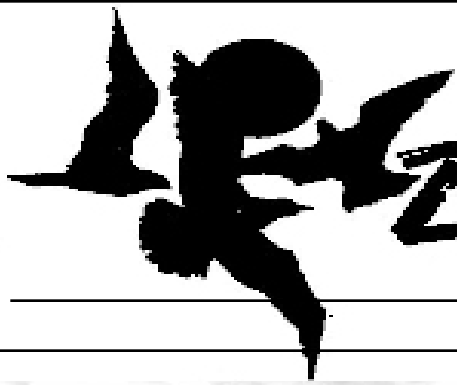


The
Weekend
Of

July 10,
2021



Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the
Birch Lake Yacht Club



Thanks to Paul Marsh (south side) for the great aerial photo of Birch Lake.

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

What a great weekend on Birch Lake for the July 4th activities! The Weather Wand worked well giving us sunny skies, tolerable temperatures and plenty of wind for the sailing fleet. Later in the Barker you will read about each of the goings-on, but I'd like to highlight a few from my perspective. Starting off with the Port-a-Pit cooking and pick-up on my driveway which was efficient and friendly as we were staffed by the Petty's and Karceski kids along with friends from Illinois. If any of the businesses looking for employees would hire this crew, their productivity would increase exponentially. Thanks again, Sarah and Kenny, Mary and Andy, for providing our volunteers. They are outstanding!

Next on the activity list was the boat parade overseen by Ronni Eshleman. It was great to see Randy Welch as the Grand Marshall. In the boat, he was accompanied by First Lady Fran and granddaughter Taylor at the helm. Taylor is spending her summer

driving the Camp T ski boat before she starts her senior year at Depauw where she is playing D3 Lacrosse. Go Tigers! Also, if you are reading this on Friday July 9, wish Taylor a Happy 21st Birthday! Now she will find out why so many Birch Lake residents like going to Zimmy's.

The fireworks were the absolute best on Saturday night so thank you Mr. Chas for overseeing this event. The rest of the weekend was spent in the sun

and fun and there was even mid-day skinny dipping going on as two of the Dufour great grandsons went commando following the fashion trend set by Harrison Grundy whose motto is, "less is better."

Update on tanning as past-commodore Karen Curtis-Miller continues to lead but Susie Levy is now a very close second. Two of Susie's daughters, Rachel and Melissa are following in their mom's tan-steps and are leading

2021 Birch Lake Calendar*

- July 14 - Birch Lake Flotilla for Dennis Phipps' 80th birthday, see page 9
- July 17 - Commodore/Vice Commodore Party, BLYC, details tba
- July 23 - Ladies Golf Outing, 9 am, Diamond Lake Golf Course, page 11
- July 24 - BLYC Family Picnic, 5:30-9:30 pm.
- July 24 - Diamond Lake Reid Francis Memorial Interlake MC Regatta, page 5
- July 30 - BLYC Mens' Golf Outing, Pine View Hemlock, Three Rivers, 1:30 pm

- August 7 - Corn and Sausage, BLYC, tba
 - August 21 - **NEW DATE** BLYC Fall Dinner, details tba
 - August 27 - Ladies Lunch & Style Show, Woodfire, Dowagiac, 11 am, tba
 - September 6 - Labor Day flotilla, tba
 - Oct. 16 - Crockpot Challenge (tentative)
- BLYC BOARD MEETINGS**
July 10, Aug. 7, all 9 am @ BLYC

August 7 - Homeowners Association annual meeting, BLYC, following board meeting.

For information and open dates to rent the Birch Lake Yacht Club building, contact Sandy Vitale at 269-476-1680 or 269-858-8184.

— Birch Lake Notes —

the now young lady's division. This is a family friendly competition! In the men's division, there are big changes as Phil Vitale has taken over the lead and there is a three-way tie for second with new contenders! Ed Levy and Craig Fredlake have been battling mano-y-mano on the South Side and they are joined by Keith Kinzler who has been adding tanning time walking the roads along Birch Lake. Also, Keith does have a natural advantage being closer to the sun. Watch for continued updates in future Barkers.

For the Waxmans, we had longtime friends, Kathy Porter, Mary Beth Boehm from Dallas, Texas and Henry Rabin from Kansas City visiting for the weekend. Sharon, Kathy and Mary Beth were teachers at Sherwood Autism Center in Kansas City in late 1970s, early 80s and have been best of friends ever since. Henry was one of their original students and now at 51, lives in a residential group home that was created by the school. Henry loved Birch Lake especially to go on the boat and take rides in the golf cart.

Please reserve Saturday July 17 to attend the Commodore/Vice Commodore Party at the Yacht Club. Our theme is "the 60s," so get ready for original rock

and Motown tunes to carry us through the evening. Buy/create your favorite appetizer to share and join Vice Commodore Barb and me, for this festive gathering.

Until that Time,

~Commodore Dan, First Mate Sharon and Scout the Wonder Dog

Ladies Luncheon and Style Show

Time is flying by, and before we know it, it will be time for the "Ladies Luncheon and Style Show!" Be sure to mark Friday, August 27 on your calendar! Six of our Birch Lake Ladies will model clothes from the Marshal Shop in Dowagiac. The luncheon will be next door at the Wood Fire restaurant. Tickets will be \$30 and will include your meal, salad, drink, tax and tip. They will go on sale after the 4th of July.

BLYC Family Picnic

Join us for a FREE Birch Lake Yacht Club Family Picnic! Rock out to the band, enjoy hamburgers, hot dogs, and ice cream, and games. Want to pitch in? Bring a side or dessert to share. The summer is hot, the bar is open, and the BLYC is ready for fun!

This is an outdoor and indoor event, so there will be no parking at the BLYC.

A dropoff spot and golf cart shuttles will be available (more info coming soon).

Please plan your approach accordingly.

WHEN: July 24, 2021 from 5:30-9 pm

WHERE: Birch Lake Yacht Club (south side of the lake)

WHO: The entire Birch Lake community, kids welcome!

