

Birch Barker

A Publication for the Members of Birch Lake Yacht Club

Volume Five, June 23, 2001



Got photos? The Barker is looking for nice photos from around the lake. We're looking for snapshots taken in the last couple of weeks of the pretty places and faces that help make Birch Lake such a wonderful place to spend time. Drop your photos off at the Barker box anytime (please put them inside a ziploc baggie to protect them, and write your name and address on the back, as well as a description of who and what are pictured). I'll do my best to get 'em back to you.

Barker photo by Phil Vitale

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Despite all of the extreme weather we had recently, Sunday turned out to be a perfect day to celebrate Father's Day. It was nice to see all the activity on and around the lake.

Make your plans for the celebration of our 4th of July events. We will start Saturday, June 30th with an around-the-lake boat parade at 4 PM, followed by a "BIG" fireworks display at dark. The sailors will also be participating in the July 4th Regatta. On Sunday, July 1st, the annual Pancake Breakfast will be held at Camp Tannadoonah starting at 8 am. Bring your families, friends, and neighbors; all proceeds are contributed to the Camp.

It's not too late to send your dues and fireworks contributions to our treasurer, Holly Troeger. Use the convenient form on the last page of the Birch Barker.

Start planning your four-somes for the men's and women's golf outings. The men's is scheduled for Friday, July 27th, with John Ball in charge, and the women's is Friday, August 3rd, with Mardy Miller in charge.

Have a great week.

Your Commodore
-Mike Machalleck

Our second weekend of regular season races greeted the sailors with beautiful skies, but very squirrely winds, constantly changing direction. After moving the marks several times we were able to complete two races per class. In his debut race of the season, Bruce Harlan picked up a first place in the MC class with Rick Harman second, and Don Harman third. In the second race, Rick Harman got his first, first place of the season, followed by his father Don Harman. Bruce Harlan finished third. My apologies for the confusion of the course layout!!



Don Harman third. In the second race, Rick Harman got his first, first place of the season, followed by his father Don Harman. Bruce Harlan finished third. My apologies for the confusion of the course layout!!

Birch Lake Sailing News

The sunfish were led in the first race by Scott Troeger. Tom Howard finished second, Bob King was third, Dave Olson fourth, Dewayne Weaver fifth, and Rick Russwurm sixth. The second race was paced by veteran Tom Howard with Bob King slipping past Scott Troeger for second place. Again Dave Olson finished fourth, Dewayne Weaver fifth, and Rick Russwurm sixth.

As is usually the case after the races ended, the winds picked up and were con-

stant. Thanks to Julie Plaia and Don Harman for setting the marks, and to my jovial crew aboard the committee boat of my wife Sally and Sandy Vitale (timekeepers), Bruce Wagner (horn blower), and Phil Vitale (anchor boy).

Thanks to all of you sailors for coming out. We still need more boats out there. Talk to your neighbors who have sunfish especially, and see if we can motivate them a bit.

See you next Sunday.

-Jim Beck, Fleet Captain 2001



The Birch Lake Yacht Club Calendar for 2001

6/23 - All (Diamond) Lake Sale 9am-Noon.
6/30 - Boat Parade, Fireworks
Fourth of July Regatta
Newberg Twp. Port-a-Pit 11am-5pm
7/1 - Pancake Breakfast 8-11am
7/21 - BLYC Board Meeting 9am
Birch Lake Garage Sale*
7/27 - Men's Golf & Dinner

8/3 - Ladies Golf & Lunch*
8/4 - Jimmy Buffett Party*
8/11 - Ladies Day Activity
8/18 - Corn & Sausage Roast
BLYC Board Meeting 9am
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
TBA - Birch Lake Craft Sale

*Note change of date



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

Pancake Breakfast

The Pancake Breakfast at Camp Tannadoonah will be July 1 from 8 - 11am. Adults \$4. Kids 6 to 10 are \$2. Children under 5 eat free. This is a great way to support the camp and meet your neighbors. See you there.

Ladies Golf outing change

The Birch Lake Ladies Golf outing has been changed to August 3 at Park Shores at 9 am. Experienced and novice golfers welcome; we play a *best ball*

scramble. Arrange your foursome or be grouped with new friends. The cost is \$25, which includes 9 holes of golf and half of a cart at Park Shore Golf Course in Cassopolis and *fabulous prizes*. Golf at 9 am (IN) followed by a luncheon at Noon (IN) at Lindy's. Select from an open menu with individual checks. Prizes will be awarded at the luncheon.

