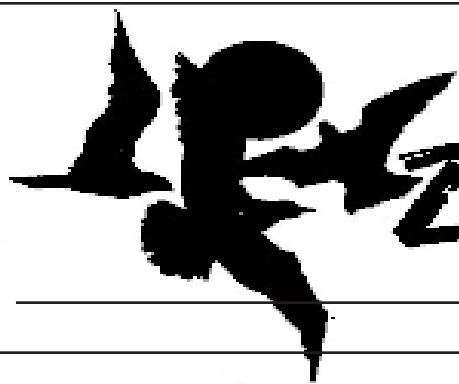


The
weekend
Of

Aug. 1
2015



The Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the
Birch Lake Yacht Club



All of the Horan Grandchildren agree ... The Horan kids were visiting Birch Lake recently with their parents and grandparents.

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Writing the weekly comments was going to be the hardest part of this job. So I thought. For me, so far, the toughest part of the Commodore's position is trying to decide who the choice is for the Commodore's Award.

Tradition has it that at the Fall Dinner, recognition is given by the outgoing Commodore to individual(s) that have shared their time and talent consistently for several years in BLYC activities. The past 11 months have provided the opportunity for many good candidates to be considered and the tough part is narrowing down the list.

Besides finding out who will be the new Vice Commodore, hearing who received the Commodore's award is another good reason to go to the Fall Dinner.

When you go over to the Yacht club for the Corn and Sausage roast on August 9, check out how nice Bob Waddle made the deck look. Bob power-washed the deck at least twice and put two coats of sealer down plus with the help of Rick Russwurm, replaced broken boards. This is the second time Bob has done this for us saving the yacht club the expense of having it done. Thank you Bob for donating your time and power washer to do the work.

The Homeowners meeting is this Saturday at the yacht club, and Leard Wylie, a Portage Township Trustee, will be talking about issues with our sewer system at the meeting plus elections of directors and officers by Homeowners Association members take place. The Homeowners Association meeting begins after the board meeting and should begin by 10:30.

Next week we have comments from the Vice Commodore as Sue Williams

2015 Birch Lake Calendar

Aug 1..... Homeowners Assoc. annual meeting
(following BLYC Board Meeting)
Aug 8..... Corn & Sausage Roast
Aug 15 Camp T Hog Roast, 5-10 pm
Aug 21 Friday Night Flotilla, 5pm
Aug. 29 Fall Dinner, 5:30 Camp T
FRIDAY, Oct. 9 Chili Cookoff

2016

May 14 Spring Dinner, Matterhorn
July 2..... Fireworks
July 3..... Fireworks rain date

2015 Remaining Board Meetings

August 1, September 5
at BLYC -- Meetings start at 9 am

Dates subject to change.
Watch the Barker for updates!

will fill in for me.

I'll see you at Birch Lake... where every day is an adventure!

~Commodore Fry

The Birch Barker is always accepting materials for publication. Please E-mail your materials to sailorphil@philvitale.com, or put the items in the stone newspaper/mailbox at my home, 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore). Please 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 BLYC Commodore Fred Freihofer at (269) 476-9823 or cdfreihofer@aol.com. ~Phil V

— Birch Lake Notes —



Thanks to our resident artist Duffy Dufor for the great pics!

Corn & Sausage Roast is Aug. 8 — Here It Comes!

It's almost here! Only a week to go until that lip-smacking event arrives again! Bring your appetites, families and neighbors to the annual Corn & Sausage Roast, next Saturday, Aug. 8. From 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm at the Yacht

Club we'll be serving delectable meals consisting of your meat choice, roasted corn, four sides, cookies and lemonade or iced tea. And how about another year with no price increase! We may not be able to hold on much longer but we're charging only \$4 for a hot dog meal and \$7 for a bratwurst or chicken breast

meal (we'll only have a limited supply of chicken breasts so come early to try to catch what we have!). Pay at the door — no reservations required! Come hungry, visit with your neighbors and leave with a smile! Hope to see you there!

Fall Dinner is August 29

It's time to buy your tickets for the Fall Dinner! This year's dinner will be held at Camp Tannadoonah on August 29. Tickets must be purchased by August 16. So check your calendars today and buy your tickets now. Tickets can be purchased from Celia Fallon, Claudia Phipps, Vickie Rogers, Denise Smitley, or Denny Weesner. See the flyer in this week's Barker for more information. Hope to see you all there! Vice Commodore Sue

7th Annual Camp T Hog Roast

The Seventh annual Camp Tannadoonah Hog Roast will be Saturday, Aug. 15 from 5-10 pm.