Ladies Golf Outing

Ladies! Our annual fun golf outing is Friday, July 23. Grab three of your besties and join us at Diamond Lake Golf Course. Tee off is at 9 am, with an enjoyable luncheon afterwards. You say you're not a good golfer? We don't care. It's a "best ball" scramble so everyone can come and play without any worries. If you are unable to get a foursome together let us know and we'll help find you a great group of ladies who'll make it a fun day.

Just want to enjoy the lunch?

There's space for that too. Check out the Ladies Golf Outing form in this Barker for more info or call one of us. Lunch should start around 11:30 or so. Come join us.

~Carol McCoy & Blair Garceau

MC events planned

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— Birch Lake Notes —

Birch Lake Yacht Club FIREWORKS FUND WE DID IT!



Now we're working

to donate for fireworks or any other BLYC function or activity ...

on next year's fund!

use the form in the back of this week's Birch Barker

or contribute online at <http://BirchLakeYachtClub.com/>

Memorial Interlake MC Regatta is planned for July 24 (see page 5 for details).

Also, Clear Lake, Iowa will host the 50th MC National Championship regatta on June 24 – 27.

For more information see https://www.mcscow.org/content.aspx?page_id=4002&club_id=612443&item_id=1289415

Hairy buffalo anyone?

All: given the amount of food and drink (mostly alcohol) left behind by guests we are contemplating a "hairy buffalo" but don't want to host ... anyone? ~Anon

The Printed Birch Barker

The Birch Barker is delivered to homes on Birch Lake every weekend, and is available online at the website <http://www.philvitale.com/Barker/BirchBarker.htm>.

Deadline for any given week's Barker is noon on Tuesday prior to the weekend. To contact editor Phil, email onlinebarker@gmail.com, sailorphil@philvitale.com, phone 269-476-1680 (no text, I don't have a cell phone), mail items to 63174 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095 or put them in my mailbox at that address on the east side of the lake.

To submit items to the Birch Barker or to buy a display or classified ad, email your items to sailorphil@philvitale.com or onlinebarker@gmail.com, or mail (or deposit items) Phil Vitale, 63174 Birch Rd. (east side), Vandalia, MI 49095. Display ad sizes and prices can be seen at <http://www.philvitale.com/Barker/BirchBarker.htm>. Classified ads are free for BLYC paid members, and \$5/week for non-members.

Get your Groove on!!

Join Commodore Dan and Vice Commodore Barb For the Annual Commodore/Vice Commodore Party



Saturday, July 17th
7:00 PM at the BLYC
60's themed

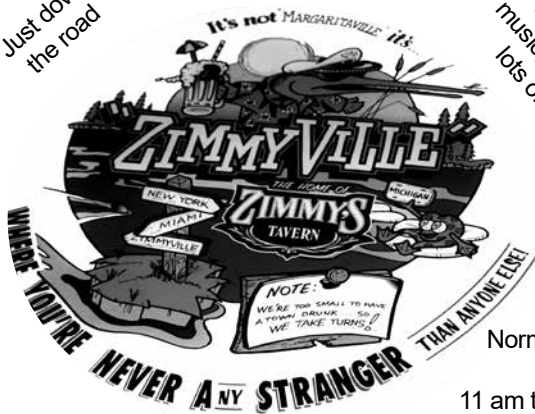
This casual party will be fun, fun, fun! If you're feelin' it wear Hippie attire (jeans and your fav t-shirt are fine).

Last name starting with an A - M bring an appetizer; Last names of N - Z bring a dessert.

We'll have the bar open for beer, wine and whatever else is in stock.

Prizes will be awarded for best costume, worst costume, and best 60's dancin'.

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FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER



Great regatta! Two great days to actually sail! There were 10 different sunfish sailors and 7 MC sailors that joined in the fun for this year's 4th of July Regatta.

There were several boats that had multiple people on them. Sailors had a great time sharing the fun with their family, kids, and friends, giving them the wonderful opportunity to sail on Birch Lake.

Thanks to committee boat. Pam,

Good Patti's sis from Ohio, Bad Patty and doing double duty, Phil Vitale for score keeping, and mark setting with Vic Jones. Tom Cassady for marks on Sunday.

Here are the scores for the regatta and Scott Troeger and Rick Russwurm were the big winners for the regatta. Sail on, Sail on!

~Fleet Captain, Bill
(and ghostwriter, BP)



~July 4 Regatta Results~

Date.....	3-Jul.....	3-Jul.....	3-Jul.....	4-Jul.....	4-Jul.....	Total Score....	Place
Race.....	1.....	2.....	3.....	4.....	5.....	if DNS = last.....	
MC Scow/Sailor							
Scott Troeger #1489.....	1.....	1.....	1.....	1.....	1.....	5.....	1
Bill Luecht #1579.....	2.....	3.....	5.....	3.....	3.....	16.....	2
Pat Welch #1979.....	3.....	2.....	2.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	21.....	3
Barb Cassady #2506.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	2.....	2.....	25.....	4
Pat McGann #1735.....	5.....	4.....	3.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	26.....	5
Sandy Vitale.....	6.....	6.....	6.....	4.....	4.....	26.....	5
Amber Grundy.....	4.....	5.....	4.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	27.....	7
Sunfish/Sailor							
Rick Russwurm.....	1.....	1.....	2.....	1.....	2.....	7.....	1
Scott Temple Sortal.....	7.....	5.....	1.....	2.....	3.....	18.....	2
Steve Frew.....	5.....	4.....	4.....	4.....	1.....	18.....	2
Stewart Spratt.....	6.....	3.....	3.....	3.....	5.....	20.....	4
Herb Cleveland.....	2.....	2.....	6.....	5.....	6.....	21.....	5
Bob Niezgodski.....	3.....	6.....	5.....	7.....	4.....	25.....	6
Amy Troeger.....	4.....	7.....	7.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	38.....	7
Jeff Walls.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	6.....	7.....	43.....	8
Camille Butler.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	8.....	8.....	46.....	9
Pat McGann.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	9.....	49.....	10



