

Birch Barker

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Weekend of July 14, 2007



photo courtesy of Ben Wozniak

Commodore's Comments

This Saturday night is the "Rock N Roley" Murder Party at the Yacht Club. Stop by and see the fun. We have a few teams participating and they won't mind if you listen into the clues, or better yet form your own team and participate in the excitement. Please bring a snack to munch on and feel free to wear your best 1950's attire. Root Beer floats will be made at the conclusion of the game, other drink options and snacks will be available during the evening.

Next Saturday our faithful friends from the Cove will be putting on the Spaghetti dinner at the Yacht Club. All of the proceeds will be going to fight our Eurasian Milfoil and other invasive species. You must buy your tickets this week in order to get your dinner. They do serve carry out. A night off from cooking

sounds great to me.

I keep finding reasons to join the Birch Lake Yacht Club. Last Tuesday night many of the residents attended the Porter Township Board meeting. On the agenda was a request for the Township to release our boat launch to the Michigan DNR. The DNR wanted to trade our landing and Shavehead's landing for a county park located northeast of Niles. The Birch Lake Yacht Club board unanimously voted asking the Township Trustees to vote against this transfer. Our resolution was presented to the board, along with an open discussion of the pros and cons of such a transaction. We were extremely please when the Porter Township Board of Trustees listened to our concerns and voted unanimously to reject the offer of a trade. I firmly believe that without Birch Lake and Shavehead Lake showing up the Board may have voted the other way.

One more reason to celebrate and to say: It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood.

-Blair Garceau
Commodore 2007

Tentative BLYC Calendar

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

We are always soliciting and accepting materials for publication. E-mail the info to sailorphil@philvitale.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 —

EURASIAN MILFOIL UPDATE

As of Tuesday, July 10th, we are still waiting for the State of Michigan to grant a permit to treat our Eurasian Milfoil. Once the permit is issued the herbicide treatment will begin in days.

Contributions are still being accepted for our Invasive Species budget. Thanks to everyone for their cooperation and patience.

The Birch Lake Yacht Club Board of Directors would like to clarify that our contract with Tony Groves and Progressive AE includes his initial survey of the lake, contacting the herbicide application company, assisting with the acquisition of the DEQ permit and a follow-up survey later in the season. The Board will then review the progress of control and recommend further actions for next year.

Ladies Golf & 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



photo courtesy of Ben Wozniak



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

-Ben and Vanessa Wozniak

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He may be moldy but he ain't plastic!

*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 —

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.

Mark Your Calendars!

The Corn and Sausage Roast will be held on Saturday, August 4, serving food from 5:30 pm until 7:30 pm. Once again we will be serving grilled chicken breasts on a limited basis, so come early if brats aren't your thing. Our combo meals include your meat choice, corn, four sides, cookies and beverage. Prices are: \$5 for a hot dog meal, \$6 for a bratwurst or chicken breast meal. Hope to see you there.

The Barker online

Did you know the Birch Barker is online — even in the summer (although sometimes it takes me a few days to update with the latest issues)?

Go to: www.philvitale.com/barker

BLYC 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

Birch Barker Kids (No. 1) of the Week



Kyle Bernaciak will be pitching for the Mt. Greenwood Brewers July 13-15 at the Game Day USA Tournament in Lakeville, IN at Newton Park. When he's not pitching, Kyle plays 1st base. The Mt. Greenwood Brewers from Chicago is a travel/club team made up of 13 year olds. Good Luck in the tournament!

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

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9862 to discuss the details.

Directories

Directories are here! If you are a member of Birch Lake Yacht Club and did not receive your free directory please call Blair (9862). If you would like a copy or need additional copies (\$5.00) 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.

Birch Barker Kids (No. 2) of the Week



Friends since preschool, from left, Callie Garceau, Ashley Young and Karlie Singleton enjoyed a tube-float on beautiful Birch Lake!

Birch Barker Kids (No. 3) of the Week



email kid photos to
sailorphil@
philvitale.com

Jacob and Rachel Molho enjoyed their first exciting ride in a tube on Birch Lake over the 4th of July weekend. Neighbor Doug Eichorst provided the boat, tube and instructions. Jacob and Rachel are Manny and Mary Lu Molho's grandchildren. Parents are Ross & Kris Molho.

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— Birch Lake Notes —



photo courtesy of one of the Patties ...

