

The weekend Of

Aug. 8 2015

# Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the  
**Birch Lake Yacht Club**



*Fast action by some neighbors helped the Kellys when their Hobie flipped.*

Thanks to **John DeCloedt** for the photo

## COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Summer has finally arrived! Of course, summer has been here for a while, but it has just been recently that the summer weather finally kicked in. The last couple of weeks have just been gorgeous, and it is wonderful to see and hear everyone out enjoying the lake. Better get out there and enjoy it because fall is just around the corner. (I hate to even think that!) School will be starting soon and our Birch Lake Fall Dinner is in just a few weeks. You may be wondering why we hold the fall dinner in August! Traditionally the fall dinner is also the annual meeting of the Yacht Club. We want to hold the dinner and meeting at a time when most people are still here. After Labor Day, many summer residents start closing up their places, school is in full swing, and weekends are

busy with football and other fall activities. So think of it more as an "end of summer" dinner, or just a fun time to get together with neighbors before everyone starts going off in different directions.

Speaking of the fall dinner, please buy your tickets now if you are planning to attend (and I hope you are!) The deadline for ticket sales is August 16th which is next weekend! See the flyer in this week's Barker for more details. It's always fun to come and meet the new Vice Commodore. Are you trying to guess who the lucky person will be? It's top secret until that night!

Last Saturday morning was the annual Homeowner's Association meeting. There was an informative presentation by Leard Wylie, a Portage Township Trustee, on important issues with our sewer system. In a nutshell, there have been plugs in the pipes coming from Birch Lake. The plugs are

## 2015 Birch Lake Calendar

Aug 8.....Corn & Sausage Roast  
Aug 15 ..... Camp T Hog Roast, 5-10 pm  
Aug 21 ..... Friday Night Flotilla, 5 pm  
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  
July 22 ..... BL Ladies' Golf Outing

### 2015 Remaining Board Meetings

September 5  
at BLYC -- Meetings start at 9 am

**Dates subject to change.**  
Watch the Barker for updates!

caused by items being flushed that do not dissolve and then accumulate and plug up the system. It is very expensive to clean out these blockages. The township is trying hard to not raise rates, but

The Birch Barker is always accepting materials for publication. Please E-mail your materials to [sailorphil@philvitale.com](mailto: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 Freihofner at (269) 476-9823 or [cdfreihofner@aol.com](mailto:cdfreihofner@aol.com). ~Phil V

# — Birch Lake Notes —



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

may have to if this continues. So what can we do? We need to all work together to prevent the plugs in the first place. Please be careful of what you are flushing. Even though the package may say "flushable or safe for sewers", it is not always true. Whew! I never thought my first comments would be about toilets and flushing!

On to more fun things! I heard that

the men's golf outing was a huge success with more golfers than ever before. Thank you to Peter Soldato and Chas Grundy for organizing that fun event.

We have another great event planned for this Saturday night. The annual corn and sausage roast will be held at the Yacht Club. Come hungry, and I promise you won't be disappointed! The corn and sausage roast is truly a

Birch Lake tradition, and many thanks go to Bernie and Blair Garceau for doing such a fantastic job of organizing this event year after year

Have a great week! Have fun and be safe.

~Vice Commodore Sue

## **Corn & Sausage Roast — Aug. 8 This Saturday! Come eat!**

The BIG DAY is finally here! The annual Corn & Sausage Roast is this Saturday, August 8.

From 5:30 - 7:30pm at the Yacht Club we'll be serving delicious meals consisting of your meat choice, roasted corn, four sides, cookies and lemonade or iced tea. Prices are 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 they are first come, first served until we run out). Pay at the door – no reservations required! Come hungry, visit with your neighbors and leave with a smile! We look forward to seeing you!

## **Fall Dinner is August 29**

The Fall dinner is fast approaching, and you won't want to miss out! The time to buy your tickets is now!! See the flyer for full details and get your ticket before the August 16 deadline. No tickets will be sold at the door or after August 16 as the caterer needs the final number 2 weeks before the dinner. You

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# — Birch Lake Notes —

can get tickets from Celia Fallon, Claudia Phipps, Vickie Rogers, Denise Smitley, or Denny Weesner. Hope to see you there!

## 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.

## Sausage fest Returns!

It's that time once again, the Kinzler's (west side) 9th annual Sausage Fest returns to the west side of Birch Lake August 13-16. It's the growing and ever popular all-guys trip to the lakehouse. You may remember the waterskiing pirate, hot dog, Batman and Robin, moose, chicken, and the Geico pig in a tube. The rumor this year is a special guest from the blue man group and possibly a shark sighting.

Our water ski contraption entry this year will bring you back to a famous 80's movie that'll be sure to wash away your "blues".

So don't be alarmed if you see 30+ guys barbecuing in matching sausagefest t-shirts and be on the lookout for the "dancing sausage".

