

Birch Barker

The official publication of the Birch Lake Yacht Club

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Weekend of July 7, 2007



Commodore's Comments

What a glorious weekend. The weather was perfect and our Fourth of July activities were spectacular. There are so many people to thank for their time and efforts. I received so many compliments on our fireworks. I thought the show was outstanding and our friends were very impressed. Thanks to Jim Bolinger who set the whole thing up and made sure things were all in place for our enjoyment and safety. Also thanks to Amber and the Camp for their cooperation; campers and staff had to be moved during the show.

I loved our boat parade. Judy Olson really did a great job getting everything together and overseeing the entire process. The Grand Marshalls, Gertie and Bob Temple, were an excellent choice and deserved the honor. I thought each entry was so creative. Thanks to everyone who took the time to decorate and be in the parade. I love watching the parade but was glad I didn't have to be a judge. I was thrilled we had four judges that took their job so seriously. Carol and Fred Freihofer, Celia and Paul Fallon were really decked out for the occasion. I

heard there was some bribery going on but I think they still have to keep their day jobs.

Being a night person Sunday morning did come early for me but as I walked towards the dining hall the delicious smell of pancakes and sausage got me going. Don and Lind Harman outdid themselves once again. They fed over 500 people this year! The line to get pancakes went quickly as the "Breakfast Crew" worked like the well oiled machine they have become. Thanks to everyone for their hard work and to all of the diners for coming out to enjoy a great breakfast and support our camp.

Fred Freihofer did double duty on Saturday. He spent over an hour talking to our visiting fishermen about our Eurasian Milfoil and asking for their assistance by keeping out of the roped off areas and telling them how to stop the spread of this and other invasive species. He reported that everyone was very cooperative and agreed to spread the word. We hope this will stop some of the boats from going through the buoys that have been set up. Donations for our Invasive Species budget have been coming in steadily. It is so awesome to see everyone step up and join together to fight our

photo courtesy of Blair Garceau
immediate problem and any invasive species we may have in the future. The sense of community is very overwhelming. If you still want to donate please call me or any board member.

As I talk to so many of you on the lake most have said that it's hard to believe our Fourth of July weekend is past. The celebration represents the middle of the summer to many of us. Looking at our calendar in the weeks ahead it also feels as if we are just getting started. This Saturday there will be three board meetings: the BLYC, the Homeowners, and a special meeting to vote about adopting an amendment into our Articles of Incorporation (limiting the liability of our volunteer officers and board members). Other upcoming activities include: A Murder Party, A Spaghetti Dinner, Golf Outings for Men and Women (with a combined luncheon for the Ladies), Corn and Sausage Roast and the Fall Dinner. I know this Barker and future Barkers will give all of the details for each of these events. I hope you join us for all of the fun.

It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood.

-Blair Garceau
Commodore 2007

We are always soliciting and accepting materials for publication. E-mail the info to sailorphil@philvital.com, or, if you must, put the materials in the red Barker box at 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore). You can also mail your items to: Phil Vitale, 102 So. Broadway, Cassopolis, MI 49031, or fax to (269) 445-9200. To contact me by phone, call (269) 476-1680 or (269) 445-9200.

— Birch Lake Notes —

Thanks from the Harmans

Don and I would like to thank everyone for attending the Pancake Breakfast. What great support for Camp Tannadoonah! We had a very good turn out, plus 25 campers and counselors joined us for breakfast.

A big THANK-YOU goes out to all that helped make the day great. Jim & Deb Bolinger, Mike & Katha Machalleck, Dick & Peggy Cowen, Paul & Celia Fallon, Dave & Judy Olson, Marty & Doris Sante, Patty Luecht, Lynn Thompson, Tom Rogers, Terry Kerns and Blair Garceau. A special thanks to Paul and Celia Fallon for supplying the plates & Miss Peggy (Camp Tannadoonah) for all her help.

Again thanks,

-Don and Lind Harman

Garage Sale

Charlene Sheetz has been our Garage Sale organizer for the past few years. Her husband, Harold, slipped and broke his ankle early in June so they have not been able to return to the lake yet. If anyone is interested in taking over for her this year and organize the Annual Garage Sale at the end of the month please call Blair at 9862 to discuss the details.

Milfoil eradication donations

The Birch Lake Yacht Club Board of Directors would like to thank **Artie**

McElwee for his generous donation to the Eurasian Milfoil/Invasive Species fund.

Another incredible and very generous donation was given by **Denny and Judy Leatherman** in honor of Denny's father and mother, Dale and Phyllis. Dale was a very avid fisherman here on Birch Lake.

The BLYC Board of Directors is still soliciting donations to eradicate the Milfoil. Contact any Board member or officer.

Adieu from Maryann

By the time you read this article I will be a resident of St. John, IN but my heart and fond memories will always be of Birch Lake. Bill and I found Birch Lake in 1985 as our weekend retreat. We moved up here as permanent residents in 1999.

I have so many dear friends and neighbors here but since Bill died in 2005 I knew the time would come when I would need to make the move to be closer to my daughter. It will only take seven minutes from my driveway in St. John to Erin's in Dyer, IN.

I feel very grateful as I leave to know that the new resident of my house will be Amber and Chas Grundy, who also love the lake. I'm grateful too for the beautiful display of fireworks on June 30th that I know were for the 4th but I felt were meant as a great send off for me.

I will be visiting my son Mike many

Tentative BLYC Calendar

July 7	Board Meeting 9 AM
July 7	Homeowner's Assn Meeting 10 AM
July 7	Vote on amending Articles 11 AM
July 11	Chicago trip/Wicked
July 21	Spaghetti Dinner
July 27	Men's Golf Outing
July 28	Garage Sale
Aug. 3	Women's Golf Outing & Luncheon
Aug. 4	Board Meeting 9 AM
Aug. 4	Corn and Sausage Roast
Aug. 11	House Walk
Aug. 18	Fall Dinner
Sept. 1	Board Meeting 9 AM
Sept. 3	Sailing Awards

times, who lives in Elkhart, and I have been promised a number of bed and breakfasts up here by dear friends. So as the Gov. of CA said in one of his movies, "I'll be back!"

