



Birch Barker

Weekend of July 6, 2013

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Duffy's Artwork — Thanks to Duffy Dufor (east side) for the cool illustration for the Fourth of July! Happy holiday all; BE SAFE!

Commodore's Comments

"Fireworks had for her a direct and magical appeal. Their attraction was more complex than that of any other form of art. They had pattern and sequence, colour and sound, brilliance and mobility; they had suspense, surprise, and a faint hint of danger; above all, they had the supreme quality of transience, which puts the keenest edge on beauty and makes it touch some spring in the heart which more enduring excellences cannot reach."

~Jan Struther

I hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday weekend! Remember, with so many guests to our lake we need to be extra cautious on our roads and on the water. Designate a driver and enjoy your weekend in safety.

The Birch Lake fireworks will be

shot from the Camp Tannadoonah waterfront on Saturday evening as it gets dark. This usually means 9:45 or 10 pm for the start. Our friends at RKM Fireworks are doing the show again this year, and the forecast looks friendly. The rain date is Sunday, if it comes to that.

Many lakers may not know that I studied in Japan for a year during college. My favorite time was their spring-time ritual of hanami, or flower watching. For just a brief few days, when all the cherry trees are in bloom, they take a break from their busy lives to appreciate nature's fleeting beauty. I always loved the parallel Japanese word for fireworks: hanabi. The word literally means flower fire. The Japanese people are known to "cherish short-lived beauty" and fireworks are a perfect embodiment of this.

As usual, the Pancake Breakfast is on Sunday morning at Camp Tannadoonah. This is a long-time tradition at Birch Lake, so if you haven't been there you should try to come out. Bring

2013 BLYC Calendar

July 6.....	Fireworks and Boat Parade 2pm
July 7.....	Fireworks rain date
July 7.....	Pancake Breakfast 8:30-11am
July 19.....	Ladies Golf Outing
July 20.....	Poker run
July 26.....	Men's Golf Outing
July 26.....	Ladies on the Lake
July 27.....	Camp T Hog Roast
August 3.....	Corn and Sausage Roast
August 17.....	Fall Dinner
September 7.....	Sailing Awards
September 14.....	Card and Game Party
October 12.....	Chili Cookoff

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

your family, friends, visitors, and any wandering strangers for a hearty bounty of delicious pancakes and sausages. The proceeds go to Camp.

Finally, the deadline is rapidly approaching for this summer's golf out-

— Birch Lake Notes —

ings. Get your teams registered as soon as possible! Go do it now!

~ *Commodore Chas*

Question of the week:

Question: If a person were to walk along the shoreline all the way around Birch Lake, how far would they have walked?

Homeowners Association meeting

The annual meeting of the Birch Lake Homeowners Association will be next Saturday, July 13 at 10 am (following the BLYC Board meeting). Porter Township Fire Chief Mike Holdeman will speak on the proposed renewal for the millage to fund the Southeast Public Safety Authority (SEPSA). Other agenda items will include updates on lake road speed limits and on lake water level monitoring. All Homeowner Association members are encouraged to attend; the general public is also welcome.

Boat Parade Grand Marshalls

Following a well established Birch Lake tradition, the 2013 Fourth of July Boat Parade Committee has unanimously selected Eastsiders Phil and Sandy Vitale to serve as Grand Marshalls of the Parade. The recipients of this honor are well known Birch Lake residents that have given much to our beloved lake community.

Quite a few years ago, when Phil and Sandy met their new neighbors in South Bend, little could they imagine how it would change their lives. They met Bob and Leslie King and soon became good friends. Bob King's mom and dad, Le and Bill King, are long-time residents of our north shore.

It wasn't long before Bob invited Phil to participate in the Birch Lake Men's Golf Outing, and once Phil saw Birch Lake he was hooked. He and Sandy visited often, even camping out in the King's yard (and on their pier). They rented, stayed with friends and even ran ads in the Birch Barker seeking to buy a place of their own. And then on Thanksgiving in 2000, (good) Patty Russwurm called and let them know that a cottage on the east side was for sale. After a quick walkthru, they knew they wanted it and the rest is history. A few years later they did some remodeling and created their perfect space.

In the period since, Phil and Sandy have both served the Yacht Club in many ways. Both have served on the Board of Directors, Sandy as Secretary for 10 years. Phil was our Commodore in 2003 and has edited the Birch Barker since 2000. He also sells enough Barker ads to make the paper self-supporting. Phil and Sandy successfully chaired the last three Spaghetti Fests, are hosting this year's Pancake Breakfast and serve as baristas at most Yacht Club events.

They are twice recipients of the coveted Commodore's Trophy, awarded for unselfish service and devotion to our lake.

