

June 23, 1990 ISSUE: 4

### COMMODORE COMMENTS

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The cocktail party Saturday night was great fun! Thanks to all - especially for those outstanding hors-d'oeuvres. A special thanks to the Vice-Commodore, Bud Zesinger, for his help behind the bar, and the girls that assisted with clean-up. Plus I shouldn't forget Dan Reynolds who made an emergency run for more ice and tonic water. The Yacht Club treasury is a little fatter after Saturday night. Thanks again!

Also, please don't forget to sign up your teenager for the Boating Safety Course on Saturday, June 30th, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Yacht Club. This is a great opportunity for them to learn the Do's and Don'ts of boating safety.

Have a good weekend!

Buzz and Linda Rasmussen

# JUNE - JULY EVENTS

TIME	DATE	EVENT
(All Indiana) 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM To be announced 9:00 AM	Saturday, June 30 Saturday, June 30 Monday, July 2	Boating Safety Class (FREE) Children's Party at BLYC Aerobic Classes at BLYC
9:30 AM DARKNESS DARKNESS	Saturday, July 7 Saturday, July 7 Sunday, July 8 Sunday, July 8	Monday, Wednesday, Friday Boat Parade Board Meeting Fireworks Display Rain date - Fireworks Display Pancake Breakfast at Camp Tannadoonah Men's Golf Outing
To be announced		House Walk

#### HOUSE WALK

The new date for the Birch Lake House Walk is Saturday, July 28th. The homes being opened for the House Walk are Phyllis and Dean Davis, Northside; Claudia and John Gableman, Southside; and Julie and Coy Jankowski, Westside. A big THANK YOU goes out to all these couples for their co-operation.

### SAFETY COMMITTEE QUIZ

- What is a P F D? a. Petrified Forest Deposits
  - Personal Flotation Device b.
  - Protection from Doolittle
  - Probably from Donnell None of the above d.
- Have you checked your P F D lately? a. No, I have all the protection I need.
  - b . Yes, and it floats fine.
  - No, I haven't been to Donnell Lake in years! c.
  - Yes, and all channels come in loud and clear.

If you answered (b.) to both questions, congratulations. You know that a P F D is a <u>Personal Flotation</u> <u>Device</u>, named so by the U.S. Coast Guard in their infinite quest for uniformity.

These PFD's come in 5 types - three of which apply to small inland lakes. Type I is the familiar orange life vest; type III is a flotation aid, such as ski vests or flotation coats; type IV are throwable devices, such as a ring or a cushion. All boats are required to have aboard one Coast Guard approved PFD for each person on board. This includes canoes, paddle boats, row boats, etc. Check your PFD often for rips, tears, and holes; check the straps and buckles. There should be no signs of waterlogging, mildew, or shrinkage of the bouyant materials.

Remember that PFD's are not babysitters - an adult should always be present with children. Inflatable toys and rafts should not be used as PFD's!

#### **BOATING SAFETY**

Each year approximately 50 people perish in boating accidents in Michigan. The vast majority of these deaths could be prevented simply by making yourself familiar with a few safety precautions.

Most of these deaths occur when people simply fall out of their boat. They may stand up to fight a fish, move from one place to another or just reach for a new lure or worm. This most common accident should be the easiest to control.

It is required that each boat carry personal flotation devices (life jackets) for each person on board. Take the time to educate all your passengers as to their location and use. It would be much better, and we would advise you to wear a P.F.D. at all times, and insist that everyone who boats with you wear one also.



There are other items that are required on certain craft such as, fire extinguisher, whistle or hom, lights for nighttime operation, flame arresters and ventilation for certain inboard and larger craft and those with permanently installed engines. These items are very important and are required on many vessels, but your personal flotation device is what saves your life when all else fails. Take the time to learn about it, wear it, and insist that others do the same. Remember they won't save your life unless you're wearing them.

### BOATING SAFETY CLASS

We now have 8 teens, ages 12 - 16, scheduled to take the boating class on Saturday, June 30th from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Indiana time. This is a great opportunity to meet other Birch Lake teens, while learning something at the same time!

Grandparents may sign up their grandkids who visit on weekends, too, for this FREE class offered by the Cass. Co. Sheriff's Dept. Those participating will earn a safety certificate enabling them to drive a speedboat without an adult present. Call Anne Abernethy (476-2559) or Buzz Rasmussen (476-2021).

### TRIATHLON UPDATE

This year's triathlon format has been changed in hopes that we can put some fun into it and get a lot of Birch Lakers to participate. So, you do not have to be an "iron man" to be a part of this year's event.