St. John, IN is just over the Illinois border and if you need a free motel room for the night, after a visit to Chicago, please give me a call.

Thanks again and good-bye for now dear friends and neighbors,

-Maryann O'Neill
8220 Meadow Ct.
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We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer at Birch Lake!

-Ben and Vanessa Wozniak

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*And he probably won't remember your name
until you've know him for years ... but, hey
He wants everyone here to...*

'Have A Safe and Fun Summer!'

— Birch Lake Notes —

Beware of thieves!

At least two Birch Lake boats — one on the south and one on the north side — were robbed in the recent past.

The thief(s) seemed very efficient. On the north side they unsnapped one side of the cover, got in and took what they wanted then left. It was not possible to tell that they were there until the boat was uncovered. They stole 3 skis and pulled the CD player out of a ski-boat, damaging the dash. They also took the fuel tank and the anchor from a fishing boat. In the south side theft, they took an in-dash stereo from a powerboat.

If you have any information contact the Cass County Sheriff's Department at 445-8644.

Harry Potter movie

I am taking a group to see the Harry Potter 5 movie on Thursday, July 19th, at the Navy Pier IMAX theatre. I have 3 extra tickets (as I write this). We will be going on the South Shore and spending the day. If you are interested please call me at 9862.

-Blair Garceau

Birch Lake Directory done

Directories are here! Thanks to Phil Vitale for putting together such a splendid book. It took a lot of time and patience. Thanks to Bob King for getting all of the advertising for the directory, a time-con-

Birch Barker Kids (No. 1) of the Week



Identical twins Luke and Aidan Eichorst sharing snacks while visiting Nana & Papa at Birch Lake. The boys are sons of Chris and Adina Eichorst of Sun Prairie, WI.

suming job. Please support these businesses and tell them where you saw their ad. Thanks again to everyone who collected the information, without your efforts

we wouldn't have a new directory. If you are a member of Birch Lake Yacht Club and did not receive your free directory please call Blair (9862). If you would

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— Birch Lake Notes —

like a copy or need additional copies (\$5) please call the same number. Any inaccuracies in the directory should be emailed to bgarceau@aol.com. Please put "BL director" in the subject box.

Homeowners Meeting

The annual meeting of the Birch Lake Yacht Club's Homeowners Association will be this Saturday, July 7, at 10:15 am at the club. Porter Township Trustee Dan Harvey will be the guest speaker. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Spaghetti Dinner

Hold this date open, July 21st; we will again be cooking up a pasta feast at the Birch Lake Yacht Club. Proceeds from last year's dinner were used to purchase the remaining tables needed for the Yacht Club. This year, all funds will go to support the treatment needed for Eurasian Milfoil Eradication.

Tickets this year will be the same price, \$7; children 10 and under \$5, children 3 and under are free. We will be serving from 6 to 8pm, our spaghetti dinner will include meatballs, salad, bread sticks, soft drinks, ice tea, lemonade, and desserts. If you wish you may want to bring your favorite beverage for your dinner. Carryouts will again be offered.

We will be coming around the

Birch Barker Kids (No. 2) of the Week

Ronda Eshleman sent in this photo of her husband Gary (Gus) and pal Artie McElwee and asked for Kid-of-the-Week honors since Artie's birthday is this week. Not the youngest we've ever featured — and certainly not the most "fashion model" pose to be sure, but nonetheless, Happy Birthday Artie!



lake selling tickets door to door, or you may contact us for tickets. All tickets are pre-sold before the dinner.

This evening is a great way to see lake neighbors, guest, and enjoy a family style dinner.

Tom & Vickie Rogers 476-2383

Linda & Jim Bergan 476-9359

Howard & Beth Blackwood 476-2840

and the Ladies Golf Outing at Four Lakes Country Club (August 3rd) There is plenty of room, good food and lots of fun. Please do not think that you have to play golf to enjoy the afternoon with your fellow "Birch Lakers." Just come!! For lunch reservations, call Denny Weesner at 476-2569.

-Denny Weesner

Ladies Lunch

Well, everything that was old is still not new enough yet. We have decided **not** to have the luncheon at Hickory Inn this year. Instead, we will combine the Ladies Luncheon

Yoga Class

The next yoga class at the Vandalia Youth Center will be July 10 at 6pm. All are welcome. \$10 per session.

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— Birch Lake Notes —

Ladies Golf Outing

Ladies Golf and Ladies

Luncheon: Once again the Birch Lake Ladies will gather for a fun filled day of golf, lunch and a lot of fun. Whether you're a pro or a duffer everyone is welcome. The cost for golf, cart, lunch and prizes is \$40. Please call Linda Bergan (9359), Vickie Rogers (2383), Ilene Golden (9635) or Blair Garceau (9862) to sign up your foursome or if you want to be placed with a team. The deadline for signing up is JULY 21st.

Any non-golfing Birch Lake Lady and their friends are welcome to join us for a delicious luncheon following the golf. We will be dining once again at the Four Lakes Country Club. Lunch will start at 12:30 and the cost for just the lunch (and favors) is \$15. We will not be able to accommodate walk-ins so please call Linda, Vickie, Ilene or Blair by July 21st to reserve your spot today.

Looking for Donations

This years Birch Lake Ladies Golf and Luncheon committee are looking for donations for door prizes and baskets to raffle. This year we would like to have each team donate a basket to raffle. This was such a success last year, and just a few basket themes were; Chocolate Lovers,

Christmas, Garden Plants, Pamper Yourself, they were all sizes.

In the way of door prizes, we would appreciate anything.

This yearly outing for golf and luncheon is great fun. Call Vickie Rogers at 476-2383 with any questions on donations for our August 3rd outing.

-Golf Committee: Blair Garceau, Linda Bergan, Ilene Golden, Vickie Rogers

Line Dancing

Don't forget Line Dancing at the Yacht Club Tues. 9 am. Everyone welcome.

