

1968

BIRCH BARKER

COMMODORE COWEN SAYS :

Again, as the 1968 summer season ends, we anticipate the events of next year. The sailors will be planning one or two winter meetings. Sailing will start with the BLYC hosting the Champagne Regatta (Diamond and Eagle and Birch Lake snipes) on the Memorial Day weekend. The Spring Dinner will be handled by Bill and Le King and Earl and Connie Troeger and will be in April. Everyone around the lake is invited and will receive a mailout next spring. Fireworks on July 4th, the Boat Parade, Melon Feast, and the Annual Dinner will be only part of the summer fun. Plans are being made for some adult dances, bingo parties, and a golf outing.

It takes many active people to make a successful season. The successful 1968 season was no exception. And from the cooperation that I have received in the past week (concerning the planning for 1969) it looks like 1969 will compliment 1968.

Dick Cowen

COMMODORE FULMER SAYS :

Another summer season is coming to an end at Beautiful Birch Lake. It has been a good summer even though we got off to a rough start. It was a discouraging sight when we met on June 25th at midnight at the clubhouse to see the west wall all caved in, the floor all covered with mud and debris, the jukebox ruined, etc. It might seem a near miracle that it was restored, better than ever, beautifully decorated and a new jukebox in time for the regatta on July 12th.

Many have said that the fireworks were better than ever and I am very pleased that you have voted to continue with them for another year.

The District III Junior Snipe Championship Regatta was an outstanding success. The races were good, well organized, the sailors well fed and many enjoyed the dance on Saturday night.

The rummage sale, sponsored by the Junior Yacht Club, was also a success with a profit of over \$150.

The fifteen beautifully decorated boats in the boat parade was a pretty sight. The Watermelon Feast and a presentation of trophies was enjoyed by all who attended and showed a profit of about ten dollars.

The Annual Dinner at the Grange Hall in Jones was well attended, the food good and a pleasant evening dancing to the music of the Grem-lins followed the election of officers. You have selected a fine staff of officers for the coming year. I wish them the best of luck and every success. I also wish to thank Chuck Gableman for the fine contribution of door prizes at the dinner.

We have received many compliments on the Birch Barker this year with its many interesting and informative articles, with the advertising covering the cost of both the new directory and the Birch Barker.

About forty youngsters completed the Safety Boating Course which surely contributed to the good boating enjoyed on Birch Lake.

All of this is the result of the good planning of the numerous committees, the hard work of many and the excellent cooperation of all.

I wish to thank each committee, the Birch Barker staff and each and every individual who helped with the many projects.

Floyd Fulmer

TED PEAK SAYS:

Now that the season is quickly closing, there are only a few more things left to cover.

One of these is your new registration. Your current registration will expire December 31 of this year. You will have to have your new sticker on your boat before it can be put in the water next spring. You can get the registration at the License Bureau in Cassopolis on North East St. or any other branch office of the Secretary of State. The fee next year will be \$5 which is a \$2 increase over this year. With the increase for next year maybe the marine deputies will get a raise.

The next thing on the list is a sincere thank you and good-bye. I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting the many fine people I have met this year. I would especially like to thank Mrs. Fulmer for her sandwiches. It seemed I never did have time to do the dishes.

I hope everyone has a good winter and I look forward to seeing you next spring.

Ted Peak

LOST---

An insulated sportswear jacket floated out from the South Side. If found, please return to #54.

LOST---

One trailer license plate on the road around the lake. Contact Cowens at #354.

BOAT PARADE COMMITTEE FOR 1969

Mrs. Bertha Myers--Chairman
Mrs. Helen Weesner
Mrs. Trudy Claro
Mrs. Gussie Echols
Mrs. Louise Reith

Some junior members will be asked next year also to be on the committee.

QUOTED FROM SAT. AUG. 24 ELKHART TRUTH---

...and probably the most distinctive--is Birch Lake.

With less than ten per cent year-round population, the lake is the most densely-populated during the summer months and the least commercialized of the 3 lakes (referring to Donnell, Paradise, and Birch).

The lake waters are almost 100 per cent mineral, which accounts for its historic reputation as a health spa. As with all the other large lakes in the area, its 300 acres are the site of vast and interesting folklore dating back to the mid-1800s when the great Indian chiefs Pokagon and Shavehead gathered their tribes on its shores to bathe and drink of its waters.

While Birch offers excellent swimming, ideal boating and fishing and therapeutic values, it also boasts Camps Kiloqua and Tannadoonah for Campfire Girls.

Karl Crisler
ELKHART TRUTH



PERSONALS

It never fails! Plan a reunion and the weatherman will not cooperate. But a good time was had by all Sunday at the Glen Myers' in spite of it all. Tables were set up in the garage and a good feast was enjoyed by 26 hungry relatives after which a good laugh was had by all at the showing of OLD family movies. On Thursday the Myers' entertained cousin, Jack Spinsby, his wife, Dorothy, and children, Russ and Diane, from South Dakota. This was their first visit with us and we wished they could have stayed longer to really enjoy Birch Lake.

