# A publication for people who love Birch Lake anch Bunken Weekend of July 26, 2003

photo provided by Mike and Lu Kelly

ey there, hi there, ho there... Well, most of us are finally recovered from Bad Patty's Punch ... I think. Thanks to the Luechts and the Goldens for a great time, and thanks to all the people who helped set up and clean up (special thanks, again, to Don for the great post-party damage control)!

We've got a busy weekend going on, with a board meeting this morning, the Birch Lake garage sale today until noon, and, weather permitting, sailboat races tomorrow at 11 (or noon).

A friendly reminder, especially to the, ahem, apparently uneducated boater that nearly ran several of us over last Sunday .. POWER BOATS MUST STAY 100 FEET AWAY FROM OTHER BOATS. As a simple way to judge your distance, imagine that I (or whoever else might be in a boat you are passing) were to throw a

### COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

beer can at you as you zipped past, splashing your wake all over us and nearly upsetting our boat. Well, if you are close enough for the beer can to hit you, you are TOO DARNED CLOSE!

So please be considerate ... I know you're just trying to have fun, but let's all be safe while we're doing it, ok?

Couple of dates to correct ... The deadline for signing up for the ladies' golf and luncheon is NOT the day after the event. If you intent to play (or just come to visit), please have your reservations in by August 4.

And, the Corn & Sausage roast will be on August 9 (despite the confusion that some bone-head perpetuated last week).

Sorry.

While I'm at it, here's a couple other

changes: The Kids Luau on Aug 2 will be at 1 pm ... and the Kids Regatta has been scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 16 at 2 pm at the Harman's house on the east side.

Every week some new dues come in, which we all appreciate, but there are still a few slackers who are riding on our coattails ... you know who you are. Pay up!

Be safe and have a great weekend.

-Commodore Phil

### **BLYC Calendar**

- July 26 Board Meeting 9 am
- July 26 Garage Sale 8-Noon
- Aug. 2 Kids Luau, 1 pm
- Aug. 8 Women's Golf
- Corn and Sausage Roast Aug. 9
- Aug.16 Board Meeting 9 am
- Aug. 16 Kids Regatta 2 pm
- Aug. 23 Fall Dinner



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.

# Birch Lake Notes

Thanks neighbors!

JJ and I would like to express our thanks to Paige Como and family and to Julie Lacy for their heroic efforts in our behalf last week as a sudden devastating wind sheer disabled our sailboat and put us in a very dangerous situation. Paige's masterful maneuvering of her pontoon boat and Julie's quick thinking for a standby rescue, averted a probable disaster. It is nice to have people on the lake who care. Our hats are off to you guys!

-Bruce Harlan

Kids Regatta

The annual Kids Regatta will be held on Saturday, August 16, beginning at 2 pm (weather permitting, of course). Kids and sailors who can carry the kids are encouraged to gather at the home of Don and Lind Harman (east side) for orientation, instructions and assignments.

Remember that everyone needs to have a legal PFD (or boat coat or life jacket or whatever else you might call it at your house). See you there!

#### KIDS LUAU!!!

Please join us between 1pm and 2:30pm (note time change) on Saturday, Aug. 2nd, for the KIDS LUAU!!! Wear your grass skirts and Hawaiian shirts, and get ready to LIMBO!! Hope to see you there!

-Paula Russell

### News (faux) from the Cove

by she who guides those who are in deep need

Since we no longer have the wisdom of Ann Landers, Birch residents know they have another path to travel. There are those who are unhappy and confused, not to mention those who are somewhat on the loony side. Well, aren't we all a bit?

I have received letters soaked with tear drops and phone calls, some in the wee hours of the morning. I am here for you!

Let me give you some of the messages I receive in one day...

3:00 am. I was startled by my phone. It was Bill Doba, who sounded quite desperate. It took some time to get him settled down after he stopped drinking gallons of buttermilk. After a lengthy discussion he remembered his fabulous new job as the coach of Washington State University. Bill, trash the buttermilk, chew on Tootsie Rolls and don't call me in the wee hours. P.S. Judy would be an ideal cheerleader.

Another late-hour phone call: Linda Bergan was screeching and running through the cottage. Husband Jim grabbed the rolling pin and clobbered a possum. The Bergans are considering freezing the possum and using it for No pictures this week as I am trying new looks and a facelift

Nick's wedding.

In closing..

WHO IS IMA FOODNUDGE?

Does she (we assume it's a she) realize how many Birchers attend chocolate anonymous meetings? And does she also realize that after the weekly meetings, we hand out Foodnudge Fudge?

