



The weekend
Of

Aug. 15
2015

Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the
B i r c h L a k e Y a c h t C l u b



Thanks to Mr. Bob for the nice pic of some lakeside flowers ...

COMMODORE’S COMMENTS

What a shame. Using the outdoor cooker at BLYC only once per year, that is. That cooker has so much potential to turn out fabulous grilled eats. The one time it does get used is for the annual Corn and Sausage Roast that was last weekend. Bernie and Blair Garceau along with a seasoned crew of “tongers” cooked up a feast on Saturday night at BLYC. Thank you to all that attended and volunteered to help prepare, serve food and clean up after the event. You can read more about it in Birch Lake Notes.

Sue Williams did a great job writing last week’s Commodore’s Comments and the week off was a nice respite for me. The recap from the Homeowners Association meeting is a call to action for paying attention for how our sewer system is being abused.

The Birch Lake calendars for 2016 are ready for purchase and only 100 were printed. Linda Yoshizawa worked with Carla Chester, Vicki Rogers and Sue Williams to put this project together since last fall and the finished product looks great. Thank you to all who submitted pictures and to Linda and crew for your work in leading the effort to turn out the finished product. Profits from calendar sales will be used to pay for reclaiming parking spaces at BLYC. Look for more details in the Barker on how to purchase your copy.

The Fall Dinner is fast approaching and this is the last weekend to purchase tickets. See the flyer in the barker for details. Tickets must be purchased in advance so that we have enough food as the caterer needs a final head count early next week. This year the festivities will be held at Camp T. Find out who will replace Sue Williams as Vice Commodore and who receives the 2015

2015 Birch Lake Calendar

Aug 15 Camp T Hog Roast, 5-10 pm
Aug 21Friday Night Flotilla, 5 pm
Aug. 29Fall Dinner, 5:30 Camp T
FRIDAY, Oct. 9 Chili Cookoff

2016

May 14Spring Dinner, Matterhorn
July 2.....Fireworks
July 3.....Fireworks rain date
July 22.....BL Ladies’ Golf Outing
Aug. 6..... 2019 Corn & Sausage Roast

2015 Remaining Board Meetings

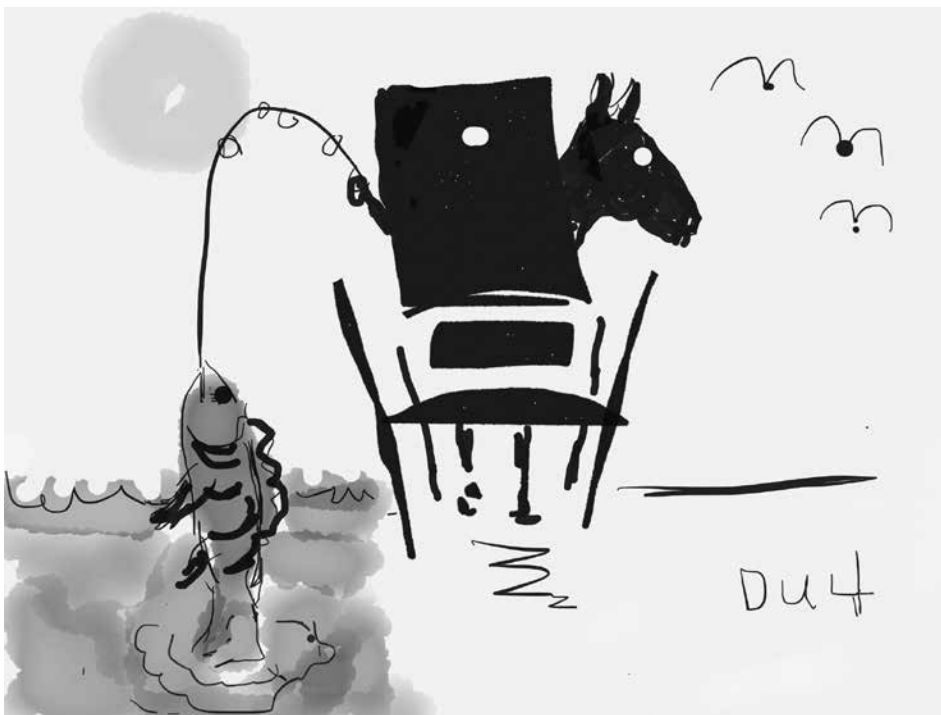
September 5
at BLYC -- Meetings start at 9 am

Dates subject to change.
Watch the Barker for updates!

Commodore Award for continued service to BLYC by attending the event. If you attend the dinner you will be able to congratulate these people in person! We will also recognize volunteers to all

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!

events sponsored and not sponsored (Pancake Breakfast) by BLYC. The number of people who donate their time to Birch Lake is astonishing. I hope to see you there!

