



SUMMER 1975

BIRCH BARKER

CIRCULATION MANAGER, JUDY CURTIS 182

EDITOR, JUDY OLSON 126

BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB

BIRCH LAKE, VANDALIA, MICHIGAN

Commodore Joe O'Brien 177
 Vice-Commodore Bill Hayden 300
 Secretary Shirley Ross 101
 Treasurer Ginny Spratt 266
 Fleet Captain Bill Carpenter 12

June 21, 1975

Trustees
 Dick Cowen 308
 Terry Montague 1
 Bob Ross 101

Directors
 SOUTH SIDE
 Don Erhardt 27
 Frank Horvath 34
 Chuck Stevens 46A
 Virginia Gard 99

EAST SIDE
 Bud Lovejoy 102
 Dave Olson 126
 Harry Price 136
 Bill Humphrey 146
 Mort Hunt 200-8

NORTH SIDE
 Bud Zesinger 268

WEST SIDE
 Joe Caenepeel 310
 Bob Axelberg 355
 Herm Kruggel 388

TONIGHT at the Yacht Club: Open House to begin at 7:30 Ind./8:30 MI.

With most of the chores of opening up and settling in for the season completed, relax with friends and neighbors at the Yacht Club tonight. Admission will be one plate of snacks; beer, mix and atmosphere will be provided.

Here's your chance to swap stories of the winter, new boats, record fish catches, remodeling, etc. and generally have a good time. In the past the Open House has proved to be a great mixer. Let's keep it that way!

See you at the Yacht Club tonight.

Friday, June 27: Bingo at the Yacht Club

Saturday, July 5: Champagne Card Party

Coffee With the Commodore

Commodore Joe has invited comments and suggestions on Lake related problems and activities. Any Birch Lakers who have ideas to express personally will find willing listeners over coffee and doughnuts each Saturday morning from 11 o'clock to noon (Ind.) at cottage 177. This is just another channel of communication open to anyone interested in talking about our favorite, Birch Lake.

Directors to Solicit Dues

Over the next two weeks, your area Directors will be calling on you to collect Yacht Club Dues.

The dues structure is broken down as follows:

| | |
|-------------------|---------|
| club membership | \$4.00 |
| bldg. maintenance | 3.00 |
| fireworks | 3.00 |
| Barker | 2.00 |
| Total | \$12.00 |

We need your support and interest if we are to continue to serve you as in the past.

All dues must be received by July 1.

Events Schedule Changes

At the Director's meeting on June 14, it was decided to switch dates involving the Men's Golf Stag and the Second Bingo Night. This was caused by a conflict with the Elk's Golf Outing. Therefore the Men's Golf Stag will be held on Friday, July 25; by popular demand, Bud Reith has agreed to chair the Men's Golf Stag. The Second Bingo Night will be held on Friday, July 18.

The Ladies Golf Outing has been tentatively set for Friday, August 1. A volunteer is needed to organize the event.

Sailing News

Fleet Captain Bill Carpenter regrets to report that due to poor weather conditions and other last minute problems, the first planned races had to be cancelled. The season will start officially on Sunday at 11:00 AM. Sailors will be advised of the minimum sailing requirements. All fleet members must get their entry blanks to Bill now.

Open Letter to "An Interested Birch Laker"

Subject: B.L.Y.C. Fireworks

As you know voting for and against continuation of our fireworks late last season and at our Spring Dinner-Dance proved to be inconclusive. The issue had to be added to our Director's meeting agenda.

The points you raised in your letter to the Barker on the 14th were well taken. Your comments were discussed at the Director's meeting. As a result of that lively discussion it was decided to cancel the Fireworks this year in favor of a gala, quality display next season. This will provide greater meaning to the overall 1976 Bi-Centennial celebration.

The Directors approved the continuation of the donation for fireworks this year within the present dues structure. What is raised this year will be carried over and added to next year's donation. This should assure us of adequate funds to support a beautiful and entertaining display. Further, the Directors stated that any profits realized from Yacht Club events this season are to be deposited into the fireworks fund.

So you see--an interested party with sound ideas willing to articulate them can get things done. We only wish we knew who you are so that we can thank you personally. However, your letter spoke for a goodly number of Birch Lakers. Thank you.

