

The
Weekend
Of

July 14
2018

Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the
Birch Lake Yacht Club
Located at Latitude 41.9153; Longitude -85.8793



Four on the Fourth! The skiers are Becky Holladay, Daniel Holladay, Pat McGann, and Cam Butler, pulled by Bill Butler.

Thanks to Cari **Reddick** for the photo

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

My apologies for those of you who were disappointed in not having a "Commodore Comments" article in last week's Birch Barker. We had communication/technical difficulties; thus, my article didn't make it to the printer! I have to say, I was disappointed because I think it was one of my better write-ups. Oh well ... 'stuff' happens but we carry on! Maybe it was for the best ... it gave you all a nice break from my ramblings!

I'd like to thank Chrys A. Lis for the shout-out in last week's Barker on my prowess with the weather wand – I definitely think we did hit the trifecta with 3 weekends of great summer weather. You're welcome! I'll do my best to continue the trend of beautiful weekends.

Speaking of beautiful weekends ... O.M.Gosh, could it have been any more perfect than last weekend?! Warm, sunny days and cool, crisp nights are the perfect combination in my opinion. And we had the best Fun Filled Fourth Festivities going on ... are we not the

luckiest people to live here?

Thank you to Nick and Angela Bergan for taking on the task of chairing the Boat Parade. You're off to a great start on your tenure! Hip, Hip, Hurray to Bruce Wagner, the 2018 Grand Marshall – that was quite a hat you were sporting, Bruce! Also, a parade wave and thank you to everyone who decorated a boat and participated in the procession. I love seeing how clever and creative everyone is (not to mention the fabulous dance routines!) ... great job!

Thanks and kudos to Chas Grundy for organizing the fireworks display and all of the back-end contracts/permits he takes care of to pull this off for us. The display was fantastic – colorful, bright and loud! I hope the fireworks team can hear the applause, whistles and boat horns of everyone expressing their appreciation. Aside from the light show in the sky, it was amazing to see all of the green lights (at least the East Side saw green) from the boats out on the water and the entire shoreline lit up – nearly every house on the lake had the glow of lights – awesome!

And finally, to wrap up the FFFF weekend, a big thank you to all the folks who joined forces at Camp T. to put on

2018 Birch Lake Calendar

July 20 - Ladies Golf
July 27 - Men's Golf, Noon, Park Shore
Aug 4 - Corn & Sausage
Aug 4 - SUNFISH-ONLY Race, NO MCs
Aug 11 - Homeowners Association
Annual Meeting, AED, CPR training
Aug 18 - Fall Dinner (tba)
TBA- Soup/Chili Challenge
Sept 1 - Pooch Parade

Basic Sailing Classes

July 15, 24, 4-5 pm, McGann's

2018 BLYC Board Meetings

(all meetings start at 9 am)

July 14, August 11, Sept – TBA

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

the pancake breakfast. It's so nice to not have to make breakfast after a late night!

I must take a moment to brag on our grandson, Gavin (look for his Kid Of The Week picture if you want to see the most adorable 9-month old boy in the world!), who experienced his first Birch Lake boat parade, fireworks (slept through it all but the grand finale), and

The Birch Barker is always accepting materials for publication. **Deadline is 3 pm on Tuesday.** E-mail sailorphil@philvital.com, or put the items in the stone/mailbox at 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore). Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want photos or other material returned. To contact Editor Phil by phone, call (269) 476-1680, or to contact Commodore Karen Curtis-Miller, call 574-261-6712 or email karen.curtis-miller@bayer.com.

— Birch Lake Notes —

pancake breakfast. He loves Birch Lake almost as much as his "Moozie" does! I am challenging all of you to share your photos and brag on your bunch in future Barker editions. I think I speak for everyone in that we love seeing our community enjoying life at the lake.

I want to express my appreciation of our fantastic Birch Lake House Walk on June 30th – it's still heartfelt even if a little late (it was in my timely write-up that didn't make it to press)! I know Michelle conveyed her gratitude to everyone who pitched in to put on a great event in last week's Barker, but I want to make sure to say thanks to Michelle for chairing another great event! I would also like to extend a huge thank you to the Cassidy Clan, Petty Pack, Karceski Krew, Koscielski Kontingent, Stitz Squad and the Seyfarth Set for opening their beautiful homes to be toured. It was fun to see the different styles of homes and very interesting to hear about the history of each place. I get the most enjoyment from seeing our beautiful body of water via different perspectives...we all have great views of the lake, regardless where we live!

Happy weekend fellow Birch Lakers ... hope we get another perfect pier weekend!

Cheers!

~Commodore Karen



Thats my good friend Major Russwurm (north shore) enjoying the fireworks last weekend.

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Birch Lake Notes

AED, CPR training at Homeowners Association annual meeting

The Birch Lake Homeowners Association Annual Meeting on Saturday, Aug. 11 will feature a demonstration and training on the new Birch Lake AEDs (automatic electric defibrillator) and CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) training beginning at approximately 11 am (after the Birch Lake Yacht Club Board meeting). All Birch Lake residents are invited and encouraged to attend.

Mischief managed

A great big shout out and a hearty thank you to both Phil our wonderful editor of the Barker, and Good Patti for making sure we received our Barker this week. After some confusion with the printer, it looked like there could be a problem to have it here for us to enjoy this week. Phil and Good Patti took it to the next level and got the problem solved. So we had a beautiful colored Barker, to enjoy as usual, and I think they just deserve a big atta-boy! Thank you Phil and VERY Good Patti for coming through for our lake family, as always!