Work has begun on reclaiming parking spaces at BLYC. Profits from the Spaghetti Dinner and 2016 Birch Lake Calendar sales will be used to pay for the work being done by Prime

Properties. Mother Nature has slowly and steadily taken away parking areas on the perimeter of the open area we use and we expect to reclaim at least 15 parking spots when the work is complete. The work includes removing six large living and dead trees and their stumps below ground level. Smaller trees, overhanging limbs and brush will also be removed and a shade variety of

grass seed will be planted so we have a safe area to park more vehicles at BLYC events. I am soliciting volunteers to keep the new seed wet to ensure germination of the seed. We also need 400 feet of garden hose to get the job done. See more details on my request in Birch Lake Notes. I'd like to thank Bill Luecht and Rick Russwurm for spending several hours on a Saturday afternoon locating BLYC property lines. Ron Whiteman also helped to ensure we are not trespassing on adjacent property owners to BLYC while doing the clearing.

Unfortunately our sailors had another weekend off from competition as the winds blew elsewhere than Birch Lake last Sunday. Let's hope for better conditions this weekend.

I'll call it quits for this week and look forward to seeing you at Birch Lake ... where every day is an adventure.

~Commodore Fry.

Last Weekend to Buy Tickets

Are you wondering who the next vice commodore will be? Then come to the fall dinner on August 29 and be one of the first to find out! The fall dinner is August 29 at Camp T. See the flyer in this week's Barker for full details.

Call Celia Fallon, Claudia Phipps, Vickie Rogers, Denise Smitley, or Denny Weesner for tickets. No tickets will be sold at the door.

Hope to see you there!

Simply STUNNING

Have you seen the stunning new stamped-concrete compass rose we installed last fall at the Birch Lake Yacht Club?

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— Birch Lake Notes —

Corn & Sausage Roast Thank You Everyone!

We saw a lot of smiles after another successful Corn & Sausage Roast last Saturday. Almost 120 lake neighbors and friends enjoyed perfectly grilled brats from Mills Market in Zimmyville, outstanding sweet corn from a farm in Granger on CR 2, hot dogs and chicken breasts. What a feast! All the meat was complemented by coleslaw, potato salad, green beans, baked beans, cookies, watermelon, lemonade and iced tea.

Thank you to all who made this such a fun event, led by Blair and Bernie Garceau. And a HEARTFELT THANK YOU to the outstanding crew who helped in so many ways: Vickie and Cornmaster Tom Rogers and their grandson Peyton Lapato, Greeters and Cashiers Denise and Jeff Smitley, Gordon and Michelle Seyfarth, Bill and Patty Luecht, Eric and Karen Miller, Patti and Rick Russwurm, Celia and Paul Fallon, Bob Waddle, Steve and Julie Plaia, and Emily, Sue Williams, Julie and Mike Sheffieck. What teamwork! Hope to see you all next year!

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



Thanks to Dana Soldato for the pic of the crop duster that was spraying the field by Kinsey Street last Tuesday ...

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.

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.

BLYC parking area

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

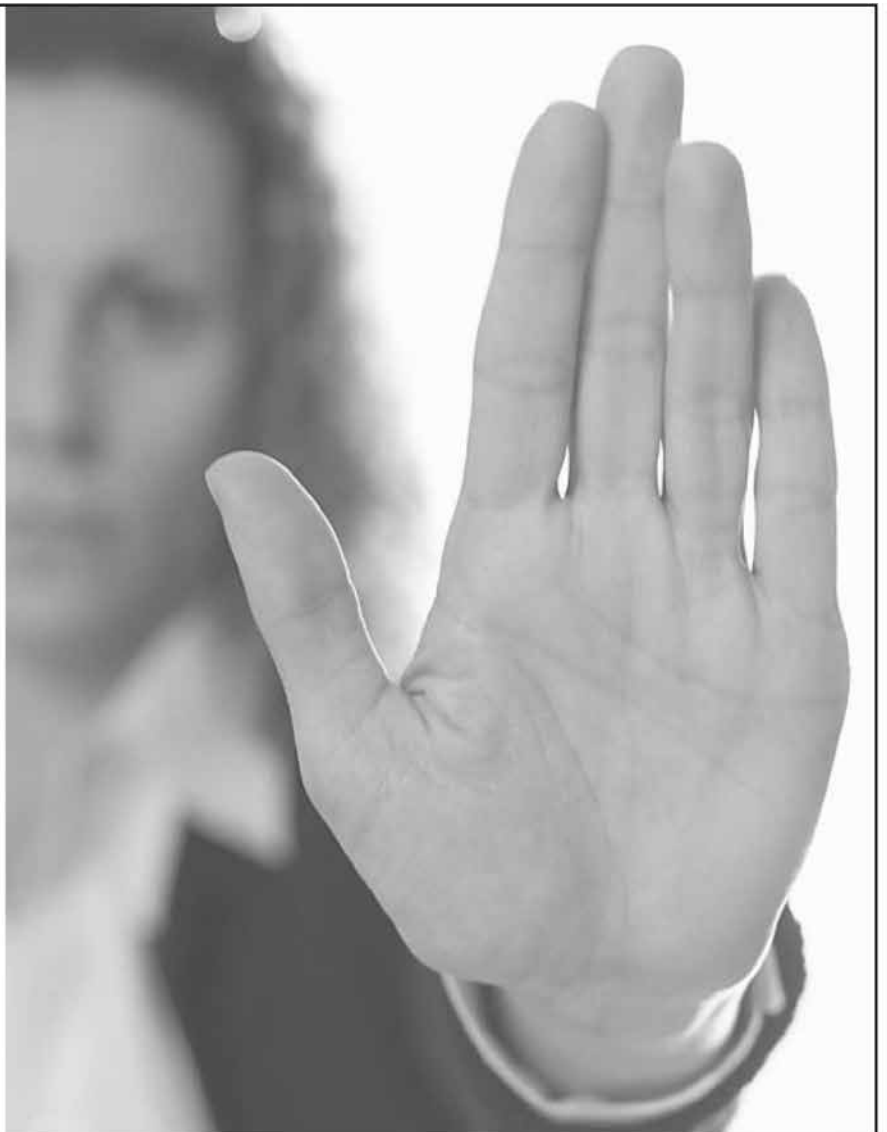
The work is to commence the week of August 10 and will include removing overgrown brush, small and large trees, dead trees, stump removal and planting