Join us to celebrate another fantastic year and thank our donors, volunteers, and camp families. Kids welcome, of course! This event is free to attend.

The event will feature a live band, a program at 6:30 pm, free food and drinks (soft drinks, beer, wine) Please bring a dish or dessert to share.

Shuckers needed

Looking for corn shuckers for the

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— Birch Lake Notes —

Corn and Sausage Roast. Must like people (because you will see everyone), can handle a little heat, and love the smell of freshly roasted corn. All needed equipment for perfect shucking will be provided. Shucking shifts will only last 30 minutes — we need to share this wonderful experience with everyone. Call Blair at 476-9862.

Friday Night Flotilla!

August 21 — 6 pm. Due to last year's successful flotilla, let's do it again! 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. Be there or be square! Look for the boats in the middle!

Welcome new neighbors

The Lacys send a Birch Lake welcome to our new neighbors, John and Anne Griffith, along with their four children. The Griffiths reside in South Bend, and are currently using #100 as a summer residence. Please welcome them as you see them around their new home. We hope they are very happy here on our jewel of a lake.

Safety notice

Felony assault, Georges Café, Zimmyville, Porter Twp. — Cass County



No, that's not Talon, that's either Buzz or Beaky (both were old cartoon characters)

Sheriff Joseph Underwood recently reported that on July 20 his deputies responded to an assault at George's Cafe. Witnesses at the bar told deputies that a 53-year-old Union man, whose name withheld pending arraignment, walked into the bar with a rifle and threatened them. Some of the patron were able to disarm the suspect and detain him until deputies arrived and placed him under arrest. Deputies recovered the weapon, described as a .22

caliber semi-auto rifle, and seized it for evidence. The weapon was not loaded and none of the patrons present reported any injuries. This incident remains under investigation.

The Homeowners Association is advising all residents to be vigilant and call 9-1-1 for emergencies or call the non-emergency number, 445-2481, to report any suspicious and/or illegal activity.