You are welcome to stop by for a game of bags, beer darts and pong, and the coldest beer on Birch Lake.

## Thanks friends!

Many thanks to all that participated in my sinking drill on Sunday afternoon. 43 years of sailing my Hobie, first time with this drill. Don't know why the hull plugs were not in, not a common practice to leave it that way. Darn kids!

But thanks to so many good neighbors to responds to my plight; those I remember in the drill were Rich, Patti, Kayla, Eric, Paula, Bob and I know there were other support staff.

Sailing can make for an exciting day on the lake in many ways. Thanks again friends. Rides any time.

~Lu Kelly

## 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!

## 2016 Birch Lake Calendars

Thanks to all the photographers who submitted photos for the 2016 Birch Lake calendar. Once again we had so many great pictures that it was hard to narrow the selection to just thirteen. The calendars are available now, and you can get them from Vickie Rogers (476-2383), Carla Chester (476-1010), Linda Yoshizawa (476-2308), or Sue Williams (476-8886). They'll also be on sale at the remaining Birch Lake events as long as they last. The cost for each calendar is \$15. Proceeds will go to Yacht Club improvements.

## BLYC parking area

The BLYC board of directors approved a quote to do the work to reclaim parking spaces at BLYC.

The work is to commence the week of August 10 and will include removing overgrown brush, small and large trees, dead trees, stump removal and planting of a shade variety of grass seed. All of this work is in the north, east and south perimeter of the existing parking area. Prime Properties is doing the work.

The grass seed will be covered with straw to retain moisture for good germination and minimize erosion. We need 400 ft of garden hose and 3 additional volunteers to do the watering of the grass seed to help insure getting a good

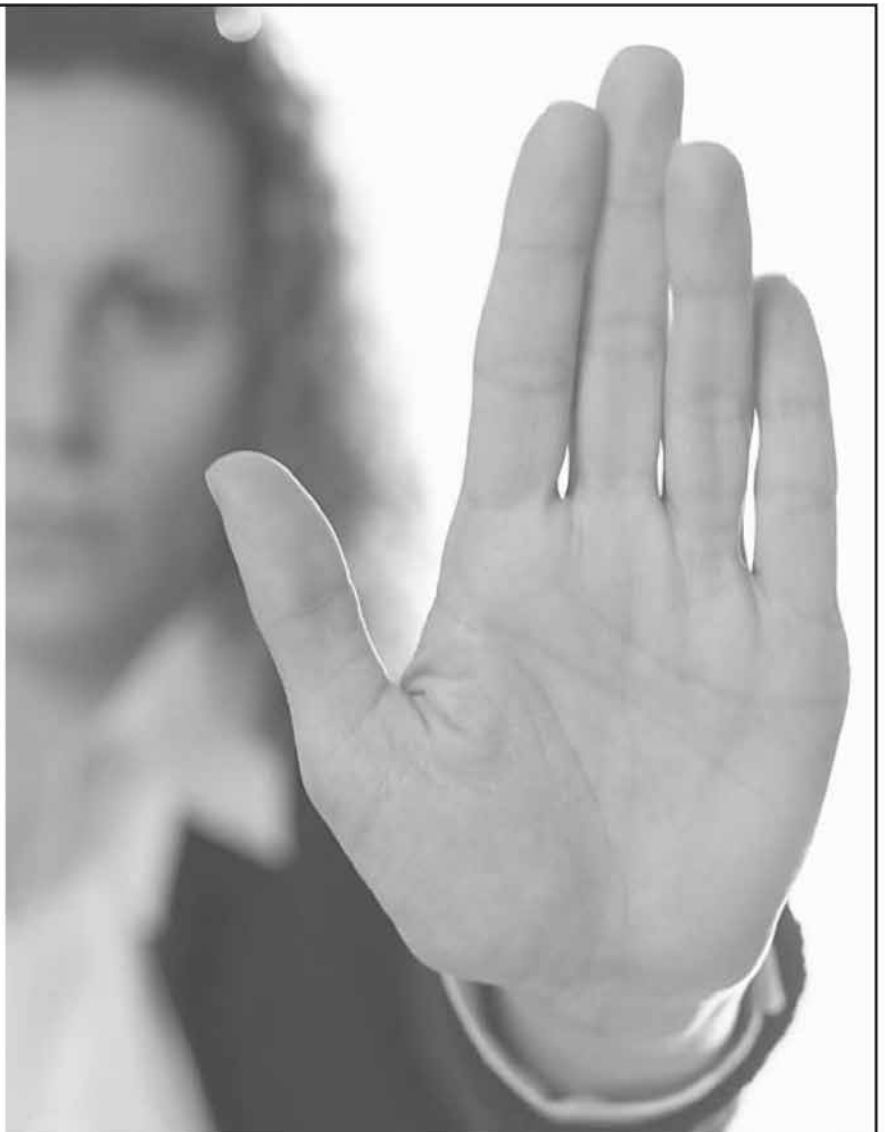
# SLOW DOWN

**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<sub>MPH</sub>



**And don't forget that ALL boat traffic must travel COUNTER-CLOCKWISE at all times!**

Message sponsored by the BIRCH LAKE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

# — Birch Lake Notes —

stand of grass in the reclaimed areas. New grass seed needs to be kept moist and this will require watering twice a day for at least 3 weeks.

