



Volume Eleven, August 7, 1999

COMMODORES COMMENTS

I really can't recall a hotter weekend than we just had. I guess we have had a taste of South Florida. The golf outing last Friday was almost unbearable, and congratulations go out to all who persevered! John Ball did a great job in organizing the event, many thanks John. It appeared that everyone had a great time despite the hot, humid weather. It's hard to believe how perfect a day Sunday turned out to be after what we've been through. It was a great lake day.

I truly hope we will see a good crowd this Saturday at the Corn & Sausage Roast. It's traditionally the big event of the year. Remember, it starts at 5:30 (IN) the 7th.

We've had several incidents of vandalism at the Yacht club this summer, so parents, please discourage your children from playing on club property. I know "kids will be kids", but the club belongs to everyone on the lake, and we need to take good care of it.

It was good to see Le King outside the past Sunday sitting in her favorite spot by the boat house. She seemed to be in good spirits as she is recuperating from her broken ankle.

We wish Jack Asire well, and hope he has a speedy recovery from his broken femur!!

Remember to use your ballot in last week's Barker for your opinions on next year's fireworks, your fall dinner reservations, and note Tom's Garage 30 Year Anniversary Open House.

Board members, your August meeting is on the 14th at 9:00am.

Hope to see all of you at the Corn Roast. Have a great Week!

Jim Beck, Commodore

HOPE THERE IS STILL TIME FOR YOU TO SEE A WONDERFUL LAKE EVENT! Friday Aug. 6 will be the Annual Camp Tannadoonah Candle Lighting Ceremony on the pier at dusk.

COMING EVENTS FOR THE NEXT MONTH

Sat/ Aug. 7 - Corn Roast

Sat/Aug. 14 - Regatta Kidz... Board Mtg... Homeowners Association Mtg... Tom's Garage Open House

Sat/ Aug. 21 - Fall Dinner

PLEASE NOTE: TIMES OF EVENTS.....ALL TIMES ARE INDIANA TIME UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE

Editor's Notes:

If you have items for the BARKER, they should reach me by Monday of the week you would like them to appear. Put your information in the special box at the bottom of the hill on Lakeview Drive... Call 476-2840... Or E-Mail Eblackwood@netscape.net.

NOTES ON UP COMING EVENTS

Corn Roast

Plan to attend the Annual Corn Roast, Saturday Aug. 7th, 5:30 at the Yacht Club. . If you want to help out, please call Jim or Sally Beck at 476-2760. \$6.00 for adults, \$3 for children, and under 5 free. Along with corn and sausage, we will be serving green beans and two cold salads. PLAN ON ATTENDING... IT'S A GREAT EVENT... YOUR GUESTS ARE WELCOME!

Celebration at Tom's

Aug. 14 11:00 to 3:30 (MI time). Open house.....Celebrating 30 Years of being an important part of the Lake community!

Regatta Kidz

August 14th at 2:00 P.M. (IN time)...see sailing page for details.

Board and Homeowners Association Meetings

Board Mtg. August 14, 9:00 A.M. (IN time) at the Yacht Club, followed by Homeowners Assoc. Mtg. at 10:00 A.M.

Fall Dinner

Make your reservations for the Fall Dinner early. Dinner will take place at the Yacht Club on Aug. 21st. Cocktails will be at 5:30 with dinner following at 6:30. Make reservations by clipping and sending in the blue coupon attached to last week's Barker.

LAKE NOTES

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

Camp Tannadoonah is one of the oldest residents on Birch Lake. This is the 48th summer that girls have come to Tannadoonah to enjoy swimming in the cool water of Birch Lake and exploring the beautiful woods surrounding the camp. (Birch Barker, 7/27/68)

Last Sat.'s first ski show proved what we suspected all along...we have a lot of skiing talent! With the trick skiing of turnrounds, ski scats, bare footing & the pyramid, our skiers have inspired their fellow skiers to try new things and entertained the rest of us. A special thanks ...to Tim Burchell & Rick Doolittle. (Birch Barker 8/23/69)

Your area director will be around to collect the BLYC membership dues and contributions. Birch Lake can be proud of its past record of nearly total participation. Let's make this an even better year. Membership is \$3: and \$3 (or more) for the fireworks. (Birch Barker 6/28/69)

WANT TO LOSE INCHES OR POUNDS? Or just exercise for good health? Try out the Slim-Gym! See Arline Machalleck, Cottage 51 for demonstration. (Birch Barker 7/4/70)

Sandra Krchmar

NEWS FROM THE WEST SIDE

All quiet on the western front!

