

The official publication of the
BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB

Birch Barker

Weekend of July 28, 2012

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Commodore's Comments

Once again it is late Tuesday night - 10:40 pm and the Commodore's column is being written. I am in Chicago working at a three day meeting and my husband Rich is writing the column so here you go...

Hi, your First Mate and Husband to the Commodore here.

It has been 19 years since I wrote my last Commodore article back in 1993 when I was Commodore — my how time flies. I am writing the column late since I just returned from bike riding with the Outpost Sports Group. We met at the Happy Landing at Corey Lake and rode around the 7 lakes in the area. There were about 60 of us, all ages and walks of life, several people I have met riding over the last 5 years and many who I

have yet to meet. We are blessed to be able to live in South West Michigan with all the beautiful countryside, inland lakes and decent riding roads.

This past weekend, Stan Pitakos and I put on the first Poker Run at Birch Lake. We had 52 participants and everyone put in a whopping \$15 each. We traveled by pontoon to 5 different houses on the lake, ate great appetizers and drank our favorite beverages. Participants received a playing card at each of the five houses. At the fifth house we each presented our best 5 card poker hand. The Baucus family proved that "you don't have to be good if you're lucky" as they captured 1st, 2nd & 3rd place that may even pay for a credit hour for Brody this fall semester! Thanks to Stuart Spratt and Deb Taghon, Mike and Julie Sheffieck, Holly and Scott Troeger, Celia and Paul

2012 BLYC Calendar

July 27.....	Men's Golf Outing
July 28.....	Birch Lake Garage Sale
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)

Aug. 4 (Homeowners Meeting to follow board meeting), Sept. 8

Sailing Regattas

Labor Day weekend

Note: ALL dates and times are subject to change.

Watch the Barker for updates!

The Birch Barker is always soliciting and accepting materials for publication. Please E-mail your materials to sailorphil@philvitale.com, put the items in the stone newspaper/mailbox at my home, 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore), 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 photos or any other materials returned. To contact me by phone, call (269) 476-1680 or (269) 445-9200, or BLYC Commodore Pam Mullin, (269) 476-1080. --Phil Vitale, editor

— Birch Lake Notes —

Fallon, Ed and Carla Chester, my partner in crime — Stan Pitakos and my partner in life — Pam. It was a successful, paced and enjoyable event and one that we look forward to putting on again next year!

Many of the Poker players took the party up to the Camp for the Pig Roast and live music. The food was great, the music was terrific and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. The campers are fortunate to have such enthusiastic counselors and administrators, especially our neighbors, Amber and Chas.

The farmers have been overjoyed lately with summer storms and much needed rain. Pray that they can salvage the bean crop if not all the corn. Our farming neighbors to the north are really glad they invested in the new irrigation systems this year. I think the lake level is up an inch or two in the last week — yeah!

Friday is the Men's Golf Outing. This weekend there are no other scheduled events at the yacht club. Enjoy the lake, the second half of the summer with family and friends. See you all at the Corn & Sausage Roast.

As my wonderful wife and Commodore would say — here's to smooth sailing (and great road biking!)

~Commodore Pam's First Mate

Homeowners Assoc. Meeting
The Homeowners Association's

annual meeting and officer election will be on Aug. 4 at 10 am following the BLYC meeting at the Yacht Club. We have invited township trustee Leard Wylie to speak on recurring blockage problem in the forcemain carrying Birch Lake area's sewage on Rainbow Lake Road, and some proposed solutions to the problem.

Corn & Sausage Roast - August 4

Here it comes! That annual favorite, the Corn & Sausage Roast, arrives in these parts next Saturday, Aug. 4. From 5:30 until 7:30 pm at the Yacht Club we'll be serving delectable meals consisting of your meat choice, roasted corn, four sides, cookies and lemonade or iced tea. Prices are \$4 for a hot dog meal and \$7 for a bratwurst or chicken breast meal (we'll only have a limited supply of chicken breasts so come early to try to snag what we have!). Pay at the door — no reservations required! Come hungry, visit with your neighbors and leave with a smile!

Birch Lake Garage Sale Update

Their will be garage sales on Saturday, July 28 from 8 am till noon at the following homes :

Claudia Phipps — North Side

Blair Garceau — East Side

Jennifer Ball — East Side

Diana Betzer — Dick Bender's rental — South Side

Charlene Sheetz — South Side

There will be no sale at the yacht club due to lack of donations.

Anyone having leftovers they DO NOT want to take back into their home can contact me and I will arrange pick-up. I will then be having a free giveaway to help the community.

~Staci Whiteman

Hog Roast Thanks!

"Thank you" to everyone who was able to attend the 4th Annual Hog Roast at Camp Tannadoonah, and to those who couldn't make it but have been so helpful over this past year. It's been a wonderful summer and without you, Camp wouldn't be here today. Thanks.