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~BLYC Sailing Results~


BLYC Season Standings to date

Date.....	3-Jul...	3-Jul...	3-Jul...	4-Jul...	4-Jul...	Total	Point	Races.....	%
Race.....	7.....	8.....	9.....	10.....	11	Points	Average	Finished	Finished
MC Scow/Sailor	Total MC Races=>				11			
Scott Troeger #1489.....	1.....	1.....	1.....	1.....	1.....	15546.....	1555.....	9.....	82%.....
Barb Cassady #2506.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	2.....	2.....	12405.....	1551.....	8.....	73%.....
Bill Luecht #1579.....	2.....	3.....	5.....	3.....	3.....	15967.....	1452.....	11.....	100%.....
Pat Welch #1979.....	3.....	2.....	2.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	12489.....	1388.....	8.....	73%.....
Pat McGann #1735.....	5.....	4.....	3.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	12181.....	1353.....	8.....	73%.....
Amber Grundy.....	4.....	5.....	4.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	7851.....	1309.....	6.....	55%.....
Sandy Vitale.....	6.....	6.....	6.....	4.....	4.....	13836.....	1258.....	11.....	100%.....
Sunfish/Sailor	Total Sunfish Races=>				11			
Peter Soldato.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	4644.....	1548.....	3.....	27%.....
Rick Russwurm.....	1.....	1.....	2.....	1.....	2.....	16974.....	1543.....	11.....	100%.....
Scott Temple.....	7.....	5.....	1.....	2.....	3.....	14322.....	1432.....	10.....	91%.....
Stewart Spratt.....	6.....	3.....	3.....	3.....	5.....	15369.....	1397.....	11.....	100%.....
Steve Frew.....	5.....	4.....	4.....	4.....	1.....	10783.....	1348.....	7.....	64%.....
Bob Niezgodski.....	3.....	6.....	5.....	7.....	4.....	14493.....	1318.....	11.....	100%.....
Herb Cleveland.....	2.....	2.....	6.....	5.....	6.....	14302.....	1300.....	10.....	91%.....
Amy Troeger.....	4.....	7.....	7.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	3681.....	1227.....	3.....	27%.....
Camille Butler.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	8.....	8.....	9262.....	1158.....	8.....	73%.....
Jeff Walls.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	6.....	7.....	9120.....	1140.....	8.....	73%.....
Pat McGann.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	DNS.....	9.....	1024.....	1024.....	1.....	9%.....

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 last place (if 5 boats started the race, will be scored as 5th place); **DNF, DSQ** not counted toward minimum number of races needed; **CB** - sailor who serves on Committee Boat receives their season average place as of that date - counted toward season total; **Season Points** are awarded on Square of 40 system (1st = 40 squared = 1600, 2nd = 39 squared, etc.); **Season Place** = total season points/number of races attempted; **Crew** - Counted toward completed races, Points go to skipper of boat.

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Reid Francis MC Invitational Regatta

Saturday July 24

Diamond Lake Yacht Club

Sailors invited from:

Birch Lake-Corey Lake-Eagle Lake

Indian Lake—Diamond Lake



ATTENTION RACERS

REGISTER on-line at dlvcmi.org

Race Day

8:00AM Breakfast

9:00AM Skippers Meeting

10:00 First of 3 races

Lunch Included

3:30PM Awards

Spectators Welcome

Watch by boat or shore at DLYC, 21268 Shore Acres Drive, Cassopolis, MI



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AT BIRCH LAKE,

and

ON SAILING DAYS

races start at 11 am!

PLEASE GIVE 'EM

A BREAK and

STAY CLEAR OF THE COURSE!

— Water Quality Report —

Commandment #3

Thou Shalt Minimize the Effects of Waves”

Waves and wakes (man-made waves) not only threaten smaller boats and swimmers but also tend to erode shorelines and scour nearby, and other shallow, lake bottoms. The maintenance and protection of all shorelines (preferably natural) is critically important and further discussed in another article.

While we cannot control the waves made by God, we can hopefully limit some of the wave damages caused by us. Boat waves are deeper and have far more energy than surface waves.

When we stir up the lake bottom we free up and raise into the water column one of its most undesirable possessions – phosphorus – that was previously attached to decaying organic material at the bottom. That newly suspended phosphorus enhances turbidity (makes the water more cloudy) and increases the phosphorus loading in the lake (which directly affects the growth of virtually all plants and other organisms in the lake). Phosphorus is also further

discussed in a different article. Stirring up the lake bottom can also cause the destruction of native aquatic plants by breaking them off at, or pulling them out by, their roots.

So please refrain from making large waves and/or accelerating or going fast wherever your prop wash will result in disturbance of the lake bottom. This applies to both shoreline, and any other shallow, areas of the lake.

Particularly when water levels are high (as they are somewhat now), consider trying to make no waves (wakes). If you must make waves, please try to minimize their effect by limiting their height and keeping them to the center, deeper part of the lake.

Always drive your power boat in a counter-clockwise rotation, and constantly plot your course to assure you stay the required 100' away from other boats (reminding boaters that “You are responsible for your wake,” the Water Sports Industry Association recommends at least 200') minimum from all shorelines and other objects



(docks, rafts, swimmers, etc.) on the water, allowing for where any upcoming craft may be headed and for each vessel's towed skiers, tubes, etc. (which are typically 60' – 75' or more behind and/or along side of the boats towing them).

PLEASE PASS THE WORD

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

BIRCH LAKE GOODIES!

Custom made koosies, kitchen towels, hot pads, wine bags, flags, coasters, t-shirts, coffee cups and all-occasion greeting cards. Prices vary depending on time and material costs. Great gifts, home/cottage decor. 10% of all sales go to the Birch Lake Yacht Club!



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— Barker Kids of the Week —



Alex Deranek, right, and his buddy Dominic, above, both caught fish while visiting uncle Phil (me) on a pre-4th of July fishing trip from Mishawaka.



Tabby Bratt (south side) practicing her gymnastics routine.