Boat Parade a great time!

What a great boat parade, Birch Lakers did not disappoint when it came to transformation of their boats on



Birch Lake was treated again on Monday for Eurasian Milfoil ...

Saturday! I won't hold you in suspense, the Grand Marshall for the 2018 Boat Parade was none other than Bruce Wagner, who has lived on Birch lake for over 25 years and served as the keeper of the deepest part of the lake (you will have to ask him)! Bruce adorned a patriotic outfit for the of July 4th (or 7th) attire setting the stage as the Grand Marshall for the Boat Parade. He cheered on Birch lake residents to celebrate the beginning of the boat parade by shouting, "Happy Seventh of July!" If you don't know Mr. Bruce Wagner, you are definitely missing out on a treat and plethora of information. Some of Bruce hobbies include Purdue sports, hockey, antiques and history. He enjoys reading, has vast knowledge about the loosestrife problem and is a delight to engage with on various topics.

We began the Birch Lake 2018 Boat

Parade with the Levy Family who decorated their boat with the movie theme category as Jurassic Park. They had a ferocious Dinosaur on board, but fears were alleviated by a friendly little dinosaur who floated on a tube behind.

The next boat was the Meyer Family who also decorated in the Movie Theme as Moana, a recent Disney movie starring the Rock. The dad on board did not disappoint he dressed as the character Maui, and the children were on cuteness overload. I hope you can see the cute curly haired beauties in the front of the boat with the Hawaiian skirts. The Levy and Meyer families tied for Third Place this year, they kept to the theme and the whole family took part.

Next, we had the Luecht family, directed by none other than Bad Patty. She decked her boat out in her favorite summertime place which is Zimmy's.



BACK ON TRACK!

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by showing even more of our traditions. More items are made from scratch, and we are putting a little more love into the food and service. We added new menu items, offering healthier choice options, gave the kid's menu more thought, and are doing new, exciting specials. Follow us on Facebook to see the National Food Holiday's we are celebrating. It's a new twist on our classic menu, giving our guests something to try in a fun way.

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Birch Lake Notes

The beer can balloons were bobbing in the wind, and she was showing us all how to keep in shape during the summer with her 12oz. curls. Way to go Patty and family!

Then we were whisked away to a tiki hut delight with the Moore family, who danced in grass skirts and even tried to bribe the judges with their dance moves and beverages. While the judges were impressed with their skills they were more focused on the fact they even got the dog into the parade (extra points for pets).

We had some contenders with the Movie theme pull up into the parade with the Phipps family who dressed as their favorite summer movie character. The boat had some great posters of movies as well as a proud pooch who was joined in on the fun as Superman's Dennis sidekick.

The next boat tied for second place, which was the Magro Family who decorated their boat as the ice cream truck. They went the extra mile with parlor-like hats and bow ties. They also bribed the judges with cotton candy and an ice cream toy which was quickly given to the kids cheering them on from the shoreline. They really got into the spirit with the music of an ice cream



Grand Marshall Bruce Wagner
Driving the boat is Nick Bergan

truck and large popsicle floats.

Then the boat parade got a little groovy with the McGann family. They dressed up in tie dye shirts and bell bottoms spreading peace and love all over Birch Lake. While we all could use some peace and love, we would be bananas not to give first place to the Faulk Family.

Your 2018 Boat Parade Winner was the Faulk family who was Bananas for Birch Lake. They dressed as monkeys with choreographed dancing going ape with the classic Monkey's song playing in the background. Captain Faulk was dressed in a bright yellow banana cos-

tume sealing the deal as the judges unanimously voted them the winners!

Thank you again to everyone who helped judge this year, I appreciate your patience as we worked through the kinks for the first boat parade we organized. Thank you to everyone in the Cove! We have some great new ideas for next year and possibly sponsors for prizes that will make 2019 more worthwhile to join the Boat Parade.

**BLYC BOAT PARADE
PHOTOS
ON NEXT PAGE**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

ELECT Tuesday, August 7
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Art Show

Sat. July 14, 2018

10 am to 4 pm

Council on Aging (COA)
M-60 & Decatur Road Cassopolis, MI

Free Admission
Door Prizes

Live Music! - by Rayme Bartemio guitarist and composer



Art Show

Sat. July 14, 2018

10 am to 4 pm

Council on Aging (COA)
M-60 & Decatur Road Cassopolis, MI

DOOR PRIZES! The Door Prizes will be artwork donated by members of Cass Area Artists. See our website www.CassAreaArtists.org for examples of members' work.

Fill out your name and email and/or phone number. Leave with the Show Committee Tent. One name will be drawn every half hour. If you win, you choose your prize.

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Your email will NOT be shared. It will only be used to notify you of future Cass Area Artists events.

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Niel Benham - Turned Wood



Rosaleen Sullivan - Thompson Pea

www.CassAreaArtists.org

Birch Lake Boat Parade



Levy Family Jurassic Park



Meyer Family, Moana



Bad Patty - Zimmy's/ Beer Float



Moore Family - Tiki Hut



Phipps - Summer Movies



Magro Family - Ice Cream Truck



McGann Family - Peace Boat



Faulk Family - Bananas for Birch Lake

Birch Lake Notes

BIRCH LAKE Totes Discounted

Bad Patty Luecht has Birch Lake totes now at the discounted price of 4 for \$10 or \$3 each. Totes are great for gifts, groceries or anyone that LOVES Birch Lake!