~Everyone at Camp Tannadoonah and Camp Fire

Sympathies

Our sympathies to the family of Alice A. Yoshizawa, 87, of Elkhart, who passed away at 5:25 a.m. Tuesday, July 17, at Eastlake Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

Mrs. Yoshizawa was the mother of Jim (Linda) Yoshizawa (east side), as well as Bob (June) Maki and Ralph (Marie) Maki, both of Parma, Ohio; and grandmother of Michael and Jennifer of Berea, Ohio; and great grandmother of, Evan Yoshizawa of Berea.

She was born July 22, 1924, to Kyoichi and Chiyo (Aoki) Maki in

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— Birch Lake Notes —

Seattle, Wash.

Memorials contributions may be made to the Cleveland JACL.

Ladies' Golf Outing July 20, 2012

What a great day last Friday turned out to be for the "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" golf outing at Garver Lake Golf Course in Edwardsburg! The day started out a little cloudy, but by the time the teams got to their first hole, it was gorgeous! Low humidity, slight breeze, and a perfect temperature! The "Golf Fairy" must have been watching over us! Six very eager, "semi-pro" golf teams took off in their carts. The teams were: #1 Leslie King, Vickie Rogers, Sue Waddle. #2 Carla Chester, Amy Lutz, Sandy Vitale, Patty Luecht. #3 Deb Bolinger, Janet Foster, Lind Harman, Linda Curtis. #4 Betsy Custard, Sandi Haugh, Mary Drummond. #5 Denny Weesner, Mardy Miller, Lynn DeCocker, Bev Kruggel. #6 Peggy Cowen, Bev Heckaman, Janice Meixel, Barb Zesinger.

We had so many great sponsors this year! Many, many thanks to Mike Lutz of Lutz Concrete, Amy Lutz, Realtor at Cressy & Everett, Patti and Rick Russwurm of Paramount Management, Lee Oswalt owner Jimmy's Tavern, Paul Fallon of HRP, Marsha Bolin owner Chickadees, Phil and Sandy Vitale of the east side, Carla Chester of the east side, Celia Fallon of the east side, Dick Bender and Denny Weesner both of the south side. Each and every one of you were truly instrumental in making this day an enjoyable event. We appreciate your support! An additional surprise

was the great neck coolers that were provided by Team # 6. Peggy Cowen handmade each one and were they ever nice! Just soak them in cold water, tie one around your neck, and you are cool and comfortable! Thanks so much for such a thoughtful gift! With the tremendous heat we've been having, I'm still wearing mine!! A huge thanks also to all the teams for providing such fantastic baskets for our basket raffle!! We had such a wonderful variety and each one was very creative! I must thank Linda Curtis, Carla Chester, Amy Lutz, Deb Bolinger, Vickie Rogers, Sandy Vitale, Bob Waddle (pictures), Bill Luecht, (water boy) and Blair Garceau for helping me and giving me moral support when I needed it the most! I apologize if I forgot anyone, and I sincerely appreciate all your help.

Again this year, we had some silly games! In honor of the upcoming Olympic games, we had the Golf Club Javelin throw (now be truthful, who HASN'T ever wanted to throw a club?!). Each golfer was provided a club to throw from the tee. Where it landed, was where the golfer had to hit their drive. It was pretty amusing to watch the unique techniques the ladies had trying to make that club fly! Back again this year was the ever popular "WHEEL OF GOLF CLUB!!" Ladies spun the wheel, and whichever club they landed on, was what they had to use to tee off. (I must admit, I may start using my 5 iron instead of my driver from now on! I actually had a semi-fair drive!)

Hole winners this year were Sue Waddle for straightest drive, and Carla

Chester showed her team what a true golfer does to win the longest putt and the closet to the pin. Unfortunately, there was no hole-in-one this time, so the longest drive along with the 1996 vintage red corvette convertible was won by Janice Meixel. Janice also won the Golf Club Javelin throw! What a fantastic day for her! (She carried her team-pet Peggy Cowen!) Shortest drive was (embarrassingly) won by the team of Betsy Custard, Sandi Haugh, and Mary Drummond—none of the ladies would actually admit to which one actually beat out Denny Weesner by inches — so I am naming them all! Voted best dressed golfer, and walking the "green carpet" this year was Bev Kruggel. Vickie Rogers came closest in guessing the number of tees in the jar.

Team places were: #1 Betsy Custard, Sandi Haugh, and Mary Drummond. #2 Peggy Cowen, Janice Meixel, Bev Heckaman, and Barb Zesinger. #3 Denny Weesner, Mardy Miller, Lynn DeCocker, Bev Kruggel. #4 Carla Chester, Amy Lutz, Sandy Vitale, Patty Luecht. #5 Leslie King, Vickie Rogers, Linda Bergan and Sue Waddle. #6 Deb Bolinger, Janet Foster, Lind Harman, and Linda Curtis. All the ladies that participated were winners in every sense of the word. They were gracious and good natured and came out to just have fun and enjoy the company. You made it an awesome day! Thank you all for joining us, and I hope to see you all again next year!

