

THE BIRCH BARKER

August
29th
1970



THE COMMODORE SINGS HIS SWAN SONG

The brisk mornings and gathering haze over the lake at evenings are daily reminders that summer is rapidly coming to a close. Once again we can all be thankful for a wonderful season at Birch, unmarred by any water or boating accidents. Our young people seem to have developed a respect for water safety while enjoying water sports to the maximum. I think credit should be given to the water safety series in the Birch Barker for reminding us all of the importance of this concern.

This summer we have all become aware of the importance of protecting and preserving the blessing of the clear, clean water that makes Birch Lake so unique in this area. Perhaps we should begin to think also about preserving the clean air which is becoming a rarer commodity as smog moves from the larger cities to smaller towns. The smell of hamburgers cooking on a charcoal fire is a pleasant addition to our environment; a smoldering can of garbage is not.

We were pleased to see such a turnout for the Annual Dinner and Square Dance held last Saturday at the Birch Lake Basketball Camp. Over 225 people enjoyed the food and many stayed to dance. We can't thank Bev and Herm Kruggel enough for organizing this event and putting in many hours of hard work to ensure its success.

Again, I wish to thank the officers and board which helped me throughout the past year. There are always more things which could have been done, but the events held were well-attended and therefore worth-while. The interest in sailing has remained high at Birch and the special races provided the older generation with a chance to show the kids what sailing is all about! I leave this job in the capable hands of your new Commodore, Bruce Harlan, and hope that you will give him the same support you have given me. I wish you all a pleasant year until we meet again at Birch in 1971.

Jack Troeger, Commodore 1970

IN RE POLLUTION

In the past several issues of the Birch Barker East Side Resident has made accusations of drains emptying into the lake, etc. If true, this surely is a deplorable situation which should be corrected, but action can not be taken unless more specific information is given. The officers and directors of our Yacht Club has authorized the Health and Safety Committee to investigate this open drains complaint. As for the foam sometimes seen on the water, we have had this before we ever heard of detergents.

Birch Lake Yacht Club has had a Health and Safety Committee for several years and has had the water of Birch Lake tested several times yearly and always found it very satisfactory and above average. We have also conferred with health officials and drain commissioners on several occasions.

New sanitary laws have been enacted and have been in effect for over two years. All new sewage disposal systems MUST be approved by the Health Department. Minimum requirements are:

Two bedroom cottage 750 gallon septic tank + 1200 gallon dry well plus stone field

Three bedroom 1000 gallon septic tank + 1200 gallon dry well plus stone field
There is a new septic tank on the lake which the Health Department did NOT approve and the owner has been ordered not to use it.

As for the debris floating across the lake in your direction, residents on the other three sides of the lake see it coming their way too, according to the direction of the wind. Probably more into the north end of Woodland Cove than elsewhere. The problem of leaf disposal will soon be with us again and it is the practice of a few Birch Lake property owners to rake their leaves into the lake. This is contrary to Michigan law. Violators can be and should be prosecuted.

Most Birch Lake property owners are fine people who take great pride in their homes, keep them neat, clean and attractive. Most are law abiding and considerate of others. But there are always those who have very little consideration for the rights of others. They operate their boats in a reckless manner, going too close to fishermen, swimming areas, between swimming rafts and shore, etc. A few who go in the wrong direction and don't even keep to the right when meeting another boat. Others dump their trash and garbage along the roadside. These same people usually do not cooperate with community projects such as road improvement, Nite-Guard Lights, fireworks, etc. A few do not belong to Birch Lake Yacht Club and some will not even pay \$1.50 for the Birch Barker. But we have them with us. WHO KNOWS THE ANSWER?

Birch Lake is beautiful with clean, clear spring water. Let's keep it that way.

Health and Safety Committee
Birch Lake Yacht Club

SAILING NEWS

The Old Timers' Sunfish race was held on Sunday, August 23 in strong winds. Thanks to Seldon Foote for judging the contest. Dr. Green thrilled the onlookers by getting backwinded seconds before crossing the finish line, after leading the entire race. Along with a few sore backs on Monday, the following are the results of this annual contest:

#14766	Dick Green
#20909	Dick Cowen
#14580	Jack Troeger

No Number Earl Troeger, Jr.
 #17992 Bruce Harlan
 #22429 Max Knoop
 #25131 Archie Spratt
 #21923 Peg Carpenter
 #29329 Bob Axelberg - DNS

SUNFISH SAILING RESULTS AS OF AUGUST 23, 1970

<u>Place</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Races</u>	<u>8/23 Race 1</u>	<u>8/23 Race 2</u>	<u>Average & Bonus</u>
1	14766	Claro	16	1	1	1630
2	21923	Carpenter	15	3	2	1610
3	14310	Troeger	14	4	4	1535
4	130	Machalleck	14			1498
5	25075	Tunnecliff	11			1435
6	30354	Hague	6	2	3	1411
7	20909	Cowen	17		11	1333
8	22898	Foote	8			1287
9	21351	King	18	6	8	1286
10	25131	Spratt	14	5	5	1284
11	24252	Kruggel	18	10	6	1240
12	14580	Troeger	17	11	7	1205
13	17992	Harlan	16	7	10	1180
14	29329	Axelberg	12	8	9	1184
15		O'Brien	15			1088
16	29079	Courtney	14	9	12	1042
17		Williams	12			937

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Your Treasurer would appreciate it if all monies due the Birch Lake Yacht Club be turned in by August 30th.

