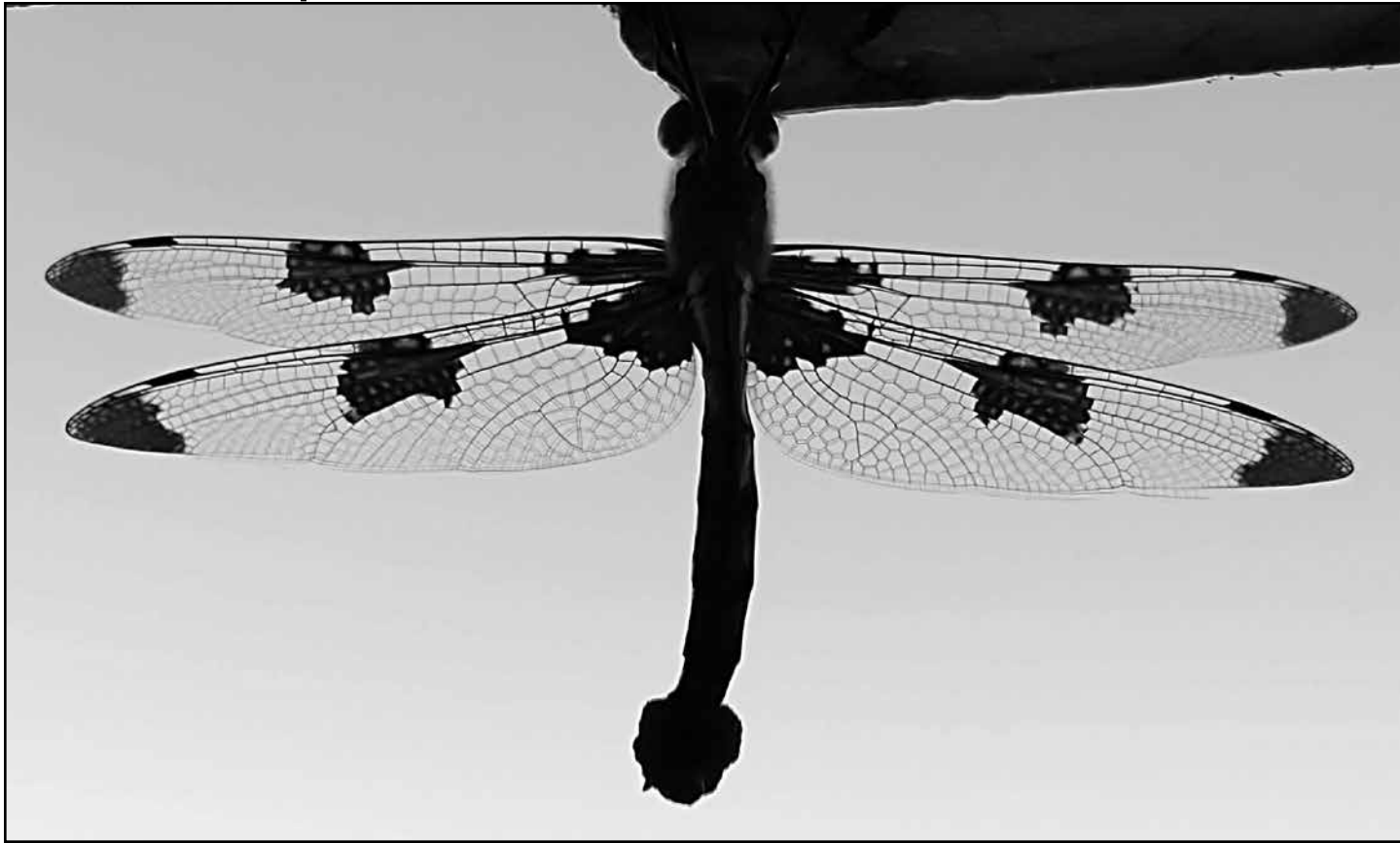


The
Weekend
Of

July 16,
2022

Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the
Birch Lake Yacht Club



Thanks to Mr. Bob (King, north shore) for the cool bug of the week photo.

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Commodore's Comments #8
July 16, 2022

Next weekend is the 113th Chicago Yacht Club Race to Mackinac, also known as 'The Mac.' Referred to as America's Offshore Challenge, the race starts from Chicago's Navy Pier and extends 289 nautical miles, finishing at Mackinac Island. It is one of the world's largest annual offshore regattas, and in 1985 and 1986 my husband Tom and I were lucky to be a part of a six-man (or really 5-man, 1 woman) team racing a Tartan 10, 33-foot keelboat.

The Mac races in which we participated were unlike anything we'd ever done before. We'd grown up sailing and racing small inland boats but had never experienced anything of this scale. The regatta typically has 330 boats with over 3,000 sailors competing and for the division we sailed in, the race spanned multiple days, meaning we sailed and slept on the boat.

