involved in the production from the start. Shows are held at the Battell Center Theatre, 904 North Main Street, Mishawaka, IN. For information or to reserve tickets please call 574-258-1667 or check our website for more information: WWW.thecompanyplayers.com

Tickets will be available to purchase at Battell Center during office hours 9-5, and we are taking reservations for parties of 15 or more. Those tickets must be paid for two days before show.

We have dedicated a portion of the show to the hits of Perry Como, with songs you will remember and ones that hold a fond place in the hearts of the Comos. Christmas Wish is one of the holiday songs that we Comos loved as children, and, as far as we know, only recorded by grandpa so, we will present that number, including the por-

tion with German lyrics.

This year there are many surprises, included are the ever popular two-person light-up reindeer, and of course, back by popular demand, the three-headed Santa, and some surprise characters!

This production has been in rehearsal since June. It is our promise to you to give you the most professional show possible, and a new show every year! We take our job seriously, but the final goal is to make you, as the audience, unaware of the months involved in preparing this production. We are as close to Vaudeville or burlesque, with a touch of the spirit of Cabaret as you will find in the midwest!

"The Company" tries to make you feel like you are a part of our family, so we include you in little jokes going on on stage. We, would like you to feel like you have left the real world and are a part of the magic that happens in the theatre! We are proud to share this with you and hope you will accept this as our early holiday present to you!

Here's a little history:

I recently found this article in a 1984 Birch Barker, that was **excerpted from the September 6, 1970 Birch Barker**. The reminiscence was written by Floyd Fulmer. This article takes on special significance because I think we have determined that in 2012, the Birch Lake Yacht Club will celebrate 50 years in their new clubhouse.

Birch Lake conservation club was organized more than a quarter of a century ago. Monthly meetings were held in various homes. Through the efforts of this early organization, Birch Lake was made an experimental lake with a resident conservationist working in cooperation with the Department of Conservation and the University of Michigan. Trout were introduced to the lake, but after several years, it was found that they were detrimental to the natural fish of the lake — bass, bluegills, perch, etc. — and after several years, they were discontinued. Fishing improved!

As the population of the lake increased, other interests besides fishing developed, such as boating and swimming; the name of the club was changed to Birch Lake Community Club. Sailboats appeared on the scene. The first organized sailboat races were held here about 25 years ago (1945).

The name of the organization was next changed to Birch Lake Yacht Club and the clubhouse was built on land donated by the Howards and financed by subscriptions ranging from \$5 to \$500. With the new club house, Bingo and dancing became popular. Travel and fishing films were shown, melon feasts and ice cream socials were enjoyed by all.

The Birch Barker made it's appearance about this same time. Three issues were printed the first year with only a couple of pages. The first annual Birch Lake Dinner was held at the Mishawaka Conservation Club in 1950 with 135 attending.

If anyone has "old time" news that you would like published, please submit it to Phil Vitale or give it to me and I will make sure Phil gets it. Thanks

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— Barker kids of the Week —



Four happy campers ready for fun at Tannadoonah--Ciara Cowen, Kelly Niepokuj, Claire Brovold, and Amanda Butler. They look a lot cleaner here than when we picked them up!!
-Peg Cowen (West shore)



Katie Luecht turned 17 last week on August 4th. She celebrated in Danville, Indiana with her (terrific!) family and friends at the Olive Garden. Happy Birthday, Katie!



Jennie Blough (right), and her friend visiting from Indian Lake Katie Reed. Jennie is the niece of Amy Lutz (north shore).

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— Barker kids of the Week —



William Waxman (age 3), son of Steve Waxman from Kansas. His brother David is looking on in the background. Walter Waxman, also the son of Steve Waxman, getting into the bait on Birch. The Waxman kids are the nephews of Dan Waxman (East shore).



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~Birch Lake Recipes~

How's this for fun!



Vickie Rogers sent in this awesome recipe. She also wanted me to mention that no Turtles were harmed in the creation of this recipe.



Handmade ground beef patties, topped with sharp cheddar cheese, wrapped in a bacon weave, then the next step, add hotdogs as the heads, legs with slits for toes and tail.

Next step. Place on an oven rack, covered loosely with foil and baked for 20-30 minutes at 400 degrees. A little crispy, not too crunchy ... just how a turtle should be, no?

SWEET CORN!



Peaches, blueberries, cantaloupes — and so much summer produce I can't even mention it all!

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Bad back lands fleet captain ashore

The summer winds certainly returned last Sunday. A strong 15 mph breeze made for fast racing during the first two but lightened up for the third. Although I was unable to sail, those that I contacted did report an exciting day. (I threw my back out. It might be several weeks before I'm on the water.)

It was nice to see Harold win one in his new boat. If you didn't notice, Harold was able to purchase a used MC a few weeks ago and has sailed it for the past two race days. Since he now has two boats, he was kind enough to let Bill Luecht borrow his old one to race on Sunday as Bill broke

a sidestay on his. For you landlubbers, the sidestays keep the mast upright. Without one, all you can do is paddle which is not a legal form of racing.

In addition to the results from Sunday's race, I've included the races finished by each sailor. Finishing two thirds of all races is necessary to qualify for the final season standings. Note that there is one less possible Sunfish race than for the MC's. We only ran two Sunfish races on June 20th while we ran three for the MC's.

Thanks to Bob and Sue Waddle and Phil and Sandy Vitale for running the committee boat. They certainly

earned their keep. I lost count of the number of times they had to pull anchor to reposition the boat.

See you at the starting line (even if I have to use binoculars)...

-Fleet Captain Jeff

Committee Boat Schedule

Here is the current committee boat schedule. To take an open slot, you can call me at 476-9000.

