

**COMMODORES COMMENTS**

Volume Two, June 5, 1999

For the most part, we enjoyed a great Memorial Day Weekend. Saturday and Sunday we're wonderful "Lake Days", lots of boat activity, cookouts, pier building, etc. The sailors got in some beneficial practice on Sunday. Monday started off with some much needed rain, wind, and three fast races.

Boaters, you need to be aware of where you are in relationship to other boats on the water! I noticed a lot of boats operating at high speed and coming too close to boats that were cruising. There's room for everyone if we just use common sense!!

Thanks to Bob King for the great work on the first Barker..very professional job!! Also a big thanks to Dick Bender, Bill King, Herm Kruggel, Dean Davis, and Rick Russworm for securing the advertising that pays for our Barker.

I would like to welcome Joe & Teri Sankey and family as new residents on the hill, East Side. I would also like to recognize Sandra Krehmar and Richard Blue. They are residing in Weesner's previous home. Sandra is going to be writing a weekly historical article for the Barker. She is searching through old issues for material to use. If you have any old Barker's she could borrow, contact her at 476-9250. I think everyone will really enjoy her weekly additions. Thanks Sandra!

Just a reminder to Board Members, we have a meeting Saturday June 5, 9:00AM (IN) at the Yacht Club. Have a great week!

Jim Beck, Commodore

**UPCOMING EVENTS FOR JUNE**

- BLYC Board Meeting 9:00 am (IN)
- Porter Township trash pickup and drop off June 5
- Commodore's Cocktail Party June 12

**CORRECTION:** Dan Reynolds can be reached at 476-8877 for more information on the T-SHIRTS and SWEATSHIRTS with the NEW design.

**PLAN ON COMING TO THE COMMODORE'S WINE TASTING PARTY, SAT. JUNE 12, 7:00(IN).** AS ALWAYS, BRING AN HORS D'OEUVRE, AND A BOTTLE (OR TWO) OF YOUR FAVORITE WINE TO SHARE. WE WILL PROVIDE CHEESE, BREAD, FRUIT AND GREAT BLUES MUSIC.

**1999 Yacht Club Officers & Standing Committees:**

- Commodore -- Jim Beck
- Vice Commodore -- Bob King
- Secretary -- Sally Beck
- Treasurer -- Holly Troeger
- Fleet Captain -- Scott Troeger

**Board of Directors:**

North	East	South	West
Bill King	Judy Olson	Denny Weesner	Herm Kruggel
Pam Mullin	Scott Troeger	Dan Reynolds	Liz Cover
Rick Russworm		Dick Bender	Sally Beck
Dean Davis		Dr. Richard Green	

**Water Quality Committee:**

- Gert Temple
- Dan Reynolds
- Terry Curtis

**Homeowners Association:**

- Dean Davis
- Scott Troeger
- Rick Russworm
- Herm Kruggel
- Bill King

**Birch Lake Club Contributions**

- \$\_\_\_ BLYC Member Dues (\$20/year)
- \$\_\_\_ Homeowners Assoc. (\$10/year)
- \$\_\_\_ Sailing Fees (\$15/year)
- \$\_\_\_ Building Improvement Fund
- \$\_\_\_ Fireworks Display Fund
- \$\_\_\_ Water Quality Fund
- \$\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- \$\_\_\_ Riparian (\$7/year, provide address)
- \$\_\_\_ TOTAL

Send checks to Sally Beck  
 62815 Birch Lakeview Dr.  
 Vandalia, MI 49095

**INFORMATION FOR NEW DIRECTORY**

Please list names, summer and winter address & phone numbers (e-mail if available)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

lake address/phone \_\_\_\_\_

winter address/phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please send any new information or corrections to:

Sally Beck  
 62815 Birch Lakeview Dr.  
 Vandalia MI 49095

If no new information or corrections are received, we will use the same information as in the 1997 directory.

**TANNADOONAH FUND RAISER**

The special Committee from Birch Lake serving Camp Tannadoonah is pleased to inform you that we are close to reaching our goal. This fund raiser is to help with improvements to maintain health and safety standards at the camp. By now, everyone should have received our letter inviting them to make a contribution to the River Bend Council of Campfire, Inc. This contribution will directly benefit Camp Tannadoonah. We encourage those of you who haven't taken the opportunity to help out to please contribute at your earliest convenience. It would be great for our new Camp Director to start off with the full benefits of your efforts.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank those of you who have already contributed for your generosity. It's a good feeling that so many care about the Camp and realize how important it is to the quality of Birch Lake. If you did not receive a fund raiser letter or have any questions, please contact Rick Russworm 476-2407.