Murder

We have two teams signed up for the 1950 Rock N Roll Murder Party. The crime will take place on July 14th, starting at 7:30 pm, in the Yacht Club. The game is set up around having eight people "role-playing" their character. Any one of the eight could be the murderer! You can dress the part, or not. Even the most reluctant people have gone away saying what fun they had. I'd like to get as many 8-member teams as possible. If you and 7 of your favorite people want to join in the fun please call or email me before Friday, July 13th. (476-9862 or

Birch Barker Kid (No. 3) of the Week



Macey Gableman, daughter of Ryan and Shana Gableman (hill) is yet another Birch Barker Kid of the Week ... just because she's so adorable! Welcome to Birch Lake Macey.

bgarceau@aol.com) There are some materials I need to gather to make it possible for you to solve the crime and I want to make sure I have enough. If you don't want to participate stop by and listen in to the groups or just enjoy the atmosphere.

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Tannadoonah Tidbits



Thank you to everyone who came out for the Pancake Breakfast on Sunday! Chas, Lori, and I enjoyed talking with everyone and we really appreciate all of the support for Camp Tannadoonah. This was the first time we've ever had campers in camp for the breakfast, and they all had a super time, too.

This mini week was "Upside Down Camp," and we sure were mixed up! The campers checked in on Saturday afternoon, and we did the usual "check-in day" stuff. But then we had a snack around dinner time, then had evening activity, and at 8:30 pm we rounded everyone up for a second evening activity! We walked around the west side and had a picnic and watched the fireworks. Many thanks to the Parnell Family, who generously allowed us to bring 50 people to sit on their lawn and watch the fireworks! The show was excellent, and we all enjoyed our fried chicken dinner!

We got back to camp just before midnight, and sent the kids to bed (after playing reveille!). Sunday morning the campers got to sleep in until 10am, before going to eat pancakes. Activities ran late into the evening, and we started our cookout fires at about 9:30 at night! Monday

was the same schedule, and we had lunch for breakfast, dinner for lunch, and breakfast for dinner! My stomach was very confused. We switched around the "in" and "out" doors in the kitchen, played reveille at midnight, and taps in the morning. Unfortunately we still had to get up early on Tuesday morning so that all the kids could head home for the 4th of July holiday.

Our next session is another mini week, from the 5th - 8th. The theme is Time Machine Week, so if anyone on the lake was a camper at Tannadoonah in the past, we would love to have you come up and talk with the kids, or show them photos! Then we have "Jumanji Week," which is almost COMPLETELY full! We're so excited! It's more fun with more campers.

Now let's meet some more of our fabulous staff at camp this summer:

Miss Lauren lives on Birch Lake in the summer. She is studying marketing and will be a senior at Saint Mary's College in the fall. While at camp she will be teaching digital photography, as well as assisting with campfire progression, and also fishing with Mr. Christopher. She enjoys outdoor activities such as camping, hiking, and fishing. This summer Miss

Lauren is living in Exchangettes, with the 6th grade girls.

Miss Katie is a former Tannadoonah camper and CIT. She is on the staff this year for the first time. She will be a Sophomore at Ball State in the fall. Miss Katie is one of our Bluebird Counselors, so she spends her days planning activities for our youngest campers. She is also coordinating our Camp Fire Progression / Outdoor Education program. Miss Katie lives in Exchangettes with Miss Lauren.

Miss Molly is our other Bluebird Counselor this summer, and she lives in Morris Lodge. Miss Molly will be a Sophomore at IU Bloomington. She is a first-timer at camp, and says she's having a great time. Miss Molly is a runner, so you may see her jogging around the lake early in the mornings!

Hope everyone had a great holiday! Thanks again for all the support for camp!

-Miss Amber, aka
Amber Holleman Grundy, Ph.D.
Director, Camp Tannadoonah
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BLYC House Walk Preview

House #1: The Greens (E. side)

Each week we will be featuring one of the homes on the House Tour on Aug 11. The first house belongs to Peter and Julie Green.

Peter and Julie Greene, along with their 3 sons, Pete 13, Parker 11, and Peyton 8 reside in Avon Lake, Ohio (on the west side of Cleveland). Peter is an executive vice president for Travelcenters of America and Julie is a free-lance interior design consultant. Julie grew up in Elkhart and visited Birch Lake many times during her childhood and even attended Camp Tannadoonah in the late 70's.

After a few summer visits to Julie's brother and sister-in-law's (the Lacy's) home on Birch Lake, they decided Birch Lake was a spot that they would love to find a cottage. Late summer 2004, they found this quaint 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom 1940's bungalow with an attached 2-stall garage. The cottage was only 1,100 square feet but boasted a 900 square foot deck! They purchased it from Tony and Debbie Sacco (from Illinois). The Sacco's left it almost fully furnished; there was even a welcome note and some bottles of wine on the table when they moved in.

The 3 boys immediately were attracted to a small cabin that sat behind the garage that faced the lake. There, Julie ran a cable line and hooked up a TV so the boys could hang out there with sleeping bags and all of their electronic games.



House Walk is will be August 11th (rain date August 12th). It will feature six homes and the beautiful and historic barn owned by Ben and Vanessa Wozniak. Tickets are on sale for \$10 in advance and \$15 on the day of the tour. All proceeds are going in a fund to fight the Eurasian. *-Denny Weesner, Vanessa Wozniak & Michelle Seyfarth*

Thanksgiving of 2005 they met with Jeff Helman of Helman Sechrist Architects in Elkhart to explore the possibilities of a major remodel. Working via phone and many faxes later they came up with the plan for the cottage which incorporated the original foundation footprint. Today the cottage has 2,100 square feet of living space. After the plans were made, they chose Duane Gundy of Gundy Custom Builders to start the renovation.

The roof came off and every wall was stripped down to the bare 2x4's. The cottage was uninhabitable for almost a year. A second story was

added that contained a master bedroom, a sitting room, a large walk-in closet, and a large master bathroom with tiled shower and wet bar. The 2-stall garage was reduced to a single stall and the new entry was created that leads to the stairs and laundry room. The 2 downstairs bedrooms remained along with a rearrangement of fixtures in the bathroom, all along keeping the original hardwood floors from the old cottage. Julie's favorite part of the old cottage was the tall stone fireplace. Any changes could be made, but leave that fireplace!



Thanks, campers!