Aug. 15.....Chas & Amber Grundy
 Aug. 22.....Open
 Aug. 29.....Chas & Amber Grundy
 Labor Day Regatta.....Open

2010 BLYC Sailing Season Results

Date	8-Aug	8-Aug	8-Aug	Total	Season	Races	Percentage
Race	22	23	24	Points	Average	Finished	Finished
MC Scow							
Scott Troeger #1489/500	2	2	1	29693	1563	19	79.2%
Bob King #1199	1	3	3	26600	1400	19	79.2%
Harold Cranmer #2412	3	1	5	31102	1352	23	95.8%
Phil Vitale #500	CB	CB	CB	28880	1313	22	91.7%
Jeff Smitley #2002	DNS	DNS	DNS	27452	1307	21	87.5%
Dave Olson #1979	DNS	DNS	DNS	25541	1277	20	83.3%
Don Harman #582	4	4	2	24235	1276	19	79.2%
Bill Luecht #1579	5	5	4	30526	1272	24	100.0%
Jim Bolinger #1735	DNS	DNS	DNS	7412	1235	6	25.0%
Gib Eberhart #916	6	DSQ	6	29225	1218	23	95.8%
Tom Howard #1713	DNS	DNS	DNS	5857	1171	5	20.8%
Sunfish							
Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)	3	2	1	30918	1546	20	87.0%
Erica Vitale (White)	DNS	DNS	DNS	25565	1504	17	73.9%
Stewart Spratt	1	3	3	17869	1489	12	52.2%
Chris Spratt (Blue/Green)	2	1	2	26935	1418	18	78.3%
Sandy Vitale (White)	CB	CB	CB	29360	1398	19	82.6%
Katie Luecht (White/Red/Blue)	DNS	DNS	DNS	21784	1362	16	69.6%
Eric Odenwald	DNS	5	4	2665	1333	2	8.7%
Mike Lutz (Yellow/White)	DNS	DNS	DNS	26015	1301	20	87.0%
Steve Richards	5	6	5	3817	1272	3	13.0%
Bernie Garceau (Red/White/Blue)	4	4	6	10163	1270	8	34.8%

DNS (Did Not Sail) does not count against season score, however sailor must complete 2/3 of races to qualify for season. DNF (Did Not Finish), DSQ (Disqualified) scores as one place worse than last place (if 5 boats finished, you would have finished 6th, will be scored as 7th place). DNF, DSQ not counted toward minimum number of races needed. CB - sailor who serves on Committee Boat receives their season average place as of that date - counted toward season total. Season Points are awarded on Square of 40 system (1st = 40 squared = 1600, 2nd = 39 squared, etc.) Season Place = total season points/number of races attempted

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Water Quality Committee Report

Blue Green Algae

As a very warm and sunny summer moves into its latter stages, Friday, August 6th's report of a greenish scum extending about 30 feet out into the lake on the east side was not unexpected. Inspection revealed this to be evidence of a localized blue green algae bloom. We tested for ecoli and found none. Blue green algae are not really algae but a form of bacteria called Cyanobacteria that can exist as individual cells or in chains. Although bacteria, they have chloroplasts and can thus use the sun for photosynthesis — the process in which plants capture the sun's energy and convert it into chemical energy — and are capable of converting nitrogen gas into usable nitrogen for growth, not something most other algae and bacteria can do. Unlike other algae, blue green algae are not part of the normal food chain and are not eaten by other organisms.

Blue green algae are present in all waterways, but the growth and density are normally accelerated and a problem only in high nutrient (especially phosphorous) waters that have lots of agricultural or sewage runoff. Birch Lake is not a high phosphorous lake, but we do have zebra mussels. A study conducted in concert between MSU and the DEQ illustrated that the presence of zebra mussels is associated with elevated blue green algae growth even in low nutrient lakes. The reason for this association is not clear, but another reason why we do not like invasive species such as zebra mussels.

Although individually microscopic, when present in large numbers, blue green algae can cause water discoloration and, if on the surface, create a streaky colored (green, brown, bluish) scum. At Birch Lake, we have observed these surface blooms in the later part of

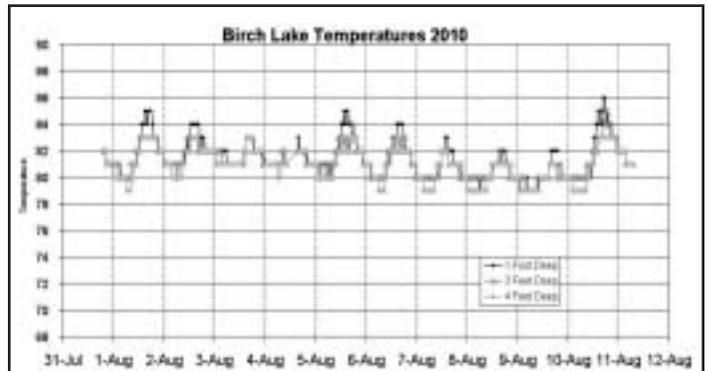
warm summers, on the windward side of the lake, after a breezy day, but a calm night. Normally during the day when they are photosynthesizing, the blue green algae control their relative buoyancy and are distributed in the water column. At night without the sun, they can lose their degrees of buoyancy and float to the surface. If present in large numbers they produce the surface scum or bloom. As the day proceeds in the presence of wind and sun, the algae become dispersed and the bloom goes away, or at least in lakes like ours it does since the areas affected are small.

Should we be concerned by the presence of the algae in our lake? Probably not, since they are there and you cannot get rid of them, and the blooms are small and isolated. However, a few words of caution and warning. These algae do produce some chemicals that are toxins to humans, pets, etc. Normally the concentration is so low as to have no effect, but some cautionary notes would be to avoid swimming in an area that actually has a bloom. Wait until it has been dispersed by wind and waves. Also try to avoid ingesting the water. Do not let your pets drink from the shoreline when you see a bloom. The presence of a bloom does not mean that there is a high concentration of potential toxins, but it is better to be on the safe side, since these will disperse. Should we ever see large scale blooms that occur daily for extended periods, we will do a toxin test. The USGS has done some spot monitoring in the state of Michigan on



a variety of waterways, and toxin levels are normally well below the World Health Organization levels at which risk increases.

Can we manage or get rid of blue green algae? Getting rid of the blue green algae would require poisoning the whole lake, and would only reappear with the first goose or gull coming in from another lake. The best management is maintaining best practices by reducing nutrient runoff into the lake, i.e. leaves, grass, fertilizer, road runoff, etc. (Hopefully you have heard this message before). The presence of the sewers should reduce potential continued phosphorous leaching from septic fields and dry wells into the lake.