**NEWS FROM THE SOUTH SIDE**

Welcome new Birch Lake residents, Dr. Paula and Mike Russell, their sons, Patrick and Connor and congratulations on the birth of their daughter, Megan Mary who joined the family this spring. (And, of course, the proud grandparents, Helen and Joe Toth.)

LOST A WINDSOCK?  
 CONTACT WAGNER'S 476-2090

**NEWS FROM THE COVE**

**By Sunny waters**

There being no yellow fin tuna biting in Birch Lake, Howard and Beth Blackwood bid a fond adios and headed for Mexico. Howard reeled in enough to feed a small nation and Beth froze a good number of packages to bring home. Unfortunately, the flight home included an unscheduled stay in Cincinnati. The fish thawed and Beth, even with her multitudinous recipes, couldn't use it quickly enough. Friend and neighbors became lucky recipients of delicious filets. Thank you, Blackwoods and Delta Airlines.

\*\*\*\*\*

We Cove dwellers think of ourselves as a close community which shares each others joys and woes. This past March we lost one of our family. Cisco Minix; how to adequately describe him? He was a true friend, ready to help whenever needed, generous, caring, hospitable and jovial. He made every day a better day. He will be missed by all. Our love and condolences to the Minix/Bergan family.

\*\*\*\*\*

The sad and the happy always seem to counterbalance, fortunately. Jim and Linda Bergan became grandparents again with the birth of James Patrick Bergan III. The parents are Jim and Mandy Bergan.

\*\*\*\*\*

March 20<sup>th</sup> Wendy Wagner and Frederick Cotton were married in St. Charles, Illinois. Wendy's totally impartial parents feel that she was, indisputably, the most beautiful bride ever.

Very well, after seeing photos of Tim Blackwood,s wedding to Jill Crowley they concede it's a tie. Tim and Jill were married April 24<sup>th</sup> in Austin Texas.

\*\*\*\*\*

Tom and Vicki Rogers are eagerly contemplating being year rounders in their beautiful restructured home.

\*\*\*\*\*

That's it for this week. Hopefully we'll have some scandal-inducing warm weather this coming week. We don't want to bore you. - Sunny

**NEWS FROM THE WEST SIDE**

April 3, 1999, was a happy and memorable event for the Parnell/Miller/Niezgodski families. Shane Parnell, grandson of Dorothy Parnell, married Harumi Sato in Kauai, Hawaii. The wedding ceremony took place on the beach at the Kauai Marriott Hotel, with the reception in the lush, topical garden at the hotel.

After honeymooning in Kauai and Maui, they returned to Ohio where Shane has entered into his doctorate program in polymers engineering. Harumi is working as a research assistant in a psychiatrist's office.

Kathy (Parnell) and Ron Niezgodski celebrated their 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary while attending Shane and Harumi's wedding. Hawaii is a wonderful place to celebrate love and marriage.

**Send information for the BARKER to:**  
 Beth Blackwood  
 Special Box at the beginning of Woodland Dr.  
 Ph: 476-2840 e-mail hblackwood@juhl.com

## LAKE NOTES

Lake Notes are compiled from local history publications including Birch Barkers and other newspapers.

Birch Lake's area was 295 acres and its deepest spot was 95 feet when the Michigan Department of Natural Resources mapped it in the late 1940's.