SLOW DOWN

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

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

**SPEED LIMIT
15_{MPH}**



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 —

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 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 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.

Pork 'n berries

Long ago, in a galaxy far far away, a rather hip(pie) Professor by the name of Dr. John Barber immersed students in a mundane core class. His lecture series offered what was, at the time, revolutionary multimedia. A musical group called Strawberry Fields supported the Colloquium classroom. Over time the Strawberries developed their own following and performed at various Ball U/ community events.

Those same musicians still gather every now and then due to an enduring friendship

hatched in youth. Now? A bit older, with possibly less hair, or gray hair ... when together ... music happens. The genre leans towards: CSNY, Buffalo Springfield, etc. Expect lightly amplified acoustic sounds of the 70s.

Ever ready to support a good cause, Strawberry Fields will make music at the Camp Tannadoonah hog roast on Saturday, August 15.

Pork 'n berries. Got tie-dye?

The Commodore's Garden

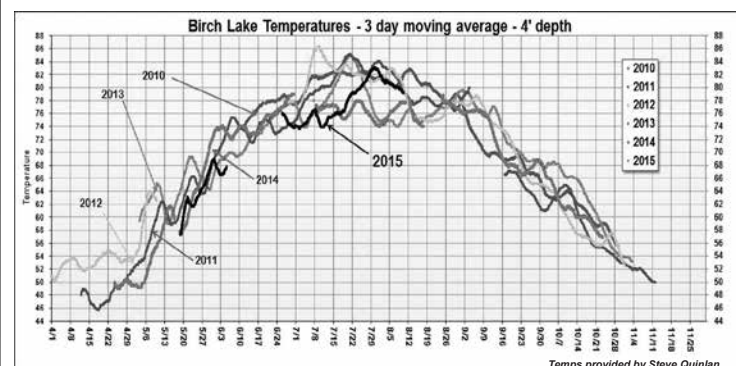
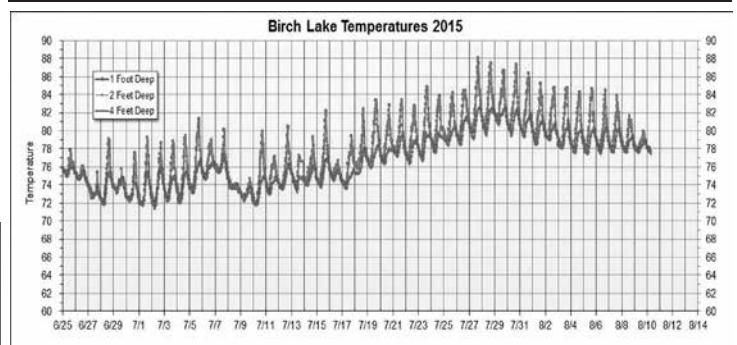
As summer comes into full ripeness an odd requirement for the Commodore is showering thanks on the many who help keep the good ship BLYC going.

The task is too large for any one person but ... many hands make light(er) work and all that. Clearly many helped plan, plant, water and pull a few weeds. Birch is bountiful!

Well done Fry and Carol (and a cast of thousands).

~Chrys A. Lis

Birch Lake Water Temperature



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Corn & Sausage 2015



Photos courtesy of the SparkyCam



Calling all BIRCH LAKE Dogs
To the 2nd annual
POOCH PARADE!