West Sider Steve Quinlan is recording the lake temperature every every 30 minutes. The Temperature sensors are at the end of his pier, 50 feet out into the lake. The temperature sensors are 1 foot, 2 feet, and 4 feet deep. The graph above shows the data collected from from last week

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Stu's Star Stuff

Perseid meteor shower

The annual August Perseid meteor shower peaked on Wednesday night this week? Did you see it? Yeah, I know what you're thinking..."Now you tell me." I seem to always report these things after the fact. It's not that they aren't predictable. I think after writing Star Stuff for nearly 10 years my passion isn't quite what it once was. I apologize. Anyway, here is some interesting information relating to the Perseids...

Every August the skies above the Northern Hemisphere are peppered with little bits of space debris that create the Perseid meteor shower. The debris is tiny, ancient and packs a wallop. Let's find out why.

Meteoroids (which is what they're called while in space) are fast. They enter Earth's atmosphere (and are then called meteors) at roughly 133,200 mph. Most are the size of sand grains; a few are as big as peas or marbles. Almost none hit the ground, but if one does, it's called a meteorite.

Comet Swift-Tuttle, whose debris creates the Perseids, is the largest object known to make repeated passes near Earth. Its nucleus is about 6 miles (9.7 kilometers) across, roughly equal to the object that wiped out the dinosaurs.

Back in the early 1990s, astronomer Brian Marsden calculated that Swift-Tuttle might actually hit Earth on a future pass. More observations quickly eliminated all possibility of a collision. Marsden found, however, that the comet and Earth might experience a cosmic near miss (about a million miles) in 3044.

When a Perseid particle enters the atmosphere, it compresses the air in front of it, which heats up. The meteor, in turn, can be heated to more than 3,000 degrees Fahrenheit. The

intense heat vaporizes most meteors, creating what we call shooting stars. Most become visible at around 60 miles up. Some large meteors splatter, causing a brighter flash called a fireball, and sometimes an explosion that can often be heard from the ground.

Comet Swift-Tuttle has many comet kin. Most originate in the distant Oort cloud, which extends nearly halfway to the next star. The vast majority never visit the inner solar system. But a few, like Swift-Tuttle, have been gravitationally booted onto new trajectories, possibly by the gravity of a passing star long ago.

Perseid meteoroids (and if you've been following along, you know these are things in space before they hit Earth's atmosphere) are anywhere from 60 to 100 miles apart, even at the densest part of the river of debris left behind by comet Swift-Tuttle. That river, in fact, is more like many streams, each deposited during a different pass of the comet on its 130-year orbit around the Sun. The material drifts through space and, in fact, orbits the Sun on roughly the same path as the comet while also spreading out over time.

As Earth rotates, the side facing the direction of its orbit around the Sun tends to scoop up more space debris. This part of the sky is directly overhead at dawn. For this reason, the Perseids and other meteor showers (and also random shooting stars in general) are usually best viewed in the predawn hours.

Comet Swift-Tuttle was last seen in 1992, an unspectacular pass through the inner solar system that required binoculars to enjoy. Prior to that, it had last been seen in the year it was "discovered" by American astronomers Lewis Swift and Horace Tuttle, 1862. Abraham Lincoln was President.

Swift-Tuttle's orbit has been traced back nearly 2,000 years and is now thought to be the same comet that was observed in 188 AD and possibly even as early as 69 BC.

Swift-Tuttle is due back in 2126 (as you know now, it won't hit us) and astronomers think it might become a spectacular naked-eye comet like Hale-Bopp. If historical calculations are correct then the 2126 appearance will mark the comet's 3rd millennium of human observation, assuming someone is in fact around to see it.

OK, so we missed the meteor shower. Again, my apologies. But what can we see?

The Moon and the planets Venus, Mars, and Saturn put on quite a show this evening. The planets align to the right of the Moon. They are fairly low in the sky at sunset, and they all drop from view by a couple of hours after sunset. The brightest is Venus, the "evening star." Mars is just to its upper left, with Saturn a little farther to its upper right. Mars looks slightly orange, while Saturn is pale yellow. All three will appear low in the western sky just after sunset. Over the next weeks watch the relative motion of three bright planets against a well marked background of stars, and to see the very different speeds at which they move: Venus traversing four constellations and Mars two, with Saturn hardly moving at all. Get out there and enjoy the show. It's free you know.

-Stu Spratt

The Moon for Aug 14, 2010

At Midnight, US Central time

Illuminated Fraction: 0.337

1.5 days before first quarter

BIRCH LAKE HOROSCOPE

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20)

Throw yourself into your profession. You need to do more research before you make your final decision. You may find that purchases or entertainment could be expensive. Go out with friends who are positive and supportive. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21)

Although it does look promising, be careful not to overextend yourself or you will lose in the long run. Talk to your emotional partner about your intentions. You'll be pleased with the results if you take the time to decorate your home. Don't trust coworkers with important or personal information. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)

This will not be the day to start new business ventures or make drastic changes in your career. Be firm when dealing with matters pertaining to your environment. An older member of your family may have left you with a pressing situation. Opportunities will unfold; however, you must be willing to pay the price. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

Visit friends or relatives you rarely see. Go over your finances and figure out a solid budget. You may find it difficult to communicate with someone at work. Try to address the real issues in order to turn things around. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22)

You have been stagnating for some time now and you need a change of pace. Try not to be too aggressive or judgmental when talking to your mate. Sudden changes at home will affect family members more than you anticipated. Overindulgence may cause conflicts. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23)

You may have the energy to clear up that mound of paperwork facing you. You will find your vitality is lowered. This will not be the best day to make changes or renovations to your residence. Praise will be yours if you have been pursuing your goals. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23)

You may be somewhat emotional concerning a rather private matter. You will meet new romantic partners if you get involved in seminars or travel. You could meet potential new mates if you go out with friends or take pleasure trips. Be careful not to divulge secret information this week. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Money can be made if you are willing to take a chance. Empty promises are evident; therefore, get it in writing, to be safe. Trips will be more than adventurous. If you haven't planned a vacation, then at least try to get away for the weekend. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21)

Don't forget that your budget is limited right now. Get involved in groups and organizations that are of a distinguished nature. Your input into their activities will help bring you closer together. Unreliable people will be negative about your ideas. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20)

Overindulgence will mean poor health. You have to believe in yourself and your talents. Be careful if a friend asks you for advice. Someone important may be watching you from afar. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19)

Your ability to do detailed work will dazzle those who are less creative. Opportunities to travel will be favorable in terms of moneymaking connections. Try not to hesitate; act on your initial instincts. Things will be emotional with your mate. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)

Travel could turn out to be more exciting than you imagined. Moves or the possibility of having someone different living with you may be difficult at first. Pay off all your debts before you go out and celebrate. The stamina you possess will be apparent in your approach to your hobbies and creative projects. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

SPOTLIGHT

Bill and Sheryl Magro

The story of Bill and Sheryl is that of two people finding their soulmates and recognizing it immediately.

