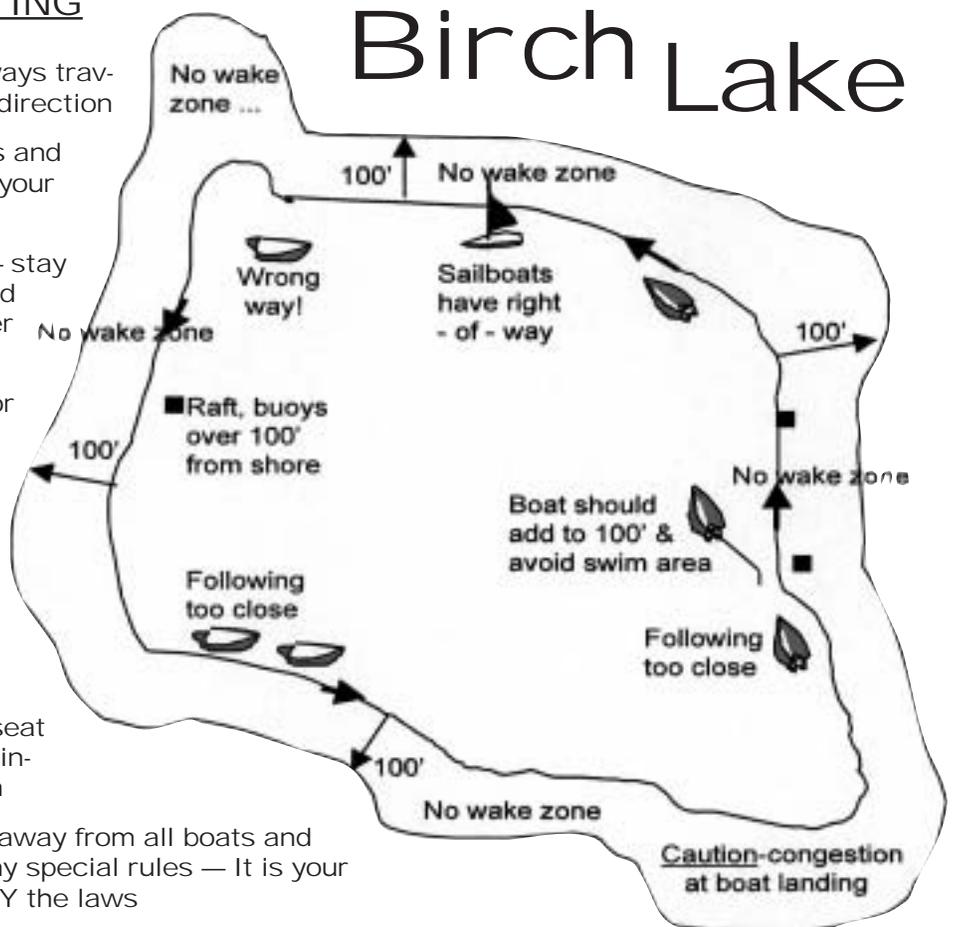


COMMON SENSE BOATING

- * No matter what your speed, always travel in a COUNTER CLOCK-WISE direction
- * Go SLOW near other boats, rafts and shore. You are responsible for your wake.
- * Take your time and give room — stay 100' from shore, other boats and rafts when you are travelling over wake speed
- * When pulling someone on skis or a tube, you MUST have an observer. Watch out for other boats and be sure to add the length of your tow line to the 100' clearance rule
- * There must be one USCG-approved LIFE JACKET for every person on board, as well as one throwable device (seat cushion, etc.), a horn, a fire extinguisher, and a valid registration
- * PWCs (Jet Skis) must stay 100' away from all boats and other PWCs. Jet skis have many special rules — It is your responsibility to know and OBEY the laws
- * Be responsible for everyone on your boat — safety is NO ACCIDENT!



Kicking off the season

Commodore's Comments

Dear Friends of Birch Lake: Thank you to all of you who attended the Spring Dinner the Four Lakes Country Club. It was an enjoyable evening and was fun to catch up with a lot of you that I have not seen since the warmer days of last summer.

I wanted to say thanks again to the following people:

Thank you to Bob King for designing, printing and delivering to me the hot pink fliers.

A huge THANKS to my decorators for both the Fall Dinner and Spring Dinner: Carol Freihofer and Sandy Baucus. They made both Camp Tannadoonah and Four Lakes Country Club both warm and inviting. We had the added pleasure of Chelsie Baucus helping with the decorating at the Spring Dinner, thanks Chelsie.

Thank you to Phil Vitale for being our Barker editor year round.

Thanks to both Fred Freihofer and

Barb Zesinger; Fry for volunteering to pick up the Barkers from the printers and delivering them to Barb, who will deliver them to our Barker deliverers around the lake. Thank you to all those who have agreed to deliver the Barker this year, you will be individually recognized in future Barker.

Thanks to Jim Bolinger for getting the Yacht Club in tip top shape and ready for the season.

We will be gathering information for the printing of a 2012 BLYC Directory. Celia Fallon has agreed to take charge of this task with assistance from Phil Vitale. Look for more information in the Barker (and also the online version).

