

June 10, 1989

## BIRCH BARKER

## COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Despite the torrential downpour last Saturday the officers and board members had a very productive day. A calendar of events for the summer was approved and then with lots of elbow grease a facelift was given the walls of the Yacht Club. The floor is scheduled for today if it is dry.

Remember the sailing meeting today at 10am. Races start in another week.

Following is a list of upcoming events. Watch the Barker for further details.

(all times are Indiana time)

Sat June 17 Newcomers' Cocktail Party 6 pm

Fri June 23 Housewalk 11am to 2 pm

Sat July 1 FIREWORKS !!!

Sun July 2 Fireworks rain date.

Tues July 4 Boat Parade

Sat July 8 Board Meeting 9am

Sun July 9 Pancake Breakfast

Fri July 28 Golf Outing

Sat August 5 Bosrd Meeting 9am

Sat August 5 Couples Sailing Race

Sat August 5 Cocktail Party 6 pm

Sat August 12 Triathlon

Sat August 12 Corn and Sausage Roast

Sat August 26 Fall Dinner

Because 'tis the season for this event we will start out with Graduations around the lake.

Kim Stout, granddaughter of Gary and Juanita Stout of the West Shore, graduated from Ross Beatty High School in Cassopolis.

Lisa Cole, Westshore, has graduated from Edwardsburg High.

Chris Minnix, daughter of Jerry and Sheila Minix and granddaughter of Cisco and Roberta Minix of the Cove, has graduated from Penn High School.

Jeff Minix, son of Terry and Holly Minix, grandson of Cisco and Roberta Minix, has also graduated from Penn this year.

Laura Young, granddaughter of Tom and Betty Griffith (Tom's Garage), graduated from Constantine High School this year.

We have new-born Birch Lakers since last summer:

Tom and Pat Troeger (S-side) are the proud grandparents of Brady Patrick Iams, son of Tracy and George Iams. Brady was born in September, 1988.

Our Commodore, Harold Cranmer and his wife Donna, are delighted with their grandson, born Oct 31, 1988 to Julie and Steve Plaia. Chad Joseph is their first grandchild and Donna says being a grandmother is more wonderful than she ever imagined

We also have new Birch Lakers by marriage:

Bob and April McElwee (E-side) were married Sept 17, 1988 and are now living year round at the lake, renting from Bob's grandmother, Mrs. Esther Fudge. Now she comes and visits them at the lake!

Brent Brown married Barbara Davis on April 15, 1989 in Elkhart.

Virg and Wilbur Gard's daughter Cindy was married Nov 12, 1988 at Coalbush Methodist Church in Mishawaka. They honeymooned in Florida, visiting a former Birch Lake resident, Susan Century. Then they went on to Pompano Beach & Fort Lauderdale, winding up with a three day cruise to the Bahamas.

Cindy and Layne's daughter (and the Gard's only granddaughter) Sarah, celebrated her first communion on May 6 at St. Bavo's in Mishawaka. The open house which followed was quite festive - all was recorded on video by uncle Sonny Henry.

Regretfully several of our longtime residents of Birch Lake have passed away since the last summer season.

Milo and Amanda France, on the Westshore, both have passed on. Their daughter, Rita and her husband John Benjamin are now using the cottage.

Ethel Hillring, wife of Carl Hillring on the West hill, passed away last fall.

Ken Troyer, Westside, passed away last fall.

Patty Speck, daughter of Mrs. Clarence (Phyllis) Speck of the Westside, has passed on.

#### HELPFUL REMINDERS

Included with this week's Barker is a copy of the Michigan Boating Regulations. Please go over these rules and keep them handy for reference during the season. Remember that you are to travel around the lake in a counterclockwise direction! Also keep in mind that boaters are to stay on the outside of rafts and floats, not between shore and the raft itself. Be especially aware of this when you are in the Cove.

Another reminder concerns dog owners - keep in mind that Michigan does have leash laws and your dog must be kept either tied up or on your property. Others do not appreciate wandering dogs.

