



Birch Barker

A Publication for the Members of Birch Lake Yacht Club

Volume Seven, July 6, 2002

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY WEEKEND!



COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Birch Lakers,

I can tell that summer is definitely here as I have had to do something I hate to do – turn on the air conditioning! I would rather have all the windows open and hear the sounds of the lake, the boats going by and children playing, but for the sakes of the dogs (who are panting) and the wife (who is wilting and has declared it too hot to cook), I closed the windows and flipped the switch.

However, I will not complain because the weather has been wonderful (except for that lack of Sunday morning wind) and the water temperature is perfect.

I must say thanks to all the kids who have been collecting the pesky zebra mussels, especially the Rader boys, grandchil-

dren of the Wents on the east side. They collected almost 13,000 in one day and many of those were from near our pier!

I hope your holiday weekend is going to be fun-filled and full of good spirit with family and friends. We have the famous (?) **Birch Lake Boat Parade at 3 pm Saturday** (today) with Earl and Connie Troeger doing us the honor of being the Grand Marshall Couple, leading the parade around the lake.

Sunday morning is the **Pancake Breakfast at Camp Tanadoonah's** dining hall. It's a great time with, sausage, fruit, juice, coffee, milk and all the pancakes you can eat — for the bargain price of \$4 for adults, \$2 for children ages 6-10 and free for the little ones. Proceeds go to our good neighbors, Camp Tanadoonah.

So, come out and watch the parade, then get up the next morning and catch some cakes, from 8 to 11 am (IN). Bring

the family – See ya there! (I'll be in back mixing batter!)

-Commodore Jim

BLYC Calendar

July 6Boat Parade 3 pm
 July 7Pancake Breakfast 8-11 am
 July 13Scoop and Sprinkle kid's day event; 10 am
 July 20Beach Party
 July 26Men's Golf Outing
 Aug. 7Women's Luncheon
 Aug. 9Women's Golf Outing
 Aug 10Corn and Sausage Roast
 Aug. 24Fall Dinner

NOTE: All parties at the Yacht Club start at 7 pm unless otherwise noted



If you have articles or photos for the BARKER, please put the materials in the Barker box at 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore) by 3 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, or e-mail the info to me at sailorphil@philvitale.com by Tuesday at Noon. If you must, mail (10 days prior to desired publication date) to Phil Vitale, 122 So. Michigan, So. Bend, IN 46601, or fax your items to (574) 232-3853. To contact me by phone, call 476-1680 or (574) 232-3735.

Note: All times in the Barker are IST (Indiana Standard Time) unless stated otherwise

Birch Lake Notes

From my little corner of heaven

For some time, as I drive the south and east side roads trying to get where I need to go, I have thoughts that come to mind. When you have guests, make sure there is enough room so that if someone has to call for the ambulance or fire department, the new trucks can get through. Just remember the golden rule and we will all be thankful.

If you own property where you have lots of low-hanging brush that obscures the view, it does not slow down traffic. Generally it just shoves one car into the brush. Again, remember the golden rule. If you don't want your car scratched, neither does anyone else.

Be a good neighbor. It will be more fun for all of us in the long run, in our Birch Lake Heaven.

-Julie Weaver

Erhardt invites everyone

John Erhardt & Nyla invite you to the 4th annual Hog Roast (and Wedding) on Saturday, July 13 at their home, 15214 Birch Lakeshore Dr. (south side).

Everyone is invited! The wedding will be at 10 am on the lakefront — Very informal attire (swim suits welcome).

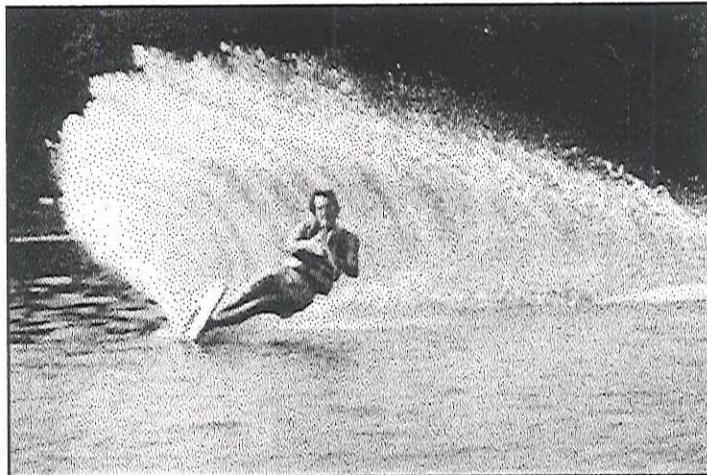
The hog roast will start at noon.

