



# Birch Barken

ALL THE NEWS IN, ON AND AROUND THE LAKE.

A Publication by the Birch Lake Yacht Club

May 28, 1994  
ISSUE: 1

## COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Once again the deep, blue, crystal clear waters of Birch Lake have shed their thick mantle of ice and snow and now beckon to us with the promise of summer delights. Welcome to summer fun at beautiful Birch Lake.

I don't know which season, summer or winter, that I like best at Birch Lake. The summer has sunshine, swimming, activities and warm summer nights. But there is a beautiful sense of peace and tranquility here in the winter when everything is covered by a deep blanket of snow, not to mention those cozy nights by the fire.

Another action packed summer is on tap for the lake. We will have all of the activities from last year, plus a Ladies Golf Outing and Vice-commodore's Cocktail Party/Karaoke Night have been added. Volunteers for any of our events are always welcome. Funding for events comes from your BLYC dues, so please join the Yacht Club early.

This Memorial Day holiday marks the beginning of our summer season, but please remember that it honors our Veterans who gave so much for us.

Please have a safe, fun, and happy summer season and please respect the rights of everyone to have the same.

HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY

Bob Waddle  
Commodore 1994

SUMMER "1994" EVENTS  
(all times Indiana)

- June 11th - Commodore's Cocktail Party - 5:30p.m.-  
BLYC
- July 2nd - Boat Parade - 10:00a.m.
- July 2nd - Fireworks - at dark
- July 3rd - Pancake Breakfast - 8:00a.m.
- July 16th - Vice-commodore's Cocktail Party/Karaoke  
Night - 8:00p.m. - BLYC
- July 22nd - Ladies Golf Outing
- July 29th - Birch Lake Golf Open
- Aug. 13th - Fun Run - 9:00 or 10:00a.m.
- Aug. 13th - Corn and Sausage Roast - 5:30p.m. -  
BLYC
- Aug. 27th - Fall Dinner - 6:00p.m. - BLYC

A Ladies Luncheon is planned for which we need a Chairperson. Please contact Linda Curtis or Bob Waddle if interested.

1994 BOATING SAFETY CLASSES

- June 18th - Union Conservation Club - 8:00a.m. to  
1:00p.m.(MI)
- July 2nd - Cass Co. Sheriff's Dept.- 8:00a.m. to  
1:00p.m.(MI)
- July 23rd - Cass Co. Sheriff's Dept.- 8:00a.m. to  
1:00p.m.(MI)
- Aug. 6th - Cass Co. Sheriff's Dept.- 8:00a.m. to  
1:00p.m.(MI)
- Aug. 20th - Cass Co. Sheriff's Dept.- 8:00a.m. to  
1:00p.m.(MI)

Students should be between the ages of 12 years and 15 years to attend the class. Eleven year old children may attend, but cannot receive their certificate until their 12th birthday.

There is NO CHARGE for the class and all students must be preregistered with the Sheriff's Dept. prior to taking the class. The telephone number for the Sheriff's Dept. is #445-2481.

Students should bring a sack lunch.

FIREWORKS 1944

The Fourth of July holiday fireworks show this year will be staged on Saturday evening, July 2nd, at dusk (rain date, July 3rd). The show will be provided by RKM Fireworks Company of Mishawaka, IN. RKM stepped in at the last minute last year and provided a terrific show when Princess Fireworks failed to deliver. This year's performance is promised to surpass last years's.

The Fireworks Show is the largest single expenditure of the Yacht Club's budget. As of the May 7th Director's meeting, the Fireworks Fund contained \$1,140.00. This year's show will cost \$4,000.00.

Please try to help out with a donation to the Fireworks Fund in addition to your Yacht Club dues.

LADIES GOLF OUTING

Ladies mark your calendars for Friday, July 22nd, for a day of fun on the golf course. We're planning a nine hole scramble (best ball) at Park Shores Golf Course in Cassopolis, followed by lunch. We're expecting all levels of players, and the whole idea here is to have fun. No pressure at all. So if you're a pro or a first time duffer, join us for a fun-filled day. More details and an entry form to follow in up coming

LADIES GOLF OUTING cont.

Barkers.

The co-chairwomen are Janet Reynolds (8877), Becky Wiseman (9560) and Fran Welch (2670).

TEEN NIGHTS

Friday Night Teen Nights, new activities of the Yacht Club last year, were so successful that they will be repeated this summer, but not until after July 4th.

Becky Wiseman and Nance Ball, our committee chairwomen, are organizing this activity again this year. Fridays (after July 4th) from 8:00p.m. til 10:00p.m.(IN) will be reserved for music, games, and chatter.

