



Birch Barken

ALL THE NEWS IN, ON AND AROUND THE LAKE.

A Publication by the Birch Lake Yacht Club

August 18, 1995
Issue 13

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

A lot of heat and humidity didn't stop the Birch lake faithful from coming out for delicious treats - fresh grilled corn and sausage. The food was stupendous.

Three cheers for the cooks, Gary Swartzell, Terry Curtis, Ron Whiteman, Tim Lauver, Tim Steffen and Jim Hettmansperger. It had to be at least 110 degrees over those firepits. Thanks a million you guys...

Also thanks to Bruce/Sue Wagner, Dean/Phyllis Davis, Karen Curtis, Marty/Doris Sante, Mike/Katha Machalleck, Margie Trybus, Claudia Gableman and Staci Whiteman. We served 190 people, great job everyone.

A quick reminder for all of you if you are not sure your septic system is working properly please call our local Health Department, or if your system has not been pumped lately please have it done now. We all love our Lake and let's keep it clean.

Extra, extra, don't forget the Kids Party August 20th, 1:00 at BLYC. There will be a magician on hand to entertain us all.

Well, Terry and I had a great time throwing the Corn and Sausage Roast that was my last shindig. The next is the Fall Dinner hosted by the Vice, Sue. See you all there.

Enjoy the great hot weather.

God Bless.

Linda Curtis,
Commodore, 1995

1995 EVENTS

AUGUST 20	1:00	KID'S PARTY - BLYC
AUGUST 26	6:00	FALL DINNER - BLYC
SEPTEMBER 2	9:00AM	DIRECTOR'S MEETING - BLYC
SEPTEMBER 9	5:30	SAILOR'S COCKTAIL PARTY - BLYC

GOLF OUTING - Another golf outing has come and gone at Birch Lake. Mother nature made sure that we were all in suspense for the day. The heat index was over 100 degrees. At 6:30 am two inches of standing water on the course forced the cancellation of extra carts so everyone couldn't ride. But the toughness of the golfers to get the game in prevailed. It was the largest turn out for the men's golf outing. The total number of golfers was 72. We served 75 dinners. The donations and cash prizes was over \$1,000. By the way, Bud Zesinger donated a putter which I forget to put on the prize table, so we have already received donations for next year. Sorry Bud.

Special thanks to this years Commodore, Linda Curtis for her participation to a successful outing.

Listed below are those sponsors and volunteers that made this years outing the best ever.

Hole Sponsors: Bender Mold, Eagle Lake Marine, Wells Electronics, American Express Financial Advisors, Bender Plastics, Transamerica Insurance, Birch Lake Yacht Club.

Score Sponsors and Donations: Buzz Rasmussen, Barger Box, Ralph Dunlap, Brad Walker, Al Cover, Elmer's Body Shop, Bud Zesinger.

Volunteers: Mike Machalleck, Buzz Rasmussen, Earl Troeger, Steve Horvath, Dean Davis, Karen Curtis, Terry Curtis, Bob King, Bill King.

The 35th Birch Lake Open was a success. After expenses we raised \$400 dollars. As Chairman, I am turning over the money to the Commodore and the Yacht Club.

In the event I forgot to recognize someone for their contribution I do apologize. Again, golfers, sponsors, donors and volunteers are what made it a success. Thanks again, Tim Steffen, 1995 Open Chairman.

SAILING NEWS - Light to moderate winds finally greeted the Sailing Fleets last Sunday. There was some really close racing in both classes. In the 2nd Sunfish race, five boats finished in a virtual tie for 2nd. Scott Troeger again led the way with two 1sts. Bob King got a 2nd and 3rd as did Tom Howard.

Earl Troeger won his 1st race of the season, while Don Harman was a close 2nd. Harold Cranmer won the 2nd race with Tom Troeger finishing 2nd.

Season Standings

MC	Position	Points	Sunfish	Position	Points
Cranmer, H.	1	1615	Howard, T.	1	1622
Troeger, E.	2	1579	Troeger, S.	2	1616
Harman, D.	3	1522	Machalleck, M.	3	1465
Troeger, T.	4	1544	King, B.	4	1451
Green, D.	5	1397	Harman, R.	5	1425
Harlan, B.	6	1336	Olson, D.	6	1420
Jones, V.	7	1333	Gableman, J.	7	1382

IMPORTANT: Inorder to get 3 races in on Sundays, starting the 10 minute countdown as 10:00 is a must. Please be on time this weekend.

A note of thanks to Bob and Sue Waddle and George and Bradey Iams who have started the Sailboat races the past few weeks. Without the help of these fine people our sailing program would not be near as successful as it has been. Thanks from all the sailors.

FOUND swimming in the Lake by Tom DeCoker, 18 inch Rainbow Trout, Friday, August 11. - This isn't just a fish tale! Can anyone top this one?