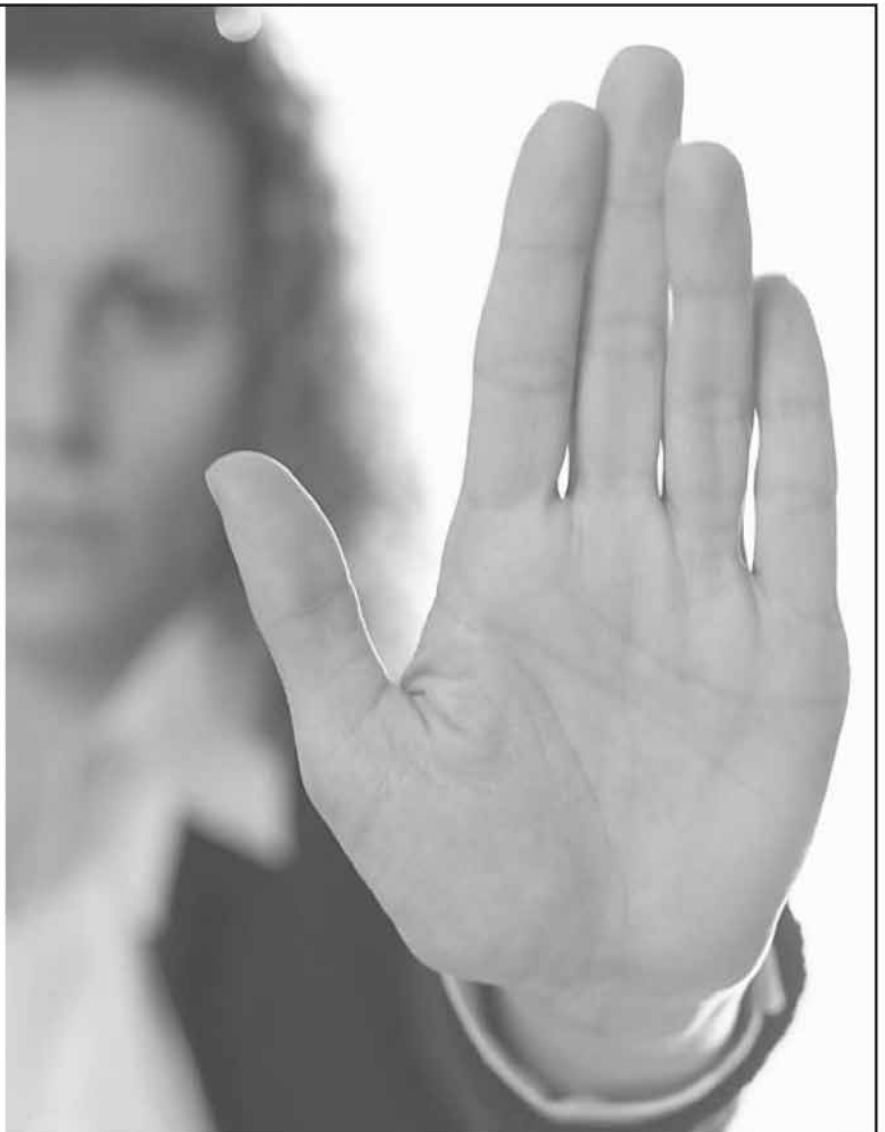
SLOW DOWN

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GRANDCHILDREN AND PETS**

**SLOW DOWN ON
OUR ROADS
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TO AND FROM
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And don't forget that ALL boat traffic must travel COUNTER-CLOCKWISE at all times!

Message sponsored by the BIRCH LAKE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

— Water Quality Report —

The threat on your hook

FISHERPERSONS: A threat to our lake may be on your hook

A recent press release issued by Michigan's Department of Natural Resources tells a story about the red swamp crayfish, which is an invasive and prohibited species desirable to some for use as bait. Evidence of its existence in an Ottawa County lake was recently discovered.

This species of crayfish is highly invasive, eats a range of food items, and

burrows into shorelines causing significant structural damage. They can survive drought and migrate up to two miles. Females lay up to 600 eggs at a time and reproduce up to two times per year.

Since this species is outlawed for use as bait, we presume it wasn't, or isn't, available at (law-abiding) bait shops. The DNR has determined that anglers have been purchasing them (live) from food markets.

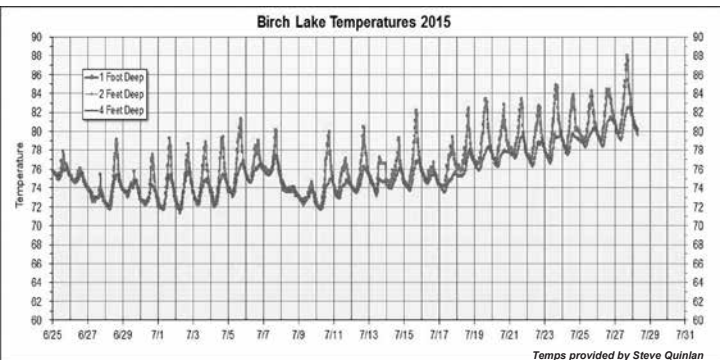
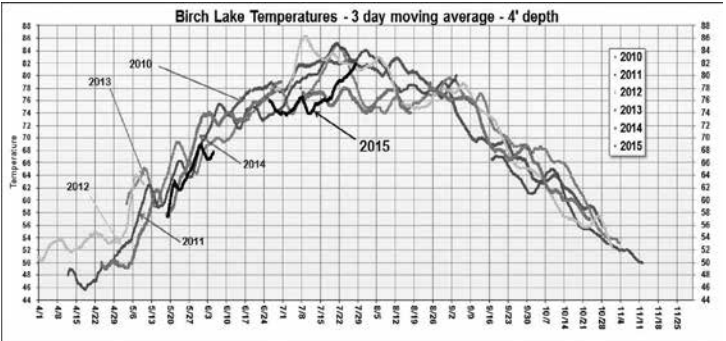


Moral of the story? While fishing in our State, especially Birch Lake, please use only approved bait. If you buy it from an established bait shop, your odds that it's legal and non-invasive, are pretty good. If unsure,

inquire at the bait store as to whether or not their bait is approved. If still unsure, consider visiting Michigan.gov/fishing and click on the "Aquatic Invasive Species" button.

We need to protect our lake. Thanks for your help.

Birch Lake Water Temperature



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— Birch Lake Notes —



2015 BLYC Fall Dinner

At Camp Tannadoonah

Saturday August 29, 2015

Social Hour 5:30

Appetizers/Beer & Wine

Dinner Served 6:30

1/2# Marinated Chicken Breast

Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Green Beans with Bacon

Salad & Dinner Rolls

Dessert

Lemonade

Iced Tea

Year End Meeting 7:30

Ticket price: \$25.00*

*All tickets must be purchased by August 16, 2015.

