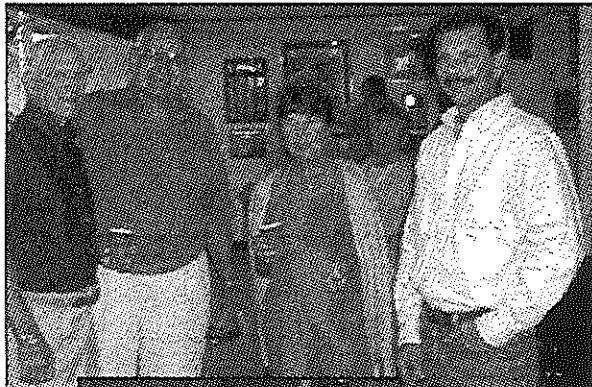


Birch Barker

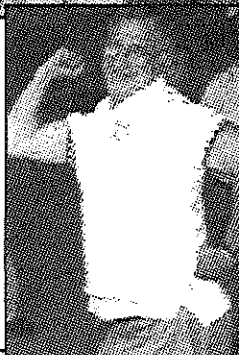
Weekend of June 14, 2003

The Monte Carlo fundraiser was a big hit last weekend, with plenty of time for socializing and lots of great prizes. Check the schedule on Page 2 for a list of all the events this summer...



photos by the PattiCam

Monte Carlo Memories



Hey there, hi there, ho there... Some summer temperatures arrived this week, but the darned rain just doesn't seem to want to quit!

Oh, well, we're going to have a season whether the weather cooperates or not — and the Fleet Captain has announced the official start of sailboat racing this Sunday at 11 am ... weather permitting.

Upcoming events of note: Kids Crafts today; board meeting next Saturday; Bill King's induction into the Hall of Fame on Friday, June 27 (see Page 3).

If you didn't make it to last weekend's Monte Carlo Fund Raiser, you missed a great time! Despite some serious grumbling among the less-than-lucky attendees, everyone seemed to have a lot of fun playing cards and socializing. A bunch of people went home with some nifty prizes (including Rick Russwurm, who claimed the prize as the top chip-winner for the whole night, and Big Ben Wozniak, who was just as proud of his

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

\$60 plier set).

I want to thank all the folks who set up, ran the event, procured and provided the prizes and helped us clean up: Bob Waddle, Bob King, Hal and Char Sheetz, Patti and Rick Russwurm (and brother Joe, who was a big crowd pleaser!), Jim and Debbie Bolinger, Dave Bouwkamp, Bill and (bad) Patty Luecht (great shirts!), Rich Mullin, Dave and Judy Olson, Denise Smitley, Tom's Garage, Vice Commodore Stewart Spratt, daughter Erica and Steve, and, of course, Sandy.

And, of course, thanks to all the folks who came out to socialize and enjoy the games of chance (alternate definition, to donate their money).

If I missed listing your name as a helper, I apologize — thanks! You people are the greatest ... and because of you we brought in nearly \$1,000 in donations for the Birch Lake Yacht Club!

Which brings up a sore point — I'm not printing the names of members this year so we don't cause any embarrassment to the people who haven't paid yet, but so far we only have about 90 members from the more than 200 homes on the lake that benefit from the efforts of the BLYC-sponsored Water Quality Committee and Homeowner's Association (not to mention the fireworks and all of the club functions and kids' functions).

So, if you haven't paid your dues, shame on you. It's a lousy \$20 folks, and it does so much good for everyone!

Before I close I want to give special thanks to our fixit guy, Don Harman, who spent a jillion hours fixin up the club — including over four hours replacing the shingles that the kids on bikes knocked loose (HEY, if these are your kids, tell 'em to stay off the doggone roof, it's almost new, for cryin' out loud).

Now get on out there and have some fun!