The race start is chaotic but exciting and colorful. Before one race start I remember a guy (probably the dad) standing on a boat's cabin stairs and holding up what looked to be a one-year old child as if to say, "Someday child, this will be you skippering this boat in this race." Crazy, right? Once we had officially started we



got down to business. Each crew member had their place and tasks. Mine was usually light ballast and some sail trimming. Our team consisted of our skipper/owner, his brother, his best friend, his dentist (you never know when you might need an emergency root canal), myself and my husband Tom. Tom and I were just happy to be along for the ride.

There was one instance where I got the chance to try to prove myself. We were well underway in the middle of the lake (winds blowing 15-20 knots) when a halyard line broke on one of our sails. The skipper said we needed to send someone up the mast in a bosun's chair (a device

2022 Birch Lake Calendar

- July 14** - Birch Lake Flotilla, 6 pm
- July 22** - Ladies' Golf Outing, Diamond Lake Golf Course, 9 am, Luncheon, See P 10
- July 23** - Family Picnic, BLYC, See P3
- July 23** - Five Lakes MC Regatta, Indian Lake, details tba
- July 27** - Going Away Party for Gordon & Michelle Seyfarth, 6:30 pm, Phipps'
- July 29** - Mens Golf, Pine View., 1:30 pm shotgun start, dinner & awards following P9
- Aug. 6** - Corn & Sausage Roast, 5:30-7 pm, BLYC
- Aug. 17** - Hazardous waste and tire collection, Road Commission, Cass, 3-6 pm
- Aug. 20** - Fall Dinner, BLYC, See P5
- Aug. 26** - Birch Lake Ladies Style Show & Luncheon, Woodfire, Dowagiac, See P 2
- Sept 11** - Sailing Awards, Frew's house
- Sept 17** - Crockpot Challenge, 6 pm, more details tba

BLYC BOARD MEETINGS

August 6, and Sept. 10

All meetings start at 9 am @ BLYC

used to suspend a person from a rope to perform work aloft) to determine if the line was stuck at the top of the mast (a good situation) or if the line had gone into the mast (a bad situation). All eyes focused on me to be the one since I was the smallest and would be the easiest to hoist up to the

The Birch Barker will consider ads and editorial items for potential publication. E-mail items to sailorphil@philvital.com, mail them to me (or put them in the stone mailbox) at 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore). Contact Editor Phil at onlinebarker@gmail.com, or at 476-1680 (no text). Contact Commodore Barb Cassady, via email at barbcassady49@gmail.com or call 574-574-229-9815. **DEADLINE** is Noon on the Tuesday of the week before the publication.

— Birch Lake Notes —

top. My husband looked at me with eyes imploring me to be brave and agree to the task. Not knowing any better and by nature a people-pleaser, of course I said "Yes!" Minutes later I was being hoisted up the mast while under sail in windy conditions which made it both tricky and scary. It was one of the scariest moments I've ever had in sailing. Unfortunately, I was the bearer of bad news reporting the halyard had gone into the mast. Once back on deck, the skipper sent the closest person we had to an engineer, the dentist, up the mast, who after a couple tries figured out how to retrieve the halyard. We were back on track!

One night around 2 am we had an even scarier situation. I was on the three-person crew sailing a three-hour shift while the other crew slept a few hours. All of a sudden, the wind shifted 180 degrees bringing with it, a bad storm. The wind now instead of being behind us was blowing directly at us. We were flying our spinnaker, a large, colorful sail in the front of our boat which can really propel a boat but can be hard to control under certain circumstances, which we were in currently. Things got hairy when we tried to get the spinnaker down and the jib sail up. At one point I was steering the boat while the skipper tried to get the spinnaker down, and after rounding up into the wind and the boat heeling over to where it felt

like it would tip, and the three sleeping guys were dumped out of their berths and came up on deck swearing, suddenly finding themselves in a rainy, windy storm. It took all of us working together for the next 15-20 minutes to get the boat sails re-set, and when things were under control we realized we were heading straight for shore ... Beaver Island. The skipper adjusted our course and we were once again back on track. It is humbling when you realize how fast things can change on Lake Michigan and how things can quickly go from a controlled, quiet, beautiful night sail to all hell breaking loose within minutes.

One morning we were sailing in fog so thick you couldn't see anything around you. It was eerie when we heard the intro to Dire Straits' "Money for Nothing" ... "I want my MTV..." well before a boat appeared, much larger and faster, passing us on the right. As fast as it came into view, it was out of sight with the lyrics soon unheard.

Finishing a Mac race is a welcome experience. By the end of the race, you are exhausted, ready to get your feet on solid ground where you can have a hot shower, some real food and a drink. The Pink Pony Bar on Mackinac Island was where all the sailors met up once the race was finished. The room was filled with sailors, all weaving side to side after days of continuous sailing. Stories were shared and we were

happy to have completed the race intact. The camaraderie was incredible, and all were smiling from sunburnt faces with strong outlines from their sunglasses. Our team had come through and knew we'd always have these races to share and reminiscence.