SATURDAY, September 5th

Raindate, September 6th

Registration 10:30 A.m.

Parade 11:00 A.m.

Grand Marshall: Our own local Veterinarian
Duffy DUFOUR

All Birch Lake Dogs and their owners are invited to meet at the Sears Memorial Park boat landing for a Labor Day dog parade celebration. Parking for spectators and participants will be available at designated marked areas on Birch Road and at the landing. After the 10:30 a.m. registration, the parade commences at the boat landing at 11:00 a.m. and proceeds north on Birch Road, ending for the award ceremony at the home of Dennis and Claudia Phipps.

Costumes are encouraged.

All are invited to stay for an after celebration where food and drink will be provided for pooches and pooch parents.

Prizes will be awarded in these categories:

BEST COSTUME
LARGEST DOG
SMALLEST
CUTEST
Owner-PET look alike
Bushiest Tail
Longest Ears
& more

All participants will receive doggy AND human treats!
Participants and spectators are encouraged to donate to the Cass County Humane Society and to the cost of the event. Donation boxes will be along the parade route and at registration.
Spectators are greatly encouraged and may provide water for the dogs.
Bring lawn chairs!

PARADE RULES:

Animals must be current on vaccinations

No aggressive animals or females that are in season

Animals must be on a leash and in control by their owner at ALL times

Pet owners must pooper scoop after their dogs

Parade organizers:

Carla Chester, Linda Curtis,
Claudia Phipps

Note from organizers: Last year we had 19 dogs for the first year! We are hoping to have more this year. We have made changes/improvements. There will be music and all participants will be in single file for the viewing pleasure of the spectators. There will be a celebration after the awards ceremony and complimentary rides back to the landing. For those who are unsure of their dog's behavior, last year the dogs were lively at registration, completely calm during the parade, and in love with each other by the awards ceremony!

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 —



Thanks to Claudia and Dennis Phipps for the photo of the campers on their annual serenade to Birch Lakers ...



*Garden of the week?
The Commodore's garden ...*

Michigan LAKES *and* LAND



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— Barker Kids of the Week —



Parker, Finley, and Macey Gableman enjoy a day at the lake with Grandma and Grandpa Phipps. (north shore)



Andy Karceski (north shore) and his loyal Golden Retriever Fletcher are kids of the week. Fletcher was resting on Sandler's dock when Andy paddled over. Fletcher hopped on the board, and the two of them paddled away. Very Cool!

Thanks to Brad Sandler for the photo

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



Come to Camp T
for the musical stylings of
Strawberry Fields
Aug 15th



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— Barker Kids of the Week —



Twelve year old Texas cousins Camille Carder (Dripping Springs) and Kelly Eichorst (Lubbock) love fishing in Birch Lake. In 30 minutes they caught 30 fish — 13 keepers! They both say "We Luv It" at Birch Lake.



Amanda Butler (west side) enjoying her oversized donut on a warm summer evening.

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— Water Quality Report —

Phosphorus and lawn fertilizer

For many years, to her credit and our benefit, Gert Temple found and maintained a supply of phosphorus-free fertilizer in the hope that lake residents who chose to fertilize would only do so without adding phosphorus to our lake's ecosystem. Phosphorus is already, in almost all cases, in an excessively abundant supply.

While most growing plants don't need more phosphorus than what is already available to them in their habitat, submerged plant systems require some 1,000 times less phosphorus than those above ground to stimulate a comparable amount of growth. There is already phosphorus present in many forms of the submerged vegetation itself as well as in the sediment at the lake bottom. Too much phosphorus will cause algae and weeds to grow wildly, choke up the waterway and use up large amounts of precious oxygen. The result may be death of many fish and aquatic organisms. This unnatural accelerating process, "cultural eutrophication", is due to, among other things, man's addition of phosphorus to, and stirring up of phosphorus-laden sediments at the bottom of, the water.

Phosphorus was a key ingredient of widespread algae blooms in western Lake Erie last August that disrupted

water supplies to 400,000 people.

Now the Good News! As the dangers and risks associated with phosphorus became better known, earlier in this decade a number of Great Lakes States, including Wisconsin and Michigan, outlawed the use of phosphorus in lawn fertilizers. (There are two specific exceptions: for fertilizing a new lawn and/or to treat lawn areas whose soil has been tested and found to be phosphorus deficient.) As a result, all the national fertilizer manufacturers eliminated phosphates from their typical fertilizers.

I looked up a dozen or so common lawn fertilizers on the internet and found only one that contained any phosphorus.

Indiana did not pass such a law.

Whenever the state chemist is asked by a legislator for assistance in writing such a ban, the chemist does some research and reports that lawn fertilizers containing phosphorus are virtually non-existent throughout the State of Indiana. So while it would be extra insurance to check the fertilizer you buy and make sure its middle number, the one representing the phosphorus content, is zero, be assured that probably it will be, and that your lawn fertilizer probably won't by itself bring any more phosphorus into our Birch Lake.



