

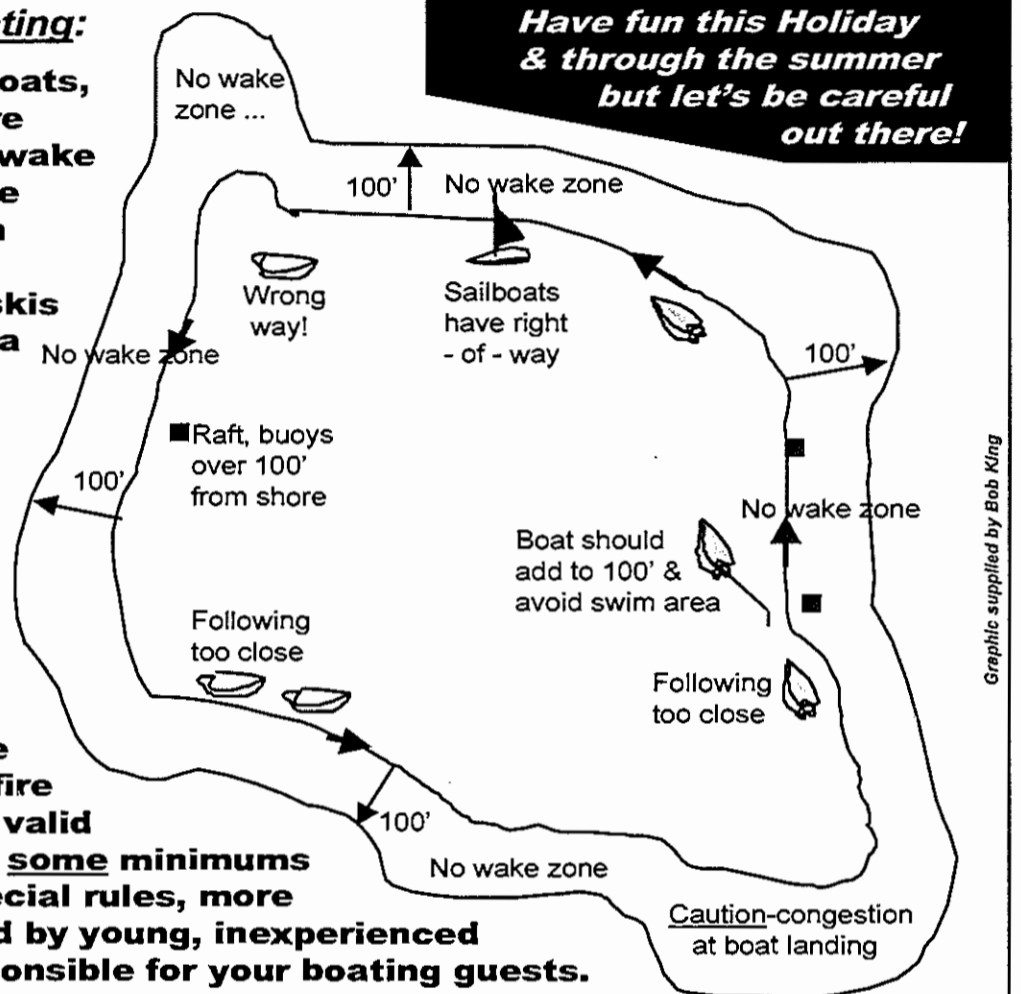
The Birch Barker

A Publication for the Members of Birch Lake Yacht Club

Volume One, May 26 2001

Common-Sense Boating:

- * **Go slow near other boats, rafts & shore. You are responsible for your wake**
- * **Take your time & give room - stay 100' from boats, rafts & shore**
- * **Pulling someone on skis or tube requires extra caution, an observer & add the length of your tow line to the 100' rule**
- * **Drive only in the counter-clock-wise direction (flow)**
- * **One wearable USCG life jacket must be available for each person on board! One throwable device, a fire extinguisher, horn & valid boat registration are some minimums**
- * **PWCs have many special rules, more caution must be used by young, inexperienced drivers. You are responsible for your boating guests.**
- * **Consult the Cass Cty. Sheriff's Dept. - Marine Division for MI rules, come to the boat inspection 6/9 or boating safety class scheduled for 6/9. These are just common sense rules & requests as interpreted from an old graphic published many times, no warranty is expressed, nor liability assumed by BLYC**



Graphic supplied by Bob King

Welcome to summer at Birch Lake!

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Welcome back to Birch Lake. Hope everyone had a good winter. We have a great group of officers, directors and chairpersons on board for the summer. I think we have a fun-filled schedule of activities.

I want to thank Phil Vitale

for being editor of the Barker again this year.

Please refer to the schedule printed on this page for activities, times and other pertinent information. Also, feel free to contribute any articles or pictures that you think would be of interest to our Birch Lake community.

We started the season with 95 members attending the

Spring Dinner. The setting, food and fellowship were fantastic. We had a short program followed by a video of "The Four Seasons of Birch Lake" by Buzz Rasmussen. As a fund raiser, the BLYC will be selling copies of the video for \$15 each. It is an excellent video, with all the members raving about it.

We completed the Birch

Lake road clean-up and the Yacht Club clean-up. We had a terrific turnout for both. I would like to say thanks to those members who helped.

Please note the date of Saturday, June 30 is the fireworks display.

Have a safe and happy Memorial Weekend.

Your Commodore!

