### **COMMODORE'S COMMENTS**

No doubt about it; that was a glorious Fourth. The fireworks were, to employ an overused word, awesome. (Still accepting donations). The boat parade was a standout; some creative and witty people worked to make it a high point. Thanks, Gablemans and Reynolds for engineering the event.

Once again, Marty and Doris Sante whipped up a small lake of batter and flipped flapjacks for a hungry crowd of 350 at Camp Tannadoonah. These two deserve a golden spatula and free carpal tunnel exams. Our gratitude, Santes. We presented a check to the Camp in the amount of \$1,000.

Directors' meeting Saturday, July 13th at 9:00.

Also, on the 13th, haul out your unwanted objects d'art for the neighborhood "one man's trash - another man's treasure" sale.

Please complete and return the directory information blanks in the June 28th Barker. If you don't have one, please call me at 2090.

There's plenty of summer left so please don't be depressed, but we need to talk about the Fall Dinner. It will be August 31st at the yacht club and, because of space, is limited to 120 people, including children. Please fill out this form and send it, along with your check, to Scott Troeger by August 26th. Now go take a swim and forget we even mentioned fall.

To all who donated their time, energy or cold hard cash to make this Independence Day a rousing good time, my heartfelt thanks. You Birch Lakers are special people.

Sue

### BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB FALL DINNER

Adults \$8.50 Children \$4.50

NAME	
Number in party	

Return to: Scott Troeger, 63696 Birch Road, Vandalia, Michigan 49095.

Please respond by August 26th. Receipt of your check is your reservation.



#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(All times given are Indiana)

July 13 Directors Meeting 9:00 a.m.

July 13 All-lake Garage Sales

July 15, 17, 19 Aerobics

July 26 Men's Golf Outing July 27 Karoake Party

Aug. 2 Ladies' Golf Outing

Aug. 10 Corn & Sausage Roast

#### A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR......

The boat parade was wonderful. If any of you saw the South Bend Tribune on Sunday morning, there was a picture of the winner from the annual Elkhart St. Joseph River 4th-of-July Flotilla. This is usually a big event with lots of time, creativity and money going into their entries. Well.....many of *our* entries were superior to their top one! You've inspired many of us, and our family is already planning an entry for next year. I don't suppose Dean can be a judge then, can he?

### RESULTS OF THE BOAT PARADE

Best Overall Covered Wagon (Foos) Most Creative UFO (Arnolds)

Other Winners: Western Birch Lake or Bust (S. Troeger)

Junk Boat Garage Sale (Gableman Gang)

Children's Dino-Mite (Zessinger, Rasmussen, Bernaciak)

Scariest Boat Haunted Boat (Greens)
Collegate Purdue or Bust (Troegers)

Colorful U S Olympic Bubble Team (Herms)

Musical Rock 'N Barge (Balls)

Most Patriotic Cowen

Kid's Tropical Flamingo (Garceau)
Olympics USA (Lindzy)

Best Pontoon Bubba Gump (Rich Lindzy)
Sports Boat Da Bulls (Richwine/Rogers)

Patriotic Fishing McCoy

Fishing Sea Nymph (Winner needs to claim trophy)

Best Solo Fritz Trybus

Thanks to judges Barb Pence, Staci Whiteman, Dean Davis, Margie Trybus and Dick Quiton; and a special thank you to Claudia Gableman.

The Paul Hill family from Cincinnati (Vath's cottage) contributed labor and ideas for the Birch Lake or Bust entry. Thanks, folks.

### JOEY DOLLAR AND KAROAKE

Joe Daher from Elkhart has been a showman with music for many years. He began in his high school years and had an interest in karoake. He sings, dances and animates these shows. Shows are at the Lantern Lounge (Weston Plaza in Elkhart) every Thursday and also at the Legacy of Camelot at Sisters Lake on Fridays. So come to Club Birch Lake for a night of fun on July 27th. Hear one of the best MC's karoake has to offer.