Bill grew up in a traditional Italian family in New York City, the Bronx. Sheryl was a true daughter of Michigan, growing up in Grand Rapids.

Despite their different backgrounds, when they met at Michigan State University as a sophomore and a freshman, they knew within days that they were meant for each other. They were engaged in two weeks — after three dates, using a cigar band as a ring — and married in three months. That was 47 years ago and things are still going great!

Neither one had planned to fall in love and marry at the young ages of 18 and 19. They were there in East Lansing to get their educations and so Sheryl made it a provision, she would marry if she could complete her degree as she had promised her parents. And that she did, despite the fact that the first baby came only 10 months after the wedding, and another one arrived two years later. Even more amazing, she finished cum laude, only one semester late.

After Michigan State, the Magro family moved to Detroit for a while, then to Mississippi for 5 years then finally they settled down in Dayton, Ohio, where they have remained since 1975.

They had two more children bringing the total to four, two of each. The children are now spread out through the states but remain in close contact, often visiting Bill and Sheryl with their own children.

Oldest daughter, Anne, 46, is now a professor at George Mason University, and with her partner, Heather, have twin daughters. Son number one is Bill, 43, and is a physicist and Director of High Performance Computing Solutions for Intel. With wife Lisa, he has a daughter and two sons. Second son Joseph, 35, is VP of international sales in the biotech area. He and his wife Danielle have a daughter and a son. The youngest, Jennifer, 32 is getting her doctorate in German Literature at Ohio State, and with husband Steven, has a son.

Bill and Sheryl love to travel and have had many wonderful trips to various places in the world, but they also liked to



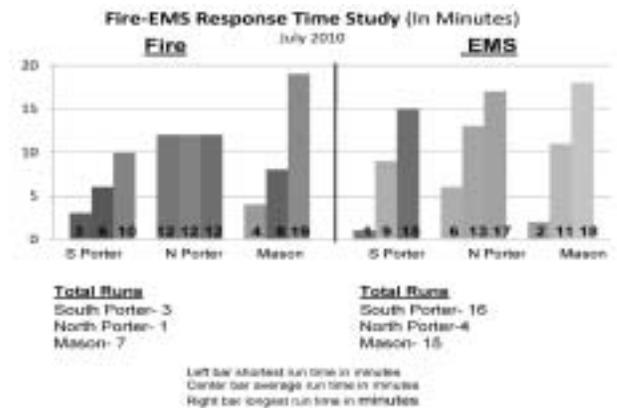
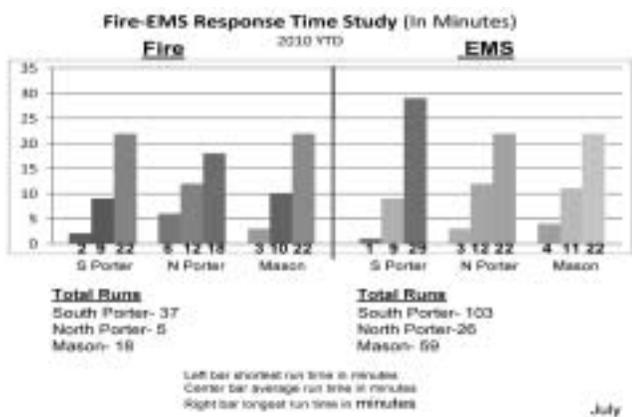
rent cottages on various lakes during the summer.

A few summers back they rented a cottage on Crooked Lake in Indiana, and while there they began looking around the area for something to buy. This led them to Nancy Walker who eventually showed them the former Foley place on the north side of Birch Lake.

It needed a lot of work but Bill and Sheryl saw the potential in the house and loved the property itself, so, in 2008, they bought it. They immediately began an amazing transformation on the house. Keeping the same modern look of the original exterior, they added on and made the old fixer-upper into a place any home renovation show would be proud of, AND there's room for 18 people to sleep comfortably!

Bill keeps busy overseeing their foundry in Dayton and is also a CPA. He loves to be with his family and says keeping up with Sheryl keeps him hopping! Sheryl retired from her work in Public Relations and Development for non-profit companies and now does lots of volunteer work. She also loves to read, cook and entertain.

In addition to their home in Dayton, and the cottage here on Birch Lake, Bill and Sheryl have a home in Bluffton, South Carolina, where they spend the colder months.



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BIRCH LAKE WORD SEARCH

BIRCH LAKE NEIGHBORS

The Word Search puzzle at right contains the last names of several families at Birch Lake ...

See if you can find them all!

This is the last of the neighbors names. There are 27 in this one.