When Phil isn't busy with "lake stuff" he edits the popular Neighbors lake community newspaper. Sandy is a Manager of Nursing Staff and an Equipment Project Manager for the Sisters of St. Francis. Before this, she was a surgical nurse at Memorial Hospital for twenty-five years. Phil and Sandy, married since 1970, have two daughters, Erica and Sanya and six grandchildren.

Sailing is also a passion for both Phil and Sandy. Phil started sailing his MC (The Pickle) 12 years ago under the tutelage of Don Harman.

Congratulations to Phil and Sandy Vitale, our 2013 Birch Lake Boat Parade Grand Marshalls.

The theme for this year's parade is Disney. This year's judges will be Ron and Staci Whiteman, Millie Zelasko and Bob Waddle. They will be available on the Bender pier for advice and instructions before the parade. Dick Bender is Master of Ceremonies and will make the registration process effortless. Trophies will be awarded to all participants once the parade has ended.

Let's all have fun and be safe.

~ *Linda Curtis & Sue Waddle*
Parade Co-Chairpersons

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— Birch Lake Notes —

Happy Birthday

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Suzy King (age omitted to save on ink). For safety consideration we arranged a fireworks show, supervised by the fire department, in lieu of candles – spanking optional, at your own risk (line forms at the rear)

~ *The Kings*

Fourth of July Regatta

The annual 4th of July Regatta is planned for 10 am on Thursday and Saturday morning – please give the sailors a break and refrain from cutting through the fleet(s) while racing is underway. Thanks in advance!

King family hosting friends

The King family is pleased to host dear friends through the holiday weekend including: Rick and Lisa Dwenger (Muncie), Chuck, Karen and Sarah Elizabeth Horn (Carmel), Mike, Laura and Sean O'Neill (Elkhart – family of Bill and Maryann O'Neill). Please feel free to stop by and say hello to our guests.

Pancake Breakfast

Come join your Birch Lake neighbors at the annual Fourth of July Holiday Pancake Breakfast this Sunday, July 7, from 8:30 am to 11 am at Camp Tannadoonah. All-you-can-eat pancakes (a limited supply of gluten-free pancakes will be available), sausage, fruit, coffee

and juice for just \$5 for adults, children 6-10 are \$2, and free for under 5 kids. All proceeds go to Camp Tannadoonah.

Your Help is Needed!

The Sewer Department & Porter Township need your help! Please do not flush any type of wipes, diapers or feminine hygiene products into the sewer system. These items get tangled in the grinder pumps and in lift stations causing maintenance problems that could be avoided. Problems like this may cause replacing pumps or other mechanical parts which may necessitate increasing the maintenance rate. If problem causing items are not flushed into the system the cost of maintenance and the sewer maintenance rate can be maintained.

Online content

The printed Birch Barker is online this season, ... go to www.philvitale.com and follow the links. The Michigan Lakes & Streams May Newsletter is also available on the Printed Barker page.

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@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.

All ads are subject to the approval of the editor and/or Commodore, officers and board of the Birch Lake Yacht Club.

Barker Deadlines

The deadline for submitting information for any edition is always the Tuesday of the week before publication.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen United States of America

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed [...]



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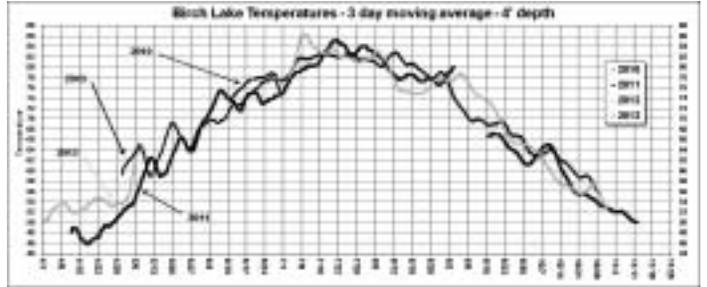
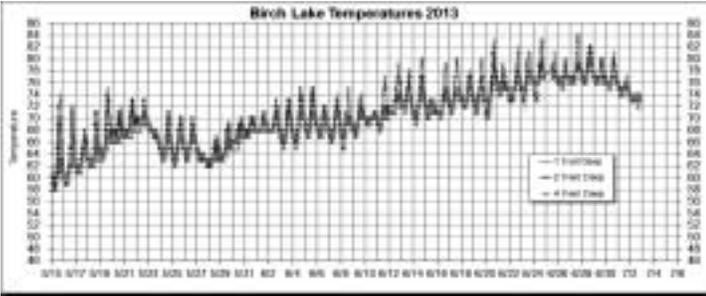


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Water Temperature charts provided by Steve Quinlan (west side)

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Birch Blog

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GRANDCHILDREN AND PETS

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

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— Barker kids of the Week —



Gaby (3) and Lance (1) Cowen are visiting Grandma and Grandpa Cowen on the west side this summer. Besides splashing in the bird bath, they have enjoyed swimming in the lake, catching fish, and going on walks each day. Birch Lake is always fun to come to say mother, Silvia; dad, Brad; and big sister, Ciara. We all made black raspberry jelly thanks to Silvia's hunting down raspberries and had a morel mushroom dinner.