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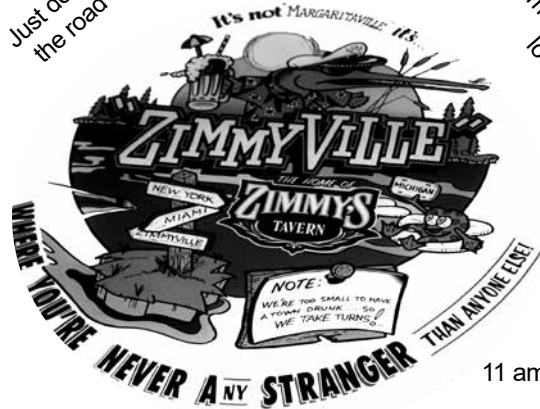
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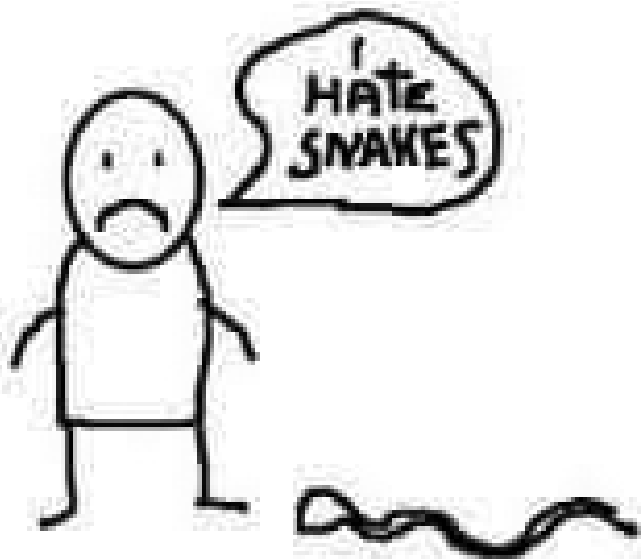
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Birch Lake Notes



Some people are spotting big carp and koi on their shoreline
... Commodore Karen is spotting big snakes!

Bad Patty says keep the stinkin' snakes at your cottage,
Karen!

BLYC 58th ANNUAL Birch Lake Yacht Club

MEN'S GOLF OUTING

FOUR MAN FLORIDA SCRAMBLE

FRIDAY, JULY 27 2018 - \$75/MAN*

PARK SHORE GOLF CLUB

610 Park Shore Dr., Cassopolis

Shotgun start at noon

Dinner to follow at BLYC

Cocktail hour at 6 pm; Dinner at 7 pm; Winners announced and prizes awarded



***Golf prize, dinner at BLYC, Food & Drink coupons included in the price of registration**

Please submit your foursome and registration to Chas Grundy, 63250 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095

Make checks payable to Birch Lake Yacht Club.

Individual registrations accepted. If you don't have a team, I can match you up.

Must have completed registrations by July 16

2018 BLYC Men's Golf Outing Foursome Information

Team prizes and contests

Catered dinner at BLYC included

Prizes awarded at dinner

*Donations of door & team prizes needed**

*If you have access to logo or golf or lake related merchandise that could be donated, please

Contact Chas Grundy at chas@grundyhome.com

2018 BLYC Men's Golf Outing Foursome Information

TEAM CAPTAIN:

PLEASE PRINT NAMES

Please make checks payable to BLYC and send to Chas Grundy, 63250 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095

Birch Lake Notes

Fifth AED installed, 6th coming soon!

The Birch Lake Homeowners Association has reported that a 5th Automatic Electric Defibrillator (AED) has been installed at the garage of Scott and Holly Troeger, 63696 Birch Rd., just north of the public landing. The garage is on the east side of the road, across the road from the Troeger home.

The Homeowners Association also announced that the sixth (and final)