Really, Ima, you need to change your advertisers. P.S. Ima, could you leave me the leftover goodies?

Assuming this column will be read worldwide, Birch Lake is bound to be greatest. B.S. asked, "The greatest what?" Go to your room, B.S., and stop wearing my nighties.

That's all the bologna I can come up with.

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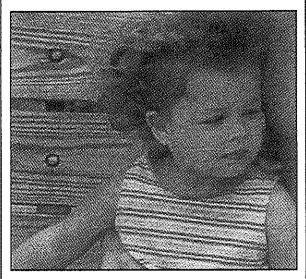
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Have A Safe and Fun Summer!

### Local bulls teatured in televised rodeo

Those who travel CR17 between the Bypass & M12 may have noticed the new ranch/farm on the West side of the road (near the Toll Road entrance). I spoke with a woman who explained that the bulls in pasture were rodeo stock.

### Barker kid of the week



I didn't receive a single kid-of-the-week photo this week, so I'm using the space (as any good grampa would) to show off my beautiful grand daughter, Morgann, who came to our house over the Fourth of July weekend to hang out on the pier (when we could get her out of the water).

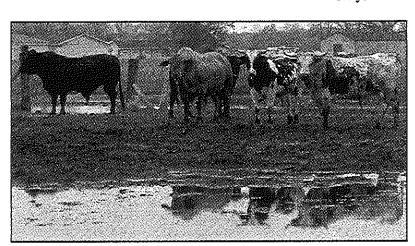
She said they now run a local series and that one of their bulls had been on the professional circuit (televised on OLN channel).

I must have been sporting a pretty dumb city-fied look. On asking if I could walk the fence line to take pictures she said "sure, but don't go in there." Duh ... not likely.

While shooting the bull(s) I was surprised that they were so interested in me, always staring right at the camera, some snorting and pawing the ground like in a cartoon.

Later it occurred I was wearing a bright red coat that day. Are bulls color blind?

-Chrys A. Lis





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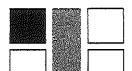
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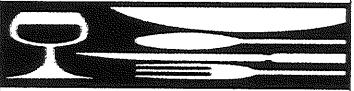


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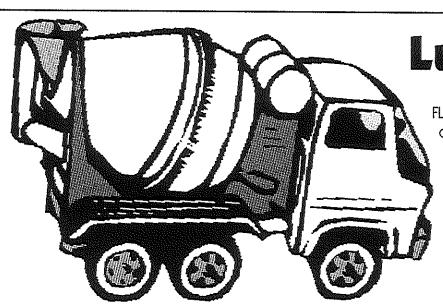
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# Birch lake Management Program - BLYC Water Quality Committee

by Gert Temple July

Birch Lake has received the Annual Summary Report for 2002 from Michigan Lake & Stream Associations, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and Michigan State University. The results are listed below:

Secchi Disk Transparency (feet)

Secchi disc depth is a measure of clarity. Water clarity often indicates a lake's overall water quality. Weekly measurements are made from mid-May through mid-September

Birch Lake maximum transparency: 31.0 feet

Birch Lake mean transparency: 20.5 feet

Oligotrophic 32 26 23 20 16

50

Chlorophyll

Total

Mesotrophic 10

Eutrophic

Hypereutronic 1.5

Chlorophyll a (ug/l)

The amount of algae in a lake can be estimated by measuring the chlorophyll a concentration in the water: used to determine the trophic status of the lake.

Birch Lake chlorophyll readings:

June May July 2

Sept. Aug. 1 <

Sample value is less than limit of quantification (1 ug/l)

Oligotrophic

<u>Mesotrophic</u>

Hypereutrophic Eutrophic

3 4 5

10 15 20 30 40 60 80 100 150

Phosphorus (ug/l)

Algae needs phosphorus to grow and reproduce. It is the key nutrient affecting the amount of algae and weed growth for Birch Lake. The total amount of phosphorus in the water is typically used to predict the level of productivity in a lake.

Birch Lake Spring Overturn: 10

Birch Lake Late Summer: 3 T

T Value reported is less than limit of quantification (5 ug/l)

<u>Mesotrophic</u>

Hyperedtrophic <u>Eutrophic</u>

<u>Oligotrophic</u>

5 7 10

40 50 60 80 100 15 20 25 30

Phosphorus

<u>Rapid Algal Assay (pilot program)</u>

The results from the 2001 CLMP Rapid Algal Assay pilot program have been reported out by the project consultant: Birch Lake is not very productive which is consistent with the excellent condition of the lake.

Temperature/Oxygen (pilot program) 2000 - 2001 Dissolved Oxygen and Temperature Profiles: Substantial supply of oxygen.