NEWS FROM THE SOUTH SIDE

There was a party at the Benders... but nobody's talking.

NEWS FROM THE EAST SIDE

Thanks to Gary and Karen for helping me right my Hobie on Sunday. Seems to be my unlucky spot in the lake as this was the second time this year I've taken a dunking there. I may not be much of a sailor, but at least I provide some entertainment and a few laughs.

By the way, I will take you two out for a sail if you're brave enough or... Steve Cranmer said he would, which, by the way, might be safer.

Thanks again...Kim Price

This is the last week of Camp for the Summer of 1999. Friday evening at dark will be the Candlelight Ceremony and interested Birch Lakers can watch it from their boats in front of the Camp. A nice quiet ceremony as the Campers descend the stairs with lit candles and then float them in the water while singing....Judy Olson

NEWS FROM THE NORTH SHORE

Do you crochet? Kelly Wilson needs help in learning. Call 476-2396.

What did the lake say to the shore?

Nothing... It just waved.

Steve Haney and family will be spending the week on the North side. They are from Granger, IN. Look for them tearing up the water in their American Skier.

NEWS FROM THE COVE

By Sandy Beach

Interim reporter

What news? You people are so totally boring that you couldn't even generate gossip. When Sunny asked me to cover for her, she mentioned this wouldn't exactly be life in the fast lane. Sweetie, this isn't even life in a weedy cow path.

The only potential contributor was Vivian Kolber who gave me her recipe for peanut butter on crackers. Thanks, Vivian, but that's probably too complicated for Cove cooks.

The average Cove dweller's blood pressure is probably 82 over 30 and that's when they excitedly watch for Mr. Lee's truck.

You denizens of dullness eat, sleep, waggle your toes in the lake and shmooze with the neighbors. Duh.. DOESN'T ANYONE MISBEHAVE AROUND HERE? I feel as though I'm at an anesthesiologist convention.

That's it, friends and if I've offended anyone, I've accomplished my goal. Sandy Beach

NEXT WEEK: Watch for the exciting account of the paint drying on Rogers' cottage. A likely pastime for people who go bonkers over a turtle race, for Pete's sake!

Good news! Tish Hayden is home (in Indian Wells) and continuing to improve. She is quoted as saying the food alone at home will make recovery much faster!

Ed.note: We are starting a new feature this week. We will profile one or more Camp Tannadoonah campers or counselors each week. The camp experience means something different to everyone. Share your memories with us.

Erisa Asire

Much as her family loves their cottages on Birch Lake, spending a week at Camp Tannadoonah is part of the summer tradition for Erisa Asire. A week away from parents, television, household chores, and siblings is a special treat. In April, the phone lines start buzzing with calls to friends to discuss which week to attend camp. By June, she's scouting the stores for blue shorts and white shirts - evening wear at camp.

When the much anticipated week finally arrives, cabin beds are quickly chosen, duffels stowed, mom kissed goodbye and dismissed. And that's when the adventures begin: Polar Bear swims in the early morning, crafts, archery, campfires and sing-alongs at night - not to mention the secrets of Uga-Booga.

At the end of the week, wonderful memories are carefully tucked away to be enjoyed throughout the year, then added to next year.

Erisa is the third generation of her family to attend Camp Tannadoonah, starting with her grandmother Evelyn Asire.

WEEK'S TIMES (IN) THAT WAVE RUNNER'S MUST BE OFF THE LAKE

Fri 8-6	6:56	Tues 8-10	6:51
Sat 8-7	6:55	Wed 8-11	6:50
Sun 8-8	6:54	Thur 8-12	6:49
Mon 8-9	6:53	Fri 8-13	6:47

BEST OF BECK'S BISTRO

Entree of the Week

CHEESY CROCK POT POTATOES

2lbs Oreida frozen hash browns

1C diced onions

1 can cream of chicken soup

1 lg. Container sour cream

1 stick of margarine or butter

Thaw potatoes 30 min. - Put all ingredients in Crock Pot, set on low. Cook 6 to 8 hrs. stirring occasionally.



Drink of the Week

FROG IN A BLENDER

(Expressly submitted for Sunny Waters)

1 1/2oz. spiced rum

3oz. orange drink

2oz. Berry Blue Kool Aid

Blend and serve over ice.