Speaking of sharing, I want to take this opportunity to thank (South side) Ronni Eshleman for sharing her time with us by helping plan the annual boat parade. I inadvertently failed to mention Ronni in last week's review of the Boat Parade. Ronni's seasoned planning paid off with a smoothly run, successful event. Thanks so much Ronni!

Also, more details in this Barker about upcoming July BLYC events: July 14 Flotilla, 6 pm in the middle of the lake; July 22 Ladies' Golf Outing; Family Picnic at the yacht club on July 23; and the Men's Golf Outing on July 29.

Take care, be safe, and I'll see you out on the lake.

~Commodore Barb Cassady

Birch Lake Flotilla

Thursday July 14 - 6 pm

Due to past successful flotillas, let's do it again! Meet in the middle of the lake with your boat. Boats will be tied together and we will walk from boat to boat sharing food and camaraderie. Bring an Appetizer.

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— Birch Lake Notes —

Ladies Style Show and Luncheon

Mark your calendars for the Birch Lake Ladies' Style Show and Luncheon on Friday, August 26th. Lunch will begin at 11 at the Wood Fire Trattoria in Dowagiac. Six lovely Birch Lake ladies will be modeling fashions from the Marshall Shoppe. There are three lunch options. Tickets are \$32, and include main dish, salad, dessert, non-alcoholic drink, tax, and tip. Tickets can be purchased from Ronni Eshleman, 317-418-9557, Denny Weesner 650-862-4711, or Jeannie Welch 574-286-2890. They will also be available online on the Birch Lake Yacht Club website. This event sold out last year, so get your tickets early!

Hazardous waste, tire collection

A household hazardous waste collection will be held on August 17, 2022 from 3 to 6 pm at the Cass County Road Commission, 340 N O'Keefe St, Cassopolis. The event is sponsored by the Cass County Board of Commissioners.

In addition, Cass County has received a grant for the collection of used passenger car/pickup truck tires. No appointment is

2022 BLYC FAMILY PICNIC

Saturday July 23
5:30pm-9pm

FREE!

A free party for the Birch Lake community and your guests

Games, food, and music



**BURGERS,
HOT DOGS,
CHIPS, SALADS,
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necessary. Proof of residency is required. The event will be held on August 17, from 3 to 6 pm at the Cass County Road Commission, 340 N O'Keefe St, Cassopolis.

Yacht Club building use

To make arrangements to use the BLYC building, contact Sandy Vitale at 269-476-1680 or 269-858-8184.

The Printed Birch Barker

The Birch Barker is delivered to

FAREWELL PARTY FOR GORDON & MICHELLE SEYFARTH

When: Wednesday July 27

Time: 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Bring: Appetizer to share

Where: Home of Claudia & Dennis Phipps

14719 Kiloqua Woods Lane

Help celebrate the Seyfarth's 20 years of living on Birch and

their new life in The Villages, Florida. Dessert and Wine will be provided.

homes on Birch Lake and available each week at <http://www.philvitale.com/Barker/BirchBarker.htm>.

To submit items for publication, email sailorphil@philvitale.com or onlinebarker@gmail.com, mail to 63174 Birch Rd, Vandalia, MI 49095. To contact the editor, email onlinebarker@gmail.com or to sailorphil@philvitale.com, or call 269-476-1680 (no texts since I don't use a cell phone).

Deadline for any week is noon on Tuesday prior to publication.

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BIRCH LAKE SAILING



Interlake MC Regatta at Indian Lake

Interlake MC Regatta planned at Indian Lake, July 23!

As some of you know, the Interlake Regatta was re-inaugurated last year with a fantastic regatta at Diamond Lake, the Reid Francis Memorial Regatta. This tradition will continued this year at Indian Lake on July 23, honoring Indian Lake's Past Commodore, long-time RC member and former C Scow sailor Don Blackmond. It's a one-day regatta, allowing sailors to return to their home clubs for sailing on Sunday if they wish.

If you're not familiar, Indian Lake is 500 acres and mostly oval. They usually get to sail long legs in a wide open lake. They will sail three races with long courses, and have a nice spread to start your day, with lunch and beverages throughout the day. Trophies will be awarded after sailing. (Rumor has it George Carlin will keep things rolling after the event, but you'll have to ask him!).