The Birch Lake Yacht Club Calendar for 2001

5/27 - Tannadoonah Open House, 1-4pm

5/27, 28 - Memorial Day Regatta, 11am

6/9 - Boating Safety Class 7am-2pm

Boat inspections 10 am-Noon

Comm/Vice Comm Party

6/14 - Open meeting on Porter Alliance of

Lakes Sewere Study, Baldwin

Prairie School, 7 pm

6/16 - BLYC Board Meeting

6/30 - Boat Parade, Fireworks

Fourth of July Regatta

7/1 - Pancake Breakfast

7/14 - Jimmy Buffett Party

7/20 - Ladies Golf & Lunch

7/21 - BLYC Board Meeting

7/27 - Men's Golf & Dinner

Birch Lake Garage Sale

Birch Lake Craft Sale

8/11 - Ladies Day Activity

8/18 - Corn & Sausage Roast

BLYC Board Meeting

Homeowners Assn. Meeting

8/19 - House Walk

8/25 - Fall Dinner

9/3 - Labor Day Regatta

11/22 - Turkey Day Regatta

TBA - Get Kidz Hooked on Fishing 2



If you have items for the BARKER, please put the materials in the Barker box at 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore) by 3 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, or e-mail the info to me at sailorphil@philvitale.com by Monday at Noon. If you must, mail (10 days prior to desired publication date) to Phil Vitale, 122 So. Michigan, So. Bend, IN 46601, or fax your items to (219) 232-3853. To contact me, call Phil at 476-1680 or (219) 232-3735 or (219) 232-3735.

Note: All times in the Barker are IST (Indiana Standard Time) unless stated otherwise

Birch Lake Notes

Porter Township's Annual Clean-Up-Day

It's that time of year! Take advantage of Porter's annual Clean Up Day on Saturday, June 9 from 8 am to 1 pm (Michigan Time) at American Waste Systems, 15621 Mason St. in Union.

This is your chance to get rid of all of those things you wanted to dump but didn't know where to take them. If you are a senior citizen, disabled or need help, call 616-641-2375.

The group will not be taking any hazardous waste products or building materials. Tires will be taken for a fee of

\$2 without rim; \$4 with rim; \$6 for tractor and large truck tires.

Cass County Spring Hazardous Waste & Tire Collection

There will be a Hazardous Waste & Tire Collection Program on Saturday, June 2, from 9 am to 1 pm (Michigan time) at the Cass County Fairgrounds. They will accept solvents, cleaners, pesticides, asbestos, mercury, tires and many other hazardous materials.

The program is sponsored by the Michigan State University Extension Program and the Cass County Board of

Commissioners and local municipalities.

Birch Sewer Study Prepared

On 4/26, Rick Russwurm and Bob Herms of Birch Lake attended a meeting concerning a sanitary sewer *study* for "The Porter Alliance of Lakes." The purpose of the *study* is to evaluate the various options for providing waste water collection and treatment for five lakes in Porter Township, Cass County Michigan.

The area(s) to be served by the proposed sanitary sewer system includes the developed areas surrounding Birch Lake, Shavehead Lake, Baldwin, Long (including Coverdale)

and Indiana Lakes. The five lakes will be considered as a single integrated system. Representatives of all five lakes attended the meeting.

A sanitary sewer *study* has been prepared by Wightman Petrie, Inc., a consulting engineering and land surveying company of Elkhart, IN. At the present time this is a *study* only and obviously no decisions have been reached regarding the installation of a sewer system

An open meeting for all lake residents will be held June 14 at 7 pm at Baldwin Prairie School.

BLYC Sailing News

The following is an announcement for the 2001 Memorial Weekend Regatta.

I apologize for being a bit slack in my duties as Fleet Captain as far as contacting the sailors and starters. It might have been due to too many "Honey-do" projects!!

Nevertheless, the Memorial Day Regatta will be this weekend, Sunday May 27, and Monday May 28 at 11 (Noon Michigan), so all sailors should be at the line prior to that time — and be sure to check in with the Committee Boat.

We usually race one-and-one third times around a triangular course, with the starting and finishing legs sailed into

the wind.

Our normal season race schedule will begin on June 3rd, and continue through the summer, weather permitting throughout the season. A tentative listing of the schedule will be listed in the next Barker.

We always need starters for the races. If you might be interested, contact me at 476-2760.

Even if you're not, be sure to come out and watch our sailors in action!!!

Jim Beck-2001 Fleet Captain



TOTAL PACKAGE CONSTRUCTION

Serving Michiana area for 7 years

Commercial & Residential

Licensed & Bonded

219-679-7257

Construction Additions	Excavation Concrete	Remodeling Roofing	Landscaping All General
Decks, Patios	Tear out	Siding	Landscapes
Sidewalks	Demolition	Foundation	Lot Clearing
Garages	Grading	Finishing	
Pole Barns	Retaining Walls	Basements	
Yard Barns		Inside remodels	

We deliver: topsoil, mulch, gravel, slag, sand, landscaping stone
 We haul away: branches, brush, burn piles, trash
 Fencing: privacy, chain link and farm • Install yards (sod and seed)
ANY JOB • ANY SIZE • CALL FOR FREE ESTIMATES



Phil Vitale Publishing Inc.

Birch Lake's premier source for

- Writing and Editing
- Desktop Publishing
- Photography
- Publishing Services
- Design
- Websites
- Graphic Arts
- e-mail newsletters

122 S. Michigan St., Suite 310
 South Bend, IN 46601

Downtown — above the Chocolate Café
 219-232-3735 / fax 219-232-3853
 e-mail: sailorphil@philvitale.com

Proud Member of the Birch Lake Yacht Club

Curtis Cleaning Services

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning



- ★ Spot Removal
- ★ Pet Deodorization
- ★ Minimal Drying Time

General Home Cleaning



- ★ Vacuuming & Dusting
- ★ Window Washing
- ★ Kitchen & Bathroom Sanitizing

Thanks Birch Lake!

Insured & Bonded
 Residential & Commercial
 63093 Birch Road

616-476-2431
 Vandalia, Mi



BENDER



PLASTICS INC, MOLD & MACHINE, INC.

