



# Birch Barken

ALL THE NEWS IN, ON AND AROUND THE LAKE.

A Publication by the Birch Lake Yacht Club

May 31, 1996

Issue: 1

## COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Mishawaka, Indiana

January 12 - 20 ° below zero; *Think Birch Lake*  
January 18 - Can't believe this heating bill; *Think Birch Lake*  
February 1 - 80,000 straight days of no sunshine; *Think Birch Lake*  
March 1 - 172,000 straight days of no sunshine, possible  
terminal depression setting in; *Think Birch Lake*  
April 43rd - Mental state bad; *Think Birch Lake*  
May 1 - Glimmer of hope  
May 31 - WELCOME, SUMMER OF '96!

After an enjoyable Spring Dinner at the Matterhorn, featuring Buzz Rasmussen's glorious slide presentation, we tackled our first agenda item; the glamour of road cleanup. The "down with debris" crew consisted of Scott, Amy and Tory Troeger, Janet Reynolds, Diana Kruis, Linda Curtis, Patti Russwurm, Dick Bender, Bud and Barb Zesinger and Bruce and Sue Wagner. An archaeologist, henceforth following our trail, might deduce that civilization subsisted on such oddities as Doritos, Marlboros and Bud Light. Thanks to all the dirty but helping hands.

Thanks also to the many of you who have sent in your dues and contributions. Also, we have a lot planned for this summer and if you can squeeze some time out of your busy schedule, we can always use more volunteers.

Yet another thank you, to Tom Rogers for donating BLYC trash removal by Superior Waste for the season. We greatly appreciate!

The next BLYC directors meeting is June 8th at 9:00 a.m.

(IN). All meetings are open; please feel free to attend.

Have a safe and happy summer.

Sue Wagner, Commodore

CALENDAR OF EVENTS  
(All times given are Indiana)

June 8 BLYC Directors Meeting 9:00  
 June 10 School Board Election for Constantine Schools  
 June 15 Commodore's Coctail Party 5:30  
 July 4 Fireworks (rain date July 5)  
 July 6 Boat Parade  
 July 7 Pancake Breakfast  
 July 26 Men's Golf Outing  
 July 27 Vice Commodore's Party  
 Aug. 2 Ladies' Golf Outing  
 Aug. 10 Corn & Sausage Roast  
 Aug. 31 Fall Dinner

?? Ladies Luncheon to be announced.

Also, the next issue will have information about a boating safety class coming up in the next few weeks.

DUES - Here is a list of those who have paid their 1996 dues. An asterisk indicates a fireworks donation.

Courtney*	Sikorski*	Athanas	Reynolds*	Herms*
Kinner*	Cote*	Vath*	Coan*	Bernaciak*
Bender*	Witchie*	Greenig*	Beck*	Sargent*
Harlan*	Minix*	Hornbeck	Burke*	Asire, M*
Bergan*	Foley	Ball, J	Troeger T*	Troeger S*
Ball, S*	LaPierre	Hayden*	Mumaw*	Weesner, B*
White*	Curtis, T*	Stevens	Golden*	Tunncliffe*
Asire, J*	Cowan*	O'Neill*	Flora	Lindenfeld*
Wozniak*	Cover*	Waddle*	Greenig*	Leatherman*
Custard*	Monroe*	Green	Williams*	Scofield*
Kolber*	Garceau	Gaik	Emory*	Rasmussen*
Bliler*	Howard, T	Olson*	Williams*	Troyer
Davis*	Zesinger*	Mullin*	Kruggel*	Russwurm*
Ward	Brown*	Waggoner*	Richwine*	Papandria*
Blue*	Richmond*	Pence	Eberhart*	Landesman*
Wagner*				

BARKER DELIVERY

Cove and west to Parnells - Wagners  
 Remaining west shore - Bev Kruggel  
 South Shore - Staci Whiteman and Diana Kruis  
 East Shore - Holly Troeger, Deborah Curtis, Jim Mitchell  
 North Shore - Sarah Mullin

DIRECTORS

<u>North Shore</u>	<u>East Shore</u>	<u>South Shore</u>	<u>West Shore</u>
Bruce Wagner	Margie Trybus	Earl Troeger	Brad Walker
Dean Davis	Don Harman	Tom Howard	Buzz Rasmussen
	Marc Golden	Need to Fill	Tim Steffen
	Fran Welch	Need to fill	Liz Cover

OFFICERS

Commodore	Sue Wagner
Vice Commodore	Scott Troeger
Secretary	Lind Harman
Treasurer	Linda Rasmussen
Birch Barker Editor	Phyllis Davis

## A FEW NOTES FROM THE EDITOR....

Here I am again. The first time I had this job was in 1977. To reminisce a moment...we then spent our summers on the west side and I typed a stencil on an old manual typewriter. When it was finished, I went to Julie Weaver's garage and we cranked them out on the mimeograph machine, trying not to get ink all over ourselves. This is definitely easier.