Summer

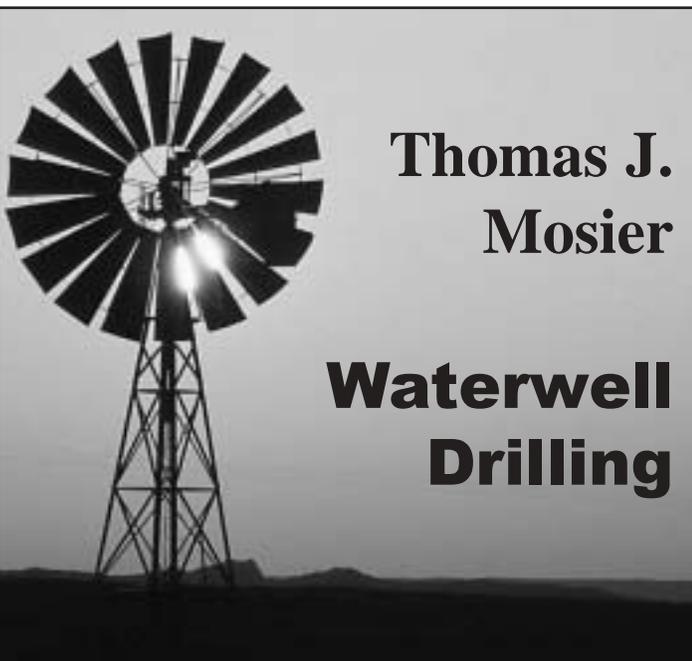
Find each of the following words.

SWIM
SANDALS
TAN LINES
WHEEZE
HUMIDITY
POISON IVY
SUNBURN
HUMID
MISERABLE
RASH
ICE
CORN
DEGREES
ALOE

GOLDENROD
LEMONADE
BREEZES
PANTING
HEAT INDEX
SMELLY
WATERMELON
DEER FLIES
DEODORANT
TEE SHIRT
SPF
ITCH
HOT
TALCUM POWDER

HORSE FLIES
MOSQUITO
DOG DAYS
CHAFE
ICE WATER
BEER
SWEATY
SNORKEL
SNEEZE
STICKY
SHORTS
POLLEN
DRINK
TOMATOES

S	S	T	R	O	H	S	A	N	D	S	P	A	N	T	I	N	G	H	L
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N	M	C	S	M	E	L	H	E	R	P	A	E	W	H	E	H	A	M	R
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A	T	E	T	W	S	W	E	A	O	O	Y	M	E	N	P	R	M	T	C
T	R	E	O	R	A	E	D	C	I	T	N	E	O	E	O	O	E	Y	O
D	I	Z	H	O	E	O	Z	E	A	M	B	I	E	T	I	C	L	E	T
I	H	E	H	D	H	D	H	E	N	R	U	B	N	U	S	M	O	D	D
M	S	E	O	O	E	S	W	E	E	D	R	I	N	K	O	D	N	O	O
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S	U	Y	K	C	I	T	S	F	A	G	U	N	Y	E	Y	O	L	D	O
G	A	S	A	N	D	A	L	S	L	N	D	C	D	U	R	R	O	L	T
S	N	E	E	Z	E	T	S	O	S	I	O	A	L	E	B	A	P	O	H
S	E	E	R	G	E	D	S	I	A	W	E	M	Y	A	X	N	B	G	T
I	N	S	M	O	S	Q	U	I	T	O	I	S	E	S	T	T	U	L	T
G	R	O	K	S	E	E	E	N	L	L	P	M	T	L	T	I	U	S	E



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Camp Tannadoonah

Camp 2010 has come to a close, and looking back I definitely think that it was a successful year for us. But it's not really all over just yet! We have a number of upcoming fall events, including several small groups who will be using camp on the weekends.

This Sunday (Aug. 15), a Cub Scout troop from Niles will be spending the afternoon at camp, doing a little archery, cooking out over a fire, and going fishing in the lake. The following weekend (Aug. 20-22), my assistant director (Miss Sue) and her family will be renting camp for her son's 14th birthday party. Then Aug. 28 is the Fun Fest, Silent Auction, and BLYC Fall Dinner, all to take place at Camp.

In September we have Fall Camp (Sept 17 - 19). This is a great weekend for campers to come back to camp one more time before we close up for the winter! The cost is \$50 for one night or \$75 for both nights. Our goal is to get 50 kids to attend Fall Camp this year.

October 1 and 2 we have a group of Valpo Gamma Phi Beta sorority mem-

bers who will be holding a retreat at camp and doing some service work for us. Also in October, I'm tossing around the idea of trying to coordinate another Family Camp weekend. We've tried the past 3 years and had to cancel each time because of low registrations. If you'd be interested in coming up with your family, please contact me ASAP so that I can gauge interest and get an idea of a good weekend.

This fall we also have a number of projects we'd like to work on. At the top of my list is a Waterfront Beautification Plan. The grassy areas at the waterfront are in pretty bad shape, with big holes and some very wet areas. We'd like to till up all of that area, re-level the soil so that it slopes a bit to keep water from pooling under the clothes racks, and put down some grass seed to start taking root before winter. We've also brainstormed some ideas for how to redirect the water flow from the springs behind our waterfront, so that it doesn't get so swampy in front of the clothes racks.

Some other things that I'd like to accomplish in the next 9 months before



camp starts up again:

- Build new wooden beds to replace old metal ones around camp
- Rescreen many windows
- Install a second washer & dryer set in Main Lodge (we have the washer and dryer!)
- Get all the leaves raked / cleared out before the snow comes this year
- Replace some of the old mattresses
- Build some memorial benches

Some of these projects require funds, while others just require some extra manpower and expertise. If you have time and would like to volunteer to help with any of these projects, please let me know!

Thank you again for all the support for camp — we truly appreciate all of your efforts to help us succeed.

Just an Opinion

Congrats to Camp Tannadoonah for their anniversary celebration at the end of July. Thanks also for inviting lakers to attend again this year. A couple weeks ago Commodore Sparky penned an alarming (future fictional) piece about Camp going condo. Hopefully it never happens. But, it not only could happen ... it nearly did.

That's referring to Camp Kiloqua, the former Mishawaka Camp Fire Girls summer camp. Tannadoonah is in the north-west corner of the lake while Kiloqua was in the north-east corner. At the end of the '60s Kiloqua failed. Rumors circulated that the property might become an Airstream park (the popular chrome silver travel trailers which traveled to rallies in packs).

Last weekend Denny Weesner submitted a 1970 Barker article about Birch Lake Basketball Camp. That camp was created to run in the place of Kiloqua and protect the lake in the process. Lakefront lots were sold to

restrict waterfront availability to the upper two levels. Though ill prepared to do so, our two families operated the basketball camp for several years. The remaining parcel was eventually sold to Dave Kring.