Birch Lake's Newest Resident

Sara Talbot has a granddaughter! The Talbot's announce the arrival of Megan Kathleen Feeney. She was born June 19, 2002. She is the daughter of Tracy (Talbot) and Andy Feeney. Megan is making her first trip to Birch Lake on the July 4th weekend. It's the first on many trips to "the lake."

Buddy Zesinger

7-9-61 ... 6-1-02



We would like to thank the entire lake community for the tremendous outpouring of support after our recent loss. We feel your love and prayers.

-The Zesinger Family



Barker Kid(s) of the Week

Future Pro Fisherwoman

On Thursday June 6 my daddy took me fishin' with him and I took a 3-foot long "Sweetie" rod with 2 lb. test line on it. I had a bobber and some leaf worms. First I caught a 9-inch bluegill, then about an hour later I caught a 10-inch bluegill. These fish doubled my rod over as I tried to reel them in. But I

got them!

The night wasn't a total loss for dad; he caught a 12-inch crappie.

Happy 6th Birthday (July 9) to Ashleigh from mommy, daddy & Ian



son Joe Meyers' first swim (and first boat ride) in Birch Lake. He's a natural!

First Swim

John & Jodi Meyers were pleased to snap this photo of

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Owner - John Gableman

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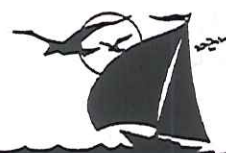
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Have A Safe and Fun Summer!

Birch Lake Notes

Raders boys raid Zebra patch

Ryan, Jared and Jordan Rader, grandsons of Roma and John Went, collected 12,817 zebra mussels on the 30th of June. The boys have worked collecting zebra mussels the past summers and will continue to do so. Even though the job seems endless, they feel the ones they remove won't be reproducing. They are hoping other Birch Lakers will do the same. Thanks boys, we really appreciate your caring.

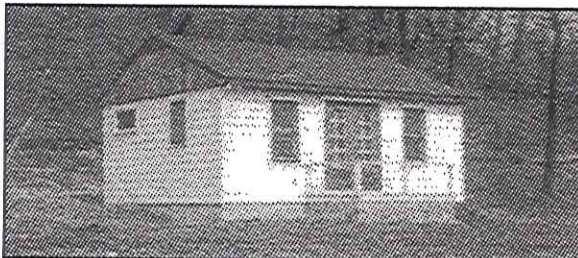


Happy Birthday Suzy

If you see more activity than the usual in the King's front yard or at their boat-house this Saturday, it's because Suzy is having a bash to celebrate her 50th birthday! Bill & Le bought their little cottage on the North side of the lake in 1957 so Suzy grew up at this beautiful spot and has many fond memories. As one might expect, she doesn't get here as often as she might like, but still manages to attend most of the Yacht Club activities to visit with her friends.

Be sure to toot your horn or give her a holler when you pass by in your boat — 50 years only comes round for each of us once you know.

-Le King



Crafty kids

About 25 Birch Lake Kids attended Kids Craft at the Yacht Club on June 29th. Red, white, and blue flags made of beads were all the rage! Dream catchers and love bugs were popular masterpieces as well. Special thanks to all the helpers, including Helen Toth, Ann Kesmodel, Katie and Lauren Kesmodel, and all the other parents and friends who helped make the day so crafty!

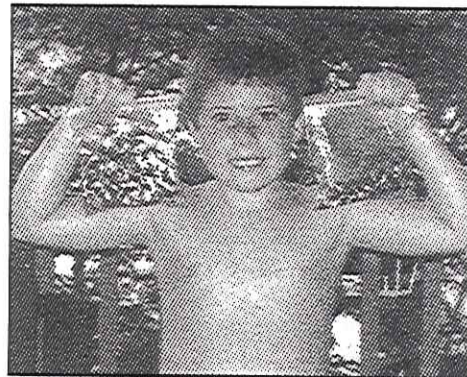
We will have a "Scoop and Sprinkle" day from 10 to 11:30 a.m. on July 13th, with an ice cream social and garden hose activi-

ties. Wear your bathing suits and bring your favorite water gun or other outdoor water activity to the Yacht Club. Rain date will be announced if necessary. Hope to see you there!!! Water balloon fillers are welcome!

More Zebra foes

Nicholas Sobczak of 14826 Walden Dr. collected 482 zebra mussels from Lake Park on June 24.

Rumor has it that the Comos were seen (and photographed) helping Abby, Grayson and Mary collect 3,000 more ... watch next week's Barker for full details.