Almost Impossible Questions #2

This week's Questions:

7. If you suffer from 'ailurophobia' as Napoleon did, what are you afraid of?
8. A recent survey revealed that 37% of those surveyed would like to be able to do this more often at work. What?
9. They ordered 400,000 of these for the Winter Games in Salt Lake City but used them up in 5 days. What?
10. Here are three English words. What is the connection between all three: Wolf, gum, cigarette?
11. Ireland leads the world in the consump-

tion of this category of food with 15 pounds a year. What category?

12. In the U.S. we get a new one of these about every 18 months. In Europe they get a new one about every year and in Japan, every 9 months. What?

Answers to last week's Questions

1. The city of Seattle has the most what living there? **Billionaires!**
2. What favorite brand snack food, originally shaped like a mound was named for the Greek word for 'hill'? **Oreo!**

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

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

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

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? **The coffee filter.** She wanted to improve the quality of coffee for her family!

More next week!

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Tannadoonah Tidbits

Wow, it's sure been a hot week so far up here at camp! We are so excited to report that we have 90 campers here for Jumanji Week! This is our biggest week yet and it's so much fun to have all these kids in camp.

On Sunday night the campers played a game of Water Balloon Battleship, and then we all went down to the lake for an evening free swim. Monday afternoon was really hot, so we made the afternoon free swim a required activity for all of camp, and even extended it for an extra 15 minutes. After free swim ended, the counselors all had a big Cannon Ball Contest while the campers cheered for their favorite counselors. We're still waiting on the results from the judges! On Monday night we had cookout, and several cabins chose to spend their cabin night down at the lake.

This week is also "Tannadoonah Fairy" Week, which means that all of the counselors are up here pulling pranks on one another! It makes for a really crazy week. We have counselors singing songs and wearing weird costumes to meals, and doing all sorts of odd things in order to get their treats from their Tannadoonah Fairies. Not only that, but peoples'

beds keep ending up in strange places, or their belongings are hidden all over camp! It's all very entertaining!

We have such a big staff this year, I'm worried we won't be able to get through them all! But here are the next three:

Miss Abby is one of our two dishwashers this year (a.k.a. "swabbie"). Miss Abby's family has a cottage on the lake. She was a camper at Tannadoonah for ten years, and a counselor in training (CIT) last year. She says that the "swabbie" job is much harder than she expected, but that it is still a blast! Miss Abby loves Camp Tannadoonah, and enjoys being outside and active with the campers. She is also helping to teach dance this year!

We have two Miss Ashley's this year. Miss Ashley S. is the other "swabbie." She was a camper at Tannadoonah for 4 years, and a CIT last year. She lives in Manitou Beach, Michigan, and will be a sophomore in high school in the fall. Miss Ashley runs track and cross country, and hopes to spend time biking around the lake this summer.

Miss Ashley M. is our drama director, and lives in Morris Lodge. She is from Laredo, Texas, and just



CAMP TANNADOONAH
BIRCH LAKE

graduated from the University of Notre Dame in May. She majored in Film, Television, and Theatre, and will be attending graduate school in New York in the fall, studying theatre. Miss Ashley has never been to camp before, but she is enjoying this new experience!

We also have quite a few lake kids at camp this week, both as day campers and overnight campers! They're all having a great time, and it's been fun seeing all the lake residents up at camp this week. See you all soon!

-Miss Amber, aka
Amber Holleman Grundy, Ph.D.
Director, Camp Tannadoonah
amber@tannadoonah.org
574-315-0227

<http://tannadoonah.org/>



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BLYC House Walk Preview

House #2: Randy & Fran Welsh

To think this all started because of a rainy father's day.

The golf game was cancelled, so Randy started looking through the want ads. The ad read "\$29,000 for a stone block cottage, with fishing boat, on beautiful Birch Lake."

We had no idea where this was, but we called and made an appointment to see the cottage at 12:15. We drove down the most beautiful road, Birch Lake Road, and saw the most beautiful lake, Birch Lake, we had ever seen.

Unfortunately, the Machallack's saw the cottage at 12:00 and bought it before we could even go through. Art Glenton's cottage. Obviously, that did not deter our interest!

That was in 1979 and we bought our first cottage in 1980 from Fred Lindenfeld on the South shore.