A Swan tale (not a swan song)

A while back an ill swan was taken

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— Birch Lake Notes —

to a rescue facility and it was found that it had been poisoned. The swan was lovingly nursed back to health and is ready to be returned to nature. Monday of this week the swan was released back into Birch Lake. It is reported that this is a Trumpeter Swan, a less aggressive species of swan (the Mute Swan is a more territorial and aggressive species) and no danger to boaters or swimmers. Please be kind to it as it swims about adding beauty and grace to our view.

We have had swans visiting our lake for several years without causing a problem so let's follow the old adage "Live and let live." Do not chase them with PWC's or with boats (this causes them to become aggressive) and take care when using chemicals and fertilizers. Avoid placing and storing any chemical products where they may be a danger to living creatures.

It is also reported that a baby duck hatched during a rain storm. The mommy duck and the rest of the eggs disappeared so after a few days of waiting for her to return, our kind Birch Laker gave the baby to the same rescuer. It is reported that the baby is now living happily with other baby ducks in a nice wetland area prepared for that purpose. If you happen to find one of our feathered friends in distress, you can contact the fine lady that took in these two. Her name is Diane Kuhl at 574-220-4042. She is a certified waterfowl

"rehabber" located in New Carlisle.

Safety Note: 10 pier sections!

The Cass County Marine Division reminds everyone to observe the 100 feet no wake zone from all other boats, piers, rafts and especially skiers. If you are in doubt about how far 100 feet might be you are encouraged to look at any pier the average pier section is 10 feet long, so 100 feet equals 10 pier sections laid end to end. Please keep your boat and the tubes and skiers on the back at least 10 per sections away from everything else when you are at wake speed!

Line Dancing on Tuesdays

Lind Harman is teaching/hosting line dancing at the Yacht Club on Tuesday mornings until further notice.

Cass County Conservation Club

The Cass County Conservation Club will host a garage sale on Aug 12 to 14 in the club parking lot on the weekend of the large US-12 garage sale. For details contact Connie Sue Hulse at 641-2590.

The following events are scheduled at the Cass County Conservation Club on US 12 at Birch Rd.:

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.

Got Pix?

We are looking for photos of Birch Lake for a 2013 calendar. We're particularly interested in covering all the seasons, so if you have a few (no more than 5 per person), send them to us ... email your submissions to sailorphil@philvital.com or get them to Commodore Pam, Vice Commodore Chas.

There is also a cool ONLINE form to submit photos ... find a link to the form at <http://www.philvital.com> (follow the link to "The Birch Barker.")

Advertising in the Barker

We are still (and always) accepting both display and classified advertising for the Birch 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@philvital.com.

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

Birthdays are good for your health. Studies have shown that people who have more birthdays live the longest.

So be sure to wish Patti Russwurm an early happy birthday ... she's getting really old!



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— Barker Kids of the Week —

Ryan Lynn Durham was a member of the 2012 Graduating Class of St. Joseph's High School, South Bend. Ryan graduated with Highest Honors, was a member of The National Honor Society, was a four year member of the Varsity Girls Soccer Team and an Indiana State Soccer Champion in 2010. Ryan is the daughter of Shelley (Kruggel) and Ted Durham and the granddaughter of Herman and Beverly Kruggel (west side). Ryan will be attending Indiana University Bloomington this Fall.



Great Barker Kids of the Week honors to the Line Dance gals, who gave a demonstration for the Hillcrest United Methodist Church in Elkhart. After a nice lunch on Thursday the gals showed their stuff.



Two month old Lance Cowen, grandson of Dick and Peggy Cowen, west side, had his first visit to Birch Lake last week adding to the celebration of life of his great grandmother Eldora Cleland.



That's BLYC Vice Commodore Chas Grundy getting his fingernails painted by a camper last week ... surely worthy of a Barker Kid-of-the-Week entry.

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Aurora 20' Burgundy w/Mercury 40 hp Bigfoot \$17617.18

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2012 XCURSION PONTOONS by Forest River

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Dock Store Specials!

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photos courtesy of the PattiCam

Four Tales of Two Lakes

Recently, our neighbor and everybody's friend, "Honest Ed" Chester shared a piece published on July 9 of this year in the Goshen (Indiana) daily newspaper. Written by Louie Stout, a long time, and therefore highly regarded, contributor on the subjects of wildlife, fishing, and hunting to a number of local papers. To say the article was alarming would be a substantial understatement.

Louie told a riveting (to me anyway) story about Lake Webster, a 770 acre body of water near Syracuse, IN, not much more than an hour or so south of here. He reported that in 2010 a chemical treatment applicator had been paid what seemed to me to be a huge sum of \$125,000 to treat the entire 770 acre lake for an invasive plant species called Eurasian Milfoil with a potent product called Sonar. Since then, the article continues, the lake once known for great Muskie fishing, has become "turbid" (thick or opaque, with roiled sediment). Its' fishing has since deteriorated so severely that it is now largely reliant for its existence on some donated, man-made devices that provide some sense of natural habitat in a dozen or so specific locations throughout the lake. Stout spoke of continuing and growing friction between the lake's fisherpersons and other recreational users. The inference was clear: a big mistake had been made, a plant overkill had occurred, and the results were tragic.