-Commodore Phil



We are always soliciting and accepting materials for future publication. Just put the materials in the red Barker box at 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore) or e-mail the info to me at sailorphil@philvitale.com. If you must, mail 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

KIDS CRAFT CRAZINESS

We're looking for a few crafty kids to join us at the Yacht Club between 10 am - 11-30 am Saturday, June 14th. We have oodles of crafts to create ... friendship bracelets, door wreaths, bead crafts, picture frames, and lots more. There's something for all ages. Come join us for some creativity, snacks, and friendship. Cost of admission is ONE SILLY JOKE. We'll put the funniest ones in next week's Barker!! See you there!

-Paula Russell

Pet of the Week

Hey, we didn't get a single "kid of the week" photo this week, so Bailey gets the spot (and ain't she just cute as a button?).



News From Tannadoonah

We have finished our staff training and I think that we are ready for campers. However we have to wait for one more week because this week the People of

BLYC Calendar		
June 14	Kids Crafts, BLYC 10 am	Marc's Fancy Pants Dance
June 21	Board Meeting 9 am	July 25 Men's Golf Outing
June 28	Vice Commodore's Party "A Paris Evening"	July 26 Board Meeting 9 am
July 4	Fireworks	July 26 Garage Sale
July 5	Firework Cleanup	July 30 Women's Tea (tentative)
July 5	Boat Parade 3 p.m.	Aug. 8 Women's Golf (tentative)
July 6	Pancake Breakfast	Aug. 9 Corn and Sausage Roast
July 19	Bad Patty Punch Party and	Aug.16 Board Meeting 9 am
		Aug. 23 Fall Dinner

PLEASE NOTE: All parties at the yacht club will begin at 7 pm Indiana time ... unless otherwise noted.

Praise will be at Tannadoonah.

Camper registration is beginning to pick up but we are still down, if you have anyone interested in coming to camp this summer please give our office a call (574) 234-4145. Hopefully by the time you read this the asphalt will be poured for the new tennis courts. We still need some money to finish them however.

If you missed the Tupperware party last week contact us if you would like to put in an order to help Tannadoonah.

Speaking of help. This year the request for camperships has been overwhelming, and we hate to turn kids away from camp. Already we have received almost 30 requests for assistance for the summer. If anyone on the lake would like to sponsor a child this summer or to make

even a small donation to our campership fund we would be very grateful, as would the children. You can contact me at camp (476-2177) or our office in South Bend. Thank you in advance and I can't wait for summer to begin!!

-Mr. Dug

Pedro Update

Just wanted to let you know I'm back online; got my computer together, now I need to down load 1100 pictures and put together a show. May have to set up a temp web site — any ideas, feel free to let me know, and I'll add it. Gotta go now. Tearing off a roof today before the thundershowers get here.

-Pedro Kinner



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Have A Safe and Fun Summer!

Birch Lake Notes

Council on Aging News

Exercise at the Council of Aging at the corner of Decatur and M60 in Cassopolis. The Council has a SNOW BIRD SPECIAL, 4 months in the fitness room, unlimited use. They have many different machines with someone on duty to help you. The cost is \$45. for 4 months.

Also, they are offering a combo pass for 6 visits to the fitness room and 6 aerobic classes for \$20. Any questions, call Brenda at 445-8110 or 800-323-0390.

Hours are from 7:30 - 6 Monday - Thursday and 7:30 - 5 Friday.

Dine at the Council. Lunch offers a hot meal and salad, taco, or potato bar served from 12-1 Michigan time. The food is great and price is \$3 with a \$15 meal ticket or \$5. The COA is for people 60 or older.

"Skier-Down" Flags

We are taking orders for the bright yellow "Skier-Down" flags being produced as a Junior Achievement project by north-sider Nick Freihofer. The flags are available for just \$5 each, to equip the mandatory ski spotters in your boat. The flags can be purchased from the Freihofers at 476-9823, or from board members or officers of the Club. All proceeds will be donated to the Birch lake Yacht Club.

King to be Inducted into Hall of Fame

Congratulations to Birch Lake resident Bill King, who will be one of the five area athletes inducted this month into the Indiana Football Hall of Fame.

Bill, a 1946 Elkhart High school and 1950 Ball State Teachers College graduate, earned varsity letters in football and track. He was elected Captain as well as Most Valuable Player his senior year in high school. At Ball State he was Acting Captain for 3 years and Most Valuable Player for 2 years. He was an integral part of the Cardinals' only undefeated and untied Cardinal team in 1949.