We stayed there until 1988 when Dick Bender became the new resident. We moved away from the lake but kept wanting to return. So, in 1992 we bought our second cottage from Bernie Weesner. We remodeled and enjoyed that residence until we moved to Florida in 1995. Keeping a long distance home was too complicated for us, so Tim and Irene Steffan became the new owners on the East shore home shortly thereafter.

In 2005 we found ourselves



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*

returning to the area for some golf tournaments and decided to rent Doug and Julie Eichorst's home for 6 weeks. Taylor and Max Marquez, our grandchildren, decided this was the best place they had ever seen and wanted to spend the rest of their life at Birch Lake. The rest, as they say, is history.

We moved into our new cottage in September of 2006. We still love driving down Birch Road. We still think Birch Lake is the most beautiful lake we have ever been on. We love being back home.

-Randy & Fran Welsh



Thanks, campers

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



Fleet Captain's Corner

It's Your Lucky Day! Friday the 13th! The day people fear most for bad luck. What will we do tonight to stave off bad luck...a little salt over the left shoulder or maybe a horseshoe or rabbit's foot (not so lucky for the rabbit, though)?

But just a few short days ago, we had 07-07-07, also supposedly one of the luckiest days possible according to numerology and ancient legends across many cultures, a day of absolute power for the forces of Good. Which one do we believe in, or do we believe both?

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe once wrote: Superstition is the poetry of life. Whether you believe in them or not, they make life interesting. Athletes on winning streaks follow the same routines to ensure that they keep winning. Children avoid stepping on cracks so as not to break their mothers' backs. And what about breaking a mirror and having seven years of bad luck? Most pirates were sailors before going on the account, so their world was laced with superstitions. Their life might well have been short and merry, but if they could prolong that life even one day, why not pay heed to the superstitions of the sea?

The Oxford Universal Dictionary (third edition) defines "superstition" as an "unreasoning awe or fear of something unknown, mysterious, or imaginary, esp. in connection with religion; religious belief or practice founded upon fear or ignorance." Sailors are believed to be members of the third oldest occu-

pation, and some superstitions involving the sea date back to ancient times. Before going on the account, pirates sailed on merchant or naval ships, or were privateers. Whether outlaw or not, these men (and women) lived in a time when many things were unexplained and feared. Life was hazardous, and superstitions explained why people suffered such misfortune and how they might avoid this fate.

When we pair pirates with animals, those that first come to mind are parrots, monkeys, rats, birds, and fish. One might think the first two are something of a myth where pirates and sailors were concerned, but in actuality some did acquire these exotic creatures. Unlike Captain Barbossa's monkey in *Pirates of the Caribbean*, these animals were often sold for profit, rather than kept as pets. Rats weren't pets, either, but they sometimes populated ships more so than people, and history has deemed them responsible for spreading the plague throughout Europe during the Dark and Middle Ages. Sailors believed these rodents, which lived in the deepest and darkest places on a ship, knew before anyone else that death or misfortune was near. If rats scurried from the ship just before she sailed, the ship was doomed.

Vessels that plied southern seas sometimes encountered the albatross, a bird that could bring both good and bad luck. Samuel Taylor Coleridge's "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" incorporates both. Caught in the midst of a

dense snowy fog, the sailors feared the worst until they saw an albatross: At length did cross an Albatross, Thorough the fog it came; As if it had been a Christian soul, we hailed it in God's name. It ate the food it ne'er had eat, And round and round it flew. The ice did split with a thunder-fit; the helmsman steered us through! Woe be the sailor who slew the albatross, though, for this bird was thought to be the restless soul of a dead sailor.

'God save thee, ancient Mariner! From the fiends, that plague thee thus! Why look'st thou so?'--With my cross-bow

I shot the ALBATROSS. And I had done an hellish thing, And it would work 'em woe: For all averred, I had killed the bird That made the breeze to blow. The mariners' plight worsened after the albatross' death, so there was only one thing that would save them. They must tie the carcass around the murderer's neck, and then lash him to the mainmast, where he stayed without benefit of food or drink until the tempest ended.

Ah! well a-day! what evil looks Had I from old and young! Instead of the cross, the Albatross About my neck was hung.

Lest you think this superstition only appeared in Coleridge's poem, Topman William Cammell was aloft aboard the *Speedwell* in October 1718

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

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off Cape Horn. Ice coated the masts and rigging, and while furling the mainsail, he lost his grip and fell into the ocean, where he drowned. Mr. Hatley, a mate aboard the vessel, soon spotted an albatross and believing it a bad omen, he shot it. History doesn't say whether the crew adhered to the requirements for breaking their bad luck, but the Spanish imprisoned Hatley, and he was never seen again.