QUALITY MOLDS FOR PLASTICS

CUSTOM INJECTION MOLDING

55951 RUSSELL INDUSTRIAL PKWY
 MISHAWAKA, IN 46545

TOOLING - (219) 255-5176

MFG - (219) 255-5350

Have A Safe and Fun Summer!

Birch Lake Notes

Camp Tannadoonah needs...

Camp Tannadoonah needs the following items (donations):

Handcraft supplies — clay flower pots, leather crafts, tin cans (15 oz. or smaller), beads, plastic tablecloths, cardboard tubes from paper towels

Nature supplies — binoculars, bird identification books, plant/tree identification books, star identification charts/books, compasses, gardening tools, wood chips, wheelbarrow (a deep one)

Maintenance supplies — new chain saw, electric drill (cordless would be nice) mulch, bushwhacker, generator, new

storage barn, pickup truck, small step stools, small air conditioner, dehumidifier

Waterfront — new boat shed

Sport and Games — new bows, new arrows, targets, arm guards, tetherball

Other needs/wants — cell

phones (analog), walkie-talkies with base unit, decorations or costumes relating to the themes of the week, fans, tennis racquets, serving spoons for tables at mealtime, paddleboat, pontoon boat, golf cart, bulletin boards (8/11 - 16x11 approxi-

mate) fishing poles with reels and tackle supplies, push lawn mower

Volunteers — to clean out trails throughout the woods and to clear out our Pioneer Camp (this would be a great spring and summer project!)

A note from last year's commodore...

Last year it was a pleasure to serve as commodore of Birch Lake Yacht Club. Well, ok, it was mostly good, barring some extraordinary moments — but, the snafus were external and uncommon. It is customary for the retiring officer to introduce their successor. I was unable to find my replacement, but express sincere thanks to Mike & Katha Machalleck who are taking another turn at the wheel. Judging

by the Spring Dinner (May 5), we are certainly in good hands!

It is gratifying to see that many past board members have stayed on & other new directors have come forward. Mike, Katha, Jim & Debbie deserve our support. Please find a way to help with the club this season.

See you on the water,

-Bob King

Be responsible — leash your dog!

Hi Neighbors, welcome back. Leash your dog (we'll get back to that).

Fido and I are soooooo excited to see you. We both wag our butts in excitement. Now that you're back, we promise to be more careful about fertilizing your yards (and you thought it was Mother Nature that kept them so green...you're welcome!).

Ok, let me start out the first Barker on my usual soapbox.

LEASH YOUR DOG; IT'S THE LAW!* The not-so-funny part of this is that two of our lake neighbors were bitten recently. I personally suffered a deep cut keeping Fido separated from an unleashed mutt (Baaaaad Owner!).

While walking in the rain one morning, I passed a neighbor (who was soaked to the bone) yelling for his dog. He must have found him because the very next week I passed

him again and he was yelling for his dog. Again. Here's a thought: LEASH HIM!

Electric fences work well, too. We have to be responsible dog owners. They rely on us to keep them out of harm's way. It is for their safety.

If you are having problems with strays or your neighbor's pets call Animal Control at 616-445-3701. They will be happy to assist you

-Fido's Friend

*Editor's Note: See Page 9 of this Barker for a list of Cass County Animal Laws.

Checking his p-mail



W WERTENBERGER
INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.

Good Group Rates and
Multi-Policy Discounts on
Home, Auto, Life & Boat
Insurance
Mature Owner Discounts

"Call us for a quick quote"

15479 U.S. 12
P.O. Box 74
Union, MI 49130

(616) 641-5995
Fax (616) 641-5787

EVANS BROS. BODY SHOP
"OVER 40 YEARS EXPERIENCE"

- FOREIGN CARS & CORVETTES
- AUTO PAINTING
- COMPLETE BODY REPAIR
- RADIATOR SERVICE
- GLASS REPLACEMENT
- FREE ESTIMATES
- WE USE THE LATEST URETHANE PAINTS



24 Hour Emergency
Wrecker Service

"We are the Best in the Business"
Accept No Substitutes

476-2441

SOUTH ON CALVIN CENTER RD. OFF M-60 TO BROWNSVILLE RD. TURN EAST TO END OF ROAD. 15674 Brownsville Rd., Vandalia

LYNN'S INN

Along the Banks of the St. Joe River

**FINE DINING RESTAURANT
& LOUNGE**

Nightly Specials

10188 US 12 • Mottville, MI 49099

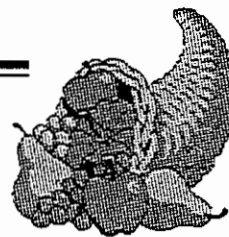
W-Sat. 5-9 • Sun Brunch 12-3

(616) 483-9515

**Week-End
Reservations Suggested**



Best of Beck's Bistro



Oven-Braised Beef with Tomato Sauce and Garlic

1 28 oz. can of whole tomatoes, including juice

1 3 to 3-1/2 lb. boneless chuck roast

1 head of garlic, separated into cloves (unpeeled)

covered, until very tender, 3 to 4 hours.

Cut roast into 1/4 inch thick slices, and serve with sauce and garlic.

This is one of our favorites, and it is easy and very good.

Preheat oven to 300 degrees.

Coarsely chop tomatoes, or you can use diced tomatoes.

Put roast in an oven-proof 4 to 5 quart heavy pot or casserole dish with a lid.

Pour tomatoes, including juice, over roast, and scatter garlic around it.

Season with salt and pepper. Braise in middle of oven,

Coffee Hummer

1 oz coffee liqueur or Kahlua

1 oz rum

2 scoops vanilla ice cream

Combine in blender with a scoop of crushed ice. Blend for 30 seconds.