He was drafted by the Cleveland Browns in 1950. He was Assistant Freshman Coach at Ball State, played for the Indianapolis Tryons Semi-Pro Team, and played two years on the Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo, 5th Army Championship Team. He also participated on the Post Track Team in shot put and discus, as well as went to the All Service Olympic Tryouts in California.

Bill is a charter member of the Ball State University Athletic Hall of Fame



and a recipient of the BSU Distinguished Alumni Award.

The induction will be June 27 at the St. Joseph Valley Chapter of the Indiana Hall of Fame Banquet being held at the St. Hedwig Memorial Center in South Bend.



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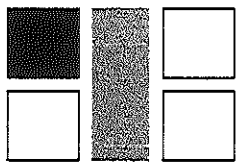
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We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable
summer at Birch Lake!

-Ben and Vanessa Wozniak

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BLYC Sailing News

SAILIN' STARTS SUNDAY (WEATHER PERMITTING)

Fleet Captain Harold Cranmer has decided that enough is enough, already, and is declaring the start of the official Summer Racing Season this Sunday, June 15 at 11 am.

Weather permitting.

The Becks will be at the starting line to serve as the official start/finish boat — all sailors in all classes are encouraged to come out and kick off the season.

Weather permitting.

And don't forget, we still need help on the start boat. We have to have people to help on the starting boat to begin

and finish the races. We have many weeks covered already (thanks to the Becks), but we would love to have other boats to fill in when they aren't available and people to help all of the starters. If you are available to help on any starting boat, or if you can stand in for us once in a while, we'd love to hear from you. All supplies and equipment (except the boat) will be furnished; we'll even provide training if you don't know how the whole thing works ...

To volunteer, contact Harold Cranmer at 2170; or Phil Vitale at 1680.

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Stu's Star Stuff



Ever think about how far away those things are up there? A few things are relatively close - the Moon, Venus, Mars. Some are very, very far - Deneb, Betelgeuse, Altair. Some even farther objects can only be seen using sophisticated equipment or even Earth-orbiting telescopes.

The distances between objects in the universe are so great that measuring them in miles would be like measuring the distance between New York and Los Angeles in inches. To measure these vast distances astronomers have developed their own units. The one you may be most familiar with is the light year. A light year has nothing to do with time. Nor does IST, yet we keep hearing about it. But I digress. A light year is the DISTANCE that light can travel in one year, about 6 trillion

miles.

Light, traveling at about 186,000 miles per second, takes about 1.25 seconds to travel from the Moon to us here at the lake. Light from Venus, which is about 100 times farther away, arrives here just over 2 minutes after leaving its surface. Light from the Sun takes about 8 minutes to reach us, while the trip from Pluto, which currently is about $100 \times 100 = 10,000$ times farther away from us than the Moon, is not much more than 3 "light-hours" away.

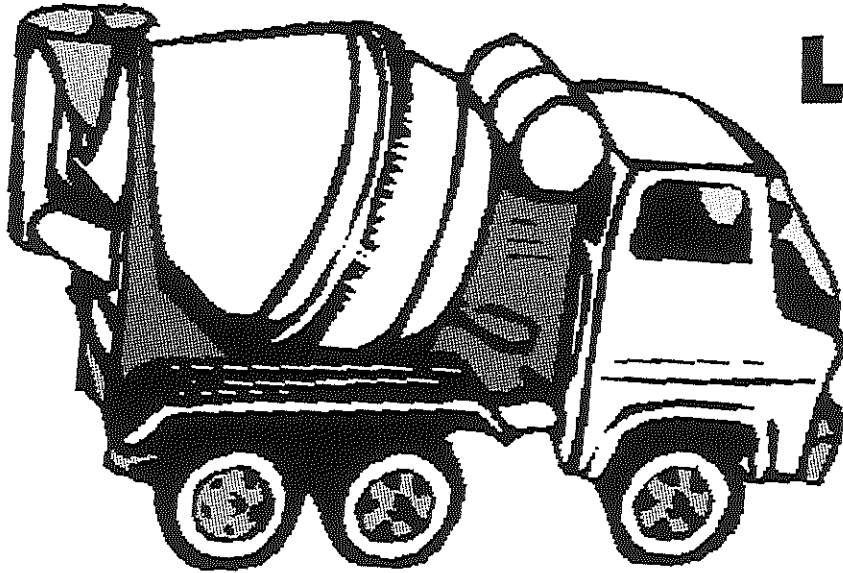
The nearest star system to ours is about 4.3 light years away. There are individual stars that we can see with the naked eye that are 3,000 or 4,000 light years away. And the great Andromeda galaxy, which we can glimpse with the naked eye on autumn nights, is almost 3 million light years distant. That means the light