It is still preferred that all fertilizers, even those without phosphorus, be kept out of and away from the lake. If you must use it, please respect a 10', 20' or more buffer from the water's edge. If you utilize a landscaper or other fertilizer applicator, please make sure they avoid phosphorus fertilizer and keep all fertilizers from one day washing into our lake.

Thanks again to Gert for her pioneering wisdom and efforts on our Lake's behalf for all those years. In this regard the world has caught up to her and made largely unnecessary the stocking and sale of special phosphorus-free fertilizers for lake residents.

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STU'S STAR STUFF



Slob spawns Perseid meteors to shower ...

Like all comets, Swift-Tuttle is a bit of a slob. As it loops around the Sun, some of its icy surface vaporizes, releasing bits of rock and dust into space. The comet dust spreads out along Swift-Tuttle's orbit, forming clumps of debris.

That's a good thing for those of us here at the lake who like to watch the night sky, because those clumps turn into the Perseid meteor shower, which is underway for the next few nights.

Every year at this time, Earth crosses the comet's orbit. Grains of dust streak into the atmosphere at tens of thousands of miles an hour. They vaporize, forming the streaks of light known as meteors or shooting stars.

Just how many meteors will streak across the sky in a given year depends in large part on where Swift-Tuttle is. More material congregates near the comet, so the Perseids are better when Swift-Tuttle is close by.

It was closest to the Sun in the early 1990s, so the Perseids put on some great displays back then. But today, the comet is far away from the Sun, and the stream of comet dust is thinning out, so the Perseids aren't quite as busy.

Even in down years, though, the Perseids put on a pretty good show. This year, for example, you might see a couple of dozen meteors per hour. The view is enhanced because the Moon is a thin crescent, and it doesn't rise until a couple of hours before dawn. With no moonlight to overpower the faint meteors, the Perseids are well worth a try this weekend.

What else?

The stars that aren't shooting all look like they're fixed on the dome of the night sky; they don't change position from night to night, or even century to century. But that's only because they're so far away. In reality, the stars all streak around the galaxy like race cars on a dry track. (We've talked about our motion through the universe before, right?)

Consider Betelgeuse, a bright orange star that stands to the lower right of the Moon at dawn tomorrow.

The star marks the shoulder

of Orion, the hunter. It's held that spot since long before people began drawing the constellations. And it will stay there for tens of thousands of years longer.

Yet Betelgeuse is moving in a hurry. Just how big of a hurry depends on how far away from us it is. A space telescope designed to measure stellar distances found that Betelgeuse is about 640 light-years away. But other measurements say there's a lot of uncertainty in that number.

If the distance is 640 light-years, then Betelgeuse is moving away from us at more than 50,000 miles per hour, or nearly 14 miles per second.

Despite that quick pace, Betelgeuse won't disappear from view anytime soon. It's one of the biggest, brightest stars in our region of the galaxy. Sometime in the next million years or so, it will explode as a supernova. It'll still be so close to Earth that it will shine

as brightly as the full Moon for several weeks. (Like Mars does every summer when the internet gets a fancy to have it do so). After that, it'll spend many months fading away and eventually disappear in the depths of the Milky Way.

I'd recommend not staying up waiting for that part of the show. Take a peek at the rest of the show during the pleasant summer evenings we've been enjoying here at the lake and I'll pick up the tab. Buy me a beer next time we cross paths.

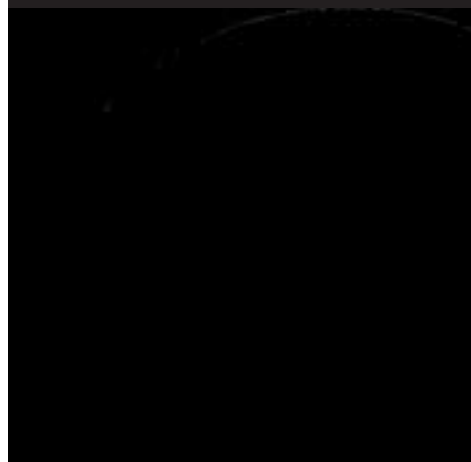
*~Stu Spratt
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more than
51 Years at
Birch Lake*

The Moon for this Saturday

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

Illuminated Fraction: 0.026

1.7 days since NEW MOON



Sunrise: 6:51am

Sunset: 8:46pm

Moonrise: 7:52am

Moonset: 9:09pm

Day length: 13h 55m

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FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER



Another windless wash-out ... :(

Well, another week with virtually no wind ... At 11 am there wasn't enough of a breeze to even set a proper course let alone to try to sail one.