Please see the following to purchase your ticket:

Celia Fallon 476-1467

Vickie Rogers 476-2383

Denny Weesner 476-2569

Claudia Phipps 476-7073

Denise Smitley 476-9000

Tickets must be purchased in advance and presented at the door

— Barker Kids of the Week —



Enjoying the lake this week were Lois Groszek's great-great niece Hayleigh and her friend Grace Granger. Hayleigh just turned 13 and has had a great time this week.



Rick Russwurm (north shore) and daughter Lori Boecher spent a father / daughter day at the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum. Fun day!

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— Barker Kids of the Week —



Above: *Bethany Noonan and Lily Stevens taking their final tubing adventure around Birch Lake at top speed!!*

At top left: *Are Logan Stevens and Peter Noonan ...*
 a. Peeking out of a submarine?
 b. Floating under a mesh tube?
 c. Crammed in a minivan going to Van Huffel's raft to jump and float?



At bottom left, *Mike and Colleen Dabler and 15 month Josephina kayaking at Birch Lake while sisters, Katharine and Elizabeth and Jack enjoying swimming.*

The kids in both photos were with the Horan family group that has been renting on the east side for a couple of weeks.

KID-OF-THE-WEEK PHOTOS

Send your kid of the week to Birch Barker, 63174 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095; put them in a ziplock and stick them in my stone mailbox at my home (east side), email at SAILOR-PHIL@PHILVITALE.COM

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— Barker Kids of the Week —



That's Spiderman Bill Luecht (east side) clinging to the roof for dear life and trying to look nonchalant about it ...



That's Fashion Model Sandy Vitale (east side) showing off her "found" bathing suit ... she's gonna kill me for this ...



The Groszek (southside) family held it's annual reunion consisting of all first cousins and extended family. From left are Beth, Christine, Bob, Chet, Chuck, John and Tom.

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STU'S STAR STUFF



The Mythology of the Constellations

We've talked about many of the prominent constellations we are so lucky to be able to see here at the lake, so far away from city light pollution. The Big and Little Dipper, Leo, Taurus and The Pink Flamingo to name only a few. There are many more. What kind of history do they have?

Most ancient cultures saw pictures in the stars of the night sky. The earliest known efforts to catalogue the stars date to cuneiform texts and artifacts dating back roughly 6000 years. These remnants, found in the valley of the Euphrates River, suggest that the ancients observing the heavens saw the lion, the bull, and the scorpion in the stars. The constellations as we know them today are undoubtedly very different from those first few--our night sky is a compendium of images from a number of different societies, both ancient and modern. By far, though, we owe the greatest debt to the mythology of the ancient Greeks and Romans.

The earliest references to the mythological significance of the Greek constellations may be found in the works of Homer, which probably date to the 7th century B.C. In the Iliad, for instance, Homer describes the creation of Achilles's shield by the craftsman god Hephaistos:

"On it he made the earth, and sky, and sea, the weariless sun and the moon waxing full, and all the constellations that crown the heavens, Pleiades and Hyades, the mighty Orion and the Bear, which men also call by the name of Wain: she wheels round in the same place and watches for Orion, and is the only one not to bathe in Ocean".

At the time of Homer, however, most of the constellations were not associated with any particular myth, hero, or god. They were instead known simply as the objects or animals which they represented--the Lyre, for instance, or the Ram. By the 5th century B.C., most of the constellations had come to be associated with myths, and the Catasterismi of Eratosthenes completed the mythologization of the stars. "At this stage, the fusion between astronomy and mythology is so complete that no further distinction is made between them"--the stars were no longer merely identified with certain gods or heroes, but actually were perceived as divine.

Despite the many mentions of the stars in Greek and early Roman texts, by far the most thorough

star catalogue from ancient times belongs to the Roman Ptolemy of Alexandria, who grouped 1022 stars into 48 constellations during the 2nd century A.D. Although Ptolemy's Almagest does not include the constellations which may only be seen from the southern hemisphere, it forms the basis for the modern list of 88 constellations officially designated by the International Astronomical Union. The influence of both the Greek and Roman cultures may be plainly seen; the myths behind the constellations date back to ancient Greece, but we use their Latin names.