Ben Garceau and Tamara Beauchamp were married in Laguna Hills, CA last Friday. Ben is the son of Bernie and Blair Garceau, east side. Tamara was crowned "Best Corn Shucker" at the Corn & Sausage Roast in 2011!!

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Fleet Captain's Corner



Sailing with no wind!!!

The wind put a damper on our sailing efforts last Sunday! Mother Nature somewhat gave us a magician's act, first appearing, then disappearing and then reappearing.

We had gusty winds late Saturday night, no wind until around 3 pm on Sunday, and then winds that would have been great to sail to!

By the time you are reading this, I hope that we have sailed three races on Thursday, which will be the first races of the "Fourth of July Regatta." The other races are scheduled for 10 am on Saturday, so it will not interfere with the pancake breakfast on Sunday and the extra lake activity this weekend.

I want to say thank you to Karen, Tina (Karen's sister), Eric and "Bad Patty" for waiting to see if they were needed for the committee boat!

Thanks to all that help with the sailing activities, it can't be done by just one person, and it is a pleasure to work with all of you!

~Fleet Captain "Mike"

Committee Boat Schedule:

4th of July Regatta
July 6 — OPEN

July Races
14 — Bad Patty
21 — OPEN
28 — OPEN

August Races
4 — Bad Patty
11 — OPEN
18 — Amber and Chas
25 — OPEN

Labor Day Regatta
August 31 — OPEN
Sept. 1 — Bad Patty
Sept. 2 — OPEN



We need volunteers to help with the Committee boat!

To sign up to do (or help with) the Committee Boat for Sunday sailing, contact Mike Lutz via email at: mmtlconcrete@aol.com or call him at 476-2843.

2013 BLYC Sailing Results

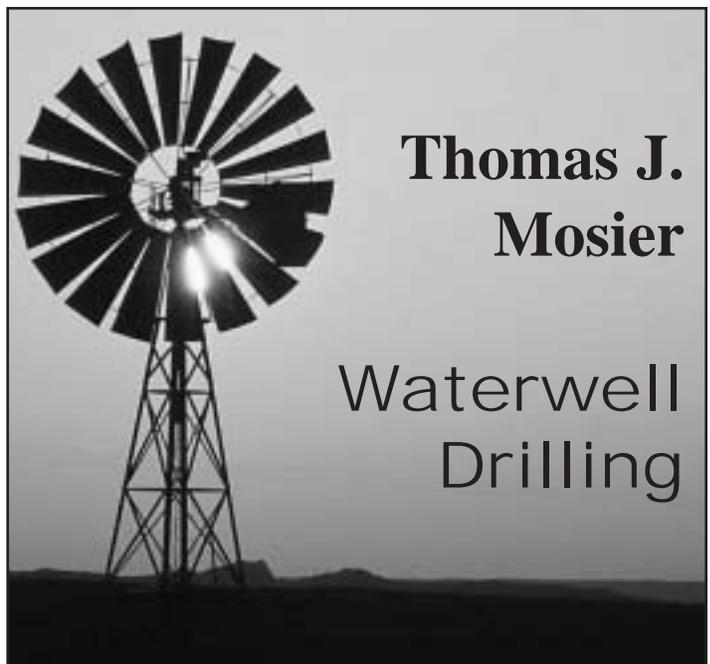
Due to lack of wind there were no races last Sunday, and consequently the positions

have not changed. To see current positions, check last week's Barker.



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— America's Cup —

FORWARD: Why devote column inches to sailing and ... why focus on something so far apart from what we do here?

Though often forgotten, Birch Lake Yacht Club was (in the beginning) founded for three reasons [paraphrase]:

- 1) to promote sailing on Birch Lake
- 2) to care for the watershed and lake water quality
- 3) to promote fellowship amongst the lake residents.

Hopefully residents find America's Cup articles, and a profile of the four contestants interesting. It seemed appropriate to begin the profiles with our home-boys from San Francisco, CA, USA



Oracle Team catamarans in flight - published with permission © 2013 ACEA (America's Cup Event Authority) / Photo Gilles Martin-Raget - go to americascup.com for more

PROFILE: Oracle Team USA - 2010 AC33 winner, Defender for the 34th America's Match, sailing under the Golden Gate Yacht Club burgee.

To call Oracle "Team USA" may be thought misleading. Only John Kosteki, tactician on the "A" boat, is from San Francisco. Much has been made in past over nationality of contestants in the America's Cup. Now? The teams resemble many other professional sports. Jimmy Spithill (AUS) drives the "A" boat with Ben Ainslie (GBR) on the handlebars of the "B" boat and others on the crew list call a dozen nations home.