Sharks and turtles were other creatures connected with luck. If sharks followed in the wake of a ship, someone aboard would soon die. They patiently waited for their meal to be consigned to its watery grave. Pirates often dined on turtles, but if they killed one and didn't eat it, they had bad luck. Sailors who carried turtle bones in their pockets, on the other hand, enjoyed good luck. Manta rays, also known as devilfish or sea devils, were feared as much as sharks, for sailors believed these sea creatures could attach themselves to a ship's anchor and drag her under the waves to Davy Jones' Locker.

Storm petrels had another name - Mother Carey's chickens, a name thought to stem from Mater Cara (meaning Mother Dear), which refers to the Mother of God. The French called these birds *les oiseaux de Notre Dame* (the birds of Our Lady). Since the Holy Mother protected sailors, she sent these birds to warn them of coming storms. Sailors also believed that these birds contained the souls of their dead comrades, so to kill one was to kill a fellow mariner. Any sailor who slew the storm petrel would also die, following the adage of "a life for a life."

Weather played an integral role in the fate of ships and sailors. This was why sea-going vessels often had a figurehead adorning the bow. It was believed that a ship couldn't sink as long as the figurehead remained attached. During a fierce storm, if a woman bared her breasts, the storm would abate. This is why bare breasted women are often seen as ships' figureheads.

Legend says that Saint Erasmus, also known as Saint Elmo, died during a sea storm. Just before his demise, he promised the crew he would return and show himself in some form if they were to survive the tempest. Not long after, the sailors saw a mysterious light at the masthead of their vessel and assumed Erasmus had kept his word - they would not drown. This is why the electrical discharge that creates the bright lights seen around a ship's masts and yards during a storm is called St. Elmo's Fire. Sailors believed its appearance was a sign that the worst of the storm was over, and as long as the light remained high among the masts, luck followed them. If it shone on the deck, though, bad luck was certain. If the light ringed a man's head, he would soon die.

Sailors prefer not to set sail on Fridays. This superstition comes from the Norse myths, for that was when evil witches gathered. It is also the day that Jesus was crucified. To sail on Friday the thirteenth was to doubly jinx the voyage. The seventeenth and the twenty-ninth of any month, however, were good days to set sail, particularly if the sailors' voyage would last many months.

Mermaids were beautiful ladies with tails like a fish. In 1608 Henry Hudson recorded that two of his men - Thomas Hilles and Robert Rayner -

sighted one of these seductive sea creatures.

This morning one of our companies looking over board saw a mermaid, and calling up some of the company to see her, one more came up and by that time shee was come close to the ships side, looking earnestly on the men. A little after the sea came and overturned her. From the navill upward her backe and breasts were like a womans, as they say that saw her, but her body as big as one of us. Her skin very white, and long haire hanging downe behinde of colour blacke. In her going doune they saw her tayle, which was like the tayle of a porposse, and speckld like a macrell.

While fascinating to watch and oh so lovely, mermaids had to power to lure sailors to their deaths.

Death was a common occurrence in the Age of Sail. The dead body was placed in the man's hammock and two cannonballs placed at his feet. These prevented the departed sailor from following the ship. The sail maker sewed thirteen stitches to close the hammock, and his last stitch pierced the departed's nose. This guaranteed that the sailor was truly dead, kept his body in its coffin, and thwarted his ghost from appearing on the ship's decks after burial.

One of the more feared elements on a ship was a Jonah. Anyone with a deformity, disliked, or was unlucky in any way might find himself considered a Jonah. This sailor often found himself singled out and abused until he was forced off the ship. In the film *Master and Commander*, the oldest midshipman (who has yet to pass the exam that would allow him to be promoted to lieutenant) finds himself deemed a Jonah after a series of misadventures occur. An old sailor, who's very superstitious, spreads the word amongst the crew, who begin to abuse him until he fears being around the men. The midshipman eventually decides the only way to change things is to die, and so he takes hold of a cannonball and jumps overboard. His sacrifice turns the tide and good fortune returns to the ship.