BARKER KIDS OF THE WEEK

Want your kid to be a Birch Barker Kid of the Week? Want your dog to be a Dog of the Week? Want your lawnmower to be the Lawnmower of the Week? Just mail your photo (with a SASE if you want the photo(s) back) to Birch Barker, 63174 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095; or put them in a ziplock and stick them in the stone mailbox at my home (on the east side), or email them to me at SAILORPHIL@PHILVITALE.COM

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— Barker Kids of the Week —



*A trio of Levy sisters with their dogs ...
photo submitted by Dan Waxman.*

*Raegan caught her first fish! Papa T
(Tom Kuhn, west shore) is proud ...
Raegan is not so sure about it!*

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— Barker Kids of the Week —



KJ Remington (west side) shows off the biggest bass he's caught so far on Birch lake

**Birch Lake Flotilla
& 80th birthday celebration
for Dennis Phipps!
Wednesday July 14 – 6 p.m.**

***Due to the past successful
flotillas, 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.***

***Look for the boats in middle!
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~ Birch Lake Boat Parade 2021 ~

4th of July Boat Parade Results

Once again, our weather was perfect for the annual Birch Lake 4th of July Boat Parade. All 16 of our entrants found unique ways to represent the “Celebrating Our Heroes” theme.

It was difficult for our judges to choose only one, but this year’s “Most Outstanding” entry was the Patrick Welch family’s “Half a Heart” celebrating their grandson Hudson. Second place went to the Fooks’ “4 Generations of Superheroes” boat. There was a tie for 3rd

place with Doba’s “Camp Papa” celebrating their hero Bill Doba, and the Dugan’s celebrating Carol Dugan. Other participants were the Eshleman/Harmon boats celebrating their hero Jimmy Buffet, the Quinlan’s “May the Fourth Be With You” Star Wars heroes, McGann’s, King’s, Magros and Groszek’s all celebrating first responders and teachers, Baucus’s Tie Dye Warriors, Wall’s Batmobile, Sankey’s Junior Super Heroes, Lindzy’s American Spirit, and the Luecht’s Celebrating Our Children.

This year’s Grand Marshal, Randy Welch was escorted around the lake by his family. Also, kudos to our four judges, Marc and Lynn Caenepeel and Bud and Deb Hall for their deliberations and assistance in making this one of the best parades ever!

Several comments were made about how wonderful it was seeing all the families out on their piers, cheering and clapping and celebrating as the parade went past. Thank you to everyone who participated!



— Photos of a Fun Fourth! —



Thanks to Pat McGann for the pics of a fun Fourth of July weekend!



Birch Lake Ladies' FUN Golf Outing

**Friday, July 23, 2021
Diamond Lake Golf Course, Cassopolis
9 AM Tee Off - \$35 per golfer
Please arrive no later than 8:30 AM
Fee includes cart and box lunch**

Box Lunch at Diamond Lake Golf Course following the Outing

**If you don't golf but would like to join us at noon for lunch
Please register and pay \$12**

**If you'd like to sponsor a hole please contact either:
Blair Garceau 574-261-9817 or Carol McCoy 708-738-3962**

Don't have a team? Sign up and we'll help find you one.

**Registration Form
Team Members (list captain first with phone number)**

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Please make checks payable to BLYC . Bring or mail to: Blair Garceau, 63542 Birch Road, Vandalia, MI 49095 or Carol McCoy, 63021 Birch Road, Vandalia, MI 49095

Deadline for registration is July 17th

— Lake Ordinances & Rules —



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RICHARD J. BEHNKE, Sheriff

CLINTON D. ROACH, Undersheriff

** NOTICE **

R 281.1103 Revocable marker permits. Rule 3.

(1) A person shall not place buoys, markers or aids to navigation, except mooring buoys and buoys for marking fish nets or fishing devices, in any waters of the state unless a permit granting authority to do so has been issued by the Department of Natural Resources or the United States coast guard.

Recently there has been an influx of buoys placed on inland lakes in Cass County that appears to be an effort by residents to privatize an area of the lake off docks and piers. Please note the following DNR rule and remove such buoys or they may be confiscated without notice.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Behnke
Sheriff

RJB:rdb

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STAY CLEAR!

BLYC Men's Golf Outing

The 2021 Annual BLYC's Men's Golf Outing is on Friday July 30th at Pine View's Hemlock Course in Three Rivers, or "Tripple Ripple" as we use to call it at Camp Eberhart, with a shotgun start at 1:30 pm. A beef tenderloin dinner to follow. Sign up and pay online at: birchlakeyachtclub.com. Also, email me your team members at pat@mcgannhay.com. You may also drop off a check and the entry blank below at my house mailbox, 63156 Birch Rd. The cost per player is a very cheap only \$65 per player, or \$260 per foursome, which seems to be the cost of one 2x4 these days or five gallons of gas in your boat. Questions call/text 574-532-5377.

Entry Form

1.		\$
2.		\$
3.		\$
4.		\$
Total Paid.....		\$

Check or cash amount enclosed

\$ _____

Contact's
Cell phone _____

Entry and payment due by: July 23, 2021

YOUR HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19)

At the beginning of this week, something unexpected might impact your home or your dealings with a parent. It could be a rebellion about something. Small appliances might break down or a little breakage could occur. On Thursday, social plans might suddenly change. They might be canceled or you might get a surprise invitation? Romance might also get a sudden jolt. This jolt could be problematic or it might be an unexpected flirtation.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

On Monday, almost certainly your daily routine will change for some reason. Plans might be canceled or you might suddenly have to take a short trip. You might see new faces, new places or have clever, new ideas! This dovetails with the fast pace that your week will surely have. On Thursday, you might suddenly entertain at home, or a home event might be canceled. (You might also impulsively buy something artistic or high-tech for your home.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Do be careful because something unexpected could impact your cash flow, earnings or something that you own on Monday. For example, you might find money or you might lose money. Possibly, a possession will be stolen, lost or damaged? This could be minor; it could be major. On Thursday, quite likely, something pleasant will surprise you. An unexpected short trip or a fun invitation.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Monday is bound to be an interesting day for you. Expect to encounter new experiences. Something might suddenly change in your immediate surroundings. Personally, you will feel more alert, alive, quick-witted and stimulated by everything around you. Your freedom and independence will become more important to you. You might want to make some changes. On Thursday, you might impulsively buy something, especially something beautiful. Keep an eye on your money and your possessions.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