\*Note: Water Quality data dates back to 1978: available to you at the Temples. Health check-ups (above tests) began in 1999 after the septic upgrade program.

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# Birch Lake Recipes of the Week

#### Ingredients:

milk

2 cans of northern beans
2 cans garbanzo beans
1 tube zesty hot sausage
2 lbs chicken breasts cubed
1-1/2 lb brick pepper jack cheese
1/4c jalapeno pepper finely chopped
1 small red pepper finely chopped
2 c water
2 T chicken bullion
1/4 c flour
small can of corn

If you missed the chili cookoff at the yacht club this year, here's your chance to try the 1st place winner's recipe!

#### Preparation:

Fry sausage into little meatball size until done. In drippings, saute all peppers (jalapeno and red pepper) a little, then drain and put sausage and peppers in crock pot. In same frying pan, add 2 cups of water and 2 tablespoons of chicken bullion. Bring to

boil and add chicken, then cook till just done. Add flour to the bullion in the fry pan (which has been sitting, about 1/4 cup to make it thick and creamy). Cook until thickened a little, then add it to the crock pot. Add beans, com and cheese and cook 5 hours on low. If chili is too thick, add a little milk to thin.

As debbie will tell you, cooking is so much by taste ... you can reduce the amount of the pepper jack cheese and jalapeno peppers to your liking.

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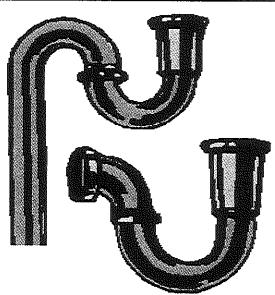
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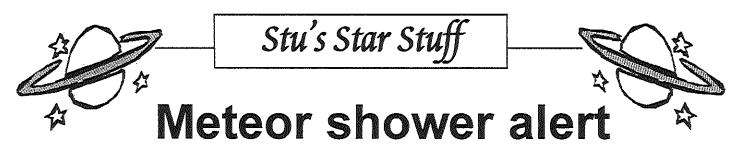
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# Delta Aquarids and Alpha Capricornids

We haven't had a good meteor shower in a while so I thought I'd schedule one for this coming week. Summer is the best season for shooting stars, and here at the lake is one of the best places to watch for them. Earth passes through the orbital paths of several comets during summer, so we're bombarded by comet dust - tiny grains that vaporize as they slam into Earth's atmosphere at great speed, creating brief streaks of light as they do so.

Meteor showers are named based on the point from which the streaks seem to radiate. This week's shower is called the Delta Aquarids because its meteors appear to "rain" into Earth's atmosphere from the direction of Delta Aquarii, a star in the constellation Aquarius. But meteors can appear in any direction, so it's best to scan the entire sky.

By watching the direction a meteor comes from, a keen observer will be able to detect whether a meteor is a straggler from the Delta Aquarid shower or one from some other shower, such as the Alpha Capricornids which we'll see around July 30.

The total number of Delta Aquarid meteors is actually greater than any other meteor shower's. But the meteor stream is spread across a wide path, so we intersect only a few meteors each day. At the shower's peak, in fact, only a couple of dozen meteor streaks are visible each hour. Outside that period, the rate is much lower.

But fortunately the peak is broad, so the display shouldn't dip below the maximum for several days. To observe, get a lawn recliner and a blanket. Find a dark spot away from some of those floodlights around the shore. Give your eyes a few minutes to adjust to the darkness, then look up. With luck, you'll see a handful of shooting stars punctuating

that summer sky. Next week, planets moving backward.

-Stewart Spratt



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## LADIES GOLF/LUNCH

Friday, August 8

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Noon Lunch (at Lindy's,
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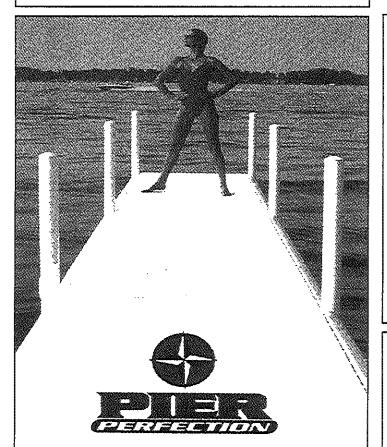
\$25 entry fee

Fee covers golf, half a cart, and lunch at Lindy's

Send check and reservation for **golf and/or lunch** to Peggy Cowen 62803 Birch Lakeview Dr. Vandalia, 49095

Reservations? Questions? New Golfer? Call Peggy at 476-2786 or Katha at 476-2642

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# Correction on Women's golf/lunch deadline

#### OOPS!!

There needs to be a correction for the Ladies Extravaganza reservation date. The correct date for reservations is Monday, Aug. 4 (not August 9 as stated in the last Barker).