In that "our" team is not unique. The lead designers and head coach for Challenger Emirates Team New Zealand are California boys. The Swedish Artemis Racing Challenge has Paul Cayard (USA) as CEO, Iain Percy (GBR) as skipper, Nathan Outteridge (AUS) on the helm and Loïck Peyron (FRA) as the back-up driver. Luna Rossa, the Italian Challenger, has Chris Draper (GBR) as primary helmsman.

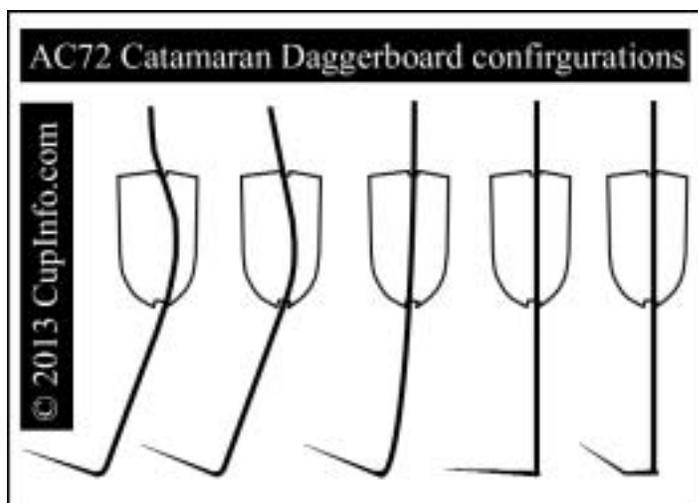
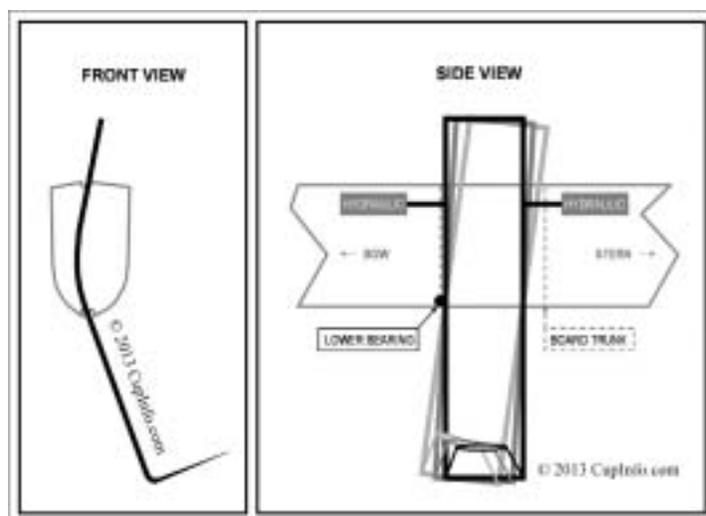
Oracle launched their first 72 foot carbon fiber catamaran late August 2012. After just eight days sailing her they pitch-poled (flipping bows first, going arse over elbows). The reportedly \$5-8,000,000 inverted hull platform was salvaged but the 130' tall rigid wing sail was broken to bits as the Bay ebb-tide swept her through the Golden Gate narrows. The team, now on it's heels, required months to regain their footing.

While the three Challengers sail in a "warm up" regatta, the Louis Vuitton Cup selection series (beginning this weekend) as the Defender Oracle is denied a chance to match up with her peers, so the team built a pair of cats to scrimmage with two boats. As with many twins it requires sharp spotting to tell boat #1 from boat #2 (launched late April 2013). But, both Oracle boats (17 is Larry Ellison's favorite number) are very different from their Challenger foes.

As described in the Barker last week, all four contestants are performing the "party trick" ... to fly on daggerboard foils (winglets, see graphics below). This feature allows the enormous catamarans to reduce wetted surface drag and achieve speeds approaching — exceeding 50 miles per hour. Where Oracle is radically different from the others is in the way her designers emphasized reducing aero drag.

This will be a Cup to watch since these high tech cats are thought too expensive for them to be used again, no matter who wins, in future iterations. The 34th Match begins in San Francisco on September 7th. Television rights in the USA are held by NBC Sports / Comcast.

- by Cap'n Bob - Sunfish 21351 / MC 1199 / E Scow Ego



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BIRCH BARKER FUNNIES

BUT THE CAT GETS TO POOP IN THE HOUSE



I'm so old that I remember when vodka only came in vodka flavor.



PONDERISMS (some things to think about)
Have you noticed since everyone has a cell phone these days no one talks about seeing UFOs like they used to?

Whenever I feel blue, I start breathing again.

All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.