Old "Wee Wood" (#310) hasn't been the same this year without Mom & Dad Partridge and the Caenepeel family would like to thank all Birch Lakers for their constant interest and best wishes the whole summer. We are happy to report that Dad is improving slowly but steadily in spite of the Florida heat. He seems to have good and bad days but is able to be out & visiting friends at times. They have certainly enjoyed the weekly news in the Barker and notes from many of you. After 24 summers at Birch, their roots go deep and we will all be looking for them back next year.

Mary Olson, #47, entertained her two table bridge club the 15th. Scores left much to be desired but all the Mishawaka "girls" enjoyed the delightful Birch Lake breeze on the Olsons' front porch.

Fran, Henry, and 7-week old Eric Roddiger, St. Louis, arrived the 26th and will spend two weeks at #47. Margy and Gary Snyder, Kokomo, Indiana, brought Debbie on Wed., the 28th to spend a few days. Grandpa and Grandma Olson are having fun spoiling both little ones.

The Bob Carpenter family will have their usual family get-together this Labor Day at Birch Lake. But this year their brother and sister-in-law from Lake Worth, Florida, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Geisel will be with them too. Also there will be the Fred Taylor family from Ft. Wayne and the Ed Carpenter family from Marion.

Carl and Ethel Hillering went to Arora Illinois last Saturday to visit Ethel's sister, Mrs. Edith Blair. On Saturday they attended Mrs. Blair's grandson's wedding.

The Echols family attended graduation ceremonies at Ball State U. on August 16th to see Len receive his Masters Degree in Psychology. He hopes to join the family the last week of summer at Birch Lake. When they all move into Elkhart for the start of school, the cottage will be occupied for a week by John and his wife Carolyn. They both attend college in Ft. Wayne and have been working hard all summer so we hope they have good weather while they are here. On Sept. 23rd Len will start his career as a clinical psychologist in Youngstown, Ohio.

The Leach and Bates families had an indoor picnic Sunday at the Clarence Speck's honoring Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Leach, sons Greg and Tom from Houston. Dr. Leach and family are spending their vacation with his father, Floyd Leach.

The C.R. Cowens took Carolyn and her little boys to Kokomo Tues. P.M. then, Wed. visited friends at Crawfordsville. Sunday guests of the Cowens #308 were Dr. and Mrs. Pieter Louwrier of 917 W. Grove Street, Mish., who will be returning to Amsterdam, Holland, in Sept. after completing two years at Notre Dame University.

L/CPL. Steven Greeg Reith, USMC, son of Mr. and Mrs. A.R. Reith, #301, has completed his schooling at Glynco, Ga., and received his license as an air tower control operator. He will arrive home Aug. 27 for a 10-day leave before going to his next station.

MR. and Mrs. Herman Parent and Granddaughter of Baton Rouge will spend the Labor Day holidays with her sister Mrs. A.R. Reith of #301. This will be the first reunion for almost 16 years. So, there will be alot of talking, eating and lake activities.

Sunday, Sept. 1 Al and Loretta Budzinski will entertain with a family party honoring his sister, Mrs. Frank Izdepski on her 75th birthday. Those invited are Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Izdepski and family of LaPaz; Mrs. and Mr. Bill VanDerHagen and family; Mrs. and Mr. Joe Budd, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Budzinski and Mrs. and Mr. Bernard Budzinski, and Leo Budzinski all of South Bend. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Stevenson and Patrick and Mr. & Mrs. S. Budd of Detroit; Mr. & Mrs. Julian Korn of Ft. Wayne and brother Lucian.

BIRCH LAKE AWAY AT SCHOOL

Nancy C. Asire
Univ. of Missouri (senior)
Kansas City, Missouri

Tom Hibschan
Pratt Institute of Art
NY, NY

John Parnell, Jr.
Univ. of Mich.
(Sophomore)

Dick Parnell
Mich. State Univ. (Junior)
General Motors Inst. in Feb.

Linda Harlan
Indiana U.

Cindy Ball
Indiana Univ.

Barbara Myers
Central Mich. Univ.
Mt. Pleasant, Mich.

Steve King
Southwestern Mich. College

Tim Burchell
Southwestern Comm. College

Toni King
Central Mich. Univ.
Mt. Pleasant, Mich.

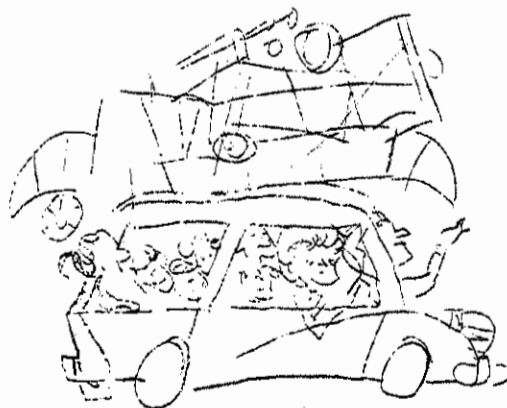
Lisa and Dawn Blue of Columbus Ohio are enjoying the cool water of Birch Lake while visiting their grandparents, Starr and Mildred Wentworth for 2 weeks.