Please send reservation and check to Mardy Miller, 63255 Storey Hill, Vandalia, MI, 49095.

Questions? Call Mardy at 476-9226 or Betsy Custard at 476-9835 or 219-255-8894.

Yacht Club Rental policy

The Directors of the Yacht Club have voted to change the policy for rental of the clubhouse. Any member wishing to rent the building must personally present their application to the board for approval.

Watercraft info, complaints

Anyone with questions or

complaints about watercraft on Birch Lake should call the Cass County Sheriff's Department Marine Desk at 616-445-1225.

Boat Parade info

The Boat Parade will be Saturday, June 30 at 4 pm. Start at Reynolds pier, judges will be on Gableman's pier.

Birch Lake Garage Sale

The Birch Lake Garage Sale will be Saturday, July 21 from 8 am to 2 pm.

News From The Cove and outlying areas

By Sunny Waters
Goddess of Garble

By this time B.S. and I will have returned from frolicking in Saugatuck on our annual anniversary trek. Though we outwardly appear to be a devoted couple, B.S. is exhibiting unusual behavior which deeply concerns me. Perhaps it's just a bout of paranoia but doesn't it

seem a tad bizarre for a supposedly happily married man to spend eight or more hours a day poring over the Victoria's Secret catalogue? also, I've noticed that he has recently installed a padlock on one of his dresser drawers. Come to think of it, maybe Saugatuck wasn't a good choice.

Adorable baby of the week award goes to Morgan Isabella, the beautiful cuddly first grandchild of Phil and Sandy Vitale. Her big brown eyes are heart melters.

Hurray! Roberta Minix is home. It's so good to have you back, dear lady. No more of that hospital stuff, hear?

Happy Birthday, Nicholas Bergan!

This brings us to the unpleasant segment of NFTC. For all you devotees of Beck's Bistro, take heed. After careful research it has been revealed that ALL recipes and ingredients have been copped from Swanson Frozen Dinners packages. Suspicion was aroused when it was noticed that every recipe began with "remove cover and microwave on high for 12 minutes." Sneaky people, those Becks.

From Best Things Ever Said: The closest anyone ever comes to perfection is on a job application form.

The Commodore's party was good time. Lots of good munchies and laughs. Yacht Club functions are an opportu-

nity to catch up with old friends and meet new ones while nibbling on best-effort hors d'oeuvres.

Well, have a good week and remember, a closed mouth gathers no feet.

— Sunny

Post Script: Mother Nature and Father Frenzy teamed up to give Birch Lake a whomping. We empathize with the many who suffered damage, especially the hard-hit south shore. As always, good neighbors and friends offer comfort and aid. Thank you, dear ones. By the way, would anyone be interested in buying our station wagon? It comes with a year's supply of firewood.



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Birch Lake Notes

Newberg Fire/EMS Port-a-Pit

On June 30, the Newberg Township Fire & EMS Open House will have Port-a-Pit food at the Jones Fire Station from 1 to 5pm (or until the food is gone). Meals are 1/2 barbecue chicken dinner for \$5; chicken only for \$4; or barbecue rib dinner for \$6. Delivery is available if you can't get to Jones.

For more information call Darlene Troyer at 2639 or Julie Weaver at 2869.

Congrats to KC Wiseman

Congratulations to K.C. Wiseman of the south shore. He received the Grand Kiwanis Award and was valedictorian of his class (4.0) at Riley High School. K. C. also played football and ran cross country at

Riley. He will be studying pre-med. K.C. will attend Notre Dame on a golf scholarship.

Birch Lake Video Tape

"The Four Seasons of Birch Lake" video (VCR tape) can be picked up at the Machallecks' or the Rasmussens' homes. We are also taking orders for the next distribution.

Olson walks 60 miles

Last weekend, Beth Olson joined 3,400 other dedicated people and walked 60 miles from Kenosha, Wisconsin to Chicago.

The walkers were assisted by over 1,000 volunteers. This arduous journey was to raise money in the Avon 3-Day Breast Cancer walk.

Beth had a very personal rea-

son for this grueling task, as breast cancer had touched her mother, aunt, friends of her mother, the mother and sister of close friends, and the vice president of her company. Also, breast cancer claimed the life of Nadine Brown, her husband's grandmother and former Birch Lake resident.

