

The
Weekend
Of

Aug. 10
2019

Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the
Birch Lake Yacht Club



*It's that time of year where the Mullin / Smitley daisies on the north shore are a photographic treat.
Thanks to Mr. Bob (King, north shore) for the great pic ... you ought to see it in color!*

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Hello Birch Lakers.

What a beautiful weekend, last week was. Let's hope it continues to get better.

We only have a few weeks left of Summer which is so sad. The other day, I was picking at my flowers and I was reminded of why we should love the lake. I heard a dad and his daughter early in the morning, he said, "Ready?" She replies, "Yep!" He retorted, "Have Fun!" And with that a moment of clarity was provided. After our August board meeting, I was wondering why? The meeting was less than positive. So my hope for the next commodore is for everyone to be helpful and be able to apply reason and critical thinking when we have problems that arise. We work together to make the lake better. Most of all we remember, most of the volunteering done on the lake is to make sure we have fun. The Spring Dinner is the kickoff for Fun to begin! The

Spaghetti Dinner is a fun event to raise money for water quality! The Vice Commodore / Commodore party is a fun event to get to know each other! The Boat Parade is a Fun event to get the kiddos out with their parents and grandparents to decorate their boats! The Fireworks are a Fun party in the sky! The Pancake Breakfast is a Fun way to contribute to the camp. The Corn and Sausage Roast will be Fun this weekend, where everyone will get a chance to fill their tummies. The Fall Dinner coming up, will be a fun end to the summer. So every time we have the urge to not volunteer or complain, maybe we should consider we are doing this for Fun. To build on our community and hopefully to provide some fun for our families and friends.

Please come to the corn and sausage this weekend! Lastly, please be sure to show your support for Pat McGann and attend the Fall Dinner at the yacht club on August 17, 2019.

Be kind to one another, and have some fun before the summer ends!

~Commodore Angela

2019

Birch Lake Calendar

August 10 - Ceremony to scatter the ashes of Kerri O'Brien, Camp T, 3 pm

August 10 - Corn & Sausage Roast, BLYC, 5:30-7:30 pm

August 17 - Homeowners Association annual meeting following board mtg.

August 17 - Fall Dinner, BLYC, 5:30 pm

August 25 - Retirement celebration for Fr. Richard Conyers, Camp Eberhart, following 10 am mass

October 19 - Crockpot Challenge, BLYC

BLYC Board Meeting: August 17; 9 am
September meeting TBA

More info as available. Watch for updates!

Corn & Sausage Roast August 10 - It's Here!

Today is The Day! It's time to gather your families and neighbors for the annual Corn & Sausage Roast. From 5:30 to 7:30 pm on Saturday at the Yacht Club we'll be serving delectable

The Birch Barker is always accepting materials for publication. E-mail materials to sailorphil@philvitale.com, mail them to me or put the items in the stone mailbox at 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore). **DEADLINE** for any issue is 3 pm on the Tuesday of the week before the publication.

To contact Editor Phil by phone, call (269) 476-1680. To contact Commodore Angela Bergan, call 561-603-5522 or email berganfsu@aol.com.

— Birch Lake Notes —

meals consisting of your grilled meat choice, roasted corn, a selection of side dishes, cookies, lemonade and iced tea. Get ready for a chicken breast (\$8), bratwurst (\$7) or hot dog (\$4) dinner. (NOTE: We'll only have a limited supply of chicken breasts – arrive early for your best chances to snag one). What a value! Pay at the door – no reservations required! Come hungry, enjoy some summertime favorites, visit with your neighbors and leave happy and satisfied! Hope to see you there!

Thief alert - AGAIN!

Summer's not over and it happened again ... a garage on the south side was robbed this week; thieves made off with a variety of items. **LOCK YOUR CARS; LOCK YOUR DOORS; BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES AND STRANGERS.** If you see something, call 911 if it is an emergency; if it is not an emergency call the sheriff's office at 445-2481.

Thanks to the Race Committee Boat Crew!

Even though the Fleet Captain has forgotten to say "thanks" to the Committee Boat crew (and woefully neglected to provide the requisite case of beer a week to the poor, parched souls), we sailors definitely appreciate all of the valiant efforts of Bad Patty Luecht, Questionable Patti Russwurm and Deb Hall who have handled the grueling job of starting and finishing the races for the season. Here's to you, kids!

Father Richard Conyers retiring

Just shy of 50 years ago, a young priest from Notre Dame celebrated Mass at YMCA Camp Eberhart on Corey Lake in Three Rivers for the first time.

Up until recently, he made the weekly trek between Memorial Day and Labor Day from Chicago to Three Rivers. His mission was to tend to the spiritual needs of what he has affectionately dubbed "our little community." That little community has grown largely due to his devotion, sense of humor

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BLYC Fall Dinner Registration

August 17, 5:30 pm, Birch Lake Yacht Club

Polish Style Dinner catered by the Skillet (So. Bend)

\$25 p/p if you pay by check/cash to Pat McGann
63164 Birch Rd. (east side);

\$26 p/p if you pay online at birchlakeyachtclub.com

Sign me/us up!

