



Birch Barken

ALL THE NEWS IN, ON AND AROUND THE LAKE.

A Publication by the Birch Lake Yacht Club

June 7, 1997

Issue 2

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

In looking for a silver lining in the persistent brooding clouds, it occurred to me that perhaps the Michigan property tax should be much less this year: because the tax is supposed to be based on market value and because no one wants to be at the lake in the rain, it seems to follow that market value and tax are both substantially reduced. I suspect the assessor may not be receptive to that logic, as tax gatherers tend to be a humorless lot.

Fortunately, one can always enjoy a party, regardless of the weather. Please plan to attend the cocktail party next Saturday, June 14 at the clubhouse. Bring an hors d'oeuvre (if you wish) and get reacquainted with your lake neighbors. I especially hope that new residents will be able to attend.

The dues and fireworks contributions have been coming in at a gratifying pace. Club dues are \$20, Homeowners' Association dues are \$10, sailing fees are \$10 (but the pre-season races are free), subscriptions to "Riparian" magazine are \$7, and donations in any amount are welcomed for the fireworks display, building account, water quality committee and other purposes. Checks payable to "Birch Lake Yacht Club" can be delivered to me, or Linda Rasmussen (the Treasurer), or to any other officer or director. 1997's officers and directors are:

OFFICERS

Commodore: Scott Troeger
Vice-Commodore: Al Cover
Past Commodore: Sue Wagner
Fleet Captain: Bob King
Secretary: Melanie Hall
Treasurer: Linda Rasmussen

DIRECTORS

Liz Cover Herm Kruggel
Dean Davis Buzz Rasmussen
Marc Golden Tim Steffan
Dick Green Earl Troeger
Melanie Hall Margie Trybus
Don Harman Fran Welch
Bill King

Personal watercraft (waverunners, jet-skis) present a unique situation on a small lake like ours due to their combination of high speed, potential for sudden and unpredictable (to other boaters) maneuvers and, frankly, their disproportionate noise. Personal watercraft are a lot of fun, but to avoid a tragedy like that which occurred on Lake Wawawsee, and to preserve the tranquility of the evenings, observe the two common sense consensus rules when operating a personal watercraft. "Hotdog" only in the center of the lake, not near shore, in the cove or in the boat traffic lanes, and cease high speed operation at 8:00 p.m. Michigan, 7:00 p.m. Indiana time. If we respect each other, there are time and space enough for each of us to enjoy the lake in our own way, be it fishing, skiing, sailing, waverunning or just sitting quietly watching a sunset (or the rain, as the case may be).

Name _____ Telephone _____

Lake Address: _____

		Yes	No	
YACHT CLUB DUES	\$20.00	___	___	Checks payable to: BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION DUES	\$10.00	___	___	
SAILING FEE - INDIVIDUAL	\$10.00	___	___	
OTHER	_____			
FIREWORKS DISPLAY	_____			
BUILDING IMPROVEMENT FUND	_____			
WATER QUALITY PROGRAM	_____			
RIPARIAN MAGAZINE (annual subscription)	\$7.00	___	___	Mailing address for Riparian Magazine: _____

Total \$ _____

Tom and Julie Nagy had their fourth daughter, Julianne Thomas, on May 6, 1997. She joins big sisters Natatie, Olivia and Carmille. As a teenager, Tom expressed the wish to have a boat with an all-girl crew, but he may have pictured it differently. Luckily, Tom enjoys weddings.

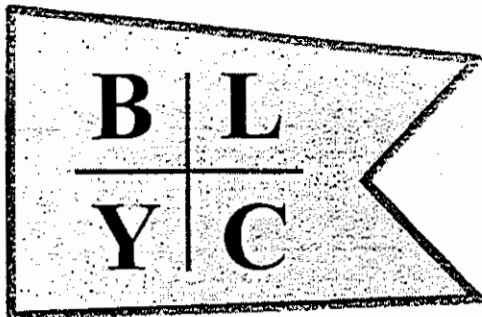
Three young children did not produce sufficient chaos for the Scott Troeger family, so Holly cured that by bringing home a 55 pound Airedale to stir things up. You will doubtless meet Meghan as she walks her new owners.