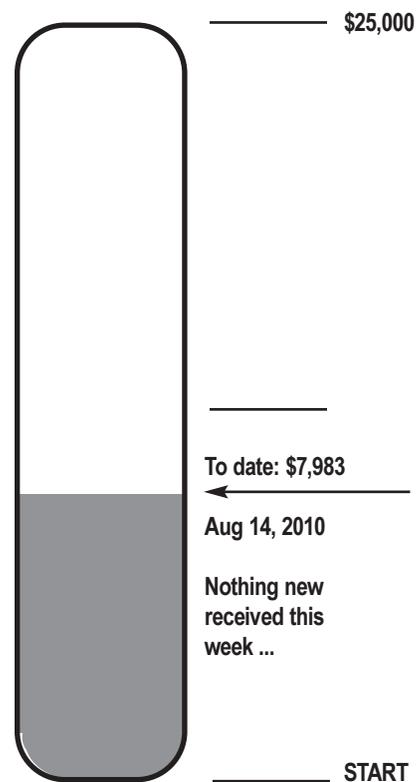
Should Tannadoonah fail it would be our mutual loss. Generations of lake kids have unplugged from the modern world and found woody charm at Tannadoonah. Weddings and Wakes and Pancakes have been at camp. The sound of play wafting on the wind, the joyful shrieking from the waterfront, the songs and luminaries for the Princess ...

It's less about what might come after and more about the community culture that could cease. Taps is lights out ... to be followed by Reveille in the morning. To the extent we are able (those who are willing), let's keep helping our friends on the hill.

Bob King

To read selected camp legends, go to: <http://tannadoonah.org/legends/>

Camp Tannadoonah Needs \$25,000 ...



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Camp T Silent Auction items

We are accepting bids for the following items in the the Camp T silent auction:

- * One week at a Florida condo at Holiday Island C33, 1515 Pinellas Bayway, Tierra Verde, FL; \$500 Minimum bid. (See Photos Below) — **ITEM 1001**
- * 5X8 Pace utility trailer \$700 **ITEM 1002**
- * a beautiful, hand-made birch wood table **ITEM 1003**
- * a football to be autographed by Brian Kelly (winner submits it and gets a personalized autograph) **ITEM 1004**
- * a stained glass piece by Marty McKiernan **ITEM 1005**
- * a dinner party for 8 at Camp Tannadoonah **ITEM 1006**
- * Original acrylic painting donated by Dorothy Anderson
- * 2-Bears vs Redskins tickets for October 24 at noon **ITEM 1007**
- * 2 more Bears vs Redskins tickets **ITEM 1008**
- * 2-Tickets to Colts vs Bengals preseason game Sept. 2 **ITEM 1009**
- * 2 more Colts vs Bengals tickets **ITEM 1010**
- * A new upright vacuum cleaner **ITEM 1011**
- * Three 10-lb. Ameritex commercial fire extinguishers **ITEMS 1012-1014**
- * Packets of photo prints by Carol Dugan **ITEM 1015**
- * **Beautiful necklace and pin** (\$88 value) (See Photos Below) **ITEM 1016**
- * 2 rounds of golf at Sauganash Golf Club (with cart) **ITEM 1017**
- * **A 20 x28" color photograph** of the Dome and Basilica from across the lake looking south with a fog foreground – beautiful **ITEM 1018**
- * **5 – 16 x 18" Notre Dame related football color photographs** (very unusual), 1 is a full length of new head coach Brian Kelly, others include unusual montages (all photos are mounted on foamcore with 2" matte borders. They would make outstanding den or office décor. (See Photos Below) **ITEMS 1019-1023**
- * Callaway Warbird X Golf Stand Bag - retail value \$ 130.00. Donated by Steve Plaia — **Item 1024**
- * 3 - 20gal LP gas grill fill ups, picked up and returned - retail value of \$51.00. Donated by Bill Butler — **Item 1025**
- * \$50 Gift Certificate from Budget Blinds in Granger — **Item 1026**
- * Authentic Birch Lake Blue Gill Dinner For 6 — succulent Blue Gill filets. complete dinner, desert and beverages served in the home of Tom & Lynn DeCocker (East Side) — **Item 1027**
- * A 20 x 16 acrylic original on canvas "Sailor Boy" - retail value \$180 - Donated by D.A. Anderson — **Item 1028**
- * Deb Bolinger will do an original paint on your mail box at Birch Lake — **Item 1029**
- * 2 Roadmaster Mt. Fury 15 speed bikes — (See Photos Below) **Items 1030, 1031**

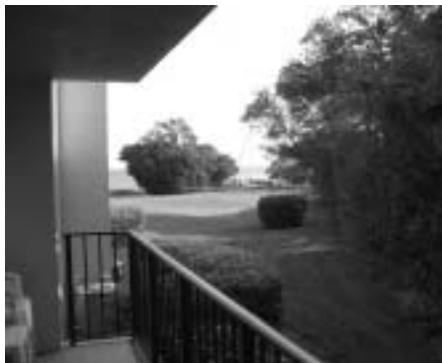
To bid on any of these items, please send a sealed bid with the item number printed on the outside of the envelope; Bids will be opened on Aug. 28. Send to: Phil Vitale, 63174 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095

1-week Condo stay
Holiday Island C33
1515 Pinellas Bayway
Tierra Verde, FL

\$500 Minimum bid.

900 sq.ft. condo (2 Bedrooms (1 queen, 2 twins), 2 baths) on the Boca Ciega bay side of the island. 1st floor. Great view of bay and sunshine skyway from pool area. Pool and hot tub. 3 min from Fort DeSoto and 5 to 10 min from St. Pete Beach (depending on bridges) Club house with big screen, pool table and fitness room. Newly renovated & new furniture 2 years ago.

Bid — **ITEM 1001**



Notre Dame photos by Bruce Harlan among auction items

Helmet (right) — **ITEM 1019**

Tunnel (below) **1020**

Golden Dome — **ITEM 1021**

Glory — **ITEM 1022**

Celebrate — **ITEM 1023**

Coach — **ITEM 1024**



* **Necklace and pin** (\$88 value)

ITEM 1016



* **2 Roadmaster Mt. Fury 15-speed bicycles**

Items 1030, 1031



Camp Tannadoonah Fun Fest Saturday August 28



Event Entry Form

Please return Entry Forms to Phil Vitale, 63174 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095

Thank you for your interest in the Camp Tannadoonah Fun Fest events. Please mark the event(s) you intend to participate in, and sign the disclaimer at the bottom of the page.