Ed's admonition was that these circumstances were horrible indeed; and we must be on the alert to prevent them from ever coming to pass here at Birch Lake. As much as is possible for an overweight, sedentary, senior citizen who wears flip-flops, I too was shaking in my boots.

Tale #2

Determined to assure nothing so devastating would ever befall Birch Lake, it seemed some research was in order. We asked questions of Mr. Stout, the state of Indiana's area fish and wildlife biologist, the applicator firm, and the 15-year Chairman of the Lake's Weed Control Committee and learned a few things that weren't included in Mr. Stout's article as published in the Goshen News that day:

1. The Eurasian Milfoil (EM) problem at Lake Webster was not only mammoth but also long-standing. In 1998, the entire lake surface was so dense with EM that one couldn't motor across the lake without fouling their prop. Almost all recreational use was stymied.

2. While Mr. Stout's reported expenditure of \$125,000 in 2010 may have been high, the process was very expensive, not only when done in 1998 and 2010 but also when done on a lake-wide basis in 2002. (Yes, that's 3 times in 14 years). So much so, that one of the reasons for

occasionally performing the mass treatment was to hopefully "hold down" the costs in the intervening years to \$25,000 or more per year.

3. While almost every activity has those that oppose it, to suggest the 2010 treatment was wildly or even generally unpopular just doesn't make sense. The support of the Lake Associate's 15-members Board of Directors was almost, if not, unanimous for each of the three lake-wide treatments. If the cost numbers thrown about are at all accurate, it would not be unreasonable to conclude that on the order of a half million dollars has been spent there on Milfoil treatments since 1998. A program of that magnitude required lots and lots and lots of eager and repeated local donors.

4. While some state employees might have preferred a smaller treatment in 2010, the state did grant the permit for the full treatment. If it had not been for economic restraints, the state might even have contributed towards it (as it had for at least one previous full treatment).

5. Reports of the current frustration of Muskie fisherpersons may not have been balanced. As much as there may be a friction between them and other lake users, there are also differences of opinion between local Muskie and bass fisherpersons. Suggestions that Muskie fishing may have been permanently ruined may have been premature. In this spring's annual Muskie tournament, more of that species were retrieved from Webster Lake than from either of two area chains of lakes.

6. There are two very scary, highly unfortunate properties of Eurasian Milfoil:

a) Even with massive, lake-wide treatments, it can never really be killed 100% permanently completely.

b) It grows faster than almost any natural more desirable underwater species. This means there is a real risk that (as happened at Webster) once EM overtakes a lake to the point where there is little other plant life and it is then killed off, the kill will result in a relatively barren lake bottom which will be repopulated by the fastest growing available species, in this case Eurasian Milfoil. What a depressing, self-perpetuating cycle.

Tale #3

...is of our little gem of a (and God's favorite) lake, Birch. We do have significant advantages over Webster Lake in our shared battle with Eurasian Milfoil. Being much deeper, with limited intake from other bodies of water, Birch "flushes" itself far less often. This not only can help retard the spread of individual plants but also make localized treatments easier and more effective. Other advantages Birch enjoys are that no appreciable quantities of Eurasian

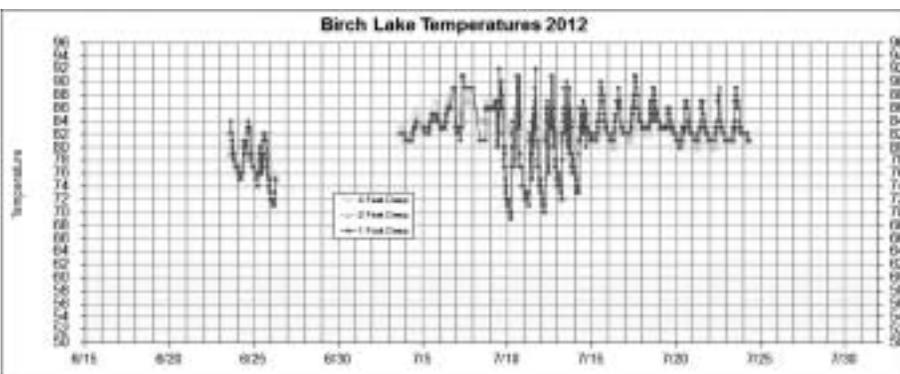


Milfoil were discovered here until 2007, and then only within a few acres of our lake, and that subsequent regular vigilance and treatment have prevented any further growth of the affected areas and has even caused them to recede. Our initial four locations of EM are now down to one location which has shrunk in size. (Your Water Quality Committee is also currently monitoring very small amounts of two other exotics: purple loosestrife and curly leaf pondweed). In any singular year, we have not had to eradicate as many as 10 acres of EM or spent as much as \$10,000 doing so. Not that Webster's application firm recommended more aggressive treatment than we would have had applied under similar circumstances, our use of an independent aquatic engineering and consulting firm to help us identify problems and recommend treatments, to be performed by others, is comforting. God does continue to shine his light upon us.