### 4TH OF JULY REGATTA

With no wind on Thursday, the Sunfish sailed two races, MC's weenied out on the second race. Sunday provided lots of wind and both fleets sailed three. The results:

MC's (4 races) Sunfish (5 races) Cranmer S. Troeger 1st D Harman 2nd King 3rd Harlan Howard 4th Jones Gableman 5th & 6th R Harman and Olson

K riai man and Or

See you Sunday at 10:30!



### NEWS FROM AROUND THE LAKE

Tom and Nancy DeCocker celebrated the birth of the first child of their son John and his wife, Sandra. Breanna, born June 28th, is their third grandchild. Their daughter Karen, her fiance Aaron Sandock, and her children, Aris and Quinn, spent the 4th of July weekend at the lake resting and relaxing before their big weekend. On July 13th Karen and Aaron will be married. Aaron is the grandson of former Birch Lakers Mel and Betty Sandock.

Chuck and Gail Urwiller from Hudson, Florida were here a few days at Dick Bender's on the south side to visit the Gail's sister, Marsha Slack. Mary and Fred Adair, Marsha's mom and dad, also from Hudson, Florida, are staying at Bender's this summer. Mary has been baking and cooking. Dick's kitchen never saw such food before! Fred has been working outside cleaning, trimming, fishing, relaxing, and I hear that Dick and Marsha are just loving it! We can tell .... Dick's getting lazy and heavy!!

Laura Pence has been had at work this winter making fimo clay jewelry. She will be selling her work at the Pence house (#72) the day of the garage sale. She has necklaces, bracelets, earnings, rings and keychains. Stop by to see her jewelry.

Sabrina Pence is spending the month of July in Gaborone, Botswana on a school-to-school exchange between Westwood International School and Lyons Township High School in LaGrange, Illinois. She is living with a local family and going to school with children from 40 different countries. She will be spending four days at the Chobe Game Reserve, and will be visiting Victoria Falls in Zimbawe. The students will finish their trip by spending a week in Capetown and Johannesburg, South Africa.

John and Dorothy Parnell are no longer living part of the year in Florida. They are now permanently in Mishawaka, she in the retirement home of Tanglewood Trace and John in the adjoining nursing home at Fountainview. Dorothy had a bad fall at the lake six weeks ago and has been recuperating under the TLC of daughter Kathy and family, Ron and Bobby. She is now able to be back at beautiful Birch Lake weekends with the family. Shane Parnell, one of Dick's twins, graduated from Rose-Hulman Engineering in Terre Haute and is starting his first job in chemical engineering in Richmond, VA. Brian, the other twin, will be persuing a course in physical therapy at I. U. in Bloomington for another year.

Dick and Peggy Cowen (W350) had a special visitor on July 4th. Avanelle Cowen, 92 recently, came to enjoy the beautiful Birch Lake day. She said repeatedly, "It's so lovely". Avanelle and Clifford Cowen built their cove cottage in 1946, so it's been 50 years of fun an enjoyment. Avanelle now lives at St. Paul's Retirement Home in South Bend.

Jean Hunt has been packing them in this summer, as she again had thirty people over to celebrate the third birthday of great grandson Caleb.

### **NEWS FROM THE COVE**

Bruce Wagner has developed a serious case of puppy love. When Irish Bergan's "parents" went to the Neil Diamond concert, Uncle Bruce, a.k.a. Mary Puppins, baby sat and some major bonding occurred.

Things have been lively at **Kamp Kelly**; lots of friends visiting from Chicago burbs. Is there any better sound than children laughing? (Maybe the sound of children sleeping.)

After a long haul, **Blackwoods** are about to move in the new house. It'll be good to have them in residence.

Sue Wagner has run off with Sean Connery.