Want to check out the fishing at Birch Lake this weekend? No license? No problem! This is a free fishing weekend on all of Michigan's lakes for both residents and non-residents. This is part of National Fishing Week, June 5-11. So give it a try. (By the way, if all you like about fish are catching and cleaning them, my family loves eating them!!)

AGAIN THIS YEAR BIRCH LAKE WILL BE SPONSORING A BIKE-A-THON on June 24 at 8:30 IN time, for the St. Jude Children's research hospital, honoring Brian, who is a leukemia patient at St. Jude's Sherry Holleman, coordinator of the event, requests the support of our lake community to make this event a success! Sherry needs volunteers to help punch laps for kids and to help with water stations and along the route. Bike riders are really needed as they make or break a Bike-a-thon. Riders sign up sponsors who promise to make a donation for each mile completed. All riders turning in money will receive a certificate. Those who raise \$25 receive a certificate and a t-shirt. When \$75 is reached, the rider also gets a sports bag. This ride is a vital part of the fight against childhood cancer, so please bikers, we need your full support! Pick up your sponsor forms at Sherry Holleman's or Harold Cranmer's. Call Sherry at 476-2800 for details on riding or volunteering!!

NOT FOR WOMEN ONLY!! Angie Lovejoy wants you all to mark your calendars for Fri June 23 to attend the housewalk. Bring your husband, he'll enjoy the tours and especially the snacks. Haven't you always wondered what the inside of that barn looks like? Now's your chance to see! Angie still needs volunteers to help from 11 to 2. Call her at 2777.

Claudia Gableman is reviving the BOAT PARADE for July 4. Start planning now for creative and original decorations for your boat. there will be prizes in several categories. Watch the Barker for more on this. We want lots of boats on the lake for this exciting event. Remember, the fireworks will be over by the 4th, so this will be the Main Spectacle for the actual holiday.

Camp Tannadoonah gets underway with opening week starting June 18. Allyson Weaver (#4a) will be Waterfront Director, Dewayne Weaver (#4a) will be the Maintenance-man/chauffeur and Paige Como (S093) will be Boating Director. Girls 6-16 and boys 6-13 who are interested can obtain a registration form from Weavers (476-2869) after 5pm or call the camp (476-2177).

Day camp is offered and is handy and a bargain for people who live on the lake.

There will be a lifeguarding course taught at Birch Lake. Anyone who is interested, call Allyson Weaver at Camp Tannadoonah (476-2177), Monday June 12 or as soon as possible. Must be 15 years or older.

Sheriff's Boating Class will be held for 12-16 year olds on Sat June 17 from 8am to 1pm Michigan time. This is at the Sheriff's Department in Cassopolis. Participants need to bring a pencil, snack and drink.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Zoofest- Potawatomi Zoo in South Bend June 10-11

Caravan Antiques Market- St. Joseph County Fairgrounds, Center-ville, MI June 11

Kalamazoo Air Show- Kalamazoo Airport - this weekend

Water Festival- Three Rivers, MI June 15-17 you may want to confirm this one, there may be TOO MUCH WATER right now.

Rhapsody in Green at Island Park in Elkhart was originally scheduled for this weekend, but has been postponed to Aug 19&20 due to high water shrinking the island!

Barn Swallow Theater presents CINDERELLA:

June 23 7:30pm MI time

June 24 7:30pm MI time

June 25 5:30pm MI time

Bring the whole family, \$3.00 admission. Call 476-2259 for reservations. (Call between noon and 9pm MI time.)

DINNER AND THEATRE AT ST. ANNE'S CHURCH, Cassopolis, MI.

June 24 at 6:30pm MI, right after the 5:00pm Mass, members of this congregation will perform "The Diary of Adam and Eve" for your enjoyment. Donation \$10 Reservations only, please. Dinner fare: Salad, Roast Beef Au Jus, Potatoe, Vegetable, Roll and Coffee, Sherbet. Mary Kring, Westshore, is involved in prop work, musical arrangement and costumes for this production.

Summerfest of '89

Scheduled for June 24 at Merrifield Park in Mishawaka, IN. This year organizers will bring in 11 groups to present a nostalgic look at the rock era titled "The 30th Anniversary of Rock and Roll".