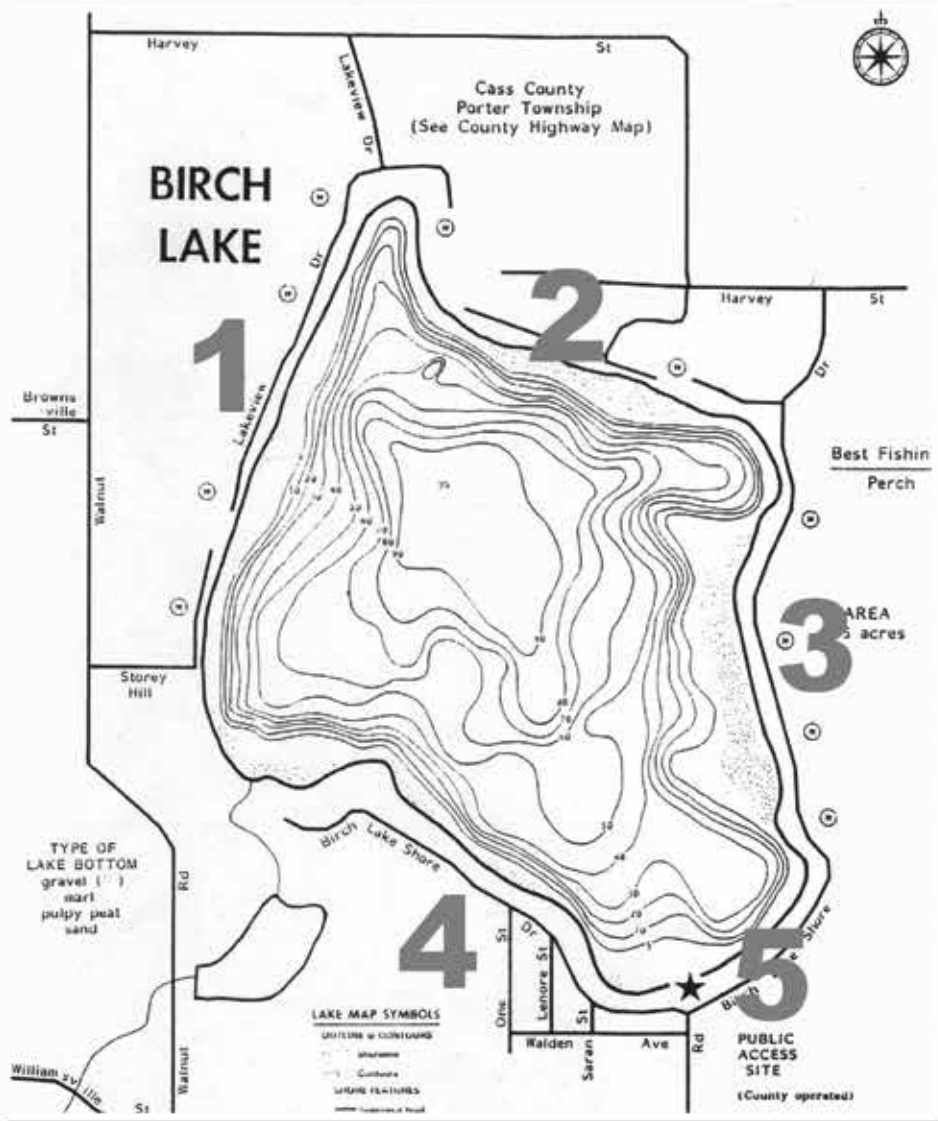
AED will soon be installed at the DeYoung home (formerly the home of Jack and Marty Miller) at 63255 Storey Hill St. That unit will be installed on the north face of the garage.

All Birch Lake residents are invited and encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting of the Homeowners Association on Saturday, Aug. 11. In addition to the regular annual business, the meeting

will feature a demonstration and training on the new Birch Lake AEDs (automatic electric defibrillator) as well as a CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) training session.

The Annual Meeting will begin at approximately 11 am (after the Birch Lake Yacht Club Board meeting).

EMERGENCY HEART DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) locations on Birch Lake



CALL 9-1-1



**FOR EMERGENCY USE ONLY
ALARM WILL SOUND**



This project was made possible by the Birch Lake Yacht Club and the Birch Lake Homeowners Association
3/10/2018

There are currently five (5) automated external defibrillator units on Birch Lake.

The boxes that contain these devices are located at the following locations (see map):

1. West Shore, Sheffieck home, 62875 Birch Lakeview Dr.
2. North Shore, Smitley home, 14859 Birch Northshore Dr. 15046
3. East Shore, Vitale home, 63174 Birch Rd.
4. South Shore, Eberhart home, 15046 Birch Lakeshore Dr.
5. South/East Shore, Troeger home, 63696 Birch Rd.

All units are on the ROAD SIDE of the property and accessible by vehicle or on foot.

IN AN EMERGENCY:

1. CALL 911 and report the emergency and the patient's location immediately.
2. Pull the box open, remove the orange-colored unit, TAKE IT TO THE PATIENT and open the device by pressing the white lever at the bottom.
3. An automated voice will guide you through the setup and use of the defibrillator. Follow the instructions as they are given.
4. Continue to follow the instructions as given, and stay with the patient until help arrives.



FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER



Fleet Captain's Gibe #10 by J. Patrick McGann

The Fourth of July Sailing Regatta, a tradition on Birch Lake that goes back a long way, was as good as any ever this year. The wind was near perfect both last Sunday and Wednesday, although it was pretty light at the early on Wednesday morning but it continued to pick up as the starting gun got closer and during the races. We had fifteen boats out for the races the most so far this year. Thanks to all the sailors, you made it great by your participation...you are all winners.

Finishing in FIRST PLACE this year was Peter Soldato in the Sunfish Class and in the MC Class it was Barb Cassady. Congratulations to the winners for a superb effort and your constancy over the five race series. In the regular sailing season standings things are heating up at the top of the leader board in both classes as

we begin the second half of the season.

This past Sunday the races were canceled for lack of wind.

ATTENTION ALL LAKE OWNERS OF A SUNFISH SAILBOAT!

We want to try and get as many colorful Sunfish sailboats out as possible so, A SPECIAL ALL SUNFISH RACE will be held SATURDAY August 4 at 11am. If the wind is to light we may delay it until a noon start so watch for the big yellow marks and the Race Committee Boat to go out. Sail to the starting line between the Race Committee Boat and the smaller orange buoy. Please if you own a Sunfish try and bring it out that day. If you don't want to sail or can't sail but are willing to let someone else sail it for this one special race, please let me know so we can try to find someone else to sail it. If you are an MC sailor or have other sailing experience please let me know so we can try and match you up to someone else's boat.

If you are not familiar with racing no

problems; all you have to do is follow Peter Soldato and do what he does. This could be a really exciting event for Birch Lake and a great opportunity to take beautiful pictures of all the colorful Sunfish sails, so have your cameras ready, and come out in your pontoon to get some close up shots, but please stay out of the race course.

