

B I R C H

B A R K E R

1776 ----- 1976

American Bicentennial



Commodore Bill Hayden 300
 Vice-Commodore Judy Olson 126
 Secretary Shirley Ross 101
 Treasurer Ginny Spratt 100
 Fleet Captain Bud Lovejoy 102
 Editor Darlene Troyer 181

June 11, 1976

Welcome back -- Birch Lakers

It's great to see Birch Lake again after a long winter, even if we do have a mountain of work ahead of us to clean up for summer. Darn those pesty mice! Why do they always climb around in the drawers, and leave their telltail reminders they've been there. Have to get the water system in operation, fix a pipe that was broken, clean the windows, and lots of other things to be done inside before we go outside. But we have been doing it for years and enjoy every bit of it, especially since we are with our old friends at the lake--- who we know have the same work to do as we do.

The spring dinner dance was a great success. We had 107 of our Birch Lakers and friends at the Ramada Inn of Elkhart for a fine dinner and music with dancing afterwards. It was the best turnout we've had for an event and all had a good time. At the dinner a vote was taken on two candidates for Vice-Commodore for 1976. Dick Whiteman and Judy Olson were both nominated for the office, with Judy being elected. Judy did such a fine job as our Birch Barker editor last year, we are indeed fortunate in having her as our Vice-Commodore this year. This is a "first" for our lake organization in having a woman as Vice-Commodore.

You will be hearing more of our programs for the year in the next issues, but we would like to remind you that our BLYC organization works for all of you in community affairs, water purity, relations with other city and county officers, as well as our community paper, the Birch Barker. This effort requires the financial support from every one of us. The dues are 12.00 dollars a year and your area director will be contacting you in the next week or two for your participation. The first Birch Barker is free and goes to every cottage on the lake, but the continued delivery is made only to the members who participate. A new directory is also coming in a few weeks free to any member.

The big attraction for this year will be our July 4th Bi-Centennial and this will be held on Sunday July 4th. Invite your friend because for the climax of the day will be a super fireworks display.

Welcome back to good old Birch. We all hope you have a wonderful summer.

Bill Hayden
 Commodore

Directory Corrections 1976 - Fill out and return as soon as possible. June 21st is the deadline.

Name John + Nadine Brown
 Cottage No. 127 Cottage Ph. 476-2125
 Winter address 160 Greenbrier Dr. Elkhart, Ind. Winter Ph. 264-2253
 Children's Names _____

C. WENT MARINE

Mercury **MERCURY** Outboards

Between Long and Baldwin Lakes
Evenings 6 to 9 pm (IN Time)
Sat and Sun 9 to 5

BOATS IO's TRAILERS
PONTOONS MOTORS



118 EAST FIRST STREET - MISHAWAKA, INDIANA 46544
219/255-3722

Presto Print
Business Forms & Systems Wedding Invitations
Envelopes & Letterheads Road Maps to Lake

HILLTOP LAUNDRY

9-6 Indiana Time 7 days a week
closed on holidays

R#1 Union, Michigan

WAYSIDE BEAUTY SALON

Sears Street 476-2276

open 9 to 4

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Paula Seager, beautician

TOM'S GARAGE AND WELDING

If you need help, call Tom at 476-2272

open 7 days a week

Williamsville

gasoline LP gas
motor oil fuel oil
cigarettes pop
candy ice cream
bread milk
free delivery to fill 55gl. gas barrel



VERNON M. BALL INC.

Chrysler - Plymouth

WHEN YOU BUY THE DEAL... YOU GET
THE DEALER TOO!

Elkhart Indiana

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

THE PIZZA PLACE OWNER: PHILLIP CAREY
1708 Cassopolis St. Elkhart IN
Lunch 11-1 Evenings 4pm-midnight
Call 264-2686

COUNTRYSIDE BEAUTY SHOP
Pat Swiatkowski, operator

Bair Lake on old M-60
9am to 5pm closed Monday
244-5186

K TAP ROOM

Vandalia, Michigan

open seven days a week
5 pm to 11 pm

GOOD FOOD



COCKTAILS

SPORTSMEN'S CENTER OF VANDALIA
Virginia & Richard DeLong
476-9610

license



fishing tackle

ammunition

live bait

Mon thru Thurs - - - 5am to 8pm
Fri and Sat - - - - - 5am to 9pm
Sunday - - - - - 4am to 6pm

SERVICE OIL CO.



604 Water St.
Cassopolis, Michigan 49031

distributor of Sunoco products for
Cass Co.

heating oil

LOCHMANDY BUICK SALES, INC.

