

Birch Barker

Weekend of September 4, 2004



These Birch Lake girls are the best of friends. From left are Claire Brovold, Amanda Butler and MacKenzie Dobosiewicz.

photo provided by Camille Athanas-Butler

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Where has the summer gone? What a sad thought. So many of our lake friends will go home for the cold months, and the die hard Lakers are here to stay! Get the firewood ready, honey, its going to be a cold winter.

My wife got the camping stuff ready and I packed the van, picked up the boys from school and off to woods we went. We took the boys down to Twin Mills Campground in Howe, IN. I tried to drop them off at the Military School but Randy turned the wheel so I could NOT turn in! We set up camp so when Nyla got out of work all she had to do was RELAX. Relax in the woods when we live on the BEAUTIFUL Birch Lake. Oh well, we had quiet time as they were busy until they got hungry and came back to the site for food.

Ryan and his lovely wife Shanna, and my lovely wife Nyla and I are busy getting the calendar ready for next year.

Looks to be a busy summer. We are trying to find out when the High Schools are having their graduations. If you can help with that and let us know ASAP so we can finalize it very soon. Nyla can check schools in the area around here, if you can help with the Indiana schools. The girls (wives) are planning several things for the kids to do and NOT just little ones. We want the teenagers involved too!

One thing that is happening this weekend that should be fun is the Great Labor Day Sandbar Stand. Bring your boat, your neighbors boat or one you find with keys in it, down in front of our house, drop the prop (after you turn off the boat), throw out an anchor ... and SOCIALIZE with the neighbors of Birch Lake. Bring you drink of choice, and munchies to share. We should have a great time, with many memories and laughs being shared. If the weather does not hold out on Saturday we will try it on Sunday or Monday. Nyla said the parking attendant could have the weekend off, just bring your boat over and park it!

I do want to take a minute and say a HUGE THANK YOU to the publisher of

BLYC Calendar

- Sept. 4 - Final Barker of the Season
- Sept. 5 - The Great Birch Lake Sandbar Stand - Noon
- Sept. 25 - Hayride & Bonfire, 6:30 pm
- Oct. 1- First online Barker of the year.

See the 2005 tentative schedule inside today's Barker.

the Barker. Phil. Thank you for your Time and Perfection on every Barker you do for us! Without you and all your work we would NOT have this paper. I know everyone looks forward to reading it every Saturday.

If any one has an address correction for the phone directory please get them to us as soon as possible so we are sure to get your post card of events.

In closing, I would like to tell all of you to have a safe and wonderful winter. We will see you in the spring and also online. Splish Splashing away

-John Erhardt
Commodore 2005

This is the last printed Birch Barker of the Season

We are always soliciting and accepting materials for future publication. Just e-mail the info to me at sailorphil@philvitale.com, or, if you must, put the materials in the red Barker box at 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore), mail to Phil Vitale, 120 So. Broadway, Cassopolis, MI 49031, or fax your items to (269) 445-9200. To contact me by phone, call 476-1680 or (269) 445-9200.

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

Birch Lake Notes

Yard Sale

Tom's Garage will host a Yard Sale on Saturday, Sept. 4 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Hay ride/bonfire

A HAY RIDE & BONFIRE has been planned for Saturday Sept. 25th at 6:30 p.m. We will begin at the Erhardt's, 15214 Birch Lakeshore Dr. (south side).

Bring your own lawn chair and cooler for the Bonfire. Bring your tent if you want to Camp out for the night.

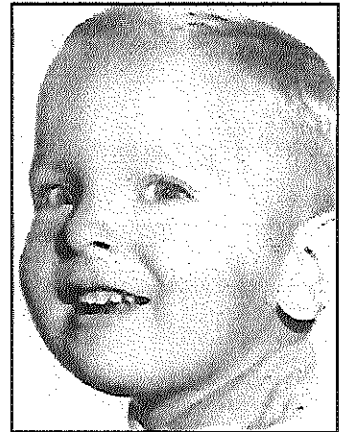
-John & Nyla

Can you guess who this 3 year-old is?