Tri-Lakes

SPORT'S MARINE
Customer Satisfaction Comes First
Service is #1



We Sell:

Manitou Pontoons
Crestliner Boats & Pontoons
Triton Bass Boats
Mercury Motors
EZ Loader Trailers
Starr Boat Lifts & Piers

We Service:

Mercury Mercruiser
Force Volvo
Johnson Penta
Evinrude Omc

69545 SUNSET BLVD.
UNION, MICHIGAN 49130
PHONE: 616/641-2154
FAX: 616/641-2154

Web Site: triboats.com

Email: triboats.com@prodigy.net

ST. EVANS FIREWORKS

13421 MCKINLEY HIGHWAY
MISHAWAKA, IND 46545
219 256 5988

AREA'S LARGEST SUPPLIER
AT THE BEST PRICES

EVERYTHING FOR YOUR BACKYARD CELEBRATION

BIRCH LAKE RESIDENTS BRING THIS COUPON IN FOR
20% DISCOUNT
ON YOUR FIREWORKS PURCHASES.

*WE AT RKM FIREWORKS ARE AGAIN HAPPY TO PROVIDE BIRCH LAKE
WITH THEIR FIREWORKS SHOW*



Lloyd Vaughn
Owner

SEPTIC SERVICE

**OUR EQUIPMENT IS THE STATE OF THE ART
WE BACK FLUSH**

LICENSED & INSURED IN MICHIGAN & INDIANA
Accepting VISA & MASTERCARD

445-3063

64648 M-62 S. - CASSOPOLIS



Dave's Tree Trimming



20% Discount
Fully Insured

David Holdread
(219) 293-4097



100% Satisfaction Guaranteed

Water Heaters	Sump Pumps	Water Tanks
Water Pumps	Disposals	Sinks
softeners	Toilets	Bathtubs/showers
Iron Filters	Faucets	Winterization

(219) 295-8633

License # CP81041499

License #81-07776

Each lake is different. Problems and causes are not the same in every lake and need to be identified with water quality data of collected information so that knowledge can be put into action to move lake management from a vision to a reality. The historical record of Birch Lake water quality begins in 1978 and continues to build.....

Birch Lake is proof of how a lake can improve its water quality. Prior to the partnership between the Yacht Club and the Health Department to replace faulty septic systems, water was contaminated. Quality was middle to very low middle.

Birch Lake is proof of how a lake can achieve and maintain excellence because of residents who are loyal to Birch Lake and because of controlled watershed management.

It is clear that the future of Birch Lake lies in the existence of the Birch Lake Yacht Club and its members who provide the funding for the water quality committee and the opportunity to continue the Birch Lake Monitoring Program, which was expanded in 1999 to include the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP)

CLMP was established by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality through an existing Memorandum of Understanding between Michigan Lake and Stream Associations and Michigan State University.

Michigan Lake and Stream Associations assist the water quality committee in measuring important lake parameters. Data from these parameters combine to develop a description of the lake's trophic status.

1999 PARAMETERS
Secchi Disk - Transparency
Spring Overturn and Late Summer Phosphorus
Chlorophyll (*Birch Lake was selected for the Pilot Program*)

2000 PARAMETERS
Secchi Disk - Transparency
Spring Overturn and Late Summer Phosphorus
Chlorophyll
Dissolved Oxygen (*Birch Lake was 1 of 19 lakes selected for the Pilot Program*)

1999 Trophic Status of Birch Lake: Oligotrophic (top) High Mesotrophic
2000 Trophic Status of Birch Lake: Oligotrophic

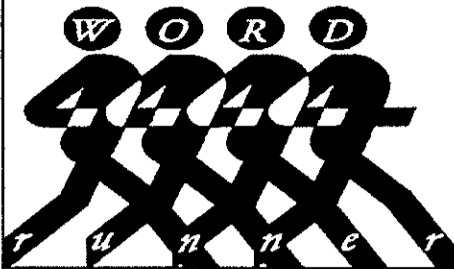
Dissolved Oxygen in the water column was measured from top to bottom: from 1 foot to 95 feet. Birch Lake is Oligotrophic/Mesotrophic with a large volume hypolimnion (a substantial oxygen supply - retains some oxygen even into Sept.)

2001 PARAMETERS
Secchi Disk - Transparency
Spring Overturn and Late Summer Phosphorus
Chlorophyll
Dissolved Oxygen/Temperature
Rapid Algal Assessment (*Birch Lake was 1 out of 10 lakes selected for this powerful addition to water quality data for determining quality and trends*)

Aquatic Plant Monitoring and Mapping
(Birch Lake was 1 out of 3 lakes given priority for the Monitoring and Mapping Program. Because this parameter is complicated and time consuming, a specialist has been hired by Michigan Lake and Stream Associations and Michigan State University to provide professional assistance to Birch Lake)

Lucky Guy

By The WordRunner



There's a new boy on our side of the lake. He's a young one, not quite two months old, and so far he doesn't seem particularly impressed with the beauty and soul sustaining comfort of his new location. He's not blase, he's just inexperienced.

Other than the hospital where he was born, this is the only place he's known, and he doesn't have much of a frame of refer-

ence. Nevertheless, his arrival on the East Side has led me to reflect on some of the treasures of life here in our little corner of paradise.

The new fellow's name is Madison Starr Troyer, and he is the son of a man whose family has lived, year round, on Birch Lake for three generations. Madison's mother is the daughter and granddaughter of Birch Lake warm-weather people. Her relatives have come here every year since 1946. In other words, this young man will be a fourth generation Birch Laker along both branches of his family tree. The remarkable thing about this is that Madison's situation is not unique or even all that unusual. There are dozens of stories much like his all around our shoreline.