we see from it tonight left there almost 3 million years ago. What we're seeing is the way the Andromeda galaxy looked 3 million years before now. It's like a window back in time. The Hubble Space Telescope has been able to detect light from objects that began its journey to us before the Earth and Sun formed. And the farthest reaches of the universe may be something like 15 billion light years away.

The Andromeda galaxy, and any of the stars out there for that matter, might not really even be there now. But their light continues to beam its way across the vacuum of space to put on the show that we all enjoy.

Next week, summer begins, weather or not.

-Stewart Spratt



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The clock is ticking for some lakes, and unresolved problems are killing them

According to Michigan Lake & Stream Associations, one of many unresolved problems in Michigan lakes is the exotic, Eurasian Milfoil..

Area residents hoped it would not come to their lake, but it did. Now they have it and hope it will go away — but it won't. When it moves into a lake, it grows wild on a big scale. A patch as big as a dining room table will grow to 10 acres in one year. Maintenance control may knock it back to 5 acres, but within two years it can come back and cover 40 acres and cost as much as \$30,000 to eradicate. Many lakes do not have a lake management program and do not know that it is absolutely essential to have an Eurasian Milfoil Watch.

Just like the plants growing on your land, you own the plants in the lake. Birch Lake is our responsibility as owners and managers. It is meaningful for the Water Quality Committee to have a map of aquatic vegetation and samples of the plants that grow in Birch Lake's garden. Keep the "good guys" and enjoy looking at them in the depths of the clear, clean water. Get rid of the "bad guys" before

they become a problem.

Because the Birch Lake Yacht Club is a member of Michigan Lake & Stream Associations and water quality committee members attend the regional fall seminar, and spring conference, we learn from and work for water quality specialists who recommend what is best for Birch Lake. We follow through with their guidance, and with the data we have collected since 1978 to resolve a problem when it exists and to prevent other problems from occurring. Since we were one of three lakes chosen to participate in the 2001 program, our data now include Aquatic Plant Mapping.

Under a Memorandum of Understanding between Michigan State University and the Michigan Lake & Stream Associations, Howard Wandell provided professional assistance to Birch Lake's Water Quality Committee. He selected 24 transects in the lake. There were 3 sampling sites at each transect, at 1-foot, 4-feet, and 10-feet, giving a total of 72 sampling sites. The plant density numbers were totaled and divided by the total number of sampling sites to calculate

its average density. A number was assigned to each of the density ratings: 1 for "found"; 2 for "sparse"; 3 for "heavy", and 4 for "dense". The average density for each plant species established the relative dominance and distribution of plants throughout Birch Lake.

The Mapping Project revealed that Birch Lake has moderate plant population consisting of good diversity of species, none of which dominates. Birch Lake is a marl lake with good clarity and few aquatic plants, which is consistent with the excellent condition of the lake.

Birch Lake is the jewel of Cass County. If we stay the course, we will stay the jewel.

The project revealed that Birch Lake did not have Eurasian Milfoil. Last summer, 2002, the Milfoil sites were checked, and Howard Wandell examined the samples. We still do not have the exotic.

The first time we find the "bad guy" we will hand-remove it carefully to not break off the fragments, and Birch Lake will keep smiling.