Stu's Star Stuff

Home Sweet Home — Our Solar System I

About 25,000 light years from the center of the Milky Way Galaxy a middle-aged star, planets large and small, moons of almost endless variety, and a whole lot of leftovers make up our own little cosmic oasis of light and life. It's an oasis that we are still striving to understand — and that humans haven't barely begun to explore in person.

In the winter of 1504, astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus watched as the planets Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn grouped close together in the evening sky. As he tracked them from night to night, he was troubled, because the planets bunched closest to each other about 10 days later than predicted by reference tables of planetary motions.

The tables, compiled centuries earlier, presumed that Earth was the center of the universe, with the Sun, Moon, planets, and stars all orbiting our planet in complex patterns. As Copernicus tried to decipher why the tables were wrong, he discovered that it was more than just a case of faulty numbers: The perceived layout of the universe was wrong. Copernicus realized that Earth and the other planets orbit the Sun, the Moon orbits Earth, and the "fixed" stars are all far, far away.

Copernicus started a revolution in human understanding of the solar system and Earth's place in it. The revolution continued with the invention of the telescope, which allowed astronomers to discover new planets and to find that most of the planets have their own moons. Today, scientific instruments attached to the telescope are allowing astronomers to learn what these worlds are like, and spacecraft are providing close-up views.

All of these discoveries show that even though Earth is not at the center of the universe (Deb is), it belongs to a remarkable celestial neighborhood. Our planetary neighbors range from small chunks of ice or rock to giant balls of gas, with features ranging from canyons long enough to span the United States to

storm systems big enough to swallow Earth. Their moons show even greater diversity, with smog-topped atmospheres, geysers of ice, hidden oceans of liquid water, and pools of liquid sulfur. And rocky and icy "leftovers" from the birth of the planets both penetrate and surround the solar system, adding billions more bodies for us to study.

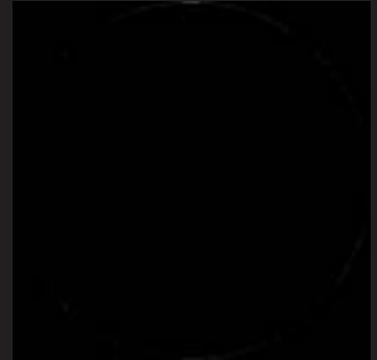
Despite the rapid advances in knowledge over the last few centuries, there's still much for scientists to discover. They are trying to discern the exact structures of the giant outer planets, for example, and to learn how many planet-sized bodies orbit the Sun far beyond the realm of the known worlds.

Improved technology will help answer many of these questions. Bigger telescopes on the ground and in space will provide ever-sharper views of the solar system, and will allow astronomers to see objects that are much fainter and farther away. New robotic probes will fly past planets, moons, comets, and asteroids, while others will land, roam around the surfaces of these remote worlds, and even bring samples back to Earth for more detailed study.

Eventually, humans may see these worlds from close range. Whether it's from up close or from right here on Earth, though, scientists will learn more about our neighboring worlds as they continue the revolution that Copernicus began by moving Earth out of the center of the universe and into a remarkable neighborhood: our solar system.

Tonight's fireworks will no doubt be a great show. And we are all grateful to the many folks that

The Moon for July 6
(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed
from the Northern Hemisphere)
Illuminated Fraction: 0.011
1.0 days before new moon



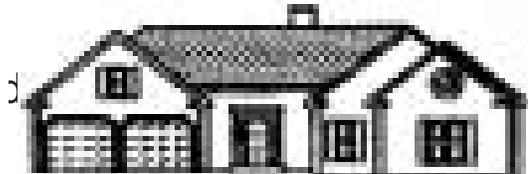
Sunrise: 6:15am
Sunset: 9:22pm
Moonrise: 5:02am
Moonset: 8:02pm
Day length: 15h 7m

contributed to make it happen. But the show above is awe inspiring and never ending. And, no donations are required.

Next week - Home Sweet Home - Our Solar System II. Maybe.

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"SUPER-WOMEN-OF-BIRCH LAKE"

It's time to play some golf!

July 19, 2013

Diamond Lake Golf Course, Cassopolis

Prizes for best ball, closest to the pin, best putt, and soooo much more! 50/50 cash Raffle, and many surprises!

Lunch will follow at Lunkers in Edwardsburg.

\$35 per person includes 9 holes of golf with cart, lunch and more fun than legally allowed!!!

Checks should be made out to BLYC and dropped off to Patty Luecht

East Side 63168 Birch Rd-Next between Phil Vitale and "A-Frame — Questions call 476-2615

BE THERE!! GET YOUR TEAM!!!