After crossing the finish line at Montrose Harbor, a rally was held with emotional speeches. On hand to greet Beth afterwards were her husband Jeff, mother and dad Phyllis and Dean Davis, sister Kelly Wilson and family (Jay, Alex and Brooke), as well as other friends. Good job Beth! We're so proud of you!

A special thank you to all the Birch Lakers who generously sponsored Beth on this walk. Her

individual total was over \$4,300. And remember to get a mammogram soon!

Thanks neighbors!

Thanks to Bob and Leslie King, Stan Pitakos, Bruce Harlan and our neighbors, Dr. Green's MC can finally see the light of day. They "righted" the MC which had "turtled" in last week's storm. It turned out to be an incredibly difficult task! Aren't Birch Lake people the BEST? Thank you to all

-Dick and Barb Green

Tom's to close early

Tom's Garage will close at 5 pm (Indiana time) on Saturday, 6/30 for a family function.



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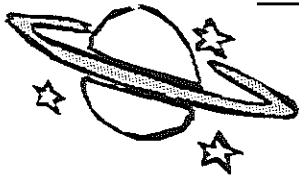
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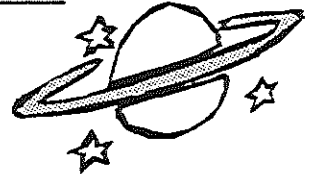
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Have A Safe and Fun Summer!



Stu's Star Stuff

Welcome to Summer!



The young moon is outstanding tonight. It hovers alone in the WNW through twilight. The closest bright stars are the Gemini Twins, 17 degrees (about two fists) to the lower right, and Regulus, of Leo, 22 degrees to the upper left. The bright stars of the Summer Triangle climb into view at about the same time, and soar overhead during the night. And Venus, the dazzling "morning star," rises a couple of hours before the Sun.

Most of us in the United States have a pretty good view of these skywatching highlights. But the folks in Alaska won't

share in the sights — because it never gets dark this time of year.

Summer officially began (for northern hemisphere) at 3:38 a.m. EDT (not IST - there is no such thing) on Thursday. At that moment the Sun stood farthest north in the sky for the entire year. The farther north you are, the longer the Sun remains in the sky. Anchorage, for example, will see just five hours of "night-time" tonight — five hours from sunSET to sunRISE.

Even those hours won't be very dark. After the Sun sets, it barely dips out of sight. At most, it drops about six degrees below the horizon — the width

of about three fingers held at arm's length. That means it stays twilight throughout the night.

Most of Alaska is even farther north than Anchorage, so nighttime is shorter and twilight is brighter. And north of the Arctic Circle, the Sun doesn't set at all.

While Alaskans and everyone else at far-northern latitudes see a lot of the sun at this time of year, they DON'T see much of the full or almost-full Moon. From Anchorage, the Moon will slip into view for only about five hours, and climb only a few degrees above the southern horizon.

Even though Thursday, the summer solstice, was the longest day (and shortest night), the earliest sunrise occurred on June 14 (for latitude 40 degrees N), and the latest sunset happens on June 27. The Earth's non-circular orbit and tilted rotation axis account for this apparent discrepancy. Make good use of the extra evening daylight minutes because all too soon you'll notice that it's getting dark earlier.

And while it's dark, look up and enjoy the show. It's free.

-Stewart Spratt

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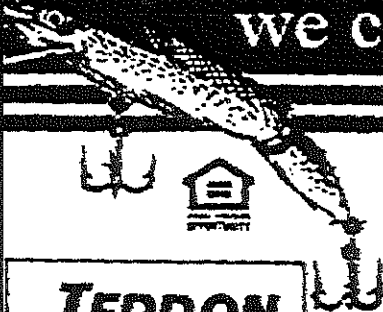
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A Fond Farewell to Uncle Joe

He was my Uncle Joe. I first met him a long time ago, when I was still small enough to be bathed by my mother and aunts in the sink at Birch Lake.

Then Uncle Joe was huge and hairy, powerful, and with great capabilities. Even then I knew he was largely responsible for the magic that unfolded every season; the raft, the dock, the rowboat, the canoe, the ski boat, the sailboat, and more, and the high ritual performed by the men in the shed across the road; that of carefully filtering and mixing the fuel for the outboard engines.

This was the first adult man that I knew that wasn't my dad or granddad, and it was Uncle Joe that did a lot to give me an inner voice of good judgment. He treated me as if I was already in possession of this mysterious quality, even though I was three and he was thirty.