To date, we have received BLYC dues from approximately 40 percent. My goal is 100 percent so we have a ways to go. If you have contributed in the past, thank you for your support and if you have not contributed this year or in recent years, please support the Yacht Club and equally importantly, join in the

Continued on next page

2012 BLYC Calendar

June 9	Commodore's Party
June 15.....	Ladies Coffee, 9-10:30
June 23	Spaghetti Dinner
June 30	Boat Parade
June 30	Fireworks
July 1	Pancake Breakfast
July 1.....	Fireworks Rain Date
July 14.....	Vice Commodore's Party
July 20	Women's Golf Outing
July 21.....	Camp T Hog Roast
July 27.....	Men's Golf Outing
Aug. 4	Corn & Sausage Roast
Aug. 25	Fall Dinner
Sept. 8.....	Sailing Awards
Sept. 15 or 25	Game Night/Card Party
Oct. 6.....	Annual Chili Cook-Off

Board Meetings - 9 am (Saturdays)

June 2, July 7 (Homeowners Meeting to follow board meeting), Aug. 4, Sept. 8

Sailing Regattas

4th of July weekend; Labor Day weekend

Note: ALL dates and times are subject to change. Watch the Barker for updates!

— Birch Lake Notes —

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Continued from Page 1

Yacht Club festivities; all are welcome.

We had our first Board Meeting on Saturday, May 5th at the BLYC. Immediately following the Board Meeting we had the Road Clean-up. A HUGE thank you to Sandy and Bob Baucus, Sandy and Phil Vitale, Karen Brovold, Celia and Paul Fallon, Carla and Ed Chester, Stan Pitakos, Rick Russwurm, Mike Sheffieck and Rich Mullin for all their help.

Don't forget the Commodore's Cocktail Party on Saturday, June 9. Hope to see you there and as in the past, please plan on bringing either an appetizer or dessert. Look for further details in the next Barker.

Here's to smooth sailing.

- **Commodore Pam**

Township Cleanup Day June 2

Porter Township will host its annual Spring Clean Up day on Saturday, June 2 at American Waste Systems on Mason Street in Union.

Brownsville to be closed

We have just been notified by the Cass County Road Commission about a road closure. Brownsville Road will be closed beginning May 30 through June 13. The detour will be Calvin Center, M60 and M62.

Save the Date: Friday, June 15
Birch Lake Ladies Tea
Time: 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
Where: Birch Lake Yacht Club

Come enjoy a cup of coffee — or tea — with neighbors old and new — from the Cove to the Hill and in between.

All you need to bring is yourself and maybe a neighbor or two. There will be door prizes and polite conversation - what a great way to begin the summer of 2012.

Please rsvp by calling Carla Chester at (269)476-1010 or email Celia Fallon at Celia.Fallon@gmail.com.

See you on the 15th, if not before.



Local lad composes march

John Luecht, son of Bill and "Bad Patty" Luecht (east side) has recently completed the composition of the Fireworks Show March, a musical march. To listen to it, go online to: [http://www.philvitale.com/Barker/2012 Printed/1-May-26/Fireworks Show March.mp3](http://www.philvitale.com/Barker/2012%20Printed/1-May-26/Fireworks%20Show%20March.mp3)

Cass County Conservation Club

The following events are scheduled at the Cass County Conservation Club on US 12 at Birch Rd.:
June 30 — Boating Safety Course

July 14 & 15 — U-Pick'em Bingo
Aug. 25 — Corn and Sausage Roast
Sept. 15 & 16 — U-Pick'em Bingo
Nov. 3 & 4 — Bingo Proceeds to

Weekly events include Line Dance class w/ Fran every Monday @ 6pm; Zumba every Wednesday @ 5:30 pm; Yoga every Tuesday @ 6 pm; Euchre every Thursday @ 6:30 pm.

Thanks!

On behalf of the entire Vitale clan, thanks to Peter and Julie Greene for the most wonderful (and unexpected) birthday gift!

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— Birch Lake Notes —

In memory of Jim Mitchell

Our deepest sympathies to the family of long-time Birch Laker Jim Mitchell (east side). According to the Elkhart Truth, Mitchell, 89, passed away at 3:40 p.m. Wednesday, May 9, at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit.

He was born June 24, 1922, in Elkhart, Ind., to John Willis and Violet Lyde (Slusser) Mitchell. On Aug. 22, 1942, in Elkhart, he married Betty Jane Vullmahn.

She survives, along with their son, James W. (Elaine) Mitchell II of Sturgis; daughter Nancy (Mike) Longo of Novi; and grandchildren Kara Longo Korte, Michelle Longo Knierim and Erik James Mitchell. Also surviving are three great-grandchildren; two brothers, John Robert Mitchell of McCormick, S.C., and Jack D. Mitchell of Elkhart; and a half brother, William (Joyce) Mitchell of The Villages, Fla.

He was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Christen Mitchell.

Call for Entries: Birch Lake, how do I love thee?

We're looking for designers, artists, photographers, sketchers, and dilettantes to contribute their ideas for interesting and unique Birch Lake or Birch Lake Yacht Club apparel and items to produce. Please contact Chas Grundy at chas@grundyhomes.com for more information.

Barker Deadlines

Please be advised that the deadline for submitting information for any par-

For Memorial Day



Do not stand at my grave and weep,
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am in a thousand winds that blow;
I am the softly falling snow.

I am the gentle showers of rain;
I am the fields of ripening grain.
I am in the morning hush;
I am in the graceful rush.

Of beautiful birds in circling flight,
I am the starshine of the night.
I am in the flowers that bloom,
I am in a quiet room.

I am the birds that sing,
I am in each lovely thing.
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there. I do not die.

-- Mary Frye (1932)

It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank God that such men lived.

-- General George S. Patton

-thanks to Mr. Bob King for submitting these items for Memorial Day.

