

The
weekend
Of

Aug. 5
2017

Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the
Birch Lake Yacht Club



Thanks to Bob King (north side) for the great photo of the Kingfisher hanging on the spreader of a neighbor's MC sailboat.

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

As some of you know, Dennis and I bought a house in The Villages, Florida. Our thoughts were if we rented it, it would pay for itself. It will either be a great idea or a stressful, failed experiment. We left in June to get it ready to rent for July. Unfortunately we did not finish and must return to try to get it ready to rent sometime in August. Florida in July and August sounds so desirable. Not.

The Commodore Comments are due to our esteemed editor the Tuesday before you receive the Birch Barker in your hands. Since I will not be here to write about the lake, I thought I would bring back this beautiful essay written by Deb Bolinger and published in a 2009 Barker. However, I will be back in time for the BLYC board meeting on August 5, and for the Flotilla on the 11!

Moonbeam Moment: Comparison is the fastest way to take all the fun out of life.

~Commodore Claudia

WHAT I LIKE MOST ABOUT BIRCH LAKE

Usually, when writing an essay, before I put pen to paper or fingers to keyboard, I pre-compose in my head, while making the almost daily 100 mile 'there and back' to town. Keeping true to form, while on my last trek, I began to catalog all the things that make spring my favorite thing about Birch Lake. I mean, (except the bugs, of course) what's not to like? I smiled at the thought of little green buds determinedly emerging where only weeks ago they were covered with crushing chunks of ice. I love chatting with anxious neighbors that are putting in piers while shivering in waist deep water that just days before was crusted with a frozen black sheen. I anticipate the sounds of spring on the lake, the scream of the ice as it begins to shatter, that first boat motor roaring by, children's laughter as they run around the cottages while parents or grandparents air out linens that have been packed neatly away in plastic boxes protected from dust and furry friends over the long winter. Better still, I love the voices of favorite friends, the "trunk slammers" and "snow birds" that we are

2017 Birch Lake Calendar

Friday Night Flotilla - August 11, 6:30 pm

Fall Dinner - August 26

Tour of Heddon Museum - September 16

Soup Challenge - October 14

October 29 - Memorial Mass for Stanley

Pitakos, Our Lady of the Lake,

Edwardsburg, 8 am

Upcoming Board of Directors Meetings:

August 5, Sept. 9

More info as available. Dates subject to change. Watch the Barker for updates!

loath to lose in autumn but with whom we remain virtually incommunicado the other six months. Beauty runs rampant with the early morning sun slowly illuminating the homes across the water. Discovering the return of humming birds and pterodactyl-like herons make me stop in mid stride to watch and wonder. I just love being witness to the waking of the lake as it comes alive each year.

But then I thought about summer.

The Birch Barker is always accepting materials for publication. Deadline is 3 pm on Tuesday. E-mail materials to sailorphil@philvitale.com, or put the items in the stone/mailbox at my home, 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore). Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want photos or other materials returned. To contact me by phone call (269) 476-1680, or contact Commodore Claudia Phipps at 476-7073 or email claudia2154@gmail.com. ~Phil V

— Birch Lake Notes —



Thanks to Denise Trybula (east side) for sending in the photo of the singers from Camp Tannadoonah who serenaded lakers last week.

How could I prefer spring to the season that makes me the envy of all my non-lake friends suffering in the city? I am happy just thinking about the parade of neighbors circling the lake in boats of all types, circling and circling again, waving on every pass, or gathering like a gaggle of geese in the center to laugh, swim, perhaps imbibe a bit from coolers stocked with a favorite brew. And what about the Yacht Club parties, "flamingling" with friends, late night pontooning, bonfires, fireworks and the pancake breakfast. Summer's great.

Then again, fall slips gently in bringing a breathtaking panorama of color ringing and reflecting at the water's edges. Our narrow thoroughfares

are blanketed in a layer of yellow, orange and brown and the chilling air hangs heavy with drifts of smoke. Fewer and fewer boats and cars bring solitude and a stillness that we year-rounders cherish.

But winter, ah, winter has a beauty unparalleled as we wait for the day that no open water is evident. Nothing inspires the awe of nature like a morning walk or drive under branches bowing down, each heavy with its frosting of thick, white snow, making every road a scene from a Christmas card. Then a village of ice people mushrooms near the landing with huts, tents and buckets dragged onto the ever thickening new ice. We stay on the lookout for the yellow

truck - will he come this year? It's a topic of lake conversation. Our new winter traditions, the East Side Crawl, the New Year's Eve party as well as Dan Waxman Annual 50th Birthday party and Tuesday night dominoes give this hard season lovely milestones for which to look forward while we wait for the thaw.

Still driving to town, I faced the fact that if I am to name just one thing that I must define as my favorite about Birch Lake for me is definitely the life of freedom and beauty that I am allowed to lead here, and better yet, have the honor and privilege of sharing with my family and friends.

Happily Submitted by,
~Debbie Bolinger

Friday Night Flotilla! August 11 - 6:30 pm

Due to past years' successful flotillas, let's do it again! We have had over a dozen boats tied together in the past.

Meet in the middle of the lake with your boat. Bring an Appetizer. Boats will be tied together and we will walk from boat to boat sharing food and camaraderie.

Look for the boats in the middle! Check future Barkers for a Labor Day Weekend Flotilla.

Men's Golf Outing

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Birch Lake Notes

sponsors, and volunteers who helped make the 57th annual men's golf outing a success. We had 64 players (up from about 40 last year). It was a beautiful day for golf at Sauganash Country Club and we enjoyed a delicious dinner from Bacon Hill Kitchen and Pub. Thanks to everyone's contributions and generosity, the event will donate about \$1,000 to the Birch Lake Yacht Club.