One time, I remember being lined up and bound up in a life preserver, and kindly instructed as to what we needed to keep in mind to prevail as we set forth. From Uncle Joe, instructions were for a reason, and they never had a harsh authoritarian tone. It was more in the spirit that we might just share a few words out loud, to be sure all of us grown ups and kids (*all of us already in possession of good judgment*) would prevail in the next big adventure soon to come.

His was the voice of judgment and reason. I learned that if I followed his instructions, fantastic things would happen. Frightening, fantastic, exhilarating things, like being towed behind the boat on the old styrofoam sailboat hull with my sister and brother and my cousins together hanging on and

screaming. And when I returned to the dock, he acknowledged me among the rest, as if he knew that I had grown from the experience, and that in his eyes I had graduated to being a little bigger, little kid.

He introduced me to concepts of environmental stewardship. He'd tell me not to take the turtle eggs from the nest if we found any, because the turtles needed to hatch successfully to make more turtles. And, after a day of collecting specimens into the metal basin next to the fish cleaning station, to put all the fish, minnows, frogs and turtles back into the lake, before I came up to the cottage to clean up before dinner. And then there were Jody, Peg and Marc telling me stories, of all the orphaned wild animals he would bring home, that they would raise for a while, and release back into the woods.

Uncle Joe directed the logistics at Birch and knew where everything was. He could find the skewers for marshmallows, the coils for the mosquitoes, the minnow trap, and other magic things, like the metal rod with the electrical wire made for shocking the night crawlers out of the ground.

And then there was fishing. Everybody knew that Uncle Joe was the real fisherman around Weewood. That was a magical feat that placed him on the highest of all pedestals in my little world. He'd always be the one that would select the rod for me, from those that hung in the cottage. He'd fix me up with the rod, bobber, hooks, weights, and worms, and a set of instructions as to where the fish like to be (along the edge of the weeds), and what to do if I happen to hook into the big one (try to keep them out of the weeds). By then, I had earned the

privilege (by previously having shown good judgment) to take the rowboat out on my own, as long as I "stayed within a line of sight of the cottage and didn't go across the cove".

I returned a few more times in my youth, but then years past before I returned to Weewood for the next time. I was a grown man now, in my 20s, and my dear grandfather had passed. grandma, Uncle Ed, Aunt Suzie and my dad were older too. Uncle Joe was white on his head and chest, and his hair was thinner on top. He didn't seem like such a physical giant this time, as I had grown to be the highest mark on the cottage door frame of all the Partridge clan.

We sat on the deck of the cottage as he told me how his time was filled, now that he had retired. He cared for dear grandma and visited her often, and drove a van picking up elderly folks and tending to their needs, and bringing them to and from church. He grew a patch of tomatoes and made his own juice. He had grandchildren and they gave him great joy.

I saw Uncle Joe for the last time in July of 1999. It was at Birch Lake. For that I am very grateful. It was Aunt Suzie's and his 50th wedding anniversary. I had been told that he had cancer and the family was aware that it was serious.

We sat on the pontoon boat and chatted. He never mentioned his condition. He asked me what I had been doing and what our lives in California were like. He listened intently. In our conversation, I had the amazing opportunity to bring my life full circle, and tell him the fish stories of my life; and all about my days in Alaska working as a fly fishing guide, showing good judgment, and assisting people in having the experiences of a lifetime.

He reflected back on the years of Birch Lake, and of course, how it had

changed. He told me important stories some of which I had heard before; stories that linked all of us to this place and this family. He told me of clearing the lot for the cottage and how much it cost to build the first place. He went on to describe how, year before, he had a small side business selling nuts, in dispensers, to bring in a little more money. I knew that money was for all those boats, rafts, docks, lumber, decks, and all the other props, that had made Birch what it was *for all of us*.

When we left, he assured me that I was always welcome at Birch Lake, He and Aunt Suzie always said that. Now, wherever I am, and whatever the circumstances, I know this.

Uncle Joe to me, will always be that kind, deeply resonant voice of measured judgment and compassion. I see he lived his life so often in the service of others. To a child, he was a giant man. As I became a grown up, he remains a giant among grown ups.

In the words of Robert Louis Stevenson's *A Life's Work*:

To be honest, to be kind,
To earn a little, to spend a little less.
To make upon the whole
A family happier for his presence
To renounce when that shall be
necessary
And not be embittered
To keep a few friends
But these without capitulation.
Above all on the same grim condition
To keep friends with himself
Here is a task for all that a man has
Of fortitude and delicacy.

