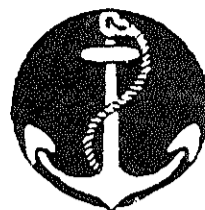


# THE BIRCH BARKER



Birch Lake Yacht Club

June 15, 1985

Issue #2

## COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

What a great weekend for all Birch Lake resident's. The weather was just terrific - wind for the sailors - sun for the bathers and warmth for the swimmers. We sometimes forget what a great asset we have in Birch Lake. Many of us have a short drive to work, enabling us to live here in the summer. Others have found it to be a great place to retire. Those who must commute a longer distance to work have a great deal to look forward coming back to. Remember, when chores and expenses seem to overwhelm us if Birch Lake was on either coast or adjacent to a metropolitan area few of us could afford to live here. We are all very fortunate and need to do whatever is necessary to keep our lake at the top of the list. Welcome to what I know will be one more great weekend!

Randy Welch  
Commodore

\* \* \*

## SAILING

If you are a sailor who enjoys lots of wind the two practice races of last weekend was the place to be. When we said these races would provide a great opportunity to tune your boat we didn't realize it would also test the strength of your lines and the stitching on your sails. I suspect because the winds were heavy many people decided not to sail. For this weekend we have put the order in for moderate winds. We need to have everyone participate. Those who haven't raced before are just as important and welcome as those who have. Those of you who feel it's a young person's sport need only to see Clem Haines race his beautiful Sunfish to victory. In addition, and I speak from authority, learning is as much fun as winning. So come on out and have fun. There are many people who make our races successful, our Fleet Captain Don Harmon, our buoy setters and our starters. Things don't just happen, it takes a great deal of work and you can say thanks by rigging your boat and participating.

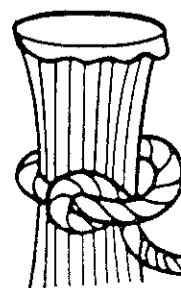
Races will be held this Sunday, June 16 at 10:30 a.m. (Indiana time). Immediately following Don Harmon has asked that all sailors go directly to the Welchs' for a short meeting and refreshments. An explanation will be made as to why cutting your opponents boat in half with your bow on the starting line may result in a protest. See you on the lake.

## YACHT CLUB CLEANUP

Today, Saturday, June 15! What a great opportunity to closely inspect our new roof. Please bring rags, rubber gloves and any other items you feel might help. All those who come will be affectionately greeted by all past Commodores - let's hope Judy Olsen shows guys!

## ADVERTISERS

This is a hearty thanks to Bill Carpenter for rounding up our advertisers for 1985. Asking people for money is a difficult task and Bill has done so with enthusiasm. Remember, our advertisers support our Yacht Club by paying for their ads - lets us go out of our way to buy from them whenever possible. It's our way of saying THANKS! Advertising will begin with our next issue!



HEALTH DEPARTMENT LETTER

As expressed in the letter last week the Health Department is working very hard to maintain the quality of our lake. Please assist them in every way possible. If you have any questions concerning lake quality the Health Department will be most happy to hear from you.

COMMODORES RECEPTION

June 22, at the Yacht Club. Bring your favorite munchies - try a new one. Everyone is welcome. Cocktails will be served 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. (Indiana time).

DUES ARE DUE

Dues are \$15.00 and should be given to Lynn Chaar. Those not paid by June 22nd will no longer receive a Barker.

OTHER DATES TO KEEP IN MIND

July 4th Fireworks - (Please send in your contribution).  
July 4th Regatta - Two races July 4th and two races July 7th.  
Couples Sailboat Race - July 20th (Tentative date).  
Birch Lake Triathlon - August 17th (Tentative date).  
Michiana Sunfish Regatta - August 3rd.  
Golf Outing - August 9.

FOR SALE - ADS

Anyone wishing to rent their cottage for the first two weeks in August please contact G.R. Mikel at 219/288-0978. Must sleep 6.

Anyone wishing to have their water tested please contact Regional Analytical Laboratory, 60887 U.S. 31 S., South Bend, IN. Phone - 219/291-7779.

June 15, 1985

The summer season has opened and there was evidence of that as Birch Lake was hopping with all kinds of activities!! The weather was perfect and the boaters and swimmers took full advantage of it.

Beginning of the season reminder: For those who enjoy the "very late" nights and those who prefer the "early morning" dip or walk please show some consideration for other Birch Lake residents; remember that all residents are not on the same time, so lowered voices and controlled noise will be greatly appreciated by all.

#### ODD JOBS

Kelly and Scott Troyer, Eastside, are both interested in doing odd jobs, around your yard or whatever jobs you may need attended to at your cottage. If you would like to have their help please contact them at 2639.

CONGRATULATIONS are now in order for Bobby and Liz Reith as they are the proud parents of an 8 lb. 9½ oz baby girl, born at 2:40 p.m. on June 6th. Now, Bud and Louise (Westside) you have your new grandchild .... at long last!! Louise was allowed to watch her new granddaughter be born at Elkhart General Hospital.