These photos submitted by Miss Amber at Camp Tannadoonah were shot as part of a camp activity involving photography.

More photos will appear weekly as campers from different sessions complete the activities and turn in their images.

Don't forget to contact camp if you are interested in visiting — you can even come up for dinner if you'd like — call 476-2272.

Fleet Captain's Corner

Everything I needed to know I learned in Kindergarten, so I'm told anyway, but I really wish sailing would have been in the curriculum of my nine year sentence to St Jude Catholic Grade School. The pure freedom of fresh air and blasting wind, cold water splashing in my face; I am carefree and pretending that I'm the most feared pirate on the open sea. It sounds like it's a child's dream, but it's every weekend on the lake for me. The Independence Day Regatta results are in and it was truly a challenge for all who sailed on either day. (That feeling of freedom is why I referred to the Fourth of July Regatta as the Independence Day Regatta.) Sailing with a strong wind is so much like that feeling of twirling in circles as a kid until you fall down laughing and dizzy.

However, every captain starts as a cabin boy and has to learn from the beginning to welcome to Basic Sailing 101! Let's get started!

I'm in the water, but I'm sitting still? (Trim)

Since you can't really sail without a boat, a boat seems to be pretty important to sailing. But there is also another very important aspect of sailing: Keeping said boat in "trim". To achieve this, a useful mnemonic (memory aid) is the phrase: Can This Boat Sail Correctly? (C-T-B-S-C)

■ This helps the crew to remember these essential points. Together, these

points are known as 'The Five Essentials' and constitute the central aspects of sailing:

■ C - Course to Steer - Turn the boat using the wheel or tiller to the desired course to steer. See points of sail. This may be a definite bearing (e.g. steer 270 degrees), or towards a landmark, or at a desired angle to the apparent wind direction.

■ T - Trim - This is the fore and aft balance of the boat. The aim is to adjust the moveable ballast (the crew!) forwards or backwards to achieve an 'even keel'. On an upwind course in a small boat, the crew typically sits forward, when 'running' it is more efficient for the crew to sit to the rear of the boat. The position of the crew matters less as the size (and weight) of the boat increases.

■ B - Balance - This is the port and starboard balance. The aim, once again is to adjust weight 'inboard' or 'outboard' to prevent excessive heeling.

■ S - Sail - Trimming sails is a large topic. Simply put however, a sail should be pulled in until it fills with wind, but no further than the point where the front edge of the sail (the luff) is exactly in line with the wind.

■ C - Centerboard - If a moveable centerboard is fitted, then it should be lowered when sailing "close to the wind" but can be raised up on downwind courses to reduce drag. The centerboard prevents lateral motion and allows the

boat to sail upwind. A boat with no centerboard will instead have a permanent keel, some other form of underwater foil, or even the hull itself which serves the same purpose.

Now we're moving! Which way do I go? (Steering and turning)

When steering a sailboat, the method for changing direction depends on the direction of the wind. Thus, all direction changes or turns are described by one of the following terms:

Heading up (or luffing up) means steering so the wind is closer to coming from directly in front (or "on the bow"). Heading closer to the wind requires trimming the sails, pulling them towards the vessel's center. Heading up so the wind is nearly or directly ahead causes sails to luff, to flutter without achieving lift. If the boat loses maneuverability because of this, it is said to be in irons. Tacking (or coming about), one of the basic turning techniques, requires bringing the bow of the boat through the wind so that the wind then comes across the opposite side of the boat, and the boat sails away on the opposite tack.

Heading down, bearing away, falling off and freeing off mean steering so the wind comes from closer to the ship's aft section. This requires easing sails, letting them out away from the vessel's center. Gybing or Jibing is the turning maneuver in which the boat heads down past the point where the

LADIES GOLF AND LUNCH



Friday, August 3
Four Lakes Country Club
9 am Tee Off — 12:30 pm Lunch
All levels of golfers are welcome!!

\$40 fee per person
(covers golf, cart, lunch and prizes)
Checks payable to BLYC
Deadline: July 21st

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

Contact: Linda Bergan (9359), Vickie Rogers (2383),
Ilene Golden (9635) or Blair Garceau (9862)

LADIES LUNCH (only)

Friday, August 3
Four Lakes Country Club
12:30pm Lunch
\$40 fee per person
Checks payable to BLYC
Deadline: July 21st



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Contact: Linda Bergan (9359), Vickie Rogers (2383),
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wind crosses the vessel's stern, which causes the sails and boom to swing to the opposite side, before the boat sails off on the opposite tack. The sail and boom can cross the centerline of the boat with significant speed, and misjudged gybing can easily capsize a small boat, harm inattentive crew, or damage the rig in a larger boat, especially in strong winds.

The wind tells me where to go?
Who's running this boat?!

Running (Sailing Downwind),
Reaching (Sailing Off-wind) and
Beating (Sailing upwind)

Running (Sailing Downwind)

Sailing the boat within roughly 30 degrees either side of dead downwind is called a run. This is the easiest point of sail in terms of comfort, but it can also be the most dangerous. When sailing upwind, it's easy to stop the boat by heading into the wind; a sailor has no such easy out when running. Severe rolling is more likely as there is less rolling resistance provided by the sails, which are eased out. And loss of attention by the helmsman could lead the boat to gybe accidentally, causing injury to the boat or crew. (A preventer can be rigged to prevent damage from an accidental gybe.) Alternately, if there is a sudden increase in wind strength, the boat can round up very suddenly and heel excessively, often leading to capsize in smaller boats. This is called broaching.

Reaching (Sailing Off-wind)

When the boat is traveling approximately perpendicular to the wind, this is called reaching. A 'close' reach is halfway between beating and a beam reach, and a 'broad' reach is a little bit away from the wind (a 'beam' reach is with the wind precisely at right angles to the boat). For most modern sailboats, that is boats with triangular sails, reaching is the fastest way to travel. The direction of the wind is ideal for reaching because it will maximize the lift generated on the sails in the forward direction of the boat, giving the best boat speed. Also, when reaching, the boat can be steered exactly in the direction that is most desirable, and the sails can be trimmed for that direction. Reaching however may put the boat on a parallel course with the waves. When the waves are steep, it may be necessary to sail closer to the wind to avoid waves directly on the beam.