Tale #4

...is even better than that of the place Birch Lake. It is of the people of Birch Lake. People who so regularly, and on such a timely basis, do whatever it takes, whenever necessary, to protect and improve our quality of life. In this case, we are reminded of contributions of all the Water Quality Members and the Yacht Club Board Members and it's Commodore's who have served so steadfastly, usually in the background and without much fanfare. Two particular everyday and ordinary heroes deserve mention: Rick Russwurm, long time Water Quality Committee Member, who has long coordinated, and continues to, with the consulting firm to at least annually inspect the lake and the application of warranted treatments, first brought the need for action to the Yacht Club officers early in the 2007 season. Then commodore Blair Garceau immediately called a special meeting at which your Board overwhelmingly, and without reservation, supported any and all recommended remedial action forthwith. At least one present at that Board meeting felt like he had been present at a call to arms, a universal voluntary conscription, an outpouring of conviction so immediate and strong that one might almost pity the invasive species, so strong that the consultant, permitting agencies, and application were seemingly motivated to react almost immediately, and so strong that within hours there were thousands of dollars in a special fund to monitor and combat Eurasian Milfoil.

Rick, Blair, and many others were and remain the heroes of this story. In a larger way though, all of you are heroes; particularly those that pay your dues, participate, take your turn, and support your fellow contributors of time and talent. You, the participating residents of the Birch Lake Community, are the best story of all.



Note: The large swing in the 1 foot depth temperature from July 10 to July 14 was caused by the low lake level. The temperature sensor was actually out of the water at times during wave troughs. Steve adjusted the depth of the sensor back to 1 foot on July 15.

— Sailing on Birch Lake —

Snipe hunting and sailboats

To dial down the way-back machine of sailing on Birch Lake, past MC, past Sunfish and Sailfish, one comes to the venerable Snipe. The William Crosby 1930s design sails in (26) national fleets and is still recognized by the International Federation of Sailing.

In our sailing hey-day, Birch had a fleet of Snipe. The boat boasts a divided sail-plan (mainsail / jib) sporting a total 128 square feet of sail. Some top Snipe sailors called Birch home, including National / World Class Champ Earl Troeger.

That the boat required crew meant the Masters took kids racing, so, provided an opportunity to learn from the guys who knew. Having a jib to trim lent purpose and excitement. The crew was more than just rail-meat (ballast).

Memory shot ...

[info and images "borrowed" from the Wiki]



No, Grandma,
Listen,
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The Chrome Icon



Okay, Ralph let me 'splain it you again.
You're big, I'm little; BUT!!! you're dog, I'm
cat that makes me the boss. Got it ??



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Barnacle Bill the Sailor

"Barnacle Bill the Sailor" is an American drinking song adapted from "Bollocky Bill the Sailor," a traditional folk song originally titled "Abraham Brown."

There are several versions of this often bawdy song. The first printed version of the song is in the public domain book *Immortalia* (1927). Later versions feature the eponymous "Barnacle Bill," a fictional character loosely based on a 19th-century San Francisco sailor and Gold Rush miner named William Bernard. Versions are also known in England and Scotland from the early 20th century.

The earliest known recording is an expurgated adaptation by Carson Robison and Frank Luther in 1928. This version was also recorded on May 21, 1930 by Bix Beiderbecke and Hoagy Carmichael with Carson Robison on vocals and released as a Victor 78. In 1996 it was released on CD on the album "Bix Beiderbecke 1927-1930." A friend of Beiderbecke's is quoted as saying that Beiderbecke told him he could not believe the record would be pressed and had felt that it had been done just for laughs. Beiderbecke cut loose on the tune with what is believed to be one of his finest cornet solos.

The tune has inspired a Fleischer Studios Betty Boop cartoon and two films, as well as the name of a rock on Mars. In the first Fleischer Popeye cartoon, Popeye the Sailor (1933), "Barnacle Bill" was used as the recurring theme for the Bluto character. A later Fleischer Popeye cartoon, Beware of Barnacle Bill (1935), is a mock operetta based around a toned-down version of the song.

One version of "Barnacle Bill" refers to an exchange between Bill and a "fair young maiden." Each verse opens with



inquiries by the maiden, sung by women, or by men in falsetto, and continues with Bill's profane responses sung by men.

Some of the printable lyrics include:

Barnacle Bill the Sailor

"Who's that knocking at my door? Who's that knocking at my door?" said the fair Young Maiden.

"It's only me from over the sea" said Barnacle Bill the Sailor.

"It's only me from over the sea" said Barnacle Bill the Sailor.

"Are you young and handsome, sir? Are you young and handsome, Sir?"

Are you young and handsome, sir?" said the fair Young Maiden.

"I'm old and rough and dirty and tough!" said

Barnacle Bill the Sailor.

"I'm old and rough and dirty and tough!" said Barnacle Bill the Sailor.

Uh, that's about all that is fit to print. We had fun with this on the bus going to swim meets in high school.

Sunday's sailing was steady and smooth. Five sunfish and six MCs participated. If you would like to come out and have some fun please join us. No one will be turned away.