Six person relays will be the format: two swimmers, two bikers, and two runners. Each swimmer will swim 1/8 mile in an out and back course. The bike course will circle the lake with each biker riding 2 1/2 miles. Each runner will run approximately

Trophies will be awarded for first place in the following categories:

- 1. Male
- Female
- 3. Family (Mom, Dad, son, daughter, in-law, fiancee)
  4. Mixed (3 men, 3 women each performing one of the events)
- 12 and under

All participants will receive a new Birch Lake shirt. If you want to participate but do not have a relay contact Dan Reynolds (476-8877) as the will be putting together teams that need additional members.

This should be a really fun event so start getting your team together now. The entry fee will be \$10 per person.

### ATTENTION LADIES

ATTENTION LADIES: Mark your calendars for Tuesday, August 7th. We will be having the annual Birch Lake Ladies Luncheon at Hickory Inn. This year, in addition to meeting old and new friends and eating great food, we will be treated to a fashion show by The Clothes Line, a new shop that just opened in Middlebury.

I will have more information for you in the next issue of the Birch Barker. Denny Weesner

### CAMP TANNADOONAH FUND RAISER

Please remember Bruce and J.J. Harlan have available an aerial print of Birch Lake. The price is \$50.00 per print and you may contact them at 476-9714. Thank you.

### CRITTER SIGHTINGS

Saturday morning Jayme Rans, Westside, and friend Kelly Hartman unwillingly spotted a black snake with a green stripe

down its back, racing through Parnell's hill of myrtle.

The week before Jayme's mom, Julie, also unwillingly woke a sleeping Hognose Snake on her front steps.

Submitted by: Julie Rans

Eastern Hognose Snake: 20-452". A stout-bodied snake with pointed, slightly upturned snout and wide neck. Color extremely variable: yellow, tan, brown, gray, or reddish with squarish dark blotches on back interspaced with round dark dorsolateral wark blotches on back interspaced with round dark dorsolateral blotches. Commonly called puff, or spreading, adder or blow viper. Active in the daytime. Burrows deep into loose earth during cold winter months. When disturbed, it "hoods" its neck, inflates its body, hisses loudly, and strikes. It also rolls over and plays dead with mouth agape and tongue hanging out. It becomes limp and will remain "dead" when picked up; however, it will roll over again if placed right-side up. The Hognose feeds on toads and frogs. It rarely bites people.

### BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to JIM MITCHELL, whose birthday is June 24th, from his wife, Betty, and his family plus his many Eastside friends. We hope you have a great day Jim.

### REUNION

Lorene Krueger's daughter, Phyllis Beck, is arriving this

weekend from Peoria, Illinois.
Other relatives from Michigan will be arriving also for a Culver family reunion on Sunday, June 24th. We wish them a great time and lovely weather.

## ROUND OF APPLAUSE THE STATE OF STATE OF

Those Birch Barker Delivery folks are doing a great job.

Southside: Cheri and Chuck LaPierre

Janet Reynolds

Westside: Ryan Rans

Westside: Carana Ransa Angelanda Ang

Loretta Drolet and helper

Northside: Abernethy Family

Linda Curtis Jim Mitchell Eastside:

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BOAT for sale - 15' fiber glass - Steury run-a-bout - Good condition - 1971 50 horse power Johnson motor - runs goodtrailer and canvas cover included - \$1,800. Call 476-8807.

Herter Fibre glass fishing boat - \$50. Sailboat - new sail - \$100. Call Wednesdays or weekends - 476-2877.

JOBE SLALOM SKI - Honeycomb - Reinforced - Excellent Condition -\$85 - call Zesinger's 476-2526.

Red/White/Blue Sailboat - blow-up pontoons on a small Catamaran Sailboat. Used one season, belonged to Holleman's. Make any offer - paid \$200 for it. Call 476-2706.

Items for sale: Sears horse water pump - have the greenest lawn on Birch Lake. Used only 1 summer - \$50

46" Round Redwood picnic table & 4 benches - \$75 Umbrella type clothes line - \$5

Brown foam sofa - flops out to Queen size bed - \$75 CALL - 476-2559.

### BENEFIT AUCTION

Newberg-Porter Fire Department is having a Benefit Auction Newberg-Porter Fire Department is having a Benefit Auction Saturday, June 30th at 10 a.m. at the intersection of M40 and M60, Jones, Michigan. They would like you to donate anything for this auction; old furniture, vehicles, bikes, pots and pans, televisions, old farm machinery, and anything possible to sell. The money will be used for upgrading Fire Dept. equipment. You can drop off items at the Newberg-Porter Fire Department on Saturday, June 16 & 23, from 8:30-12:00 a.m. (Michigan) or if you want items picked up; call any of the following numbers: 244-5423, 244-8535, 244-8622. THANK YOU! Stop by and see the new Fire Engine.

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