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BLYC Sailing News

Last Sunday was rather a slow day, as the wind pretty much died just as the first race was getting under way. Everyone struggled for the next hour and a half to complete the race. As a result only one race



was run. Ironically later in the afternoon a good southwest wind came up; I guess it must be bad timing

on our part. Anyway thanks to all the sailors that came out and took part in the race. Also big THANKS to Bruce Wagner, Jim and Sally Beck for manning the committee boat.

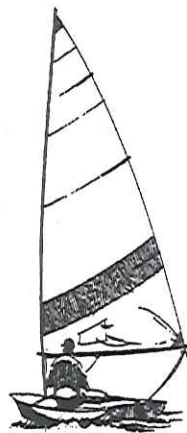
This week is the 4th of July Regatta with races on Saturday July 6th at 11 am Indiana time and Sunday July 7th at 2 pm Indiana time.

Trophies will be presented to the top finishers in all Fleets at the end of the season.

Don Harman
Fleet Captain

Come Sail with us!

Next Races:
Fourth of July Regatta
Sat. 7/6 at 11 am
and Sun, 7/7 at 2 pm



Sailing Results

Week of June 30 and season standings

Sailor	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Average	Place
MC's					
H. Cranmer	2nd			1571	1st
D. Harman	1st			1510	3rd
R. Harman	4th			1519	2nd
Phil Vitale	3rd			1434	4th
Sunfish "A"					
J. Bolinger	6th			1441	4th
T. Howard	1st			1571	2nd
D. Olson	3rd			1380	5th
Russwurm	5th			1352	7th
S. Troeger	2nd			1526	3rd
D. Weaver	DNS			1332	8th
D. Troeger	DNS			1610	1st
Bob King	4th			1379	6th
Sunfish "B"					
J. Meyer	1st			1571	1st tie
S. Vitale	4th			1417	4th
C. Plaia	3rd			1571	1st tie
S. Plaia	DNS			1531	3rd
A. Troeger	2nd			1531	2nd
"CATS"					
B. King	DNS			1571	1st tie
D. Weaver	DNS			1571	1st tie

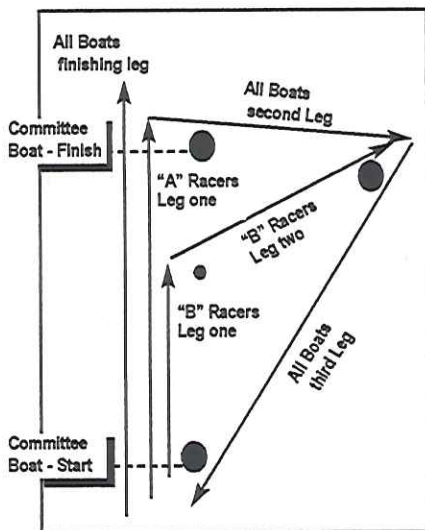
Sailing Made Simpler

The race course:

A sailboat race course consists of 4 "legs" raced around orange buoys set up over a triangle course. The first and final leg are raced into the wind.

This year, a special Sunfish "B" buoy is being set up to shorten the course for less-experienced sailors, so all of the boats finish closer together.

Also, to encourage newbies, special "bonus" points are being awarded to regular sailors who take along "crew."



Accents & Images

Interior Design

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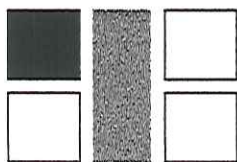
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We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer at Birch Lake!

-Ben and Vanessa Wozniak

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Opinion ~ Forum

NOTICE: The items on this page are solely the opinion of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Birch Lake Yacht Club officers, board of directors or the editor of this newspaper.

Some Thoughts About Sewers...

-by Dean Davis

I'm writing this letter to Birch Lakers because I have some knowledge and background information that should be shared.

The following facts have been garnered by previously being a member of the Cass County Board of Public Works. I think it's important to pass along what was learned as a member of this board, and to correct certain misinformation, twisting of facts to support an otherwise untenable position, and specious arguments.

The Cass County Board of Public Works approves the bonding and disbursement of funds for sewer projects. It was involved in projects at Diamond, Donnell, Sisters, Eagle, and

Paradise lakes. We did not approve sewer projects. That authority legally is with the Township boards.

With sewers, in every case, water quality improved and property values increased.

In not one case did the water level of the lake go down.

In not one case did the contractors pollute the lake.

In not one case did we see any unusual development on the lakes, such as condos, mobile home parks, apartments or subdivisions.

In not one case did the construction efforts unearth or release large amounts of phosphorous from the soil into the lake.

In not one case!

It is said that our lake is clean. I have no argument with that, but septic tanks polluted the lake in the past. As they age and deteriorate, they will pollute again. Also, septic tanks have polluted aquifers (the large body

of water underground) and it can happen again.