Kids and adults are welcome at the sailing classes Sunday at 4 pm at McGann's eastside A-Frame. Popsicles will be served. Please RSVP via email to PatMcGannHay.com or text/call 574-532-5377.

Since we did not sail last Sunday all sailors and Race Committee Boat helpers are encouraged to come over this Sunday immediately after the races to the "Eastside Sailing Club" Vitale-Luecht-McGann's shore. Put your boats away and come by car, boat or foot to review the day and have a beer or two.

Sail on Dudes and Dudettes

~JPM

2018 BLYC July 4 Regatta Results

Race	1	2	3	4	5	Regatta
Date	1-Jul	1-Jul	1-Jul	4-Jul	4-Jul	Total
MC Scow Sailor						
Barb Cassady #2506	2	1	1	2	2	8
Scott Troeger #1489	1	5	2	1	1	10
Bill Luecht #1579	4	4	4	3	3	18
Phil Vitale #500	3	3	5	4	4	19
Bob King #1199	5	2	3	*5*	*5*	20
Sunfish Sailor						
Peter Soldato	1	3	1	1	1	7
Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)	*10*	1	2	*CB1*	*CB1*	15
Pat McGann	2	2	8	3	2	17
Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow)	4	4	4	6	3	21
Herb Cleveland	5	6	7	2	4	24
Stewart Spratt	3	5	3	*8*	*8*	27
Jeff Walls	6	7	6	5	6	30
Chris Scofield	8	8	5	*8*	*8*	37
Amy Troeger	*10*	*10*	*10*	4	5	39
Camille Butler	7	9	10	7	7	40
Bill Butler	*10*	*10*	9	*8*	*8*	45

2018 BLYC Season Sailing Results

Race	15	16	Race Total	Race Point	Fleet Captain's	Total Points	Point Average
Date	4-Jul	4-Jul	Points	Average	Bonus	w/bonus	w/bonus
MC Scow Sailor							
Scott Troeger #1489	1	1	21622	1544.43	1600	23222	1658.71
Barb Cassady #2506	2	2	21695	1549.64	1521	23216	1658.29
Phil Vitale #500	4	4	15511	1410.09	1444	16955	1541.36
Bill Luecht #1579	3	3	17030	1419.17	1369	18399	1533.25
Bob King #1199			4261	1420.33		4261	1420.33
Sunfish Sailor							
Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)			19566	1505.08	2890	22456	1727.38
Peter Soldato	1	1	24439	1527.44	2969	27408	1713
Pat McGann	3	2	22489	1405.56	3121	25610	1600.63
Bob Niezgodski			9832	1229	2592	12424	1553
Herb Cleveland	2	4	20989	1311.81	2888	23877	1492.31
Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow)	6	3	15156	1377.82		15156	1377.82
Jeff Walls	5	6	19342	1208.88	2450	21792	1362
Stewart Spratt			16312	1359.33		16312	1359.33
Amy Troeger	4	5	2665	1332.5		2665	1332.5
Chris Scofield			3474	1158		3474	1158
Camille Butler	7	7	8590	1073.75		8590	1073.75
Bill Butler			1024	1024		1024	1024

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

— Barker Kids of the Week —



Fun in the Cove

Lots of Family Fun spent at Birch Lake last week in the Cove. The Hill family from Cincinnati, OH enjoyed a BEAUTIFUL week on the lake. Lots of SMILES to be had!



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Pat & Tessa McGann, Birch Lake Residents, Eastside

— Barker Kids of the Week —



At left: Birch Barker KOTW kudos to Jazmine, Sydney, and Max, grandkids of Bill and Carol Myers (west side).



Above is our adorable granddaughter Aley Vitale-Richards (age 9) explaining to her dense grandfather how to remember the order of the planets by using the mnemonic phrase "My Very Excellent Mother Just Served Us Nachos" ... and added that the last words could have been Nine (if there were nine planets) Potatoes instead of Nachos, but there are only eight planets because Pluto is too small to be a real planet.

Welcome to Jaywalker



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— Barker Kids of the Week —

Gavin Andis, grandson of Eric Miller and Commodore Karen (east side) enjoying lunch while watching his first Boat Parade on Birch Lake



Barker kids of the week Nick and Vice Commodore Angela Bergan operating their mobile lawn service from their pontoon boat.

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— Barker Kids of the Week —

Deveraux, the first and only (as of right now) granddaughter of Robin Mosier and Tom Mosier (east side) loves the lake but isn't a big fan of the heat ... grandma says she's more of a shady lady. Deveraux is going to be two on August 3.



Foster, Finley, Macey, Layla, Parker, and Taylor, grandkids of Claudia and Dennis Phipps (north side), enjoy a day at Birch.

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Working in conjunction with Birch Lake resident Rick Doolittle

— Barker Kids of the Week —



Jan Temple and Tom Kuhn (West Shore) loved having their sons Scott and Brett and their wives Sara and Cynthia — and granddaughter Raegan! — here to celebrate 4th of July at Birch Lake.

At left, the John Groszek family, great niece Erin, great-great nephew Peter and great-great niece Hayleigh having a good time on a Unicorn July 7th in Birch Lake.

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— Barker Critters of the Week —



Birds of the week, Swans of the Week, Turtle of the Week (all from Mr. Bob (north shore), and Handsome 3 month old Hank belongs to Carrie Curtis. He enjoyed his first 4th of July at grandparents Steve & Deborah Curtis - East Shore (sent in by Cindy Bernaciak).