We hear from Bad Patty that the crew was on hand and ready to man (or to "woman") the committee boat, but, alas, nada wind.

Thanks anyway crew.

As always, we'll watch the weather this Sunday around 11 am to see if we've got enough for a race ...

Until next week ... Splice the mainbrace.

~"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	5	16629	1109	15	93.8%	

*Due to a technical error the results for the Sunfish fleet that were printed in last week's Barker were incorrect. Here is the corrected data.

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 —

How to treat low blood sugar

By **Dana Soldato**, PharmD

Anybody who is diabetic, or cares for someone who is diabetic, should know how to treat low blood sugar. Causes of low blood sugar include too much insulin, skipping a meal, eating less than usual, excessive alcohol consumption, or increased physical activity. A person is considered to have “low blood sugar” if they give a blood sugar reading that is less than 70 mg/dl.

Recognizing the symptoms of low blood sugar can allow for early treatment. Symptoms of low blood sugar include dizziness, tremor, heart palpitations, sweating, tingling of lips/tongue, headache, mood changes, irritability, blurry vision, fatigue, and difficulty concentrating. If symptoms are not recognized in time, blood sugar could drop dangerously low resulting in loss of consciousness, seizures, or death.

The Rule of 15

To treat low blood sugar, simply follow the “rule of 15.”

First, the person being treated should ingest 15 grams of quickly dissolving carbohydrates. Examples include regular soda (diet soda will not work), orange juice, 1 tablespoon of table sugar or honey, 4-5 glucose tablets, etc.

After eating 15 grams of carbohydrate, wait 15 minutes, and recheck blood sugar. If blood sugar is still less than 70, repeat the procedure. Continue this technique of eating 15 fifteen grams of carbohydrates and waiting 15 minutes until blood sugar is above 70 and symp-

toms resolve.

Extra caution should be taken for diabetics who are on a “beta blocker,” as these can mask the symptoms of low blood sugar, making it more difficult to recognize.

Beta blockers are medications that work to lower your blood pressure and heart rate. Beta blockers end in “-lol,” and include metoprolol, bisoprolol, timolol, carvedilol, atenolol, propranolol, nebivolol, nadolol, and acebutolol.

Luckily, there is one symptom of low blood sugar that is not masked by beta blockers : sweating/clammy hands. Diabetics on beta blockers should check their blood sugar as a precaution if sweating, or clammy hands are noticed — it could be a sign of more than just nervousness!

In conclusion, if you are a diabetic experiencing symptoms associated with low blood sugar, follow the rule of 15, and your blood sugar will shortly return to normal.

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Aries (March 21-April 19) You will either improve your existing job, or get a better job. Whatever happens, you will like your duties and job conditions more; and your evil boss will be transferred to Transylvania. If you're retired, it means that whatever you work at, you will achieve greater satisfaction and a sense of fulfillment. The only downside is it can cause you to gain weight.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Good news, changes will bring you boundless opportunities to express your creativity and artistic talents and make you fearless and courageous about showing the world who and what you really are. You will take a vacation in the next 12 months, and you will also enjoy your relationships with children, the entertainment world, the hospitality industry and sports. Your life will become more fun loving and romantic.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) An interesting year ahead awaits you — your home life improves in a lovely way. You might move into bigger digs, or for some reason, feel richer where you live. Your home might feel bigger and more affluent. The year ahead is an excellent time to explore real-estate speculation and real-estate opportunities whether for a residential move or financial gain.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) In the coming year, you will be happier. Your relationship with siblings and neighbors will improve. You will have a chance to get further training in a field that interests you. Your outlook will be more upbeat and optimistic, which, in turn, means your plans for the future will be larger and more expansive.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) You have the best chance since 2003 to boost your income. Not only will you earn more money, but you will spend more money and buy yourself beautiful things. You will magically be able to manifest what it is that you most value in life. With little effort, you will move in the direction you want to go. Your relations with powerful people will improve.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) In the big picture, it's the beginning of a new 12-year cycle of growth in your life. (I cannot tell a lie - it will promote weight gain.) It will make you feel extravagant, and perhaps, encourage you to overdo something or overreach yourself. Relationships with others will improve along with your self-confidence and sense of poise. Not too shabby.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) This week will enhance and encourage your exploration of your inner world and your view of spirituality. In the next 15 months, you might seek out teachers and go to classes related to meditation, yoga, or any mind discipline that benefits you. You will find it easier to look around you with greater compassion and empathy,