What is the health department's position? Lee Maager, a former employee of the county health department told me a number of years ago, "There is no good septic system. Dumping waste into our ground is bad." Mike Laufer currently works for the Cass County Health Department. He says the health department favors sewers because of heavy development on the lakes, small lots, and closeness of wells to septic systems. As an aside, he pointed out that the state requires three-quarters of an acre to have a septic system installed in a subdivision.

A number of our residents have septic systems closer than 50' to their wells. This is dangerous, and we should consider the concerns and problems of our neighbors.

Cass County employee Bruce Campbell issues permits for any project that moves soil

within 500' of the lake. He said, "In no case will I issue a permit if there is any possibility of damage to the lake." Also, he follows up with the contractors during construction to make sure they follow the rules of the permit.

I hear the objection that sewers are expensive. I agree! But they are never going to get cheaper. In 1990-1991, Diamond Lake paid \$4,500. Ours will cost \$10,000 plus (if paid up front). Don't you wish we would have joined Diamond Lake in 1990? I wonder how many people would be against sewers if they were free??

Asking people to do what's right for the future is always a difficult "sell" - especially when it costs them a lot of money. I'm asking you to keep gathering information and facts before you make a decision, and then do what's right for the future of Birch Lake.

SPECIAL NOTICE

The issue of waste water treatment and a potential Birch Lake sewer system has generated considerable interest and controversy over the past few weeks.

Several requests have been received from Lakers to publish information and individual letters of opinion. **While officers and board of directors of the Birch Lake Yacht Club, and the editor of the Barker WILL NOT ENDORSE ANY opinion**

on the issue, the Baker will publish opinion letters that meet the following stipulations:

- All letters must be signed and the writers must allow their names to be published with the article.
- Letters must be submitted by deadlines listed.
- All letters must be submitted via e-mail, or on computer disk in a text format.
- All letters must be no more than 500 words; if letters are over 500 words, they will only be published on an available time/space basis, and pro-

viding the author agrees to cover all additional costs incurred because of the letter.

DEADLINE FOR THIS WEEK

Deadline for all items submitted to the Birch Barker this week is Noon on **MONDAY, JULY 8.** SORRY, NO EXCEPTIONS OR EXTENSIONS CAN BE GRANTED

Men's Golf Outing update

Plans are set for the 42nd Annual Men's Golf Outing. Get your foursome together, complete the registration form and drop it off with your check(s) to Rich Mullins or Bill King.

We are still soliciting hole sponsorships at \$50 to \$100/hole. It would be nice to see some new sponsors in addition to our perennial supports.

The following is a partial list of hole sponsors for this year's outing: Dan Reynolds, Transamerica; Dick Bender, Bender Plastics & Bender Mold; Mike Machalleck, Claeys Candy Inc.; Rich Mullins and Vic Jones.

Ladies Golf Outing date changed

Join the Birch Lake ladies on Friday, August 9 for our annual Golf and/or Lunch. Experienced and novice golfers are welcome; we play a best-ball scramble. Arrange your foursome or be grouped with some new friends.

The cost is \$25, which includes 9 holes of golf and half a cart at Park Shore Golf Course in Cassopolis, and lunch at Lindy's.

Golf at 9 am (IN); luncheon at Noon. Prizes will be awarded at the luncheon.

Please send reservation and check to Mardy Miller, 63255 Storey Hill, Vandalia, MI 49095. If you have questions, call Mardy at 476-9226, or Betsy Custard at 476-9835.

Non golfers are welcome to join us for the lunch at Lindy's. Select from an open menu with individual checks. Please call Mardy or Betsy so we can reserve a space for you.

BIRCH LAKE OPEN

Join us for the 42nd Annual Men's Golf Outing
Friday, July 26

Park Shore Golf Course, Cassopolis, MI
11 am shotgun start

\$55/man entry fee
covers golf, cart, favor, door prizes, refreshments and prime rib dinner

Registration deadline is July 22

First 72 golfers are in

Contact Rich Mullin at 476-8820

or drop entry at Mullin or King home on north shore

Dinner at 5:30 pm (\$20 to attend the dinner only)

Name/phone _____

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Ladies Golf Outing

and luncheon

Friday, August 9

Park Shore Golf Course, Cassopolis, MI
9 am golfing; Noon Lunch at Lindy's

\$25 entry fee
covers golf, half a cart, and lunch at Lindy's
Contact Mardy at 476-9226 or Betsy at 476-9835

Name	Golf	Lunch
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Be responsible for guests

Checking his p-mail

Its the 4th!!! Yea.
A very busy time at the lake. Lots of boaters, walkers, bikers, vehicle and, yes, dogs. We all love to invite family and friends up for this holiday and often we ask them to bring their dogs — because dogs love the lake too.
Just remember you are

responsible for the actions of your guest dogs. **Please remind them that Michigan has a leash law.** If your yard is not fenced, you must keep them on a leash.