KID-OF-THE-WEEK PHOTOS

So far this year I've printed EVERY photo that's been sent in as a Barker kid-of-the-week ... but we are always accepting more! Want your kid to be a Barker Kid of the Week? Want your lawnmower to be Lawnmower of the

Week? Just mail your photo (with a SASE if you want them back) 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 (even easier) email them to me at

SAILORPHIL@PHILVITALE.COM

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YOUR HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19) - This week things will go well at work for you. There will be a few surprises and opportunities. You might boost your income. Expect some praise because you'll be productive. This is also an excellent week for your health. You might explore some kind of alternative approach that is either ancient or modern but something you want to try. Put your effort this week into family and home. This domestic emphasis also includes real-estate opportunities. Exciting!

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - This is a playful, fun-loving week! A surprise invitation to a fun get-together or a sports event or the arts will come your way. Romance is promising! Your lover might surprise you. Others will meet someone new who is unusual and of an age difference. Family discussions and home repairs continue. However, where you want to put your efforts this week is being aware of and available to others. Observe how you communicate, especially to siblings and daily contacts.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) - Life will flow nicely at home and dealing with family, especially someone older. You might have an important discussion about shared finances or shared possessions. If so, this discussion will be practical and productive. Because you might spontaneously entertain. It's a fast-paced week with short trips, errands and conversations. However, this week where you should put your effort is related to your wealth and your assets.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) - You're charming and diplomatic this week, especially talking to someone older. Someone will seek out your advice. (It will please you to learn how much someone cares about you.) An unexpected short trip is likely. You might also be delighted with your surroundings for some reason. Trust your moneymaking ideas this week because they are solid. In the bigger picture, where you want to put your effort, is into you. Yes, you. Take a realistic look in the mirror.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Your finances are look favorable this week. You're taking a long-range view to secure your future. Something unexpected might impact your cash flow - hopefully positive. It might even be an original idea to make money. You are keen to talk to someone this week. This is something private that you will do. Others may or may not notice it.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - This is a pleasant week because fair Venus is in your sign giving you a strong desire to relate to others. You feel warm and friendly to everyone and you want to have a good time! It's a great week to take a vacation because you rank pleasure above work. Incidentally, it's also the perfect time to buy wardrobe goodies. You are fortunate because Venus energizes your social skills at the very time when the New Moon urges you to focus your effort in developing and nurturing friendships, as well as your relationships with clubs and organizations.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - You will enjoy your own solitude this week. You might enjoy meditation, study or any quiet contemplation. This is an excellent time to examine your ideals and figure out whether they serve you or not. But in the bigger picture, where you need to put your effort this week is to scrutinize your relationship with bosses, parents, teachers or the police.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - This is a social week for you! You're eager to schmooze with others, especially creative, artistic people. You will enjoy your interactions with clubs and groups. Mercury at the top of your chart encourages you to think about your professional life and your reputation among your peers. This is an excellent time to talk to bosses and parents. However, where you want to really put your effort this week is into doing anything that will expand your world and your experience of life! Take a course. Listen to a lecture. Read, study and talk to people from different backgrounds.

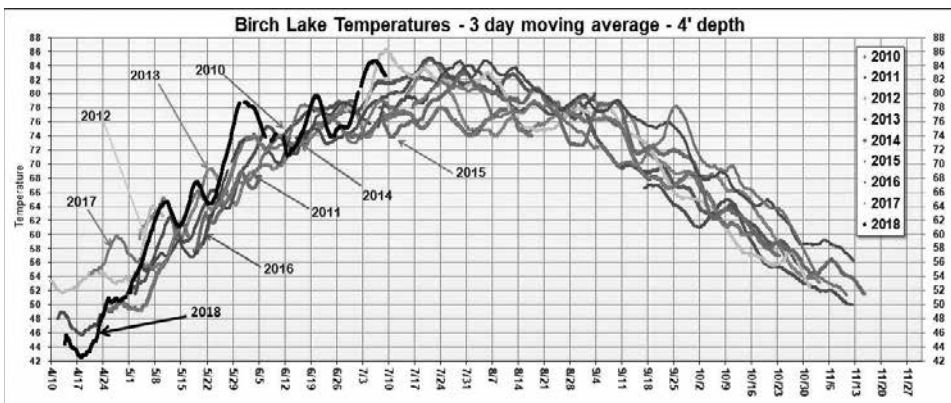
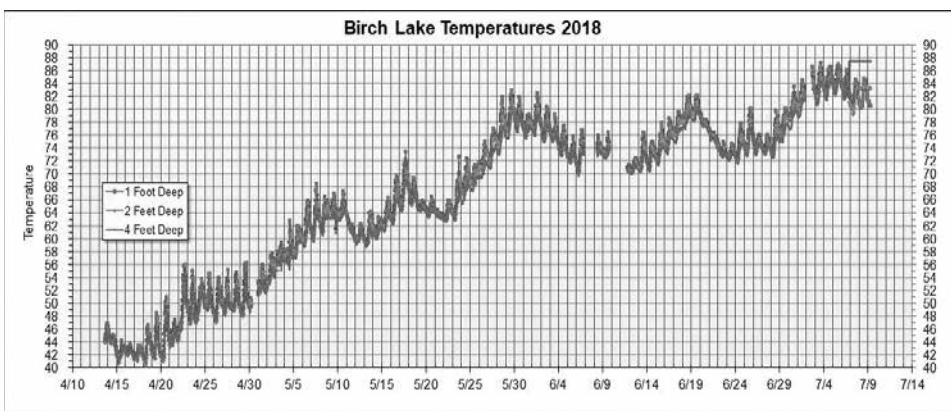
Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Your relationship with bosses and parents is smooth this week because you will impress people in authority. Regardless of what you do for a living, someone is going to ask you for your creative input on artistic matters like design, layout, redecorating, landscape architecture or gardening. You might develop a love relationship with someone older or more established. Or it might involve shared finances and the "shared" wealth you have with credit cards, insurance, taxes, debt and inheritances.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Grab every chance to get outta Dodge this week because you will love to travel for pleasure. You will also appreciate the arts, which is why you will enjoy visits to museums, gorgeous boutiques, architectural buildings and parks. People who are different and exotic will appeal, especially if they can teach you something. All is not fun and games because you are also focused on matters related to inheritances, shared property and the wealth of your partner.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Keep your pockets open because the world will be generous to you this week! Gifts, goodies and favors from others will come your way. This same influence will make it easier for you to get a loan or mortgage or to borrow something or ask a favor of someone. Romance will be sweet and passionate!