Mythology, of course, influenced the naming of many objects in the night sky, not just the constellations. The planets all bear names from Roman mythology which reflect their characteristics: Mercury, named for the speedy messenger god, revolves fastest around the sun; Venus, named for the goddess of love and beauty, shines most brightly; Mars, named for the god of war, appears blood-red; Jupiter, named for the single most important god, is the largest planet in our solar system. Even the names of the Galilean moons of Jupiter (the four largest, which may be seen with even a small telescope) are drawn from mythology. Io, Europa, Ganymede, and Callisto were all desired--and taken by force--by Jupiter. It is ironic that the mythological characters mythological women the king of the gods so ardently pursued now revolve around him.

We'll pick a few constellations in the coming weeks and learn their stories. If there are any in particular that you wonder about, please let me know.

*~Stu Spratt
Celebrating 51
Years at
Birch Lake*

The Moon for this Saturday

(At Midnight, US Central time,
as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)

Illuminated Fraction: 0.700
2.1 days since first quarter



Sunrise: 6:30am
Sunset: 9:11pm
Moonrise: 3:44pm
Moonset: 1:36am
Day length: 14h 41m

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FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER



Not enough wind to sail ...

Well ... there wasn't much more than a breath of wind out there last Sunday when it came time to put out the marks.

And it was just under a million degrees.

And I don't know a soul who likes to sail in those conditions.

So I guess we'll just have to try again this weekend and see if Mother Nature won't be just a little more kind to us.

Thanks to Bad Patty and the crew who were ready if and when the wind started to blow ... hope to see you this week.

Remember, keep the big white things up in the air and the wet blue stuff below you ...

Until next week. Splice the mainbrace.

~"Fleet Captain Mike"



2015 BLYC Season Sailing Results

Date	19-Jul.....	19-Jul.....	19-Jul.....	Total	Season.....	Races	%
Race	14.....	15.....	16.....	Points.....	Average.....	Finished	Finished

MC Scow/Sailor				Total	Season.....	Races	%
Scott Troeger #1489.....	1.....	1.....	DNS.....	23319.....	1555.....	15.....	93.8%
Jeff Smitley #2002.....	2.....	3.....	1.....	23965.....	1498.....	16.....	100.0%
Bill Luecht #1579.....	7.....	2.....	4.....	21646.....	1353.....	16.....	100.0%
Bob King #1199.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	13424.....	1342.....	10.....	62.5%
Phil Vitale #500.....	6.....	4.....	3.....	21441.....	1340.....	16.....	100.0%
Barb Cassady #2435.....	5.....	6.....	5.....	20472.....	1280.....	16.....	100.0%
Gib Eberhart #916.....	4.....	7.....	2.....	11497.....	1277.....	9.....	56.3%
Harold Cranmer #1991/2412.....	3.....	5.....	6.....	20344.....	1272.....	15.....	93.8%
Vic Jones.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	3137.....	1046.....	1.....	6.3%

Sunfish/Sailor				Total	Season.....	Races	%
Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue).....	1.....	4.....	2.....	19724.....	1517.....	13.....	86.7%
Chris Spratt (Blue/Green).....	DNS.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	4334.....	1445.....	3.....	20.0%
Brad Davis.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	2888.....	1444.....	2.....	13.3%
Stewart Spratt.....	2.....	5.....	7.....	18676.....	1437.....	13.....	86.7%
Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow).....	3.....	2.....	6.....	21465.....	1431.....	15.....	100.0%
Peter Soldato.....	5.....	1.....	1.....	15565.....	1415.....	10.....	66.7%
Bob Cassady.....	6.....	6.....	4.....	12349.....	1372.....	9.....	60.0%
Sandy Vitale (White).....	CB.....	CB.....	CB.....	11966.....	1330.....	9.....	60.0%
Herb Cleveland.....	4.....	3.....	3.....	16608.....	1278.....	13.....	86.7%
Camille Butler.....	7.....	7.....	5.....	17573.....	1172.....	15.....	100.0%
Bill Butler.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	11712.....	1171.....	10.....	66.7%
Bob Niezgodski.....	DNS.....	8.....	8.....	15333.....	1095.....	14.....	93.3%

DNS (Did Not Sail) does not count against season score, however sailor must complete 2/3 of races to qualify for season.
 DNF (Did Not Finish), 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).
 DNF, DSQ not counted toward minimum number of races needed.
 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.

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— Dana on Drugs —

Don't skip the directions on Osteoporosis meds!

By **Dana Soldato**, PharmD

Osteoporosis consists of a structural breakdown of the bone tissue and resulting loss of bone strength. Our bodies are constantly breaking down old bone and replacing it with new bone.