Beating (Sailing upwind)

A basic rule of sailing is that it is not possible to sail directly into the wind—at least not for long. Generally speaking, a boat can sail 45 degrees off the wind. When a boat is sailing this close to the wind, it is close-hauled or beating (beating to weather).

Since a boat cannot sail directly into the wind, but the destination is often upwind, one can only get there by sailing close-hauled with the wind coming from the port side (the boat is on port tack), then tacking (turning the boat through the eye of the wind) and sailing with the wind coming from the starboard side (the boat is on starboard tack). By this method, it is possible to reach that destination directly upwind. The heavier the wind, the rougher the seas, thus boat movement can be more uncomfortable. This can feel like the boat is beating its hull into the waves, hence the term beating. For a yacht



photo courtesy of the PattiCam

beating upwind to a mark at a distance upwind of one mile, it will cover a distance through the water of over 1.42 miles, if it can tack through an angle of 90 degrees. An old adage describes beating as sailing for twice the distance at half the speed and three times the discomfort.

How closely a boat can sail into the wind depends on the boat's design, sail trim, the sea state, and the wind speed, since what the boat "sees" is the apparent wind, the vector sum of the actual wind and the reciprocal of the boat's own velocity. The apparent wind speed is what the anemometer on top of the mast shows. A good analogy to this would be walking through a room and feeling the "wind" on your face. The faster you walk the more wind you feel. The apparent wind angle while sailing close hauled will be less than the true wind angle. A good, modern sloop can sail within 25 degrees of the apparent wind. An America's Cup racing sloop can sail within 16 degrees—under ideal conditions. Those figures might translate into 45 degrees and 36 degrees relative to the actual wind, depending on boat speed.

I swear Officer; I wasn't doing over 6 knots! (Rules of the road)

The sailing regulations are extensive, covering many situations in detail, and even more so in sailboat races, but the basic essential principles are:

■ DON'T HIT ANYONE ELSE!

■ Port tack gives way to Starboard tack (when the paths of two boats on opposite tacks cross, the boat with its port side to windward must give way)

■ Windward gives way to the leeward, or downwind boat (if on the same tack)

■ Overtaking boat shall keep clear.

■ Non-Commercial Powerboats give way to sailboats

■ Again, It is everybody's responsibility to 'avoid a collision', and avoiding action must be taken if these rules are not complied with by another vessel.

Thanks for our first class, there will be more to follow as the weeks pass. If anyone has any questions about the how, what, where, why and what next, please contact me. If I don't know the answer, I'll find the person who does. Also I am still waiting to hear from interested starters. The general idea that I get is that people don't want to run races because they don't know how. So...I will have available for every interested starter the following materials:

1. A map of the lake with directions (N, S, E, W) and common landmarks
2. A race contestant sheet with a list of all of our sailors
3. A basic rules sheet with the most common rules and regulations
4. A course sheet map showing the course for each fleet
5. A course description script listing exactly what the starter should announce at the start of the first race.

Finally and once again, I would like to ask of all sailors the chance to stop by at Vitale's on the weekends for a personal interview with the Fleet Captain.

Please contact me, Steve "Moose" Richards, 2007 Fleet Captain, at Phil and Sandy Vitale's East Shore, 63174 Birch Lake Rd. (476-1680) on most weekends (Friday-Sunday) or by cell (574-329-0494) or also email at srichards71@comcast.net during the week, with any questions or suggestions.

See you on the Lake!

Fair Winds and Following Seas,

-Steve "Moose" Richards
2007 Fleet Captain

2007 BLYC Independence Day Regatta Results

Race1.....2.....3.....Regatta AverageRegatta Place

MC Scow

(Six Qualifying Boats in Fleet)

Bob King	4	2	2	2.67	1st
Scott Troeger	7	1	1	3.00	2nd
Phil Vitale	1	6	3	3.33	3rd
Harold Cranmer	2	3	7	4.00	4th
Bill Luecht	3	5	4	4.00	5th
Jeff Smitley	5	4	5	4.67	6th

Sunfish A Fleet

Six Qualifying Boats in Fleet

Erica Vitale	CB	1	2	1.33	1st
Rick Russwurm	1	2	4	2.33	2nd
Tom Howard	4	3	1	2.67	3rd
Sandy Vitale	2	4	3	3.00	4th
Steve Richards	3	7	7	5.67	5th
Ashley Marquez	7	5	7	6.33	6th

Junior Fleet

Two Qualifying Boats in Fleet

Katie Luecht	1	1	1	1.00	1st
Neil Troeger	3	2	3	2.67	2nd

BLYC Regatta Scoring (Memorial, Independence Day and Labor Day Regattas)

*CB — Any sailor who volunteers to operate the Race Committee Boat and/or act as Starter will receive the point equivalent of one First Place finish for that day

**DNS — Scored as one (1) place lower than the last place finish of the qualifying fleet

***DQ — Scored as one (1) place lower than the last place finish of the qualifying fleet

****Place finishes due to DNS or DQ are in bold italics

Regattas are scored using Lowest Place Scoring System (average of place, lowest number wins) and are not included in any season point totals or averages

Regatta races will count toward total races required to qualify in class for season

At least one (1) race must have been actually sailed and completed to qualify in any Regatta Series

(Rule References: ISAF 2005-2008 Rulebook, Sections 31.1, 31.2; Appendix A, Subsections 4.2, 5, 6.1)

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Stu's Star Stuff



The summer sun

Summer's just getting cranked up here at the lake, even though the season officially began a couple of weeks ago. But the hottest days of the year are still ahead. Knowing that, you might not guess that the Sun is actually farthest from us for the entire year right now (yesterday actually) — a point in Earth's orbit called aphelion.