The photo was taken in 1957; so, contrary to rumors the Editor has spread, he will be 50 on Monday. Since I'm his Mom, I can testify that I

labored on Labor Day 50 years ago and it has been told that his Dad with Dr. Reed in the hospital hall when he came out to say, "It's a boy!" You see, we already had our sweet little 2 year — old daughter so our family was complete. We bought our cottage the year this photo was taken so he has spent 47 years at Birch Lake.

-Le King



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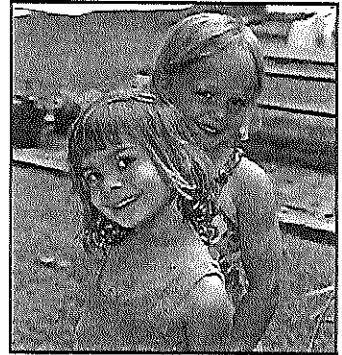
Birch Lake Notes

Tentative 2005 Schedule for BLYC

May 7.....Road Clean up
 May 14.....Spring Dinner
 June 11.....Commodore Party
 June 25.....Vice Commodore Party
 July 2.....Boat Parade
 Fire Works
 July 3.....Fireworks Cleanup or
 Fireworks Rain Date
 Pancake Breakfast

July 27.....Women's Tea
 July 29.....Men's Golf Outing
 July 30.....Garage Sale
 Aug 5.....Ladies Golf Outing
 Aug 6.....Corn & Sausage Roast
 Aug 20.....Fall Dinner

We have several other ideas to add to this, we just wanted to give everyone an idea as to what was going on next summer.



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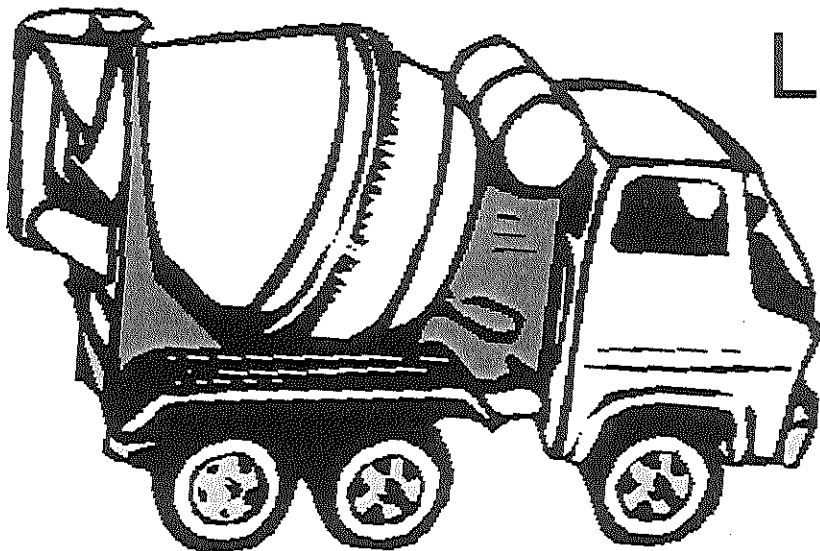
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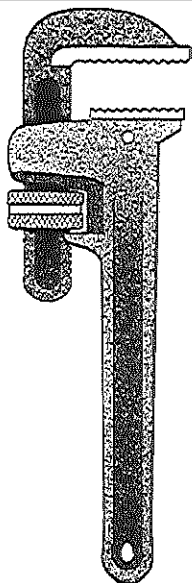
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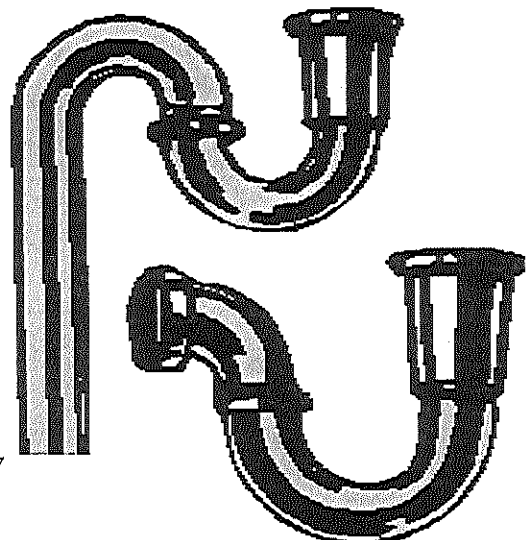
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Bernie & Helen's new address

To contact Bernie & Helen Weesner, send mail to:

Bernie & Helen Weesner
 Au Sable Valley Community
 PO Box 9
 Fairview, MI 48621-0009
 or phone: (989) 848-2737.