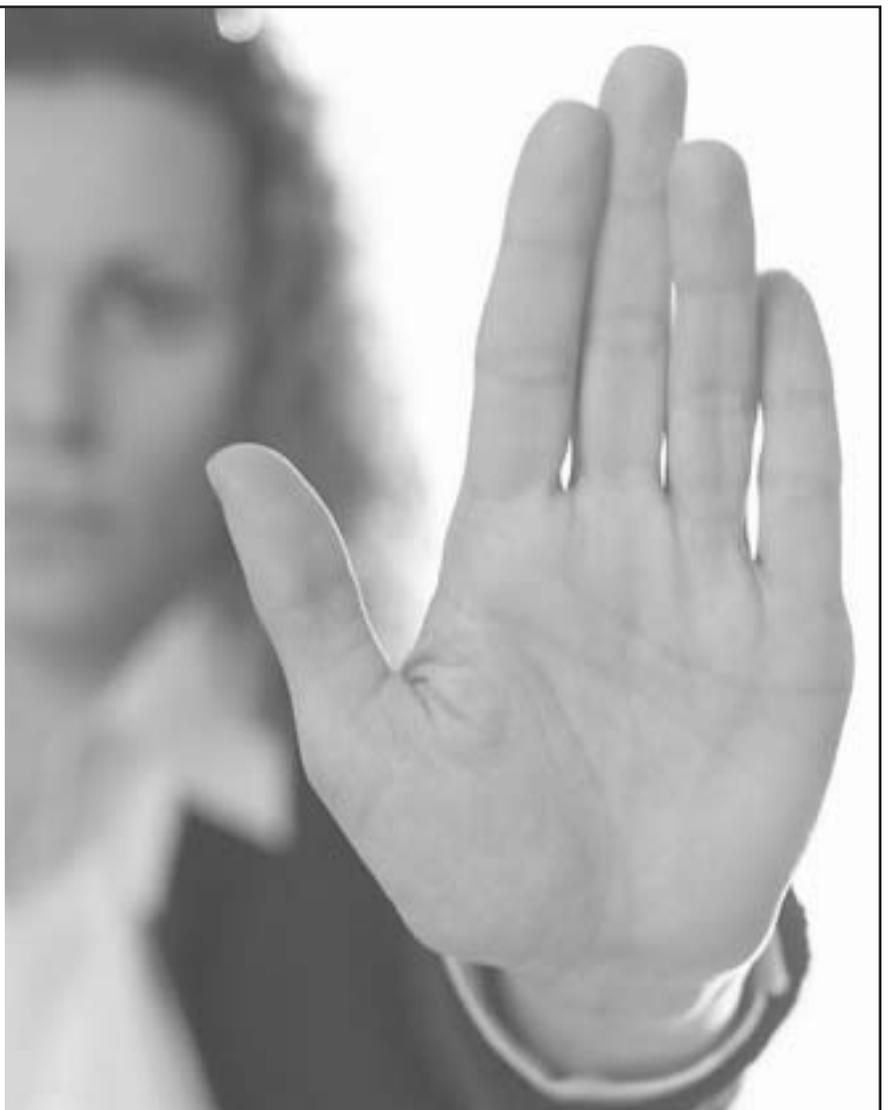
SLOW DOWN

BIRCH LAKE HAS
NARROW ROADS,
LOTS OF PEDESTRIANS,
CHILDREN,
GRANDCHILDREN AND PETS

SLOW DOWN ON
OUR ROADS
AND ON THE HILLS
TO AND FROM
THE LAKE!

SPEED LIMIT

15 MPH



— Birch Lake Notes —

ticular edition is always the Tuesday of the week before publication (example: the deadline for materials for the June 1 issue is Tuesday, May 29) ... thanks.

Advertising in the Barker

We are still (and always) accepting both display and classified advertising for the Birch Barker (see page 17 of today's Barker).

Classified ads are free to members

of the BLYC (non-member rate is \$5 per ad). Email your classified ads to the Barker at sailorphil@philvitale.com.

Display ads are charged at the low, one-time rate of \$65 for a 1/8 page ad; \$130 for a 1/4 page ad; \$260 for a 1/2 page ad; and \$520 for a full page ad.

For information and help building your ad, contact Phil at 476-1680, 445-9200 or sailorphil@philvitale.com.

All ads are subject to the approval of

the editor and/or Commodore, officers and board of the Birch Lake Yacht Club.

Online content

The printed Birch Barker will be online this season, as well as additional content ... go to www.philvitale.com and follow the links.

The Michigan Lakes & Streams May Newsletter is also available at on the Printed Barker page.

Who says we can't have a turtle of the week?



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Featured Listings:



Great home on Birch Lake with access to sandy swimming area and pier for a GREAT price! This 3-bedroom walkout has fabulous lake views from every room in the house and lakeside deck. There is a see-thru fireplace between the newly updated kitchen and dining area. New windows and exterior doors. Make this your year-round home or getaway. Enjoy the summer today!

Asking \$129,900

Very nice, all-brick home with 100 FT of very sandy beach on All-Sports Long Lake — with access into Coverdale Lake and canoeing and kayaking into the St Joe River. This



home is very spacious and has fabulous views from all of the large windows throughout. Gourmet kitchen with new flooring and eating area, Two fireplaces (living and family rooms), and rec area in lower level. New carpet in living room and master bedroom has built-ins and cedar closet. Beautiful terraced landscaping and patio with fire pit. Great home for entertaining!

Asking \$445,000

— Birch Lake Notes —

NEW EVENT — BLYC POKER RUN & Camp Tannadoonah Hog Roast

Saturday - July 21, 2012

Join the fun - first 52 players get to play! \$15 entry fee.

You will receive a playing Card at each home. Players must visit all 5 homes on Birch Lake to pick up cards to be eligible to win!. At the last (5th) home, poker hands will be presented to the official Dealers (Stan & Rich). Refreshments provided at each home.

Best Poker hand wins \$250; second best hand - \$100, third best \$50.

Event starts at 3pm - meet at Stu Spratt's and get the first card.