-Gertie Temple



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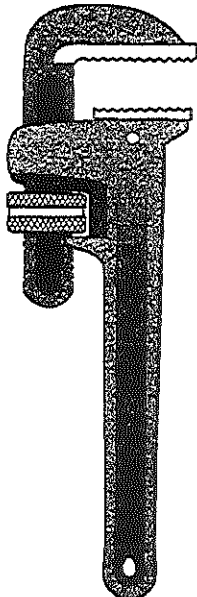
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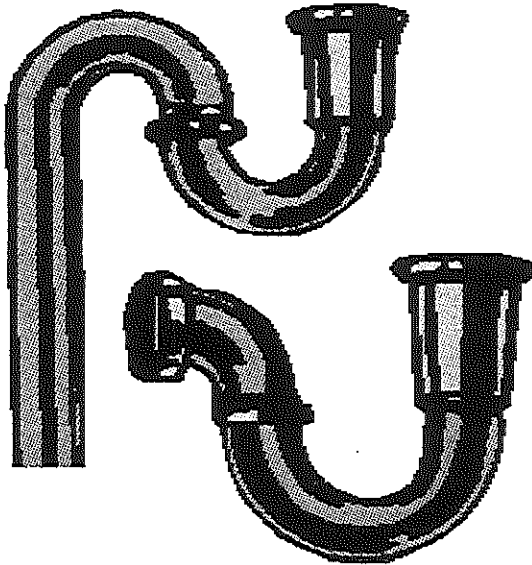
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The ABCs of healthy eating

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by: Ima Foodnudge

Well, were you able to guess any of the C power foods? I'll just go ahead and not keep you in suspense any longer.

Carrots - Silly rabbits are pretty smart. Studies show that these diet staples help to protect against heart disease, certain types of cancer, skin and eye disorders, constipation, and high cholesterol. WOW! All this and everyone in the family love em. Baby carrots are a favorite and easy snack out on the boat.

Celery - Another high fiber favorite has been shown to lower blood pressure and reduce the risk of cancer. It's a favorite for its low calories and quick feeling of fullness. Insoluble fiber is filling because it absorbs water and adds bulk as it moves through

the digestive tract, a process that also keeps your digestive system working properly. Is rather high in sodium so you hypertension folks use sparingly.

Cherries - Cherries deserve more room in your diet than as a garnish to a sundae or Manhattan. They are a top source of perillyl alcohol, which kills cancer cells but spares healthy cells. Studies have shown that this alcohol shrank pancreatic, breast and liver tumors.

Cherries also show promise on other fronts. Tart cherries contain significant amounts of melatonin, a hormone that helps normalize your sleep cycles.

Cocoa - YEA! Yes, a piece of chocolate not only saves your family from sure death by raging hormones at times, it is good for you. Cocoa, its main ingredient, provides plenty of antioxidant flavonoids, which fight heart disease and cancer. Unlike most candy, chocolate has a moderate glycemic index, which means that it provides steady energy instead of a sugar rush (and subsequent crash). Of course, chocolate is high in fat and calories. To maximize your

health benefits, choose dark chocolate (which contains more cocoa than milk chocolate) and limit yourself to an ounce a day. I'll sleep better now!

Cranberries - These tart little numbers possess more phenols than red grapes and 18 other fruits. Phenols are plant chemicals that lower oxidation of LDL ("bad") cholesterol.

Cranberries also make it hard for bacteria to stick around - literally. One 8 oz

glass of juice can stick around for up to 10 hours keeping bad bacteria E. coli from attaching to bladder walls and causing urinary tract infections. One more benefit, Dentists will tell you that cranberries prevent bacteria from adhering to teeth. Top to bottom, cranberries are a powerfully good choice.

Stay tuned next week for a "D"elightful choice of great tasting power foods.

Ima Foodnudge is a Birch Lake resident who wants her neighbors to be healthy



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The weather hasn't been great, but it didn't stop Peyton from taking Granma and Gramps Rogers for a spin ... and it didn't stop first time Birch visitor Katie from skiing (she said the water wasn't really cold, and that Birch was the clearest lake she had ever seen!