If you have been looking for a sucker to take that old garden hose off your hands because you did not have the courage to put a non-biodegradable item in landfill, this is your opportunity. I'll do everything I can to recycle them when we are done. Or, if you have hose you want back after the work is done, I'll commit to getting the hose back to you.

Now, let me be very clear. I don't want junk. I need hoses with good couplers including good rubber washers in the coupling (female) end. The male end should not be bent or damaged either so that it does not seat completely and correctly when connected to another hose. I don't want leaky hoses, either. Candidates should be a hose in good working order that you have been wanting to replace for various reasons. I bet garages around here are full of them.

I thought we would work in two teams of two people. We can work out a schedule when we get closer to the seeding time expected to be the week of August 17 or 24.

Volunteers to water and donate or

lend us hoses should contact Fred Freihofer on our house phone 269-476-9823 or email me at [cdfreihofer@aol.com](mailto:cdfreihofer@aol.com) as soon as possible. Volunteers will be put through a rigorous physical test and background check (JK). Leave a message if we don't answer with a good time to reach you, and I'll get back to you.

## From Mr. Bob

60 is the new 40 ...or so it goes around our house having joined the ranks of the 60-genarians. On the evening of July 3rd, some of us old folk decided it was time to put tools aside and play "pepper" (volleying a volleyball) with the kids in our front yard. I went after a wayward ball trying to keep it in play before it went in the lake. Sadly, a little too late, it occurred I was running out of race-track. Only two choices presented in the nanoseconds remaining. I could road rash onto the concrete seawall or, go for it ... doing a flat dive. Almost made it but ... it was low tide and ... I broke my right Humerus (a bone misnomer if ever). Delete July. Enter August. A month later, after numerous x-rays, a cat-scan, too many

Doctor visits, a string of DNS entries in the sailing results and, living life a Lefty, I hope to see you all at the Corn 'n Sausage. Please allow ample room to Starboard. Bob the.one.armed.man  
ps - the moral: go ahead, lie about 60 being 40 but ... don't try to play with the 20-somethings.

## Eurasian Milfoil Updates(s)

Within the past few weeks:

- 1) Professional Lake Management (PLM) treated the small area of Eurasian Milfoil found on the west side (by Sheffieck's) several weeks earlier when Progressive Engineering completed its first survey of the season.
- 2) Progressive Engineering performed its second survey of the year on our lake and found that:
  - a) the area on the east side (by Vitale's) treated earlier this year had responded favorably to that treatment and needs no further treatment at this time.
  - b) excluding the small area on the west side described above (see # 1).

Thanks for your support!


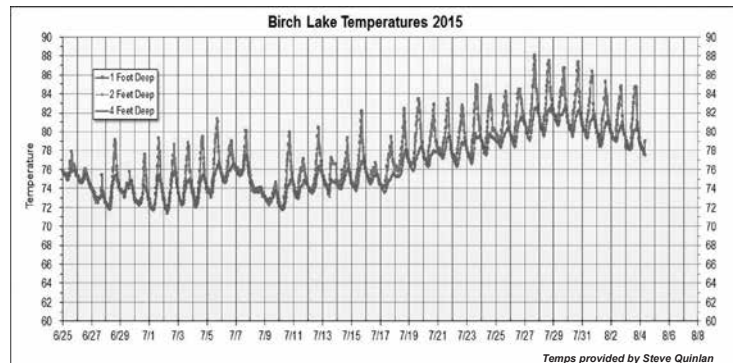
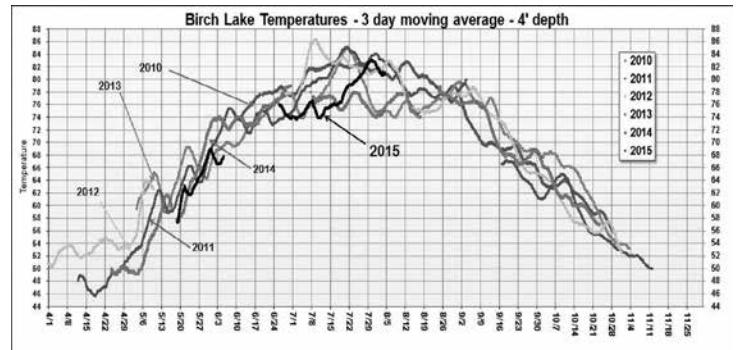
## Birch Lake Water Temperature

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# 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*

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# — Barker Kids of the Week —



Above, Mackenzi Bienz taking Braden and Brody on their very first tube ride at Birch Lake. They all live on the hill on Kinsey St.