I know that Joe Caenepeel, my uncle, has accomplished all this. We are all so lucky to have had such a man be so much a part of our lives. Thanks Uncle Joe.

-Scott Partridge June, 2001
Los Gatos, California

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SECCHI DISK READINGS

The Secchi Program is explained in part from an article by Don Winne, Executive Director Michigan Lake and Stream Associations, Editor and Publisher of the MICHIGAN RIPARIAN.

“The Secchi (rhymes with etch-e) disk originated with Fr. Pietro Angelo Secchi, an astrophysicist, who was requested to measure transparency in the Mediterranean Sea by Commander Cialdi, head of the Papal Navy. Secchi was the scientific advisor to the Pope. Secchi used some white disks to measure the clarity of the water in the Mediterranean in April of 1865. Various sizes of disks have been used since that time, but the most frequently used disk is an 8-inch diameter metal disk painted in alternate black and white quadrants.

Even though the Secchi disk measurement of water clarity is an approximate evaluation of the transparency of water, it is used primarily for its simplicity. A more accurate measurement of underwater irradiance can be made by the use of photometer, but that amount of accuracy is not needed for the Secchi (Self-Help) Program instituted by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) in 1974 (Now the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality).

Michigan Lake and Stream Associations (ML&SA) started its own Secchi program in 1991 with 50 lakes in the program. One hundred and eighteen lakes participated in the 1992 Secchi program, the first year ML&SA carried out the Self Help Program under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). ML&SA continued the MOU with the DNR in 1993 with 146 lakes enrolled in the program.

Secchi Data Contributes to Lake Management

Nearly all Secchi disk measurements on Michigan inland lakes will be between 1 and 40 feet. The greatest value of the Secchi disk measurement occurs when each lake compares its own readings from week to week, month to month and season to season. No comparisons between lakes should be made unless similarities in measurements are followed vigorously. Several factors are involved, such as the eyesight of the viewer, the time of day the readings are taken (midday - between 10 and 2 is preferred) the reflectance of the disk, the color of the water, clay particles or other materials suspended in the water, etc.”

Birch Lake Secchi Data

Clarity or transparency is measured weekly from the first week in May to the last week in September as a part of the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program. The eight inch disk, with four alternating black and white quadrants painted on the surface is lowered into the lake until it disappears. The water depth at which it disappears is the value of the lake. The Secchi Disk Transparency monitoring report is sent to Don Winne for state recording.

Year	Lowest Reading	Highest Reading
1999	11 feet	30 feet
2000	13 feet	24 feet
2001 (as of June)	18 feet	29 feet

According to the Secchi disk measurements used by the Michigan Department Environmental Quality, Birch Lake is classified as *Oligotrophic (clear water, low productivity, beautiful)*.

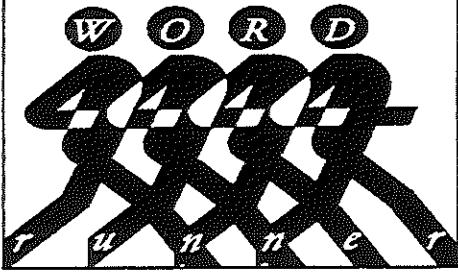
Birch Lake does not have nutrient inputs from agriculture and septic systems. In lakes with high nutrient inputs, the disk can disappear in 2 to 3 feet of water.

In very clear lakes, Secchi disk values greater than 30 can be measured. The only nutrient input at Birch Lake is phosphorus from lawn fertilizers. Buy LAKESIDE from Temple, Russwurm or Reynolds. *The less phosphorus, the deeper the disk, the clearer the water.*

-g. temple

Retirement

By The WordRunner



Dan Reynolds, that age defying gentleman of the South Shore, came out to the road to chat when I wandered past his place last week. We spent a little time on the weather, which was in the dumper at that moment, and then we did a conversational Arabesque to "business."

Was his work schedule as heavy as it used to be, I asked. "No," he said He had cut back considerably, and over time, he might reduce his load even further, but his work was fun to him, and it did not keep him from doing anything he wanted to do, so the idea of retirement held little appeal.