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Relations with close friends and partners are caring and friendly because fair Venus is opposite your sign this week. Because this is one of the best positions of Venus for all relationships - love, platonic and even enemies - this is the perfect time to mend broken fences. At work, you will roll up your sleeves and be practical and hands-on. You will also be keen to talk to everyone to establish the parameters of what is expected. However, the area where you will get a payoff for your efforts might surprise you. You need to make time to play!

Birch Lake Environmental Data



Temps provided by Steve Quinlan

The Moon for this Saturday

(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)
Illuminated Fraction: 0.069
2.2 days since new moon



Sunrise: 06:18:04 AM
Sunset: 21:17:52 PM
Moonrise: 08:03:52 AM
Moonset: 22:44:21 PM
Daylight: 14 Hr 59 Min 48 Sec

— Barker Weekly Puzzle —



There are two identical cows in this image. Can you find them?

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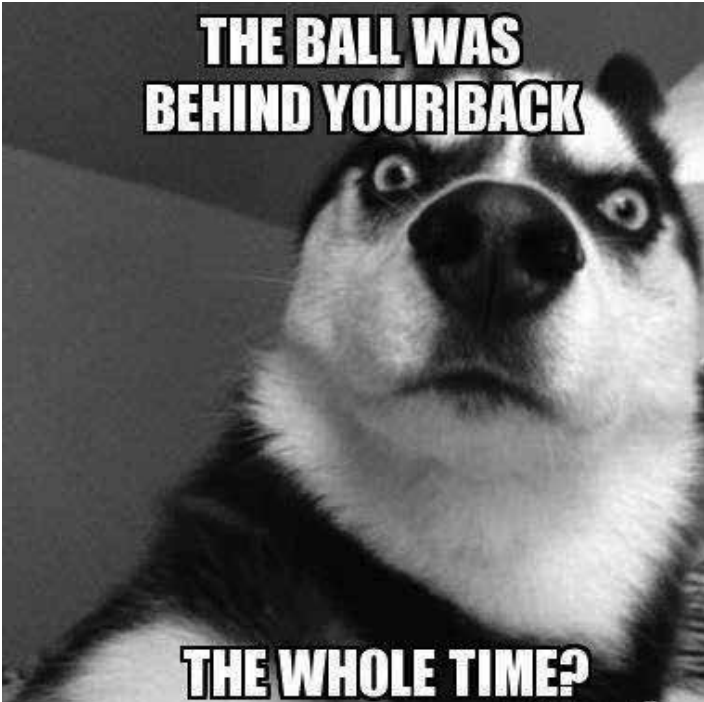
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BIRCH BARKER FUNNIES



Weekly Puzzle Solution





~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

Healthy raspberry oatmeal cookies

INGREDIENTS

- 3/4 cup Gluten Free oat flour
- 1 cup Gluten Free Rolled Oats
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1 large egg white
- 2 tbsp coconut oil melted
- 1 tsp almond extract
- 1/8 cup honey
- 1/8 cup raspberries
- 1/4 tsp salt

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 325 F and prepare a baking sheet with parchment paper or a slip mat.
2. Using a standing mixer or hand mixer, combine egg white, honey, salt, cinnamon and vanilla and mix fully. To the mixture add oats, flour and baking powder. Then add coconut oil stirring to incorporate.
3. Add the raspberries to the batter, breaking them up a bit. Divide the batter by 10 and scoop onto your prepared baking sheet to make 10 cookies.

Bake 13-15 minutes until a bit brown. Remove from the oven and cool 2-3 minutes on the baking sheet before removing and cooling fully on a wire rack and devouring!



RECIPE NOTES

I add the coconut oil to the flour batter instead of the liquid mixture. This prevents it from hardening and getting clumps of coconut oil in the cookies.