Joe O'Brien
Commodore

In Memoriam

Lavon Schrock--formerly of #46A
and brother-in-law of Doris
Howard

For Sale

Anxious to sell lake property
For further information, call
Mrs. Gaedtke, #318; 476-2409

For Rent

Cottage #64 for rent July 5
to 12; inquire at #76 or call
219-288-6743.

Lost

21½" x 14" black wood lid
which is a cover for over gas can
in a boat. If found, please
call 476-2479.

For Sale

Western Flyer stingray bike;
only \$10.00; call 476-2479

If at first you don't succeed
you'll get a lot of unsolicited
advice.

Lake News

Doris and Herb Howard finally arrived at Birch and sure enjoyed all 10 of the family--rain and all! We really enjoy coming to Birch even after leaving Sarasota Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. This is really something else. Some of these times we will have to say-- "Birch Lake or Bradenton Beach". You all want to make a bet?? Any way, it's sure nice to see all our neighbors and friends again.

I like Birch Lake. Because you can swim in the lake. And you can fish in the lake. Here is a poem:
Rocket! Rocket!
In the sky please come
down or all cry
that's no lie.

by Jennifer Lee Howard

There once was a mule, who
didn't like school. Then he died,
and then I cried, cause it's rule
that you have to go to school.

"Ring!" "Ring!"
Look at that frog fling.
He robbed a bank, and his
name is Hank. He was caught by
superman, and he got thrown in
the can.

by Jeff Howard
8 years old

SEE YOU AT THE YACHT CLUB TONIGHT

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

The summer started as a busy one for the John Ball family. The evening of Friday the 13th, a birthday supper took place here at Birch for John Sr. and his mother, Genevieve. Enjoying the occasion were John Jr. and wife, Sue, Brian, Cindy, and Matthew Hague, Julie, Steve, Marty, and of course the "Birthday Kids", John and Genevieve.

A rainy Saturday didn't stop Chef John Ball Sr. from setting the grill afire for a hamburger fry. From Bristol, Indiana, Joe, Janie, and Mindy Ball, with Mindy's friend, Mike Sibley, were guests for the evening. Janie brought 2 homemade pies of rhubarb and strawberry to top off a great meal. After dishes, a wild game of Rummy Royal took place with Joe and Janie taking home all the winnings! We were assured that they'd return very soon.

This rain just wouldn't let up for us this week end, as we had another cook out! This time it was steak on the grill with our dear friends, the George Chapmans. The house was full as 16 people were here for dinner, but as soon as the rain stopped, everyone tried to sit outside before it started in again. Needless to say, no one could sit for very long outside!

Candi Kane, from Elkhart, was a Saturday afternoon guest of Julie Ball. A few rays were caught before the black clouds set in.

To M.B. and J.J.--

A big THANK YOU to my thoughtful and generous "adopted parents" for my perfect birthday gift. You're fantastic!

Love,
J.B.

Nadine and John Brown of #127 have become grandparents twice since last summer. Brent and Randi have a 3 month old girl, Brinden Holly, and Judy and Dave have a seven month old boy, Todd.

NEWS FLASH

Jean Axelberg and Lynne Schaar have volunteered to organize the Ladies Golf Outing.

Free for the taking! Two, 250 gallon oil drums. Doolittle's cottage #353. Call on the weekends preferably.

Editor's Corner

Yacht Club dues are due NOW. Let's have 100% of the cottages represented in the BLYC this year. Let's also have 100% participation in BLYC activities.

Sometimes people can be divided into 2 groups--the doers and the how-it-should-have-been-doners. The doers implement their ideas the best they can with available resources and the how-it-should-have-been-doners complain about what wasn't done but really have no viable suggestions. There are many places for the doers in the upcoming Yacht Club season. The other group should attend Commodore Joe's Saturday coffee sessions before the events and the complaining. Communication can make our summer successful and fun; a lack of it leaves a bitter taste.

Summer is here and kids, pets, adults are in the roads. Please slow down when driving--it's hard to see on the narrow, curvy lake roads.

When you make your mark in the world, watch out for the guys with the erasers.

When the weather suits you not,
Try Smiling
When your coffee isn't hot,
Try Smiling
When your neighbors don't do right,
Or your relatives all fight,
Sure 'tis hard, but then you might,
Try Smiling.

Doesn't make your coffee hot--
Just Smiling
Bad weather you've still got--
After Smiling
But it seems to help your case,
Brightens up a gloomy place,
Then, it sort o' rests your face--
Just Smiling.

SEE YOU AT THE YACHT CLUB TONIGHT