Each team is encouraged to donate a basket to be raffled

Team Members and Entries by July 14th

Team Name _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Please indicate your lunch selection for each team member from the following:

1. Grilled Chicken Sandwich(Deluxe)
2. Grouper Sandwich (Hand Breaded)
3. Turkey Club
4. Vegetarian Panini
5. Cuban Panini
6. Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad

If you have dietary concerns, let Patty know ASAP!

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JULY 26TH 2013 - 70\$ PER MAN SAUGANASH GOLF CLUB

61270 Lutz Rd, Three Rivers, MI - Shotgun start at Noon; Dinner at BLYC at 6 pm
MUST HAVE REGISTRATIONS BY JULY 8, 2013

Additional Information

- * team prizes and contests
- * dinner only, \$28 per person
- * dinner includes 10oz. prime rib, side salads, corn on the cob.
- * lunch **not** included but the club has complete restaurant and beverage service available.
- * prizes awarded during dinner.

The mens' and ladies' outings are looking for donations of door prizes. If you have access to logo merchandise that could be donated to one or both, please contact Bill Holleman at wildbillh24@aol.com or Chas Grundy at chas.grundy@gmail.com for Men's Outing or Bad Patty Luecht at pgalloway4@yahoo.com for Ladies' Outing

Last year we had 60 golfers participate. I'm sure there are more golfers out there..

- * **Send entries to** Bill Holleman or Chas Grundy 63258 Kinsey St. Vandalia Michigan 49095 or Phil Vitale 63174 Birch Road, Vandalia, Michigan 49095

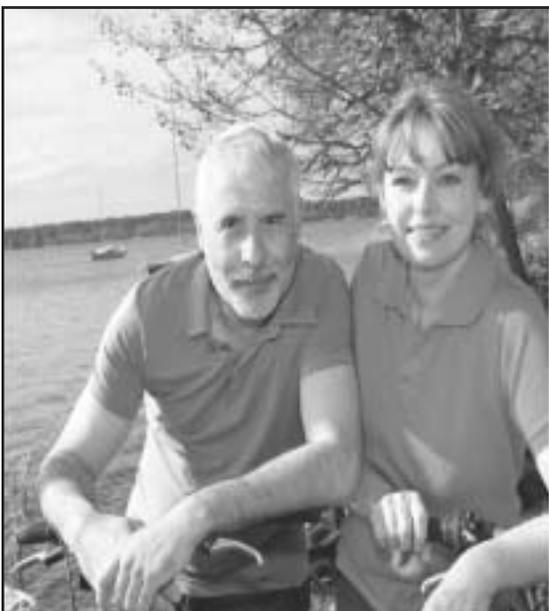
2013 BLYC Men's Golf Foursome Information

Team Captain:

Please Print Players names:

Total Enclosed \$ _____

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YOUR HOROSCOPE

ARIES — (Mar. 21-April 20) — Empty promises will cause confusion. You can form new partnerships, but don't move too quickly; things may not be as they appear. Don't hold yourself back because you think you're too old. You will have to be careful not to let infatuations with colleagues get out of hand. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

TAURUS — (Apr. 21-May 21) — Opportunities to show your worth will enhance your reputation and bring possible advancement. Opportunities for romance will develop through activities with large groups. You may want to stay in the background this week. Networking will be a necessity. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

GEMINI — (May 22-June 21) — The home environment will be unpredictable this week. Don't count on getting any help from those you live with. You should sign up for creative courses. Concentrate on your work. Find a way to consolidate. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

CANCER — (June 22-July 22) — Concentrate on work. Don't expect others to live up to their promises and you won't be disappointed or find yourself stuck with delays. Your input into their activities will help bring you closer together. Arguments will flare up if you get backed into an emotional corner. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

LEO — (July 23-Aug 22) — Don't be afraid to make additions to your house. Don't let your mate bully you into thinking that you owe them your time and your life. Don't let others know about your private affairs. Pamper yourself; the self esteem it brings you will be most gratifying. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

VIRGO — (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) — Don't jump as quickly as you usually do. Control your emotions and everything will fall into place. You can enjoy doing things that include children. Try to keep to yourself; work diligently on domestic chores and responsibilities. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

LIBRA — (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) — You will have excellent ideas and you should be able to help your partner get ahead. You can make career moves that will bring you a much higher income. You can bet that someone in a higher position is watching to see how busy you are. You'll need to exercise control. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

SCORPIO — (Oct. 24 -Nov. 22) — Older family members may try to make demands that are impossible for you to handle. Do not sign contracts or get involved in any uncertain financial deals. Be sure to double-check the house on your way out. You'll have problems with authority figures if you don't play by the rules. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

SAGITTARIUS — (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) — Rest and relaxation will be more favorable than you think. You may cause a fuss if you come on too strongly in public. Your determination may make you a little overbearing when dealing with others. Take time to help a friend who hasn't been feeling well. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

CAPRICORN — (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) — Use your energy wisely. Art investment will pay big dividends in the long term. You may need to make a few alterations to your living arrangements. Don't make accusations unless you are completely sure that you are correct. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

AQUARIUS — (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) — Difficulties with your mate may lead to isolation. A residential move may be necessary to get a better job. Change will be required to make your life harmonious. You will enjoy socializing and unusual forms of entertainment. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

PISCES — (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) — Put your efforts into making constructive improvements to your environment and state of mind. Changes in your home are apparent, and you must be willing to bend if you don't want to find yourself alone. Some of that extra energy you have stored up might just be put to good use. Don't argue with family. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.