### **CLASSIFIED ADS**

(Cost is \$1 per week)

FOR SALE: Cottage 14841 Lakeshore Drive (#72) or call #2018 or (708) 246-6252.
Also Sunfish sailboat \$500. Pence

'94 Ford Explorer, 4x4 Eddie Bauer edition, fully loaded, leather interior, sun roof, like new 22,000 miles. \$22,500. Call Temples #2773.

## Ladies Golf Outing



### Park Shores Golf Course, Cassopolis, MI Friday, August 2nd, 9:00 am (Indiana time)

Join us at the next Birch Lake Ladies Golf Outing. It will be a "scramble" format again, teaming four players of varying abilities ... so you needn't be a pro to play. Everyone takes their shot and you all move to the "best ball". It's a great way for both beginners and frequent golfers to go out on the course and have some fun!

After golf in the morning we will share a delicious lunch as well as the awards ceremony at the Yacht Club. The entry fee is \$25 / per player — make your check out to BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB - LADIES GOLF OUTING.

It is always helpful if you can make your own foursome, otherwise we will assemble groups as best we can. Please submit the entry form (below) as soon as possible so we can plan ahead. We need your information no later than <u>July</u> 26th.

Mail -or- drop off your form and payment to:

Pam Mullin / Leslie King c/o Le King 14877 Birch, North Shore Dr. Vandalia, Ml 49095

Name		
phone usual score for 9		Birch ° o
Foursome:		Co Lake Co Co Goff CO
3		% 9° %
4	A CAME OF STREET	



### THE 36th ANNUAL BIRCH LAKE OPEN

DATE:

Friday, July 26

TIME:

Shotgun Start at 11:00 a.m. (IN)

PLACE:

Park Shores Golf Club, Cassopolis, MI

PRICE:

\$50 per man for golf, cart, favor, door prizes, prime

rib, refreshments

\$25 per man, dinner and door prize.

Remember, we have a deadline for golf fees on July 20th. This outing is on a first-come first-served basis. Our tournament has been limited to 72 golfers. For reservations, call:

Al Cover

9339

Rich Mullin

8820 or (219) 277-8884

### ANOTHER NOTE ON THE PANCAKE BREAKFAST...

We enjoyed seeing old friends at the breakfast. We want to thank workers Terry, Linda and Karen Curtis and grandson Kevin Wilkes and his friend Luke Borders. Also, Bob Waddle, Don Harman, the Goldens, Wilsons, Olsons, Wagners, Helen Toth and Mike and Katha Machalleck. Pat and Jo, at the Camp, as always were a great help in planning the breakfast and directing cars where to park.

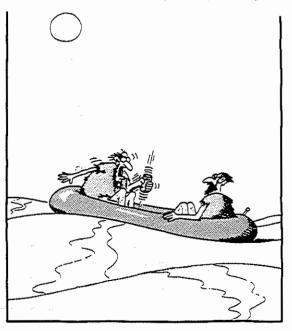
We finally did it! The third griddle eliminated the wait for pancakes. The efficiency was almost like McDonald's fast food. Again, thanks to all for helping our friends at Camp Tannadoonah.