This is not just for the safety of your neighbors walking by but also for the safety of the dogs. Also, their

will be lots of little and big kids walking and biking along our lake roads so remember to slow down while driving.
Have a fun and safe weekend.

-Fido's Friend



Stu's Star Stuff

Congratulations to Stu on the new job... Unfortunately, it means no Star Stuff this week. Hopefully the column will return next week.

Babysitter sign-up

So far we've only had one Laker sign up to babysit — 12 year-old Amanda Lacy, 476-2102. Amanda has completed the Red Cross Baby-sitting Course and is ready for your call!



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Lakes can be divided into three categories:

Oligotrophic (top) Mesotrophic (middle) Eutrophic (bottom)

These categories reflect a lake's nutrient and clarity levels. Researchers use various methods to calculate the trophic state of a lake. Common characteristics used to make the determination are:

Total phosphorus concentration (important for algae growth)

Chlorophyll *a* concentration (a measure of the amount of algae present)

Secchi disc readings (an indicator of water clarity)

What is an Oligotrophic lake?

**Birch Lake is an Oligotrophic lake - a beautiful lake with excellent water quality
Birch Lake is clear, deep and free of weeds and large algae blooms.**

(Phosphorus, chlorophyll *a* tests and Secchi disc readings are taken in the 95' Deep Basin)

Total phosphorus ug/1 (oligotrophic) 3 to 10

Birch Lake falls in category 7

Chlorophyll *a* ug/1 (oligotrophic) 2 to 5

Birch Lake falls in category 2

Secchi Disc (feet) (oligotrophic) 12 to 8

Birch Lake's clarity reading falls in the category of 30 feet

What is a Mesotrophic Lake?

Mesotrophic lakes lie between oligotrophic and eutrophic stages. Devoid of oxygen in late summer, their hypolimnions cause phosphorus cycling from sediments.

Phosphorus ug/1 (mesotrophic) 18 to 27

Birch Lake falls in category 7

Chlorophyll *a* ug/1 (mesotrophic) 8 to 10

Birch Lake falls in category 2

Secchi Disc (feet) (mesotrophic) 6 to 6

Birch Lake's clarity reading falls in the category of 30 feet

What is a Eutrophic lake?

Eutrophic lakes are high in nutrients and support a large biomass of plants. They are usually either weedy or subject to frequent algae blooms or both.

Total phosphorus ug/1 (eutrophic) 30 to 50

Birch Lake falls in category 7

Chlorophyll *a* ug/1 (eutrophic) 11 to 15

Birch Lake falls in category 2

Secchi Disc (feet) (eutrophic) 5 to 4

Birch Lake's clarity reading falls in the category of 30 feet

Do you know what Chara is doing to help maintain the clarity of Birch Lake?

Chara covers 80% of your lake. Unlike the plant with the floating leaf that was found in 10 feet of water instead of the usual 8 (it grows deeper because of the clean water) Chara is a low-growing mat of algae. It has no roots. It obtains its nutrients from the water, impairs other algae and enhances the water clarity.

Does *looking* at Birch Lake make you glad that you live here? Does *knowing* that there are *no problems with phosphorus from septic and fertilizer runoff* make you feel even better about what you did for your lake? Do you know what a precious jewel you have?

-g. temple

Try It, You'll Like It (Part 2)

Last week I told you all about my introduction to the world of cigarette smokers. I'd stumbled across the smoking activities of some Birch Lake teenagers and it reminded me of the time, shortly after my 18th birthday, when I slipped casually into one of the worst and most costly mistakes of my life.

Cigarettes are a lot like the man-eating plant Audrey II in the play *Little Shop of Horrors*. No matter how often poor Seymour fed his friends and neighbors to that gargantuan Venus Fly Trap, she kept yelling, "Feed me, Seymour! Feed Me!" A cigarette habit is like that, relentless and insatiable. The habit doesn't care if cigarettes are \$2.50 a pack, and it doesn't care if you hate the taste of smoking when you're outdoors in cold weather, and it doesn't care if you're sinuses are constantly inflamed or if you've developed a cough that won't go away. It keeps on screaming, "Feed me! Feed me!"

By the time I'd been smoking for four months I was a pack-a-day guy. Cigarettes are great with a cup of coffee, or a beer, or after a meal, but their taste varies from ho-hum to terrible the rest of the time. That meant that I enjoyed about half of my smokes each day and I lit up the rest of them because my body and brain were demanding to be fed.