Buick Opel

THE DEALER WHO CARES ABOUT YOU

426 No. Main Elkhart, Indiana

Telephone 523-3188

B.L.Y.C. SUNFISH SAILING SCHEDULE-1976

Date	Time	Races
Sun. June 20	12:00 noon	2 races
Sun. June 27	12:00 noon	2 races
Sat. July 3 +	12:00 noon	2 races
Sun. July 4 +	12:00 noon	1 race
Sun. July 11	12:00 noon	2 races
Sun. July 18	12:00 noon	2 races
Sun. July 25	12:00 noon	2 races
Sun. August 1	12:00 noon	2 races
Sun. August 8	12:00 noon	2 races
Sun. August 15	12:00 noon	2 races
Sun. August 22	12:00 noon	2 races
Sun. August 29	12:00 noon	2 races
Sat. September 4 ++	12:00 noon	2 races
Sun. September 5 ++	12:00 noon	1 race

+ Denotes 4th of July Regatta
 ++ Denotes Labor Day Regatta

ALL ABOVE LISTED TIMES ARE MICHIGAN TIME.

Special Rules and notes

1. Starting time for the first race will always be at 12:00 noon MI/11:00 a.m. IN time. The second race will follow the first with notice from the committee.
2. We will be sailing with the latest N.A.Y.R.U. rules including the 720° rule. Descriptions of rules will be given in a later Barker.
3. Boats must sail a minimum of 16 races to be eligible for season standing trophies.
4. The 4th of July regatta series will count towards the season standings but the Labor Day regatta series will not.
5. The sailing fees will be raised to \$8.00, due to rising costs of trophies, etc. Fees must be paid by July 4th.
6. All boats are required to have APPROVED life preservers aboard. This will be enforced.
7. There will be no make-up races.
8. The protest procedure and scoring will continue the same as last year.

Come out and face your sunfish. All new and old racers are welcome, you don't need to be an expert to have some fun on Sunday morning at 11 am Indiana time. Fill out the form and pay \$ 8.00 registration fee and you can participate.

Name _____ Cottage # _____
 Boat # _____
 Boat color _____
 Sail color _____

Bud Lovejoy
 Fleet Captain

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1975

<u>Receipts:</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	
Spring Dinner	\$ 631.75	Insurance	\$ 187.00
Boat Storage	200.00	Electricity	67.54
Barker Advertising	86.00	Float-Boat	26.55
Fireworks	477.79	Taxes	189.99
Membership	576.00	Sailing	105.00
Building Fund	399.00	Spring Dinner	631.96
Barker Subscription	328.00	Open House	113.33
Sailing	45.00	Memorials	42.21
Ecology Film	10.25	Club Maintenance	20.00
Monte Carlo & Bingo	98.15	Barker Printing	172.74
Fall Dinner	363.00	Mens Golf	627.65
Mens Golf Outing	662.00	Ladies Golf	200.50
Ladies Golf Outing	208.50	Fall Dinner	364.80
Miscellaneous	3.00	Monte Carlo & Bingo	61.73
TOTAL	\$ 4,088.44	Miscellaneous	122.28
		TOTAL	\$2,933.28

Balance January 1975 \$2,313.34
 Receipts 1975 4,088.44
 TOTAL \$6,401.78

Expenses 1975 \$2,933.28
 Balance Dec. 30, 1975 \$3,468.50

Ginny Spratt,
 Treasurer

SECRETARY'S MINUTES

9-27-75 Michigan Lakes & Streams Association yearly conference held at Kettunen Center Tustin, Michigan.

Mich. Lakes & Streams Assoc. is an organization formed in March 1962 on the MSU campus. It is comprised of lake association from all areas within the state. It's purpose is to protect the rights of riparians (lake owners). The associations main activities are:

- a) writing and lobbying for legislation
- b) working with individual associations to solve local lake problems
- c) fighting (75'-76') a court case to prevent developers' from digging drainage ditches which will pollute marshes, lakes or streams
- d) notifying member associations whenever an individual applies to the DNR for a permit to build a seawall, dredge the lake etc.

In the past 12-13 years ML&SA have been actively interested in water quality; lake management (overuse of lakes; public accesses, etc.); regulatory public acts, such as the Lakes & Streams Act of 1972; aquatic weeds; storm sewers or drains and dredging; sewage disposal (septic systems).

Dr. Clifford Humphreys of MSU; a charter member of ML&SA was the keynote speaker. He volunteered his department and students at MSU to organize a central file pertaining to all problems encountered by individual lake associations & solutions to these problems. By monitoring these problems & solutions it will become more accessible to other various member associations and their lakes.