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Total amount paid \$ _____

Deadline for reservations is August 12 at noon

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— Birch Lake Notes —

and willingness to share his vast knowledge of religion, art and languages.

Father Rich has advised us that he will be retiring from offering Mass at Camp Eberhart the end of this summer. He will offer his last Mass at Camp Eberhart Sunday, Sept. 2.

In honor of his nearly half century of dedicated service, please join Father Richard Conyers following Mass on Sunday, Aug. 25 for coffee, rolls, remembrances and neighborly fellowship.

As Father Rich instructs at the end of each Mass, "Go forth and spread the

word." Please notify friends and neighbors that might not know of this upcoming celebration.

Birch Lake Book Club

Jeannie Welch will host the August Birch Lake Book Club meeting on August 20 at 7 pm to discuss *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* by Mark Sullivan. Everyone is welcome.

The next book is *Women in Sunlight* by Frances Mayes. Denny Weesner will host.

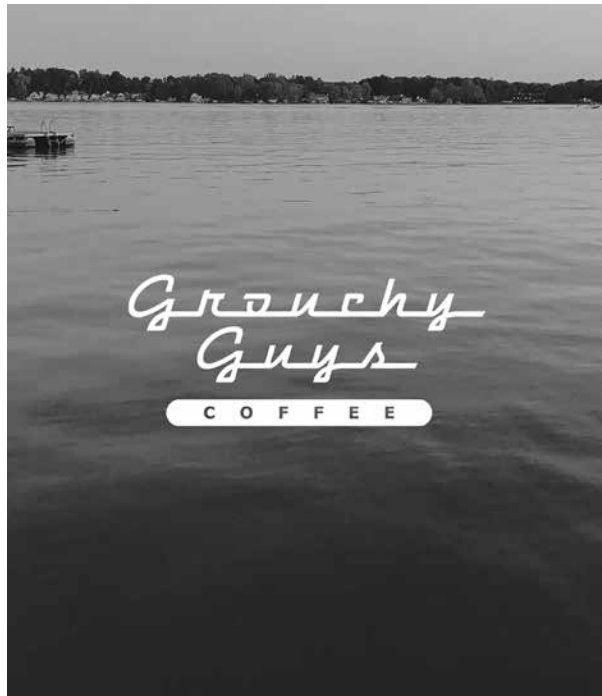
The Birch Barker

The Birch Barker is delivered to your Birch Lake home every weekend through Labor Day - FREE of charge! It is posted online every week at <http://www.philvitale.com>.

The Birch Barker is one of the many things for which your Birch Lake Yacht Club membership dues are used to benefit to the citizens of our lake. If you haven't paid your 2019 membership dues



The rain came down in sheets on Tuesday morning, spoiling the outdoor fun for campers, sailors, fisherpersons and skiers, but providing a much appreciated soaking for the Gerber daisies on our front deck.



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}

Birch Lake Notes

Thanks to Mr. Bob (King, north shore) for the pic of the sea plane that visited at CJ's Fisher Lake Inn last week during his dinner with Les ...



(just \$30 for full members, \$15 for associate members), you can do so with the handy form in every week's Barker or online at www.birchlakeyachtclub.com.

The Birch Lake Yacht Club has a secure website for residents to pay dues, donate to various causes, buy merchandise and pay to attend events. Please note that all fees are slightly higher when paying online. To check it out (or pay your dues), go to: [HTTP://WWW.BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM](http://WWW.BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM)

The Barker welcomes (reasonable) content (remember that this is a family publication and don't send things you wouldn't want your own kids to see). Deadline for submitting items for publication is always at 3 pm on the Tuesday of the week before publication.

The Joy's John at Birch Lake public landing

Despite the objections of multiple homeowners on Birch Lake (including the owners of the properties on either side), the Cass County Parks Department's Joy's John on a concrete pad near the water at the Birch Lake public landing remains. The Parks board of directors has taken the matter under advisement, and has promised to monitor the launch to try to keep out swimmers. **They have asked that residents notify Parks Director Scott Wyman if we see swimmers, by calling him at 445-4456, and if that is unsuccessful, to call the county sheriff's department at 445-2481 to report the activity so they can respond. Alternately, residents can voice their concerns to Skip Dyes, County Commissioner, District 3 at the county building, (269) 445-4420, or at his home, (269) 445-2537, or by Email skipdp@cassco.org.**



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2019 Birch Lake Sailing Results