Our head race official last weekend was Karen Brovold. Our race announcer was Steve Plaia assisted by Julie Plaia, Lynn Caenepeel, Dave Olson, Claire Brovold and Kailey Kinzler. Thank you so much for your help. We all appreciate it and couldn't be out there without you.

See you out there. That is all.

~Stu Spratt, Fleet Captain

Sailing results

Sailing Results	22-Jul	22-Jul	22-Jul	Points	Average
MCs					
Scott Troeger #1489				23449	1563
Bob King #1199	1	2	1	25563	1504
Jeff Smitley #2002	3	5	2	29232	1462
Harold Cranmer #1991/2412	5	1	4	30537	1388
Phil Vitale #500	2	3	6	27653	1383
Dave Olson #1979	-1	-1	-1	22072	1298
Bill Luecht #1579	4	6	5	25453	1273
Gib Eberhart #916	6	4	3	22623	1257
Sunfish					
Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)				28328	1574
Chris Spratt (Blue/Green)				4486	1495
Stewart Spratt	1	1	1	29536	1477
Sandy Vitale (White)	2	4	3	21674	1445
Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow)	4	3	4	28371	1419
Brad Davis				2813	1407
Peter Soldoto	5	2	2	13645	1365
Bill Butler	3	5	5	8938	1277



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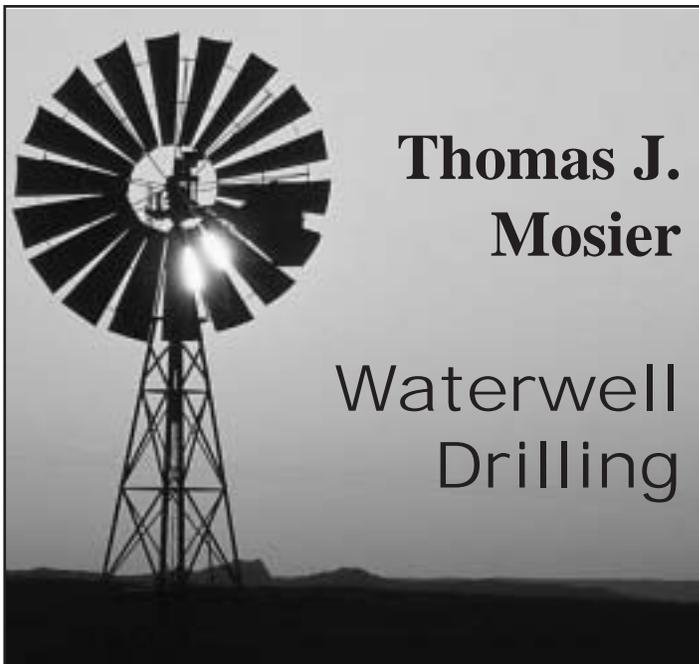
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Very nice, all-brick home with 100 FT of very sandy beach on All-Sports Long Lake — with access into Coverdale Lake and canoeing and kayaking into the St Joe River. This



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!

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~Birch Lake Recipes~

RaSpBeRrY FiZzLeR

The young'n are going to love this. So cool and refreshing. And for the adults.....a couple shots of Vodka would make it even better.

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups raspberry juice
- 3 scoops raspberry

sherbet

- 1/2 cup carbonated water

Directions

1. In a blender, combine raspberry juice, raspberry sherbet and carbonated water. Blend until smooth. Pour into glasses and serve.



— BIRCH LAKE WORDSEARCH —

Complete the maze and then find the words. The words can only be found along your maze path.

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

START →

→ END

Find and circle these words:

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TRIPS	STRAIGHT	ROYAL	COOLERS
MUNCHIES	HOUSES	HAND	POKERRUN
FLUSH	CARDS		

Stu's Star Stuff

Polaris, the North Star

Polaris, the brightest star in the constellation Ursa Minor, or the Little Bear, a.k.a. the Little Dipper, is not especially bright or close by. It is famous however, because it marks the north celestial pole, so it's also known as the North Star or the Pole Star. Polaris is estimated to be at a distance of about 434 light-years from Earth. It is a multiple star, consisting of the main star, two smaller companions and two distant components discovered in 1780 by William Herschel.

It's currently about two-thirds of a degree from the true celestial pole. But over the next century it will snuggle even closer.

Because in the current era Polaris lies nearly in a direct line with the axis of the Earth's rotation "above" the North Pole, the north celestial pole, Polaris stands almost motionless in the sky, and all the stars of the Northern sky appear to rotate around it. Therefore, it makes an excellent fixed point from which to draw measurements for celestial navigation. The moving of Polaris towards, and in the future away from, the celestial pole, is due to a process called precession, a slight wobble of Earth's rotational axis, much like you'd see a top wobble as it's spinning slows. The celestial pole will move away from Polaris after the 21st century, passing close by Gamma Cephei by about the 41st century. Historically, the celestial pole has moved around some but as one of the brighter stars close to the celestial pole, Polaris has been used for navigation at least from Late Antiquity, and described as "always visible".