At right: First time Tannadoonah day campers Mykayla Pipke and Ethan Kushto, grandchildren of Dave and Terry Carroll, (West Side) loved camp during the day and being spoiled by Grandma and Grandpa at night. Soon we are on our way to South Africa to visit our daughter Jenny, her husband Ben, Reese and Elle Hoban.

## 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](mailto:SAILOR-PHIL@PHILVITALE.COM)



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# — Barker Kids of the Week —



*Above: Women's day out on the lake (in response to the men's golf outing)*

*At left: Reece (the great nephew of Good Patti Russwurm, North side) helping Bad Patty navigate her boat during an afternoon of fun and sun with the ladies! Reece is the beautiful and adorable son of Dana Hailey they were here visiting for a couple of days of much needed R&R.*

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# — Barker Kids of the Week —



Happy 22nd birthday to Katie Luecht on August 4th! Above, here she is at 9 months old with her best friend, Ethel and, at right, today with her new baby kitty, Pippa. Katie has been enjoying Birch Lake since she was one month old!



Sunset of the Week

Photo by Pat McGann

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# STU'S STAR STUFF



## Answering the really big questions ...

**T**oday's big question - Where do astronauts leave their space craft?

We'll get to that shortly. But first... A meteor shower is a spike in the number of meteors or "shooting stars" that streak through the night sky.

Most meteor showers are spawned by comets. As a comet orbits the Sun it sheds an icy, dusty debris stream along its orbit. If Earth travels through this stream, we will see a meteor shower. Although the meteors can appear anywhere in the sky, if you trace their paths, the meteors in each shower appear to "rain" into the sky from the same region.

Meteor showers are named for the constellation that coincides with this region in the sky, a spot known as the radiant. For instance, the radiant for the Leonid meteor shower in November is in the constellation Leo. The Perseid meteor shower is so named because meteors appear to fall from a point in the constellation Perseus.

"Shooting stars" and "falling stars" are both names that describe meteors — streaks of light across the night sky caused by small bits of interplanetary rock and debris called meteoroids vaporizing high in Earth's upper atmosphere. Traveling at tens of thousands of miles an hour, meteoroids quickly ignite from the searing friction with the atmosphere, 30 to 80 miles above the ground. Almost all are destroyed in this process; the rare few that survive and hit the ground are known as meteorites.

When a meteor appears, it seems to "shoot" quickly across the sky, and its small size and intense brightness might make you think it is a star. If you're lucky enough to spot a meteorite (a meteor that makes it all the way to the ground), and see where it hits, it's easy to think you just saw a star "fall."

The best way to see meteors is to get away from the glow of city lights, (here at the lake is good) and look toward the constellation from which the meteors will appear to radiate.

The brightest meteor shower of the year is coming up, and it should be very easy to see.

The 2015 Perseid meteor shower will happen from July 13 to August 26, with activity peaking next week around August 12 and 13.

The Perseids are typically the brightest of the year. And this year should be an especially good year

since the moon will not come out until after sunrise, avoiding the pesky bright light it gives off.

Professionals estimates that at its peak, Perseids will produce up to 100 meteors per hour (Yeah, right. How many times have we heard that one before?) streaking across the sky at 37 miles per second. The best time for viewing is after midnight, when the meteors will pick up steam until the wee hours before dawn.

Here are some tips to help you get the most out of your meteor shower-watching experience:

- Find an open location away from bright city lights and other light pollution. Here at the lake is ideal.
- Bring something comfortable to sit or lie down on and try to fill your entire peripheral vision with the night sky. If it's cool, dress warmly.
- Give your eyes time to adjust to the darkness. This can take up to 20 minutes and can be disrupted by looking at a bright cell phone or tablet screen. If you need to shine a light on something, use a flashlight with a red filter, the easiest color on your eyes.
- Be patient. Give yourself anywhere between 30 minutes and an hour, and the streaking meteors should be easily spotted against the still night sky once your eyes are fully adjusted.
- Don't worry about using telescopes or binoculars. Those devices may actually make it harder for you to see meteors, since they only cover a small portion of the sky. You should be able to easily see the show, and more of it, with just your own two eyes.

Where do astronauts leave their space craft? At a parking meteor!

~*Stu Spratt*  
**Celebrating 51 Years at Birch Lake**

~*Stu Spratt*  
**Celebrating 51 Years at Birch Lake**

~*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: 0.264**  
**2.2 days after last quarter**



**Sunrise: 6:44am**  
**Sunset: 8:55pm**  
**Moonrise: 1:35am**  
**Moonset: 4:07pm**  
**Day length: 14h 11m**

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# FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER



## What a difference a week makes

Well, can't complain about not enough wind ... The one race we got in packed quite a punch, with winds of 10 or better gusting to speeds high enough to dismast at least one MC and overturn a couple Sunfish. The competition was fast and furious and in at least one instance, smashing!