### NEWSY NEWS OF THE LAKE

Cam Athanis, daughter of Tom and Marti Athanis and granddaughter of Lorrain Kreuger of the Westside, is home visiting friends and relatives for the next few weeks. Soon she will return to her job in Boston.

John Scofield has just returned from a fishing trip to Southern IN. Asked what he was fishing for his wife Laveta replied "anything that bites!". You've heard "the grass is always greener on the other side ...", well John feels the waters are better stocked to the South of us!

Tom and Betty Griffith (Tom's Garage) are going to Mackinac Island for a well deserved mini-vacation June 11-15. Becky will hold down the fort.

### ADS

12 foot fiberglass fishing boat for sale: \$82.75 Call Rick Doolittle.

For Sale: Electric Range 30" \$25.00 Call Sante 2227

LOOKING FOR: set of used adult skis in good condition. Call Hollemans at 2800

Denny Kring says: I have loads of dirt to give away. If you want it, come and get it! 476-2353



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## A DIGEST OF THE MICHIGAN WATERCRAFT LAWS

1. **Boats requiring registration** — All motorboats; all sailboats 12 ft. or longer; rowboats (privately owned) over 16 ft.; rental or commercial canoes 12 ft. or longer; rental or commercial vessels propelled by any means that are 12 ft. or longer. The registration numbers must be affixed to the watercraft and the certificate of registration must be carried on board when the watercraft is being operated.
2. All boats are required to have aboard one Coast Guard approved personal flotation device for each person on board.
3. Approved fire extinguishers must be carried on motorboats with closed compartments and should be carried on all motorboats.
4. Vessels 16 ft. and over are required to have on board a whistle or horn.
5. Running lights are required on all watercraft between sunset and sunrise. (Red and green front; white on rear)
6. Children between 12 and 16 years of age may operate a motorboat of 6 or more horsepower only when accompanied by a person 16 years old or older or when in possession of a boating safety certificate issued after satisfactorily completing a Michigan Department of Natural Resources approved course in boating safety. Children less than 12 years old may operate a motorboat of 6 or more horsepower only when accompanied by a person 16 years old or older.
7. No person shall operate any watercraft while under the influence of alcoholic beverage or narcotic drugs.
8. Any person who operates any watercraft in a careless and heedless manner so as to disregard the rights or safety of others, and at a speed that would endanger or likely to endanger any person or property, shall be guilty of reckless operation.
9. No person shall operate any watercraft at a speed greater than will permit him to exercise reasonable care, to bring the watercraft to a stop within the assured clear distance ahead.
10. No person shall operate a watercraft in a manner so as to unreasonably interfere with the lawful use by others of any waters.
11. All accidents resulting in personal injury or property damage to exceed \$100 dollars shall be reported to local law authorities. (Sheriff's Dept. in this area.)
12. All motorboats must operate in a counterclockwise direction, insofar as it is reasonably possible.
13. No operator of any watercraft shall have in tow any person on water skis, watersled, surfboard, or any similar contrivance during the period one hour after sunset to one hour prior to sunrise.
14. There must be one competent observer plus the driver in any watercraft towing water skis, or any similar contrivance and the boat must be equipped with a 170 degree mirror.
15. No person being towed on water skis or other similar contrivance shall be closer than 100 feet to any swimming area, fishing craft, pier, raft, or another watercraft.
16. The only exception to the regulation above is when landing and taking off — then, extreme caution must be used.
17. All persons must be seated in the seats provided when the watercraft is underway or in motion, sitting on the decks or gunwale is prohibited.
18. No operator shall allow his watercraft to pass closer than 100 feet to any fishing craft.
19. No operator shall allow his watercraft to pass closer than 100 feet from any swimming area except when docking or debarking.
20. A boat shall not be operated within 100 feet of a bouyed diver's flag (red rectangle with white diagonal stripe) unless the boat is tendering the diver(s).
21. Any organized and properly supervised race (authority from State Waterways Commission) has the right-of-way over waters designated as raceway during the period of the race.

**CASS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**  
**Marine Division**