There are Troegers and Troyers and descendants of the Sears family. There are Doolittles and Cowens and Curises and Olsons, and Kings, and Balls, and many, many more. We all journey to this holy place and we touch each other's lives, and we keep on doing it year after year, decade after decade, generation after generation. Each of

us comes to Birch for his or her own reasons, but all of us benefit from the continuing presence of our neighbors.

Continuity, a sense of community, a shared love and appreciation for a beautiful "home" place, those are some of the great benefits we derive from our time on this lovely body of water, and those are some of the things that keep us coming back again and again. Here we feel enriched, refreshed, and centered. Here we know who we are, what is important to us, and how we live when we are at our best.

Madison doesn't yet realize that his middle name was given to him because his great-grandfather, a Birch Lake saint who led his family to these waters, lived such a fine, quiet life that he deserved to have his name passed along in perpetuity. Madison also doesn't realize that dozens of people whom he has yet to meet, have known about his coming since before he was born, and that they shared day-old pictures of him via the Internet. They've already taken him in. He is a member of the Birch Lake community.

Lucky guy.

When it's time to sell your lake property, we can lure the right buyers.



JERDON
REAL ESTATE, INC.

ESTABLISHED 1950

32502 M-62 West
Dowagiac, Michigan 49047

(616) 782-4000

of buyers generated by our exclusive marketing program, called *Direct Lake Property Marketing*.

So when it's time to sell, just give us a call and we'll start reeling in the buyers!

VISIT OUR WEB SITE @ <http://JerdonRealty.Com>

When you're ready to sell your lake property, we make it easy to find buyers because we're the specialists in Southwest Michigan. Serving over 70 lakes in 4 counties, we have a large selection

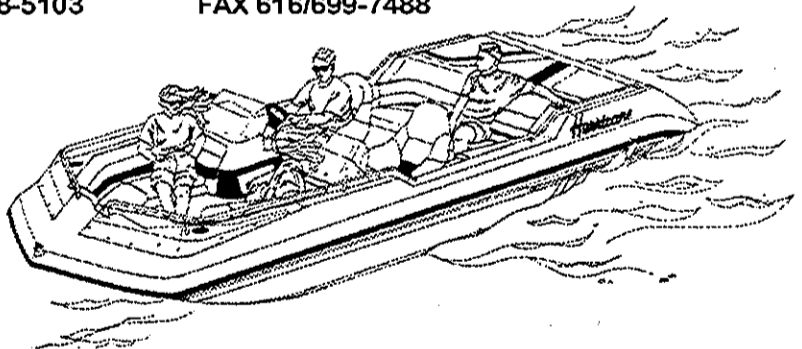


Eagle Lake Marine

has personalized service and certified technicians who go the extra mile to ensure that your boating days are pleasurable

68777 Avenue A
Edwardsburg, MI
616/688-5103

1-888/EAGLE-LA
(1-888/324-5352)
FAX 616/699-7488

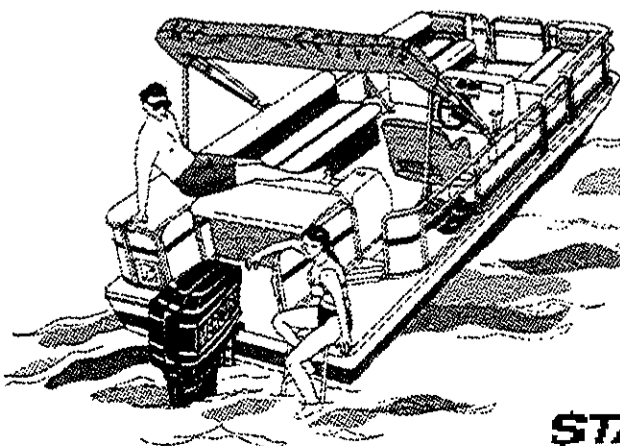


Storage ■ Sales ■ Service

Upholstery/Trim Shop

Boat Covers/Seat

Covers/Tops/Upholstery & More



Hurricane

Sanpan

MERCURY
MerCruiser

Have It Done With Nature

HONDA
MARINE

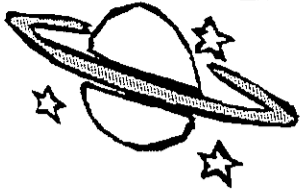
Johnson
OUTBOARDS

Aqua Patio

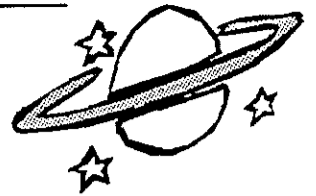
Sweetwater
By Candy White

STARCRAFT

Stop in today and pick up a free accessories catalog



Stu's Star Stuff Northern Lights



Welcome back to the lake, where the clear skies make for beautiful and awe-inspiring viewing. I hope you all enjoyed the winter sky events. Did you get to see the partial solar eclipse on Christmas Day? How about the total lunar eclipse on January 9? That was really great. Another rare event that you might have been able to see in the last few months was an auroral display. Some recent solar storms made viewing the Northern Lights possible as far south as Texas.

What causes the Northern and Southern Lights? The

famous Northern and Southern Lights - Aurora Borealis and Aurora Australis for those Latin lovers among us - are caused by high-energy particles from the Sun cascading down on Earth. As they near our planet, they interact with Earth's magnetic field, which channels them toward the north and south magnetic poles. There they are accelerated downward, and at altitudes ranging from 50 to 450 miles, the particles collide with atoms of our upper atmosphere, a process that results in a glowing field of excited gas. These sheets of lights can take on many beautiful colors, and often persist for hours on end, danc-

ing gracefully in the polar skies.