Other stops include:

West shore - Sheffieck's

East shore - Fallon's & Chester's

South shore - TBD

North shore - Mullin's

Pontoon transportation will be provided between stop! Finish at Mullin's. Attend the Camp Tannadoonah Annual Hog Roast afterwards - including Live Music and of course - the hog!!!!

Drop entry form off to any of the hosts - Mullin, Spratt, Sheffieck, Fallon, Chester. Limited to the first 52 players!!!!

USE THIS ENTRY FORM

Player name: _____

Player name: _____

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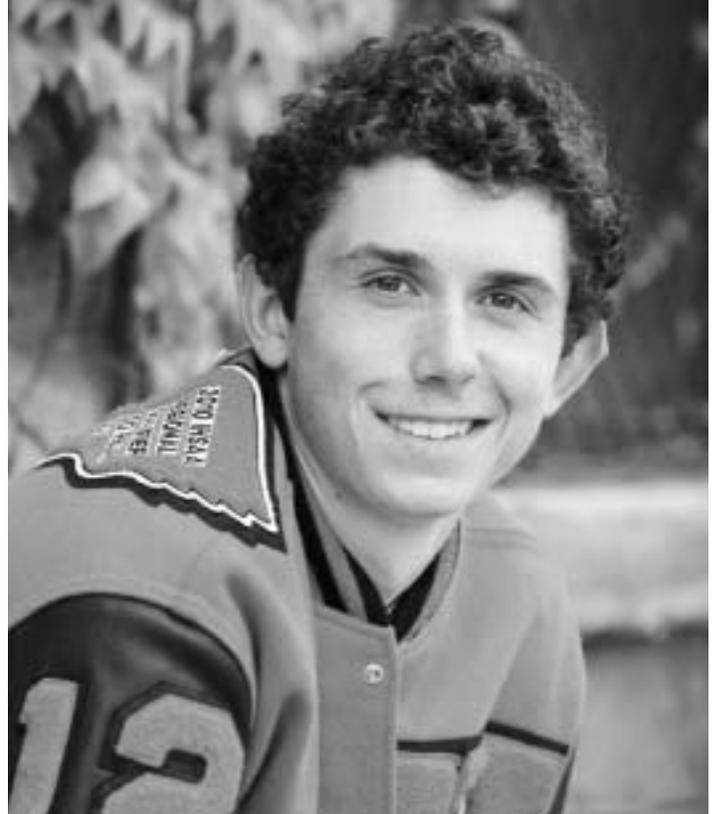
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Cell: 269-580-3246

Fax: 269-445-0008

— Barker kids of the Week —

Good (occasionally) Patti Russwurm (north shore) gets a Kid of the Week pic after posing in a neighbor's hunting hat (the difference between her and the neighbor is that she "makes the hat look good") prior to a 60th birthday celebration for her husband, Rick, and some other neighbor who shall remain nameless. It should be noted that Patty will have a significant birthday (one that ends with a zero) in September ... let's all be sure to wish her happy birthday as many times as we can between now and then. Thanks Amy Lutz for providing the photo.



Spencer Rheinhart, son of Bill and Cindy (Zesinger) Rheinhart and grandson of Bud and Barb Zesinger (east shore) is graduating from Warsaw High School Summa Cum Laude, 25th out of a class of 486 grads. He recently signed a letter of intent to join the University of Notre Dame track team this fall. He will run middle distance events. Spencer spent most days of his youth at Gramma and Grampa's Birch lake house where he learned to love Birch Lake just like the rest of us!



That's my grandson Dominic Vitale-Richards cheesing it up (he's so much like his daddy it's downright scary!) after loosing his first tooth in mom's car.

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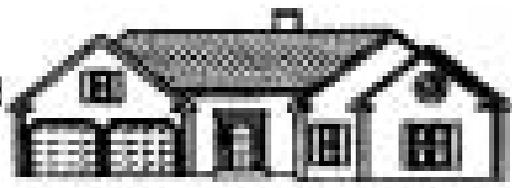


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— Barker kids of the Week —



Congratulations to Calvin King, son of Bob & Les, grandson of Bill and Le (north shore). Calvin has been accepted into the Ohio Northern College Engineering program. Picture are Cal and Klondike (the ONU Polar Bear mascot).

Birds??????
of the week



Our granddaughter, Morgann Applegate, made me promise to put a photo of her new pet parakeet "Ski" (pronounced Sky) as a Barker Bird of the Week. So, above is Ski with Una, a friend's bird ... don't they make a handsome couple? And don't even kid Morgann about all birds tasting like chicken ... little brat's go no sense of humor about such things.



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Reporting for Duty!

Greetings Mr. and Mrs. Birch Laker from shore to shore and all the sailors at sea. Let's get on with this. Seaman Lower Class Stewart Spratt reporting for duty. Yes, I volunteered for this and I will try to carry on in the best tradition of my predecessors. But, unless forced to walk the plank before the end of the sailing season I will be doing so voluntarily come Labor Day.

It's been a long time since we've had three regattas on Birch Lake - Memorial Day, July 4th and Labor Day. 2013 will be the next possible year for that recurrence. Regardless, all those who would like to compete should be ready for the start of the season next Sunday, June 3rd at the usual 11 am hour.

At the Spring Dinner there were a few sign-ups for committee boat duty but we sure would appreciate more volunteers. It really isn't a difficult or even boring thing to do. All that's required is to anchor your boat, monitor the stop watch, sound the horn, judge the starting line, look for fouls at buoys, judge the finish, record the results, deflect insults from ungrateful



finishers... Oh wait. That does sound like a lot. Especially when you have to put serving snacks and drinks to your helpers ahead of all else. Seriously, it isn't hard. It's fun. Please call me if you'd like to sign up - 476.2113.