I want to pursue an idea I had last year, but didn't quite get around to doing anything about it. That idea is to help us get acquainted with the newcomers. If you have become a Birch Laker since 1994, please let us know a little about yourselves (or perhaps a helpful neighbor will fill us in). I'd like to start by telling you about the new neighbors on my lane who came last year.

### LET'S MEET THE NEIGHBORS....



In the former Troeger house on the north side is Bob Herms and Marty Slayter. Bob is a supplier to the recreational vehicle business and Marty is a ReMax realtor in Elkhart. Between them they have eight children and eleven grandchildren, which keeps the place hopping. Two of Bob's children and families came last summer from California to see Dad's "new digs", loved it and said they'd be back regularly. Marty's family lives nearby and are frequent visitors. I might add both Bob and Marty are great cooks!

Rick and Patti Russworm have leased out their house in South Bend and are living year-round on Kiloqua Woods Lane. They own the house which was formerly owned by June Kroeder and Char Forney. You'll often see them running with their dog. Rick is self-employed, putting in new counter tops and resurfacing cabinets; and Patti manages many rentals.



### THE LOVEBUG BITES!

It's a first for Camp Tannadoonah! Another Birch Lake romance came to the ultimate conclusion on September 30th when Melanie Everett (West shore) and Bill Hall (East shore) were united in marriage in the Morris Lodge at the camp. The reception followed in the dining hall, which was decorated with grapevine wreaths, dried wild flowers, etc. Attendants included Birch Lakers Amy Everett, sister of the bride, Scott Hall, brother of the groom, Beth Davis, Amy Ross Medich, and Brad Medich. Bill and Mel are in residence here year-round.

And then there was another Everett wedding. In December, Sally Everett became the bride of Jim Beck. Jim sold his house and they are living here at Birch Lake.

But that's not the end!! At Melanie and Bill's wedding, Jim Beck's sister met Brian Kinner and they are now married.

Congratulations to all and much happiness!

### CONDOLENCES

We are all saddened by the passing of many long-time Birch Lakers since last summer. Included in the list are Nadine Brown, Loretta Budzinski, Clifford Cowan, Wilbur Gard, Clem Haines and Annie Torma. Also, condolences to Jim Bergan on the loss of his father in March and his mother in May.

### FAREWELL TO WANDA

To those of you who missed the spring dinner, we said farewell to a wonderful neighbor. Many of you knew her from childhood as the hostess of Lazy Lodge. Wanda Winiarski sold her home to buy a new one next door to her son Peter in Battle Creek.

Wanda and Pete bought their place on the northeast side of Birch Lake in 1943. They lived in Chicago at the time and Pete liked to fish and wanted to find "a lake". He answered an ad in the Chicago Tribune for property with six cabins, which they rented out, and 40+ acres. This included the properties now owned by the Irwins, Hunts, Klimeks, Sanders, Hornbecks, Funks and Trybuses. Pete and Wanda moved to the lake year-round in 1947. Pete didn't have a regular job, but he was the local handyman until a job opened up at the machine shop located on the west side. Since Wanda wanted to keep busy, a Chicago friend (who sold hot dogs wholesale) suggested she open up a snack shop. From this idea came Lazy Lodge.

Peter was born in 1951 and Pete died in 1962. At that time Wanda went to work in the cafeteria at Constantine High School, where she retired in 1984. She was always outside working on her property, but it finally got to be a little too much for her. Also, she is looking forward to all of the activities her four grandchildren are involved in.

For those of you who would like to drop her a note in her new home, the address is: 6318 Purdy, Battle Creek, MI 49017.

(Her home was purchased by Ben and Vanessa Wozniak, who have since sold their place - more later on that).

### NEWS

Birch Lake has been a close-knit, family community. (At one time, you couldn't even buy a place in the cove area without the approval of the other owners). As we increase in population, we don't want to lose the sense of community.

One way to preserve that feeling is to contribute to the Birch Barker. It keeps people informed on who's doing what with whom (well, maybe not all the details). At any rate, we can't report happenings without your input.