At present, Polaris is 0.7° away from the pole of rotation and hence revolves around the pole in a small circle $1\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ in diameter. Only twice during each day does Polaris accurately define the true north azimuth; the rest of the time it is slightly displaced to East or West, and to bearing must be corrected using tables or a rough rule of thumb. Over the next century or two precession will bring the North Star slightly closer to true north but then it will slip away and another star will be the next best reference point. Don't worry about it though. Our great grandchildren's great grandchildren won't even notice.

But you should go out there and notice the spectacular show we have every single cloud-free night here at the lake. Look for Polaris by following a line defined by the pointer stars of the Big Dipper, the two stars that form the edge of the bowl opposite the handle, upward from the

The Moon for July 28
(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)
Illuminated Fraction: 0.270
2.1 days before first quarter



Facts about
Sunday, July 29th:
Sunrise: 6:34 am
Sunset: 9:
Moonrise: 6:12 pm
Moonset: 2:48 am
Day length: 14h 31m

bowl. That will lead you to the Polaris, the end star of the handle of the Little Dipper. Continue to follow that same line and you will come to Cassiopeia, a lazy W shape of stars. We've covered that before, and may possibly do so again.

As Emerson, Lake, and Palmer once sang at the end of a song, "See the show!" It's free.



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YOUR HOROSCOPE

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Although it does look promising, be careful not to overextend yourself or you will lose in the long run. Opportunities to get together with people in powerful positions could help you get ahead. Your partner may be reluctant to tell you how they feel. Put your efforts into job advancement. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) First find out if they're married. Knowledge can be acquired if you listen. Keep your thoughts and opinions to yourself and you won't get dragged into an unsavory debate. Don't use the interstate as a racetrack. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Helping children may be rewarding and challenging. You can make excellent investments if you are in the right place at the right time. Travel will initiate new friendships or love connections. Go out with friends or family. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) You can make amends by taking them somewhere special. You will have a tendency to put on pounds. Your personal life will be disrupted if you have been too busy with business. You may be offered opportunities that will result in a higher earning potential. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) You can make reasonable bids on real estate or large items for your

home. Plan a trip to the country or take a drive to the beach. Trips will be exciting. You may be tired of working for someone else. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Children will keep you busy. Social gatherings will be conducive to meeting new potential mates. You will meet a person who may turn out to be more than just a friend. Try to join groups of interest such as ballroom dance classes or perhaps an internet organization. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) You may have the energy to clear up that mound of paperwork facing you. You need to challenge yourself. Consider selling your homemade crafts at the flea market. You can persuade even the toughest opponents to think your way. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) You will be appreciated for the competence you exhibit and for taking on responsibilities. You may have been trying to do too much, leaving yourself exhausted and open to colds and infections. Go out with friends and avoid the situation on the home front. You can solidify your relationship if you plan a special evening with your mate. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Abstain from getting involved with married individu-

als. A passionate party for two might be just the remedy. Your boss won't be too thrilled if you leave things unfinished. Use your energy wisely. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Your changing philosophies may lead you into new circles and open doors that will give you a unique outlook on life. Remain calm and you'll shine. Passion should be your goal. You will benefit through hidden assets and property investments. You must be sure not to be frivolous, because as the saying goes, easy come, easy go. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Don't make a move; your confusion has caused this dilemma and you are best to back away and reassess the situation. Make sure that you get legal matters checked out thoroughly. Opportunities to upgrade your living standards will come through your lover or through joint financial investments. Don't reveal anything about your personal life that could be used adversely. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Problems with ear, nose, or the throat are likely. Relationships will be emotional this week. Evasion is likely if you aren't direct about your feelings. You will need to do a lot of research if you wish to get to the bottom of things. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.



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— BIRCH LAKE DIRECTORY UPDATE —

Thank you Birch Lake residents, who have submitted their directory updates. We hope to include all Birch Lake families - new and old - and accurately as possible.

Enclosed in this issue of the Birch Barker 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. complete it, scan it and send the pdf to

Celia.Fallon@gmail.com

4. ignore it and allow the editors to decide your directory entry

5. email your update to Celia.Fallon@gmail.com



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— BIRCH LAKE DIRECTORY UPDATE —

Birch Lake Directory Update

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

Enclosed in this issue of the Birch Barker 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 it, scan it and send the pdf to Celia.Fallon@gmail.com
6. 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

Hawaiian Week at Camp T

Aloha! It's Hawaiian Week at Camp Tannadoonah. We started the week on Sunday with a Luau (aka Carnival). Each cabin group hosted a booth for the campers to enjoy. We had Karaoke, Hay Rides, manicures, face painting, carnival games, and dancing.

On Tuesday we had a Tropical Fruit Scavenger Hunt around camp, and with each piece of fruit their team found, the campers had to do some sort of stunt or task. These included Hula Dancing, doing the Macarena, making a human version of the Tannadoonah logo, solving a Human Knot, and arranging their team in alphabetical order without speaking!

We have 92 campers at camp this week, bringing our total for the summer to 593. That's just 32 away from our goal for the summer, and we have 2 more weeks to recruit those 32 kids! Last year we ended the summer at 585 so we're already above that. And on this date last year we had 570. We're still optimistic that we can get to our goal of 625.