I also want to make sure that everyone knows that ANYONE can come out and race. I got my sailing

indoctrination at Camp Eberhart back in the late 1960's and I was thrilled when my mom bought a Sunfish and I was able to get out there and race. That was back in the days when we would have as many as 20 or more Sunfish on the starting line and when the second fleet was Snipes. There were kids of all ages participating. It would be fun to see that again. Back then there were no female sailors either. Possibly because of the not so widely held belief that women and seamen don't mix. But today there are several female sailors out there and they win more often than I would like. (That's only because I want to always win. Sadly that doesn't happen.) Beginners are welcome and will get lots of excellent advice/assistance from the veteran sailors.

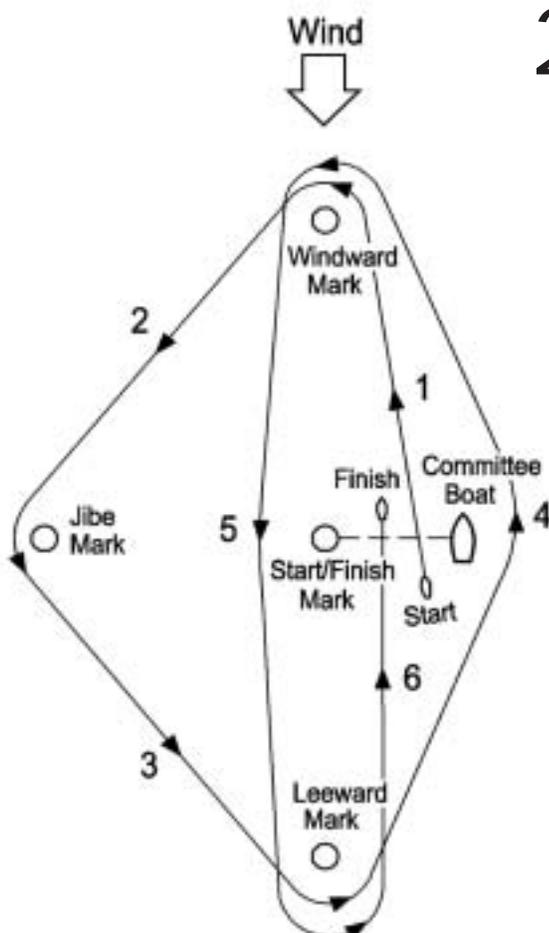
Let's have a great, windy and competitive season and, as always, let's use our best sporting conduct at all times.

See you out there. That is all.

-Stewart Spratt
2012 Fleet Captain

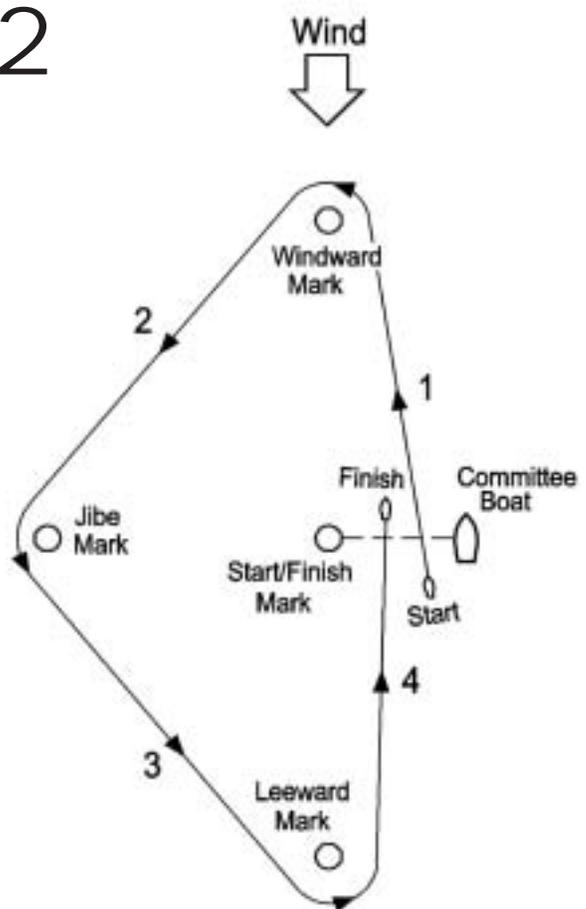
BLYC sailing courses for MC and Sunfish

2012



MC Course

Marks to Port (Mirror Image for Marks to Starboard)
Legs 4 and 5 cannot cross the start/finish line, but they can go around either end of the line.

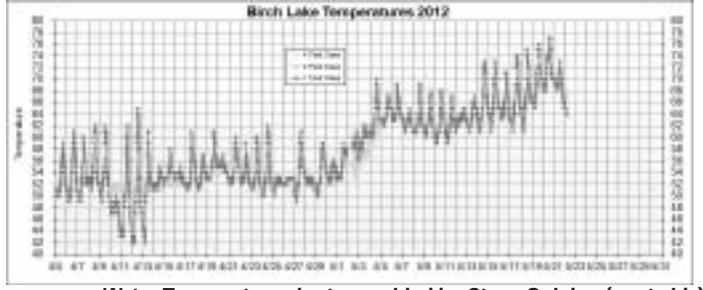
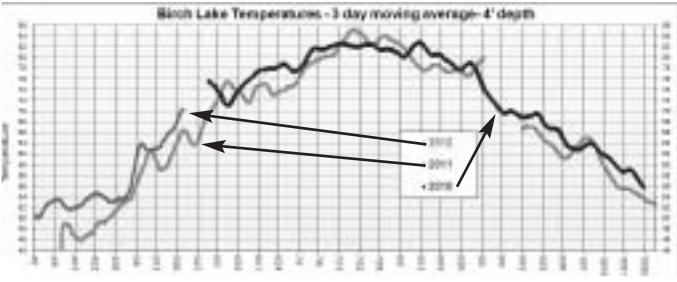