Mr. Charles Mancherian, director of Regional Planning Agency in Grand Rapids encouraged all persons at the conference to become involved in their townships to implement zoning and land use ordinances for the protection of all concerned. Without a planning commission & a plan, in addition to a zoning ordinance (which Porter Twp. does not have), the property owner has no control over development, land use, etc.

The conference was very informative and worthwhile and brought to light many good ideas which could be implemented on Birch Lake.

Shirley Ross
 Secretary

BAN THE CAN!

The Mich. United Conservation Club's launched a statewide petition drive in early April to obtain 300,000 signatures to place the question of banning non-returnable beer & soft drink containers on the ballot in the Nov. election. The Mich. Lakes and Streams Assoc., of which Birch Lake is a member, sent petitions to their member associations asking them to obtain as many signatures of registered Cass Co. voters as possible. Approximately 50 signatures were obtained from Birch Lake residents.

Beer and soft drink containers comprise about 62% of the volume of highway litter. This bill proposes to ban the sale of non-returnable containers or beverages in non-returnable containers to consumers in Michigan. The proposed legislation which has been held up in heavily lobbied committees for years, would also ban the use of the pull tab on all metal beverage containers sold in the state.

The new law would take effect two years after it is approved by the people at the general election. That will give manufacturers sufficient time to phase in the use of returnables and to phase out non-returnables without causing economic disruption.

Bob Ross

" FERTILIZING FOR MINIMIZING NUTRIENT LOSS FROM LAKEFRONT LAWNS "

1. If you are establishing a lawn, plant fescue rather than bluegrass. The annual nitrogen requirement of fescue is about 2 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft. while bluegrass needs 4 to 7 lbs. of nitrogen.
2. Do not fertilize with a fertilizer containing phosphorous or potash unless a soil test indicates a need for these nutrients and the lawn is not growing well.
3. Use the smallest possible amount of nitrogen fertilizer to maintain a good grass cover. Fertilize with nitrogen in the spring using a small amount of a soluble form of nitrogen. 1 lb. of actual nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft. of lawn area is recommended. Urea containing 46% nitrogen and ammonium nitrate containing 33% nitrogen are recommended forms of nitrogen fertilizer. The principle is to have the grass utilize the nitrogen so it will remain vigorous and minimize the amount of undissolved fertilizer on the lawn surface capable of washing into the lake. If the lawn is not growing well, apply another half to one pound of nitrogen in early summer.
4. Irrigate sparingly, especially on sandy soils, to reduce the possibility of leaching nitrogen and other nutrients.
5. Avoid fertilizer-herbicide mixtures. Use herbicides only if weeds become a serious problem. If weeds are treated, apply the herbicide in the fall. This will minimize runoff and reduce the chances of injury to woody ornamental trees.
6. On lightly fertilized lawns thatch will probably not need to be removed. It will decompose and provide part of the nutrients needed by the lawn.
7. Rake leaves in the fall. This will keep them from both shading the lawn and falling into the water to decompose and add to the nutrient load.
8. Do not cut the lawn too close. Cutting height should be 2" to 2 1/2" so an adequate photosynthetic area remains on the turf.
9. Where feasible and desirable, maintain a zone of natural vegetation between the lake and lawn.

From the Kalamazoo County Extension Director

YACHT CLUB MEMBERS ATTEND LAKE & STREAM CONFERENCE

On April 10, 1976 Ken & Darlene Troyer and Joe O'brien represented our lake at the Region IV Conference, of the Michigan Lake and Stream Association. The meeting held at the Gougac Lake Country Club, Battle Creek, MI featured presentations on (a) "208" water quality study (b) alternate sewer systems (c) explanation of the self-help program & clean lake grants (a Federal program) (d) Formation of lakes & their potential for pollution (e) Gull Lake Study (f) Pollution if starts with you!

The conference was most informative & educational as officials and lake residents combined to match wits on solving lake problems.

Our membership in the Association is helping us gain expert assistance in dealing with our specific lake problems.

The Michigan Riparian, a magazine published by the association is very informative. The magazine contains information on weed control, lake & streamacts, lake traffic and many other important articles concerning lake use. Anyone who wishes more information on the Association can contact O'briens, Rosses', or Troyers. If anyone is interested in seeing past issues of the Riparian you may call me.

SUBSCRIPTION COUPON

Please enter my subscription to The Michigan Riparian Magazine, published quarterly, and send to my permanent address; One year rate &1.50.