Measure the flour properly when making these muffins or you will end up with 2 times the amount of dry ingredients than you need

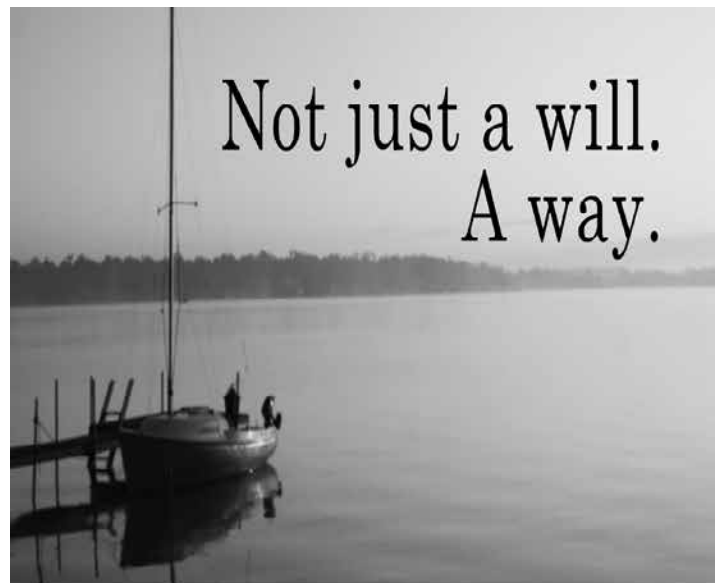
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— Camp Tannadoonah —

Thanks from the pancake crew!

A *HUGE* thank you to everyone who came out to the Pancake Breakfast at Camp last weekend! We served around 380 people between 8:30 and 11 am!

If you didn't make it up to the breakfast, but have seen the camp apparel around the lake, and want to get some of your own, please feel free to stop by during check in on Sundays (2-4pm) or check out on Saturdays (10-11am) to shop at the store. We have hoodies, crew neck sweatshirts, t-shirts, long sleeve "sprirt shirts", camp T hats, water bottles, and much more!

This is the second year that we have had a crew of Camp Fire board members and volunteers in charge of the breakfast. We had a wonderful group of 19 people who made this year's Pancake Breakfast a success.

THANK YOU to Camp Fire Board Members Karen DelleDonne, Sharon Hayward, Cindy Krupp, Bob Pence, Andrew Roche, and Patrick Welch. And to family and friends who volunteered their time: Lois Groszek, Chas Grundy, Rob Hayward, Sherry Holleman, Barb

and Laura Pence, Yoli and Corinne Roche, and Jeannie Welch. And finally, to our Camp Fire staff, Amber Grundy, Michelle Hartwig, Bob Herwick, and Steve Smith.

We are so grateful to everyone who gave their time on a Sunday morning on a holiday weekend to help us make the Pancake Breakfast happen! We all enjoyed seeing everyone who came out to camp, and I know I had fun flipping pancakes, too.

It was a quick turnaround after the breakfast before our next group of campers arrived for camp. Sunday afternoons we have a staff meeting at 12:30, and campers check in from 2-4pm. This is our biggest week so far this summer, with 138 campers checking in on Sunday afternoon. It was a busy afternoon, with checking in, swim tests, and cabin meetings!

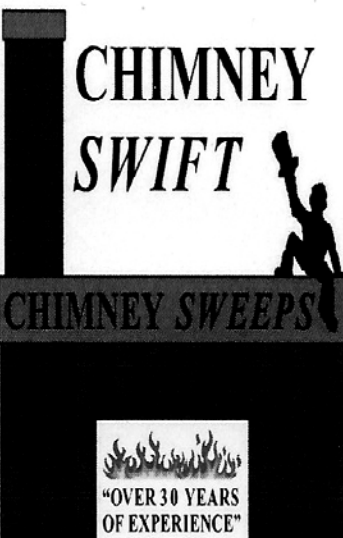
This week's theme is Winter Olympics. On Sunday night we had an Olympic Village Carnival, where each cabin set up a booth to entertain their fellow campers. We had a soccer goalie booth, where kids could take penalty kicks, a

baseball booth where they tried to hit the target, a sponge-throwing booth (with counselor targets!), and some non-sports booths, including nail painting, hair braiding, and a post-office where kids could write letters to friends to be delivered around camp the next day. Tuesday night's plan is water relays, and Wednesday we'll be playing a game called "One Way Street," where the kids rotate through different stations with a variety of games to play.

Thursday evening we have Camper Council each week. Each cabin chooses a camper to represent their cabin, and the Camper Council chooses a list of possible activities for Thursday night. The representatives go back to their cabins and take a vote, then come back to another meeting and cast their cabin's vote. The activity with the most votes is then selected for Thursday night's activity.

We're at about the half way point of our summer, and looking forward to the next 4 weeks of camp!

~Miss Amber



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low hrs. Boat is in new condition, new Bimini top & snap-on cover last year. Comes with electric anchor, 12 life jackets, 5 new swim noodles, 2 foam floats, swim ladder, and 10 cassettes . Yes that's right, it has a cassette player, LOL . Can be seen on Dick Bender's pier. \$8,500. Contact Ron Betzer if interested. 574-612-4444 Available after July 10 .

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We are entertaining offers on a low-mileage four-seat (two pedal two coast) **Sea Ryder pedal boat.** Test rides available ... assuming you pedal. Stop by the King cottage middle of the North shore.

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60x40 solid oak table with two matching 15" leaves to make table 75 or 90 inches long. Table pads to fit complete table. Two upholstered captain chairs and four upholstered regular chairs. Call 574-215-5902 or 574-215-3339 to see it.

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- \$ ___ - Other non-party related expenses
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- \$ ___ - **BLYC AED Fund**
- \$ ___ - Misc.

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