I clearly remember seeing the Northern Lights in the skies above the lake some summers ago. They were mostly a brilliant green shade, reaching almost directly overhead at times. You may remember seeing them at some time too. Every decade or two there is a very large auroral event that is witnessed by people south of the usual auroral zone. The 1958 auroras (Feb 11, July 8) are particularly well-known, and may be the source of childhood memories of many adults. Other dates of significance include Aug. 4, 1972 (probably the one I remember), Dec. 19,

1980 and March 13-14 1989.

Earth isn't the only planet that experiences aurorae; recent images from the Galileo probe, in orbit around Jupiter, clearly show massive auroral displays many times the size of Earth taking place high in the Jovian atmosphere. As we study our neighboring planets in ever-increasing detail, it is all but certain that more such spectacular and eerily beautiful scenes will be discovered.

Next week we'll kick it up to warp speed, maybe. Until then, enjoy the show. It's free!

-Stewart Spratt



P.O. Box 155
Vandalia, Michigan 49095

WEDNESDAY-SATURDAY
3:30pm to 11:00pm

SUNDAY
4:00pm - 9:00pm

CARRY-OUT
FOODS

Closed Monday & Tuesday

38 YEARS IN BUSINESS!

Finest Food in Michiana
Phone: (616) 476-9606

TOM'S GARAGE

1969

IN WILLIAMSVILLE
PHONE: 476-2272

2001

24 HOUR TOWING
GASOLINE AND AUTO REPAIR
MINI MART - VIDEOS

8:00 AM TO 7:30 PM (MI) SUNDAY THRU THURSDAY
8:00 AM TO 8:00 PM (MI) FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
CLOSED SUNDAY 10:30 TO 12:30 (MI)

** TOM * BETTY * BECKY **

VISA - MASTERCARD ACCEPTED

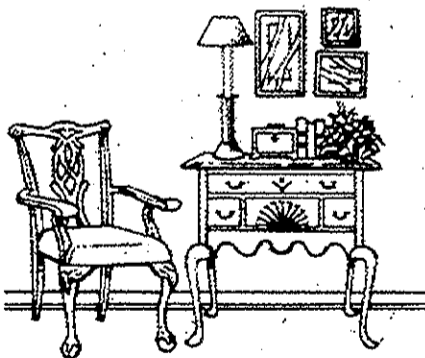
Accents & Images

Interior Design

Sheryl Papandria

63680 Birch Rd.
Vandalia, MI 49095

(219) 273-5025
(616) 476-9225
fax (616) 476-9555



"Your Birch Lake Neighbors"

Dick & Judy Lindzy

FACTORY
TILE
I N C.

211 Dixie Way North
South Bend, IN 46637

219-272-7000

Beanstalk Internet

Bringing the Birch Lake
Community Online!

Local Internet Access!

- ◆ Completely unlimited, direct 56k v.90 Internet access!
- ◆ Individual e-mail account with web access
- ◆ 30 MB of Server Space for Web Pages or file storage
- ◆ Unlimited free account support
- ◆ BeanSprout News
- ◆ Instant Internet Setup CD with Netscape Communicator and AOL Instant Messenger

Getting On-line has never been easier!

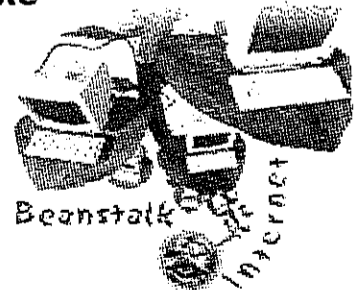
We can help your organization gain high-speed access for the entire office, AND develop your presence on the web with your own www.name.com address!

Dial-Up Costs

- (No setup costs)
- \$20 per month
- \$50 for 3 months
- \$95 for 6 months
- \$185 per year (WOW!)

Start Your Internet Experience
with **10 FREE DAYS!**

Call toll free 877 681-2865 or go to
www.beanstalk.net



Beanstalk Internet LLC.
69045 M62, Suite C
Edwardsburg, MI 49112

Birch Lake Yacht Club Information

Officers					
Commodore	Mike Machalleck	476-2642	Secretary	Sally Beck	476-2760
Vice Commodore	Jim Bolinger	476-9737	Treasurer	Holly Troeger	476-9898
			Fleet Captain	Jim Beck	476-2760

Directors

North

Bill King	476-2128
Pam Mullin	476-8820
Rick Russwurm	476-2407
Fred Freihofer	476-9823

East

Judy Olson	476-2125
Scott Troeger	476-9898
Bob Waddle	476-2293

South

Dick Bender	476-2591
Dick Green	476-2461
Dan Reynolds	476-8877
Denny Weesner	476-2569

West

Harold Cranmer	476-2170
Jack Miller	476-9226
Vicki Rogers	476-2383

Editor — Birch Barker

Phil Vitale	476-1680
-------------	----------

Event Chairpersons

Spring Dinner	Mike Machalleck	476-2642
Road Clean-up	Jim & Sally Beck	476-2760
Yacht Club Clean-up	R. Whiteman/Mike Machalleck	
Boat Parade	John Gableman	476-2132
Pancake Breakfast	Don Harman	476-2039
Jimmy Buffett	Jim, Sally Beck	476-2760
Ladies Golf	M. Miller	476-9226
	B. Custard	476-9835
Men's Golf	John Ball	476-9775
Garage Sale	D. Troyer	476-2639
Ladies Activity Day	D. Troyer	476-2639
	M. O'Neill	476-2831
	H. Toth	476-2877
Corn & Sausage Roast	John Gableman	476-2132
House Walk	Denny Weesner	476-2569
Fall Dinner	Jim Bolinger	476-9737
Kids Events	P. Russell	476-1022
	L. Parkinson	476-9293
	A. Troeger	476-9898
Get Kidz Hooked on Fishing	Tom DeCocker	476-9821