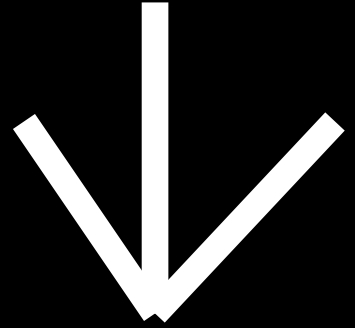
This is ILYC's first off-lake regatta in 21 years and they're ecstatic to be hosting. Their MC fleet is 15 strong and they're hoping to use this event to further grow interest in sailing in general, and MC's specifically. As are many of the fleets, theirs si currently strong but struggling with getting younger sailors on board. They would love to have all

the GR sailors who made such a strong showing at the Eagle Lake spring regatta show up.

They'll have people at the club on Friday for early arrivers, and theyre happy to arrange housing for anyone wanting to arrive early on Friday or stay over on Saturday. Please let them know if you want to stay over either night. The link to register on the MC website https://www.mcscow.org/content.aspx?page_id=4002&club_id=612443&item_id=1751883

Interlake MC Regatta at Indian Lake, MI on July 23!
~John Smith

Last week's sailing results on Birch Lake



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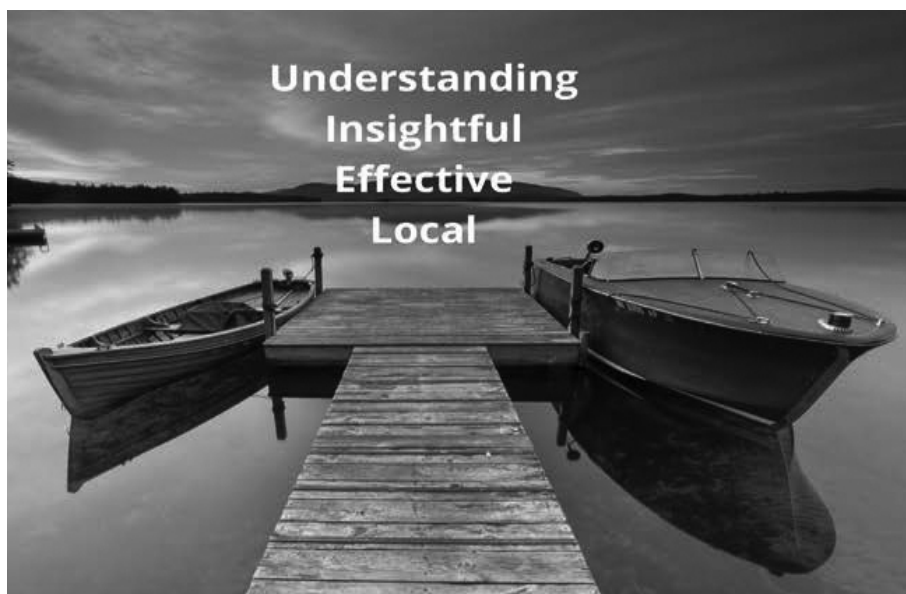


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Things sailors do on a day without wind

As the sun began to rise over Birch Lake last Sunday morning, there was absolutely no wind. The surface of Birch Lake was a perfect mirror, reflecting the trees and houses on the opposite shore. A quick check of a couple of weather apps showed the wind would be only 1 to 2 mph during race hours. And with no improvement in the wind speed as race time got closer, sailboat races had to be canceled for the day. Therefore, there are no race results to publish this week.

Ancient sailors concluded that the earth must be round, because when a sailing ship was seen approaching a harbor from far away, only the top sails of the ship were visible at first, then the middle sails as the ship got closer, and finally the full ship became visible. So did you know that on a calm day you can actually observe and measure the curvature of the Earth on the surface of Birch Lake? Believe it or not, it's true, and you can try it yourself the next time the lake is like a mirror. (It won't work if there are waves.)

Here are the easy steps to follow:

1. Bring some friends and/or family with you for fun.

2. Take along a plastic 12" ruler too, and wade into Birch Lake shoulder-high.

3 Pick out a bright, light-colored object on the opposite shore. It is very important that this light-colored object be as close to the waterline of Birch Lake as possible. For example, a white boat at the water's edge.

4. Keeping your eyes focused on the light-colored object on the opposite shore, lower yourself down into the water until your nose is submerged but your eyes remain just above water. As you do so, you will see the light-colored object disappear from your view. This is because the surface of Birch Lake is not flat, it is curved by gravity.

5. Raise up very slowly out of the water, until the light-colored object appears into your view again.

6. Repeat steps 4 and 5 a few times, just for fun.

Now for the hard math part:

7. Holding the plastic ruler vertically, measure the distance from the lake's surface to the level of your eyes where the light-colored object appears and disappears as you move up and down. This number of inches will be the amount that the Earth curves over the distance between your location and the bright-colored object on the opposite shore.

ored object on the opposite shore.

8. Go home and open Google Maps on your computer, find Birch Lake, select "Measure Distance," and find the distance between where you were, and the light-colored object on the opposite shore. For example, it's 1 mile from the boat launch on the South Side to the north end of The Cove.