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Your popularity rating is going to soar in the coming year because friends, groups and associations will become a bigger part of your life. As you become more involved in these clubs and groups, naturally, you will meet more people. In addition, you will deepen your existing friendships. Along with this increased popularity, you will find that your idealism is also increasing.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) This week your career and your reputation, all of which will shine in the eyes of your peers. Yes, this is your turn to put your name up in lights! Expect kudos, applause, acknowledgment and promotions because this is traditionally the time of success. Not only will you feel confident, this is actually one of the few times in your life where you will really be in touch with what you can do.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) No matter what you do, or if you are retired, travel in the next 13 months. Keep a go-to bag packed by your door. You will also be more fascinated with religion, politics and the cultures of foreign countries. This is an excellent influence for financial matters; as well as making your surroundings more elegant.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Lucky, moneybags, your partner might earn more money, which indirectly benefits you. Or you might receive an inheritance. Or you might get money back from the government. If you have recently been through a time of physical or psychological stress- this will be a time of healing for you now.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) All your close friendships and partnerships with others will hugely improve. Not only does this favor the formation and maintenance of partnerships - including marriage - it means that others will help you. It's also an excellent time to reach out for professional assistance from a counselor, astrologer, doctor or lawyer because your association with others benefits you.

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BIRCH BARKER FUNNIES

Southern Word of the Week

DOOHICKEY

An object or thing whose name you do not know or have forgotten.

Other variations include whatchamacallit and thingamajig.



"Runners to your mark. Get set. Go! ... OK, come get your T-shirts."

Young enough to know
I can.
Old enough to know
I shouldn't

Stupid enough to do it
anyway!



THESE LIONS GET KILLED EVERY YEAR



AND NO ONE BATS AN EYE

DURING AN ARGUMENT GIRLS BE LIKE



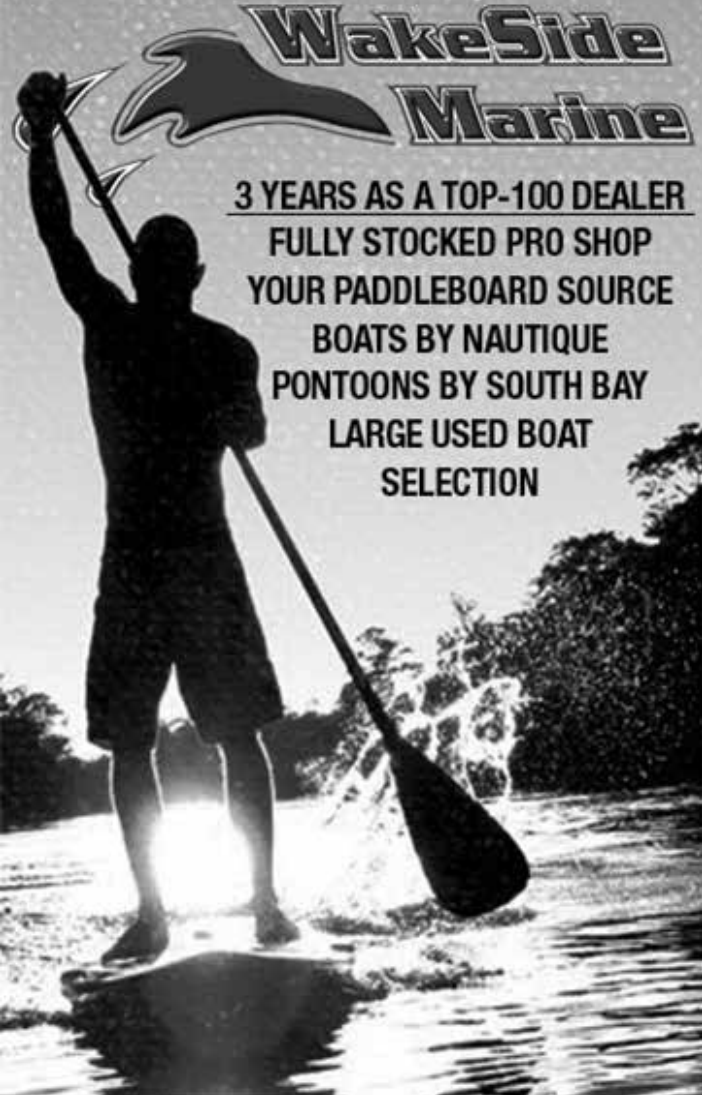
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~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

Grilled Parmesan Zucchini

This is a summer favorite at my house. So easy and tasty, and complements steak, ribs, chicken or fish. By the way, these can be done in the oven under the broiler as well.

Original recipe makes 4 servings

Ingredients:
3 zucchini

3 tablespoons butter, softened
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley
1/2 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese

Directions:
Preheat an outdoor grill for medium-high heat, and lightly oil the grate.
Cut the zucchini in half crosswise, then slice each half into 3 slices lengthwise, making 6 slices per

zucchini.
Mix the butter, garlic, and parsley in a bowl, and spread the mixture on both sides of each zucchini slice. Sprinkle one side of each slice with Parmesan cheese, and place the slices, cheese sides up, crosswise on the preheated grill to keep them from falling through.
Grill the zucchini until the cheese has melted and the slices are cooked through and show grill marks, about 8 minutes.