ERHARDT

Termite & Pest Management



- Pest Control
- Termite Control
- Rodent Control
- Flea Control
- Competitive Low Prices

- Commercial
- Residential
- Real Estate
- FHA & VA

JOHN ERHARDT - OWNER

(616) 476-9944
(616) 476-2866

VANDALIA - P.O. BOX 275

Jimmy's Tavern

69608 Sunset Blvd.
Union, MI

616-641-5317



"Since 1978"

63021 Birch Rd.
at Birch Lake
Vandalia, MI 49095

E. JOYCE KLIMEK
Broker
Phone Fax (616) 476-2370

BIG C LUMBER

Since 1921

For All Your Building Material and Hardware Needs,
Come See the Experienced Folks at Big C Lumber!
Schoolcraft, MI 616-679-5500 Elkhart, IN 219-262-4506

For a listing of our other 10 locations, or to find out more
about our people, products and services, visit us at:

www.bigclumber.com

New Hickory Inn Restaurant

Jones, Michigan

(616) 244-9004

Wednesday & Thursday 5-10 pm
Friday & Saturday 5-11 pm

Evening Specials
Featuring Chicken, Seafood & Steaks
Prime Rib with Salad Bar!!!

~ Evening Specials ~
(With choice of potato & salad bar)

- Mon - Going fishing
- Tue - Chicken (all you can eat)
- Wed - Chicken
- Thur - Shrimp (All you can eat)
- Fri - Cod (all you can eat)
Crab Legs - 1 lb. \$9.95;
2 lb. \$14.95
- Sat - Steak Sizzler (all you can eat)
or - Prime Rib with Salad Bar

What the Young Crowd Does at the Lake

Lakes always have a certain appeal to us kids, probably because there's so much to do! Every generation of Birch Lake kids have enjoyed the classic water sports, and now there's even more stuff to do with inventions like super-powered squirt guns (though some say this spoils the fun).

Everyone who has grown up at the lake has enjoyed swimming, fishing, water fights, skiing, tubing, and turtle and frog catching. Bicyclers ride around the lake or up to Tom's Garage for a treat.

Sand castles and houses are built on sandy shores. Younger kids ride everything from sailboats and canoes to speed boats, and older kids learn how to drive them.

Lake kids from the last generation had simpler ways to have fun. The junior fleet



Kids have more fun

by Amy Troeger

sailboat races were popular, and most of the toys didn't need batteries. Now we have all sorts of computers and video game systems, which keep a lot of the youngsters inside. Noisy jet-skis have replaced sailboats on the popularity scale.

Different kids do different things, too. Schools and clubs refuse to let kids out totally for the summer; many travel back home for summer school, beginning band, Scouts, or 4-H. Camp, whether at Tannadoonah or elsewhere, keeps kids

busy. A group of kids on the southeast shore (including me) put on a play in our garage.

Inclement weather isn't always bad. Being inside can cause restlessness and bickering, but playing with indoor toys and watching the larger storms is always fun, especially if friends can still join you.

During the winter, amusement is found up in the woods, on the ice, or in the yard sledding and building forts (you never know when someone will hit you with a snowball). The Swiss Valley ski slopes are nearby as well.

Whether playing a simple game of tag after a Yacht Club meeting, or creating an elaborate water-battle, lake kids are never bored!

Barker Classified Advertising

FOR SALE

SHORE STATION — 3600 lb. aluminum boat lift w/canopy and white vinyl cover, direct drive electric motor, \$3400/offer. Lift in great condition on Birch Lake. New larger boat coming. Call 476-9714 on lake or in South Bend 219-272-2904.

1982 MERCEDES BENZ 380SL (convertible). Real collector's car. Dark blue, light tan interior. Both tops and hard-top storage case. 476-1680.

FOR RENT

Birch Lake Rental, completely furnished. Includes central air, laundry room, HBO/Showtime and much more. Weekly rate \$1000 with \$200 returnable deposit. No pets. 616-983-1663.

BLYC NOTES

If you ordered a "Four Seasons Of Birch Lake" VHS tape, you can pick it up at Machallack's or Rasmussen's. If you haven't ordered one yet, you may do so at either home.

Saturday, June 9, 6-10 pm: Commodore/Vice Commodore Wine and munchie party. Bring a little of each to share.

WANTED TO BUY

USED PONTOON BOAT and USED FISHING BOAT — Got one you want to get rid of at a good price? Call Phil at 476-1680.

Miscellany

Young couple (from last year) who finally found a home on Birch Lake would like to thank all of

the great people who helped us make this possible. We absolutely love it here and are overwhelmed by the kindness of the residents.

New lake residents (young couple) seeks frequent boat rides around Birch Lake on any given day. Will supply our own beer (and at least one for any accommodating skipper). Inquire at the "East Shore Marina," E172.

Place your Barker Classified Ad

Want to reach all of the Lakelanders with your message? Put your ad info in the Barker Box at 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore) or e-mail to: sailorphil@philvitale.com

THE TAN SHOP

Simonton Lake Plaza
51523 S.R. 19 N. - Elkhart, IN 46514



Ultrabronz High Pressure Tanning Beds
Triple - Double - Single Facial Beds
219-264-4977

NORDI FIREPLACE CENTER

FIREPLACES • WOOD STOVES
GLASS DOORS AND GAS LOG
INSTALLATION • CHIMNEY
CLEANING, REPAIR AND
NEW CONSTRUCTION
INSPECTIONS & FULL LINE
OF ACCESSORIES

Jim Geselle

(219) 262-1433 • (219) 264-0728
(800) 419-0403 • Fax (219) 266-6338



CHAPEL HILL MISSIONARY CHURCH

14525 Chapel Hill Street • Union, MI 49130
Phone: 616-641-5236

1 Mi. East of Union to Baldwin Prairie Rd. Turn North
1½ Mi. to corner of Chapel Hill Street

Sunday Services:	Sunday School	9:30 am
	Worship Hour	10:45 am
	Evening Service	6:00 pm

Wednesday:	Adult	7:30 pm
	Youth	7:30 pm
	Kid's Club	7:30 pm

Come worship with us



FISHER LAKE INN

The only thing we
overlook is
Fisher Lake

Steaks • Seafood
Spirits

19984 M 60 East
Three Rivers, MI 49093
(616) 279-7984

BLYC members for 2001 season

Below are the folks who have sent their annual Yacht Club dues. Please notify Phil Vitale, Holly Troeger or Mike Machalleck for correction.