You might feel restless on Monday and not know why. It's a feeling that comes and it will go. It could be about something going on behind the scenes or something taking place at a subconscious level. By Thursday, a social surprise might take place. You might be tempted to buy clothing or something for yourself that is unusual. By the end of the week, some unexpected issues will make you feel restless.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

On Monday, a friend will likely surprise you or perhaps you will meet someone new who is a real character. Possibly, the surprise will be related to a group to which you belong or a group that you might encounter. Either way, it will prove to be interesting. By Thursday, a hidden flirtation or a private love affair might take a new direction. Something "behind the scenes" will be unexpected. Main thing to know is to stay flexible and light on your feet so that you can accommodate the unexpected.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

At the beginning of the week, you might be surprised by a parent, boss, someone in authority or the police. Or perhaps, something unexpected will throw your name out there and promote your reputation - for good or bad. Whatever it is, others will be aware of you. It could be public. Alternatively, you might make a break for freedom and take a very independent stance on something, especially in your relationship to a boss or a parent.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Ah yes, - a journey of 1000 miles begins with a cash advance. Let's hope this is possible because you might suddenly travel at the beginning of this week. Likewise, a surprise related to publishing, the media, the law and medicine or something to do with higher education might also take place. You might break with a group because you no longer endorse their philosophy. Others will notice these changes taking place in your world.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Keep an eye on issues related to shared property, inheritances, loans, mortgages and anything that you share jointly with others because a hiccup or a sudden change might occur on Monday or at the beginning of the week. To avoid embarrassment, loss or inconvenience, stay in the know. Alternatively, a sudden gift or a financial opportunity might come your way? Could be anything.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

At the beginning of this week, a partner or close friend will do something that surprises you. They might want more freedom in the relationship. They might suggest something you didn't expect. Possibly, you will meet someone new or be introduced to someone new by someone you already know. By Thursday, keep your pockets open because an unexpected gift of money or a favor or an advantage might come to you.

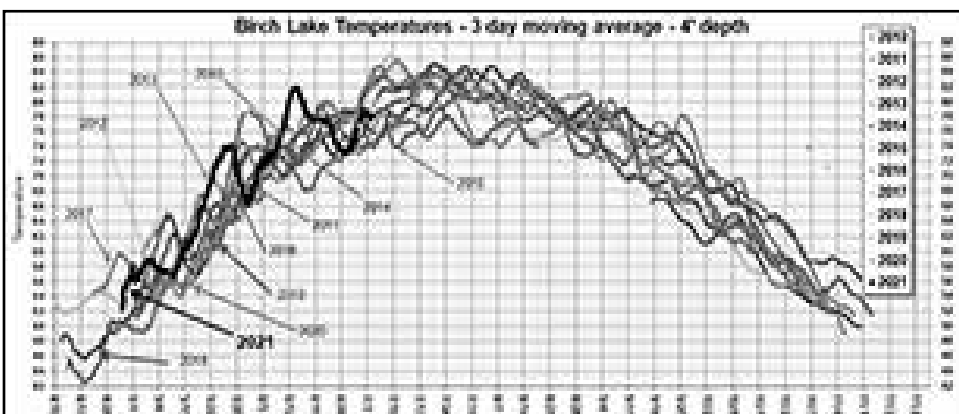
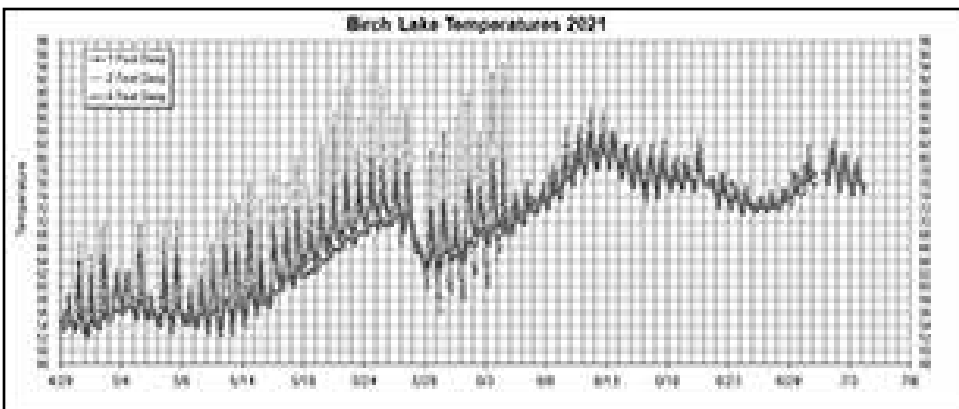
Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Do be alert at the beginning of the week because some kind of surprise or interruption to your job might occur - something you didn't see coming. Whatever the case, keep your eyes open and be flexible so that you can accommodate something unexpected in your day. In a few days, a close friend or partner will also surprise you. By the weekend, issues to do with partners and close friends will once again catch you off guard.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Social plans might change right at the beginning of the week. Something might be canceled or delayed. Alternatively, you might receive a surprise invitation. Guard against sports accidents on Monday. Parents take note that this is also a potentially accident-prone day for your kids. Therefore, be vigilant. Romance might also hold some surprises. You might meet someone new who is different; or an existing relationship might hit a speedbump.