Early settlers around Birch Lake were Harvey's, Merritts, and O'Dells. (Birch Barker 8/22/64)

Today the Lake has more than 200 cottages with a summer population of over 700 people enjoying its skyblue waters. There is nothing commercial on the Lake. We are proud of the clubhouse which has been built on land that was given by the Howard's (13 lots in all) in the year 1959. Birch Barker 8/22/64)

Sandra Krchmar

**IF A GARAGE SALE IS WANTED, WE STILL NEED SOMEONE TO ORGANIZE IT. ARTICLES NEED TO BE PUT IN NEWSPAPERS AND MONEY COLLECTED FROM THOSE WHO WISH TO PARTICIPATE. IF ANYONE IS INTERESTED, PLEASE CALL JIM OR SALLY BECK AT 476-2760**

### PWC REGULATIONS

One of the new laws affecting Personal Watercraft deals with hours when PWC's can be operated. PWC's cannot be operated after one hour before sunset. If you own a PWC or a rental cottage, a list of the times PWC's must be off the lake is provided below. Please post this so everyone will be aware. The Sheriff will be on Birch Lake frequently this year. We would also like to mention that the cove, because of size, is a no wake zone.

For Vandalia, MI W085 55' N41 55'

DAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT
01	7:12	7:23	7:02	6:18	5:26
02	7:13	7:23	7:01	6:16	5:24
03	7:14	7:22	7:00	6:14	5:22
04	7:14	7:22	6:59	6:13	5:21
05	7:15	7:22	6:58	6:11	5:19
06	7:16	7:22	6:56	6:09	5:17
07	7:16	7:21	6:55	6:08	5:16
08	7:17	7:21	6:54	6:06	5:14
09	7:18	7:21	6:53	6:02	5:12
10	7:18	7:20	6:51	6:01	5:11
11	7:19	7:20	6:50	5:59	5:09
12	7:19	7:19	6:49	5:57	5:06
13	7:20	7:19	6:47	5:56	5:04
14	7:20	7:18	6:46	5:52	5:03
15	7:21	7:17	6:44	5:50	5:01
16	7:21	7:17	6:43	5:49	5:00
17	7:21	7:16	6:41	5:47	4:58
18	7:22	7:15	6:40	5:45	4:57
19	7:22	7:15	6:38	5:43	4:55
20	7:22	7:14	6:37	5:42	4:52
21	7:23	7:13	6:35	5:40	4:51
22	7:23	7:12	6:34	5:38	4:49
23	7:23	7:11	6:32	5:36	4:48
24	7:23	7:11	6:31	5:35	4:46
25	7:23	7:10	6:29	5:33	4:45
26	7:23	7:09	6:28	5:31	4:44
27	7:23	7:08	6:26	5:29	4:42
28	7:23	7:07	6:24	5:28	4:41
29	7:23	7:06	6:23	5:28	4:41
30	7:23	7:05	6:21	5:27	4:40
31	7:23	7:04	6:19		

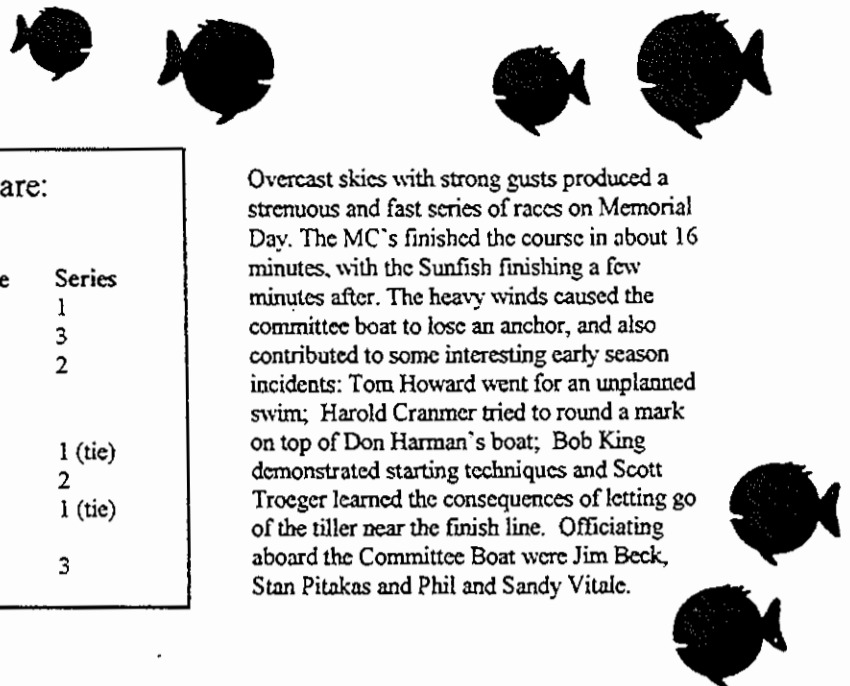
### CLASSIFIEDS

**For Sale:** Pontoon Boat 1996 Godfrey Sweetwater 180ES. Mariner 30HP Motor W/30hrs. Like new. Many extras \$6999.00 Call 344-8186 or stop at #149 Sat or Sun. John & Jody Meyers