It took about a year to get to a pack and a half a day, and another six months before I was a two-pack man. By then I was in the Army, where cigarette smoking was an integral part of the culture. Work breaks were announced with a call to "Take five and smoke if you've got 'em," and field rations often included a four pack of Lucky's or Camels. I was a Chesterfield King devotee, but when they were free I accepted all brands. Smoking was no longer a "tool to be cool" for me. It was a necessity, and a badge that proclaimed, I was one of the boys. "You got a smoke?" I met a lot of guys and got

into a cacophony of conversations by hearing or saying those words.

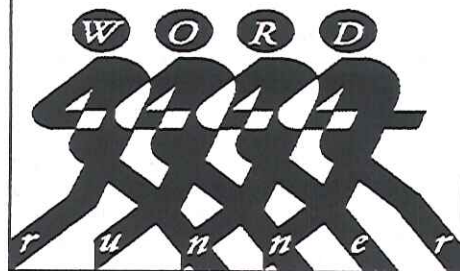
It took eight years for me to move deeply enough into the habit to realize how hooked I was, how much smoking was affecting my health, and how little enjoyment I got from most of the cigarettes I smoked. The first one of the day now came before my start-up cup of coffee, and I smoked the last just before I turned out the light. Less than a third of them tasted good, and they now cost more than twice what I would have paid for them on the day I tried my first one. Also, they weren't doing wonders for my love life. As my older daughter once informed a boyfriend who threatened to return to a life of inhaling carcinogens, "Nobody enjoys kissing Mr. Ashtray Mouth."

Time to quit. I must have tried a dozen times before I got a serious effort underway. Mostly I kept making promises to myself that this would be my last pack or that I would go off them cold turkey at the end of the month.

I always had an excuse not to go all the way. I had too much going on in my life at the moment, or I was about to take on a momentous project that would demand all my attention. In the end, quitting took me two-and-a-half years and two major efforts. The second and permanently successful try was accomplished by weaning myself onto a pipe and then in time, through less and less pipe smoking, into a smokeless life. Either it was a very tough process, or I was a very big Wuss.

For the first two weeks I literally did not think about anything except how much I wanted to light a cigarette. My brain screamed and bawled constantly, and my nerves were burned raw. I carried on conversations and gave the appearance of listening to people, but all I really heard was that little voice inside my head whining, "I need a cigarette. I'll just smoke one and then I'll be

By The WordRunner



okay. Gimme, gimme, gimme!"

The second fortnight was a little better, but not much. By that time I could sometimes divert my attention for an hour or two, but the first whiff of cigarette smoke I picked up on a second-hand breeze would send me into full panic. What was I thinking of? Couldn't I just smoke a little bit? Maybe only after meals or at parties. Sure. That discipline would have lasted at least a day or two.

Finally, I got clean. It took about six months, and I hated every minute of it. If I had known when I bought that first pack of Kools what I was letting myself in for, I would have taken a pass. Even at 18, I wasn't masochistic.

Cigarettes put a hammerlock on me that was tighter and harder to shake than anything else I've ever encountered. Twenty years after I lit my last one, I still dreamed of smoking. The night I saw those young girls walking away from the yacht club, cigarettes in hand, laughing, talking, I wanted to jump out of my car and rip those smokes out of their hands. I wanted to stop them before they could get hurt. I wanted to do it, but all I did was watch them walk away.

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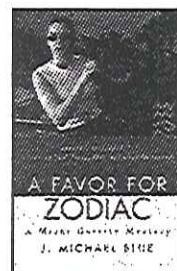
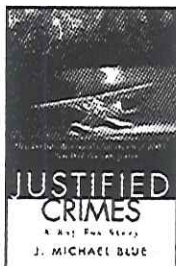
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All royalties on books ordered from Jim will be donated to The Birch Lake Yacht Club

Zebra Mussels and Lake Ecology

Zebra mussels are filter feeders. Each adult is capable of filtering a liter of water per day, removing almost every microscopic aquatic plant (phytoplankton or algae) and animal (zooplankton). Zebra mussel colonies in Lake Erie have reached astounding densities of 70,000 per square meter, and experts estimate that Lake Erie's zebra mussel population filters the entire volume of the lake's western basin once a week. The mussel has increased Lake Erie's water clarity up to 600 percent and reduced some forms of phytoplankton, the basis of the lake food web, by as much as 80 percent. The increased water clarity has allowed

"Once a lake has them, people better purchase a good rake because they'll need it to rake their beaches. There are no good uses for zebra mussels. You can't eat them. Ducks and other wildlife don't like them much. That's just the problem. There is no natural predator. They are hard to stop."