~Chas Grundy

2017 FALL DINNER

Don't forget ... August 26 is the Fall Dinner at the Yacht Club. Please buy your tickets by August 19. If you're having difficulty getting in touch with any of the ticket sellers, please call or text me at 574-261-6712 and I will deliver tickets to you! Please see the Fall Dinner flyer in the Barker for dinner details. Hope to see you there!

~ V.C. Karen

Fishing Lures, Local History

On Saturday, September 16, (4 pm) arrangements have been made for Birch Lakers to tour The Heddon Fishing Lure Museum (there are lures, reels, poles and antique cars!). It is a fascinating piece of local history as well as fishing history. Dinner at the Wounded Minnow would follow the tour. This tour/dinner is open to everyone: men, women, children (sorry no pets!) If you are interested in joining us for a brief

overview of the lures and how they came to the couple who owns the museum and then enjoy a good hamburger please contact me. We have enough interest to make this event happen, however, contact me if you want to join us so I can give the museum and the Minnow a head count. The museum is free (donations welcome). Below is a brief account of this local history.

"In the late 1890s James Heddon launched a hand-made lure into a Dowagiac, Mich. pond, and the ripples are still expanding. It marked the beginning of a new era – the artificial-lure fishing era – for all anglers. Heddon is the manufacturer of legendary lures, including the Spook, Torpedo, Lucky 13 and many more" (heddonlures.com). Joan and Don, a local Dowagiac couple, stumbled into obtaining a vast number of the antique Heddon lures and have created the Heddon Museum.

~Blair Garceau

476-9862, bgarceau@comcast.net

Fun at Corn & Sausage

I grew up years ago on Birch Lake. Bud and I recently purchased our home in the Cove and have attended numerous lake events. Last week, we hosted close friends from our hometown and we all attended the corn and sausage roast at the yacht club. Our friends were very impressed by how much fun the event was, and the friendliness of everyone.

Bud and I are very happy to be part of this wonderful Birch Lake community!

~Debbie Hall

"The Company" to present A Como Cabaret Christmas



Date: November 3-4, 10-11, 17-18
Place: Battell Center Theatre, 904 N. Main St., Mishawaka, IN
Ticket Information: Tickets will go on sale September 20. There are 350 seats in the Theater, seating is limited. To purchase tickets, send a check & a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: "The Company" 50643 Sorrel Dr., Granger, IN 46530. Reference night of performance, seat preference, let us know if a wheelchair seat is needed, and please provide a phone number.
Ticket Prices: Seniors \$12.50, General Admission \$16. Any remaining seats will be sold at the door the night of the performance.

Box office and doors will open at 6 pm, warm-up starts at 7:30 pm, show begins at 8 pm. For information: call



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Birch Lake Notes

The Company at 574-229-0083 Mon-Fri 10 am to 5 pm, or visit <https://www.facebook.com/TheCompanyPlayers>.

Birch Lake Totes

Birch Lake Totes are again available for just \$5 each (special pricing for large orders). Call Bad Patty Luecht at 476-2615.

A Nice Tribute to Stan Pitakos

Before last Saturday's Corn & Sausage Roast a group of 25 or so lakers gathered to celebrate former Commodore Stan Pitakos' life. Several people spoke about how Stan's helpful and fun nature made them better for having known him. The humidity rose a bit in our eyes

as we all remembered how much we miss our friend. Then, fittingly, everyone raised a toast to Stan at the grill where he spent many previous Corn & Sausage Roasts cooking for his friends. He was a special person.

Compassion Cupboard

The Compassion Cupboard at the First Church of God Cassopolis, 21083 Spencer Rd., Cassopolis, will be open from 9 to 11 am. The food pantry will be open on July 29 and August 26, and the Feed the Hungry Food Truck will at the church from 4-6 pm on August 23.

High speed Internet project

Birch Lake is part of the Jones

zone for the high-speed Internet project by Midwest Energy. Midwest Energy is looking for more sign ups before they will begin construction in our area. Advise neighbors and family to sign up on teamfiber.com.

The Birch Barker

As it has been in previous years, the deadline for submitting materials for any given Birch Barker is 3 pm on the Tuesday prior to publication. The printed Birch Barker is online ... to see any week, go to www.philvital.com and follow the links to the "Latest Printed Birch Barker."

— COMMUNITY CORNER —

by **Sarah Petty**

We had two Lucky Ducks at the Corn and Sausage Roast last weekend! Congrats to the Lucky Ducks who found them! If you found one and it was too late, please drop it to any board member or at the BLYC so we can use them again next year!



2017 BLYC FALL DINNER

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26 AT THE YACHT CLUB

5:30 - Appetizers and Mingling

Nibble on White Cheddar Pimento Cucumber Cups; Baked Brie & Bacon Fig Jam Crostinis; Mango Salsa & Arugula Shrimp Shooters; and Feta & Watermelon Mint Bites while sharing your summer highlights with other Birch Lakers

6:30 - Dinner

Pecan Crusted Chicken w/ creamy Dijon Honey Mustard over Creamy Parmesan Herb Orzo
Spinach Berry Salad with Apple Cider Strawberry Vinaigrette
Lemon Herb Grilled Summer Vegetables with Balsamic Drizzle
Savory Breads and Rolls with Herb Olive Oil

Dessert will be an assortment of mini-treats

7:30 - Year-End Meeting

Catering provided by Chic Eats

Ticket Price: \$30 per person

Tickets must be purchased in advance and presented at the door. All tickets need to be purchased by August 19

Please contact the following Birch Lakers to purchase your tickets:

Vickie Rogers - Cove
Denise Smitley or Claudia Phipps - North Shore
Karen Curtis-Miller or Patty Luecht - East Shore
Sue Williams - South Shore
Julie Sheffieck - West Shore



2017 Corn & Sausage Roast



Photos courtesy of the SparkyCam



Corn & Sausage Roast – Thank You!