9. So now you have the number of vertical inches that the Earth curves between you and the light-colored object, and you know the straight-line distance between you and the light-colored object.

With those two numbers, I believe that you could calculate the circumference of the Earth. Please notice that I said "you," not "me" or "I." I'm just a history major, so I'll stick to the part about the tall sailing ships. My beautiful bride Jackie the accountant could probably do it, but she's busy right now. If any of you can calculate the circumference of the Earth using this Birch Lake method, please email me at stephenbfrew@gmail.com anytime this summer, and you'll get your name in this column.

So much for this week. I sure hope we get some good wind for races next Sunday!

~FC. Steve

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— **Barker Kids
of the Week** —



Top right: Carm and Debbie Soldato (west side) were feeling tremendously blessed to have their 11 grandkids all together at the lake for the first time since 2019 from Seattle, WA; Lexington, KY; Cleveland, OH; and Lisle, IL!

Above: Carm and Debbie Soldato also sent a photo of six of the grandkids who were able to attend the mini session at Camp T. Lots of fun and time shared together.



Center right: Lois Groszek (south side) sent in Godson David and daughters enjoying floating.

Right: John Groszek (outh side) sent son Ethan enjoyed being captain of their pontoon.



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— Barker Kids of the Week —



*Birch Lake Love ...
Abby Rondot and Matt
McLouchlin. Abby is the
granddaughter of Lind
Harman (east side).*

*Mail your photo (with a SASE if you
want it back) to Birch Barker, 63174
Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095; or
put them in a ziplock in the mailbox
at my home (on the east side), or
email Sailorphil@PhilVitale.com*



*Brooks and
Max Holla-
day, along
with Sydney
and Jazmine
Reddick,
grandchildren
of Carol and
Bill Myers
(west side).
They helped
build a gnome
house over
the 4th of July
weekend and
two Gnomes
moved in
bringing can-
dy for rent.*

Birch Lake Ladies' FUN Golf Outing Friday, July 22, 2022

**Diamond Lake Golf Course, Cassopolis
9 am tee off - \$40 per golfer
Please arrive no later than 8:30 am
Fee includes cart and lunch**

Lunch at Birch Lake Yacht Club following the outing

**If you don't golf but would like to join us at noon for lunch
Please register and pay \$15**

**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 18

2022 Birch Lake Yacht Club

FALL DINNER

August 20, 2022

at the Birch Lake Yacht Club

5:30 – Appetizers:

an assortment of cheese and crackers, fruits, and vegetables and dip

6:30 – Dinner:

Polish Sausage, broasted chicken, kluski noodles, mashed potatoes and gravy, sweet & sour cabbage, seasoned green beans, rolls and butter (catering provided by The Skillet, South Bend)

7:30 – Year-End Meeting

\$25 per person

Tickets must be purchased in advance by using the Birch Lake Yacht Club website

<https://store.birchlakeyachtclub.com/>

or by contacting Vice Commodore Deb Hall (cove).

Tickets must be purchased by August 11.

No tickets will be sold at the door or after the above date.

Blast from the Past



BLYC Commodore Barb Cassady sailing an MC on Eagle Lake circa 1981.

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..... | _____ | \$ _____ |

Submit a Past Blast!

Come on, everyone's got a Blast from the Past photo from days gone by at Birch Lake ... want to share them with your neighbors?

Just send them to me ... You can mail your photo (with a SASE if you want the photo(s) back) to Birch Barker, 63174 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095;

or you can 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 ...

Sorry, I don't text or Facebook or texts ... :(

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— Water Quality Report —

Commandment # 4

Let's now discuss Commandment # 4: "Thou Shalt Protect and Expand Natural Shorelines"

We often write [preach?] about the dangers of allowing phosphorus and other nutrients into our lake. While this is indeed extremely important, did you know that the 2007 National Lakeshore Assessment indicated that far more Michigan inland lakes are stressed by poor shoreline conditions than by excesses of nutrients or turbidity?

Shorelines:

- Dictate what gets into the lake
- Provide key animal habitat and breeding areas
- Serve as important fish nursery areas

Prevent (or hasten) soil erosion.

The "lawns and seawalls (that most of us have) change the lake ecosystem in ways that are hard to reverse." Hard shorelines have physical, biological and chemical impacts.

In terms of our environment and protecting our lake, natural shorelines yield the best results. Ironically, they are even our best bet at limiting phosphorus.

An optimum natural shorelines includes many components:

- Submerged vegetation (in the water)
- Emergent or floating vegetation (in the water)
- Woody debris (beached logs or

sticks) (in the water)

- A secured, gradual (climbable by turtles) slope up from the water's edge
- And, at the top of the slope, before the lawn, a barrier strip (the wider the better) of at least 12" - 24" tall native, deep-rooted-plants.