DIRECTORY'S

EXTRA DIRECTORY'S CAN BE PURCHASED FOR \$2.00. Please call Jim and Sally at 476-2760 or stop and pick one up. Evenings after 5pm or anytime on weekends.

PANCAKE AND SAUSAGE BREAKFAST AND SAFETY EXHIBITION

The Porter Township is holding their 5th annual Celebration of Services and Safety on Aug. 14 at 7:00AM (Mich time) at the Cass County Shrine Club, Union Rd., Union, MI. They will have more than 30 booths plus demonstrations and exhibits on health, safety and community.

Free immunizations....Breakfast by donation... Children under 5 free.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE....

REGISTER YOUR OPINION WITH THE BOARD REGARDING THE Y2K FIREWORKS. DROP YOUR BALLOT OFF TO A DIRECTOR OR OFFICER. Ballot is on blue flyer attached to last issue. Must be turned in before the Board meeting on August 14 to count.

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Vice Commodore - Bob King

Secretary - Sally Beck

Treasurer - Holly Troeger

Fleet Captain - Scott Troeger

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Herm Kruggel

Scott Troeger

Bill King

Rick Russwurm

LAST CALL...COFFEE MUGS

A small number of BLYC coffee mugs remain. Mugs ordered, but not picked up by Saturday afternoon, will be sold at the corn and sausage roast. Contact Bob King at 476-2128.

BIRCH LAKE SHIRTS ARE IN

Call Dan Reynolds to pick up your order 476-8877.

EDITORS EDIBLES

"Onions To Kill For"

With the arrival of Corey Lake onions at the market, I would like to share one of my favorite recipes.

SLOW COOKED ONIONS WITH TARRAGON MUSTARD SAUCE

For the onions:

4 med size Corey Lake onions

3T olive oil

1/2tsp salt

1/4tsp freshly ground pepper

For the Tarragon mustard sauce:

2T white or tarragon vinegar

2T Dijon -style mustard

1/3C olive oil

2T chopped fresh tarragon

1/4tsp salt

Pinch of freshly ground pepper

To prepare the onions, peel them carefully; take care to keep their layers intact at the root ends, which help hold them together during cooking. Using a sharp knife, slice an X in each onion within 1 inch of the root end. In a large bowl, toss the onions with the olive oil and salt and pepper.

Place the onions on the center of the rack; cover the grill and open the vents halfway. Cook turning the onions every 15 to 20 min. (For 45 to 50 min. until tender)

Meanwhile, whisk together the vinegar, mustard, salt and pepper. Slowly add the olive oil, whisking constantly. When creamy whisk in the fresh tarragon.

To serve, transfer the onions to a platter and drizzle sauce over them. Serve hot or at room temperature.

Great with steaks, chicken or just about anything.



DON'T FORGET TO SEND IN YOUR FAVORITE RECIPES.....

Star Stuff

The dark sky over Birch Lake is great for viewing stars and planets. Last week, while sitting out on the pier, I noticed several bright streaks in the sky... meteors. One of the highlights of summer sky watching is the Perseid meteor shower... a "sprinkle" of shooting stars.

Like all meteor showers, the Perseids occur when Earth flies through the orbital path of a comet. Comets are messy objects. As they orbit the Sun, they shed tiny bits of rock and dirt — most no bigger than a grain of sand. As Earth moves through the comet's orbital path, some of this comet dust slams into our atmosphere at thousands of miles an hour. Friction with the atmosphere generates intense heat, so the dust grains vaporize, creating bright streaks of light or shooting stars.

With the New Moon on Aug. 11, this year will be particularly good for the Perseids. It's at its best on the nights of Wed. and Thurs., Aug. 11-12 and 12-13. The greatest number of meteors will likely be seen after midnight and into the predawn darkness hours of Thursday and Friday, Aug. 12 and 13.

Find a comfortable lawn chair, sit back and enjoy.

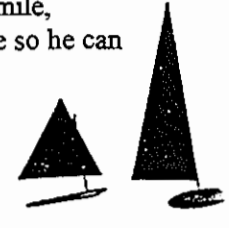
Keep looking up.