Please submit items for the Barker. There's a "new" Barker box on the northeast side of the lake at the intersection of Birch Road and Kiloqua Woods Lane. It's the tall red and black one that stands above the mailboxes. Either drop off your articles there, or come on down the lane and visit.

Phyllis

NEWS FROM THE COVE

Some people will do anything to avoid house cleaning. Beth Blackwood took one hard look around after one of the infamous Blackwood family functions, whipped the mop and Top Job in the trash, and called in a demolition crew. An assembly of coffee drinking neighbors (donuts were supplied by Madame Destructo herself) watched the incredulous process of a cottage quickly being reduced to gigantic splinters. When the dust settled and the rubble was cleared, Howard, ever the loving and indulgent husband, sprang into action and, as we go to press, a beautiful new house is in the final stages of completion. Happy new home, Blackwoods.

South Shore dwellers may occasionally notice flashes of light emanating from the north. The source of these brilliant flickers is not UFOs, but the bauble Cisco Minix gave Roberta for their 50th wedding anniversary! Adding to the celebration was a dinner at the Matterhorn for family and friends hosted by the Minix and Bergan families. Congratulations, Cisco and Roberta.

CLASSIFIED

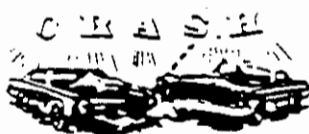
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1. Boats requiring registration - All motorboats; all sailboats 12' or longer; rowboats (privately owned) over 16'; rental or commercial canoes 12' or longer; rental or commercial vessels propelled by any means that are 12' or longer. The registration 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. Running lights are required on all watercraft between sunset and sunrise. (Red and green on front, white on rear).
5. Children between 12 and 16 years of age may operate a motorboat of 6 horsepower or more 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 no more than 6 horsepower without supervision or a boating safety certificate. Young operators under age 12 may not operate a vessel powered by more than a total of 35 horsepower engine(s) even though that young operator is properly supervised.
6. No person shall operate any watercraft while under the influence of alcoholic beverage or narcotic drugs.
7. 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.
8. 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.

9. No person shall operate a watercraft in a manner so as to unreasonably interfere with the lawful use by others of any waters.
10. All accidents resulting in personal injury or property damage to exceed \$100 shall be reported to local law authorities.
11. All motorboats must operate in a counterclockwise direction, insofar as is reasonably possible.
12. 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.
13. 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.
14. No person being towed on water skis or other similar contrivance shall be closer than 100' to any swimming area, fishing craft, pier, raft or another watercraft.
15. The only exception to the regulation above is when landing and taking off then, extreme caution must be used.
16. All persons must be seated in seats provided when the watercraft is underway or in motion, sitting on the deck or gunwale is prohibited.
17. No operator shall allow his watercraft to pass closer than 100' to any anchored fishing craft.
18. No operator shall allow his watercraft to pass closer than 100' from any swimming area except when docking or debarking.
19. A boat shall not be operated within 200' of a bouyed diver's flag (red rectangle with white diagonal strip) unless the boat is tendering the diver(s).

CASS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT  
 Dep. Dan Covey, Marine Commander

Sec. 63. Operation of Personal Watercraft (effective January 1, 1991). (1) A person shall not operate a personal watercraft on the waters of the state unless each person riding on or being towed behind the vessel is wearing a type I, II or type III personal flotation device as described in R281.1234 of the Michigan administrative code. (281.1063, Sec. 63, 1)

(2) While operating a personal watercraft equipped by the manufacturer with a lanyard type engine cutoff switch on the waters of the state, a person shall have the lanyard attached to his or her person, clothing or personal flotation device as is appropriate for the specific vessel. (281.1063, Sec. 63, 2).

(3) A person shall not operate a personal watercraft on the waters of the state between the hours from sunset to sunrise (281.1063, Sec. 63, 3).