Doris and Marty

**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*	Tunnicliffe*
Asire, J*	Cowen*	O'Neill*	Flora	Lindenfeld*
Wozniak*	Cover*	Waddle*	Dennert*	Leatherman*
Custard*	Monroe*	Green*	Williams*	Scofield*
Kolber*	Garceau*	Gaik*	Emory*	Rasmussen*
Bliler*	Howard, T	Olson*	Troyer*	Swartzell/Kruis*
Davis*	Zesinger*	Mullin*	Kruggel*	Russwurm*
Ward	Brown*	Waggoner*	Richwine*	Papandria*
Blue*	Richmond*	Pence	Eberhart*	Landesman*
Wagner*	Horvath	Lindzy*	Harman	Hettmansperger*
Welch*	Walker*	Messner*	Drolet*	Machalleck, J*
Petit*	Foos*	Tjaden*	Troeger, E*	Reith*
Sacco*	Leach*	Harris*	Klimek*	Curtis, S*
Thayer*	Krueger*	Steffen*	Arnold*	Montague*
Wood*	Nagy, EJ*	Cranmer*	Andrews*	Machalleck, M*
Winiarski	Drinkall*	King*	Niezgodski/Parnell*	
McCay*	Wiseman	Rogers, T*	Rogers, Tom & Vicki*	
Gableman*	Valentijn*	Koontz*	McNamee*	Burket
Harman*	Morrison*	Garceau*	O'Brien, J*	Griffith/Beers*
Kenagy*	Toth*	Blackwood*	DeCocker*	Groszek*
Sanders*	Barnaby*	Kelly*	Klappauf*	DuFour*
Dugan*	Trybus*	Weesner, K*	Jones*	Ferguson*
Sante*	King, B*			

Thanks for fireworks donations to: Tudor, Stout, Caenapeel, Pletcher, Lyzen.



FarSide

"OK, crybaby! You want the last soda?
Wall let me get it ready for you!"

#### Dam Memories

Just off the beaten path on the south side where the water winds its way back to the mill pond, is the Birch Lake Dam. We all remember it as the place, during our walks around the lake, we had to decide just how we'd cross its roughly twelve-foot expanse. Would we "sit-crawl" sideways, "tightrope walk" one foot in front of the other across its narrow cast-iron top, or wade through the shallow water while someone held a flashlight aloft to illuminate our path? Whatever the method of crossing, the dam was always there, challenging us just a bit on those dark summer night outings.

The dam's builder, with his inventive mind and his love for children probably envisioned all those feet walking across his creation. We who were privileged to know him believe he would have loved providing such fun for so many while also serving the purpose of freshwater fish conservation. This remarkable man was my grandfather, Frank Foote. By trade he was a tool engineer who owned the Martin Machine Company located on West Indiana Avenue in South Bend. He was also an inventor, amateur photographer with a home darkroom, filmmaker, and devoted conservationist. By bringing us, as children, to this place that he loved, he began a family pilgrimage to Birch Lake. Its unique beauty infected us. We keep returning. Some of us live here. Among the lake's current residents are two granddaughters, Sally Everett-Beck, and Sue Wagner, and great granddaughters, Amy Everett and Melanie Hall. My brother and I visit with our children. They easily sense everything that is special about this lake. I think they, too would all live here if their lives hadn't taken them to such far off places.

On the south side of the lake is the cottage, now owned by Claude Petit, which Frank Foote built in 1939 when he was fifty-eight years old. He not only designed the house and its unique features, but did most of the work himself. In the knotty pine living room he built a magnificent stone fireplace which rises two stories tall to meet a cathedral ceiling. He had the large stones hauled in from a farmer's field, and flanked the fireplace on each side with wood boxes. Each had iron doors in the back which opened to the outdoors for convenient loading. The staircase, with its carved pine railings has a balcony that overlooks this room. My grandmother, with her passion for antiques, found a cranberry glass Tiffany lamp which she treasured. It hung suspended from the very top on a long chain in the middle of this room. The focal point in the kitchen was the curved wooden banquette with its round table.

He installed a furnace, and, across the road, built a garage and screened summer house. He intended to someday live there year-round, but just never got around to it. Later on, he bought a full sized red tractor which he kept in that garage and farmed a sizable five-acre meadow at the

top of a hill which ran up through the woods. He grew peas, new potatoes, strawberries, and green beans and, like all his other pursuits, loved doing that, too. When more of us grandchildren arrived, he hitched a wooden platform to the back of the tractor to haul all sorts of things plus any kids that cared to ride along. It was great fun and a little scary traveling up and down some of those steep hills behind that chugging farm machine.