Last Saturday's Corn & Sausage Roast was a delicious hit with the nearly 180 lake neighbors and friends who enjoyed the festivities. The raves kept coming for the outstanding sweet corn from a farm in Granger on CR2, the perfectly grilled brats from Mills Market in Zimmyville, and the hot dogs and chicken breasts. The feast also featured coleslaw, potato salad, green beans, baked beans, cookies, watermelon, lemonade and iced tea. No one went home hungry, that's for sure. And two lakers found a Lucky Duck and enjoyed their meal on the house!

We owe a huge THANK YOU to the smiling crew who made this event come off so smoothly, led by Blair and Bernie Garceau: Sue and Pat Williams, Carla and Ed Chester, Greeters and Cashiers Denise and Jeff Smitley, Vickie and Cornmaster Tom Rogers, Bill and Patty Luecht, Greg Bolin, Patti and Rick Russwurm, Gordon and Michelle Seyfarth, Bob Waddle, and Julie and Mike Sheffieck.

We hope to see everyone again next year!

~ Mike Sheffieck



In Memory

Gertie Temple

Gertie Temple passed away on July 31, joining her husband, soulmate and love of her life for over 65 years, Bob Temple. She was 89.

Gertie touched the lives of everyone she met and will be remembered for her stories, integrity, passion — and her smile.

Always “family first”, Gertie and Bob began building their home on Birch Lake in 1971 (at the same spot where they used to swim while dating in the 1940s!), and instilled a love for their special place among their children and grandchildren.

Gertie was very passionate about preserving the pristine water of the lake she held so dear, as well as the wetlands in Porter Township. She, and Bob, devoted countless hours over more than 35 years to protect and preserve the water quality of Birch Lake. She worked tirelessly to learn from the experts and apply that knowledge to spearhead many programs and efforts — and as she would always say, “with the help of many dedicated volunteers”.

She was actively involved in the



Michigan Lakes and Streams Association and was instrumental in the founding of the Birch Lake Improvement Association, the Water Quality Committee of the Birch Lake Yacht Club, and the Birch Lake and Watershed Association. Gertie received the Birch Lake Commodore's Award for Service. She also served for many years as Chair of the Porter Township Wetlands Committee and Secretary of the Porter Township Sewer Board.

Gertie was an incredible and loving

daughter, wife, mother, grandmother, sister and aunt — and a special friend to many. She wrote songs, instilled love of country and history in her children and grandchildren, loved making brownies, milk shakes and smoothies, and talking with everyone — she never met a stranger.

She will always be in the hearts of her family and friends, especially her daughters Jan Temple (Tom Kuhn), Gerry Temple, and grandchildren Scott Temple Sortal (Sara), Brett Sortal (Cynthia), Anna Kuhn, Peter Lovato (Natasha), and Robert Temple Lovato (Katie). Gertie had a heart of gold and was a one of a kind treasure who left an incredible legacy. She will be missed.

A Celebration of Gertie's life is planned for immediate family only, but please share any special memories at jantemple11@gmail.com for them to cherish. Also, if you would like to make a donation in her name, please send a check to the Gertie Temple Birch Lake Water Quality Fund, 18100 Farmington Hills Drive, South Bend, IN 46637.



FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER



Another week without wind

I hate to have to write this article, but for the second week in a row we had little to no wind on Sunday, which put our sailing off until next week. Hopefully we will have more winds this Sunday which will give us a chance to sail. Just a couple of things for us sailors to remember, when rounding a mark if you hit the mark, you are required to do a 360 before you finish the race. With that said, if you make contact with another competitor that is your fault you are also required to do a 360 before you cross the finish line! These are small rules that are in the rule book and need to be followed to make a fair and equal course for everyone!

A little note on the “People's Regatta” that was held this last Saturday, we had eight sailors and no kids or adults that wanted learn about sailing! I know everyone has a lot on their plate, but our future

sailors are out there and just need a little push to get the sailing bug. About 10 years ago, I had sailed maybe once or twice in my life. A couple on the east side asked me if I want a boat to try it, the first several years I had issues making it around the marks that we place every Sunday. After many mistakes and some get lucky maneuver's, I fell in love with sailing. Since then I have learned to sail Birch Lake and also have sailed many times in the Caribbean, which has been some of the greatest times in my life. So just saying you don't know where little things around here can lead to many more opportunities in your or someone else's life! As a community let's work together to try to get some of younger and or older members interested in the sailing bug!

Until Next week ... “Splice the main brace!”

~Fleet Captain Mike”



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— Water Quality Report —

Eurasian Milfoil Treatment

Progressive AE conducted the follow up plant survey for invasive aquatic plants. It was determined that the east shore area would need a second treatment for Eurasian Milfoil. The rest of the lake was in good shape and nothing new was discovered. It is not unusual for a second treatment. It occurs more often than not. Professional Lake Management completed the second treatment on Thursday July 27 (see photo below).



Nervous that the neighbors might misunderstand the man on the pontoon boat intently scrutinizing their properties with binoculars, a long-time member of the BLYC Water Quality Committee and the man charged with patrolling our lake in search of the dangerous invasive weed known as Purple Loosestrife, Bruce Wagner had a sign made for his boat so people would understand he was on the lookout for the invader, not peeping in their windows. If you see Bruce out on patrol, don't be alarmed and call the Marine Patrol, just give him a wave, and if you think you might have seen some of the purple menace, point him in the right direction.