Thanks to our intrepid Committee Boat crew Bad Patty and Questionable Patti, who, even though short-handed,

kept tabs on everything and maintained order as much as possible in the teeth of a near gale (we really could use a couple more people on the boat some weeks ... there's a lot to do). Patty, I know you've taken some slack for stopping at just one, but you made the right decision!

Thanks to the helpers who came out to keep things safe.

Until next week. Splice the main-brace.

~"Fleet Captain Mike"



## 2015 BLYC Season Sailing Results

Date .....	2-Aug .....	Total .....	Season .....	Races .....	% .....
Race .....	17 .....	Points .....	Average .....	Finished .....	Finished .....

MC Scow/Sailor .....	.....		.....		17 .....	.....
Scott Troeger #1489.....	1.....	24919.....	1557.....	16.....	.....	94.1%
Jeff Smitley #2002.....	DNF.....	25054.....	1474.....	16.....	.....	94.1%
Bill Luecht #1579.....	4.....	23015.....	1354.....	17.....	.....	100.0%
Phil Vitale #500.....	3.....	22885.....	1346.....	17.....	.....	100.0%
Bob King #1199.....	DNS.....	13424.....	1342.....	10.....	.....	58.8%
Harold Cranmer #1991/2412.....	2.....	21865.....	1286.....	16.....	.....	94.1%
Barb Cassady #2435.....	DNS.....	20472.....	1280.....	16.....	.....	94.1%
Gib Eberhart #916.....	5.....	12793.....	1279.....	10.....	.....	58.8%
Pat McGann.....	6.....	1225.....	1225.....	1.....	.....	5.9%

Sunfish/Sailor .....	.....		.....		16 .....	.....
Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue).....	2.....	21245.....	1518.....	14.....	.....	87.5%
Chris Spratt (Blue/Green).....	DNS.....	4334.....	1445.....	3.....	.....	18.8%
Brad Davis.....	DNS.....	2888.....	1444.....	2.....	.....	12.5%
Stewart Spratt.....	DNS.....	18676.....	1437.....	13.....	.....	81.3%
Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow).....	DNS.....	21465.....	1431.....	15.....	.....	93.8%
Peter Soldato.....	1.....	17165.....	1430.....	11.....	.....	68.8%
Bob Cassady.....	DNS.....	12349.....	1372.....	9.....	.....	56.3%
Sandy Vitale (White).....	DNS.....	11966.....	1330.....	10.....	.....	62.5%
Herb Cleveland.....	3.....	18052.....	1289.....	14.....	.....	87.5%
Chris Lintner.....	6.....	1225.....	1225.....	1.....	.....	6.3%
Bill Butler.....	4.....	13081.....	1189.....	11.....	.....	68.8%
Camille Butler.....	7.....	18729.....	1171.....	16.....	.....	100.0%
Bob Niezgodski.....	DNS.....	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.

### Welcome to Jaywalker



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# — Dana on Drugs —

## Is your blood pressure med making you cough?

By **Dana Soldato**, PharmD

**H**igh blood pressure is the most significant risk factor for cardiovascular disease. Your risk of stroke, heart attack, heart failure, kidney failure, or early death has a direct correlation with your blood pressure. High blood pressure ruins your eyes, your kidneys, your brain, and your heart. For this reason, there are multiple medications and multiple mechanisms that are utilized to reduce high blood pressure. Most people with high blood pressure are on multiple medications to lower their blood pressure.

To lower blood pressure, doctors commonly prescribe a medication known as an “ACE Inhibitor”. ACE inhibitors are inexpensive, well studied, and proven to lower morbidity and mortality! Examples of ACE inhibitors are lisinopril, ramipril, enalapril, captopril, quinapril, moexepiril,trandolapril, perindopril, fosinopril, and benazepril (ACE inhibitors always end in “pril”). Anybody with diabetes or a history of heart attack, heart failure, or stroke will be on an ACE inhibitor (unless contraindicated).

ACE inhibitors work to block a step in the “Renin-Angiotensin-Aldosterone-System (RAAS)”. Your kidneys are the major player involved in this mechanism. Cells within your kidneys release a substance called “renin”. Once renin is released by the kidneys, a “Rube Goldberg-like” reaction occurs resulting in elevated blood pressure. ACE inhibitors were designed to block a step in this pathway! The exact step that is blocked is the conversion of Angiotensin I to Angiotensin II. This step utilizes a catalyst called (I bet you can guess it)...“ACE”. By blocking ACE, you block essential steps for raising blood pressure. However, ACE is not solely used to catalyze the reaction used for increasing blood pressure. ACE is also needed for the metabolism of bradykinin. This is significant because elevated bradykinin levels make you cough.