FUND RAISER FOR THE PORTER FIRE DEPARTMENT- Newburg-Porter Fire Station Located in Jones Bar B Q Chicken Dinner -June 7 - 11 to 2 (Michigan time) Tickets \$5.00 Call Kings 2128

BLYC DUES AND FIREWORKS CONTRIBUTIONS

Those whose club dues have been received before the Birch Barker publication deadline are listed. An asterisk indicates those from whom fireworks contributions have been received. If you believe any of this information is incorrect, please check with Scott Troeger or Linda Rasmussen.

Asire, Marty*	Garceau, Bernie & Blair*	Reynolds, Dan & Janet*
Asire, Jack & Evelyn*	Golden, Marc & Ilene*	Russworm, Rick & Pat*
Ball, John & Jennifer*	Green, Dick & Barb*	Sargent, Kevin & Jan*
Barker, Kevin & Sherry	Greenig, Kay & Bob*	Scotfield, John & Laveta*
Beck, Jim & Sally*	Harris, Bill & Dianna*	Sikorski, Joseph & Lenore*
Bender, Dick*	Hayden, Bill & Letitia*	Stevens, Pat*
Benjamin, John & Rita	Herns, Bob & Slayter, Marty*	Tjaden, James & Janita
Bergan, Jim & Linda*	Hornbeck, Ira & Mary	Troeger, Tom & Pat*
Bernaciak, Kenneth & Mary Ellen*	Horvath, Steve & Irene*	Troeger, Scott & Holly*
Bliler, Frank & Grace*	Howard, Tom	Tunncliffe, Bill & Joanne*
Blue, Jim & Shirley*	Jones, Victor & Leslie*	Vath, Helen*
Bolinger, Jim & Debbie	King, Bob & Leslie*	Waddle, Bob & Sue*
Brown, John*	Kinner, David & Marjorie*	Wagner, Bruce & Sue*
Burke, Allan & Jackie	Kolber, Chet & Vivian*	Walker, Brad & Nancy*
Burket, Carl & Edythe*	Koontz, Thelma*	Weesner, Keith & Denny*
Carpenter, Reg & Mildred	Kruggel, Herm & Bev*	Welch, Randy & Fran*
Coan, James*	Landesman, Charles & Rosalie*	White, Phyllis*
Coles, Deanna	LaPierre, Chuck & Cherie*	Williams, Patrick & Sue*
Cote, Adrian	Leatherman, Phyllis*	Williams, Jerry & Mattie*
Courtney, Al & Norma*	Lindenfeld, Fred & Marilyn*	Wiseman, Terry & Becky
Cover, Al & Liz*	Lindzy, Richard & Judy*	Witchie, Ron & Linda*
Cowen, Richard & Peggy*	Messner, Jim & Judy	Zesinger, Bud & Barb*
DeCocker, Tom & Nancy*	Minix, Cisco & Roberta*	
Dennert, Larry & Kay*	Monroe, Norman & Nancy*	
Doba, Bill & Judy*	Morrison, Bob	
Dufour, Duffy & Sue*	Mullin, Rich & Pam*	
Dugan, Terry & Carol*	Mumaw, Jerry & Beth*	
Emory, Tim & Becky*	Olson, Dave & Judy*	
Foley, William & Gladys*	O'Brien, Joe & Betty	
Foos, Jim & Carole*	Papandria, Sheryl*	
Funk, Clarence & Nancy Jo*	Petit, Claude & Claire*	
	Price, Eileen*	



June 1997

FLEET NEWS

Ahoy there! The sailing season is upon us. We had a meeting last Sunday to discuss the 1997 schedule & how we might promote sailing in general. Preseason (practice) races will begin at 11:00am (IN) Sunday June 15th & 22nd. The practice ends with a regatta designed to get young people out sailing on Sunday June 29th.