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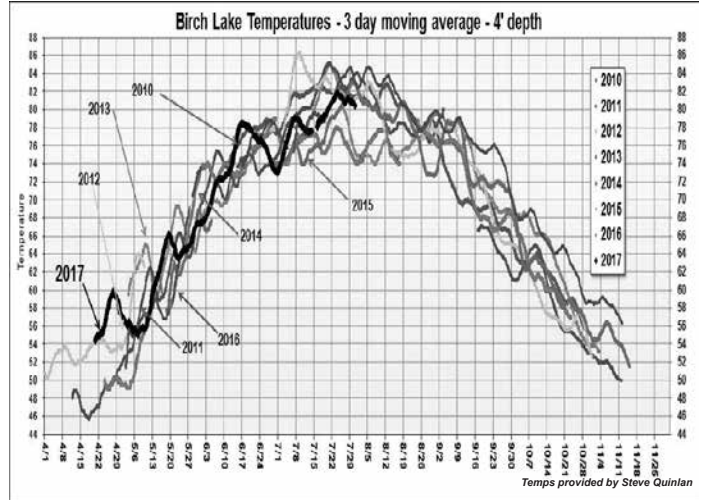
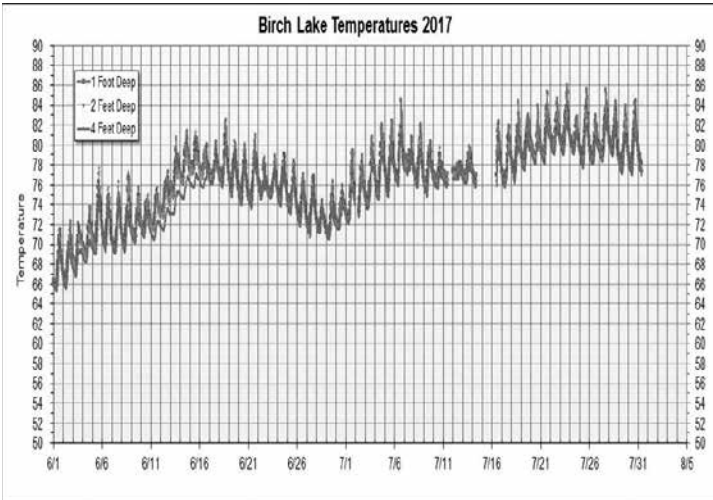
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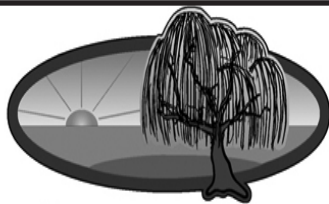
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Elizabeth Carey and Steve Decker -- Sold our home on Indiana Lake

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Amanda North Druckeniller "Working with Vickie to sell our home was a pleasure! Our home sat on the market for a year with another realtor. We switched to Vickie and had an offer within a month! Vickie is prompt, professional and very knowledgeable in her field. I strongly recommend her for your realty needs!"

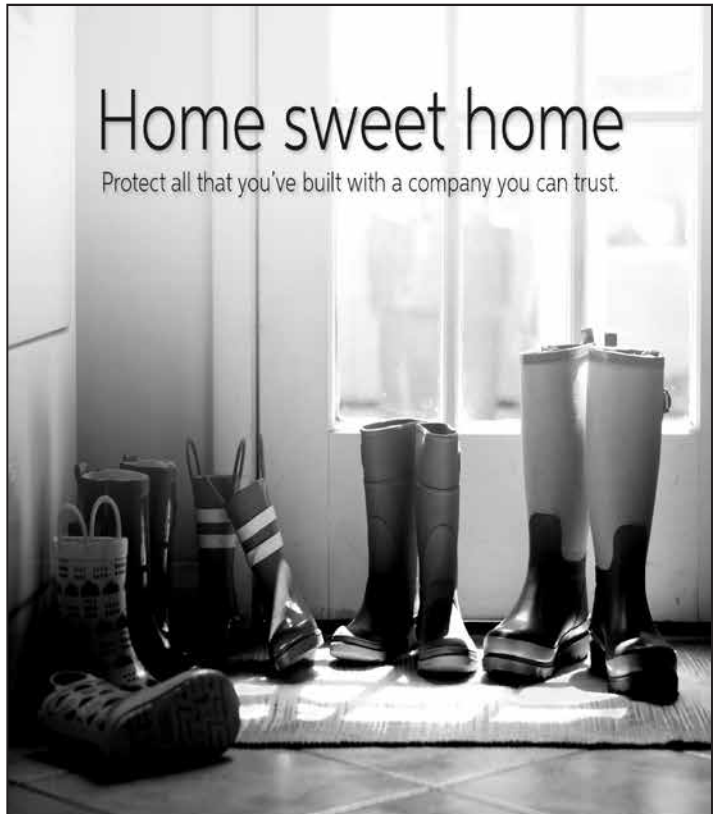
Tom Davidson -- Top qualities: Personable, Expert, High Integrity

"Vickie did an excellent job in finding a house in Michigan that represented what I was looking for. She also was instrumental in providing detailed information on the history of my property and several adjacent Birch Lake properties which along with her knowledge of building regulations allowed me to obtain a reduction in property taxes. She is dependable, knowledgeable, and follows through. I would highly recommend her."