In a perfect world the gradual slope would be made of and secured by native plants, perhaps initially held in place by natural fabrics or logs. Seyfarths (northeast corner) comes to mind as meeting many of these criteria.

The barrier strip helps to prevent erosion but also captures many chemicals on their way to the lake. It also makes your lawn area less desirable to geese. Please pick up whatever deposits geese (or other living beings) might leave on your property and throw them, not into the lake, but into the trash.

Although not 100% natural, a gradual slope of riprap (cobble and boulders) is more desirable than a solid concrete wall. A gradual slope of riprap could be installed in place or in front (on the lake side) of a poured concrete seawall, thus mitigating some of its negative effects. Kudos to the Woznys (south) and Troegers (east side).

Even those with riprap and/or a poured concrete wall could install and maintain any of the other features of a natural shoreline described above.

A hardened shoreline, absent any of these natural characteristics, used to be considered by many of us lake folks to be highly desirable. Instead, water



quality experts have referred them to as "aquatic deserts".

In 2017, using methods and standards provided as part of the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program, we subjected our lake to a "Score the Shore" evaluation. Due to our performance (or lack of) on the factors listed above, and the amount of development around the lake, we received a Below-Average score. Our score today might be a little higher, but not too much different, still likely below average.

A good source for more information on the subject, including approved material and contractor source guides, can be found at www.mishorelinepartnership.org. Also helpful is www.mishorelandstewards.org.

PLEASE PASS THE WORD.

Birch Lake items of interest

The Moon for this Saturday

(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)
Illuminated Fraction: 0.824
3.5 days after full moon



Sunrise: 06:19:43 AM
Sunset: 21:16:36 PM
Moonrise: 23:46:42 PM
Moonset: 09:36:25 AM
Daylight: 14 Hr 56 Min 53 Sec

Name: _____

Date: _____

Harry Potter Words Word Search Puzzle

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

Find these Harry Potter words

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------|------------|-----------|
| SIRIUS | VOLDEMORT | HERMIONE | HOGSMEADE |
| SEEKER | RON | PERCY | HAGRID |
| LUPIN | GOLDEN SNITCH | GRYFFINDOR | QUIDDITCH |
| SLYTHERIN | AZKABAN | RAVENCLAW | BEATERS |
| HUFFLEPUFF | MANDRAKE | QUAFFLE | |
| SCABBERS | HOGWARTS | HEDWIG | |
| SORTING HAT | HARRY | | |
| BLUDGERS | CHASERS | | |

(The words may be hidden vertically, horizontally or diagonally.)

Birch Barker Funnies



"To applaud a politician because he has built a hospital, a school, road etc with public money is the same as applauding an ATM because it gives you your money"



If you get a LOAN at a bank, you'll be paying it back for 30 yrs.
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MY WIFE ASKED ME WHY I SPOKE SO SOFTLY IN THE HOUSE.
I SAID I WAS AFRAID MARK ZUCKERBERG WAS LISTENING!
SHE LAUGHED.
I LAUGHED.
ALEXA LAUGHED.
SIRI LAUGHED.



~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

Fresh strawberry coffee cake

Wonderful white coffee cake is topped with fresh strawberry and crumb topping.

Servings:12

Ingredients

- ¼ cup butter
- ¾ cup white sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ cup milk
- 1 ½ cups thinly sliced strawberries
- ½ cup all-purpose flour
- ½ cup white sugar
- ¼ cup butter, softened
- ¼ cup flaked coconut

Directions

- Step 1 - Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease a 9-inch baking pan.
- Step 2 - Beat 1/4 cup butter in a bowl until creamy; add 3/4 cup sugar and egg. Beat until fully incorporated.
- Step 3 - Mix 1 1/2 cup flour, baking powder, and salt together in a separate bowl. Stir flour mixture, alternating with milk, into butter mixture until combined. Pour batter into prepared baking pan. Arrange strawberries atop the batter.
- Step 4 - Mix 1/2 cup flour, 1/2 cup sugar, 1/4 cup butter,



and coconut together in a bowl. Sprinkle topping over strawberries.

- Step 5 - Bake in the preheated oven until a toothpick inserted in the center of the cake comes out clean, about 35 minutes.

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— Camp Tannadoonah —

New attendance record!

We're past the halfway point of our summer, and we've reached the point where we have full cabins almost every week from now til mid August! We officially have 1197 campers registered for the summer, which is a new Tannadoonah record for attendance. There are a *few* spots left for Sessions 6 (week of July 24) and Session 8 (week of August 7) for overnight camp, if you have kids you were still hoping to register for camp. All of our day camp sessions are full and have a waitlist.

We also have full waterskiing and wakeboarding classes for each four remaining weeks of camp. Camp has two boats for waterskiing and wakeboarding instruction, and we run four classes each day with each boat. My dad (Bill) is one of our boat drivers for the summer, and usually we train another couple staff members to drive the boat. This year we don't have any other staff with boat experience, though.