The cough that results is a dry, tickly, persistent cough that occurs anywhere from a few days to a few months after initiation of the drug. This bothersome cough occurs in 1-10 percent of people on ACE inhibitors

and is more common in women, African-Americans, Chinese, and those with a history of heart failure. The cough will disappear 4 days to 4 weeks after stopping the medication.

If you experience a cough while on an ACE inhibitor, do not stop the medication—just be sure to let your doctor know! Your doctor can prescribe a different medication known as an ARB (Angiotensin Receptor Blocker). “ARB’s” directly block angiotensin II (see above), leaving ACE available for bradykinin metabolism. ARB’s end in “-sartan” and before 2010, none were available generic. Now, we have 5 generic ARB’s (valsartan, candesartan, irbesartan, telmisartan, losartan) making these drugs affordable!

To summarize, ACE Inhibitors are medications that are used to lower blood pressure. They work by blocking an enzyme called ACE which is involved in the blood pressure pathway. However, by blocking ACE, ACE Inhibitors interfere with the metabolism of bradykinin. Elevated bradykinin results in a persistent dry, hacking cough. To stop the cough, stop the medication, but tell your doctor first!

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- \* Call for all lake property requirements

**FIREWOOD AVAILABLE**

# YOUR HOROSCOPE

**Aries (March 21-April 19)** Your energy right now is party city all the way. No matter how hard you're working, your focus is on fun, entertainment and having a good time. Love affairs, romantic liaisons, playful activities with children, games, puzzles and pranks are all things that intrigue you now. This is the perfect time for vacation.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20)** It's rare to have such a planetary emphasis on home and family the way it's happening right now for you. For some, this focus might primarily be on family events. It could be about a new family arrival, marriage, birth or adoption. Family arguments and peacemaking. Reunions and get-togethers. Family members pulling together to achieve something.

**Gemini (May 21-June 20)** Life is unfolding at a fast pace for you, but you don't mind. You're eager to talk to others, and when you do, you will be convincing, attention-getting and entertaining! You have something to say and you want to say it. Not only is this week's planetary energy excellent for verbalizing, it is equally excellent for writing.

**Cancer (June 21-July 22)** "Show me the money!" This week, you're thinking about money and the things that you value. You might wonder if you own your possessions or do they own you? The bottom line is you want to have better control of your life through the things you value and own. Meanwhile, some of you are contemplating a big purchase. In fact, most of you are shopping more than usual; and many of you are interested in beautiful clothes, jewelry and art.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)** You have a strong need to express yourself. You will put a lot of yourself in whatever you have to say and you have a lot to say! Plus your mind keeps jumping from subject to subject. You will also want to travel, especially to see good friends or to take a vacation. Venus, of course, ranks pleasure above work. This is why you are partying more than usual.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** You are working behind the scenes; you're hiding in the wings. You might be doing something secretive or private, and yes, this includes secret love affairs. You are planning something, which is a good idea because your birthday will arrive very soon and you have your whole new year to think about. This is very much a time of preparation for you.

**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** This week, you will enjoy schmoozing with younger people, artistic types, friends and also people in groups - classes, organizations, conferences and conventions. But the important thing to know is that not only will you enjoy interacting with others, all these interactions will benefit you.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** You are making everyone notice you, whether you seek this out or not. Furthermore, you look good to people. Others admire you. They see you as attractive, competent, hard-working and competitive. Conversations with bosses, parents and VIPs will go well. If someone offers you increased responsibilities, or a new position, or a new job - accept this because you will shine!

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** You are the traveler of the zodiac, which means you always want to travel. But this week, you are really itching to go somewhere. If you can't grab a jet, then travel locally. If you can't travel locally, then be a tourist in your own city. Do anything that gives you the thrill of discovery! Some will use this same energy to explore avenues in publishing, the media, medicine and the law.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** You can party with the rest of them, but privately, you never forget the big picture. You intend to be someone. You want respect. And you want security for your future. You'll be happy to know that this week you have wonderful opportunities to secure your future in terms of how you relate to others with shared property, inheritances, insurance issues, debt, taxes, or anything that you own jointly with someone else.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** You are enjoying good success. And yes, nothing satisfies like satisfaction. Note: All the planets now offer you a chance to learn more about your style of relating to those who are closest to you. Take notes.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)** Have you ever noticed that when you have to work, you wish you didn't; but when you don't have work, you wish you did? This week, your focus will be on the work you do and the tasks you set for yourself so that you feel good about how you take care of yourself and make your life work. A work-related romance might begin for some. The overall tone of this week for you is one of self-improvement.

