

THE BIRCH BARKER

15¢

from Beautiful Birch Lake
#13 1/2 Vandalia, Michigan 28 August 87

COMMODORE'S FINALE !!

"WOW" It's hard to believe that we are about to end another beautiful Birch Lake Summer! Please plan to come and join in the enjoyment of winding it up together at the Annuale Fall Dinner tomorrow nite at the Yacht Club. Dinner will be at 6:00 to 7:30 Indy time with a choice of swiss steak or chicken should be a good meal. Our entertainer will be TED GRUIZENGA of Reappraisal Services Inc. the outfit that is supposed to straighten out the value of our property, this may be worth hearing unless you don't pay taxes. DAN REYNOLDS has put this event together so it should be a fine time of getting together as a Birch Lake Group.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS I'D LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE

WATER QUALITY !!!

We have had very positive and hard working people contribute much time and effort to our most important asset "the lake", and its paying off. Not to mention the exceptional cooperation we have had from all of you!! Sincere THANKS to WELCHES, TEMPLES, and WEESNERS and uncounted others who have given countless hours, time, money, and heartfelt effort to this commitment.

BIRCH BARKER !!

G. PEDRO KINNER deserves a "hats off salute" for assuming this major responsibility for the summer! He has put the information together, published it, edited it, and distributed it! He's also put some zip in it and most importantly created a sense of common commitment between the Yacht Club and the Improvement Association for our one common goal "A BEAUTIFUL BIRCH LAKE".

THANKS PEDRO !

NEW BIRCH LAKE DIRECTORY

MIKE & KATHA MACHALLECK have accepted this responsibility - - - and its no small job. It will be distributed in the near future, paid for by advertising - - - and of course "small" contributions!

THANK YOU MIKE & KATHA

SAILING: FLEET CAPTAIN; HARD WORKER!

TOM HOWARD fits these titles! Over the years he's done these jobs well - - - A quiet "hard hitter" who simply gets it done - - - Including the new exterior paint job on the Yacht Club!

... and a final word of thanks to some of our hard workers who sometimes are overlooked:

LYNN SCHAAR - TREASURER

LYNN keeps the books, pays the bills and keeps us out of troubles; quiet hard-working dedicated and keeps a ledger a C.P.A. would approve!

FRAN WELCH - SECRETARY

FRAN takes the minutes of our meetings, gets them interpretable and has overall done a super job in a position for which few people would accept responsibility!

(SP)

T O S U M M E R I Z E

There are many of you who have helped make BIRCH LAKE a great place to be and go unthanked here in specific print - - - (insert name here) - - - but a sincere thank you to all!!

KEN TATE
Keyless Commodore

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MY COMMENTS

I'm sure most of you have been waiting all season for something like this so here goes, my first attempt to make some sense out of all the things that happened at Birch Lake this summer. Let's back up to last summer when I first decided it was time to get everyone together in a big huddle and layout a game plan for the future of BIRCH LAKE.

GOAL: To meet as many people as I could in one summer
Create an information source that was truthful and represented all sides
Breakdown any barriers that may be destructive to the future of Birch Lake

So far I feel pretty good about picking realistic goals but I'm not so sure about how well I may be accomplishing them. I've met so many people I can't remember all your names, please forgive me.

In order to meet new friends I tried to get all of you involved in something and believe me, we did quite a few different things this summer. I've got a thousand pictures to prove it, stop by the Yacht Club and check out the wall of pictures when you get a chance.

Maybe it seems that I'm always harping about safety, maybe you're right, because I'm getting tired of throwing dead squirrels off the road, next it will be pets and kids. Just slow down, OKAY! Last week a guy practically ran me off the road trying to get around me on the east shore, I thought it was an outsider just hurrying thru and out to M-40. So I waved at all my new friends, drove the speed limit, and protected all the walkers and riders from this beast. When I finally got home after ignoring this other person I looked in my mirror and discovered he was one of us. I hope there aren't to many of us like that, don't you.

Once upon a time at Birch Lake...

Some of you may have remembered my poem in an earlier issue regarding those obnoxious mercury flood lights that are supposed to protect our property from thieves that don't need to use flashlights anymore because we light up everything for them to take. Talk about polluting the lake its nothing compared to what we've done to the starscape we used to have, especially when the northern lights are dancing. Be aware there will be some changes made.

TEEN SECTION (Adults please don't read)

Have you done anything totally awesome lately that a teen can relate to, well maybe that's why you can't relate. Me, I kind of remember way back when I was in high school or just leaving for college about 20 years ago. I feel like a Birch Lake Rip Van Winkle waking up twenty years later at the same spot, totally awesome!! We've got to stick together as families to protect our natural resource so let's enjoy it together and PARTY!

WATER QUALITY

Its whatever you believe, and when the Health Dept says put one in, YOU BETTER BELIEVE.

The work that has been going on the past few years is by no means finished and should probably never end, I'm sure it won't in my lifetime. You're right, what right do I have to take a stand on this issue, I'm just a bum, living from year to year at one place or another that needs my assistance in order to keep from being overrun by money hungry developers (sorry I got carried away). Well I was born here and I do remember the water being a little clearer, it didn't sting my eyes, maybe I had ear aches, but I don't remember itching or watching the foam roll in on Monday mornings when the wind is just right.

I know its the lake cleaning itself, with Tide again, I suppose!

