



Birch Barker

ALL THE NEWS IN, ON AND AROUND THE LAKE.

A Publication by the Birch Lake Yacht Club

August 23, 1996
Issue: 13

COMMODORE'S CONCLUDING COMMENTS

Dear Birch Lake,

Though there will be one more issue of the Barker, this space will be Scott's next week.

This has been a summer I'm not likely to forget, nor would I want to. Filled with a variety of arrangements, countless errands and endless treks to the yacht club, I feel I've earned a PhD in Birch Lake lore.

In my first Commodore's Comments I said that Birch Lake has been dear to me since I was a small child and that serving it in this capacity is my way of giving something in return. It certainly won't end with my term of office, although I'm going to do some serious kicking back for awhile!

Of those who've worked alongside me, the list is long. One person in particular deserves special recognition. Bruce Wagner has done everything from "rum running" to scrubbing rest rooms and a myriad of tasks in between. This has been a partnership and I thank you profusely dear partner.

Orchids, also, to our editor, Phyllis Davis and Phyllis, you'd better print this! She has consistently produced a fine newsletter. Many of you have expressed appreciation of her efforts and professionalism. We are grateful, Madame Editor.

We are fortunate to have Scott Troeger taking over the helm (forgive the cliché; I just couldn't resist!) Give him your excellent support.

It has been my pleasure to be your commodore. Thank you, all and God bless you.

Sue



HEAR YE....HEAR YE....HEAR YE

There will be a Town Meeting for homeowners on Saturday, August 24, 1996 at 9:30 a.m. (IN) at the Birch Lake Yacht Club. The purpose is to discuss the possibility of organizing a Birch Lake Homeowners Association.

We have an effective Birch Lake Yacht Club that handles all the social functions on the lake. At the recent directors' meeting the need for an organization to handle issues other than social was discussed. It was agreed that the proposal should be presented to the property owners for consideration.

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1. Review and report on tax issues that affect lake property owners.
2. Attend Porter Township board meetings and report on anything at affects our community. Also attend Park and Road Commission and County Commissioners meetings, when appropriate.
3. Be involved in the sale of public land, such as parks.
4. Determine rules and regulations for the public access site.
5. Address issues at proper governmental levels that protect the value of property and the best interests of the lake.
6. Communicate with law enforcement agencies regarding problems that affect property owners.
7. Promote the renewal of fish population.
8. Preserve the scenic beauty of the lake.
9. Promote water safety.

We hope you will attend and express your feelings.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(All times given are Indiana)

Aug. 24	Cass County Police Pancake Breakfast 6-10:30
Aug. 24	Town Hall Meeting 9:30 a.m. & BLYC
Aug. 31	Fall Dinner
Sept. 1	Aerobics & Luncheon
Sept. 14	Directors' Meeting

Menu for the fall dinner: chicken breasts, roast beef au jus, salad, noodles, green beans almondine, rolls, coffee, iced tea and cake. Cocktails 5:30 - Dinner at 6:00. No walk-ins. Reservation and payment due August 26th.

AEROBICS LUNCHEON CHANGES TIME!

The Aerobics Luncheon has been changed to Sunday, September first. We will workout at the yacht club at 10:00 a.m. (IN time) and have the luncheon at Claudia Gableman's house at 11:30. Anyone who has been to aerobics even once is invited. Call Claudia at #2132 if you are coming.

SAILING RESULTS 8/18/96

Sailors know when mid-August has arrived. The wind starts to pick up, however slightly. Which means cold, sharp wind-driven snow with -20 degree wind chill factors can't be far behind.

MC's	Race 1	Race 2	Sunfish	Race 1	Race
Cranmer	2	3	King	3	2
D. Harman	3	1	Olson	2	3
T. Troeger	1	2	S. Troeger	1	1

Labor Day Weekend Schedule:

Regatta:	Saturday, August 31 - 2:00 two races
	Sunday, September 1 - 10:30 three races
Awards:	Monday, September 2 - 10:00 at BLYC



CLASSIFIED ADS

(Cost is \$1 per week)

FOR SALE: TV antenna, rotor and 30 ft. tower. Good condition 476-2642.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE LAKE

Mike Richwine will turn 50 on August 28th. Stop by to say "hi" or simply honk (north shore in the former Abernathy cottage). Mike's dad, **Jim Richwine** and friend **Peg Rothke** will be here from Sun City Center, Florida to help celebrate. Also on the lake will be Mike's brother, **Jim Richwine**, wife **Dona** and boys **Sacha** and **Nicky** from Santa Monica, California to wish Mike a happy half-century.