BLYC Season Standings*

| Date | 28-Jul | 28-Jul | 28-Jul | Total | Race Point | Races | % |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------|----------|----------|
| Race # | 12 | 13 | 14 | Points | Average | Finished | Finished |
| MC Scow/Sailor | | | | | Total MC Races 11 | | |
| Scott Troeger #1489 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 17444 | 1585.8 | 11 | 100.0% |
| Jeff Smitley #2002 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 9988 | 1426.9 | 7 | 63.6% |
| Phil Vitale #500 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 12779 | 1419.9 | 9 | 81.8% |
| Barb Cassady #2506 | 5 | 3 | DNS | 14077 | 1407.7 | 10 | 90.9% |
| Bill Luecht #1579 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 15142 | 1376.5 | 11 | 100.0% |
| Pat McGann #1735 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 14720 | 1338.2 | 11 | 100.0% |
| Harold Cranmer #1991/2550 | DNS | DNS | DNS | 2450 | 1225.0 | 2 | 18.2% |
| Sandy Vitale | 7 | 7 | 6 | 9321 | 1165.1 | 8 | 72.7% |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------------------------------|----|-------|
| Sunfish/Sailor | | | | | Total Sunfish Races 14 | | |
| Tom Cassady | DNS | DNS | DNS | 1521 | 1521.0 | 1 | 7.1% |
| Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue) | 1 | 1 | 1 | 15080 | 1508.0 | 10 | 71.4% |
| Peter Soldato | 2 | 2 | 2 | 16463 | 1496.6 | 11 | 78.6% |
| Pat McGann | DNS | DNS | DNS | 4259 | 1419.7 | 3 | 21.4% |
| Amy Troeger | DNS | DNS | DNS | 7009 | 1401.8 | 5 | 35.7% |
| Steve Frew | 3 | 3 | 3 | 18204 | 1400.3 | 13 | 92.9% |
| Stewart Spratt | DNS | DNS | DNS | 9524 | 1360.6 | 7 | 50.0% |
| Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow) | 4 | 5 | DNS | 17208 | 1323.7 | 12 | 85.7% |
| Herb Cleveland | 5 | 4 | 4 | 18494 | 1321.0 | 13 | 92.9% |
| Bob Niezgodski | DNS | DNS | DNS | 10353 | 1294.1 | 8 | 57.1% |
| Bill Butler | DNS | DNS | DNS | 2381 | 1190.5 | 2 | 14.3% |
| Camille Butler | 6 | 6 | 5 | 11785 | 1178.5 | 10 | 71.4% |
| Bob Cassady | DNS | DNS | DNS | 1089 | 1089.0 | 1 | 7.1% |

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

*We're running the standings again because the fleet captain didn't forgot to write his column this week ...

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— Water Quality Report —

THE "SIX COMMANDMENTS OF BIRCH LAKE WATER QUALITY"

- I. THOU SHALT PREVENT THE SPREAD OF AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS).
- II. THOU SHALT MINIMIZE SURFACE RUNOFF.
- III. THOU SHALT MINIMIZE THE EFFECTS OF WAVES.
- IV. THOU SHALT PROTECT AND EXPAND NATURAL SHORELINES.
- V. THOU SHALT NOT ALLOW PHOSPHORUS, NUTRIENTS, AND OTHER UNDESIRABLE CHEMICAL ELEMENTS TO ENTER OUR LAKE.
- VI. THOU SHALT REMAIN INFORMED AND ACTIVE ABOUT OTHER WATER QUALITY ISSUES.



Mid-summer state of the lake report

At the beginning of the season we report on the data from the past year in order to give everyone an update as to the state of the lake and with that a comparison to previous years. Since it is probably obvious to everyone that the lake has undergone some changes in the past few weeks, especially noted by a dramatic decrease in water clarity, we thought we would provide some information and observations, all related to water clarity.

1. Water clarity as measured by sechi disk readings. Just a couple of weeks ago, the readings were at 19 feet, which we thought were pretty good for mid-July. However, on Friday, August 2, it was 5 feet, which is about as low as we have ever seen it. This is probably a combination of multiple days of glorious sunshine and warming of the water.

This would lead to two things decreasing water clarity. The first is an algae bloom taking advantage of what nutrients are there and the incredible photosynthesis offered by the sun. Since the water was pretty clear, the sun was able to affect algae in deeper depths, thus leading to a mass explosion. In addition to the explosion of algae, the warming of the water increases the precipitation of the calcium carbonates which come into the lake from all the springs which leach this from the limestone under and around the lake.

2. Dissolved oxygen measured through the water column. We do periodic measurements of the amount of oxygen that is dissolved at 2.5 to 5 foot increments from the top to about the 90-foot level in the lake. In the spring the difference is negligible from the top to the bottom as the lake is well oxygenated following the fall and spring turnovers.

As algae grows and dies, it settles on the bottom only to be degraded by the bacteria in the bottom depths. This requires oxygen. As more algae die, more oxygen is consumed creating a distinct change as you go from the top to the bottom. While in the spring oxygen levels are great for any species of fish even at the 90+ foot level, by June this has decreased to 70 feet, and now it is only fairly good to the 40-foot level. This will all reverse with the fall turnover. However, greater productivity leads to a faster decline in the amount of oxygen at shallower depths and this can affect fish habitat. This is a normal process that occurs every year. Birch is a moderately productive lake.