Tony Clark -- Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres

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— Barker Kids of the Week —



On Sunday, July 23, we celebrated Sonia Sanders' 98 years, and 70 of those years enjoying Birch Lake! Gathering at Lazy Lodge were Phyllis and Dean Davis, Ben and Vanessa Wozniak, Carol and Kerry McCoy, Gordon and Michelle Seyfarth, Pat Keirn, Claudia Phipps, Mike and Kathy Machalleck, Dave and Nina Frurip and Sonia!

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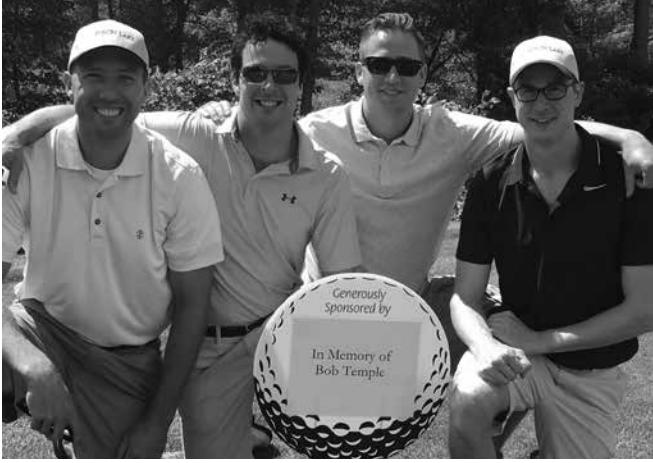
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— Barker Kids of the Week —



Above: the Temple grandchildren (north side) at the Golf Outing with sign remembering Grandpa Bob.

Below: Pat McGann (east side), Ed Levy (south side), PJ Vandewalle and Vic Jones (both east side) at the Outing



At right: Ron & Diana Betzer's grandson Kaiden (south side) with a whopper 10 inch Blue Gill.

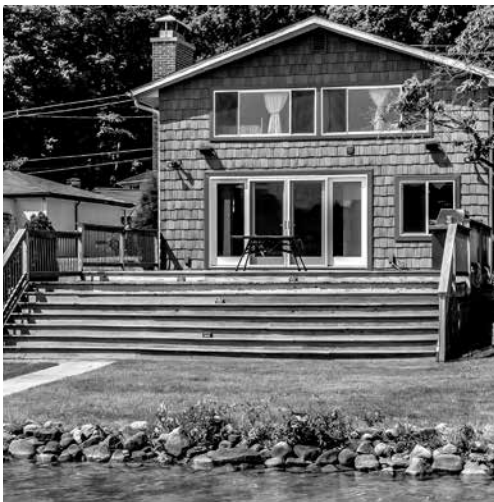


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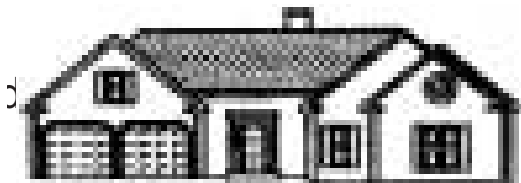
— Barker Kids of the Week —



Jack Rodriguez Earns Eagle Scout
Jack Rodriguez (north side) recently earned his Eagle Scout Award. Eagle rank in The Boy Scouts of America is the highest rank you can achieve. Only four percent of Boy Scouts achieve this rank, which usually takes years to complete. To earn the Eagle Scout rank, the scout must plan and execute a service project to benefit his community. Jack organized two large-scale blood drives and bone marrow registry drives in honor of his father who passed away in 2015 from Multiple Myeloma, a bone marrow cancer. His father had two bone marrow transplants and received multiple units of blood during his illness. Jack worked tirelessly trying to recruit as many donors as he could. It was a huge success with multiple units of blood donated and many people added to the bone marrow registry. If you are between the ages of 18-44, you can still join the bone marrow registry by visiting <http://join.BeTheMatch.org/BeTheCure>. "Save a Life, Be The Cure."

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— Barker Kids of the Week —



Jackson and his mommy, Sammi, take a cruise in the paddle boat. Jack & Sandy Holbert's (south side) great & grand kids.



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— Barker kids of the Week —



That's Aurora (aka Aurorable), granddaughter of Mike and Amy Lutz (north side) learning her colors (above) and brewing mischief (at left).

KID-OF-THE-WEEK PHOTOS

Want your kid to be a Birch Barker Kid of the Week? Just mail your kid-of-the-week to Birch Barker, 63174 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095; put them in a ziplock and stick them in the stone mailbox at my home (east side), or email them to me at SAILORPHIL@PHILVITALE.COM



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STU'S STAR STUFF



August meteor showers

During August, our planet passes through debris strewn around the orbit of comet Swift-Tuttle. The particles, or meteoroids, encountered tend to be small, typically about the size of a grain of sand. Although on parallel orbits, a perspective effect makes it look like the meteor trails produced emanate from a small region of sky. What is being described here is a meteor shower and the apparent point of origin is known as the shower radiant.

This particular shower produces meteors from July 23 to Aug 23 from a radiant drifting slowly in position from the W-shaped constellation of Cassiopeia, eastwards into Camelopardalis. (Don't ask me. I have no idea.)

The number of meteors produced is low throughout much of the period. However, during the nights centered around August 12, we pass through the densest part of the stream and the number of meteors increases. The radiant is in Perseus when this happens so this is known as the Perseid meteor shower.

A meteor shower's activity is expressed by its zenithal hourly rate or ZHR. Perhaps we're getting into too much detail here, but at its peak on August 12-13, the Perseid shower will have a ZHR of 80-100 meteors-per-hour.

