



Birch Banker

ALL THE NEWS IN, ON AND AROUND THE LAKE.

A Publication by the Birch Lake Yacht Club

May 31, 1997

Issue 1

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

This may be the slowest Spring to arrive since the ice ages. Seeing so many of you at the Spring Dinner helped thaw out memories of Summer.

Despite arctic weather and marauding polar bears, a dedicated group conducted the now-traditional road cleanup. I wish to thank Al Cover, Marc Golden, Patti Russwurm, Bob Waddle, Bruce Wagner and Brad and Nancy Walker for helping that Saturday morning, and also Herm and Bev Kruggel, Bill and Lee King and Richard and Judy Lindzy, who earlier cleared vast stretches of roadway.

Thanks are also due to the equally intrepid group who spruced up the clubhouse: Al Cover, Jim and Sally Beck, Phyllis Davis and Rick Russwurm.

Be sure to attend the cocktail party on Saturday, June 14, and admire the spotless facilities. As usual, drinks will be available at the clubhouse and you may bring such appetizers as meet your fancy.

Austin Carl Witchie, the first child of Ron and Linda Witchie, was born on April 8, 1997. Young Master Witchie may have the longest lineage on Birch Lake, being the fifth generation of Witchies/Larsons/Sears resident on the East Shore.

The lake directory is being updated, so please provide Janet Reynolds or me with any new or changed information.

On the hopeful assumption that Summer will eventually arrive, here is a schedule of events currently planned. Jim and Sally Beck had the inspiration of adding a party with a Jimmy (not Warren) Buffet theme for Saturday, August 2. Look for more details as the event nears.

1997 CALENDER OF EVENTS

Commodore Cocktail Party	Saturday, June 14, 5:30pm	BLYC
Fireworks	Friday, July 4, Dark Saturday, July 5, Rain date	Tannadoonah
Boat Parade	Saturday, July 5, 4:00pm	
Pancake Breakfast	Sunday, July 6, 8:00am	Tannadoonah
Garage Sale	Saturday, July 12	
Vice-Commodore's Party-Karoake	Saturday, July 19	BLYC
Men's Golf Outing	Friday, July 25	Park Shore/ BLYC
Homeowner's Assn Committee Annual Meeting		BLYC
Ladies' Golf Outing	Friday, August 1	Park Shore/ BLYC
Jimmy Buffet Party	Saturday, August 2	BLYC
Corn and Sausage	Saturday, August 9, 5:30	BLYC
Fall Dinner	Saturday, August 23	BLYC
Sailing Trophies	Monday, September 1, 10:00am	BLYC

DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

Saturday, June 7, 9am	BLYC
Saturday, July 12, 9am	BLYC
Saturday, August 16, 9am	BLYC
Saturday, September 6, 9am	BLYC

FUND RAISER FOR THE PORTER FIRE DEPARTMENT

NEWBURG-PORTER FIRE STATION LOCATED IN JONES-BAR-B-Q CHICKEN DINNER
JUNE 7, 1997 11 to 2 (Michigan Time) Tickets are \$5 Call Kings 2128

BARKER DISPLAY ADS - We are in the process of taking ads that will run approximately 10 weeks and cost \$40 for 1/4 regular size page and \$80 for 1/2 page. Ads submitted for off-lake advertisers should include payment with copy.

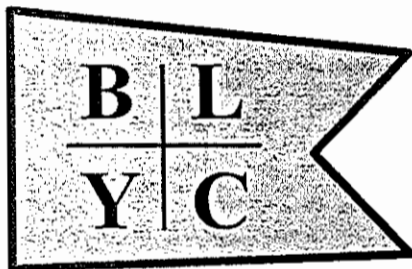
CLASSIFIED ADS - Still \$1 per ad per issue.

Deadline for weekly ads or news will be Monday afternoon. The Barker box is behind 15222 Birch Lakeshore Drive (on the South Side). If you wish to fax copy call 2227 local or South Bend 277-7797.

WANTED: Cottage rental for the month of August. Call Sue Wagner at 2090.

Bruce and Sue Wagner welcomed a new grandson, Grant Christian Gourley, born May 5th in Martinsville, In.

FOR SALE - 6 foot patio door, bathroom sink, vanity, lavatory, sleeper sofa and misc interior doors. See at Machalleck's Southside



May 1997

FLEET NEWS

Ahoy there! After the 1996 trophies were presented, Harold Cranmer asked me to serve as the next Fleet Captain. I accepted -- it's my turn.

I started sailing when I was eight years old. Earl lent me his Sunfish for a Labor Day Regatta. Like now, there were two fleets sailing. We had 12 to 20 boats on the water every Sunday morning. The races were an event. Spectators came out in their boats to watch. Powerboats towed the tardy to the line and home when the day was done.

Sailing began as a means of travel (in order to not row). From there it evolved into a relaxing pastime and competitive sport. Our fleet has been in decline over the decades. I see a lot of boats on the shore (and know there are more in garages, etc). Come out!

I hope to make this season fun for all of us with an emphasis on **getting more boats out on the water**. We will have an organizational meeting soon, gathering to discuss rules, the schedule, etc.

Please take note of the following:

- * We always need volunteers for the committee boat, call me if you can help!
- * Need help finding parts for your Sunfish? I have schematics and price lists!
- * We will have a preseason this year so you can practice with the fleet!
- * We can arrange mentors in the preseason for those who want to learn!
- * There will be a kids regatta this year to get the next generation sailing!
- * We may do some big-boat sailing on Lake Michigan as a club!
- * The races will start **on time**, and "drifters" will be scuttled!

Watch this space for more news. Call or write if you have questions / ideas.

Fair winds & following seas,

Bob King, Fleet Captain
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