Event:Entry feeor Pledges

- _____ Tennis Tournament.....\$25.....
- _____ Bike Tour\$25...../mile
- _____ 5-K run\$25...../kilo
- _____ Kayak Race.....\$25.....
- _____ Kayak Fun Paddle.....\$25.....

Note: A limited number of kayaks are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please contact Camp Tannadoonah to arrange to use one of the canoes.

Entry fee:

The fee to participate in any of the events is \$25/person — and may be paid in cash, by check or credit card by the participant directly or received in the form of pledges to Camp Tannadoonah. Participants are encouraged to solicit pledges from friends, family and co-workers to help raise funds for the camp. Pledges may be for a fixed amount or for an amount-per-mile or kilometer.

Please indicate the total amount you have enclosed in entry fees and/or pledges that have been made:

\$ _____

Disclaimer/waiver:

I have read the information provided to me regarding the events of the Camp Tannadoonah Fun Fest. I agree to follow all of the rules as laid out by Camp Tannadoonah and Camp Fire USA River Bend Council.

I understand that reasonable measures will be taken to ensure my safety. I hereby release, acquit, and forever discharge Camp Fire USA River Bend Council, Camp Tannadoonah, and its employees, agents, volunteers and representatives from any and all liability for damages, losses, or injuries to persons, property, or both, including, but not limited to any claims, demands, actions, causes of action, damages, costs, expenses, and/or attorney fees, which arise out of or occur during my participation in any of these events.

Date _____

Signature _____



Handyman Repairs

- Roof to basement - inside and out
- Floors, doors, stairways, ceilings and windows
- Siding, roofing, driveways and sprinklers
- Decks and fences; fascia and soffits
- Plumbing, electrical, heating and A/C
- Piers and Seawalls

Home Maintenance

- Painting - interior and exterior
- Snow removal - sidewalks, driveways & roofs
- Gutters and chimney cleaning & repair
- We do windows
- Power washing, insulation and weatherproofing

Lawn Care

- Spring and fall yard clean up
- Tree and shrub trimming
- Rototill your garden
- Mowing and Trimming
- Fertilizing

Property Management

- Reliable caretaker
- Fulfills all absentee homeowner's needs
- Periodically checks your property
- Provides second home peace of mind
- Call for all lake property requirements



Dave's Residential Services
(269) 476-2797; Wireless (269) 362-0724
davehardisty@comcast.net

2010 Birch Lake Yacht Club officers and directors

Commodore—Bob Waddle—476-2293;
cell: 269-365-7696
Vice Comm.—Stan Pitakos—476-8862
Fleet Capt. — Jeff Smitley — 476-9000
Treas. — Holly Troeger—476-9898
Secretary —Sandy Vitale—476-1680
Past Comm.—Paul Fallon—476-1467

BLYC Directors:

North — Rick Russwurm—476-2407
Fred Freihofer—476-9823
Mike Lutz — 476-2843; (cell) 269-207-1153
Bob Baucus — 476 2863
Cell: 574-535-4946 Home: 269-641-5644
East — Scott Troeger—476-9898
Jim Bolinger—476-9737
Phil Vitale—476-1680
Lind Harman — 476-2039
Hill — PJ VandeWalle —574-292-5966
South — Terry Dugan—476-2814
Sue Williams —476-8886
West — Harold Cranmer—476-2170
Karen Brovold — 476-8862
Steve Quinlan — 476-8802
Mike Sheffieck — 773-660-1673 X211
Greg Bolin — 574-876-3416
Cove — Vicki Rogers—476-2383



BLYC Officers and Board of Directors, from left: front row: Scott Troeger; Sandy Vitale, Secretary; Stanley Pitakos, Vice Commodore; Karen Brovold; Paul Fallon; Sue Williams; Jim Bolinger; Bob Baucus; Phil Vitale; back row: Holly Troeger, Treasurer; Bob Waddle, Commodore; Terry Dugan; Mike Sheffieck; Lind Harman; Rick Russwurm; Fred Freihofer; Steve Quinlan; and Jeff Smitley.

BLYC Fleet Captain
Jeff Smitley — 476-9000

Phil Vitale—476-1680

Home Owners Comm.
Jim Bolinger, Chairman—476-9737
Rick Russwurm—476-2407
Scott Troeger—476-9898
Paul Fallon—476-1467

BLYC Water Quality Comm.
Paul Fallon, Chairman — 476-1467
Rick Russwurm.—476-2407
Terry Dugan—476-2814
Gordon Seyfarth — n/a
Bruce Wagner — 476-2090

BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB

2010 Dues, Contribution & Donation Form

SUPPORT THE BLYC; SUPPORT THE BIRCH LAKE COMMUNITY!

<p>\$ ____ - BLYC Member Dues (\$25 / year)</p> <p>\$ ____ - BLYC Associate Member Dues (\$10 / year)</p> <p>\$ ____ - Homeowners' Assoc. (\$10 / year)</p> <p>\$ ____ - Sailing Fees (\$15 / year)</p> <p>\$ ____ - Building Improvement Fund</p> <p>\$ ____ - Fireworks Fund</p> <p>\$ ____ - Water Quality Program</p> <p>\$ ____ - Milfoil/Loosestrife Eradication Program</p> <p>\$ ____ - Riparian (\$8/yr, for magazine)</p> <p>\$ ____ - Safety Committee</p> <p>\$ ____ - Other non-party related expenses</p>	<p>Total contribution \$ _____</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>_____</p>
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Make checks payable to BLYC

Mail to BLYC
c/o Holly Troeger
1516 Ash Dr. East
Elkhart, IN 46514

"Your Birch Lake Neighbors"

Dick & Judy Lindzy

211 Dixie Way North
South Bend, IN 46637
574-272-7000

Candy

Ice Cream

Groceries,
Pop

Tom's Garage & Convenience Store
63909 WALNUT ROAD
VANDALIA, MI 49095
269-476-2272

Gasoline

Ice

LP Gas
Exchange

Becky Beers
Owner

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

FOR RENT

Cottage for rent. Three bedrooms, sleeps six on Birch Lake's beautiful north shore. Indoor plumbing. Contact Stewart Spratt at 574.514.0667.