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: 0.016
1.2 days since new moon

1.2 days since
new moon

Sunrise: 06:15:00 AM
Sunset: 21:20:00 PM
Moonrise: 06:29:54 AM
Moonset: 22:16:51 PM
Daylight: 15 Hr 05 Min 00 Sec

Birch Barker Funnies

1. Open the bottle to allow it to breathe.



2. If it does not look like it's breathing, give it mouth-to-mouth.



I'm on the
Gin & Tonic
Diet
So far I have
lost 2 days

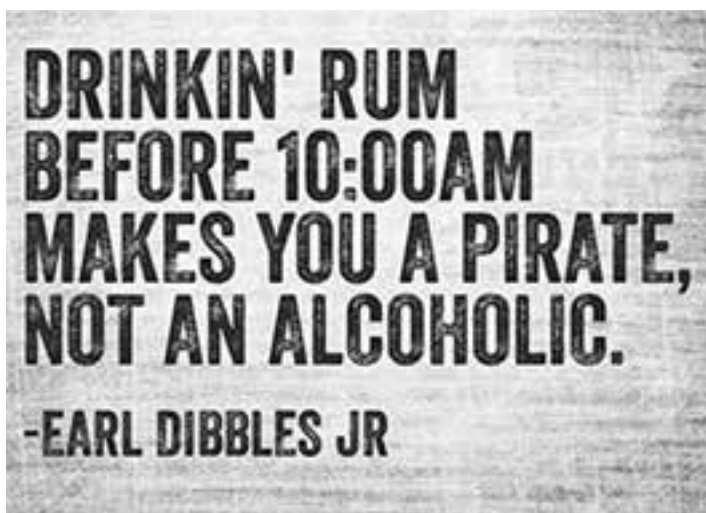


OOPS!!!
Did I buy
WINE
instead of
Milk again?



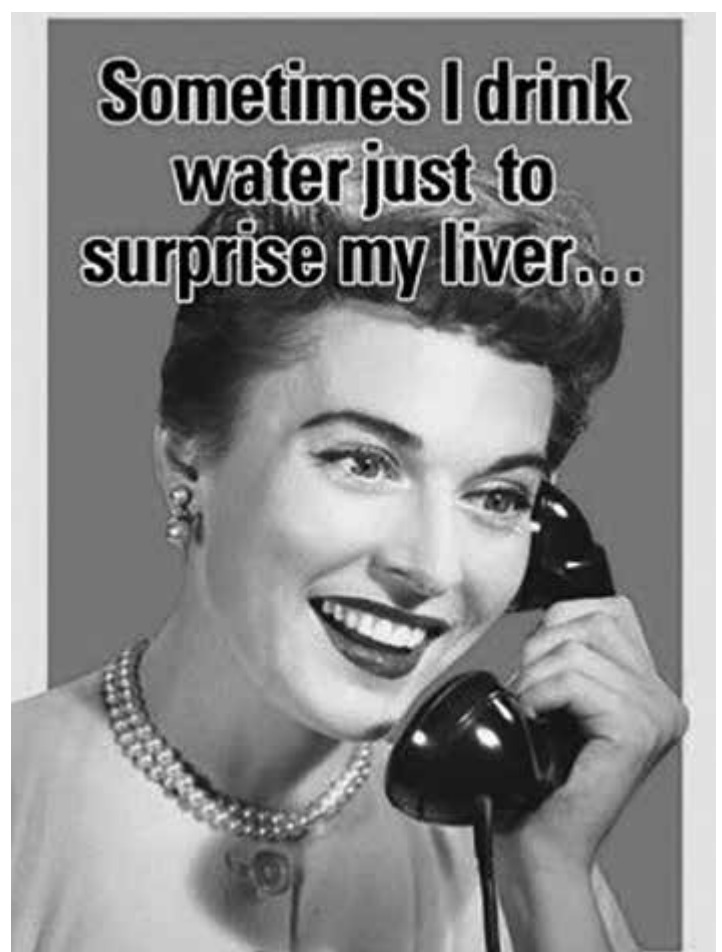
Friends

are therapists
you can drink
with.

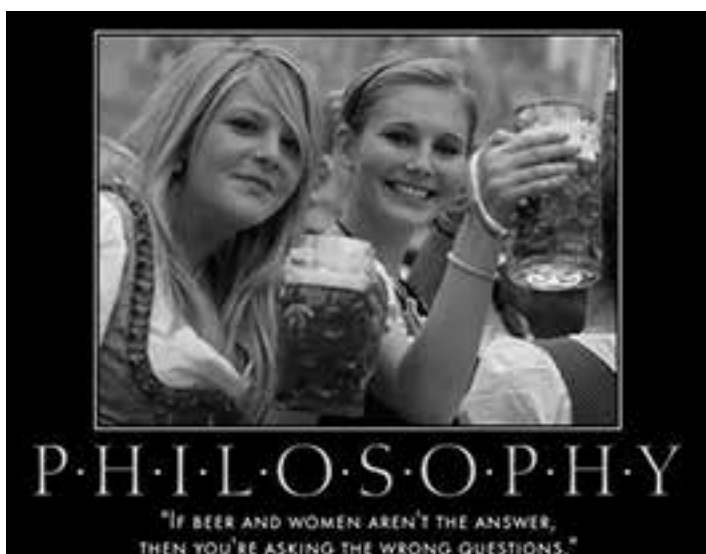


DRINKIN' RUM
BEFORE 10:00AM
MAKES YOU A PIRATE,
NOT AN ALCOHOLIC.

-EARL DIBBLES JR



Sometimes I drink
water just to
surprise my liver...



P·H·I·L·O·S·O·P·H·Y

"IF BEER AND WOMEN AREN'T THE ANSWER,
THEN YOU'RE ASKING THE WRONG QUESTIONS."



~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

Strawberry Bruchetta

This is a delicious variation of the popular tomato based appetizer. The strawberries are warm and sweet and the sugar is caramelized and crunchy! Your guests will love it!

12 servings

Ingredients

- 24 slices French baguette
- 1 tablespoon butter, softened
- 2 cups chopped fresh strawberries
- ¼ cup white sugar, or as needed

Directions

- Step 1

Preheat your oven's broiler. Spread a thin layer of butter on each slice of bread. Arrange bread slices in a single layer on a large baking sheet.

- Step 2

Place bread under the broiler for 1 to 2 min-



utes, just until lightly toasted. Spoon some chopped strawberries onto each piece of toast, then sprinkle sugar over the strawberries.

- Step 3

Place under the broiler again until sugar is caramelized, 3 to 5 minutes. Serve immediately.