Donald Winne, Executive Director
Michigan Lakes and Streams Association

light to penetrate deeper into the water column, allowing rooted aquatic vegetation to increase greatly in density. Bottom-dwelling (benthic) forms of algae appear to be increasing, as do several forms of insect-like benthic organisms. Researchers have also found that zebra mussels even colonize the shells of freshwa-

ter clams and have almost totally eliminated some native species in certain areas.

Because of the huge volumes of water they filter and their high body-fat content, zebra mussels accumulate about 10 times more PCBs and other toxic contaminants than native mussels. These contami-

nants are transferred up the food-chain to waterfowl and fish that eat zebra mussels. This potential to significantly affect contaminant cycling is of great concern in the Great Lakes, where health advisories already exist for consumption of some species of fish.

Want more info?
Check out these Web Sites:

<http://www.seagrant.wisc.edu/greatlakes/glnetwork/exotics.html>

<http://detnews.com/2001/livingston/0106/24/c051-239576.htm>



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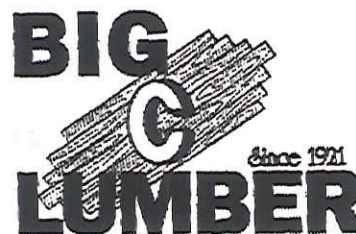
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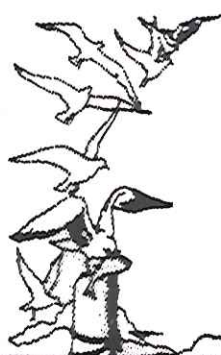
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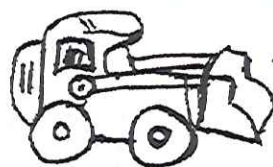


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Red Hot Summer Ladies Tea



August 7th Tickets \$7.00
(last weeks \$9.00 was a typo, sorry).

Tickets for the "Red Hot Summer" Ladies Tea, will be available for purchase during the BLYC Pancake Breakfast. There will be a limited number of tickets and tickets will not be sold at the door on the day of the event. So while your eating those yummy pancakes don't forget to purchase your tickets for the ladies tea.

"Red Hot Summer Ladies Tea Committee: Darlene Troyer, MaryAnn O'Neil, Helen Toth and Denny Weesner.

Warning
by Jenny Joseph

When I am an old woman I shall wear purple
With a red hat which doesn't go, and doesn't suit me.
And I shall spend my pension on brandy and summer gloves
And satin sandals, and say we've no money for butter.
I shall sit down on the pavement when I'm tired
And gobble up samples in shops and press alarm bells
And run my stick along the pub-

lic railings
And make up for the sobriety of my youth.
I shall go out in my slippers in the rain
And pick the flowers in other people's gardens
And learn how to spit.

You can wear terrible shirts and grow more fat
And eat three pounds of sausages at a go
Or only bread and pickle for a week
And hoard pens and pencils and beer mats and things in boxes.

But now we must have clothes that keep us dry
And pay our rent and not swear in the street
And set a good example for the children.
We must have friends to dinner and read the papers.

But maybe I ought to practice a little now?
So people who know me are not too shocked or surprised
When suddenly I am old, and start to wear purple.

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Messages in a bottle...

The following is the text of three messages found in a bottle floating in Birch Lake last summer by Tim Steffen. Tim thought the authors might enjoy knowing that their messages were received...

Hi!
My name is Jennifer. I'm 15 years old & I'm sending this message in a bottle from my friend's, Hallie & Natalie's house on the west side of the lake. I guess I've always wanted to do this, it's kind of like the movies or something!! I would consider myself pretty lucky if I were to find this bottle with 3 messages in it! It's a pretty nifty concept, isn't it? Sending messages in bottles. Well, anyways, I would feel pretty happy if you

decided to write us back!! In fact, I'd be so happy, I may even write you back again. And before I part, I would like to leave you with one of my most favorite sayings.
Some people whine because God put thorns among roses, and others praise Him for putting roses among thorns.

6-16-01

Hi!
My name is Hallie. I'm 15 yrs. old, but I'll be 16 in 17 days! July 3rd is sweet sixteen. Wow! I hope this message gets further than just a couple houses down from us. When you get this; send out one of your own so maybe we'll get an answer to our note. Jesus loves you!

John 3:16 — For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whoso ever believeth in him shall not perish but have everlasting life!