Please call Peggy or Katha to make reservations for the August 8th Fun in the Sun Golf and the Luxurious Luncheon—or both!!

More door prizes are being received. We have books by Birch Lake's own nationally acclaimed author, a ceramic piece by Becky of Tom's Garage, a Birch Lake original painting by Debbie, and a one year subscription to a Sky Calendar from Michigan State donated by our star gazer among others.

(Donors, please try and get your door prizes to a committee member real soon).

Make the phone call today for your reservation. Peg Cowen, Pam Mullin, Judy Olson, Becky Wiseman.

### Thanks from the men

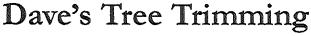
Thanks to everyone who helped out with the Men's Golf outing last week ... Though we're writing this in advance, I feel confident in saying that a good time was had by all.

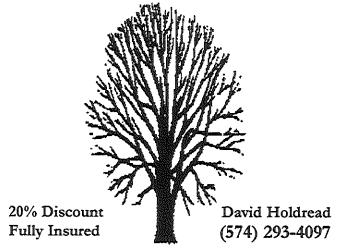
Special thanks to Patrick and Steve, to the guys who helped us get everyone check in (and their checks taken) and to the guys who put the goodies out on the course. Thanks, also to all the servers who helped us with the dinner and to the whole gang who helped clean up the mess afterwards.

Thanks to the sponsors who forked over the moola for the hole prizes and for the liquid refreshments.

And last but not least, thanks to all of the Birch Lake guys and who got a group together to come out and join us for the fun (and competition) of the 43rd annual Birch Lake Golf Outing.

-Rich & Phil





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# JUST FOR THE HEALTH OF IT

by: Ima Foodnudge

Pretty good line up for this weeks power foods -

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peas help reduce the risk of certain cancers, high cholesterol, and macular degeneration.

Fighters in them are lutein, a carotenoid, which helps prevent eye diseases such as macular degeneration and cataracts. Lysin, an essential amino acid, is vital for collagen synthesis and tissue repair.

**Peppers** — A favorite at our house. Sweet bell peppers and spicy chili peppers offer protection against heart disease, vision loss, and nasal congestion. Fighters in them red peppers are rich in betacarotene, the antioxidant that helps prevent

eye disease, certain cancers and heart disease. The capsaicin (hot

saicin (hot stuff) in chili peppers eases nasal congestion by increasing secretions in the nose and airways. Studies suggest that capsaicin may also detoxify cancer-causing compounds and encourage cancer-cell death. The hotter the chili pepper, the greater the capsaicin content so bring on the heat!

Pineapples — Long used as a folk remedy to settle intestinal upsets and relieve



constipation, this tropical fruit is also noted for its anti-inflammatory enzyme

and healing nutrients. Fighters in it, Bromelain, an anti-inflammatory enzyme, helps control tissue swelling and inflammation associated with bronchitis, cough, osteoarthri-

tis, rheumatoid arthritis, strains, and sprains. Ferulic acid helps prevent the formation of cancer-causing substances and Maganese is a bone-building mineral. Vitamin C in them enhances the immunity and wound healing, while also preventing heart disease and serious eye disorders.

Plums & Prunes — The antioxidants in plums and the dried plums we know as



prunes fight a variety of illnesses. Cancer and heart disease are thought

to be two of them. The isoluble fiber in plums and prunes helps to bulk up the stool and ease elimination. The soluble fiber helps cut cholesterol levels. Also their high levels of Potassium lowers blood pressure and reduces the risk of kidney stones and strokes.

Pumpkins — Not just a Halloween goody. Fresh or canned, they can help keep you healthy for many Octobers to come. Pumpkins offer lots

of beta carotene (only carrots and sweet potatoes have more) and are the number - one source of alpha carotene, a cancer inhibitor that's even more powerful than beta carotene. Researchers looking at the diets of more than 100,000 people found that those people who consumed the most alpha carotene had as much as 63 percent lower incidence of lung cancer. One pound of pumkin seeds offer 20 percent of your daily requirement of zinc, an important immuneboosting mineral. And studies show that a compound in

Will be fishing around for next week's power food.

pumpkin seeds may help pre-

vent benign prostate enlarge-

ment, a common problem for

men over 50.