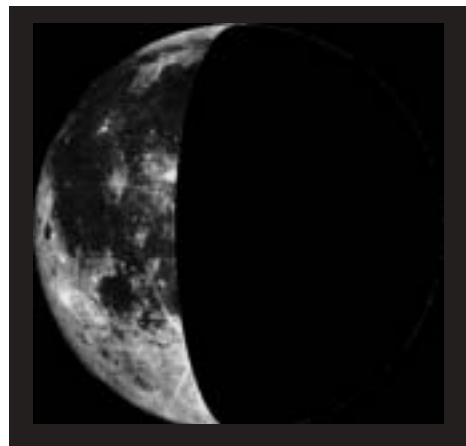
Earth's orbit isn't a perfect circle. Instead, it's an ellipse - a shape like a circle that's been stretched out. On average, we're about 93 million miles from the Sun. But because of our planet's lopsided orbit, the distance varies a little bit. Right now, we're about a million and a half miles farther than average.

This change in distance affects how much energy we receive from the Sun -- about six percent more in January than in July. So how come the hottest days of the year come when we're farthest from the Sun? It's because the distance between

Earth and Sun has little to do with the seasons. First of all, the change in distance isn't all that great. Secondly, Earth's oceans and atmosphere are quite efficient at storing and distributing heat, so they keep our planet's overall temperature pretty much the same year 'round.

Besides, the seasons are caused not by the changing distance to the Sun, but by Earth's tilt on its axis. During summer, the north polar axis aims more directly at the Sun, so the days are longer - and it gets hotter. During winter, the south polar axis points at the Sun, so it's cold in the northern hemisphere.

And there's some good news. Since Earth travels slowest when it's farthest from the Sun — as it is right now — summer is the longest season in the northern hemisphere. It stretches about five days longer than winter. So enjoy the extra days of the summer season -- days that are made possible by our planet's



lopsided orbit. And enjoy the fact that the show will be held over. And it's still free.

-Stu Spratt

The Moon tonight:

The moon for June 30 (at Midnight)

Illuminated Fraction: 0.428

0.6 days after last quarter

Your Horoscope

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20)

Opportunities to meet new lovers will come through pleasure trips or social events. Be sure to take care of the needs of youngsters. You will have the discipline to make changes you feel are necessary. You will be extremely receptive to new and progressive methods at work. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- may 21)

Avoid any erratic behavior or it could cause isolation at home. Try to join groups of interest such as ballroom dance classes or perhaps an internet organization. Get help setting up a reasonable budget. Look into ways of making extra cash. Make residential changes that will lift your spirits.

your lucky day this week will be Monday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)

Social events will be plentiful. You're not your usual self this week. You can offer your help to others but back off if they appear to be offended by your persistence. Avoid any confrontations with colleagues. your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

Home improvement projects will enhance your residence and bring the family closer together. Responsibilities with respect to older relatives may be a burden. You might be overly emotional concerning situations at work. Be sure to look into travel opportunities that will provide you with mental stimulation. your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22)

You may want to stay in the background this week. You need adventure and excitement in your life. You may feel a need to make changes to your legal documents. You need to take a long, hard look at yourself and your personal situation. your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23)

Don't overspend to impress someone who interests you. Disputes on the home front may be hard to avoid. The locks, stove, gas, or electric wires may not be secure. You can come up with ways of earning extra cash. your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23)

Your creative input will be appreciated by your boss. You will attract new love interests. Moves will be hectic but favorable in the end. Take precautions while traveling; you don't have to get anywhere that fast. your lucky day this week will be Monday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Opportunities for romance may develop through dealing with groups that have a purpose. Be cautious while traveling to foreign countries. Think twice before you say something you might regret later. Don't lend or borrow. your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21)

Balance is required if you want stability. You can raise your standard of living if you pick up some freelance work on the side. You are exceptional at presenting your ideas. Take care when dealing with older relatives. your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20)

Avoid any confrontations with colleagues. Extend an invitation to clients you enjoy spending time with. Do not sign contracts or get involved in any uncertain financial deals. Try to be there for someone if they need assistance. your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19)

Don't expect new acquaintances to be completely honest about themselves. Don't evade important issues; you may find yourself backed into a corner. You really can't do anything to change matters this week. In return, the satisfaction you get is enough for you. your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)

Problems with large corporations or institutions are apparent. Try to get others to stand behind your good judgment. Be sure that you lay your cards on the table. You should look into making some physical changes, such as new hair color or toning up your body. your lucky day this week will be Monday.



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FOR THE HEALTH OF IT!

By Ima Foodnudge

Grrrrreat idea for me to stay on the G's for some great disease fighting foods.

GARLIC

- Fights cancer and lowers its risks
- Helps prevent heart disease
- Lowers Cholesterol



I just can't say enough about the health benefits of this powerful little veggie. Whether you eat it raw or cooked, garlic is an important cancer-fighter. Research shows it actually kills cancer cells. Believe it or not there is a professor at State University of New York that has devoted most of his career to researching garlic. (You thought your job stunk)! His numerous clinical trials have also shown garlic to be good for your heart by lowering total cholesterol and blood pressure. A natural infection fighter, crushed fresh garlic kills dangerous bacteria, fungal organisms, and even the amoebas that cause dysentery. Next time you're at a book store pick up a book on natural healing and you will be amazed at the medicinal uses for

garlic.

GINGER

- Relieves "MOTION SICKNESS"
- Relieves bloating, heartburn
- Lowers Cholesterol
- Prevents blood clots



Ginger root is a medicinal herb used primarily for the treatment of Dyspepsia (discomfort after eating), which includes the symptoms of bloating, heartburn, flatulence, and nausea. It is also considered helpful as a preventative for motion sickness and as a digestive aid. In some traditional systems it is credited with the ability to treat arthritis, fevers, headaches, and toothaches. It may have the ability to lower blood cholesterol and aid in preventing internal blood clots. It is often taken to help combat colds, coughs, and the flu.

Ginger is a common and delicious spice traditionally used to improve digestion and prevent nausea. These properties result from helping bowel movements and relaxing the muscles controlling the digestive system. Ginger is considered an adjuvant in many Ayurvedic formulas which enhances absorption and prevents

gastrointestinal side effects.

GINGER SNAP COOKIES

"These use fresh ginger and candied ginger."



INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup unsalted butter
- 2/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons and 2 teaspoons molasses
- 1 egg
- 1-1/2 cups unbleached all-purpose flour
- 1-1/4 teaspoons ground ginger
- 1-1/4 teaspoons baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon grated fresh ginger
- 1/3 cup chopped crystallized ginger

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
2. Cream the butter and the brown sugar until fluffy. Add molasses and eggs and mix well.
3. Combine flour, ground ginger, baking soda and salt and add to butter mixture. Blend in fresh and candied ginger. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto parchment covered baking sheet, about 2 inches apart. Bake about 10 minutes, or until lightly golden. Cool

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



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Boat Parade Award Winners

Many thanks to the Birch Lakers who decorated their boats and pontoons for the 2007 Birch Lake Boat Parade. I am sure that all would agree that it is fun to parade around the lake waving at neighbors and fun for those watching.

A great big thank you to the judges--Celia and Paul Fallon and Carol and Fred Freihofer who were dressed in judge-like gowns. (Of course, this begs the question, what actually do judges wear under their gowns??). A thank you also goes to Dick Bender who makes the entrant's number signs and offers his pier for the judges — Dick's hospitality is superb.

-Judy Olson

- Grand Marshal: Gert and Bob Temple
- Best Birch Lake Mermaids: Rasmussen Family
- Best use of Movie-based Biblical-Aquatic theme: Kruggel and Lindzy Families
- Most Explosive Cove Kids: Scofield Family
- Best Doggone Newspaper on the Lake: Brown Family
- Most Spellbinding Award: Parkinson Family
- Best "Always Next Year" Award (the Cubs): Ball Family
- The Tony Dungy Award (the Colt's): Luecht and Bolinger Families
- On Golden Lake Award: 50th Anniversary of Tom and Pat Troeger
- There is No Crying in Baseball: Witchie Family
- The Betty Ford Award: Doba Family



BIRCH LAKE WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
July 1, 2007 Report to Residents – Gert Temple, Water Quality Committee

Eurasian milfoil is not welcome at Birch Lake.

The Eurasian milfoil Watch was recommended by Michigan Lake & Stream Associations (ML&SA) in 2000 as a part of the Lake Water Quality Management Program. Water Quality participated in an Aquatic Plant Survey of Birch Lake under the direction of ML&SA Outreach Specialist, Howard Wandell, Michigan State University.

The mapping project revealed moderate plant populations consisting of **good** diversity of Native species. Native milfoil was observed at 20 sites. "Suspicious" sites were revisited. Samples were identified at ML&SA Spring Conferences. The Eurasian milfoil Watch alerted Water Quality to an early identification of the dreaded invasive species. Eurasian milfoil is now in our lake, but will never control our lake.

An Eurasian milfoil Control is recommended to report findings of invasive species to Water Quality. Biologists from the office of Tony Groves will perform annual surveys to monitor future infestations of invasive plant species to insure immediate eradication.

As liaison, Water Quality will continue to report progress at Birch Lake as reported to us by Tony Groves. The contents of his letters of 6-20-07 were copied verbatim and appeared on this page last week. Please watch for updates.

If you are in need of further information, please call a Water Quality Lake Contact:

Dan Reynolds, Chair,	476-8877
Rick Russwurm, member,	476-2407
Bob Temple, member,	476-2773
Gert Temple, member,	476-2773

We want to thank the residents who are in the area just south of the inlet stream at the east end of the lake where the Eurasian milfoil bed has been roped off. You signed a permission slip to allow the recommended professional treatment to eradicate the invasive plant. You are fully cooperating with the recommendation that placed you in a position where you are not able to move into the area with your boats. Because of your beautiful cooperation, Birch Lake will not be subjected to fragmenting and spreading of this ugly plant. Birch Lake thanks you too.

We and Birch Lake want to thank the residents in the area immediately east of the access site at the south end of the lake. You also, signed a permission slip and have been helping secure the roped off area which has now been replaced with a tarp at Tony's direction.

And thanks to the residents, not in the affected areas, for your support to us and your lake

A question of interest was asked by a resident and answered by Blair Garceau, BLYC Commodore. I would like to print her answer as she expresses her leadership within the Birch Lake Yacht Club and her loyalty to Birch Lake.

Question

- What other weeds have been identified as foreign or harmful to the lake and are there any weeds that individual property owners may treat to create a more friendly swimming environment within 75 feet of their shoreline?

Answer

- "Right now Eurasian milfoil is the only exotic plant identified in our waters. The last thing we want to do is destroy our native plants because they are what helps keep our lake clean and give our fish great habitats. Remember this is a lake, not a swimming pool. A motion was made and accepted on 7-1-06 that the Birch Lake Yacht Club recommends (*residents*) not using chemicals to remove plants from the lake."

Questions regarding Eurasian Milfoil in Birch Lake

provided by the **Birch Lake Yacht Club**

Eurasian Milfoil is an aquatic plant that is not native to North American waters. It is considered to be a problematic plant because it can drastically alter a water body's ecology. Eurasian Milfoil forms very dense mats of vegetation on the surface of the water. These mats are good habitats for mosquitoes and can shade out beneficial native plants which would lead to deteriorating water quality. This invasive plant can infest an entire lake within two years of introduction. Eurasian Milfoil reproduces very successfully and rapidly through plant fragments.

1. How many ways can this be treated for eradication?

First, we will not be able to eradicate it, but we can manage it. This plant will continue to be reintroduced to our waters.

2. Is chemical treatment (herbicide) the best means of controlling it? Why or why not?

Yes, because of the small size of our Eurasian Milfoil areas this is the best course.

3. Is harvesting an option, solely or in combination with other treatments, a course of treatment? Why or why not? What is the germination period during which any cutting or harvesting would not be advisable, if at all?

Mechanical harvesting or cutting it back would create small fragments that would travel around the lake and start new areas of infestation. This would create a much larger problem than what we have already. Manual extraction of small growth patches can be performed under the supervision of trained experts.

4. Will swimming within a given distance be prohibited during or following treatment or treatments? If chemically treated are the treatments all the same strength? What side effects should we be warned about?

Yes, there will be a 24 hour ban of swimming within a 100 foot radius of the treatment area. There are no side effects of the herbicide for the spot treatments we will be doing. The firm that will be doing the application of the herbicide will post any other restrictions such as not watering your lawn from the lake for a period of time.