A Birch Lake landmark has disappeared. The 1979 station wagon (fondly known as "The Beast") owned by the Davises was sold last week. Yes, I said *sold*. It still ran great; it just looked frightful.

The **Floras'** son, Brad, and his family have been living in Italy the past three years and are now being transferred back to the states.

The Birch Lake lovebug has been busy again. **Bruce Bishop** (of LaPorte) went to the middle of the lake and popped the all-important question to **Jennie VanHuffel**, granddaughter of **Steve and Irene Horvath**. He chose Birch Lake because he knows how dear it is to Jennie and her family.

When walking on the east shore you probably noticed the extensive work done on the **Andrews'** place. They re-did the inside and outside, just finishing up a couple of weeks ago. *THEN* last week Glenn got a great promotion and they're moving to Atlanta! After much discussion, they decided they just couldn't commute from Atlanta to Birch Lake so their place is for sale.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE LAKE (Cont'd)

Amy, Tori and Neil Troeger were visited by their cousin, Quinn Faino, from Portland, Oregon from July 25th thru August 6th. Quinn skied, wakeboarded, shot arrows, sailed, and fished. Quinn and Adam Ferguson (#101) also visited Notre Dame and met the football trainer and baseball coach, toured the National College Football Hall of Fame and attended a South Bend Silverhawks game.

NEWS FROM THE COVE

Chet and Vivian Kolber's daughter, Kathy, and her family will be residing in the United Kingdom. Husband, Dave Barchick's job is taking them to Norley, England for the next two years. Matthew and Steven will attend St. Luke's Catholic School.

The Barchicks were amazed at the diminutive refrigerators that are standard in British homes and ordered an additional American 'fridge to be installed.

The family plans to explore the U.K. and Europe via Eurostar. And Kathy will be going to Ireland to see Mom and Dad when they are there for the Notre Dame-Navy game. The world keeps shrinking.

MICHIGAN LAKES AND STREAMS ASSOCIATIONS

Recommends Ways to a Cleaner Lake

1. "Lake residents cause the biggest problems by trying to make your place at the lake like your place in town" says geolist, Dr. Thomas Straw.

Have your soil tested to find out just what nutrient your grass needs other than the phosphorus and nitrogen.

As for milorganite - the answer is that it is a sludge and NOT for use unless you want to grow tomatoes.

2. As for sludge in the septic tank: If allowed to fill the tank - it will overflow into the dry field and cause a mal-functioning system. Sludge needs to be removed before it is allowed to fill the tank. (Fifty - sixty - seventy dollars is not as costly as a new system.)

Some systems could require monthly pumping.

Idealistically, initiate your own program for pumping every 2 years.

Note: Health Department Environmentalist advises that summer people pump at the end of every summer.

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

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Bruce Wagner
Dean Davis

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Margie Trybus
Don Harman
Marc Golden
Fran Welch

South Shore
Earl Troeger
Tom Howard
Melanie Hall

West Shore
Brad Walker
Buzz Rasmussen
Tim Steffen
Liz Cover

OFFICERS

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

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.

BIRCH LAKE DIRECTORY UPDATE

NAME: _____

LAKE ADDRESS: _____

LAKE PHONE: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: _____

CHILDREN'S NAMES: _____

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- JOHNSON
- FORCE
- YAMAHA
- EBBTIDE
- HURRICANE DECK
- SANPANS
- AQUA PATIO
- SWEETWATER PONTONS
- OMC COBRA

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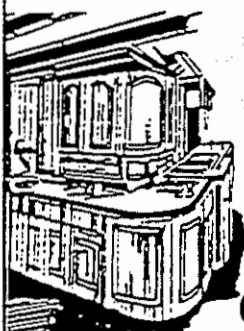
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