Stewart Spratt



BLYC SAILING NEWS

The wind was perfect -- after the races were over. During parts of the races the sailors just drifted along like corks, wishing they were at the party on the committee boat with Jim and Sally Beck, Phil and Sandy Vitale and Rick and Patti Russwurm. It was good to have Earl Troeger and his "whale boat" MC back on the course, and Dennis Savastano traveled from Italy just to compete in the Sunfish races. Dennis made his way around the course just fine, but Bob King was apparently confused by the unfamiliar surroundings of Birch Lake or the complexities of a triangular course - he completely skipped one leg of the first race. Bob won the second race by a mile, proving he does not really need to take shortcuts, but rumor has it he now carries a diagram of a triangle so he can check off the legs of the course to make sure he hasn't missed any.



The August 2, 1999 race results and standings are:

Class	Race 1	Race 2	Cumulative Points Average
MC			
Don Harman	2	1	1536.43
Harold Cranmer	1	2	1512.62
Rick Harman	3	3	1488.42
Bruce Harlan	DNS	DNS	1423.91
Earl Troeger	4	DNF	
Sunfish			
Scott Troeger	2	2	1521.62
Tom Howard	1	4	1503.00
Bob King	6	1	1465.37
Dave Olson	3	3	1384.56
Jim Bolinger	5	5	1337.56
Dennis Savastano	4	6	
John Slayter	DNS	DNS	
F. Pettit	DNS	DNS	
Stewart Spratt	DNS	DNS	



Next races: Sunday, August 8, 1999 at 11 a.m. (Ind. time), 12 m. (Mich. time).

Regatta Kidz: Saturday, August 14 at 2:00 p.m. (Indiana time), 3:00 p.m. (Michigan time). This will be the 3rd annual regatta for kids begun by Bob ("Wrongway") King. Any type of sailboat with any number and combination of kids and adults is welcome. We'll sail a short, quick course, and Bob has hinted at a possible waterfight. In past years 16 or so boats made this a colorful display. If you need a boat or would like to join a boat for the Regatta Kidz, just call any of the sailors named above.

Scott Troeger, Fleet Captain

CLASSIFIED

Wanted: Nice young couple wants Birch Lake Cottage/home. We always seem to miss dream spots as they sell (overnite). Please give us a call if you know of a property coming on the market.- Phil & Sandy Vitale at 219-291-6102

For Sale: Beautiful Baker's Rack; white with brass accents; like new call 476-9359

For Sale: 16' open hull speedboat; 85HP \$1200. See it at Tom's Garage or call Steve & Jackie Frew (708)799-4779

For Sale: 1989 23 ft. Sunchaser Deck Boat; excellent condition. Can see and drive at Nagy's. Call 476-2612 or 219-291-5010. \$10,000.

For Sale: Shore Station bench, 60" wide redwood with mounting brackets for either Shore Station pier or any 2" (2"x4", 2"x6") pier board. Excellent condition \$75. Call Bruce Harlan 476-9714 or see at 14886 Lakeshore Drive.

For Rent: Cottage West Side. Call Brad Walker 476-2515.

For Rent: Last 3 weeks of August and 1st 3 weeks of September... 3 bedroom, 2 bath cottage on the

south shore 14852 Lakeshore. Two living areas and 2 car garage. Call 616-476-9740 until Aug. 6... then 915-698-0712, Doug Eichorst.

For Sale: 1993 Ebbtide Campione OMC 6 Cylinder, 4 barrel carb IO and custom trailer. \$8,700. Call Al or Liz Cover @ 476-9339 or (219) 825-3911

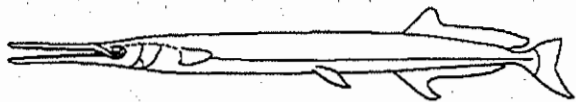
For Sale: Honda CT-70 Motorcycle. Smaller trail/road bike. Great for riding around the lake. New condition - 300 miles...\$1200.. Call 476-2526.

Lost: One teal canvas captain's seat cover. Call 476-9635

For Sale: Wood pier . Six 9'x40" sections. Less than 5 years old. Good condition. Asking \$400.00. Call Jack or Mardy Miller 616-476-9226.

For Sale: Looking for a good home for our M-16 Racing Scow. In near perfect condition, always stored inside. Includes trailer and Starr boat lift. Call 476-2082, Larry Flora 14723 Kiloqua Woods Lane.

For Sale: Mistral wind surfer...make offer, Maple 4-piece twin bedroom set, Kenmore 16.0 cu. ft. upright freezer, Amana 14 side-by-side Coppertone refrigerator, Ethan Allen queen sleeper sofa, Vertical blind 12' beige, Wall mounted electric fireplace...Call 476-2642.