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gavinfrancis@rocketmail.com

— Camp Tannadoonah —

Thanks for visiting the pancake breakfast

Thank you to everyone who came out to Camp on Sunday for the Pancake Breakfast! We served approximately 450 people! Thank you to everyone who was patient waiting in line as we tried to keep up with the pancake flipping. It was wonderful to see everyone, and we appreciate your support of Camp Tannadoonah!

At 8:30 when we were waiting for our first families to arrive, I was anxiously wondering if anyone would come ... and I am happy to say I was not disappointed! The very first smiling faces we saw were the Rodriguez family from the north shore, and it wasn't long before we were busy, busy, busy!

I want to send a GIANT thank you for the hard-working volunteers who helped make this event a success. We had board members, lake residents, family, and friends who pitched in early Sunday morning to prep food, move tables, cook, wash dishes, wash tables, refill butter and syrup, and clean up afterwards.

Thank you to Camp Fire Board Members Pat Welch, Andrew Roche, Bob Bender, Michael Lacognato, and John Michel, and spouses of board members, Jeannie Welch, John Stitz, and Maggie Michel. To Camp Staff members Adam

Lucassian, John Luecht, and Yolanda Roche. And Birch Lake neighbors Stacia Andriano; Andy, Lori, Brendan and Dylan Snider. And friends of our Lake neighbors, Sarah, Troy, Alex, and Owen Winowiecki. And finally to my parents, Bill and Sherry Holleman, and my husband Chas Grundy. We are so grateful for all of our volunteers!

If you didn't get a chance to make it to the breakfast this year, but would like to purchase items from the Camp Trading Post, we would be happy to set up a time for you to come up and shop! Please give us a call at the office at 574-387-6095 and we can work that out.

This week was our Holiday break from camp, which marks the middle of our camp summer. We had 2 weeks of staff training, and have now wrapped up the first 3 weeks with campers. We head back tomorrow (Wednesday the 7th) to welcome our "Mini Camp" and "Super Week" campers, which kicks off a stretch of 5½ more weeks of camp before we finish up on August 14.

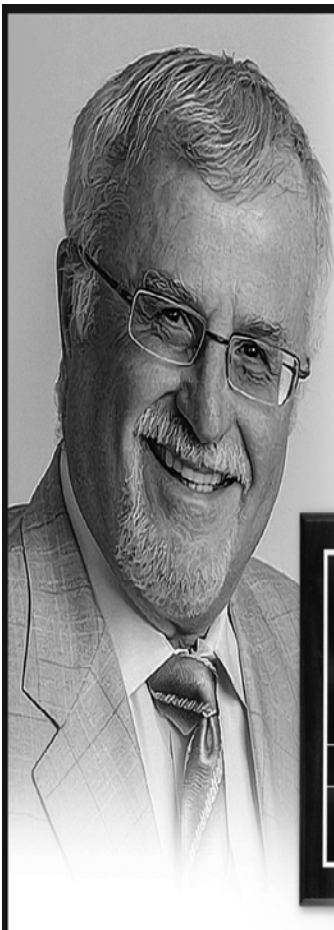
Mini Camp is a 3-day program, generally for new campers or younger campers who aren't quite ready to commit to a full week of overnight camp. They check in on Wednesday morning, and check out on Saturday. Super Week is a longer



session, and runs from Wednesday (the 7th) through to next Saturday (the 17th), so those campers are with us for 11 days.

This year we have more kids here for Mini / Super Week than ever before! There will be a total of 136 kids checking in on Wednesday morning! There are 56 Super Weekers, 5 CITs (counselors in training), 27 day campers, and 48 Mini Weekers, all arriving between 9 and noon on Wednesday. The CITs are CIT 2s – working on their 2nd year of our counselor in training program, and they will be at camp for the next 2 ½ weeks, to continue their leadership training in hopes of someday working at camp. It's going to be a fun and busy couple weeks!

~Mrs. Amber



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7' adjustable solid steel ladder. Contact Bud Hall (C) 219-669-9711. \$50.



Solid Oak corner TV cabinet. Fits up to a 42 inch TV. Has lots of storage with attractive glass doors. Asking \$100. Call Margie Trybus (east side) 269-476-

2563 or 312-802-8201.

FOR RENT:

Are you interested in a unique fun vacation? Check out our Florida Village house at ourhome4rent.com/cjp Call 574-596-2154 for more info.

WANTED:

Wanted to rent: a place for 6 adults and 2 kids (aged 13 and 15) between 23 and 27 July...or, if a weekly rental is required then 23-30 July. Email aathanas@awf.org, DIRECT: +41229990146 MOBILE: +41799696066

| SKYPE: [Andrea_Athanas](https://www.awf.org) | www.awf.org or contact Camille Butler at (574) 596-1066.

Wanted: Person interested in working few hours a week with random yard work/ watering (not mowing) for few hours each week. Call or text Matt 574-274-8253

SERVICES:

I do **sewing and mending** at fair prices - zippers, hemming, small alterations; call Kathy at 476- 9317

BIRCH BARKER CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Classified ads in the Birch Barker are free to BLYC members, \$5/week for everyone else. Send your ad to me at sailorphil@philvitale.com. If you no longer need your ad to run in the Barker please let me know so I can pull it.



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HOW TO BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

INTRODUCE YOURSELF

Say "hi" to your neighbors, wave and introduce yourself. A stranger is just a friend you haven't met yet ...

This message is brought to you by the Homeowners Association of Birch Lake



2021 BLYC OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

2018/19 BLYC Officers

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gbolin31@aol.com

Ed Chester (E).....476-1010
ed@chesterlawoffice.com

WATER QUALITY AND HOMEOWNERS
Paul Fallon (E), Chairman, Water Quality and Homeowners Association 476-1467
pauljfallon@gmail.com



BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YET, It's time to pay your 2021 dues!



Support the BLYC, support the Lake, support the Community!