The sale will go on!

Even though our summer is soon leaving us, there is still Birch Lake merchandise available for sale. These items are not just for the summer at Birch Lake, here are just a few thoughts:

Kids that have gone off to school — send them a little of Birch Lake with a Fleece Blanket

Need a gift idea for the holidays — think about Bib Aprons

Fall and Winter parties — take your host a Canvas-Tote

Know someone who fell in love with Birch Lake, what better way to give them a small token than a Sun Visor at a special sale price of \$2.

You get the idea. Remember, these items are available all year round, and we hope you will find one of the following will fit your needs when you are looking for something special and unique.

Here are the items for sale:

■ **Sun Visors**, foam with a coil back in royal blue, imprinted in white, selling at

Wedding Bells at Quinlans' Again

Once again, wedding bells are ringing at the Quinlan's. Their son Chris was married to Sarah Panter in Rochester Hills, MI on August 7th.

The newlyweds are living in Chicago. Chris works at Accenture and Sarah works at the Chicago Botanical Gardens.

Congratulations to Chris and Sarah and to their parents Steve & Vickie of the West side for surviving this busy summer.



special sale price of \$2.

■ **Canvas Totes**, navy blue in color imprinted in white, selling at \$12.

■ **Bib Aprons**, navy blue in color also imprinted in white, selling at \$15

■ **Fleece Blankets**, navy blue with a sailboat in color circled by a gold rope and birch lake text, all embroidered in the

lower right; Just \$30.

Call any of the following committee people: Denny Weesner 476-2569; Maryann O'Neil 476-2831; Judy Olson 476-2125; Linda Bergan 476-3959; Vickie Rogers 476-2383.

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Dan Reynolds

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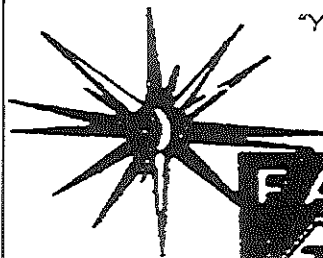