If you're an experienced boat driver, and you'd be interested in volunteering to drive a couple classes between now and the end of the summer, we'd love the extra help! Please email me (amber@riverbendcampfire.org) and we can discuss the details. Thank you to Tom Kuhn and Patrick Welch, who have already offered to cover a couple days in the upcoming weeks!

This week at camp is International Week, and we've been celebrating the dif-

ferent traditions of our international staff. This year we have staff from England, Scotland, the Philippines, and France. They've been teaching campers about different holidays, customs, songs, and cultural traditions in their home countries. It's fun for the campers to learn about different cultures and meet people with very different experiences from their own!

As we get closer to the end of the summer, we have staff who have to leave early to go back to camp, which leaves us short-staffed in a few areas. If you have kids / grandkids / nieces / nephews who might like to work a week or more at camp, we'd love to have them apply! We have positions for ages 16 and older for any of the upcoming 4 weeks (between July 19 and August 13). They can contact our Camp Director, Miss Gabby, at gabby@riverbendcampfire.org for more information.

We also just launched registration for our second annual Grown Up Camp Weekend, which we're calling "A Gathering of Friends." The name is based on our camp legend, which says that the name Tannadoonah stands for "a gathering of friends, on a hill, above a lake, among the trees." The dates for this event are September 22 – 25, and it's open to anyone over the age of 21 – camp alums, parents of campers, or anyone who just loves camp!

You can learn more about this weekend event on our website at [river-](http://riverbendcampfire.org)



riverbendcampfire.org. There will be traditional camp activities like archery and canoeing, camp songs and s'mores around the fire, and some grown up activities like craft cocktails and mixology, a professional massage therapist, and cocktail cruises on the lake. There are options to attend the full weekend, or just come Saturday for a day of activities, or even just for dinner on Saturday night. We'd love to have some Birch Lake folks join us for a fun and exciting weekend!

Thanks!

~Mrs. Amber

Considering selling your lake home or property?

Don't wait!

Here are a few great reasons to put your home on the market.

- Beat the competition
- Inventory is at an all time low
- Plenty of qualified buyers actively looking
- More people than ever are looking for a second home

Dennis Bamber and his group sold over 100 waterfront and lake access homes in Michigan and Indiana over the past few years.

Dennis has been a Diamond Lake resident for over 30 years.

Many of the group's listings sold quickly and over asking price. Take advantage of their wealth of experience with lake properties and contact Dennis now!



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tional, sails well. **PRICE REDUCED AGAIN**
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476-1680, or email onlinebarker@gmail.com

Jet Ski lift for sale - PWC
cantilever lift, 750lb capacity and
51" beam. Price \$500. Call 574-220-
0407



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Call 574-596-2154.

WANTED TO BUY

Wave runner in good running condition. 2000 or newer.
-Kevin 773-304-8042

WANTED TO BORROW

Wanted to borrow a **car seat** for 2 ½ weeks in
August for our granddaughter who is a toddler. Thank
you!! Jackie Frew 708-285-2999

SERVICES:

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

FOUND:

White cushion, looks like a **boat cushion**,
washed up on west side after the big storms last week.

Call Ron or Katie (269) 476-9317 to claim.

Turtle raft drifted ashore on the north side. Can
be claimed in front of Spratts' until July 22nd. After that
claim at Baucus's on the east side.

Found: **One Pelican kayak paddle.** Sitting
on end of Dugan pier or call 269-832-5588.

FREE:

Small children's rowboat, 8' long, free to a
good home. Contact Jon @ 574 339-6492

**Two sets of men's golf clubs with
bags, free** to someone who wants them, leave a

msg at 574-299-0705 ~ Bob

FOR RENT:

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

Birch Cottage 4 Rent: Three bedroom, one
bath with tub and shower, **lakefront house on
Birch Lake.** New granite kitchen new stainless
appliances with dishwasher, washer and dryer. Nice
pier with big platform. Plenty of parking. Beautiful sun-
sets all year long. Possible ski, pontoon, row boat, and
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HOW TO BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

SLOW DOWN ON THE BIRCH LAKE ROADS

The roads around Birch Lake are narrow and perilous with lots of blind spots. There are a lot of folks walking, biking, jogging, including a lot of kids and pets. Please slow down and be careful!

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



2022 BLYC OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

2022 BLYC OFFICERS

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Blair Garceau (E) Chairman, Homeowners
476-9862 blairgarceau@gmail.com
blairgarceau@gmail.com



BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB THE TIME IS RIGHT TO PAY YOUR DUES!