Another wonderfully centered, straight thinking, Birch Laker, Phil Vitale, has a kind of "Travis McGee" understanding and appreciation of "retiring." He works for himself, avoids work for which he has no passion, and takes his retirement "as he goes," in bits and pieces, nights at home on the water, weekend parties, and sailing fortnights in the Caribbean.

Most of us who come to Birch have the ability to compartmentalize our lives, but we lack Phil's dedication to the Tommy Bahama principle that life should be lived as one long weekend. We have discovered a piece of paradise here in these deep waters, and we flee like refugees to our spots along the shoreline whenever we have a chance, but most of our time is spent elsewhere on

other pursuits.

We engage in a very high-stakes gamble that, were we more introspective and more candid with ourselves, we would acknowledge we cannot afford to lose. We bet on reaching a distant and often undefined "tomorrow" as the time when we will really "get the time to enjoy it up here."

I know, because I took that gamble. It looks as though I may have won my bet, but I could easily have lost and the price would have exceeded the pot I hoped to drag to my side of the table.

I "retired" seven years ago so that I could: stop traveling 125,000 miles a year, spend my days and nights in the same location with Shirley Anne, and become a writer. My "career" in health care consulting was a great adventure, but turning the corner to my new life was the easiest transition I ever made, and I never doubted that it would be.

Thirty-nine years ago, I asked Shirley Anne to marry me (seven days after we met), and I've wanted to be a writer since my ninth birthday. Recognizing treasures is not my weakest link. I've always been quick in naming the prize. I've just never had the good sense to carpe diem, seize the day, where the objects of my desires were concerned.

For 25 years I did work I enjoyed, but work that constantly took me away from the woman whose location marks the center of the universe for me, and required that I postpone the labor I most loved in the location I most treasure. I wanted to be with Shirley Anne, to be close enough to hear if she took a step, or sneezed, or laughed out loud, and I wanted to write good, true, stories of fact and fiction, and I wanted to spend months on end at Birch Lake. Those things stood at the apex of my life's goals, yet I put them off year after year, and hoped I'd have enough time to catch up at the end.

In the meantime, both of my daughters grew up while I was changing planes in

Denver. I did all of that stuff for the usual reasons, money, security, comfort, the ability to provide "more" for my family. In retrospect, it was an incredibly immature gamble. Like a kindergartner who has never contemplated death, I must have believed in my own immortality or at least in my ability to dodge all bullets until I was ready to "fade to black."

It is not a course of action I would recommend for anyone who has discovered the people, the place, and the pastimes he or she values most. If you love it here as much as I think you do, and if you love the people who populate your Birch Lake days, then don't wait too long to put them front and center in your everyday life. You're making a sucker's bet if you do.

You may not be clever enough or skilled enough to combine your labor and your life as well as Dan Reynolds, and you may be too "buttoned down" to adopt Phil Vitale's free spirit, but there has to be some way that will work for you. Somehow you would do well to shorten the time between today and the day when you are living your life exactly as you wish to live it. The reward is too precious, the stakes are too high. Don't wait as long as I did. Give yourself the "present" of happiness.

New Birch Lake Sweatshirts

The new sweatshirts embroidered with the "Birch Lake" and the Heron will be on display at the Pancake Breakfast at the Camp.

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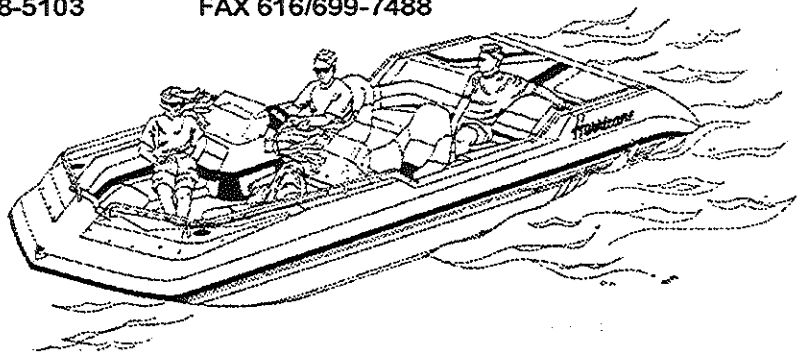