Birch Barker Word Search

NEW WORDS/SLANG IN THE WEBSTER DICTIONARY

Find each of the following words.

ENCROSION
ADMINISTRIVIA
MENSIVERSARY
TORMENTOUS
UPSTANDER
ULTRACREPIDARIAN
AWESOMISH

DESTINASIA
THREEK
PROTAGONICIDE
UNCONCLUDABLE
COMPONENTIZATION
EBAYABLE
MINECRAFTOLOGY

CROWDSALE
DUSTICLES
PARAPROSDOKIAN
ACIDATION
DADLY
VERBALOGICAL

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

— Camp Tannadoonah —

It was a great summer!

We've wrapped up the summer at Camp T and everyone has headed back home. It was a great summer, with a grand total of 847 campers for the year. The final 3 weeks of camp had picture-perfect weather, too! We loved all the sunshine and warm weather after starting off the season with lots and lots of rain and storms.

We spent Sunday afternoon moving all of our stuff home from camp, and unpacking, doing laundry, and getting settled back in to our house. Sunday night was only the second night we'd slept at home since June! Avery kept saying "it feels GOOD to be at our house!" As much as we all love camp, it's really quite exhausting.

Please join us THIS Saturday to help celebrate a great season of camp, and say thank you to all of our staff, volunteers, donors, and camper families! It's a free event, and there will be lots of great food and drinks, live music, a special "thank you" ceremony, and good company. We'll start at 5 pm, and the ceremony will be around 6:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to stay late and hang out! The event is free, but we do

ask you to bring a dish to share.

We have a busy weekend schedule at camp this fall. After the hog roast this weekend, we have weddings on August 22, September 5, and October 10. The fall dinner will be at camp on August 29. September 11-13 there is a family reunion and also a retreat for some students from ND, September 18-19 is another retreat for some students from Valparaiso, September 25-27 we have a Scout group spending the weekend at camp, and October 2-4 we have our own Fall Camp and Family Camp weekend.

It's really nice to be able to make use of the camp facilities throughout the off season for camp! And it gives us the opportunity to introduce new people to camp, and hopefully they'll send us some new campers next summer. After the October 10 wedding, we start closing things down for the winter, though.

It's hard to believe that this summer has gone by so quickly, but we're already starting to lay out next year's schedule for campers, and plan to launch registration no later than September 1! Last year we had over 100 campers registered for camp by the end

of September.

Every year we start preparing earlier, and this year I hope that people will sign up well in advance, because this past summer we had many weeks that had waitlists. I'd love to have camp all filled up by early spring so that we can focus our energy on preparing for the summer, rather than on recruiting campers.

Next summer's schedule is going to look a little different than in years past, because it's a leap year, and the Fourth of July falls on a Monday. We may actually be able to squeeze in an extra week of camp! Right now, we're planning to start the first session on June 12, and the last session would end on August 13. So we'd have 9 camper weeks instead of 8, giving us more capacity to serve the kids. That would mean staff training would be starting on June 5, and water-front staff would be arriving as early as June 2.

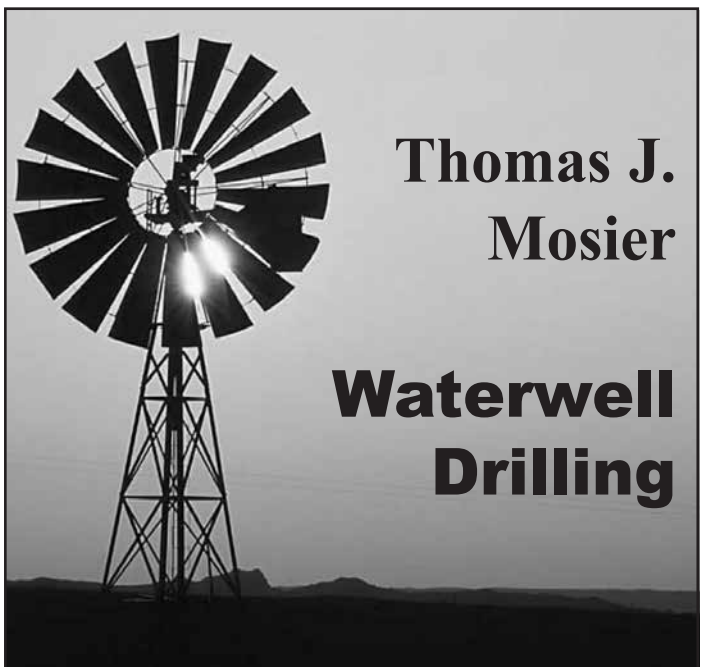
Hope to see you all on Saturday at the Hog Roast!

~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

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

Lost: **Pair of Ladies Glasses.** Please contact Mel Como at 574-850-7964.

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