Support the BLYC, support our Lake, support our 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

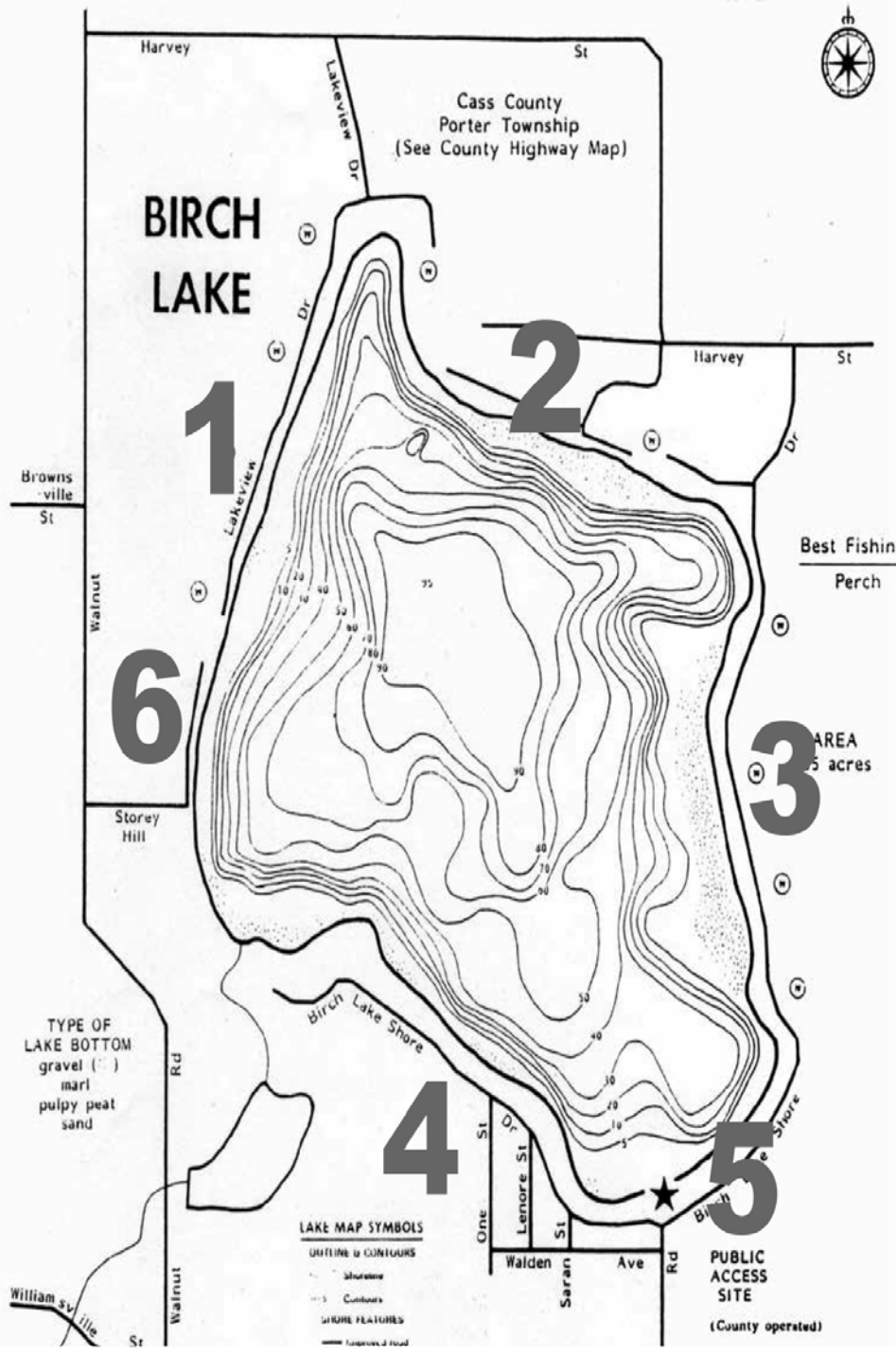
Now you can go online at [HTTP://BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM](http://BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM) to pay your dues

EMERGENCY HEART DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) locations on Birch Lake

CALL 9-1-1



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SOUND**



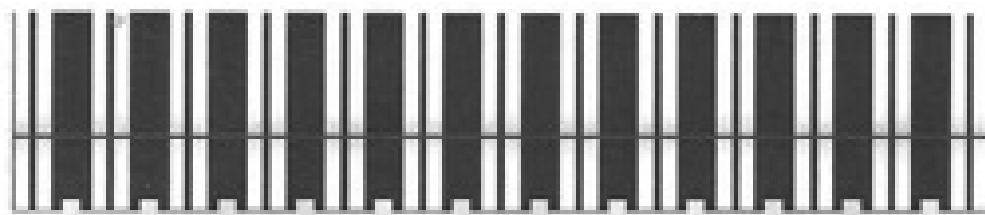
There are six (6) automated external defibrillator units on Birch Lake. The boxes that contain these devices are located at the following locations (see map):

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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