(4) A personal watercraft shall at all times be operated in a reasonable and prudent manner. Maneuvers that unreasonably or unnecessarily endanger life, limb or property, including but not limited to, weaving through congested vessel traffic, jumping the wake or another vessel unreasonably or unnecessarily close to the other vessel or when visibility around the other vessel is obstructed, and swerving at the last possible moment to avoid a collision, constitute reckless operation of a vessel, as provided in section 74. (281.1063, Sec. 63, 4)

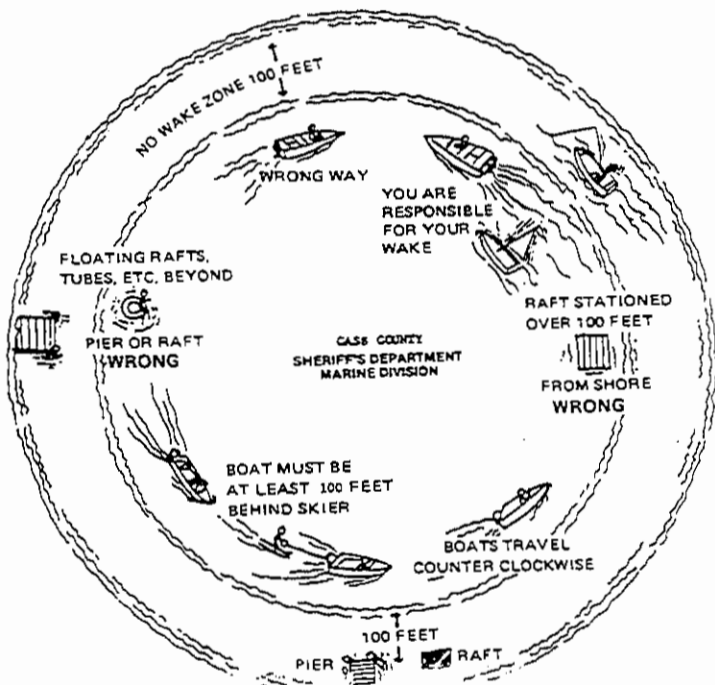
(5) A person shall not operate a personal watercraft on the waters of the state carrying more persons than the vessel is designed to carry. Carrying more persons than the vessel is designed to carry is prima facie evidence of reckless operation of a watercraft under section 74. (281.1063, Sec. 63, 5).

(6) A person operating a personal watercraft on the waters of the state shall maintain a distance of 100' from any dock, raft, buoyed or occupied bathing area, or shall not cross within 150' behind another vessel, other than a personal watercraft, that is traveling at a speed greater than slow-no wake speed. (281.1063, Sec. 63, 6).

(7) A person under the age of 12 shall not operate a personal watercraft on the waters of the state. A person 12 through 15 years of age may operate a personal watercraft on the waters of the state only when accompanied by a person 16 years of age or older, or without adult supervision when in possession of a boating safety certificate in compliance with section 62. (281.1063, Sec. 63, 7).

(8) The owner of a personal watercraft or a person having charge over or control of a personal watercraft shall not authorize or knowingly permit the personal watercraft to be operated in violation of subsection (7). (281.1063, Sec. 63, 8).

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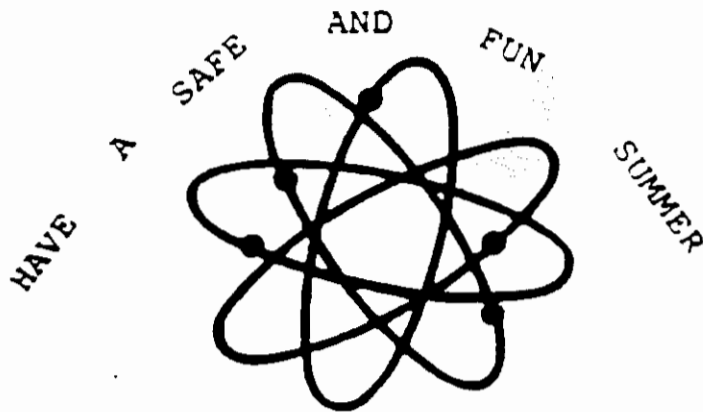
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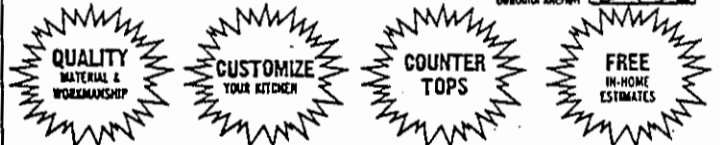
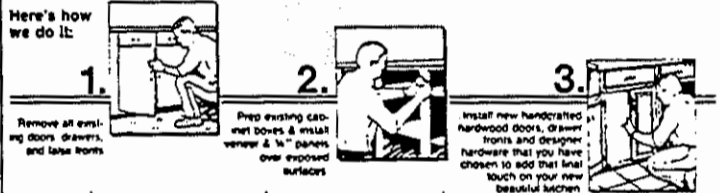
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