3. Nutrients. Normally in the spring we harp on phosphorous and the need to avoid adding any phosphorous to the lake. That is true in the spring when there is plenty of nitrogen in the lake which is a vital nutrient for building structure in plants and animal (think protein). However, with algae blooms

etc. the nitrogen decreases in the lake and it actually becomes the limiting nutrient in the lake. Thus, at this time of year do not fertilize as that will add nitrogen to the lake due to runoff, and further increase productivity, again further diminishing water clarity. Please wait until fall.

4. Shoreline scores. We are unfortunate that we have a lake in a basin with little area to permit true naturalization of our shorelines to prevent stuff from getting into the lake as well as providing a more natural habitat to allow the natural fauna (fish, frogs, turtles) the best opportunities to procreate and have safe havens from being eaten while little. The stuff getting into the lake maybe somewhat buffered by the fact that we are a high volume lake for its size and this thus initially tempers the impact of all the runoff from, roads, roofs, driveways, and manicured lawns. However, we have to pay the piper at some time, and sooner than if the lake were natural. This is because the same large volume of water that may limit the relative percentage yield of incoming undesirable matter, does not limit the likely relatively large quantities of undesirable matter which will be with us for a very, very long time and could someday overwhelm us.

More on this next week.



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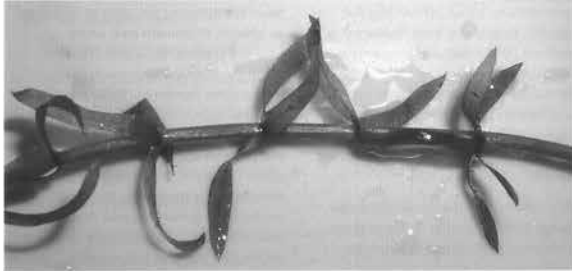
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— Barker Weed of the Week —

Brazilian Waterweed (*Egeria densa* Planch)

Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Description: The leaves of Brazilian waterweed are up to 1.5 inches in length and oblong in shape. They grow in dense whorls, usually four to six leaves at a node on the upper portion of the stem and two to three leaves per node on the lower part of the stem. The plant generally ranges from 1 to 2 feet in length but has been reported to grow up to 20 feet. It produces a small, white flower with three petals above the water. No female plants have been found in the United States, so its mode of reproduction is through fragmentation. It spreads via waterfowl, boats and water currents. Brazilian waterweed, also known as Brazilian elodea, is often sold as an aquarium plant, sometimes under the name *Anacharis*.

Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Habitat and distribution:

Brazilian waterweed can grow in lakes or slow-flowing streams and prefers slightly acidic, nutrient-rich waters. If introduced into a water body, it can form unsightly mats and crowd out native vegetation that grows more slowly. Without its flower, Brazilian waterweed resembles the native plant American waterweed (*Elodea canadensis*), and it is sometimes mistaken for the non-native hydrilla. Hydrilla, however, has one or more spines on the underside of its leaf along its midrib; the other species do not. Brazilian waterweed is native to South America but is found in many states throughout the United States. It has been reported in private ponds in Ottawa County but has not been found elsewhere in Michigan.



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

Control/management: Large infestations can be controlled with herbicides. Fluridone is most effective, but mixtures with diquat or endothal salts with complexed copper mixtures can also be effective. Because it spreads through vegetative

reproduction, harvesting is not generally recommended. Water drawdown may be effective. Aquarium plants should not be discarded into or near a water body.



(On Michigan's prohibited species list)

Source: Michigan State University Extension Bulletin E-3189, A Michigan Boater's Guide to Selected Invasive Aquatic Plants

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— Barker Kids of the Week —



Denny Weesner Bradfield (south side) was joined by a large group of family, friends and well wishers last Saturday night who gathered to celebrate her 85th birthday.



Michelle Seyfarth (north shore) and her college girlfriends from Miami University were here last week for a "girls weekend." The group enjoys Birch Lake so much that it has become an annual tradition for over 10 years!



Congrats to birthday girl Denny Weesner Bradfield, center left, flanked by hubby Jim and neighbor Pat Welsh.



At right is some old guy with a pretty girl (Denny's granddaughter,) Jamie Eshleman, who lives in Denver.

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— Barker Kids of the Week —



Claudia and Dennis Phipps' (north side) grandchildren and friends enjoy hot dogs, s'mores, and Birch lake!



Claudia Phipps (north side) introduces her newest grandchild, Lakelee Jean Marlow!

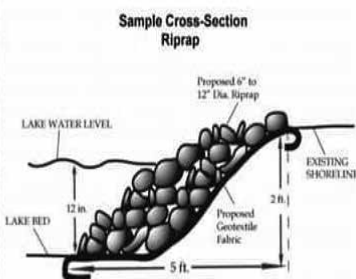
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— Barker Kids of the Week —



Danielle Magro is staying at the home of Bill and Sheryl Magro, and she sent in this great pic ... from left are Tommy Magro, Gianna Magro, Clara Magro, (all from Florida) and Vincent Magro Algarotti and Dominic Magro Algarotti (from Ohio).