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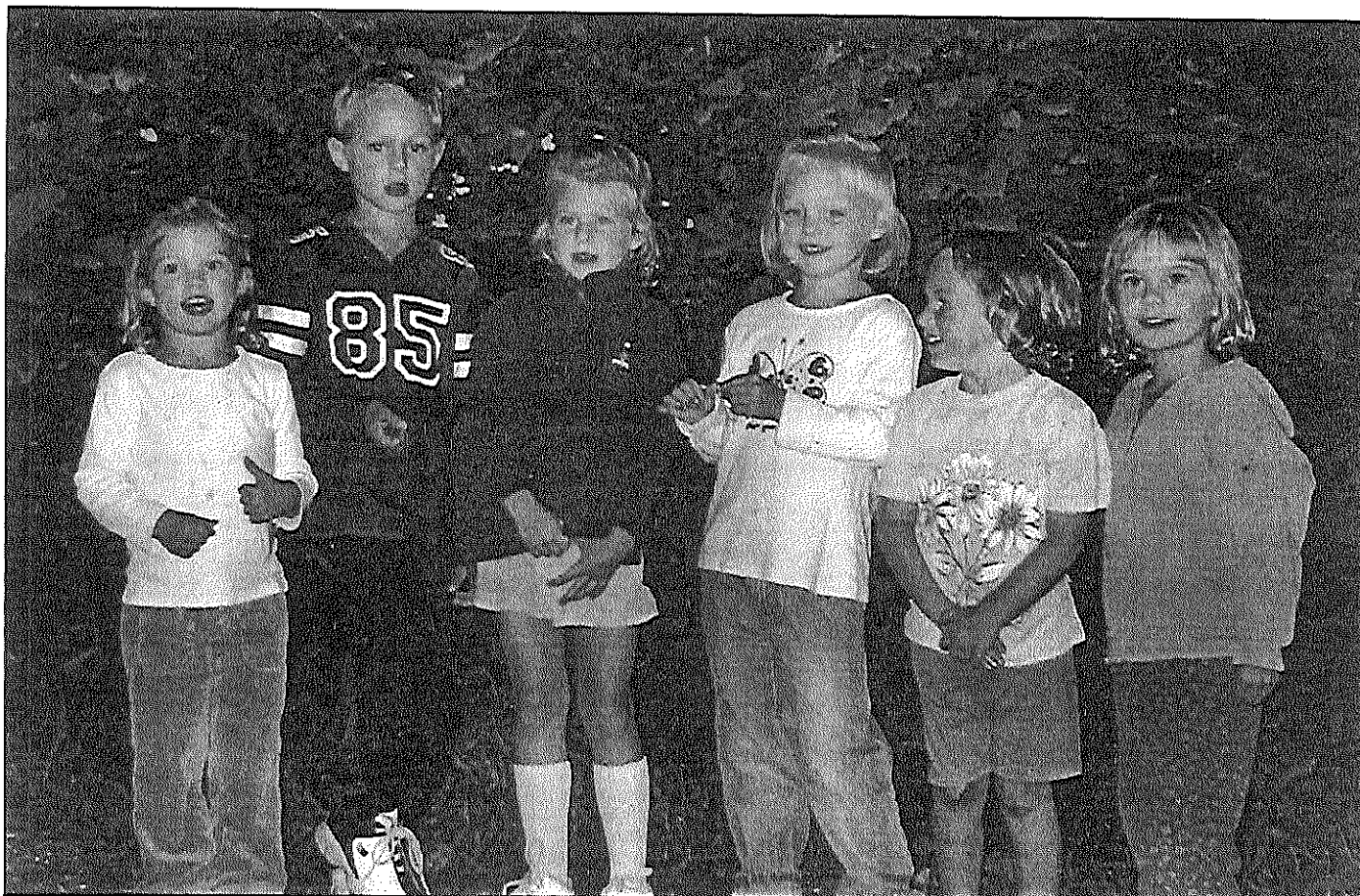


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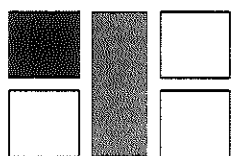
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Birch Lake Notes



A group of friends stopped for a photo while taking a cool summer-night's walk. From left to right are Julia Zack and Jacquelyn Poe (great grandchildren of Dorothy Parnell, visiting from St. Charles, ILL), and three lake girls, MacKenzie Dobosiewicz, Amanda Butler and Claire Brovold.



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

-Ben and Vanessa Wozniak

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HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

The 2004 officers of the homeowners Association are Scott Troeger, Jim Bolinger, Don Harman, Bill King and Rick Russwurm. There are dozens of members of the homeowners Association; contact any officer for more information. Homeowners Association meetings are publicized in the Barker and open to members and prospective members.



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BLYC Sailing News

Sailors

Last Sunday's wind would best be described as brisk, and the temperature was brisker, or more brisk, whichever is the proper English. The skies remained very overcast but rainless allowing us to complete our last three races of the season.

The cumulative average for the season determines each racers season place finish. Racers needed to complete 2/3rds of the races, which this year means 19 out of the 29 races run this season.

This weekend's Labor Day Regatta will be Saturday and Sunday

at 11 a.m. with a 1 p.m. alternate time for weather problems. An award ceremony will be 11 a.m. on Monday at the Yacht Club. See ya then.

Now, here's what happened on Sunday, August 29:

-Jim Bolinger, Fleet Captain 2004

Results from last week & final results

Sailor	# Races	class	1st race	2nd race	3rd race	day's total	cumulative	average	place
Scott Troeger	25	MC	1st	1st	2nd	4721	38803	1552	1st
Harold Cranmer	28	MC	4th	5th	7th	3821	40137	1433	2nd
Don Harman	28	MC	3rd	2nd	5th	4261	40103	1432	3rd
Rick Harman	21	MC	5th	3rd	4th	4109	29646	1412	4th
Phil Vitale	28	MC	6th	6th	1st	4050	37602	1343	5th
Jim Bolinger	29	MC	2nd	4th	3rd	4334	38832	1339	6th
Bill Luecht	23	MC	7th	7th	6th	3537	27598	1200	7th
Greg Peyer	4	MC	DNS	DNS	DNS	0	4735	1184	*
Bruce Harlan	2	MC	DNS	DNS	DNS	0	2470	1235	*
David Troeger	4	MC	DNS	DNS	DNS	0	6047	1512	*
Tom Howard	19	Sun A	1st	1st	1st	4800	34955	1589	1st
Dave Olson	26	Sun A	3rd	2nd	3rd	4409	39614	1524	2nd
Erica Vitale	21	Sun A	2nd	3rd	2nd	4486	30570	1456	3rd
Rick Russwurm	15	Sun A	DNS	DNS	DNS	0	22549	1503	*
Bob King	2	Sun A	DNS	DNS	DNS	0	3220	1610	*
Caleb Walker	21	Sun B	DNS	DNS	DNS	0	32808	1562	1st
Sandy Vitale	24	Sun B	1st	1st	1st	4800	37450	1560	2nd
Steve Richards	21	Sun B	2nd	2nd	2nd	4563	30638	1459	3rd
Amy Troeger	10	Sun B	DNS	DNS	DNS	2843	14712	1471	*
Chad Plaia	3	Sun B	DNS	DNS	DNS	0	4187	1367	*
Marty Asire	6	Sun B	DNS	DNS	DNS	4830	9425	1571	*

* Has not sailed in the required percentage of races

Signed up for Online Barker?

If you've never seen it, you don't know what you're missing! The Online Barker is a monthly e-mail newsletter that I send out to lakers, visitors and friends who want to keep up with the off-season

activities of Birch Lake.

The Online Barker is sent during the months that the printed Birch Barker is not being printed ... starting in October and running through the first week of May. You can

get a sneak preview (or is that a rear-view?) and check out the last one from the spring by visiting the web site www.philvitale.com/barker.

I always keep the most current month there in case

there's a problem with the e-mail system.

If you haven't signed up, subscribe at the web site (you can also unsubscribe anytime you want), or just e-mail me at sailorphil@philvitale.com.

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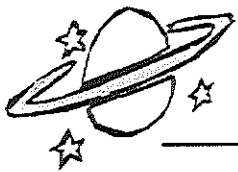
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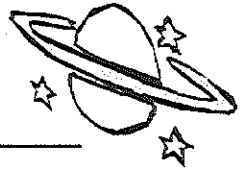
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Stu's Star Stuff



The third-largest planet ...

Pegasus, the flying horse, soars high overhead on these summer evenings. It's in view in the east and northeast by the time the sky gets good and dark. Look for the four stars that form the Great Square of Pegasus. As Pegasus rises, the square is tilted, so it looks more like a diamond than a square.

When Perseus lopped off the head of Medusa -- a scary creature whose hair was a tangle of snakes -- a few drops of blood fell into the sea. The blood mixed with foam, and the god Poseidon commanded this brew to give birth to Pegasus, a white horse with a golden mane -- and wings.

Today, Pegasus flies among the stars. He spreads his wings across the eastern sky this evening, and

soars high overhead during the night.

In some mythologies, Pegasus had a little brother, named Celeris. This horse is in the stars, too. It's a bit above and to the right of Pegasus, as the constellation Equuleus, the colt. Unlike Pegasus, though, Equuleus is tiny and faint, with little to see.

In the original myth, the only connection between Perseus and Pegasus was the horse's birth. But artists and writers have long drawn a stronger link between the two. In the modified version of the story, Pegasus carried Perseus to rescue his sweetheart from a monster. Their teamwork is depicted in everything from Shakespeare to Disney cartoons.

Pegasus is well up in the east in early evening.

Look for a large square of four bright stars -- the "Great Square of Pegasus." The stars that represent the head and forelegs stretch up and to the right of the square. Tiny Equuleus occupies a dark region of the sky just to the right of the bright star that marks the nose of Pegasus.

There are all manner of creatures and characters performing in the show. The all have colorful and interesting stories. And they perform for free.

Have a great winter.
See you next year.