JULIE (Cranmer) Plaia, from the Westside, Dortha Garnmer's granddaughter, celebrated her 22nd birthday at Birch Lake on Sunday June 9th. She had the most gorgeous of days to spend at good ole Birch Lake, sunning on the pontoon boat!!

"It isn't prime rib that causes heart disease so much as it is the prime rate."

By the way if there are any typo errors from here on in you can see my corrections man for complaints .... I was dressed down for my last typing performance on last weeks' Barker so I found myself a proofreader to direct complaints to!!

#### RECIPE IDEA

If you have gone out picking strawberries during the last few weeks of the season then you probably have more than a few left in your refrigerator to use up. This recipe is a tried-and-true goody, though the name may leave you cold! Try it!

##### Strawberry Soup

½ c dry white wine  
½ c. sour cream  
2 cups hulled strawberries  
½ c. sugar  
2 cups water

Blend thoroughly in a blender and serve chilled. Makes about 1 quart.

Here's another quickie recipe for using with fresh fruit: A Dip for fruit

Blend together: 1 carton strawberry soft cream cheese  
1 carton strawberry yogurt  
4 oz cool whip

"J.D.", from the Cove, gives excellent "pro-am" golfing tips - take it from one who knows!!

JENNE DUFOUR, #120 Eastside, is the proud new owner, teacher, director, of the Michiana School of Ballet, 416½ South Main, Elkhart. Registration for this summer session will be June 17-21 and 7 weeks of classes will start July 1. She is offering all levels of Jazz and Ballet. The Fall semester will begin Sept.3.

RANDI AND BRENT BROWN have bought 63440 Birch Road, formerly the Decker cottage. They have a daughter, Holly, who is 10 years, and a son, Bradley, 7 years. They are from Elkhart and plan to make Birch Lake their home for the summer!! Welcome!

JEFF OLSON, son of Dave and Judy Olson, Eastside, went to the University of Southern Il. for a week of "Work Camp" !! Sunnyside Presbyterian Church sent a group of young people to a church in Southern Il. to help do painting and odd fix up and repair jobs at the church. Keep up the good work Jeff!!

IN CASE any of you wondered where Tom Griffith was keeping himself for the last week at Tom's Garage, Walnut Street, I will inform you ! Tom returned on Sunday, June 9th from a week long fishing trip to Lake Morgon, Canada. This area was such wilderness that the 6 guys on the trip had to be flown in and left to fend for themselves - when they arrived it was snowing and when they left a week later the weather had warmed to about 60 some degrees. Several of the guys limited out, and the biggest catch of the week was made by a guy in Tom's boat, a 14 lb pike - Tom let it get away, in pursuit of bigger fish ! Right Tom!!!

"Fifty years ago parents were apt to have a lot of kids. Nowadays kids are apt to have a lot of parents."

SNAKE STORY, by Duffy Dufour , cottage 120, Eastside

One of the charms of Birch Lake is all the wild life around it. The most maligned segment of our wild life is the lowly snake. To put it bluntly, snakes and I are not very close. I, as most people, do find them interesting However.

Upon arrival at the cottage last week, I discovered a resident three foot snake. His grey color and milky blue eyes gave evidence that he was ready to shed his skin. I could not identify him or her. My first impulse was to take no chances and destroy this creature lest he run me off my premises, but I thought better of it. I was hoping he was after my numerous chipmunks which would burrow into your shoe if you let them.

After a little research I found that we have an uncommon Hog-nose snake, sometimes known as the American Puff Adder, and that he is non-poisonous. Today he peeled himself out of his panty-hose-like skin and is all bright and new, hunting for his favorite food - toads. When accosted he will spread his neck, somewhat like a cobra, and hiss violently. If that doesn't dissuade you from bothering him, he will go into a convulsion, roll over, and play dead. As the final act, he will gape his mouth open and squirt a few drops of blood into the corners of his mouth to convince you of his final demise. Later, while you are relating the death throes of this poor creature, he will slither away to live and play dead another day. Poor snakes, and this one in particular, sure have to go through alot to exist in modern times. In the interest of family tranquility, he may have to move his quarters to the woods, but in the meantime he sure is interesting, isn't he ??

Ever notice . . . that the number of people watching you is directly proportional to the stupidity of your action ?

I WILL DO CAKE DECORATING for you: any size cake desired (layer cakes, 9 x 13", 10 x 15", etc.) for any type occasion ! Contact Sperry, 476-2800.

FOR SALE: 12 foot Aluminum Boat - Montgomery Ward \$125.00. Call 476-8862.

I do my very best to equally represent all sides of the Lake with tidbits of news and amusing events; my travel is hampered somewhat with my 2 small girls - please feel free to call me anytime or drop off any news at my home anytime to help make the Birch Barker something worth reading !! Everything helps me out!!!