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~Birch Lake Recipes~

Dorito crusted chicken OMG!

Ingredients

- 4 boneless skinless chicken breasts
- 1 large bag of Doritos, nacho flavor (or flavor of choice)
- 2 cups buttermilk
- 2 cups flour
- 4 eggs
- cooking spray, optional

Instructions

Cut the chicken into thin 1/2 inch strips. Place the chicken in a bowl and pour in the buttermilk. Stir so the chicken is coated in the buttermilk. Cover the bowl and place in the fridge for about 2 hours.

Using a food processor, crush the Doritos so that they are a texture similar to panko or coarse bread crumbs. Set aside in a large bowl.

Place flour in one bowl and eggs in another. Whisk the eggs so that they are well scrambled.

Preheat oven to 400F and spray a baking sheet with cooking spray.

Set up the four bowls in order:

1. bowl with the chicken,
2. bowl with the flour,
3. bowl with the beaten eggs,
4. bowl with the crushed Doritos.

Using a fork, lift out a few chicken strips and let excess buttermilk drain off. Place them in the flour and dredge them in so they are all coated in flour. Lift the chicken strips out of the flour and shake off any excess. Place them in the egg wash and turn them so they are evenly coated in egg. Lift them out of the egg and then dredge in the crushed Doritos. Place the coated chicken fingers on the baking sheet. Do this with the remaining chicken strips.

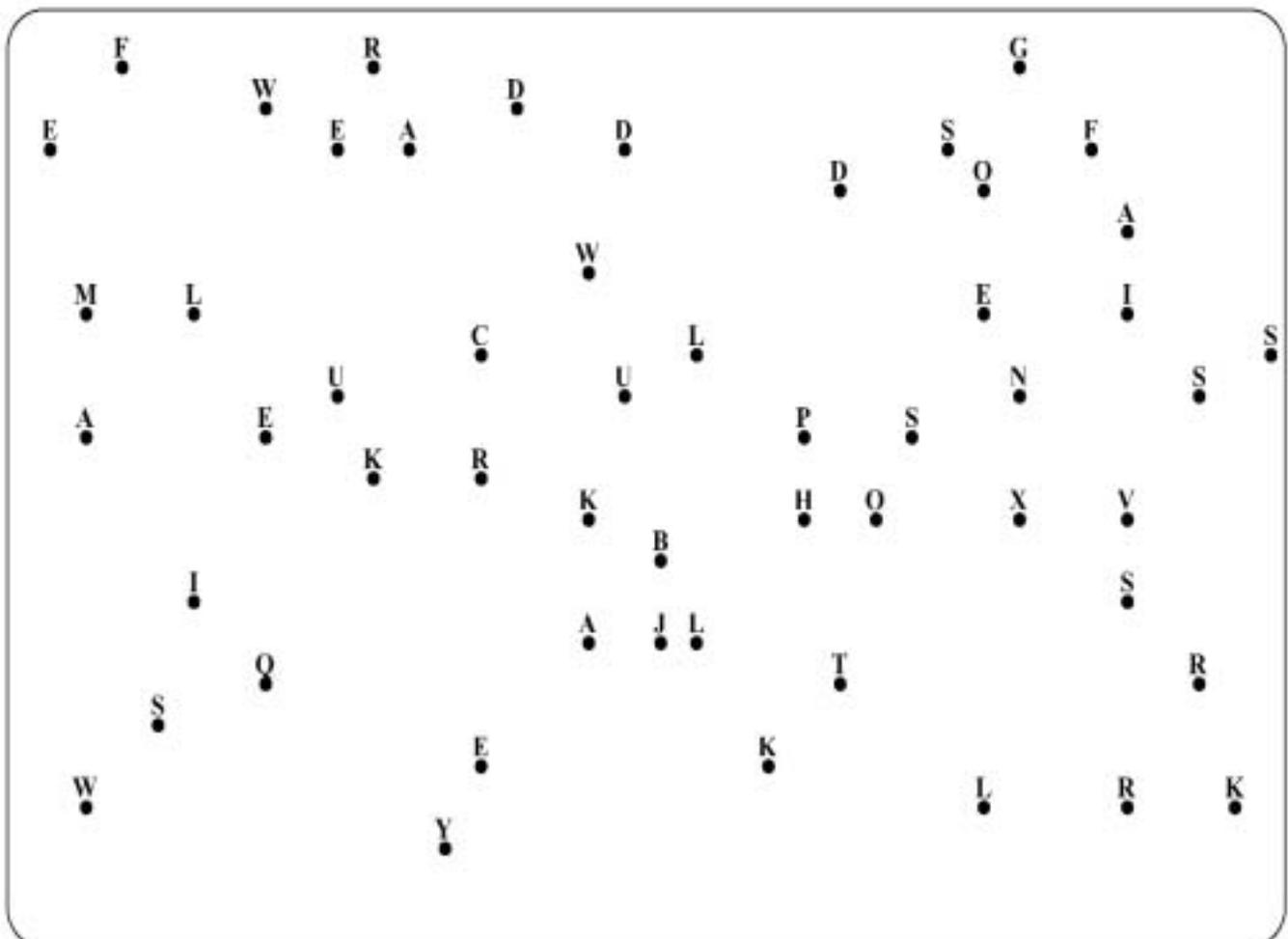
Bake in the oven for 15-20 minutes, turning halfway through. Serve with buttermilk ranch dip, bbq sauce or your favorite dip.