This week we have two really cool special activities that we've never offered before. Miss Tish Harman is teaching an Archaeology class, which includes such activities as making fossils, and an archaeological dig! And Mr. Rick Harman is teaching an Advanced Sailing class for older campers (with the help of other lake residents who have



brought their MCs out to help teach — Thanks Guys!!).

We also had a cool new program this week — our campers had the opportunity to learn to play Pickle Ball. Mr. Jim Wright, from Shavehead Lake, is a Pickle Ball National Champion! He got us paddles and balls, and came over to teach the campers to play several days this week. If you've never tried Pickle Ball, you should!

Thank you to everyone who came out to the Hog Roast on Saturday last weekend. We had a great turnout, and really enjoyed spending time with all of our lake friends. We couldn't have asked

for better weather!

The presentation of the Legend Tree awards was really special to me this year, because Mrs. Murphy, Mrs. Laing, and Miss Toody have had such a huge influence on me over the years at camp. As a kid, I never imagined that someday I would BE "Mrs. Murphy"!

It's hard to believe we're just two weeks from the end of the summer. Don't forget that the end of the summer candlelight ceremony will take place on Friday, August 10 around 9pm.

-Miss Amber

amber@tannadoonah.org

574-217-4731



Okay, Ralph ... let me 'splain it you again. You're big, I'm little; BUT!!! you're dog, I'm cat ... that makes me the boss. Got it ??

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2012 Birch Lake Yacht Club officers and directors

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Paul Fallon, BLYC Water Quality Committee Chairman (E)
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Bob Waddle (E).....476-2293
sparkybob220@comcast.net

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\$ _____

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Name _____

\$ _____ - Building Improvement Fund

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Eradication Program

\$ _____ - Safety Committee

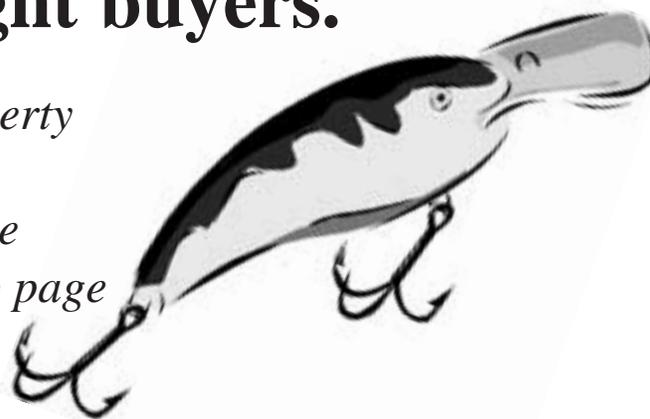
\$ _____ - Other non-party related expenses

\$ _____ - BLYC Roof Fund (NEW)

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FOR SALE

Large, heavy, cast iron wood-burning heating stove. 23-1/2" x 32-1/2" x 49" high. \$750 obo. Also for sale: hide-a-bed (double) \$25 obo. Call cell phone (574-315-1193 or home (574) 272-0627.

20-foot, 1991 Godfrey Hurricane 2000SE deck boat; 4.3 liter Mercury Cruiser motor and trailer.



For sale — The most recognized pontoon 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.

FOR SALE: inexpensive PWC lift station. Galvanized steel, winch, wood bunks. Working condition. \$200. **ALSO; Wooden swing with base,** lattice sides, and top. Treated lumber.

\$50 OBO 269-244-3487.

1995 Sea-Doo GTX waverunner. Body is in great shape. 2-stroke eng. Motor was replaced last year and has about 25 hours on it. Good condition for a toy. Call my cell. 1-708-227-2147

Shore Station canopy. 22 feet long, dark green, no tears. \$200 obo. Kevin, 476-2166 or 773-304-8042.

For Sale:
Antique Story and Clark pump organ. In good working condition. Best offer. Call 574-215-5902.



Razor electric scooter. Good condition. \$75. Kevin 476-2166 or 773-304-8042.

'Surprised by Beauty' — Photographic artist, Carol Dugan, is offering for sale, cards, matted work and giclee canvas work. Many images are local. Her work is displayed at LA Cafe in Three Rivers and Farmhouse Bakery in Vandalia. At Farmhouse Bakery, Carol will do a 'Meet the Artist' day on Friday, August 17, 9 am to 2 pm. Her lake phone is 476-2814.

Email CDugan5310@aol.com

WANTED

Wanted: around a 5 foot tall bedroom dresser. Does not have to have a good finish as it will be painted. Contact Olson at 476-2125.

Almost ready to sail. All I need is a **rudder for a Sunfish.** Please contact Bill Carpenter Cottage 12. 574-340-5559

Tim and I and our Standard Poodle Charlie **want to rent a place on Birch through half of August,** were flexible! Our contact number is 1-850-554-0769, or 850-934-3688. Email, tim.burchell@aopsales.com, lizbur@bell-south.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

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

BirchLakeHomeForSale.com

FOR RENT

Cottage for rent - \$600 weekly - will discuss weekend rental too. Call 574-360-8766.

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