2 Bedroom 2 Bath Condo — Newly renovated. Located on Tierra Verde Island just south of St. Pete Beach. Situated on the beautiful Boca Ciega Bay. The complex offers views of the Sunshine Skyway from the pool and hot tub. Clubhouse has Big Screen TV, Pool Table and Fitness Facility. 3 mins. from award winning Fort DeSoto. For rent by month or season. Weekly rentals negotiable. email: Barb Rondot at babsdot@verizon.net (ps Don't forget to collect those plastic caps for cancer!)



FOR SALE

THEY ARE HERE!!! Birch Lake Tote Bags!!! Eco-Friendly and large sized! Only \$5.00 while supplies last!!! Not available in stores! Show your Birch Lake Pride!!! Contact Bad Patty 476-2615; Delivery Available

Remember the "SKI DISK?"
This is a 42" round plywood disk for the adventurous soul who wants to take skiing up a notch. If you think skiing is fun, you'll

love the disk. You might even want to try a stool or chair on top of the disk, just for fun. Perfect for the upcoming Water Ski Challenge August 21st. This is a 42" THOMPSON SASSY SAUCER. \$40. Call Bruce Harlan 574-340-0345

For Sale - **MC Sailboat No. 618** - a proven winner - fast and ready to race (2 Sails) - \$1500 Ph 476-2170 or (574)-264-6817

"Old Towne" Canoe for sale. New condition. Blue Color. Fiberglass. Includes new paddles. All for \$450. Call Bud at 476-2526

For Sale: **18 foot aluminum canoe and 2 paddles**, great for lake cruises and fishing. Can be seen on the road side of Wee-Wood Cottage, 62839 Lakeview Dr., West Shore. Asking \$150. Make check payable to Marc Caenepeel and drop off to Stan Pitakos, two houses down the street.

For Sale: Hunting, fishing, building site on Curtis Lake. 17+ acres + 500+ feet frontage on lakefront. Land contract possible. Call Dave at 476-9846.

For Sale: Lakefront lots and up to 600+ ft. frontage + 20+ acres on Paradise Lake. Land contract possible. Call Dave at 476-9846

Sold cottage. Selling **Shore Station brand with 24 volt, solar charged, remote** controlled lift system. Rated 3,200# for V Hull Inboard & I/O Stern Drive. White top, cables & lift system two years old. Includes battery tray, spring loaded gunnel guides and bow stop. Excellent condition. Invested value \$7,800 selling for \$4,500. Phone (269) 535-0213

Used Aqua Cat 12' Catamaran. Trailer and lift included. On the lake, can sail it home. For information and video clip go to : <http://www.americansail.com/> \$250 OBO, call Dave or Terry Carroll @ 574-850-0359

Truck cap, silver/pewter. Fits GMC, Dodge or chevy crew cab pick up. Great condition. Also; **100 amp temporary electrical hook up** for new construction. Complete with pole, board, meter receptacle and outlets. Both offered at 25% of original cost. Call Major @ 476-2126

Thermador Stainless Steel Double Convection Oven. Cutout width: 28 1/2". Cutout height: 51-1/8". Model #

SCD302TS. \$1395. (New: \$2985) No warranty. Thermador 48" Professional series **Stainless Steel gas cooktop** consisting of 4 burners, a griddle and an indoor grill. Matching Professional series stainless steel wall mount hood, blower and 12" back-guard. Model # PCS484G. \$2400. (New: \$4830) No warranty. Bosch stainless steel **dishwasher**. Model # SHU 5300. \$425. (New: \$875) No warranty. Amana Stainless Steel **refrigerator** with pull out bottom freezer. Refrigerator door is a single door. Touchmatic Electronic Controls. Model # B136CAR3. Approximately 80" tall. \$1500. (New: \$3200) No warranty. GE Profile Stainless Steel 1.8 Cu. Ft. **Countertop Microwave**, 1100 Watts. Model # JE-1860SB. \$100. (New: \$225) No warranty. Builder's never been used Jenn-Air stainless steel **side-by-side refrigerator**. Model # JS42SEDBDA measures 82 1/2" tall, 41 1/2" wide and 25 1/4" deep. \$2950. (New: \$5950) No warranty. **Call 260-710-0333. Deb Balyeat**

LOST

Please have the north side of the lake — east of Camp T. watch in the shallows for a lost **handle to a wind surfer kite**. It looks very similar to a ski handle and has line attached. We would appreciate a call if found — Ed Levy — 574-286-0436 or 269-476-9575.

FOUND

Found on the lake bottom at the end of the pier: a **Men's Medium Gray Tee**, front: Brookfield Authentic Original Soccer, Back: Brookfield Indoor Soccer Complex EST 2001. Call Weavers, 476-2869

WANTED

Wanted - **used Kayak**. Dana (Russwurm) 574-532-0198

Looking for someone to play tennis with at Camp Tannadoonah, preferably level 3.5 or above. Please contact at Clboesler@aol.com

The Birch Lake Yacht Club is in need of a **vacuum cleaner** for the rugs ... please contact Don at 476-2039

Wanted: **Centerboard and rudder** for a newer style Sunfish. The kids want to sail; **riding mower** in need of a good home for the summer? Willing to cut your grass. A **small trailer** to haul the mower around in. At least 4ft by 6 ft. Please contact me if you have any of these items. Bill at 574-340-5559

CLASSIFIED ADS

The Birch Barker will publish classified ads free of charge for paid members of the Birch Lake Yacht Club ... non-members will be charged \$5/ad.

Send classified ads to sailorphil@philvitale.com

Wouldn't it be great to monitor and control your home from anywhere in the world?

"One-Touch Automation is a full service home technology company. Our goal is to provide systems that you can control from anywhere, are easy to use, look great, and fit your budget. Our work should complement the quality of your lifestyle."

-Ryan & Rachael McDaniel, Owners

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