This normalized value is calculated on the assumption that the radiant is

directly overhead, sky conditions are perfect and that you can see the whole sky in one go. In reality few of these conditions are ever met and the visual rate experienced is significantly lower than the published ZHR.

However, a bright Moon will interfere this year. The best viewing strategy will be to find as dark a location as possible and center your view approximately two-thirds up the sky. Look in any direction where the Moon cannot be seen. Fainter trails will be lost to moonlight but bright ones should still be visible.

Coming soon we have another treat, dubbed the 'Great American Eclipse'. This event takes place on Aug 21 and is likely to be the most observed and photographed total solar eclipse in history.

The conditions leading to a particular eclipse virtually repeat 18 years 11.3 days later, a period known as the Saros cycle, and this month's event belongs to Saros series 145. The last eclipse in this series was that which crossed the Cornish peninsula in August 1999. We'll talk more about the eclipse next week. Get out there and see the show.

~Stu Spratt

Celebrating more than 53 Years at Birch Lake

The Moon for this Saturday
 (At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)
 Illuminated Fraction: 0.978
 1.5 days until full moon




Sunrise: 06:43:00 AM
Sunset: 20:58:21 PM
Moonrise: 19:36:51 PM
Moonset: 04:43:57 AM
 Daylight: 14 Hr 15 Min 20 Sec



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Business as usual is seldom business as usual.

YOUR HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19) - Close friendships and partnerships are tricky this week. It is entirely possible that they will expand your world in an exciting way. You might meet powerful people through someone close to you. Or your partner or a close friend might inspire you and encourage your ambition by telling you that you can achieve your dreams.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - You are very ambitious at work. You want to get ahead and you want to make a name for yourself. Be above-board. Be a straight shooter. If you try to bend the rules in any way or slag someone it could come back to bite you. Follow your impulse to introduce reforms whether it's organizing things physically where you work or in a more abstract way dealing with the structure of power and organization.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) - For some reason, many of you will have strong feelings about your kids this week, especially with respect to inheritances, shared property and the financial and practical support you might be able to give to your kids.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) - For some time now, you have had serious thoughts and plans about achieving your dream home. This might come about because you will move, or renovate, or buy, or sell. Whatever you intend to achieve - this week you have strong desires about what you hope to do. Very possibly, this involves a major project where you will repair, restore or rebuild something. Note: This is an ambitious project but it will ultimately produce a superior result.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - You might surprise others this week because you will be coming on like gangbusters! This particular quality of enthusiasm and intensity will work well if you need to sell, market, teach, act or persuade someone to agree with you. Be aware that you might also blow the hair back on some people, which is not so good.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - You feel super intense about financial matters this week. Perhaps the reason you feel so strongly is you have big ideas about how to boost your income. Or perhaps you are ambitious to get a better paying job? For some of you, this might instead entail making a major purchase. Whatever the case, you want to move heaven and earth to achieve your ends.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - You feel quite pleased with yourself this week because you have set big issues in motion. It's all relative - but in your own world, you know you are doing big things, achieving important tasks and making a difference. But now you face the temptation of hubris - that's smug little feeling that you are better than others. Let us not confuse this with feeling good about yourself, which is perfectly wonderful.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - You make a fabulous impression on others now - and you know it. This week you should look at things philosophically or spiritually. Even ideas that you once entertained but forgot about might resurface now, and you see their validity, even if they are a bit "way out." Sometimes the most innocuous things can lead to deeper realizations. Life is curious that way.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - You might have a profound interaction with a friend this week; or perhaps this interaction will be with a group. Whatever the case, it will not be casual. You might want to lead this group or convince them to see things in a certain way - and you might be right.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Your ambition is aroused this week. You know it and others know it as well. Your hopes for success are bigger and more expansive than usual. You really want to go for the brass ring! Fortunately, your belief in yourself is fundamental and it will give you strength. Don't be tempted to reach for power for its own sake because you will trigger opposition to you.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Several things are at play for you this week. Some of you can make amazing advances by exploring avenues in higher education, medicine, the law or anything to do with publishing and the media. In fact, legal matters might really come to a head now. The tricky thing about issues this week, especially legal issues, is that you have to be on the right side of the law.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - At this time, something very powerful is happening that affects your financial connections with others including inheritances, taxes, debt, insurance disputes and anything that you own jointly with others. The changes that you can make now are sweeping and major. They might be changes that are tangible and financial. Or these changes might be in your attitude and your belief about how to improve your life through your financial connections with others.

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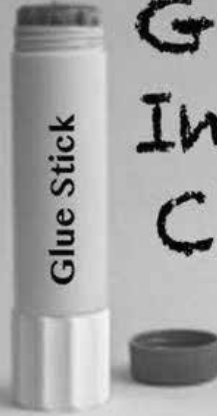
BIRCH BARKER FUNNIES

I DON'T KNOW WHO THIS
DOG IS OR WHY HE'S
BANNED FROM THE PARK,



BUT HE CERTAINLY SEEMS
LIKE A LOT OF FUN.

Some People
Should Use a
Glue Stick
Instead of
Chapstick



WHEN YOU'RE DEAD,
YOU DON'T
KNOW YOU'RE DEAD.
IT'S ONLY DIFFICULT FOR OTHERS.

IT'S THE SAME WAY WHEN
YOU'RE STUPID.



A police officer called the station on his radio.
"I have an interesting case here. An old lady
shot her husband for stepping on the floor she
just mopped."

"Have you arrested the woman?"
"Not yet. The floor's still wet."

Don't confuse my
PERSONALITY
with my ATTITUDE...