Hi,
My name is Natalie and I'm sending this message because I've always want to send a letter across water. I live on the west side of the lake and when you get this please send me a note back through water. It doesn't matter if we don't get it back. Hope to hear from you soon,
Natalie
p.s. If you are a really hot 13 yr. old write back.

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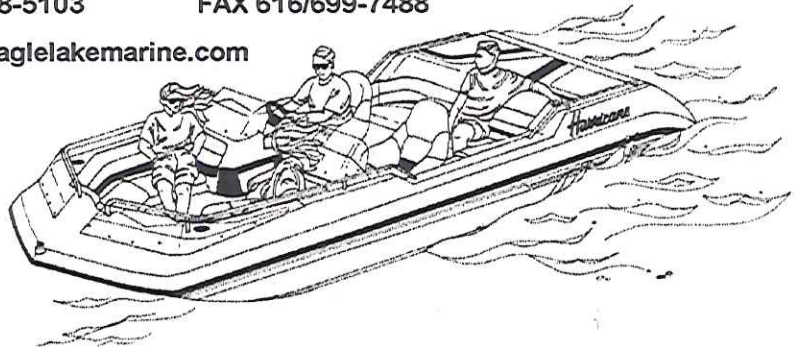
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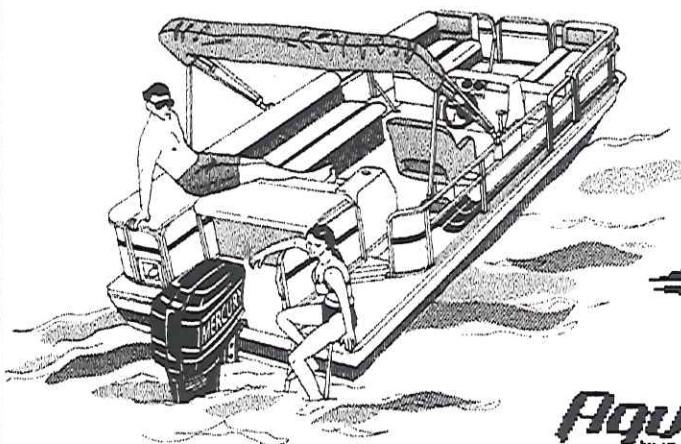
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FOR SALE: 16" Boys Bike with training wheels - Like New \$20. East Side. 476-2166.

FOUND

Found — One "Shock Doctor" mouth guard retainer, clear with black inserts. Appears to be for a youth-sized mouth. Can be picked up any weekend at the Brovold cottage, 62861 Lakeview Dr. (west side, just north of Walker's) or call 476-8862 or 684-5547.

FOR RENT

Birch Lake cottage, west side. 616-471-7647 or 616-921-0710

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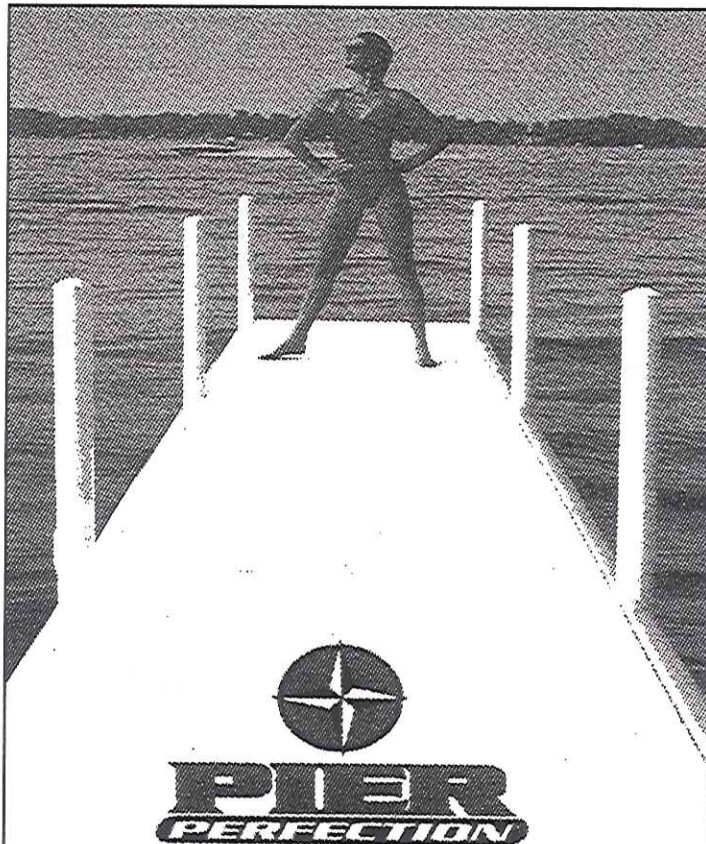
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