5. What kind of results can be expected after a first treatment and are future treatments predicated on results of the first? Are there any guarantees, for the money expended, that it will not return? Can any insurance be incorporated into the cost of future eradication efforts, should it return?

We will be using a contact herbicide that will kill the plant quickly but we should expect Eurasian Milfoil to return. Because we are on top of the situation we will be prepared to treat any areas early in the season next summer. The firm that will be handling the application of the herbicide will have accountability in their work. Progressive Engineering will be overseeing that the treatment is carried out properly.

6. What time frame are we looking at to get started? How long is it anticipated for complete and total eradication to occur? Could we be looking at two seasons or more?

We are waiting for a permit from the state of Michigan to allow us to put an herbicide into our lake. This is unusually late in the season to ask for a permit and there is a backlog of work. As we all know the wheels of bureaucracy grind slowly. Tony Groves will try to pull strings and fast track our permit through. We are lucky to have him on board and this is because of our water quality committee and their contacts. After the permit is granted it should take the application company a few days to come and treat our lake. Our vigilance and having the BLYC and the water quality committee working together has cut off weeks and months of "getting our act together". A yearly professional surveillance, to maintain a proactive approach, will insure that we not let any nuisance become an insurmountable problem. With management as our goal we will keep Birch Lake at it's best.

7. Has anything be scheduled at this point? Can we pre-schedule a firm to begin the eradication once the permit is issued?

Tony has contacted an application firm and they will be ready to go once we get the permit from the state.

8. We already are seeing the Eurasian Milfoil spread in the past week, on a scale of 1 to 10 where are we at?

The area on the Eastside is our worst area, but it is treatable. The rest of the lake looks good but we must keep an eye on things in order to maintain control.

9. What kind of costs are we looking at?

As of this date, June 13, 2007, we are looking at a cost somewhere in the range of \$3000.000 to treat the areas infested with Eurasian Milfoil. Because we caught this so early our costs are not astronomical, however, the BLYC has started a line item in our budget just for invasive species. We will survey the lake each year and treat whatever arises. In order to do this quickly and effectively the BLYC money that is collected will be used only for these purposes. We are asking each homeowner for a voluntary fair share donation to cover the current costs and the ongoing costs of the management and the control of invasive species.

10. What can residents do to slow down the spread and help battle this?

Educate themselves and their friends about not transferring this and other invasives to lakes. Wash your boat down after boating at another lake before you put it back into our lake. Remember that it is now your responsibility to wash your boat down before you enter another body of water because your boat and/or trailer could be carrying fragments of Eurasian Milfoil. It is recommended that we put up a large sign asking other boats to do the same thing. Steps are being taken to get this done.

11. What other weeds have been identified as foreign or harmful to the lake and are there any weeds that individual property owners may treat to create a more friendly swimming environment within 75 feet of their shore line?

Right now Eurasian Milfoil is the only exotic plant identified in our waters. The last thing we want to do is destroy our native plants because they are what helps keep our lake clean and give our fish great habitats. Remember this is a lake, not a swimming pool. A motion was made and accepted on 7-1-2006 that the BLYC recommends not using chemicals to remove plants from the lake.

BLYC Officers & Directors (board members)

Officers		Eastside	
Commodore		Blair Garceau	Judy Olson
Vice Commodore		Mike Lutz	Scott Troeger
Secretary		Sandy Vitale	Jim Bolinger
Treasurer		Holly Troeger	Paul Fallon
Fleet Captain		Steve Richards	Phil Vitale
		Hill	Ryan Gableman
		Northside	Rick Russwurm
	Board of Directors		Fred Friehofer
Southside		Dick Bender	Harold Crammer
		Denny Weesner	Vicki Rogers
		Dave Bouwkamp	Mardy Miller
		Charlene Sheets	
		Westside/Cove	



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Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

___ Two Carts

___ One Cart

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- \$ _____ - Sailing Fees (\$15 / year)
- \$ _____ - Building Improvement Fund
- \$ _____ - Fireworks Fund
- \$ _____ - Water Quality Program
- \$ _____ - Eurasian Milfoil Eradication
- \$ _____ - Riparian (\$8/yr, provide address for magazine)
- \$ _____ - Safety Committee
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Total \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

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CLASSIFIED ADS

Birch Barker classifieds ads are free for members of Birch Lake Yacht Club; non-members must pay \$5. Put your ad in the Barker Box at 63174 Birch Road, fax me at 269-445-9200, or send e-mail to me at: sailorphil@philvitale.com

FOR RENT:

Updated **Cabin** overlooks North Shore by day, week month or season Sleeps 4-6. \$500 weekly — 476-2086. Call 574-825-9355-ext 241.

FOR SALE

For Sale: Trailer - Shore Lander, 15 ft. Call 1-574-231-0890 or 1-269-476-9688. Price \$400.

For Sale: 1985 Alumacraft Fishing boat, 19 ft. w/2005 Johnson electric start outboard engine (9.9 hp). Both are in perfect shape. Also included is 19? Shorlander trailer. \$2,200 obo. Call 476-9852

For sale: 2002 Mercury 6 hp outboard engines. Runs great. Also comes with 1940-1960 Alumacraft 14 ft. row boat in good shape for age. \$750 obo. Call 476-9852

Boat for Sale: 1976 Baretta, 15FT, Open Tri Hull with cover and trailer. 70 HP Johnson motor. Make an offer. Call 476-2831

Sunfish with stand \$200. 476-1680.

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Almost Impossible Questions

1. The city of Seattle has the most what living there?

2. What favorite brand snack food, originally shaped like a mound was named for the Greek word for 'hill'?

3. What classic candy was named for the daughter of the candy's inventor, an Austrian immigrant?

4. Americans spent over \$23 million on this food item last year, consuming an average of 27 pounds per person. What is it?

5. There are over 800 different types of this animal that's found on every continent but Antarctica. What animal?

6. In 1908, Melitta Bentz of Germany pierced holes in a tin container and put a circular piece of absorbent paper in the bottom to create what?

Answers (and more questions) will be provided next week

-Submitted by **Carl Klappauf**

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