Osteoporosis, then, occurs when the breakdown of old bone occurs more quickly than the creation of new bone.

Generally, the first three decades of life are characterized by bone building. After age 30 and prior to menopause, bone breakdown and bone replenishment are equal. After menopause, bone breakdown becomes predominant.

As a result of osteoporosis, our bones become more brittle and more susceptible to breakage.

In order to counter the effects of osteoporosis, increasing weight-bearing exercise, calcium, and vitamin D may be useful. Also, limiting caffeine, alcohol, and tobacco can help to naturally strengthen your bones.

However, these adjustments alone are typically insufficient for reliably strengthening the bone. Almost all

people with osteoporosis will need to utilize prescription medication in order to fully strengthen their bones.

The drugs of choice for strengthening the bones are called "bisphosphonates."

Drugs in this class of medication include alendronate (Fosamax), ibandronate (Boniva), and risendronate (Actonel, Atelvia). These medications work to inhibit bone breakdown, which allows your body to rebuild its bone mass. By blocking bone breakdown and allowing for new bone to build, bisphosphonates reduce the risk of fractures by 45-55 percent!

While these medications work wonders on the bone, they don't come without some side effects. The most common side effects of bisphosphonates are nausea/upset stomach, and inflammation of the esophagus.

While typically well tolerated, in rare instances very troublesome side effects have occurred (and they are seriously nasty!). When bisphosphonates are taken incorrectly, you put yourself at increased risk of esophageal ulcers, jaw necrosis, and abnormal bone fractures!


To prevent these serious side effects from occurring, it is important to follow the administration instructions! To protect your esophagus, take these medications with a full glass of water (ONLY WATER, NOT COFFEE OR MILK), on an empty stomach at least 30-60 minutes before food or medications (including calcium), and remain upright (sitting or standing) for 30 minutes after taking.

While this procedure sounds bothersome, bisphosphonates are only taken once weekly, and some are even designed for once monthly use. Plus, these medications are not life-time medications. They are typically used for 5-10 years, and then discontinued.

Further, bisphosphonates have a "half-life" of 10 years, which means that it takes 10 years for half of the drug to be eliminated from your body. The long half-life of bisphosphonates is what allows you to take them for a short period of time, and have lasting effects.

Thus, the annoyance of taking the medication will be short-lived and worth the extra effort.


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YOUR HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19) Without any special sense of effort, you will make progress and get a lot done. And it couldn't come at a better time because you're looking at a career peak around 2018-019, so you have to get ready for this! Get any further training or education that you might need to improve your job or enhance your life.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Since 2012, things have been tough for you because Saturn was opposite your sign. In the next few years, you will learn how to get along with other people's values and live with them. Learn to incorporate them into your own life. You might also find it tougher to get financial support and help from others, which means you have to go it alone..

Gemini (May 21-June 20) Even if you are young, you might feel "old" and world-weary. One area in which you will notice stress is partnerships and close friendships. In fact, relationships that have outlived their usefulness will end in the next few years; while relationships that will endure will undergo adjustments.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) You will start to feel more of a sense of purpose in your life! In the next few years, you will put out a lot of effort to prove to the world what you can do. It will be a time of heavy responsibilities and hard work. In a way, your effectiveness as a human being will be tested during this time. But all of this is for a reason because in 2018, you will have a debut. Ah yes! Now it's time to figure out how to work and achieve something.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Like Aries, you will feel considerable support from the world around you. Everything will come together for you with surprisingly little effort. In fact, you will find that you can rebuild your physical strength. It's an excellent time to lay the framework for future. A love affair with an older person might also take place.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) In the next few years, you will want to focus on securing a home base for yourself and your family. Even if you moved recently, you might move again. The first move was for a different reason. If you don't move again, you will almost certainly work to repair where you are - possibly major repairs and renovations. A parent might become an increased responsibility for you as well.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) If you're old enough, hearken back to the late 80s. Did you have a change of residence then? This might happen again. In the next two years, you will experience some kind of change in your daily milieu, the purpose of which is to make you "wake up." This is also related to a time in your life around 2005. It will be easy for you to get recognition for your efforts now.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) The last two years ain't been easy! Learn what is really important to you. What is it that you really value? If you are mesmerized by money, you might experience financial loss, because there's more to life than money. Organize your finances as well as possible. Discover what your real needs are, which might be quite different from what you thought or were taught to think.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You are now returning to a cycle similar to what you experienced in the late 80s. You're setting off on a new chapter, as it were. In the last several years, you have undergone much loss and letting go of people, places and possessions. Now you are setting out on a new journey, possibly so new and fresh, you might even change your daily wardrobe.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You will enter a two to three-year window of time where you will start to dismantle much of what you have created in your life since 2003. It means you will give up people, places, possessions and jobs and perhaps even your country. Do not think of this as a time of loss. Rather, this is a time of lightening your load and getting rid of what is no longer relevant in your life.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Good news! Many of the difficulties of the last few years will greatly diminish. In fact, obstacles that you might have been forced to deal with will diminish; and in their place, you will find your universe is much more supportive, and much more strengthening to you. Your challenge now will be to learn to work with groups and keep them happy, and yet, at the same time, not sell out because after all, you count, too.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Your hour has arrived. Partnerships were a struggle in 2008-2010, but you survived. In the last few years you have prepped yourself or taken further education and training so that you could get the most out of this journey that you are now about to enter. It's a time of culmination in your life!