Sunfish Course

Marks to Port (Mirror Image for Marks to Starboard)

Birch Lake Data Page

Water Temperature Charts



Water Temperature charts provided by Steve Quinlan (west side)

April Fire/EMS report

April 2012																		
Fire-EMS Response Time Study (In Minutes)																		
Porter Fire Serving South Porter						Newberg Fire serving North Porter						Porter Fire Serving Mason						
Date	Time into 911	Time into station	Time 1st responder on scene	Response time	Comments	Date	Time into 911	Time into station	Time 1st responder on scene	Response time	Comments	Date	Time into 911	Time into station	Time 1st responder on scene	Response time	Comments	
4/6/2012		7:56	8:07	11							No Runs	4/8/2012		12:04	12:11	7		
4/17/2012		7:03	7:25	22														
Ave = 16 minutes						Ave = 0 Minutes						Ave = 7 minutes						
Porter EMS serving South Porter						Newberg EMS serving North Porter						Porter EMS Serving Mason						
Date	Time into 911	Time into station	Time 1st responder on scene	Response time	Comments	Date	Time into 911	Time into station	Time 1st responder on scene	Response time	Comments	Date	Time into 911	Time into station	Time 1st responder on scene	Response time	Comments	
4/1/2012		0:21	0:35	14		4/16/2012		13:56	14:06	10		4/2/2012		13:23	13:36	13		
4/2/2012		12:15	12:22	7								4/7/2012		23:45	0:03	18		
4/8/2012		13:28	13:36	8								4/11/2012		9:20	9:25	5		
4/9/2012		19:43	19:57	14								4/11/2012		10:20	10:27	7		
4/16/2012		13:24	13:32	8								4/11/2012		17:03	17:13	10		
4/20/2012		9:30	9:37	7								4/15/2012		17:43	17:53	10		
4/22/2012		2:14	2:29	15								4/17/2012		15:29	15:37	8		
Ave = 10 Minutes						Ave = 10 minutes						Ave = 10 Minutes						

Water Temperature charts provided by Pete Fournier

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Stu's Star Stuff

Welcome back!

Welcome back to the lake where the beautiful, mostly un-light-polluted skys provide an endless amount of fascination and wonder. So, what's going on up there?

The full Moon has a reputation for trouble. It raises high tides, it makes dogs howl, it wakes you up in the middle of the night with beams of moonlight stealing through your drapes. If a moonbeam woke you up on the night of May 5th, you might have wanted to get out of bed and take a look. (Yes, I'm doing it again; reporting after the fact.) This May's full Moon was a "super Moon, as much as 14% bigger and 30% brighter than other full Moons of 2012.

The scientific term for the phenomenon is "perigee moon." Full Moons vary in size because of the oval shape of the Moon's orbit. The Moon has an elliptical path around Earth with one side ("perigee") about 50,000 km closer than the other ("apogee"). Full Moons that occur on the perigee side of the Moon's orbit seem extra big and bright.

Such was the case on the night of May 5th when the Moon reached perigee. Only one minute later, the Moon lined up with Earth and the sun to become brilliantly full. The timing was almost perfect.

Okay, the Moon was 14% bigger than usual, but could you really have been able to tell the difference? It's tricky. There are no rulers floating in the sky to measure lunar diameters. Hanging high overhead with no reference points to provide a sense of scale, one full Moon can seem much like any other.

The best time to look is when the Moon is near the horizon. For reasons not fully understood by astronomers or psychologists, low-hanging Moons look unnaturally large when they beam through trees, buildings and other foreground objects. On May 5th, this Moon illusion amplified a full Moon that's extra-big to begin with. The swollen orb rising in the east at sunset seemed super indeed.

Perigee is the point in the Moon's elliptical orbit closest to Earth. Folklore holds that all kinds of wacky things happen under the light of a full Moon. Supposedly, hospital admissions increase, the crime rate ticks upward, and people behave strangely, though not uncommon any evening on the north shore. The idea that the full Moon causes mental disorders was widespread in the Middle Ages. Even the word "lunacy," meaning "insanity," comes from the Latin word for "Moon."

The majority of modern studies, however, show no correlation between the phase of the Moon and the incidence of crime, sickness, or human depravity (north shore again). The truth is, the Moon is less influential than folklore would have us believe.

It's true that a perigee full Moon brings with it extra-high "perigean tides," but according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration this is nothing to worry about. In most places, lunar gravity at perigee pulls tide waters only a few centimeters (an inch or so) higher than usual. Local geography can amplify the effect to about 15 centimeters (six inches)--not exactly a great flood.

Super perigee Moons are actually

The Moon for May 27

(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)
Illuminated Fraction: 0.436
0.6 days before first quarter



Sunrise: 6:14am
Sunset: 9:08pm
Moonrise: 12:22pm
Moonset: 1:13am
First Qtr: Monday, 4:17pm
Day length: 14h 54m

fairly common. The Moon becomes full within a few hours of its closest approach to Earth about once a year on average. The last such coincidence occurred on March 19th, 2011, producing a full Moon that was almost 400 km closer than this one. As usual, no trouble was reported--unless you count a midnight awakening as trouble.

Our next full moon will be Monday, June 4th at 7:13am. Watch Sunday evening as it rises at sunset over the east shore.

Sorry if you missed the show. But there will another one every night. And as always...well, you know.