My PERSONALITY is who I am.
My ATTITUDE depends on who you are!

I'M NOT
LAZY

I JUST REALLY ENJOY
DOING NOTHING.



~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

More summer dinner favorites

Best Steak Marinade in Existence

Ingredients:

- 1/3 cup soy sauce
- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 1/3 cup fresh lemon juice
- 1/4 cup Worcestershire sauce
- 1 1/2 tablespoons garlic powder
- 3 tablespoons dried basil
- 1 1/2 tablespoons dried parsley flakes
- 1 teaspoon ground white pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon hot pepper sauce (optional)
- 1 teaspoon dried minced garlic (optional)
- Add all ingredients

Directions:

1. Place the soy sauce, olive oil, lemon juice, Worcestershire sauce, garlic powder, basil, parsley, and pepper in a blender. Add hot pepper sauce and garlic, if desired. Blend on high speed for 30 seconds until thoroughly mixed.
2. Pour marinade over desired type of meat. Cover, and refrigerate for up to 8 hours. Cook meat as desired

Patti's Sweet and Easy Corn on the Cob

Guaranteed perfect every time.

Ingredients:

- 2 tablespoons honey (try Ben's)
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 6 ears corn on the cob, husks and silk removed
- Add all ingredients to list

Directions:

1. Fill a large pot about 3/4 full of water and bring to a boil. Stir in honey and lemon juice. Gently place ears of corn into boiling water, cover the pot, turn off the heat, and let the corn cook in the hot water until tender, about 10-15 minutes.

What's perfect about this recipe?

The corn can stay in the hot water for as long as the water stays hot. So if your grill master is lagging behind your side will still be perfect.

SLOW DOWN

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

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

SPEED LIMIT

15_{MPH}



— Camp Tannadoonah —

It's hard to believe, but we're nearing the end of the camp season already! This week is Session 6, and next week is our very last session of the year. On Friday night (August 11) we hold our final Council Fire, and end the night with the candlelight ceremony at the lake (around 9:15pm). Hopefully this year we won't get poured on! Come out on your boats around 9:15 and watch as the campers come down the stairs, singing and carrying their candles.

Last week I shared some campers' thoughts on why they love Camp Fire and Camp Tannadoonah. For this week, I asked the members of our Board of Directors to contribute their thoughts. Here are thoughts from five of our 10 board members.

From Michael Lacognato: My time and relationship with Camp Tannadoonah has been relatively short compared to others I know. My son came to the Camp for the first time with his friends from his soccer team. My wife and I weren't sure what to expect. We never heard of Camp Tannadoonah and our son had never been away from home like this before, so we were sure there would be some issues or at least a phone call or perhaps a drive up to Camp during the week. None of that happened and hasn't in 4 years. My son absolutely loves the Camp and has even asked about the CIT Program. I have been so impressed with how the Camp functions and the impact that it has had on my son and my family, that I have recently joined the Board of

Directors to assist with fundraising and marketing this wonderful, life-changing and transforming part of my son's life. I'm so thankful for the staff and the people who support the mission and values of Camp Tannadoonah. It does so much for so many every Summer.

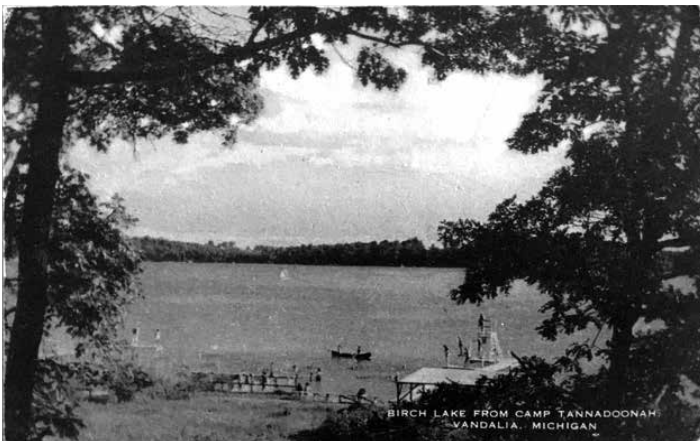
From Bob Pence: Dinner with the Camp Tannadoonah campers and counselors was a refreshing experience for me as a Board member. Normally, when we meet as a Board, we are just a bunch of adults talking to each other in a room somewhere, without the camp, the campers or any direct visibility to how well our actions are or are not furthering our mission. Having dinner with the campers and counselors helps make the impact of what we do as a Board much more real to me. I have been very pleased to see how the Camp and its programs have continued to develop since the days, some 30 years ago, when my own children went to Camp Tannadoonah. I was also very pleased to hear firsthand how the kids are taking advantage of the learning opportunities we offer and about the friendships that are being formed, and to see campers' and counselors' level of enthusiasm for what we are offering them. And, finally, it was great to see just how much plain summer fun everyone is having!

From Cory Marlow: Serving on the board for Camp Tannadoonah is one of the most fulfilling experiences I have ever had the chance of experiencing in my professional career! Being a local resident, as well as a member of the local town-

ship government, I feel it is of the utmost importance to generate a positive message for the upcoming young community. The youth are our nation's future, and if we can empower them and encourage them to learn, I feel as if we are leaving a positive mark on society. Each camper is special in his or her very own way, and it is our job to make sure they make memories that will last a lifetime!

From Shelley Chakan: I enjoy working with Camp Fire because I believe the camp offers an unparalleled level of enrichment for the children who attend. Serving on the board development and fundraising committees allows me to participate in the overall strategy for Camp and how we can strengthen its assets even more.