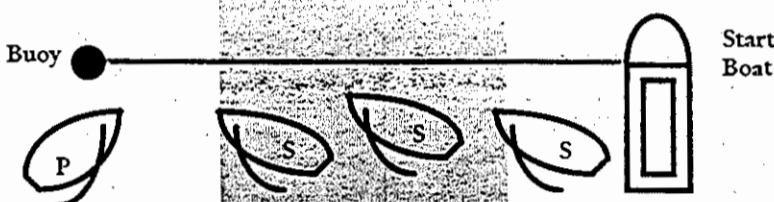
Is your Sunfish broken? I have a schematic so you can identify part number & price to get back under sail!

Come out & race! Do not be intimidated by *the rules*. While the sport has it's share of rules, sailors have the right of way under any situation not involving warships, or boats on commercial errands. As you are not likely to meet either on Birch Lake, learn the three basic "right of way" situations depicted below:

WIND DIRECTION

THE START

A five minute count-down will precede the start. Be completely below the line at the gun. All other rules apply (below).



If you are above the line, the Committee boat will call you "over" & you must dip below the line before heading off.

STARBOARD TACK

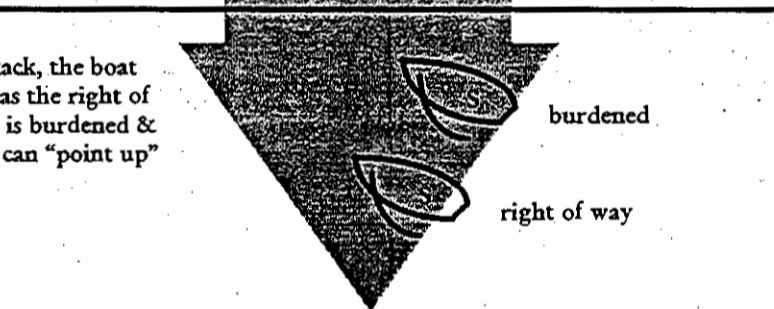
When two boats approach, the one with the wind coming across the starboard (right) side is on a starboard tack. Starboard has right of way.

Port boats are "burdened" & must give way to starboard boats.

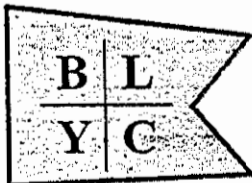


LEEWARD BOAT

When two boats are on the same tack, the boat which is to leeward (downwind) has the right of way, the windward (upwind) boat is burdened & must stay clear. The leeward boat can "point up" the windward boat at will.



gatta kid?