Dues and Fireworks:

Andriano, Fred & Stacia
Asire, Marty
Ball, John & Jennifer
Beck, Jim & Sally
Bender, Dick & Stack, Marsha
Benjamin, Ritacarol
Bergan, Jim & Linda
Bliler, Wm & Grace
Blue, Jim & Shirley
Blue, Richard & Krchmar, Sandra
Bolinger, Jim & Deborah
Brovold, Gary & Karen
Calderwood, Jim & Nancy
Coan, Jim
Curtis, Steve & Deborah
Curtis, Terry & Linda

Dennert, Larry & Kay
DeYoung, Richard & Beth
DiRutigliano, Dominic & Joyce
Doba, Bill & Judy
Doolittle, Rick & Cathy
DuFour, Duffy & Sue
Eberhart, Gilbert & Barbara
Falk, Roger & Suzanna
Flora, Larry & Marge
Foley, William
Freihofer, Fred & Carol
Gableman, John
Garceau, Bernie & Blair
Golden, Mark & Ilene
Gotstein, Mike & Marge
Green, Dick & Barb
Greenig, Bob & Kay
Groszek, John C. and Lois
Harlan, Bruce & JJ
Harman, Don & Lind
Harris, Gwen
Herns, Bob & Kohnke, Eileen
Hombeck, Jack & MaryAnne
Howard, Tom & Colleen

King, Bill & Le
King, Bob & Leslie
Kolber, Chet & Vivian
Krueger, Lorene
Kruggel, Herm & Bev
LaPierre, Chuck & Cheri
Leach, Norma
Leatherman, Dennis & Phyllis
Lindzy, Dick & Judy
Machalleck, Mike & Katha
McCay, Larry & Deb
McNamee, Kathleen
Miller, Jack & Mardy
Monroe, Norman & Nancy
Mullin, Rich & Pam
O'Brien, Betty & Joe
Odenwald, Bill & Lynette
O'Neill, Bill & Maryann
Olson, Dave & Judy
Papandria, Sheryl & Covey, Dan
Rasmussen, Buzz & Linda
Reynolds, Dan & Janet
Richwine, Mike & Debbie

Rieth, Bud & Louise
Rogers, Tom & Vicki
Russell, Michael & Paula
Russwurm, Rick & Patti
Sanders, Ray & Sonia
Sankey, Joe & Teri
Scofield, John & Laveta
Stevens, Pat
Thayer, James & Eleanor
Troeger, Holly & Scott
Troeger, Tom & Pat
Tunncliffe, Bill & Joanne
Vath, Helen
Vitale, Phil & Sandy
Waddle, Bob & Sue
Waggoner, Monty and Kristina
Wagner, Bruce & Sue
Walker, Brad & Nancy
Waterbury, Marciel
Weesner, Bernie & Helen
Weesner, Keith & Denny
White, Phyllis
Williams, Jerry & Mattie
Williams, Patrick & Sue

Witchie, Ron & Linda
Wos, Stan and Doreen
Wozniak, Ben & Vanessa
Zelasko, Millie
Zesinger, Bud & Barb

Dues only
Cote, Adrian & Judith
Groszek, John
Klimek, Matt & Joyce
Morrison, Bob
Temple, Bob & Gert
Weaver, Doug & Julie

Fireworks only
Athanias, Thomas & Martha
Cranmer, Steve

Spring Dinner only
Cranmer, Harold & Donna
Drolet, Loretta
Toth, Joe & Helen
Troeger, Earl & Connie

Birch Lake Yacht Club Contributions

Make checks payable to:
Birch Lake Yacht Club

Mail to:

Holly Troeger, Treasurer
1516 Ash Drive East
Elkhart, IN 46514

Drop off:

63696 Birch Road (call 476-9898)



- \$_____ - BLYC Member Dues (\$20 / year)
- \$_____ - Homeowners Assoc. (\$10 / year)
- \$_____ - Sailing Fees (\$15 / year)
- \$_____ - Building Improvement Fund
- \$_____ - Fireworks Display Fund
- \$_____ - Water Quality Program
- \$_____ - Other _____
- \$_____ - Riparian (\$7/yr, provide address)

\$_____ **TOTAL**

"The Lake Expert"



Nancy Walker
CRS, GRI

www.swmichiganhomes.com



RE/MAX
Shore Acres
21550 Shore Acres Rd
Cassopolis, Michigan 49031

RE/MAX

Shore Acres

21550 Shore Acres Rd
Cassopolis, Michigan 49031

Office: (800) 385-2763

Residence: (616) 476-2515

Email: nancywalker@realtor.com

In today's competitive real estate market, you need fresh and creative ways to sell and buy homes. That's why it's a good idea to use a real estate agent who fully understands the latest techniques that get results . . . *fast!*

I'm a professional real estate agent for RE/MAX. So, if you're looking for an innovative and hard-working individual to represent you, or someone you know, in buying or selling a home, please call me today. Fresh ideas are my specialty.

Sincerely,

Nancy Walker