(First name) (Initial) (Last Name)

(Street Address)

(Town) (State) (Zip Code)

Send to THE MICHIGAN RIPARIAN, Inc.
9610 East Shore Drive
Kalamazoo, Mich. 49002

LAKE WELCOME TO NEW RESIDENTS

I would like to welcome all of the new residents to beautiful Birch Lake. The Birch Barker will help you become acquainted with the lake people and programs. If you have any problems or questions feel free to contact me or any of the lake officers and directors.

BIRCH BARKER DIRECTORY

New directories will be printed this year. Don't forget to fill out the coupon on the front page if you have any change in your address. Any entry after the deadline date will not be accepted as the directory will already be in print.

BOAT STORAGE

If you have not removed your boat from the yacht club by now, please do so in the next week.

TAKE HEED

Bumper sticker: Caution--I stop for all Garage Sales.

BARKER

NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Weaver (Doug, Julie, Jeanne, Allyson, and Dewayne that is!) are at home. (For the summer anyway!) At 004-A Birch Lake (finally) The kettle is on, come have a spot of tea. (or coffee or punch or lemonade)

FOR SALE

Porpoise Sailboat, excellent condition - needs new sail. Reasonable. Call 476-9374 at O'Briens #177.

This being our Bicentennial Year let's all be patriotic and decorate our homes. Show our beautiful colors of Red, White and Blue and be proud of them.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA

1776-1976

Klappauf's house was jumping with granddaughters Lisa & Holly who were spending Memorial weekend with Gramps and Granny, also daughter Kathleen and son-in-law Edward Fenrich.

We would like to welcome our new neighbors to Birch Lake Mrs Mildred Bialke and daughters Sandy and Kathy who live on the west side of the lake.

ATTENTION BIRCH LAKERS

We have a lot of little children running across the road. Let's all try and keep the speed down. So we can all have a safe, happy and wonderful summer.

REMEMBER SPEED KILLS

Ray and Rose Klappauf will celebrate their 24th wedding anniversary on June 14th - Flag Day.

Lisa Lynn Fenrich granddaughter of Ray and Rose Klappauf will be 5 years old on June 14th. CONGRATULATIONS AND HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL.

FOR SALE

22 1/2 ft. deluxe Riviera Cruiser Pontoon Boat. Built-in luxury upholstered seats with seat covers. 25 horse Johnson motor. Excellent condition. Mrs. Bryan cottage # 13, South Side. Phone 476-2269.

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

FOR SALE

1972 - 25ft. Airstream Travel Trailer. Self contained, air conditioner, carpeted, twin beds, plus sofa bed. Ready to go. F.R. Bryan, cottage #18. South Side. Phone 476-2269.

FOR SALE

Antique 3 pc. bedroom set. Solid walnut with burl panels, marble tops. Beautiful matched set. Mrs. F.R. Bryan cottage #18 South Side. Phone 476-2269, Vandalia.

EDITORS CORNER

Hi! I'm your new editor: Darlene Troyer cottage # 181. Running the Birch Barker this year will be a new experience for me. My typing is rusty so bare with me in the next weeks till I learn how to get things into their proper place. I have a few requests to make (1) Please affix your signatures to all articles containing criticism, lake problems or pet-peves: in all fairness to those concerned. (2) Deadline for news is Monday evenings. If your Barker carrier doesn't get your news, there is a Barker news box hanging outside my door and you can drop all news in there. All late news will be in the following weeks issues. (3) Please write clearly or better yet type it out. (4) Only you can make the Birch Barker interesting so don't forget to send in that news.

Sounds like our new commodore has a lot up his sleeve for this summers special Bicentennial salute. Let's all do what we can to help him plan these special summer activities.

IN MEMORIAM

We would like to express our sympathys to all of the familys who have lost dear ones this year.

Do you have a favorite summer recipe? Send it in and we will publish it.

BLENDER CUSTARD PIE

3T. margarine
4 eggs
2c. milk
1/2 c. sugar
1/2c. Bisquick
1t. vanilla
1/2 t. nutmeg
Blend all of the above for 3 min. Pour into a greased pie plate and bake 40 min. at 375°. This makes its own crust while it bakes and you can't find a easier recipe.

WHAT'S A PARADE WITHOUT A BAND?

The Birch Lake Bicentennial Brass Band has openings for local players who will be available for the 4th of July parade. All ages invited. Go in town and fetch your horn now. (We already have a Tuba, trombone, and a music director) Contact: Lovejoys at cottage # 102 Phone 476-2777

FOR SALE: 16 ft. Stury outboard for sale. 90 horse power Johnson. Best offer. Cottage # 141 Schaar's. Call after 6:30 on a week day, all day Sat. and Sun.