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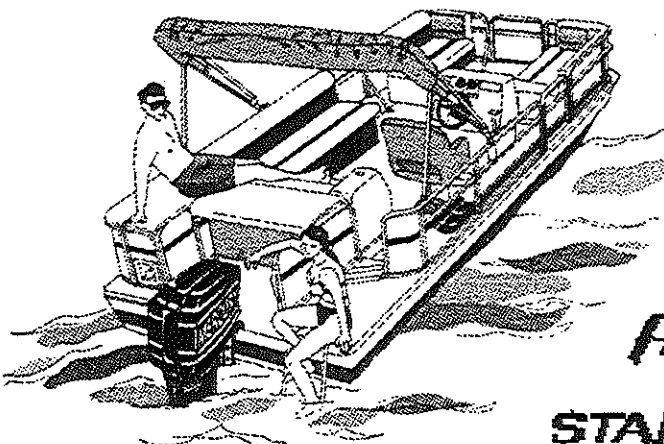
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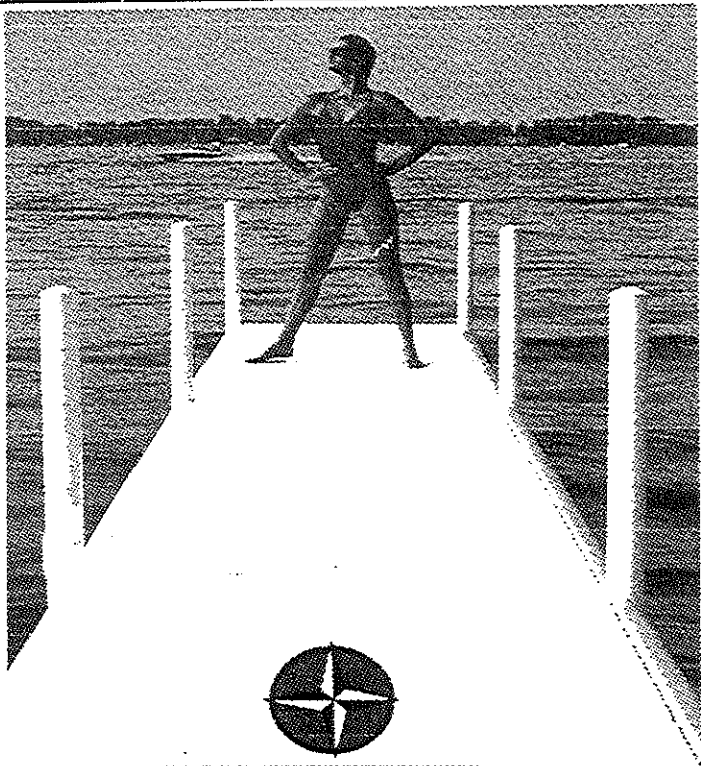
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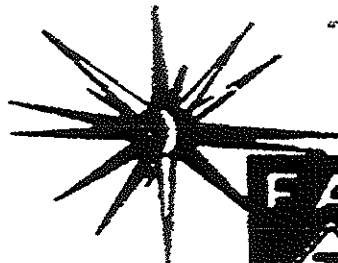
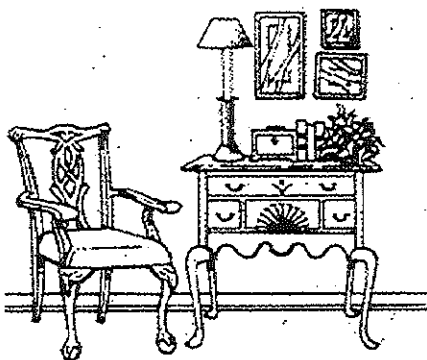
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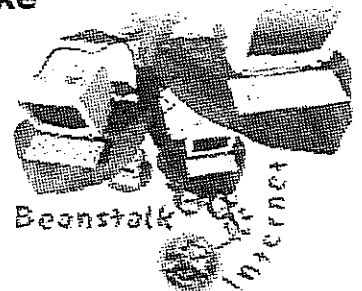
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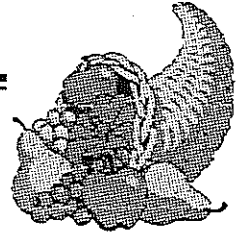
Beer Cheese

4 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese
 4 cups shredded Monterey Jack cheese
 3 garlic cloves, crushed through a press
 3 Tlbs chili sauce

1 tsp salt
 1 tsp dry mustard
 Dash of hot pepper sauce
 1 cup beer

In a food processor, combine cheddar, Monterey Jack, garlic, chili sauce, salt, mustard, and hot sauce. With machine on, slowly add

beer and process until mixture is smooth. Transfer to a crock or bowl, cover, and refrigerate at least 4 hours to let flavors mellow.