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— Barker Kids of the Week —



Bad Patty and Bill Luecht (east side) get KOTW honors for dressing up in their "Sunday go to meeting clothes," so they could attend Bill's 45th High School Class Reunion last weekend.



Sally Kate, and Ann Roger's, twins of Cathleen (Kelly, cove) Hines visiting from Tuscaloosa enjoying the cooling waters of Birch Lake. After enjoying the Cass County Fair.

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Aries (March 21-April 19) - This is a fabulous week because lots of energy is supporting you. This influence urges you to get out and have a good time! Grab every chance to travel and explore more of the world. Relations with partners and close friends will be warm and friendly. New romance might blossom! You'll have warm feelings of peace and harmony with others. You will be quick to see overall patterns that help you make plans with more foresight.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - This week your emphasis on home and family continues to be strong. But it will be a wonderful situation because everything related to home and family will receive benefit in some way. Obviously, this is a great week to entertain loved ones. You might make some important decisions regarding the family or regarding real estate. Whatever you decide will bring you benefit in the future. This is a good time to examine real-estate possibilities, which include renting a new space. Things at work will flow smoothly as well.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) - This is definitely a lively, stimulating, fast-paced week! Many of you will take short trips or visit friends and relatives. Appointments and tasks will also give you a busy schedule. At this time, increased reading and studying are happening for some reason. You will feel happier this week and also more confident about your abilities. Appreciate the beauty of your daily surroundings and be grateful for the affection and love you receive from others.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) - You are focused on cash flow, money, earnings or perhaps it's your assets and belongings. You might be thinking of how to boost your income or take better care of something that you own. You will definitely spend money buying beautiful things for yourself and loved ones. You might also earn money through art or financial investments. Many of you will figure out ways to make more money related to your job.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Life is coming up roses for you this week which makes you feel confident, happy, optimistic and glad to be alive. You will have the energy to accomplish something good and useful for yourself. Resist the urge to sleep a lot and be lazy because this would be a waste of this wonderful influence. This is an excellent week to take stock of what you're doing to see how it fits with your future needs. Great time to take a trip!

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - This will be a pleasantly quiet, content week for you. You will welcome any opportunity for privacy and solitude, especially in beautiful surroundings. It's a great time to have a massage or explore yoga, meditation and any activity that encourages peace of mind and contentment. You might also boost your income or be pleased with a particular purchase. Use this time to formulate goals for your year ahead, which begins with your birthday.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - This week you will be superb when dealing with clubs, groups and organizations because you will be confident, proactive, positive thinking and charming with everyone. This is also an excellent time to formulate future goals, especially if they involve working with others. Test your ideas when talking to someone to get their feedback.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - This continues to be a powerful time for you which makes you look so good in the eyes of others, that they admire you. This is why you might be asked to take on increased responsibilities or be offered an important position. If so, accept! You will fulfill their expectations and dazzle them without doing anything special because you have this advantage. In fact, you look so favorable, some of you will begin a romance with a boss. Make good use of this advantageous time! Don't waste it. ("And your father smells of elderberry!")