\$ ___ - BLYC Member Dues (\$30 / year)

Total contribution:

\$ ___ - BLYC Associate Member* Dues (\$10 / year)

\$ _____

*Associate membership is available to current associate members and for non-lake residents who wish to support the BLYC

\$ ___ - Homeowners' Assoc. (\$10 / year)

Name _____

\$ ___ - Sailing Fees (\$15 / year)

\$ ___ - Building Improvement Fund

Address _____

\$ ___ - Fireworks Fund

\$ ___ - Water Quality Program

\$ ___ - Milfoil/Loosestrife Eradication

\$ ___ - Safety Committee

\$ ___ - Other non-party related expenses

\$ ___ - BLYC Roof Fund

\$ ___ - BLYC AED Fund

\$ ___ - Misc.

Make checks payable to

BLYC

and mail to Deb Spratt, Treasurer
18100 Farmington Hills Dr.
South Bend, IN 46637

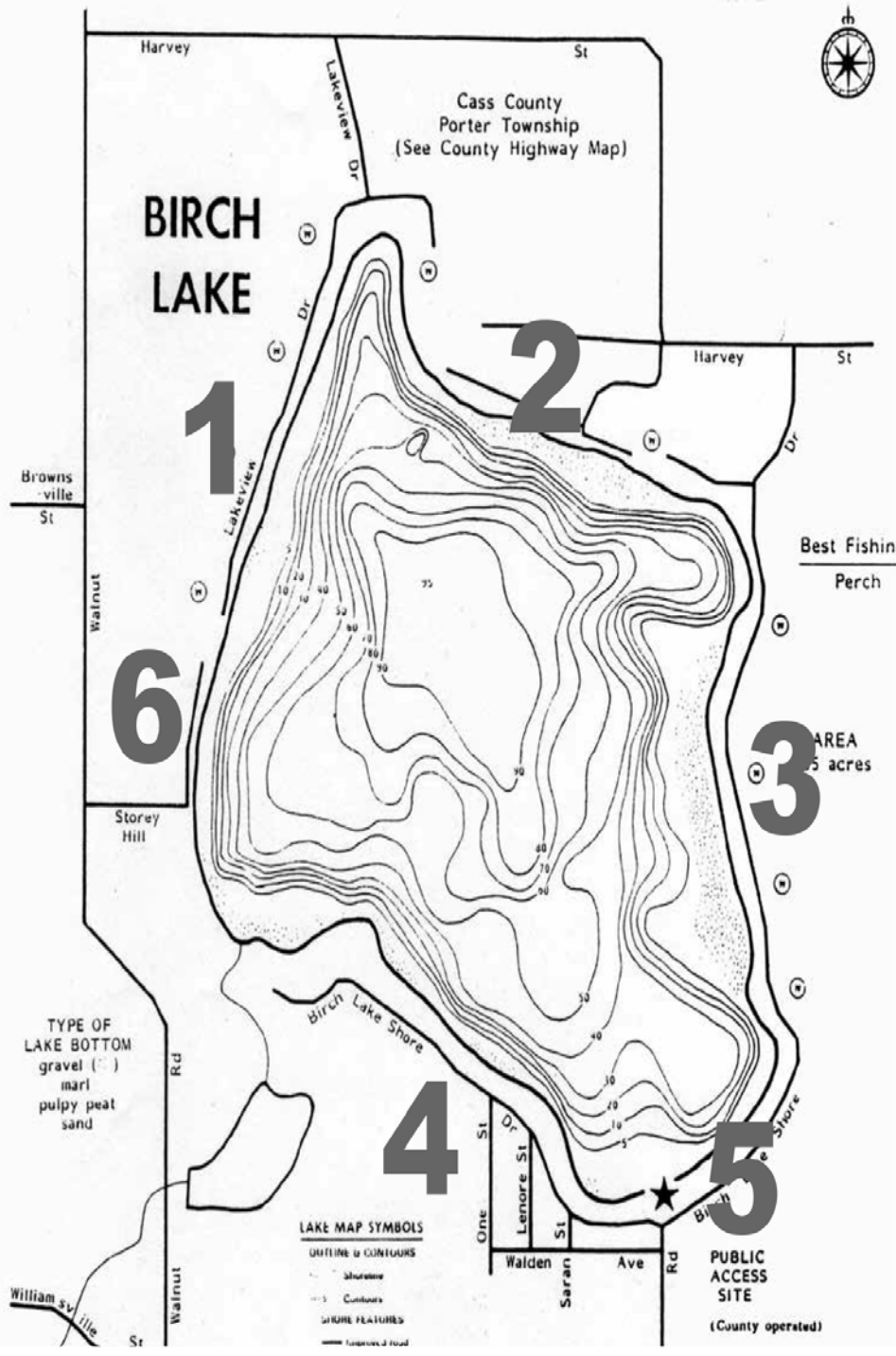
Now you can go online at [HTTP://BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM](http://BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM) to pay your dues

EMERGENCY HEART DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) locations on Birch Lake

CALL 9-1-1



**FOR
EMERGENCY
USE ONLY
ALARM WILL
SOUND**



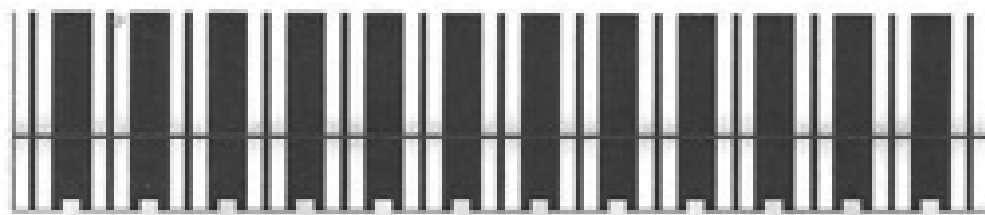
There are six (6) automated external defibrillator units on Birch Lake. The boxes that contain these devices are located at the following locations (see map):

1. **West Shore, Sheffieck home,**
62875 Birch Lakeview Dr.
2. **North Shore, Smitley home,**
14859 Birch Northshore Dr.15046
3. **East Shore, Vitale home,**
63174 Birch Rd.
4. **South Shore, Eberhart home,**
15046 Birch Lakeshore Dr.
5. **South/East Shore, Troeger home,**
63696 Birch Rd.
6. **Southwest Shore, DeYoung home,**
63255 Storey Hill St.

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

IN AN EMERGENCY:

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



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