FINAL DIRECTOR'S MEETING - Saturday, September 2nd at 9:00am, please try to attend. This will be a wrap-up, review and 1996 planning session.

The **FAMILY OF JOHN O'BRIEN**, a North shore resident for the past 40 years, would like to thank the Birch Lake family for all their prayers, concerns, flowers and visits during the past week. Papa John loved The Lake and all the people. His spirit is still here, sitting on the porch - give him a nod when you pass by.

BEV AND HERM KRUGGEL are happy to announce the birth of their ninth grandchild! Courtney Marie Kruggel was born Wednesday, August 2, to Sue and Kevin Kruggel. She weighed 8 lbs. 2 oz. Connor and Coley are so excited and thrilled with their new baby sister.

Grandma and Grandpa Kruggel were really proud of their Grandson, Parker, 4, and Granddaughter Alexa, 5. Last weekend they rode the Flexa-Board around the Lake for the first time. Parker was already trying tricks and now wants to go "boarding" all the time! Little Ryan Lynn Durham gets the prize for being the youngest, 22 months, to ride the ski-bob.

WATER QUALITY - To all of you who enjoyed Birch Lake, I want to share a concern and ask for your help. On August 2nd, BEFORE the heavy rains, at about 7am, I noticed a brown slick on the water in front of my Southwest side property. As I investigated, I found evidence of the slick over more than 1/4 mile of shoreline. The surface of the Lake was flat and there was a light breeze blowing toward my property. As I looked across the Lake, I could see the slick was 15 to 20 feet wide, extended as far as I could see, and spread out only as it met the shoreline. A slick this wide suggested to me the origination was from a single point.

I took a water sample and sent it to the State Lab in Lansing. Results were: E. Coli per 100 milliliters <10, fecal coliform per 100 milliliters 320, fecal streptococci per 100 milliliters 9300.

The fecal coliform and strep numbers are undesirable and higher than we would expect to find in Birch Lake. During the time we waited for the water to clear we lost the ability to use our own Lake front property for swimming.

Apparently, this is not the only slick that has appeared on Birch Lake in the recent past. I spoke with the Environmental Director at the Health Department. He has been in touch with Birch Lake residents and the Department of Natural Resources, and offered to help.

If you see a brown slick, the Health Department wants to know and wants to investigate. Also, avoid swimming in this area. **CALL PUBLIC HEALTH IMMEDIATELY AND ASK THEM TO COME OUT - 445-5280. TAKE A SAMPLE AND CALL A MEMBER OF THE WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE OF THE YACHT CLUB.** Committee members are Linda/Terry Curtiss 476-2431; Dan/Janet Reynolds 476-8877; and Bob/Gert Temple 476-2773. They may also be able to assist with water sampling and Health Department contacts.

Be aware of the appearance, smell and feel of the water. With all of us working together, our Lake, our enjoyment and our financial investments in our Lake properties, should be secure for years to come.

IRWIN - I would like to thank everyone at Birch Lake for there cooperation and kindness shown in our search for John Irwin. The Family of John Irwin

FOUND - Last week during the hugh downpour a very large clay pot (14" across the top) drifted to our shore. Owner may pick it up at 62967 Birch Lakeview Drive (West side).

BIRCH LAKE RESIDENT would like year round home or lot to build on. Completely confidential. Days 219-277-7504 Weekends 9886

KIDS PARTY - This Sunday from 1:00 to 3:00. Ages 1-12 are welcome, anyone under 5 must be accompanys by an adult. There will be a magician and ice cream - What else could a kid want?

FALL DINNER - We will be unable to accept walk-ins. If any Directors have taken reservations, please turn them in to Sue.

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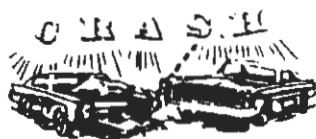


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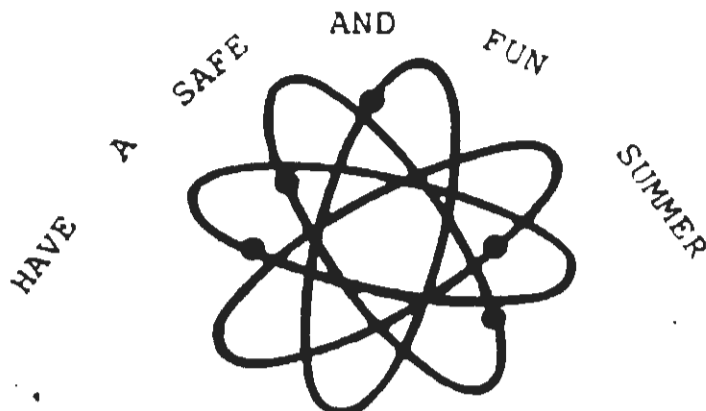
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