-Stu Spratt

The moon for September 4, 2004 (at Midnight): Illuminated Fraction: 0.750; 2.6 days before last quarter

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Off the page

by *Marian* (the librarian)

Our final Birch Barker for the summer of 2004. Thanks to our editor who always does a great job. The response to this column has been positive but instead of writing about four or five titles for a different genre each week I would like to reformat it next year and write about one book that is suggested by you, the Birch Barker readers. So over the winter months write down what good book you would like to suggest and we will highlight it during the summer of 2005. As always you can send your suggestions to sailorphil@vital.com This summer many of you were shy about telling us what you were reading but a few people have passed along the titles for this week's column.

Ø Peace Like a River (Enger) Loretta Drolet, from the Cove, wrote and suggested this book. She really enjoyed it and thought it was well written, so did many reviewers. Enger tells the story of eleven-year-old asthmatic boy who has reason to believe in miracles. Along with his sister and father, he finds himself on a cross-country search for his outlaw older brother who has been controversially charged with murder. Their journey is touched by serendipity and the kindness of strangers, and its remarkable conclusion shows how family, love, and faith can stand up to the most terrifying of enemies, the most

tragic of fates.

Ø One Thousand White Women (Fergus) Carol Friehofer from the North Shore suggests this title. She liked it so much she brought it to her mother-daughter family reunion for everyone to enjoy. This book is about May Dodd and a colorful assembly of pioneer women who, under the auspices of the U.S. government, travel to the western prairies in 1875 to intermarry among the Cheyenne Indians. The covert and controversial "Brides for Indians" program, launched by the administration of Ulysses S. Grant, is intended to help assimilate the Indians into the white man's world.

Ø The Devil in the White City (Larson) Judy Davis, living on the East side, has been talking about this book all summer long. She liked it so much that she went to her local library and checked out more books on the Chicago World's Fair. This book writes of the parallel lives of two men: the architect, Daniel Hudson Burnham, the fair's brilliant director of works and the murderer, Henry H. Holmes, a young doctor who built his "World's Fair Hotel" just west of the fairgrounds where he uses the attraction of the great fair and his own satanic charms to lure scores of young women to their deaths. What makes the story all the more chilling is that Holmes really lived. Larson included other real-life characters, including Buffalo Bill, Theodore Dreiser, Susan B. Anthony, Thomas Edison, Archduke Francis Ferdinand, and others to make this book even more appealing.

Thanks to everyone, *Marian*

A supplement to the Librarian column ...

WRITTEN BY BLUE STARR

As a toddler my reading skills are, shall we say, minimal. (Don't ask about my writing or spelling skills displayed here!) As such my sibling and I enjoy books read to us by our loving mother.

Our top choices are:

I. -Oh The Places You Will Go

-Put Me In The Zoo How Do You Go

-Wish For A Fish Wrong With

-Cat In The Hat Dr. Seuss stories!

-Yertle The Turtle And Other Stories

II. -Don't get me started on Thomas and the Magic Railroad books all based on the railway series by Rev. W. Awdry. (I could have spent Ms. Marfan's entire budget on these.)

III. -The Puzzled Penguin Pop-up books, by Faulkner
-The Giraffe Who Cock-A-Doodle-Do'd. Illustrated by Lambert

IV. -Winnie - the - Pooh By A.A. Milne and illustrated by E. H. Shepard

V. - We Got My Brother at the Zoo By Hassett

VI. -If it's Curious George it's

all right by us. H. A. Rey ... you rock!

When we get older, mom promises to read:

-All of Shel Silverstein's books

-Wind in the Willows

-K. Graham's The Reluctant Dragon

-Ogden Nash's Custard the Dragon series

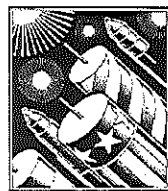
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Birch Lake Biographies

by Jules Vernon

BUD ZESINGER #E170

Bud graduated from Riley High School in South Bend, and graduated cum laude from Notre Dame where he received a B.A. in Liberal Arts. He golfed on the varsity golf team for 3 years.

He married Barb and

had three children, named Bud, Cindy, and Bradley. They have six grandchildren. Bud retired from Stone Container where he worked for 33 years.