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I LIKE
MY EGGS?
UMM,
IN A CAKE.

when ur drunk and u gotta
act serious for a second



The next time you
get a call from
a blocked number
answer the
phone and say
It's done,
but there's blood
everywhere!

I sold my house this
week. I got a pretty
good price for it, but it
made my **landlord**
mad as hell.



COPS ARE HERE!

Just go, save your self!



A Lions fan, a Bears fan, and a Packers fan are climbing a mountain and begin to argue over who loves their team the most. The Bears fan insists that he is the most loyal, yells "This is for the Bears" and jumps off the mountain to his death. Not to be out done, the Lions fan is the next to profess his loyalty to his team and yells out "This is for Detroit" and pushes the Packers fan off the mountain.

1. Open fridge. Nothing to eat.
2. Open pantry. Nothing to eat.
3. Lower standards and repeat.

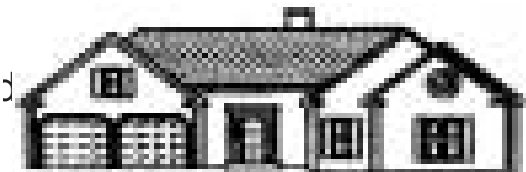
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~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

At-the-beach Jello treat

**If you're going to do it,
why not make it fun!**

Ingredients:

- 2 cups boiling water
- 2 cups cold water
- 1 (8 ounce) container whipped topping
- 2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1/4 cup teddy bear-shaped graham snacks, or as needed
- cocktail umbrellas

Directions:

1. Stir berry-flavored gelatin and boiling water together in a bowl until gelatin is dissolved, about 2 minutes. Stir in cold water until evenly mixed. Pour gelatin mixture into small cups about 3/4-full. Refrigerate until set, 2 to 3 hours.
2. Fill a plastic bag with whipped topping and cut 1 bottom corner of the bag; pipe whipped topping onto each gelatin cup. Sprinkle graham cracker crumbs onto the whipped topping until fully covered, creating 'sand'. Arrange bear-shaped graham snacks on the 'sand'. Place an umbrella in the sand.

Birch Barker Word Search

NEW WORDS / SLANG IN THE WEBSTER DICTIONARY

Find each of the following words.

UPCYCLE
PONTIFICANT
AGENDIZE
LIBFIX
ASSETIOUS
MANSPLAIN
DOX

UNILIMINALISM
REUESTION
CHILL PILL
THREENAGER
CLOFFICE
YUMMIEFUL
USSIE

COLUMBUSING
RATCHET
TEXTRUPTION
FROTHER
SHOPPABLE
VAPER

L U Y U M M I E F U C L I B F I X S O C C P I O C A E C H U L L P I L L
G S I R E H O H T U X D I L B A A E A Z D I I E P P X A I A C F L N U A
N F R A T H E R U N I L I M I N L I S M F F U S I H S R E M U P C Y H S
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C E O T I O I U I D S C L N N Z M H T U F H N A A I G T G T I G M N I E
D A I A C E U G N O H A I T G R H I C L I L E L I T E C E F X E T A O P
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I F C B T N P R Y T H C Y O O V H I I S L F T O C E B R E U R U H U R N

— Camp Tannadoonah —

Nearing the end of the season

We're nearing the end of the 2015 camp season! It's hard to believe that we're in our 6th session, and have just one more week of camp to go.