Spiced Rum Pina Colada

1 1/2 oz Captain Morgan Spiced Rum
 1 oz cream of coconut
 4 oz pineapple juice

Combine in a shaker or blender. Pour over cubes in a tall glass. Garnish with a pineapple stick and cherry

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"The Four Seasons of Birch Lake" video (VCR tape) is now available.

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Contact Mike Machallack
476-2642
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Buzz Rasmussen
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Dying for chocolate

A lot of us don't know this but chocolate made for human consumption can cause death in dogs.

Its kind of complicated but the gist is that the chemicals in chocolate which include caffeine and theobtomine, take nine times longer to metabolize in a dog's system than in human systems.

The result is an overload like shut down in their major organs.

A small dog left alone in a house with a box of chocolates might well follow his nose to the goodies and commit suicide by

poisoning.

Symptoms include vomiting, hyperactivity, restlessness, hypersensitivity to touch (a dog will jump when touched), very rapid heart rate and breathing.

Call your vet emergency hotline if you suspect Fido has consumed chocolates.

Again, its up to us to protect our pets so never feed them or leave a box of chocolates unattended.

And always, I mean always leash them.

-Fido's Friend

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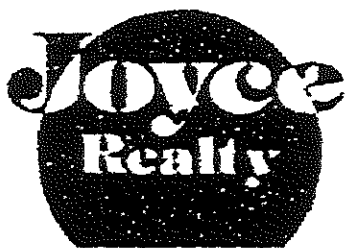
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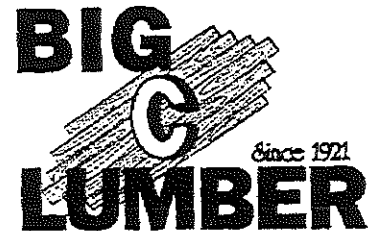
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Cottage for Sale — 14768 Birch Lakeshore Dr. \$240,000 or best offer. Contact Marty Ball 219-262-1819, or John Ball Jr., 616-476-9775.

Shore Station — 3600 lb. aluminum boat lift w/canopy and white vinyl cover, direct drive electric motor, best reasonable offer. Lift in great condition; on Birch Lake. Call 476-9714 on lake or in South Bend 219-272-2904.

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WANTED TO BUY

West side family interested in purchasing

used sailboat to teach 4th generation of Birch Lake boaters. Would like to purchase Sunfish, Laser, or similar boat. Please call Lori at (219) 277-6327

Want to buy a swim raft — Call 476-2461 or 219-255-8126.

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BLYC NOTES

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Asire, Mary
Ball, John & Jennifer
Beck, Jim & Sally
Bender, Dick & Stack, Marsha
Benjamin, Ritacarl
Bergan, Jim & Linda
Bliler, Wm & Grace
Blackwood, Howard and Elizabeth
Blue, Jim & Shirley
Blue, Richard & Krchmar, Sandra
Bolinger, Jim & Deborah
Boss, Lynn
Bouwkamp, David and Margaret
Brovold, Gary & Karen
Calderwood, Jim & Nancy
Carpenter, Bill and Ann and Mildred
Coan, Jim
Cowen, Dick & Peggy
Curtis, Steve & Deborah

Curtis, Terry & Linda
Davis, Dean & Phyllis
Denner, Larry & Kay
DeYoung, Richard & Beth
DiRutigliano, Dominic & Joyce
Doba, Bill & Judy
Doolittle, Rick & Cathy
DuFour, Duif & Sue
Eakle, Jerry and Susie
Eberhart, Gilbert & Barbara
Erhardt, John
Falk, Roger & Suzanna
Flora, Larry & Marge
Foley, William
Foos, Jim and Carol
Frehofer, Fred & Carol
Gableman, John
Garceau, Bernie & Blair
Golden, Mark & Ilene
Gollatz, Chuck & Pat
Gotstein, Mike & Marge
Green, Dick & Barb
Greenig, Bob & Kay
Groszek, John C. and Lois
Harlan, Bruce & JJ
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Harris, Gwen
Herms, Bob & Kohnke, Eileen
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Hornbeck, Jack & MaryAnne
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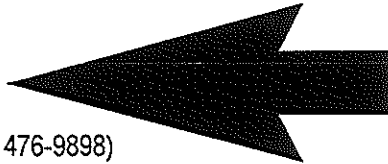
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