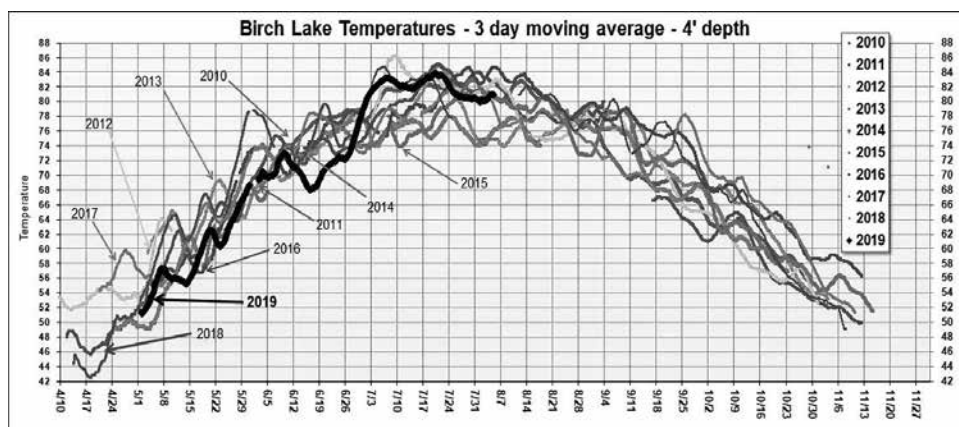
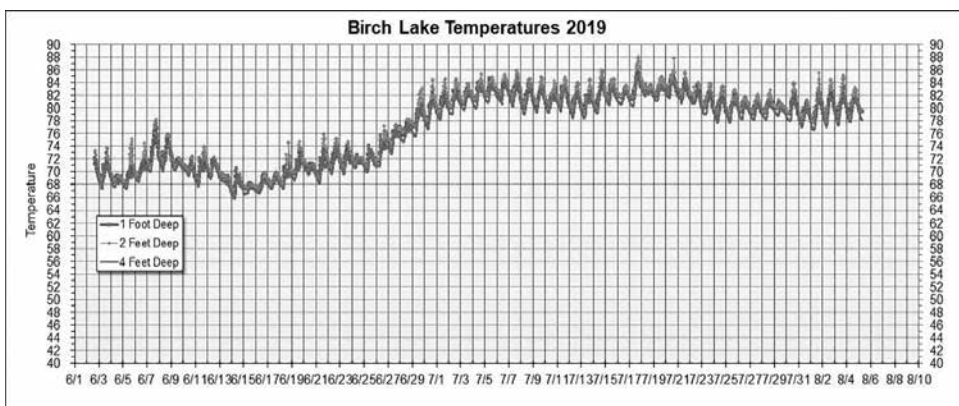
Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - It's a curious coincidence that in addition to travel and studying profound topics, you will find rewards in philosophical discussions and think sessions about how you can grow as a person and be the best that you can be. This energy will promote love and infatuation with people who are different from whom you normally meet. Note: This same influence benefits your involvement in publishing, medicine, the law and higher education.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Admit it, you keep score. This week you are the big winner because you will benefit from the wealth and resources of others. You might benefit from an inheritance, a bonus that your partner gets, a gift from another person, or a favor, or a chance to use something that someone else owns. Interactions with the government and large corporations will also benefit you. In another vein (different arm), your sex drive is amped this week.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - It's a good time to bring certain affairs to a climax. Admittedly, you might encounter people who have ambitions that are inclined to oppose you. Do be careful dealing with superiors and bosses. Your advantage is that whatever takes place will make your individual life stand out in relief against your surroundings and other people. This brings you clarity and insight. You can see your style of relating to others - what works and what backfires. You might see where you are being your own worst enemy.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Your great advantage this week is that you will be incredibly productive! You have lots of energy to work and you will work smart. You will get a lot done. Note that you will be motivated to work. You will also delegate to others, by the way - and they will be happy to help! (It doesn't get better than this.) Meanwhile, your efforts will not go unnoticed. The head honcho will applaud your efforts and reciprocate with praise.

Birch Lake Environmental Data



Temps provided by Steve Quinlan

The Moon for this Saturday

(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)
Illuminated Fraction: 0.836
3.6 days since first quarter



Sunrise: 06:44:04 AM
Sunset: 20:50:38 PM
Moonrise: 17:35:13 PM
Moonset: 02:19:01 AM
Daylight: 14 Hr 06 Min 34 Sec

— Barker Weekly Puzzle —



Scrambled Bartender

How many of these terms all relating to bartending can you unscramble?

SPEANTU _____
 SXIMRE _____
 TECRSOA _____
 TTEBOL _____
 OEEPRN _____
 PROU _____
 LEERBND _____
 RBDENARET _____
 AKOVD _____
 TICUEBKCE _____
 SHAEKR _____
 TRGARE _____
 HOTS _____
 RASMUEE _____
 ELRQUUI _____

TUILAGE _____
 MELUDRD _____
 ILOCCAKT _____
 BDRANY _____
 LLLWBAO _____
 YKWSIHE _____
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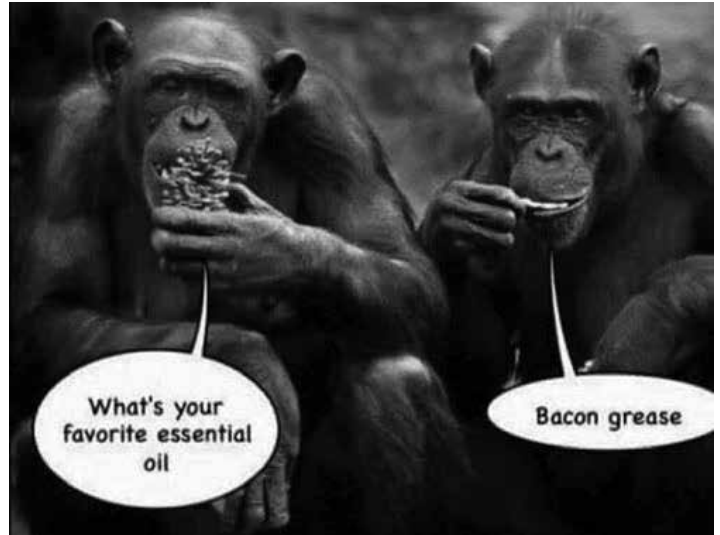
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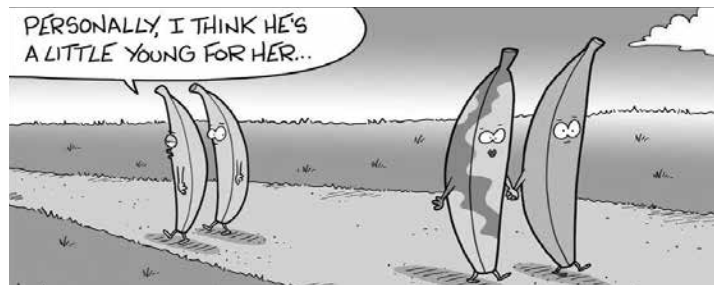
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BIRCH BARKER FUNNIES

Why y'all ask me to press 1 for English, then put bin laden sister on the phone?? 🤔🤔🤔🤔



"Your call is important to us. Please stay on the line until your call is no longer important to you."