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



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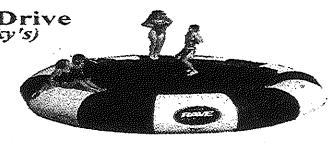


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exclusive marketing program, called Direct Lake Property Marketing. So when it's time to sell, just give us a call and we'll start reeling in the buyers!



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# Barker Classified Advertising

#### FOR SALE

1999 Ford F150 XLT Sport, White Super Cab Short Bed, V8, 4WD compact disc. am/fm stereo, running boards, bed liner & cover, keviess entry & remote start, power steering, windows, seats, & locks, custom bumper & towing pkg., excellent condition. \$12,000.00. Call 476-2383 or 574-288-4515.

FOR SALE BY OWNERS (Bud & Louise Rieth): Year-round home on Northwest side of Birch Lake (Cove). Large 2-story house, 4400 sq. ft., 3 Bedrooms, 2-I/2 Baths, Large Living Room, Family Room, Kitchen, & lots of closets. 69 feet frontage. Separate Guest House with 3-Stall Garage, 2 Bedrooms, Living Room, Kitchen, & Bath. I-I/2 acre lot. Price: \$695,000. Call Louise or Bud for appt.

LAKEFRONT HOME FOR SALE — 75' frontage, 2,500 sq ft, 3 BR, 2 BA, 2 great rooms, sunroom, laundry, floor to ceiling windows facing lake. Large deck, oversized garage, many extras. Call Dean and Phyllis Davis 476-2396.

2003 Nissan Outboard, 9.9 Hp, 4-stroke, electric start. Only 2 hours use. \$1,700; \$25 more with new battery. Can be seen at 63286 Birch Rd. (east side), or call 476-8897.

Aqua-Step, a spring-loaded heavy-duty stainless steel padded step to mount to the rear of a wave runner. Step remains in the up position (out of water) until needed, then pulls down to make an underwater step at the rear of the boat for boarding. This unit will fit all wave runners and is new with all parts and full easy installation instructions. \$35. Call Bruce Harlan 476-9714.

Small microwave oven. Perfect for the lake. \$20. Large microwave oven. Perfect for the take. \$45 OBO on either. Call Stewart Spratt at 476-2113.

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-

FOR SALE: DYNASTY SKI BOAT 17' I/O with OMC Cobra 175 HP engine. Original owner and in very good condition with Trailmaster color coordinated trailer. Includes Shoremaster boat lift with electric hoist and new canopy. \$6500 for complete combination. Call Kruggel's (269)476-2169

Starcraft speedboat with ski pole, Johnson 100 hp motor, and trailer. Also, an aluminum swim raft, older Sunfish sailboat, and a vintage pontoon with a 9.9 Mercury motor. Call Harold or Charlene at 476-

For Sale: Fiberglass sailboat with trailer. 2 Main Sails. Length: 16'. Mast: Wood Call: 574-273-5367 after 5 pm.

Selling quality WATKINS products -- Tried and true Medicinals. World's best vanilla and Spices Heritage products and more for the Pantry Medicine chest and beyond. See Becky at Tom's Garage or call at 476-2272 or at home evening 476-1062

#### WANTED TO BUY

Wanted to buy: 1 pair water skis. Willing to pay cash or trade for microwave. Stewart Spratt 476-

Looking for used wakeboard preferably a beginners board, with bindings included. (574) 272-3683

We are looking for a recreational (ski) boat. If you are thinking of upgrading or selling your boat, contact the Carmen Soldato Family

#### WANTED

Wanted: 16+ foot Jon Boat needed for Porter Twp

Fire Dept. Lake Rescue Squad. Contact Mike Holdeman at chief@ptfd.org.

#### RENTALS

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

North Shore cottage for rent, available through September. Sleeps six. \$850 per week. Contact Fred Freihofer at (574) 272-3683 or send e-mail to ffreihofer@aol.com.

#### MISC.

FREE - Beautiful kittens, FREE to good homes only. These kittens have been held and fed formula by 2 adults since they were 3 weeks old. They love people and like attention. They are litter trained and eat kitten food now. Please call 476-2604.

FREE — four empty plastic barrels; ideal for swim raft. Come get 'em at the Bad-Patty and Good-Bill Luecht house, east side.

#### **SERVICES**

Housedeaning: 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 sea-

Babysitting: Call Shanna on the south side of Birch Lake at (269)501-9379.

Babysitting: Please call Amanda Lacy at 476-2102.

#### LOST

Dropped ski — blue, red and black, HO Xtra JC 59 lost along the east shore. Please call Scott Troeger at 476-9898.

Lost: during storm of July 5: swim fins with colors blue and black. If found, please call 476-2526.