Make sure you mark your calendars for next Friday, August 7, for the end of the summer candlelight ceremony! Our campers will be coming down the waterfront stairs between 9 and 9:30 pm carrying their candles. We'll gather on the pier and serenade all those who come out in their boats.

Also on August 7, we have our end of the year Order of the Birch ceremony. The Order of the Birch is the highest honor that a camper can earn in their time at Camp T. They have to be going into at least the 7th grade, have attended camp for at least 5 summers, and complete a list of requirements throughout the week they come to camp. Those requirements include being a model camper, keeping their bunk neat and clean, doing a service project for camp, trying each activity at least once, going to an early morning activity every day (such as polar bear or morning running), leading sing one evening, and writing a poem or song about what camp

means to them. On the last Friday of the summer, we have a special torch ceremony where they receive their award. If you've never been to a Council Fire or seen the torch ceremony, please feel free to come up to camp on Friday night around 7:15 to see it! We sing songs, hand out awards for activities, show a photo slideshow of the week, and honor the Order of the Birch campers at the very end. Then we all line up to get candles and proceed to the waterfront for the candlelight serenade. It's a pretty special night!

On Tuesday night next week (August 4) we will be walking around the lake and singing. If you're home, please come out in the back yard to hear our campers! They love to sing camp songs for everyone. We usually make it as far as Niezgodski's on the west side and as far as Garceau's on the east side before turning back to camp.

It looks like we're going to wrap up the season with a grant total of 848 campers, which is 30 more than we had last year. Compared to my first summer, when we finished the summer with 351 campers, that's 142 percent growth over 10 years! We've been completely full, or

very close to full, for the final four weeks of the summer.

This week at camp is our sports-themed week. We divided all the campers into red and blue teams on Sunday when they arrived, and each night's evening activity has matched up the red and blue teams in some form of athletic competition.

On Sunday night we played "Big Base," which is a version of kickball. On Tuesday night we played a series of sports stations, including "Go for the Gold" (similar to ultimate Frisbee), soccer, basketball, archery, and volleyball. Wednesday night we played a new game called Circle Rules Football, and Thursday night was Camper's Choice. We also set it up so that the blue team sat on one side of the dining hall, and the red team on the other during dinner, to get them excited for the evening's games! It made for an exciting, competitive week!

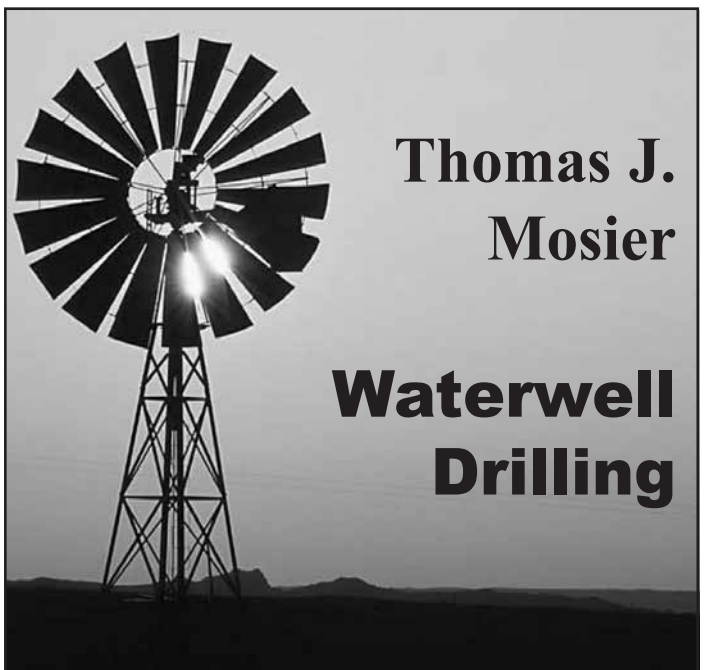
Hope to see you all next week out on the lake for serenade!

~Miss Amber
Amber@tannadoonah.org



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MISC.

As an entry in the 2000, 2001 or 2002 (we can't recall which one) July 4th boat parade we paired up with Bernie and Helen Weesner. Our boat was titled "**Weekend at Bernie's.**" It was a memorable trip around the lake. Does anyone have a photograph of this? We'd love to have a copy for our new house. Thanks, Bernie and Blair Garceau 476-9862

LOST

Hobie Cat paddle for Kayak went missing from our pier in the cove after a recent storm. It is black with white "Hobie" on the paddle ends. If found contact Maureen at 269 476-4176

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