Another wine bottle emptied with no genie at the bottom. I'll keep trying.



A new teacher was trying to make use of her psychology courses, she started her class by saying, "Everyone who thinks they're stupid, stand up!" After a few seconds, Little Johnny stood up.



The teacher said, "Do you think you're stupid, Little Johnny?"

"No, ma'am, but I hate to see you standing there all by yourself!"



~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

Broccoli Casserole

From the 2004 Birch Lake Ladies Luncheon Recipe Collection*

by Helen Weesner
Formerly of the Eastside

Ingredients:

- 3 pkgs. 10 oz. frozen chopped broccoli slightly cooked
- 4 cups cream style cottage cheese
- 6 TBLS flour
- ½ cup melted butter
- 1 pkg (8 oz.) Velveeta diced
- Salt and pepper
- 6 eggs slightly beaten

Directions:

Combine everything but the broccoli. Fold the broccoli gently into the mixture. Put into a lightly greased baking pan. Bake at 350 for 45 minutes. Can be topped with buttered breadcrumbs or crushed Ritz crackers.



~Thanks to Denny Weesner Bradfield and Ronnie Eshleman for the recipes ...

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— Camp Tannadoonah —

Order of the Birch awards

It's the last week of camp! That means that this Friday is our annual candlelight serenade at the waterfront, and our final Council Fire ceremony. If you get your Barker in time, we invite you to come up to camp for Council Fire, which begins at 7:30 on Friday evening. It takes place at the stage near the Dining Hall and lasts about an hour. The last Council Fire features camp songs, awards, performances by campers, and a special torch ceremony to honor our Order of the Birch recipients for the summer.

The Order of the Birch is the highest honor that a camper can receive in their time at Camp Tannadoonah. In order to be eligible for the award, they must be going into at least the 7th grade, and have been attending camp for at least 5 years. During the week, they must get up every morning for Polar Bear swim, go to each free choice activity at least once (drama, crafts, nature, gaga ball, sports & games, and archery), show improvement in an activity area, be a model camper, keep their bunk neat and clean, perform a service project for camp, lead sing one

evening, and write a poem, a song, or a speech about what Camp Tannadoonah means to them to present at Friday night council fire.

This summer, we have 14 campers who have earned the Order of the Birch so far, and several others who are working on the award this week. At the conclusion of Council Fire, we will have a special ceremony to recognize their achievement. There will be an honor guard formed by current staff members who have been involved with Camp T for at least 5 years. Each of the members of the honor guard will hold a torch, forming a lighted path for the campers to walk through. They will receive their awards, and recite a pledge, promising to live up to the high ideals set forth for campers who earn the Order of the Birch.

These campers will then lead us to the waterfront for the candlelight serenade. Typically this begins around 9 pm. All of the campers and staff will proceed down the waterfront stairs carrying candles and singing. We will gather on the pier, and place our candles into the lake. As the candles

float in the water, campers and staff will sing to the lake residents who have come out in their boats for the serenade. If you wish to be part of this, please gather outside our swim area around 9 pm!

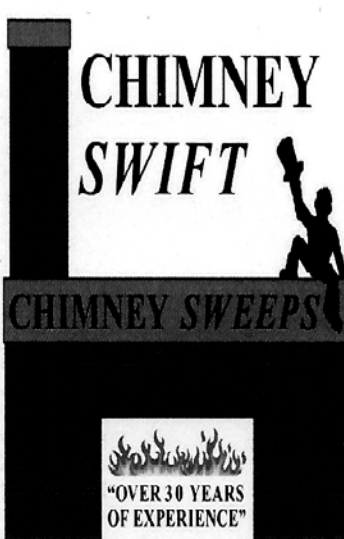
The last Friday night of camp is a really special night for all of us at camp! We are happy to include the residents of Birch Lake in this evening!

We finished the camp season with 1001 total campers!! Which means we exceeded our original goal of 990 campers, and even surpassed our stretch goal of 1000. We're so excited and hope to continue to serve 1000 youth each year for many summers to come.

Now it's onto the fall season, with rental groups, weddings, retreats, and after-school program starting up as soon as camp ends. This Sunday afternoon, we have a church rental coming in with 100 campers and staff for the week. So you'll continue to see activity at the waterfront and hear singing and cheers from camp for another week.