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YOUR HOROSCOPE

ARIES — (Mar. 21- April 20) Be careful not to push your luck or take too much for granted when dealing on either a personal or professional level. Older members of your family may try to take advantage of you. Opportunities to travel will develop through peers. Don't be too quick to respond to a plea for help. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

TAURUS — (Apr. 21- May 21) Don't let the moods of those you live with get you down. You should sit down with someone you trust and work out a budget that will enable you to save a little extra. Don't let situations get out of hand. Avoid any gossip and be careful that you aren't misinterpreted. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

GEMINI — (May 22-June 21) Outings with relatives or good friends will provide you with stimulating conversation. Difficulties will result if you have to deal with controversial groups this week. Turn your present relationship around or start a new one. Don't waste this exciting day by sitting at home. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

CANCER — (June 22-July 22) You will be viewed as a sensitive, compassionate individual and others will ask you for advice. Don't start any arguments unless you're prepared to accept irrevocable results. Recognition will be yours if you meet your deadline. Relationships will be erratic this week. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

LEO — (July 23-Aug 22) If you've been under stress and worrying about older members of the family, it's time to come to terms with the situation. Your obviously unique way of doing things has caught the eye of someone in a higher position. Try to understand their point of view. Erratic behavior may confuse others, and mood swings may result in isolation. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

VIRGO — (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) You can enjoy the company of others and come in contact with an ideal mate, if you get out and mingle. You can become obsessed with detail and must be sure to divide your time appropriately. You may find that someone you really cared for in the past has come back into your life. Your creative ideas will be put to good use if you dig in and do things around the house that will make your family happy. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

LIBRA — (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) You may meet that special person if you attend fundraising functions. If you take on too much, you will find your self in martyrdom. You may have to explain your actions to your family. Travel should be on your agenda. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

SCORPIO — (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

You will be viewed as a sensitive, compassionate individual and others will ask you for advice. Be prepared to overcome frustrations and obstacles at work. Try to deal with the problems of those less fortunate; however, don't allow them to make unreasonable demands. Colleagues may try to undermine you. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

SAGITTARIUS — (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Use your better judgment before you sign up for a costly venture. You will meet new and exciting people if you attend social activities or sporting events. Your home may be in an uproar and you are best to stay out of the line of fire if at all possible. Problems with in-

laws or relatives may be more damaging than you realize. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

CAPRICORN — (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) You will be looking for creative ways to make a little extra cash. Visit friends or relatives who have been confirmed. You will inspire confidence in others. Better still, take your mate and let them foot the bill. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

AQUARIUS — (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Weigh the pros and cons and make a decision that will change the conditions you've been living under. Digestive disorders will be a result of family squabbles. Resist secret affairs that could be detrimental to your reputation. Emotional deception is evident. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

PISCES — (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Do yourself a favor and leave your plastic at home. Work at home if at all possible. Stay out of other people's affairs. Do not overspend on entertainment. You could find that children will be a handful. Your high energy will help you through this rather hectic day. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

IF YOUR BIRTHDAY IS THIS WEEK ...

As the planets align this weekend there is 1.4% chance that a divergence in the dynamic realignment of Mercury and Pluto, combined with a rupture in the inter-dimensional spatial vortex will cause some disruption in your personal life. Additionally, there is a further (.0054%) chance that this rift will cause your cat, to wander into a field of fresh, spring catnip and disappear for several days. Don't despair, if these events actually do occur there is a high probability (17.4% chance) that your cat will contact you (probably via singing telegram delivered by an aging former cast member of the Love Boat) no later than Thursday of next week, and let you know that he is in a cheap roach motel in Alpena with a Siamese cat-shaped Beanie Baby named "Kansas City Kitty," and he needs a ride home, some salmon-flavored kitty kibble, and for crying out loud would it kill you to clean out the doggone litter box once in a while?



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~Birch Lake Recipes~

Wild Rice Chicken Salad

Ingredients:

2-4 boxes wild rice, cooked
(Uncle Ben's Long Grain
Wild Rice)
1-2 bunches asparagus
6-8 boneless chicken breasts
Toasted pecans
Lemon juice
Olive oil
Dressing (recipe follows)

Directions:

1. Marinate chicken in lemon
juice and olive oil, grill and
slice
2. Blanch asparagus and cut

into 1-inch pieces

3. Combine rice, asparagus,
chicken and pecans together
in a large bowl
4. Pour dressing over top and
serve remainder of dressing
on side.

Dressing:

3 T. cider vinegar
1 t. pepper
1 T. Dijon mustard
1/3 cup pure maple syrup
1/2 cup olive oil
diced onion



— BIRCH LAKE WORDSEARCH —

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

— BIRCH LAKE DIRECTORY UPDATE —

It's time to update our beloved Birch Lake Directory, and the sooner we get your information, the sooner your household can have a brand new, crisp, accurate and informative directory.

At right is an update form.

You may:

1. Drop it off to Fallon's at 63600 Birch Road (brown house, green roof)
2. Mail it to 63600 Birch Road, Vandalia MI 49095
3. Fax it to 269-476-1467
4. Complete the form at the Ladies' Tea on June 15
5. Complete the form at the Fourth of July Pancake Breakfast
6. Complete it, scan it and send the pdf to Celia.Fallon@gmail.com
7. Or ignore it and allow the editors to decide your directory entry.

INFORMATION SHEET FOR UPDATE OF BLYC DIRECTORY

Name(s): _____

Birch Lake address: _____

Cottage number (if known): _____

Off-lake address: _____

Other address: _____

Lake phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone(s): _____

Email addresses: _____

Children : (Please state ages as of August 31, 2012) _____

Other information (optional): _____



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Camp Tannadoonah

Welcome back and thanks!

Welcome back! It's been a great off-season for camp, and I'm getting very excited about the start of Camp 2012.