My grandfather didn't get through all that home building unscathed. He fell from a ladder while working on the second floor. He was then put on a board, carried to the car, where he was put in the trunk, and, in that fashion, transported to Memorial Hospital in South Bend. His granddaughter, Beverly Foote joined him in the trunk to keep an eye on him for the duration of the trip. The fall resulted in a broken back and he spent the next two months at home in a hospital bed.

A charter member of the Izaak Walton League, he believed in and lived its creed, receiving a commendation from President Franklin Roosevelt for his lifetime efforts in conservation. He loved fly fishing and ice fishing and constantly sought ways to preserve Birch Lake as a good place to do both. He designed special spears and floodlights to keep the gar population in check, and made hinged, triangular metal mooring arms to fasten boats to docks. He owned one of the first snipe sailboats on the lake, acting as sailing teacher for his granddaughter,

The evolution of the dam was a three-step process: creation, manufacture, and installation. The first two were done by Frank Foote when he came up with the idea; drew the plans, then implemented them in his machine shop. In the third step, he was joined by his friend, neighbor, and fellow fisherman, Clarke Zesinger, Bud's father. Together, the two men installed the cast-iron structure called a weir dam. Really, a type of fish gate with rake-like projections at the bottom, its purpose was to prevent fish from leaving the lake and traveling to the mill pond and from there to Shavehead Lake. To this day, some fifty years later, it still serves Birch Lake well. Both men would be proud of their enduring work. Their contribution will always be part of Birch Lake.

Maybe some of the old traditions endure, also. There were always plenty of kids of all ages. Some of the names are still the same: Machallecks, Julie Ebling Weaver, Zesingers, Doolittles, Haynes, Jensens, Weesners, Horvaths, Troegers. The Kessler family, no longer there, lived in the cottage that would become John and Arlene Machalleck's. Ruth Kessler, the daughter, was a nurse who taught swimming

to many of the kids.

Nightly forays around the lake always resulted in a group which grew larger and larger as it picked up additional members along the way. In those days, Lazy Lodge had a little general store, and we stopped and bought everything from candy to "contraband" cigarettes (meaning 'our parents didn't know and wouldn't have approved). Tales of wild cougars kept us on our toes, and once in a while you'd hear one cry out. It sounded exactly like a woman's high-pitched scream, and was just frightening enough to make There was also the "live wire everyone quicken their pace. rumor. Where that got started, no one knew, but everyone believed it, and, if you listened hard enough, you could hear its eerie whine. Naturally, someone always had to sneak up the wooden steps at Tannadoonah and ring the camp's bell. The perpetrator would then come flying back down the stairs, a counselor hot on his heels. By now, the rest of us were hiding behind trees listening to the voice of camp authority as it yelled out warnings into the pitch darkness. There were lots of water games, too. Bud Zesinger and Jay Walters would ride, two on a bike, straight off the end of Zesinger's long pier. It was a great trick and one I admired, but was always too afraid to try. Then, there were the games: Kick the can, Run Sheep Run, and Manhunt. lake roads must still echo with the sounds, of a voice yelling, "ollie, ollie in free."

Maybe, today, some of these things still take place. I hope so. They were a vital part of Birch Lake, just as my

grandfather was.

Contributors: Sally Everett-Beck, Becky Kinsella, Beverly Foote Schreiner, Jay Walters, Leona Walters, and Bud Zesinger.

Written by: Becky Kinsella

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- 2. I soil test to see what natrient other than phosphorus would benefit the lawns.

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A septic tank should be pumped every 2 years to prevent sludge from rising and going into the field and to give the system relief.

Water usage is a key factor. Cut out as much luxuries as possible. Keep the water usage down such as: dishwasher - washing machine water softner - take shorter showers and stagger wash loads.

A garbage disposal adds 20% more usage to the system. It is advised that summer people pump at the end of every summer!!!!!!!!!

Water Quality Committee: Dan & Janet Reynolds Terry & Linda Curits Bob & Gertie Temple

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