MUSIC OF NATURE

The waters are still
A quail calls
Hummingbirds haunt the Coral Bells
A Flicker hunts for insects
The songs of a Cardinal
Robins and Sparrows treat my ears.
Is there and man made music
Worth hearing on a warm spring day?

JSW

REPORT ON THE CASS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT LAKE SURVEY Summer 1975

Last summer the Cass County Health Department conducted a water quality survey of 32 lakes in Cass County, Michigan. The study also attempted to establish a viable lake monitoring system which would be designed to detect changing lake conditions due to organic pollution.

During the first two months each lake was subjected to a sanitary survey and a series of standardized observations in order to locate both real and potential pollution sources. The remaining portion of the project was used to sample each of the lakes by a series of physical, chemical, and biological tests. Each lake was sampled three times with at least two samples occurring during the height of the

recreational season.

The sanitary survey employed a shoreline reconnaissance attempting to locate improper sewage disposal activities. Specific conditions that were investigated included the presence of sewage effluent in or under the water. A minimum of 6 bacteriological and 4 detergent samples were taken at each lake.

Standardized observations included lake color, odor, bottom conditions, type and quality of vegetation and the primary usage of the lake.

The Biological tests included analysis for fecal and total coliforms. Physical tests involved measurements for temperature and transparency. Analysis for detergents and dissolved oxygen constituted the chemical tests.

The results of the tests performed and interpretations of the results were presented on a lake by lake basis. The data on Birch Lake has been analyzed below. Further, the Birch Lake results can be compared to four other area lakes, Eagle, Diamond, Donnell and Shavehead.

BIRCH LAKE

Soil: The soil is well drained and should be suitable for on-site sewage systems provided that a level of moderately sloping area is utilized. Interspersed around the lake are areas of clay and muck. These areas would not be suitable for the establishment of standard sewage systems.
Sanitary Survey: Fecal coliform values fell well below the limits maintained by the State of Michigan for contamination. The lake, at the time the sample was taken, would be considered to be safe for water contact activities. No presence of detergents was noted.
Transparency: The clarity of the water was found to be above average in terms of all the lakes sampled.
Dissolved Oxygen and Water temperature: The dissolved oxygen would probably not become limiting to panfish such as bass, perch and bluegill. Water temperature could become limiting later in the summer season.
Vegetation: No submergent vegetation was noted along the shore. Other Items: Residues, such as oils and gas were noted along the shoreline during the surveys.

(continued)

On a scale of one to five, one being the top score, we can rate Birch Lake against the other four lakes, Diamond, Donnell, Eagle and Shavehead on the items listed above.

Soil: Birch Lake - 2

Sanitary: Birch Lake
Fecal Coliforms - 1
Total Coliforms - 4

Mean Transparency: Birch Lake-1

Dissolved Oxygen: Birch Lake - 1

Vegetation: Birch Lake - 1

OPEN HOUSE

You are cordially invited to attend an open house, on Sunday June 13, 1976, from 1:00-5:00 p.m. at our new location:

Cass County Sheriff's Dept.
Marine Division
197 North Rowland
Cassopolis, MI
(4th house north of the
Sheriff's Dept.)

Refreshments will be served.
Guest are welcome. See you there.

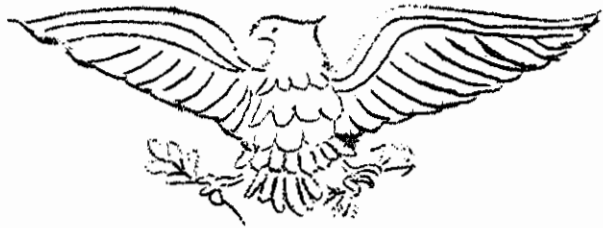
Sincerely,
Cmdr. Richard Parrish
Cass. County Sherrifs
Dept.
Marine Division
Cassopolis, MI
445-2581

HELP: I still need a few Birch Barker carriers to deliver on the west side and the cove. anyone who would like to help out on this side can call me at 476-2639.

Happy Belated Birthday to Peter Winarski. Hope it was a nice one Pete.

Would anyone be interested in going on a local area tour? Some things that would be of interest are: 100 yr. old church, horse race conditioning farm, centennial farm, oil wells, and maybe more. If interested contact Julis Weaver. Cot. 004-A

American 1776



1976 Bicentennial

Start planning
for the
special 4th of July

Boat
Parade - Boats
are to

have a American
Heritage
theme.

Put on your
thinking
caps now!

Let's all

Participate