—BIRCH LAKE WORDSEARCH PUZZLE—

Connect the dots to form words.
Some letters will NOT be used.

SWAN	WAKE	SQUIRRELS	RAFT	DOGS
OWLS	DEERFLY	SKI	LAKE	DUCK



Camp Tannadoonah

Fun despite the rain

Happy 4th of July! I hope that everyone is enjoying their holiday weekend and looking forward to the fireworks on Saturday night!

We wrapped up Super Week here at camp on Wednesday morning (campers can attend both Mini Week and a full week for a 10-day "Super Week" session). Now our counselors are off for a much-needed break for the holiday weekend. Despite the continued rainy and cold weather, I think all the campers had a great time this past week.

The theme for Mini Week was Tropical Paradise. On Sunday night we had a Luau (aka Carnival), complete with face painting, hay rides, carnival games, karaoke, nail painting, and fortune telling. Monday night was cookout (yummm-foil dinners!) and cabin night. Mini week is such a whirlwind! Tuesday we had our end-of-the-session Council Fire in the dining hall because it was too wet to sit outside. Afterwards we played a rousing round of Tannadoonah Auction.

Tannadoonah Auction is a hilarious game in which we display lots of useless — but fun — talents! Each cabin gets to send a representative up to compete for goofy categories, such as the camper who can do the worst rendition of Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, or the camper with the most freckles, or the camper with the dirtiest finger nails. We also had rounds for the counselor who could do the best Pig Call, the camper who could whistle Yankee Doodle best, and the camper who could tell the best clean joke. It's a ton of fun and lots of laughs!

Our total camper number is up to 565, which is about 40 behind last year on this date. I'm still really hoping that we can hit 700 this year, but we need to fill up the upcoming weeks to do that. The week after the 4th is still quite low, so if you know any kids (ages 6-16) who might like to attend camp, send them our way! The theme for the week starting Sunday

the 7th is "Where the Wild Things Are!"

We have a bunch of great programs planned for next week, including Japanese, a visit from the Southwest Michigan Raptor Center, volleyball camp, and all the usual fun Camp T activities.

This weekend is also the annual Pancake Breakfast here at camp. I look forward to seeing all the smiling faces of our lake friends and neighbors every year. As usual, Camp T apparel and other items will be available for sale during the breakfast. This year's camper shirts are VERY bright yellow-green, and we have some fun sweatshirts and sweatpants as well. Plus this year we have Camp Tannadoonah coffee mugs for the first time!

Hope to see you all at camp this weekend!

~Miss Amber

amber@tannadoonah.org

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Wanted: **Two twin mattresses and box springs**, in good condition. For Camp T. Call Amber at 476-7144.

RENTALS WANTED: Due to Brittany Gableman's wedding, we are looking for **SEVERAL COTTAGES TO RENT** for the nights of August 2nd and 3rd. Call 574-596-2154. Thank you! Claudia and Dennis Phipps

LOST & FOUND

Found: **BLACK MUD MASTER INNERTUBE.** Call 269-476-7073. (Unless you are Rick and Patti Russwurm. In that case we are keeping it) Claudia and Dennis Phipps

FOUND: **Dirty white dog.** Looks like a rat ... been out a while. Better be reward. Phone 476-2863

Lost: **WHITE VISOR** "HRP" embroidered. Contact Celia Fallon @476-1467; and **RED SCARF WITH ELMO IMPRINTS.** Contact Morgann c/o Phil Vitale @ 476-1680. Both of these items flew out of the Camp Waterskiing Boat.

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Public Service message from the Cassopolis Library: Illiterate? Write today for free help.

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