I'd like to start with a huge "Thank You!" to everyone who came out for the work day in April, the Book Club for cleaning the kitchen and dining hall, and everyone who has come up to help with various projects around camp this spring. Thanks also to the Mosiers for chlorinating our wells again this year. We really appreciate all the time and effort our volunteers put in to help us get Camp ready each season. THANK YOU ALL!

Our camper numbers for the 2012 season are looking great. As of 5/21, we have 362 registered campers, which is just a few fewer than we had on this date last year (368)! Last year was a record year for us, so we're very happy with where things stand right now. We've already surpassed the total camper numbers we had during my first summer (357) and second summer (351) as camp director, and camp hasn't even begun yet! Over the

course of the last six summers, we've had an average growth of over 13% each year. It's all looking great for this year!

We've added some great new activities for camp this year, most of which are being staffed by campers parents and volunteers! We've added Lacrosse, Japanese, Spanish, Latin Dance, Archaeology, and Advanced Sailing. Among our new volunteers this year, we have some lake residents: Rich Mullin teaching Lacrosse, Tish Harman teaching Archaeology, and Rick Harman teaching Advanced Sailing. Plus Terry Dugan has agreed to teach Science classes again this year. We are very grateful to all of the individuals who come up to camp to help teach these unique courses!

This summer is an American Camp Association (ACA) accreditation year, which means that we have a review of all of our policies and procedures by a visitor from the ACA. They look over all of our documentation on nearly 500 different standards, encompassing 7 areas (Site & Food Service, Transportation, Health &

Wellness, Operational Management, Human Resources, Program Design, and Aquatics). We've been busy preparing for our ACA visit this spring!

Our goal is to surpass 600 campers this year. We finished last season with 585 for the summer, and we've added an extra week to the camp schedule this year so we think it's a feasible goal. Help us reach that goal by recruiting new campers!

We have yard signs for anyone who has a good place to display them (e.g., a house off the lake, a business, a family member or friend who might display it, etc.) Let me know if you'd like to get a couple of them!

As always, please feel free to call or email me with any questions you have about the changes in Camp Fire and Camp Tannadoonah over the past year. We are always happy to talk about Camp and clear up any misunderstandings or concerns people may have!

-Miss Amber
amber@tannadoonah.org
574-217-4731

SPAGHETTI-FEST

JUNE 23, 6 - 8 pm

Come see the new Yacht Club door purchased with the proceeds from last year's dinner!

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Tickets available at the Commodore's Cocktail Party June 9, The Ladies' Coffee June 15, from any member of TEAM EASTSIDE, or by calling 476-2125

\$8 for adults
\$5 for kids 4-10 years old
kids under 3 eat free
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2012 Birch Lake Yacht Club officers and directors

2012 BLYC Officers

Pam Mullin Commodore (N).....476-1080
Classegirl1@comcast.net

Chas Grundy Vice Comm (H)574-968-7022
Chas.grundy@gmail.com

Holly Troeger Treasurer (E).....476-9898
amvine@aol.com

Mike Sheffieck Secretary (W).....476-1849
mcsheff@aol.com

Stewart Spratt Fleet Captain (N) ...476-2113
s1svb1@comcast.net

Stan Pitakos (N).....476-2113
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Rick Russwurm (N).....476-2407
paramountp@aol.com

Scott Troeger (E)476-9898
scott.troeger@btlaw.com

Denise Smitley (W)476-9000
dsmitley@industrial-pack.com

2012 BLYC Directors

Bob Baucus (N).....476-2863
rebauc@aol.com

Greg Bolin (W).....476-2420
gbolin31@aol.com

Karen Brovold (W)476-8862
karenbrovold@yahoo.com

Harold Cranmer (W).....476-2170
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Terry Dugan (S)476-2814
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Pgalloway4@yahoo.com

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mmtlconcrete@aol.com

PJ Vandewalle (H)
pjvandewalle@gmail.com

Phil Vitale (E).....476-1680
sailorphil@philvitale.com

Sue Williams (S)476-8886
smwillia@comcast.net

NON-DIRECTOR ATTENDEES:

Jim Boliinger BLYC Homeowners' Association
 Chairman (E).....476-9737
debo36@comcast.net

Paul Fallon, BLYC Water Quality Committee
 Chairman (E).....476-1467
paulf@hrpconstruction.com

Bob Waddle (E)476-2293
sparkybob220@comcast.net

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\$ _____

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Address _____

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Looking for a reliable babysitter week of July 9th 9:30 AM – 4PM on Birch Lake. Please call Julie Wright 317-490-4573 for more information.

Tim and I and our Standard Poodle Charlie want to rent a place on Birch for half of June through half of August, or something like that, were flexible! Our contact number is 1-850-554-0769, or 850-934-

FOR SALE

The most frequently seen boat on Birch Lake is for Sale! Phil & Sandy's 1982 Crest Pontoon w/peace sign; newer bimini top, carpet, helm, captain's chair, bench seat and arm rest; Newer 25 hp Mercury 4-stroke, Bigfoot outboard. Well maintained, runs great! \$3,500 obo.



3688. Email, tim.burchell@aopsales.com, lizbur@bellsouth.net

Tannadoonah camper parents looking for a place on the lake to rent the week of July 29 through August 4. Contact Miss Amber at 574-217-4731

HOMES FOR SALE

Grundy house on the Hill. Visit <http://bit.ly/birch-lakehouse> for more info. Contact Chas Grundy at chas@grundyhome.com or 574.315.0217.

Delightful Eastside A-Frame lakefront cottage. New on the market — contact Ilene Golden at 574-360-8766

BirchLakeHomeForSale.com

Want an ad in the Birch Barker?
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