Volunteers are needed to chaperone one Friday evening each. Please call the Wiseman/Ball cottage at 476-9560 to offer your help. The teens of Birch Lake will love you for it.

SAILING NEWS

In a meeting of sailors held September 6, 1993 at the Yacht Club, the following was decided for the 1994 season:

- 1) Sunfish season will start Sunday, June 19th at 10:30a.m.(IN).
- 2) MC season begins July 4th weekend and features a three race Regatta including Sunfish.
- 3) Races are scheduled for Sunday mornings, 10:30a.m.(IN):
  - a) Three races over July 4th weekend for Regatta (JULY 3rd and 4th).
  - b) Three races over Labor Day weekend for Regatta (Sept. 4th and 5th).
- 4) There will be two races on Sundays with all boats starting together. There will be an active attempt to recruit non-sailing starters. Sailing Clinics are planned early in the season.

Last September's Meeting promised encouragement with the possible addition of one or two MC's in 1994.

Earl Troeger

1994 SPRING ROAD CLEAN-UP

Most of you have seen the "Adopt-A-Road" signs around Birch Lake. In order to qualify for these signs the roads around the lake must be cleaned up twice per year.

On April 30, 1994 at 9:00a.m. the following group of people gathered at the Public Landing and then set off in pursuit of refuse:

Bruce Walker	Linda Curtis	Janet Reynolds
Marc Golden	Stacey Whiteman	Sue Waddle
Steve Cranmer	Dan Reynolds	Bob Waddle

In spite of clouds and rain the group trudged onward and the project was completed in a couple of hours. Watch for the date of the Fall clean-up later in the summer and plan to "Pitch-in". Thanks again to the hardy souls that braved the elements and helped out.

### IN MEMORIAM

Since last Fall, we have lost the following long time Birch Lake residents:

MARGARET JENSEN	(S042)
JOE TORMA	(E172)
VERNA DENNERT	(E176)

We extend our deepest sympathy to their families and friends.

### BLYC OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

The following group of people are the officers and directors of the Birch Lake Yacht Club for 1994. They all give freely of their time to assure that everything runs smoothly.

#### Officers:

Commodore: Bob Waddle  
Vice Commodore: Linda Curtis  
Secretary: Linda Rasmussen  
Treasurer: Mike Machalleck

#### Directors:

<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
Bob Temple	Jane Nagy	Denny Weesner
Bruce Wagner	Margie Trybus	Dan Reynolds
Rich Mullin	<u>West</u>	Earl Troeger
(Past commodore)	Brad Walker	Tom Howard
	Steve Cranmer	Steve Horvath
	Buzz Rasmussen	Dick Bender
	Tim Steffen	

If you would like to join the Yacht Club or would like more information about events, feel free to contact any of the above.

### BAIR LAKE UPDATE

Late last summer Porter and Newburg Townships authorized a study by Merritt Engineering to determine if solutions were available to the high water on Bair Lake. The high water is creating damage to approximately ten homes on Bair Lake.

Since Bair Lake has no outlet to accommodate high water, Merritt Engineering recommended that an outlet be made at the southwest corner of the lake which would drain through natural wetlands into the Birch Lake watershed. This information was presented at special meetings for both Porter and Newburg Townships. Birch Lake representatives were in attendance at both meetings.

The DNR also held an informational meeting at Newburg Township Hall and Birch Lake was represented at that meeting also.

As of this date, no petition has been signed and presented by the affected parties to the county drain commissioner. Due to the cost of over \$500,000, it is unlikely that any further action will be forthcoming. We are, however, monitoring potential actions closely.

At the regular township meeting in May it was proposed that local solutions be found for the property owners being affected by the high water. This appears to be the likely direction in which solutions will be found.

We will continue to keep the residents updated as to the

Bair Lake Update cont.

progress of this situation.

WAVE RUNNER COURTESY RULES

The times for the use of wave runners and other personal watercraft will remain the same for this summer. No use before 10:00 A.M. or after 7:00 P.M. (Indiana time). This voluntary program has been extremely successful and future support and cooperation with the rule will allow Birch Lake to keep the times voluntary.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Please turn your news items and personal ads, etc. into me by 5:00p.m. Monday. I'm looking forward to hearing from you as your news is important and it is what the Birch Barker is about.

Watch for our advertisers in the next issue and please patronize them. They make it possible for you to receive a **FREE** Birch Barker each week.

All personal ads will cost \$1.00 a week.  
Hope you all have a fun and safe Memorial Day weekend.

Barb Zesinger, Editor  
63184 Birch Rd.  
(476-2526)