~Miss Amber

amber@tannadoonah.org



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For Sale: **2006 Pontiac Solstice** (2-seat convertible). Only 33K miles, runs great and looks great too! Silver with Black top, 5-speed manual transmission, newer tires. Stored every winter so no salt wounds. Fun car to drive. Sadly selling so I can downsize my 'fleet'. \$9,000 OBO. Call/Text Karen at 574-261-6712.

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4-seater pedal boat for sale. As-is (though we will get her down from the pole barn for test rides). Contact the Kings at 476-2128.

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FOUND
Found: **small red and black Attwood buoy** found in the Cove Sunday, June 23, Call 476-2090

Found: **6x9 Aqua Lily float pad** on the East side on July 19. Call Bob At 269.228.6005.

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- \$ ___ - Sailing Fees (\$15 / year)
- \$ ___ - Building Improvement Fund
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- \$ ___ - Safety Committee
- \$ ___ - Other non-party related expenses
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- \$ ___ - BLYC AED Fund
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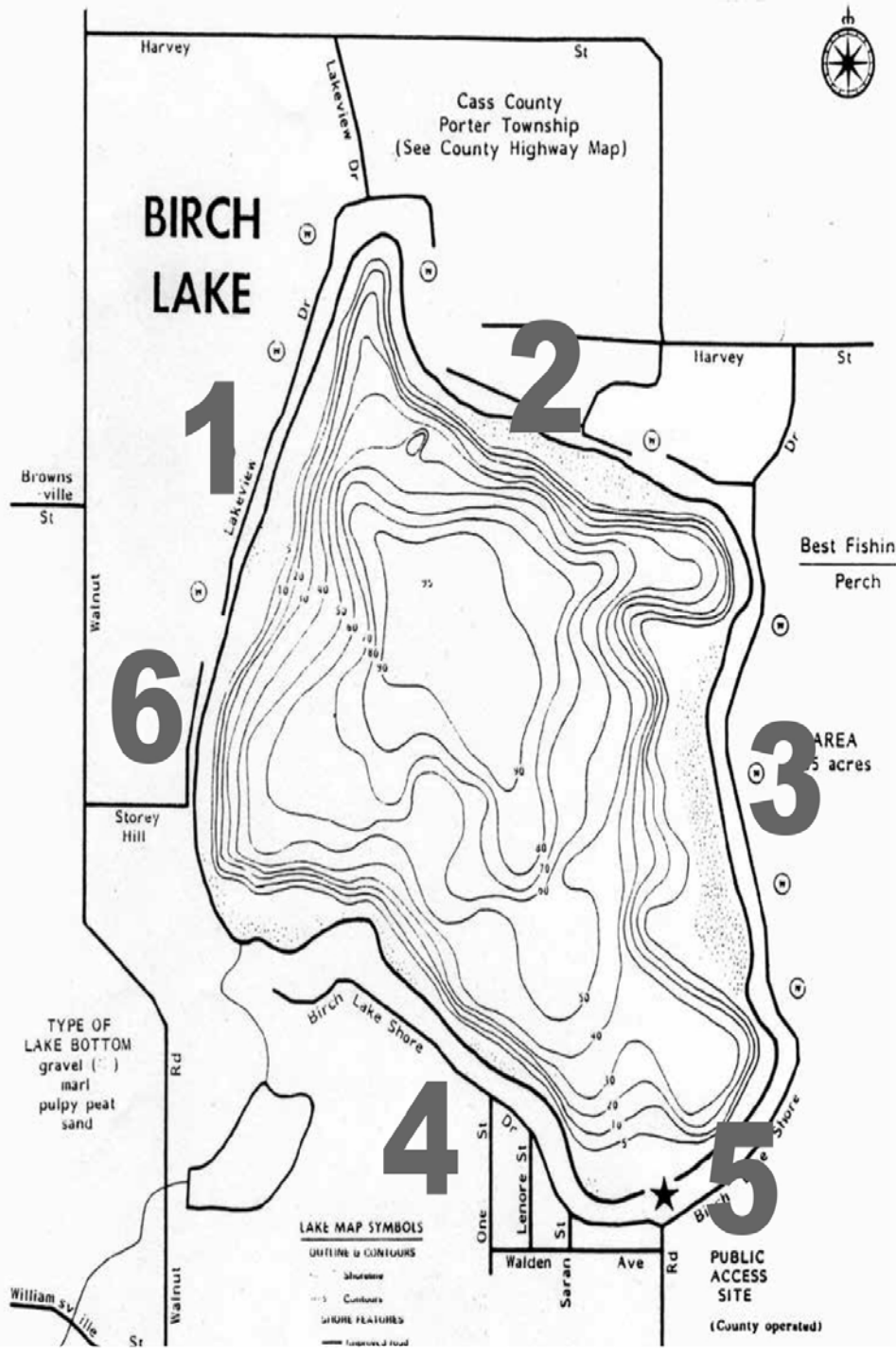
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