From Cindy Krupp: There are so many things I love about Camp Tannadoonah and Camp Fire. First, it is a national organization so the same Camp Fire organization I was involved in as a child in Minnesota is still serving children 40+ years later. Camp Tannadoonah is a place where kids and adults (volunteers and staff) can explore leadership roles and really have fun at the same time. No other place have I had fun in the rain and scorching sun. I was fortunate enough to be able work at camp for many years and see firsthand how camp could take a shy new camper on Sunday and develop them into a dancer, archer, swimmer or anything else they wanted to learn by Friday at council fire. It is truly transformational.



Thanks to Cindy Rheinhardt (daughter of Bud and Barb Zesinger, east side) for the historic postcards from Camp Tannadoonah. Cindy said she came across several Camp Tannadoonah postcards in a box of old postcards that I purchased at an auction. Only one is postmarked but she believes they are all from the same year as the postmark, 1946. We will be running more in weeks ahead as space permits.



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For Sale: CLASSIC Century Resorter 19 ft. 1973, V-8, 225HP, New Upholstery and Carpet - \$5,000. Power Shore Station also available with boat purchase, \$1,000. Call Tom Rogers, Cove, 476-2383

FOR SALE: **4 place pedal boat** (2 cyclors, 2 riders), available for showing and/or test drive at the King cottage. 269-476-2128 on weekends, 574-299-0705 through the week.



IT'S HERE! **Lazy Lodge honey** for sale.....raw unprocessed natural honey made right here at beautiful Birch Lake! While supplies last...1 lb. jar \$7. Call Vanessa 476-8885

FOR SALE: **Original un-restored 1976 Cadillac Eldorado convertible.** Firethorn red exterior (original paint), red leather interior, "straight" body, never wrecked, stored indoors. It's a driver. Priced to allow for bumper "fillers" and tires. A few Lakers have indicated interest. Absent local sale the car will go to auction this summer. Contact Bob King 574-276-9999 or 574-299-0705.

For Sale: **used Kenmore dishwasher.** Very good condition. \$70. Contact

Tom DeCocker 476-9821

Ladies golf clubs, 3 woods, 7 irons, 2 wedges, putter, and bag. Balls and tees, good condition \$75.00 call 476-2383

For sale: **1999 Bayliner Capri,** 18.5 ft., 3.0 Mercruiser, Shorestation, and trailer. \$4800. Call Gordon at 476-1319 for more details.

For Sale: **Single jet ski trailer and/or single jet ski lift.** Call Peter Trybula for more info. (574) 339-3428

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If you need **odd jobs** done like pet care, babysitting, garden/yard work, etc ... Call Amanda Butler at 574-304-1799

WANTED

Seeking someone with scuba gear and training to help camp retrieve a lost sailboat rudder

FOUND

FOUND: One white "San Marin" **inflatable buoy,** Item Number "NB60," approximately 20" diameter, on 2/17/17. Call 476-1467.

FOUND: **Black "Kitchen Aid" grill cover.** Please call Jeff & Denise Smitley at 269.476.9000.

There is a rather **large aqua lily pad** that has washed ashore in the cove near Howard and Beth Blackwood's old place and Jim and Linda Bergan's house (cove) due to a recent storm. If anyone is missing a yellow and blue aqua lily pad please know the can find it on shore for retrieval.

Found: hat found during the sailboat races three Sundays ago. Contact Pat at pat@mcgann-hay.com



Float found near landing, Monday night. Aqua blue, white underside with cup holder and a raised head. Intel brand. Call Bad Patty east side 476--2615.

LOST

Lost **Canoe Paddle,** black and gray. If found please call 269-476-7062

Camp T is missing several kayak and stand up paddleboarding paddles

Lost: **Yamaha Waverunner key fob.** If found please contact: Bill Magro @ 937-657-8988



Lost: **Bad Patty and her entire boat.** Last seen circling the lake filled on "Ladies Day on the Lake" with a gang of seriously overserved women singing bawdy songs and discussing "women things." If sighted call Bill or John Luecht so they can come drive her home and put her to bed.



CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads in the Birch Barker are free to paid members of the Birch Lake Yacht Club, and \$5 per ad for non-members (please pay in advance).

To submit an ad, email it to Sailorphil@philvital.com

QUACK!



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boat traffic must travel
COUNTER-CLOCKWISE
at all times!

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ALWAYS
HAVE THE
RIGHT-OF-WAY!**

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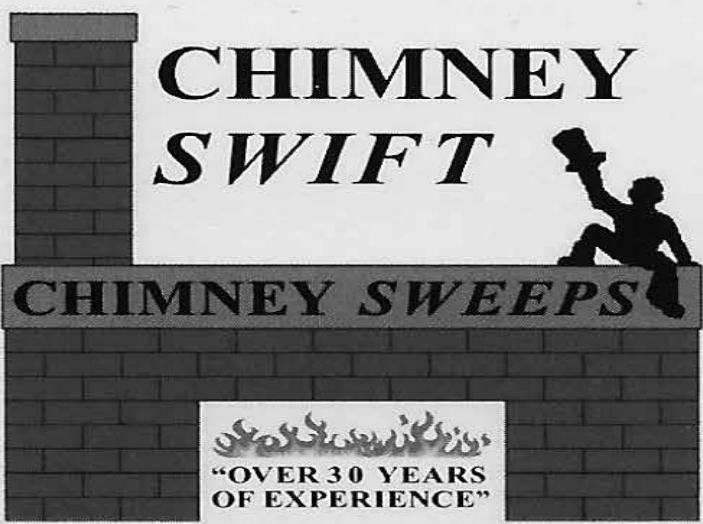
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