**For Sale:** 1988 - Jet Wave paddle boat. Call 476-9317 on weekends to inquire

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# BLYC SAILING NEWS



## The 1999 Memorial Day Regatta results are:

	1st Race	2nd Race	3rd Race	Series
<b>MC's</b>				
Harold Cranmer	1	2	1	1
Don Harman	2	3	3	3
Rick Harman	3	1	2	2
<b>Sunfish</b>				
Tom Howard	2	1		1 (tie)
Bob King	3	3		2
Scott Troeger	1	2		1 (tie)
Stewart and Mike Spratt	4			3

Overcast skies with strong gusts produced a strenuous and fast series of races on Memorial Day. The MC's finished the course in about 16 minutes, with the Sunfish finishing a few minutes after. The heavy winds caused the committee boat to lose an anchor, and also contributed to some interesting early season incidents: Tom Howard went for an unplanned swim; Harold Cranmer tried to round a mark on top of Don Harman's boat; Bob King demonstrated starting techniques and Scott Troeger learned the consequences of letting go of the tiller near the finish line. Officiating aboard the Committee Boat were Jim Beck, Stan Pitakas and Phil and Sandy Vitale.

A tentative racing schedule is in the box. In order to keep things prompt, the "five-minute gun" for all races will be at 11 a.m. (Ind. time), 12 pm. (Mich. time), so sailors should be at the line then, just as if it were a golfing tee time. No one enjoys "drifters", so the Committee Boat will scuttle a race if no boat rounds the first mark in 30 minutes, or finishes the course in 90 minutes.

It appears there will be at least two new competitors in the Sunfish fleet, so let's welcome Chad and Steve Plaia. Others are encouraged to participate... no cost or commitment is required to find out if you like it. A race typically consists of sailing one and one third times around a triangular course, with the starting and finishing legs sailed into the wind. These windward legs require tacking (sailing a zig-zag course towards the goal), which means that it is not necessarily the sailor with the fastest boat who wins, but the one who through luck (if it's someone else) or skill (if it's you) happens to choose the better series of tacks. The rules are few and simple. Two of the most important to begin with are: (1) don't beat the Fleet Captain; and (2) try to get tangled up with anyone other than the Fleet Captain (if you hear them yelling "Starboard" or other things when you are doing this, be sure to smile and wave at these friendly traditional sailor greetings).

Scott Troeger 1999 Fleet Captain

### Event

### Date

Memorial Day Regatta	Mon. May 31
Season Race	Sun. June 6
Season Race	Sun. June 13
Season Race	Sun. June 20
"Kidgatta"	Sat. June 26
Season Race	Sun. June 27
Fourth Of July Regatta	Sat. July 3
Fourth Of July Regatta	Sun. July 4
Season Race	Sun. July 11
Season Race	Sun. July 18
Season Race	Sun. July 25
(Couples' Race -- to be announced)	
Season Race	Sun. August 1
Season Race	Sun. August 8
Season Race	Sun. August 15
Season Race	Sun. August 22
Season Race	Sun. August 29
Labor Day Regatta	Sun. September 5
Labor Day Regatta	Mon. September 6
Trophies	Mon. September 6

All races begin at 11 a.m. (Ind. Time), 12 m. (Mich. Time)

### HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION NEWS:

A reminder to voters in the Constantine School District (all of Birch, except the West shore & Cove). An election will be held Monday 06/14/99 on a proposed Bond Issue in the amount of \$12,500,000 to replace the Middle School & modify the High School locker rooms for handicap access. If approved by the voters, this would increase property taxes by 4.53 mills. The School Board indicated this would be the first in a series of requested Construction Bond Issues & property tax millage requests. All of those eligible should plan to vote June 14th to make their wishes known ...

Due to our great Sales Dept., the Barker will grow to 10 pages soon! A couple ad spaces remain, call Dick Bender 476-2591

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