Fish Tails:

Watch the deep early mornings & you may see feeding activity on the surface of the lake. Look for a 3 foot silver flash to see the GAR fish at their breakfast.

Gar (spear) is the name given to fishes with long narrow bodies & bony sharp-toothed beaks. These primitive fish live primarily in fresh water ranging from southern Quebec to Cuba. The largest, the tropical Gar, grow to 12 feet! AHH.

The teeth are needlelike, the dorsal fin is far back on it's heavily scaled body & the vertebrae are ball-&-socket structure found in some reptiles. The fish spawn each spring in large groups. The roe is toxic to many animals including man.

This large predator is a rough fish that *can* be caught with bait or flies (though dynamite might work better). In years past Lakers would mount lights on their pontoon boats to attract Gar & slowly circle the lake with long handled spears. 3-5 foot Gar were displayed in morning.

Y2k - fireworks ballot

Should we increase the 2000 lake display? **Y N**

If yes, by:

0-50% increase? **___%**

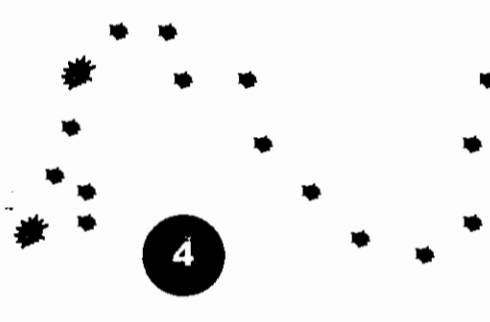
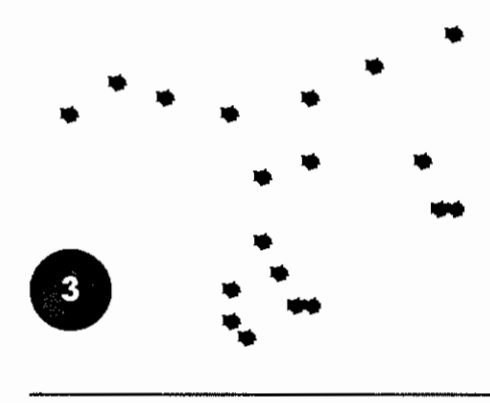
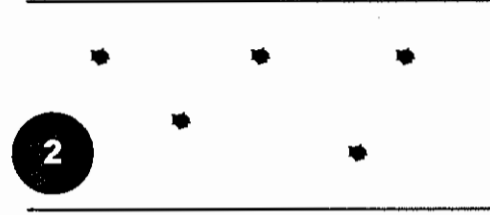
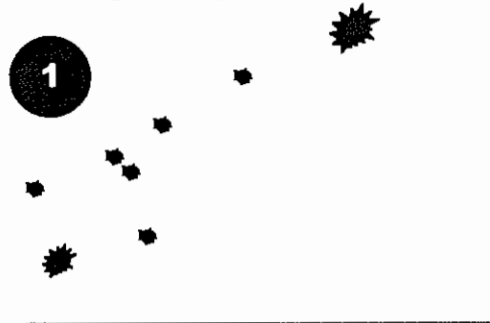
extended finale? **Y N**

more special shells? **Y N**

Give this to an Officer or Director, one vote per cottage.

Signature X _____

Match these constellations with their names, then look for them in the night sky.



- A) Draco (the dragon)
- B) Ursa Major (Big Dipper, Bear)
- C) Ursa Minor (Little Dipper) *
- D) Cassiopia

* bonus, what star tips the handle?

Answers are below ...

1-C / 2-D / 3-B / 4-A / * Polaris the North Star

1999 Fall Dinner Reservation

\$10 adults / \$5 kids - Sat. Aug. 21st, 5:30-6:30 cocktails, dinner to follow.

Bonnie & Clydes will cater dinner. The menu includes: chicken breasts, roast beast au jus, salad, noodles, green bean almondine, rolls, coffee, ice tea & dessert. Seating is limited to 75 - send this reservation to Sally Beck at 62815 Birch, Lakeview Dr. Vandalia, MI 49095.

Please send a check made out to **Birch Lake Yacht Club** with your reservation so we can order the right number of dinners. List adults / kids, etc.

We will attend _____

Questions? Call Bob & Lelsie King at 219-299-0705 evenings, 476-2128 weekends -or- Jim & Sally Beck at 476-2760.



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Sept. 11 at Purdue	Nov. 6 at Tennessee
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