PattiCam photos






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For sale: Swim raft with ladder. 6 yr. old. 1/3 of new cost (\$1,200) = \$400. Has small leak. Contact Bob Morrison, 14860 S. Shore. or call 574-250-4945.

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3 BR cottage on north shore. \$650/week. Discounts available. Call Stewart Spratt at 574.291.3227 or 269.476.2113.

MISC.

FREE — Seven barrels for swim raft. Most in good condition, all useable. Come and get 'em! 476-1424 weekends. Charlie & Ann Kesmodel, David & Terry Carroll, 62883 Lakeview Drive

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Wanted: 16+ foot Jon Boat needed for Porter Twp Fire Dept. Lake Rescue Squad. Contact Mike Holdeman at chief@ptfd.org.

south side of Birch Lake at (269)501-9379.

Babysitting: Please call Amanda Lacy at 476-2102.

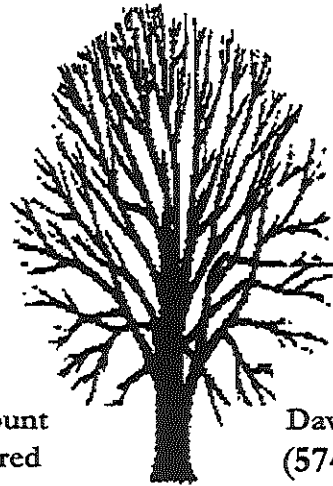
SERVICES

Housecleaning: Call Shanna at (269) 501-9379. I'm located on the south side and I am available to clean your home weekly, bi-weekly, monthly or seasonally.

Babysitting: Call Shanna on the

Classified ads are free to BLYC members and their families; \$5/week for non-members.

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Vice Commodore - Stewart Spratt 476-2113
Secretary - Sandy Vitale 476-1680
Treasurer - Holly Troeger 476-9898
Fleet Captain - Harold Cranmer 476-2170

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 Fred Frehofer 476-9823
 Bob Herms 476-9381
 Jack Miller 476-9226
 Judy Olson 476-2125
 Maryann O'Neill 476-2831
 Vicki Rogers 476-2383
 Paula Russell 476-1880
 Rick Russwurm 476-2407
 Charlene Sheetz 476-2604
 Denise Smitley 476-4900
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 Scott Troeger 476-9898
 Sandy Vitale 476-1680

Bob Waddle 476-2293
 Bruce Wagner 476-2090
 Denny Weesner 476-2569

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Dan Reynolds, chairman 476-8877
 Terry Dugan 476-2814
 Rick Russwurm 476-2407
 Gertie Temple 476-2773
 Bob Temple 476-2773

HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION

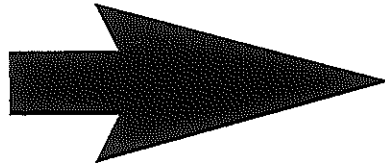
There are dozens of members of the Homeowner's Association; contact a board member for information.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dick Bender 476-2591
 Howard Blackwood 476-2840
 Jim Bolinger 476-9737
 Dave Bouwkamp 476-1001
 Harold Cranmer 476-2170

Birch Lake Yacht Club Contributions

- \$ _____ - BLYC Member Dues (\$20 / year)
- \$ _____ - BLYC Associate Member Dues (\$10 / year)
- \$ _____ - Homeowners Assoc. (\$10 / year)
- \$ _____ - Sailing Fees (\$15 / year)
- \$ _____ - Building Improvement Fund
- \$ _____ - Fireworks Display Fund
- \$ _____ - Water Quality Program
- \$ _____ - Riparian (\$7/yr, provide address for magazine)
- \$ _____ - Other _____
- \$ _____
- \$ _____
- \$ _____



Mail to:
 Holly Troeger, Treasurer
 1516 Ash Drive East
 Elkhart, IN 46514

Drop off at:
 63696 Birch Road (call 476-9898)

Make checks payable to:
Birch Lake Yacht Club

Total \$ _____

The Birch Lake Yacht Club is a 401(c) non-profit organization. Contributions to the club are tax deductible — consult your tax preparer for more information.



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