Talk With A Live Person



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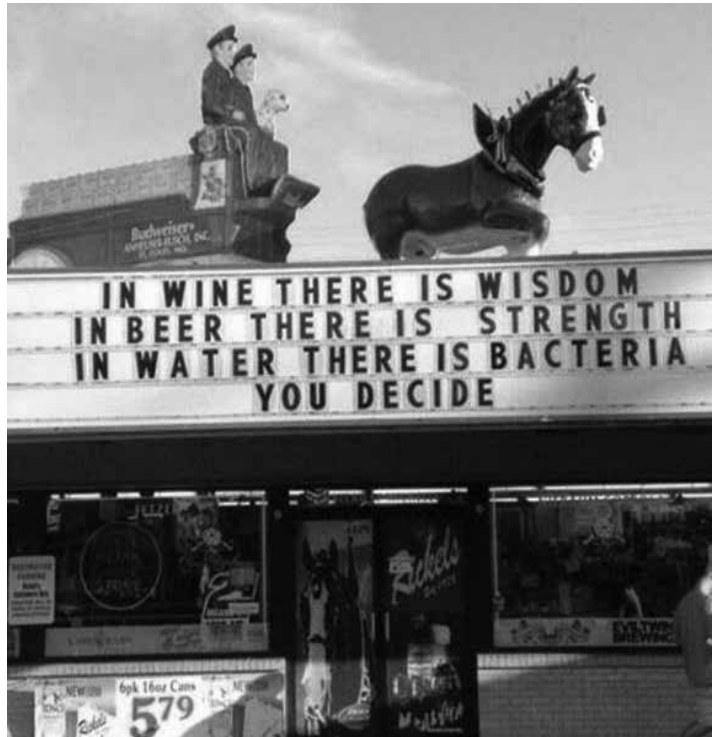
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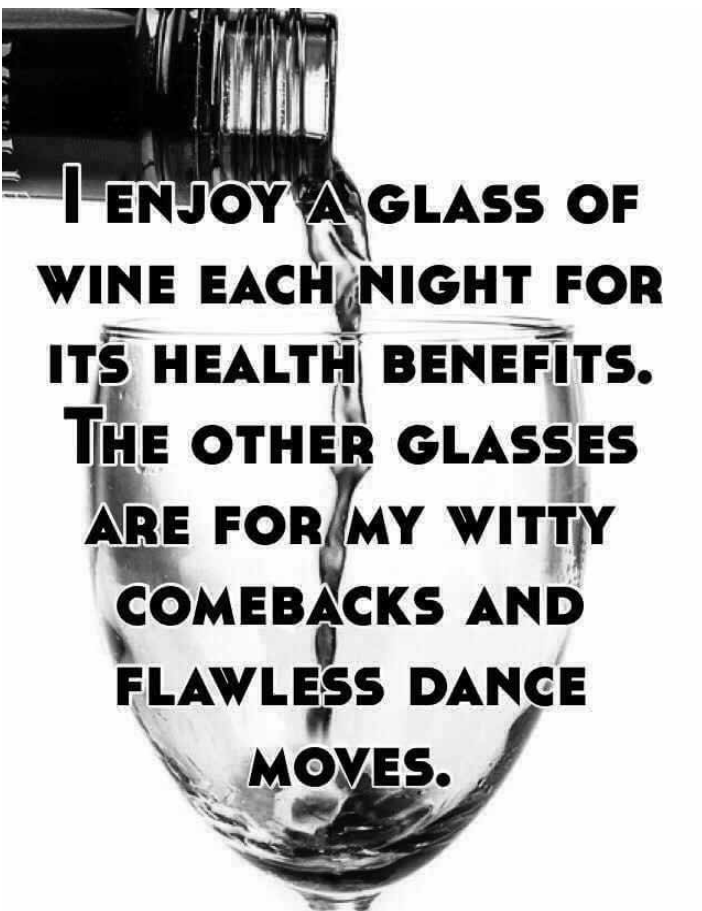
# BIRCH BARKER FUNNIES



Just once I would like to read a medication label that says: **WARNING'** May cause permanent weight loss, remove wrinkles and increase energy."



**SEEMS REASONABLE**



**So when is this 'old enough to know better' suppose to kick in?**



"Hold these. I have to go back for my Wife"



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Sue Williams VComm. (S).....476-8886 smwillia@comcast.net	Harold Cranmer (W).....574-264-6817 dhcranmer@yahoo.com	574-264-6817	PJ Vandewalle (H).....476-7086 pjvandewalle@gmail.com
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# ~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

## Unbelievable Chicken

**"This unusual combination of common ingredients is fabulous! Everyone who tastes it asks me to share the recipe. You will love it and the many compliments you get--I promise!"**

**Original recipe makes 6 servings**

**Ingredients:**

- 1/4 cup cider vinegar
- 3 tablespoons prepared coarse-ground mustard

- 3 cloves garlic, peeled and minced
- 1 lime, juiced
- 1/2 lemon, juiced
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- ground black pepper to taste
- 6 tablespoons olive oil
- 6 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves

**Directions:**

In a large glass bowl, mix the cider vinegar, mustard, garlic, lime juice, lemon juice, brown sugar, salt, and pepper. Whisk in the olive oil. Place chicken in the mixture. Cover, and marinate 8 hours, or overnight.