Bud has won over 100 golf tournaments in the northern Indiana and southern Michigan area, including 3 South Bend district tournaments. He is very passionate about

his golfing, and has passed on his expertise and love for the game to his children.

Bud's Dad worked with a man at Studebaker who was building a cottage on the south shore as a surprise for his wife, but after seeing how rough and remote the location was, she refused the idea. Bud's folks came and

looked , and bought the 120' lake frontage and the cottage in 1941 for \$2500. Bud and his sister, June Carol, summered there for many summers with their folks.

Bud and Barb rented several places on the lake before purchasing the Weldy cottage on the

Continued on next page

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Birch Bios

Continued from previous page

north shore in 1973. They traded homes with Chuck Fortino in 1985, and after extensive remodeling, have lived here all year round since 1989.

Bud has many favorite memories of his life here on Birch, but the most meaningful memories are watching his children and grandchildren grow to love and enjoy the lake as he does. The Zesingers are treasured friends, and are very

special.

KEVIN BERNACIAK #E157

Kevin graduated high school from Mount Carmel in Chicago. He has been a Chicago firefighter for 24 years, and was promoted to Captain in 2004.

Kevin and Cindy have one son named Kyle, and they get to the lake whenever his schedule permits to find peace and quiet. He enjoyed coaching his son's Little League team from April to June this year.

Kevin and Cindy also work the

concession stand.

Kevin's grandparents and parents used to frequent Lazy Lodge for many summers until they bought #E157 in 1959. Kevin's parents and sisters have enjoyed many good times here over the years. Kevin likes to fish, water ski, barefoot ski, and swim at Birch Lake. He is a great barefoot skier!!

His favorite memories at Birch are the summer gatherings with family members over the years. Kevin is a good friend who is fun to be with!



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kitchen & lots of closets. Separate Guest house with 2 bedrooms, living room, kitchen & bath and three-car garage. County Road w/year-round maintenance. Many extras. \$695,000. Call Reiths 476-2174

For Sale - 1988 Sylan 20' Pontoon Boat w/35 hp Evinrude w/tilt, good condition, new top. \$3,500. 476-8897

For Sale - Sunfish sailboat and lift \$500; 1993 Yamaha Waverunner III and lift \$2,500; 476-2642

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For Rent — Self-Storage units along with RV & Boat Storage. Williamsville location. Call David or Margaret Bouwkamp @ 476-1001

For Rent — Birch Lake North Shore \$850 wk. Multiple weeks discount. No pets. Sleeps 6. Nice pier/swim raft. Boat lift available. Call 574-272-3683 or 269-476-9823.

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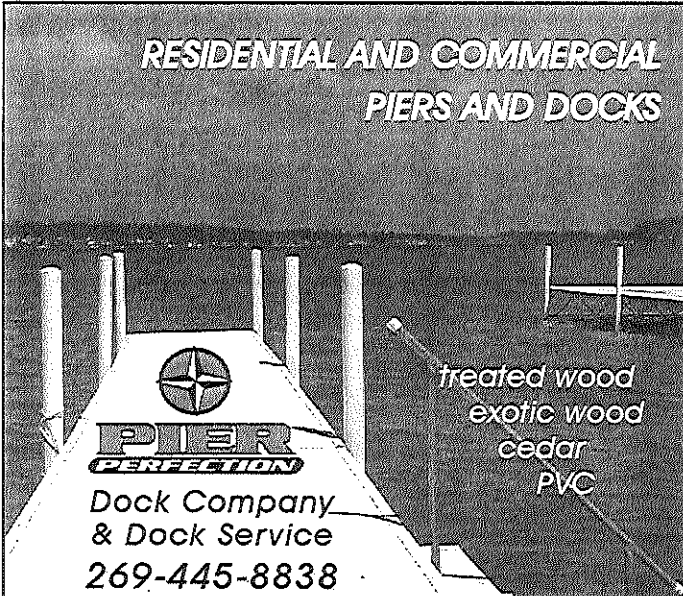
Found: Blue hooded sweatshirt at pancake breakfast. **LONGBALL** in red letters on front. Contact Stewart Spratt at 476.2113 or 574.291.3227.

Lost: White windbreaker at yacht club. Contact Carol Freihofer at 564.272.3683 or 476.9823.

MISC.

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