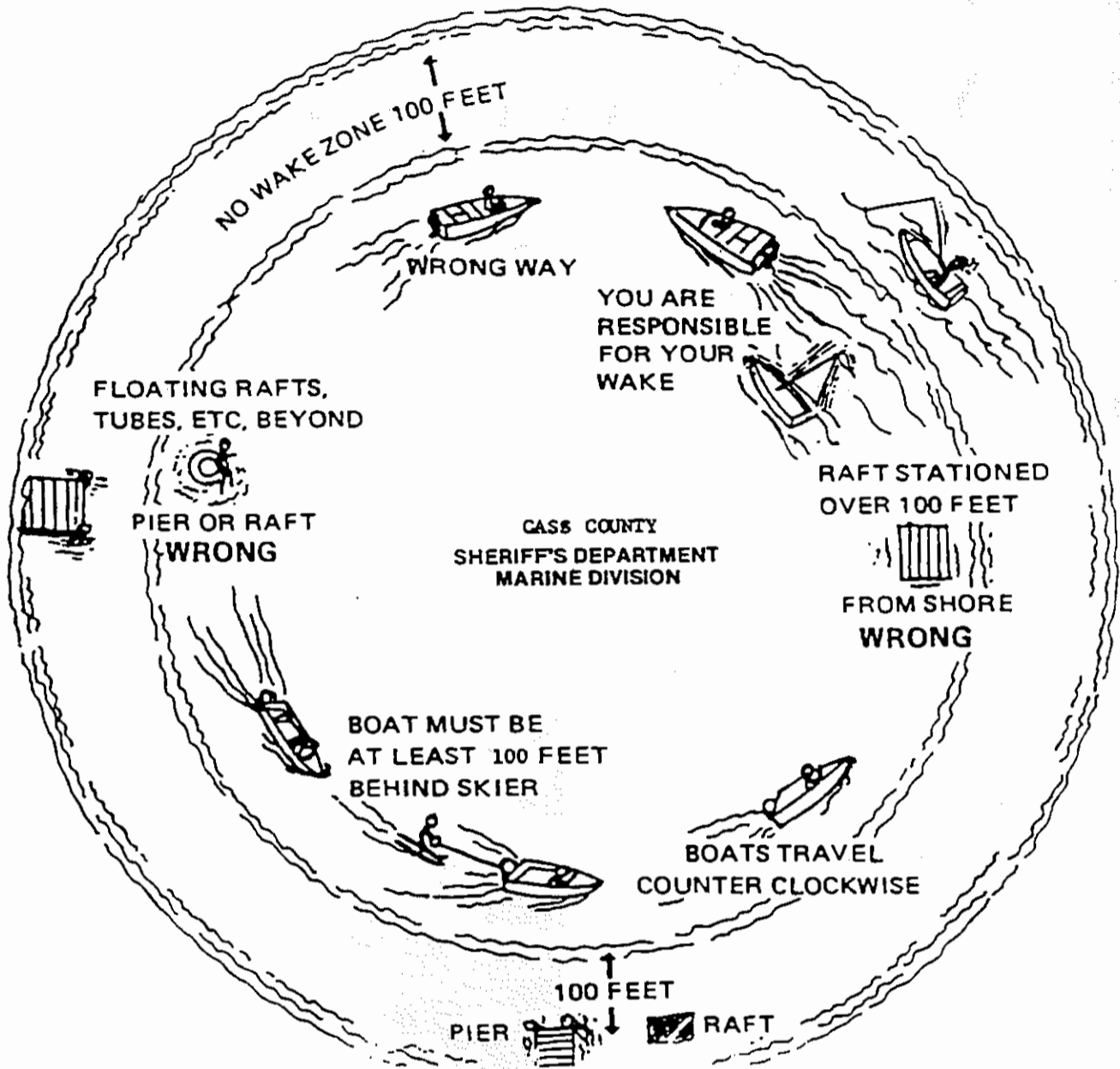


gatta kid?

In order to get young people sailing, the Birch Lake Sailing Club is sponsoring a regatta on Sunday - June 29th. There will be a brief gathering with coffee, juice & doughnuts, followed by three short races (subject to weather). \$0 entry fee covers prize for the winners & T-shirts for the kids. You've gotta have a kid on board to participate! Any boat, any age & borrowed kids are ok ... send your entry & \$0 to me at the address below.

Captain _____ Kid _____ Class _____

Bob King, Fleet Captain, 1958 E. Denslow Dr., South Bend, IN 46614 (h) 299-0705 (w) 232-0881 (c) 276-9999



LAST CHANCE . . .

Anyone interested in submitting any changes or additions for the new Birch Lake Directory must have them turned in by 6/22. This is the FINAL date, as it is going to press the next day. You can drop them off to Janet Reynolds - south side (14930 Birch Lakeshore Dr.), call her at 8877 or fax them to 2855.

BIRCH LAKE DIRECTORY UPDATE

NAME: _____

LAKE ADDRESS: _____

LAKE PHONE: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: _____

CHILDREN'S NAMES: _____

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

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