So, if you want to talk about future let's start now because there's lots of other places that need help, and I'm always on call.

TO MY DISTRIBUTION TEAM:

I couldn't have done any of this without your help, I could tell early on that each of my team was enjoying the interaction with all the neighbors and passing out the Barker was a fun thing to do.

So, thanks again to all those that volunteered for one weeks duty back in May and ended up delivering 13 weeks not missing one.

T H A T ' S D E D I C A T I O N

I hope to see you all at the Fall Dinner, maybe we should follow old Rip and wake up to see if we're better off than twenty years ago or better yet what will BIRCH LAKE be like twenty years in the future!

J. PEDRO KINNER

'Still doing it my way'

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.....

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Seafood Quiche - $\frac{1}{4}$ slice served with fresh fruit 6.75

Scallop Strudel - scallops, mushrooms and cream cheese baked in a fine
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6 Ounce Sizzler Steak 6.50



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POST SCRIPT

As Commodore I am proud to announce the proposed slate of officers and directors for the 1988 Season.

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VICE-COMMODORE - HAROLD CRANMER
SECRETARY - FRAN WELCH
TREASURER - LYNN SCHAAR

DIRECTORS

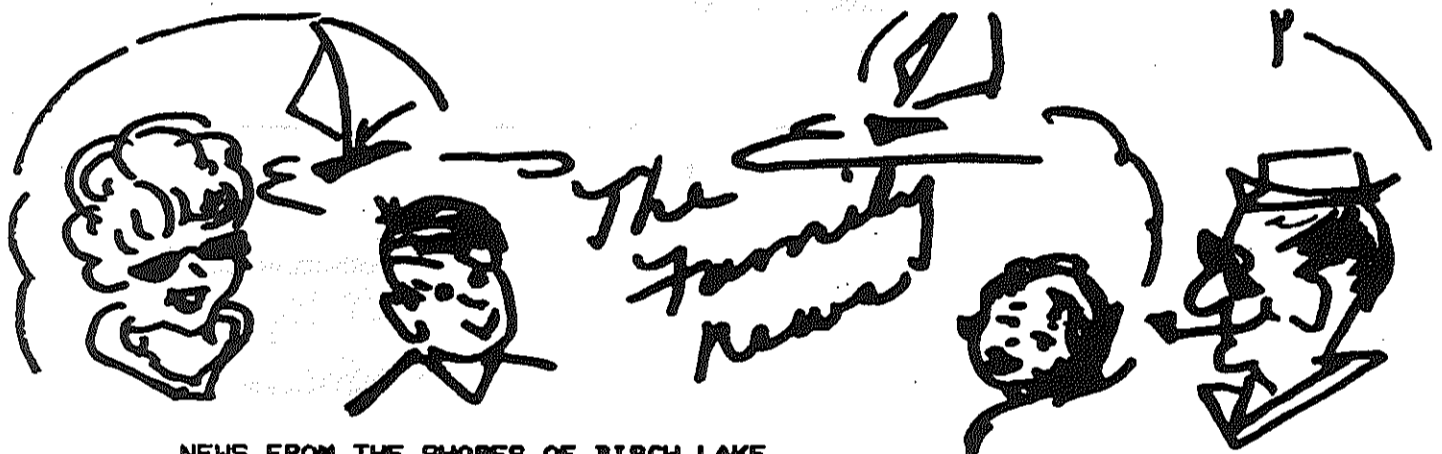
CLAUDIA GABLEMAN
G. PEDRO KINNER

LINDA RASMUSSEN
EARL TROEGER

TOM HOWARD
MIKE LOVE

S A I L I N G

I don't know what happened here it is last week for the Barker and I don't have any sailing results. Those guys have been out there beating on one another all summer and I don't even know for sure who's winning. Just from memory I do recall seeing TOM HOWARD'S name always in the top two or three, and it seemed that DAVE TROEGER won whenever he wanted to, RIC HARMON was even up there a couple times, but it was HAL CRANMER that really got it together after his vacation. He must have spent days polishing his centerboards (I hope I didn't give away any secrets, HAL). You all know who the real winners are so its not necessary that I print them here, just have fun and KEEP SAILING !!



NEWS FROM THE SHORES OF BIRCH LAKE...

ETHEL HILLRING called the other day to wish my grandparents HELEN & I.T. a happy 60th anniversary this weekend and said that she and CARL will be celebrating their own 60th on Oct. 1. How time flies when you're having fun, I remember when we had to go pick strawberries up at Hillrings farm on Sat. mornings before we could go swimmin, don't you. I sure miss that big fruit stand they used to have.

Long time Birch resident ART GLENTON passed away last weekend I'm told, several of you must have known ART and some of our other long timers that have left this summer. I hope they all know that we miss them and will keep Birch Lake a wonderful place to live, grow and someday return in another life!

**I HOPE YOU ALL HAD AS MUCH FUN READING
THE BARKER AS I DID WRITING IT.**

*From the beautiful shores of McKinley Highway, Mishawaka
(somehow not quite as beautiful as Birch Lake, I suspect)....*

Well, the Birch Lake season is over for us too, at Zipp Print, where each week this summer Pedro has brought in his masterpiece to be printed. I, for one, will miss his friendly face and news of that lovely oasis, Birch Lake.

Have a terrific autumn, winter, and spring, folks!

Judy
Judy Spigle
Office Manager

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