The Cowens visited with some of their winter neighbors of Kissimmee, Florida. The McClamrocks Coxes and Redenbaughs at their summer homes at Crawfordsville, Indiana, the past week.

Monday morning Jack, Evelyn and Marty left for their home at Centerport, Long Island, N.Y.

The Shewman family, nephew of Dee's spent last week at the Shewman cottage while Dee and Frances were on a Travel Trailer camping and fishing trip up through Michigan with France's sister and brother-in-law John and Martha Langel.

Mrs. and Mrs. Gaston DeWulf and son Gerald spent a week vacation camping at Copper Harbor in Northern Michigan. Gerald came home on crutches due to a sprained tendon in his leg, the result of a fall on a hillside. Mr. & Mrs. William E. Mayer and daughter Jennifer stayed at the cottage during the week Mrs. Mayer's parents were camping. Gerald will leave for Purdue University on Sept. 4 to pursue a course in Civil Engineering. Their daughter, Catheryn, will graduate from Elkhart General Hospital on Sept. 15 after completing a 2-year course in Radiography and will stay on at Elkhart General as a registered X-ray Technician.



SAILING NEWS

This weekend the Sunfish and Snipe Sailors will hold their annual Labor Day Regatta. Three races will be held Saturday starting at 1:30 Central Daylight Time. The final two races will be held Sunday beginning at 11 AM CDT.

Trophies will be presented at the yacht club Monday Morning at 10 AM CDT. Come and enjoy a cup of coffee with the sailors as the trophies are presented.

The sailors of Birch Lake wish to thank all of the people of Birch For the many fine courtesies shown them this season and we'll see you all next year.

SNIPE SAILING

Heavy winds finally greeted the Snipe sailors last weekend. There were also many breakdowns during the three races.

Bob Cranmer met disaster after leading the 1st two legs of the 1st race. Earl Troeger then took the lead and went on to win followed by Jeff Troeger and Brian Hague. Cranmer and Speck broke masts while Barry Hague's halyard broke in this race.

In the 2nd race Earl Troeger dueled with son Jeff and finally won a close one at the finish line Don Holtz followed in 3rd place.

In the the 3rd race Don Holtz took a commanding lead on the 2nd leg. Don protected his lead and won the last season race. Jeff Troeger was 2nd and Earl Troeger third. Jim Howard tipped over and bent his new aluminum boom. Thus ended another season of sailing at Birch Lake.

SUNFISH SAILING

Last Saturdays gusty winds were so severe that several skippers decided not to challenge the elements and therefore stayed on shore. Their judgement was well founded as three of our sunfish tipped over. In addition four snipes either were toppled or incurred damage. So those sailors who wanted wind got their wish. The final two races of the season were sailed with no changes taking place in the top seven positions.

The first race was won by season winner Keith Claro. He was followed across the finish line by Scott Troeger. Dick and Steve Cowen finished third. In the second race Scott Troeger placed first followed by Tom Troeger second and Kevin Kruggel third. It was in this race that two boats toppled over. Dan Claro, sailing for his son Keith, was toppled over in the northeast corner of the lake, losing some of his equipment. He decided not to complete the course as did Steve Cowen who tipped over three times on the first leg.

Now, most skippers are hoping for more moderate winds for this weeks Labor Day Regatta. It consists of five races to be sailed with the Snipes starting at 1:30 Saturday. Thanks to the many sunfish sailors for providing exciting races in 1968. We hope to see you and several others back for the 1969 season. Trophy presentations will be made at 10:30 AM Monday at the Yacht Club. All sailors, family members, guests, and Birch Lakers are invited to attend.

SNIPER

1			1481.06	2-2-2
2			1478.80	1-1-3
3	Wayne Milne	18	1496.72	4-7-4
4	Tom Athanas	18	1481.88	6-6-6
5	Don Holtz	13	1481.76	5-3-1-
6	Brian Kocue	19	1464.16	
7			1399.58	9-1-3-DNS
8	Jim Howard	17	1381.05	DNS-5-DNS
9	Craig Speck	15	1288.06	DNS-DNS-DNS
10	Mike Verlodt	12	1172.58	7-DNS-DNS

Also sailing this season were Don Olson, Tom Howard, Bob Cranmer, and the Scouts from Elkhart.

SUNFISH

BOAT				
14766	Keith Claro	1-DNF	1620	1
14580	Scott Troeger	2-1	1587	2
14310	Tom Troeger	4-2	1554	3
21923	Bill Carpenter	DNS-DNS	1448	4
21351	Bob King	8-4	1446	5
14962	Kevin Kruggel	5-3	1389	6
20909	Dick&Steve Cowen	3-DNF	1365	7
Green/White	Mike Foote	DNS-DNS	1349*	8
130	Mike Machalleck	6-DNS	1327*	9
17992	Bob Harlan	DNS-DNS	1179*	10
Blue/White	Dave&John Hay	DNS-DNS	1172*	11
22429	Greens	7-5	1137*	12
White	Jim Hibschan	DNS-DNS	1134*	13
White	Ken Kostenski	DNS-DNS	1014*	14
White	John&Major O'Brien	DNF-DNS	941 *	15

* Will have not sailed enough races for season trophy



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(phone 255-1187)

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