Virginia Spratt - Cottage #266

At a meeting of The Woodland Cove Association on Saturday, the following officers were elected for 1971:

A. R. Rieth - President
 Floyd H. Fulmer - Vice President
 Avanelle Cowen - Secretary
 Dorothy Cranmer - Treasurer

We wish to thank the Cass County Highway Department crew which did such a good job of grading and blacktopping from Woodland Cove to Harvey Street. Gene Harris was the foreman in charge. Operating the blacktopping machine were C. Brant, D. Cropsey and J. Kazlowski. Truck drivers hauling the material were L. Gray, I. Earl, E. Britton, P. Syx, R. Schrupp, K. Green and R. Green.

LAKE NEWS

Following is a list of the newly elected officers for the Birch Lake Yacht Club. Congratulations and Best Wishes for a successful 1971.

Bruce Harlan - Commodore
 Jay Beehler - Vice Commodore
 Peg Cowen - Secretary
 Virginia Spratt - Treasurer

DIRECTORS

East Side Mort Hunt
Les Myers
Barry Schaar
Bernie Weesner

Hilltop: LaMar King

South Side: Les Jenson
Herb Howard
Dominic DiRutigliano

West Side: Dan Claro
John Parnell
Don Coleman

North Side: Bill Echols

TRUSTEES

Floyd H. Fulmer
Dick Cowen
Jack Troeger

Nancy Asire of Kansas City, Missouri spent last week visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Asire. Nancy's guest was Susy Spielman, also from Kansas City.

Mr. and Mrs. Hubert H. Hawkins from Indianapolis are weekend guests at the Bob Carreter cottage.

Mom and Dad Partridge headed west and are having a wonderful time. So once again old Wee Wood was taken over by the Caenepeel Clan. The weekend of August 15 brother Ed Partridge arrived with wife Sara and pretty Patti too. Then son Marc with Lynn Aronaski and daughter Peg with her best pal Linda Glaser. On "beautiful" Saturday, August 22 we welcomed our Clark Equipment friends, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Mason, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Tim Prater, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Steininger and Mr. and Mrs. John Roster. Rain or not - we all had a ball. Just hate to see the summer end, but still two weeks of fun to go. Wonder what the C.L.P.'s will say when they see their new kitchen wallpaper - just never know what will happen when you leave for a month or so!

Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Shewman entertained 26 members and guests of the Builders Class of the First United Methodist Church of Mishawaka Saturday afternoon and evening at 303. Co-hosting were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Steel and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Holderman.

Stephen and Julie Ball, along with Grandma Ball, flew from South Bend to Providence, Rhode Island August 17th to spend nine days with Aunt Betty and Uncle Roland Santerre and their eleven cousins. The Santerres live in South Swansea, Massachusetts which is fourteen miles from Providence. Julie wrote home:

"Flying is fantastic." And so was meeting all of the cousins for the first time.

Guests at the DOUBLE D on Monday were Jennifer and Stephanie Euler of Ft. Huachuca Arizona along with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Lea of South Bend. On Wednesday Mr. and Mrs. Royal Eager of South Bend were guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford R. Cowen, #308, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank B. Duncan of Mishawaka, enjoyed a trip to the Traverse Bay area. Friday evening, they heard a string quartet concert at Interlocken and Saturday evening saw Bob Crane in "Beginners' Luck," at the Cherry County Playhouse at Traverse City.

BOYS IN SERVICE

Son of Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Weesner: Capt. Lynn B. Weesner
Pilot in the U. S. Air Force
Stationed at Robbins A.F.B.
71 Executive Court
Warner Robbins, Ga. 31093

The following letter was received from one of our Boys in Service:

"I wish to thank you for sending me the August 8th issue of the Barker. This paper meant a lot to me because I could see what is going on at my summer home. I wish to make a few comments.

"First, as regards pollution. You must indeed get a survey made. Here in Germany, where open sewers are the rule the pollution is terrific. From a distance the Amberg River is a quaint stream running through the center of an old walled city. Up close it stinks - nuff said.

"Second, I agree with you on your limit for motor size. I think that a 50 h.p. limit is enough for Birch Lake. However, some boats which are acceptable sizewise are well above this limit. Off hand I can think of one that was in use for many years. Howard's Big Inboard. This boat has done yeoman service for the good of the community several times in the past.

"Also the small I-O Runabouts which are above the horsepower level but are not offensive. I feel, therefore, that a size limitation would be better. Perhaps a maximum length of 18' on a lake of under 500 acres with an exception for large, low-powered craft such as Pontoon Boats.

"This perhaps would be more acceptable to residents who have a large sum of money tied up in the small inboard-outboard combos that are well above 100 rated H.P. but still acceptable sizewise."