Preheat an outdoor grill for high heat. Lightly oil the grill grate. Place chicken on the prepared grill, and cook 6 to 8 minutes per side, until juices run clear. Discard marinade.

## Birch Barker Word Search

### NEW WORDS / SLANG IN THE WEBSTER DICTIONARY

Find each of the following words.

FOUNDATION  
DIMWATT  
E-MEET  
HACKTIVITY  
ANTAGONYM  
PUGLY  
CONSEQUATE

SQUARULAR  
DERPY  
PERSPECTIFY  
VOIDOSOPHY  
HESISTANT  
GAWKER JAM  
CYBERMYALGIA

JAMMIFIED  
REDEAL  
DOCUMENTATE  
NAPPETIZER  
ERGOCOACH  
BAFFOONERISH

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

# — Camp Tannadoonah —

## So hard to believe it's over!

It's so hard to believe that this is the very last week of camp already! The summers always go by so quickly at camp, and I look back and feel like I haven't had enough camp to last the rest of the year. I know many of our campers feel the same way.

This past weekend I was talking with some neighbors here at the lake, and they asked me about some of the silly camp songs we sing. In particular, they mentioned that their kids came home from camp singing "Fried Ham" every summer. We still sing "Fried Ham" here at camp! We had a good laugh, remembering the words and goofy verses, and even singing a little together.

They suggested I include the words to "Fried Ham" in this week's article. It's a really silly song, and mostly nonsense. The words are the same every round, but you sing in a different voice or accent each time. The first round is in a normal voice. As you read, try to imagine the kids singing in all the different voices!

*Fried ham, fried ham, cheese and bologna.*

*And after the macaroni,*

*we'll have onions, pickles and pretzels.*

*And then we'll have some more fried ham,*

*fried ham, fried ham!*

*Same song, second verse, English accent, much, much worse... (sing it over again in an English accent)*

*Same song, third verse, Hillbilly accent, much, much worse...*

*Same song, fourth verse, Baby Talk, much, much worse....*

*Same song, fifth verse, Under Water, much, much worse.... (sing while flipping your finger over your lips so it sounds like you're under water)*

*Same song, sixth verse, Football Player, much, much worse.... (they shout this verse)*

*Same song, seventh verse, Pterodactyl, much, much worse.... (sing this verse with your lips pulled over your teeth and don't show your teeth as you sing!)*

We have so many fun, silly songs that we teach the kids, and I know many of them go home singing all the way home in the car. I get emails from parents asking for the correct words to songs they hear their kids singing at home, too!

This past Tuesday we thought we would share some of our music with all the folks here at the lake, by walking around and serenading. The campers had fun stopping at each house and entertaining everyone! And they really appreciated the treats that some people handed out! Thank you for being so kind to our campers.

If you get your Barker on Friday evening, be sure to come out for our candlelight serenade at the lake, sometime after 9pm on Friday night. Or come on up to camp for the last council fire of the season, and our Order of the Birch torch ceremony!

Thank you to everyone on the lake for all that you do to support Camp Tannadoonah every year!

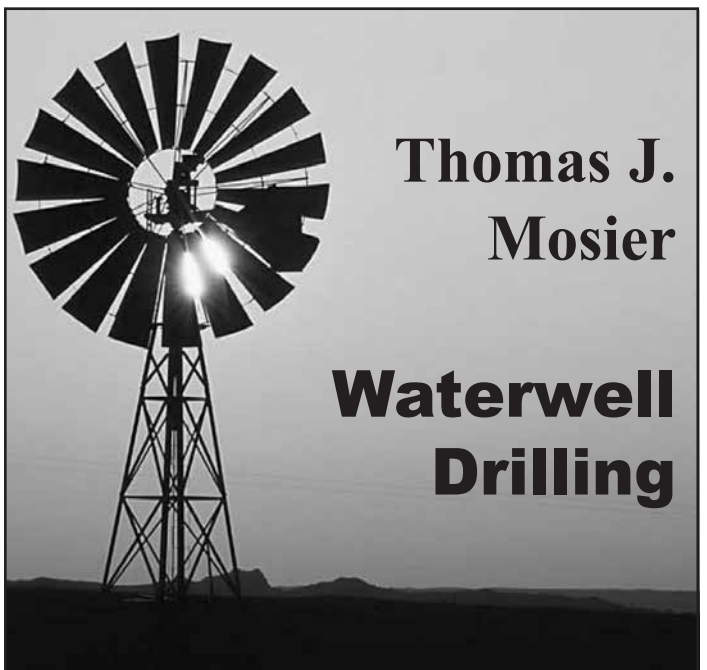
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## MISC.

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

**Red Polywood Adirondack ottoman** blew away during last week's storm. It was probably headed East by Southeast. Please contact JP or Marlow at [jphoyer@aol.com](mailto:jphoyer@aol.com)

## BARKER CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads in the Birch Barker are free to 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](mailto:Sailorphil@philvital.com)



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