Sincerely yours,
Pfc. Donald P. Erhardt, Jr.
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* * * * *

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14' aluminum Runabout with 10 H.P. Johnson motor - Carl Hillering.

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NOW HEAR THIS ! ! ! THANK YOU ! ! !

- TO - Our advertisers, our subscribers, our readers and the folks who furnished news and special articles - without your help the only community lake publication could not and would not exist. (Several residents from other Michigan lakes have complimented Birch Lake on having a community spirit and cooperation not shown elsewhere).
- TO - COMMODORE JACK TROEGER for his courteous and willing cooperation in this community enterprise.
- TO - FLOYD FULMER, for his news reporting, work with the Sheriff's Dept. and county and township officials in lake projects - and - last but not least - his master-mechanics work in keeping the Barkers ailing mimeograph machine in operational condition right up to the end. (The next issue of the Barker will be the LAST issue for this year).
- TO - Our artists, Terry, Scott, and Jennie Kay Hunn, for contributing their talents in illustrating the Barker - the youngsters who delivered the Barker and collected news and the zealous boys and girls who helped in assembling and stapling the Birch Barker every week.
- TO - New Commodore, BRUCE HARLAN, for taking on another job (with best wishes for a successful 1971 administration).
- TO - BILL KING and HERM KRUGGEL for donating their Basketball Camp Dining Room for our Annual Dinner.
- TO - My wife who did the work while I "sounded-off".
- TO - The fishermen who formed a club to make Birch Lake an improved "fishin'-lake." (Have you noticed how many youngsters are showing a new and unexpected interest in fishing? And skill too! The Sound-Off Editor tried to teach a young lady (age 10) the art of fly fishing - and - the first evening out - who do you suppose caught 4 out of 5 fish? You guessed it - the pupil - not the teacher!!)

Jon Colossano
S. O. E.

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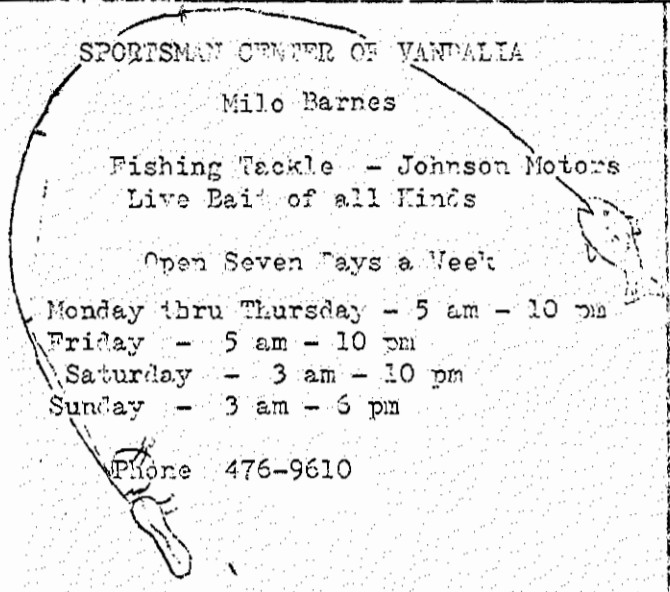
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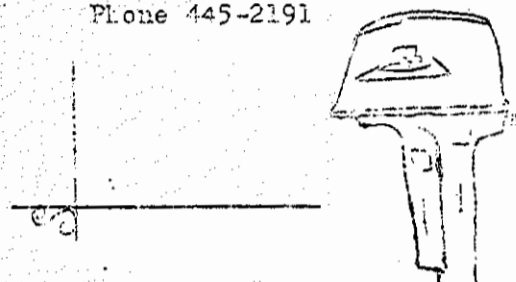


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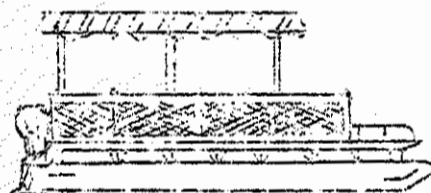


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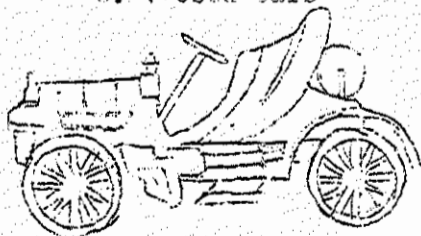


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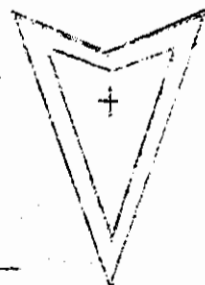
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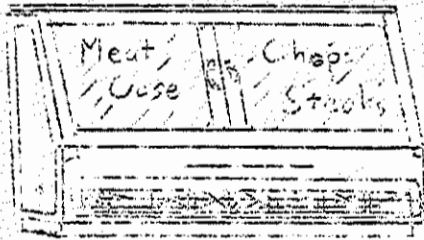
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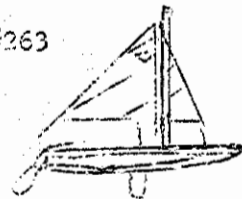
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