These are but a few of the many superstitions associated with the sea. Remember when the earth was thought to be flat? Sea monsters and other unknown horrors loomed at the edges of the oceans. The first navigational charts included drawings of these creatures, but men like Christopher Columbus, William Dampier, and other mariners dared to venture where others had yet to dare. Although they didn't encounter the dragons and devils thought to inhabit these unknown regions, they came face to face with rogue waves, hurricanes, water spouts, and many other things equally dangerous. The ancient mariners heeded omens, superstitions, and signs to survive their journeys. They handed down this knowledge to younger sailors, who followed the advice religiously throughout time so that they, too, might return home to family and friends.

Finally, here is a list of some of the more unusual superstitions that sailors and crew followed (or maybe still follow?)

- Avoid people with red hair when going to the ship to begin a journey. Red heads bring bad luck to a ship, which can be averted if you speak to the red-head before they speak to you. Avoid Flat-footed people when begin-

ning a trip. They, like red heads, are bad luck. The danger can also be avoided by speaking to them before they speak to you.

- A stolen piece of wood mortised into the keel will make a ship sail faster and a silver coin placed under the masthead ensures a successful voyage.
- Disaster will follow if you step onto a boat with your Left Foot first.
- Throwing stones into the sea will cause great waves and storms and a stone thrown over a vessel that is putting out to sea ensures she will never return.
- Don't look back once your ship has left port as this can bring bad luck.
- Black cats are considered good luck and will bring a sailor home from the sea.
- Dolphins swimming with the ship are a sign of good luck.
- Cutting your hair or nails at sea is bad luck. These were used as offerings to Proserpina, and Neptune will become jealous if these offerings are made while in his kingdom
- The curl of hair off the head of a newborn child is protection against drowning and will bring the owner good luck.
- The feather of a wren slain on New Years Day will protect a sailor from dying by shipwreck.
- A sailor who died from violence or being lost at sea was said to go to "Davy Jones' Locker", but a sailor with over 50 years of service was said to go to "Fiddler's Green" when he died.
- Pouring wine on the deck will bring good luck on a long voyage, but pouring wine into the Captain will ensure a great time by all (I made the last part up...why not?)

Do they really work? Who knows? But would it really hurt to try a few before an afternoon of sailing? As you sail around this weekend, think about what you do for a bit-o-luck?

Races are, with any luck, at Noon on Sunday, 7-15 and I still invite all sailors, veteran and novice to come out and try a race or two. Results for last week's wild and wooly races are given following the column. I'll have plenty to write about on that subject later. See you on the lake, and oh....good luck!

Fair Winds and Following Seas
-Steve Richards 2007 Fleet Captain

For additional information about Sea Superstitions and Sailing Customs, I recommend the following books:

- Clarey, James. *Superstitions of the Sea*. Maritime History in Art, 1994
- Coleridge, Samuel Taylor. "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner."
- Fiske, John. *Myths and Myth-makers: Old Tales and Superstitions Interpreted by Comparative Mythology*
- Jeans, Peter D. *Seafaring Lore and Legend: A Miscellany of Maritime Myth, Superstition, Fable, and Fact*. International Marine/Ragged Mountain Press, 2004.
- Knowlson, T. Sharper. *The Origins of Popular Superstitions and Customs*. 1910.
- Lamont-Brown. *Phantoms, Legends, Customs and Superstitions of the Sea*. 1989.
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2007 BLYC 7/8/07 Results, Season Standings

Race	4	5	Att'd	Comp	Percentage	Avg	Total Points	Point Avg	Current Place
MC Scow									
Scott Troeger	SB2	SB2	1	1	20.00	1.00	1600	1600.00	1st
Don Harman	1	1	5	5	100.00	2.40	7459	1491.80	2nd
Harold Cranmer	2	DNF	4	3	60.00	1.67	5867	1466.75	3rd
Bob King	4	3	5	5	100.00	2.80	7301	1460.20	4th
Phil Vitale	SB	SB	3	3	60.00	3.67	4190	1396.67	5th
Jim Bolinger	2	3	3	3	60.00	4.00	4113	1371.00	6th
Bill Luecht	SB	SB	3	3	60.00	5.67	3539	1179.67	7th
Jeff Smitley	3	4	5	5	100.00	4.60	3403	680.60	8th

Sunfish A Fleet

Tom Howard	1	1	5	5	100.00	2.20	7540	1508.00	1st
Dave Olson	2	2	5	5	100.00	2.40	7459	1491.80	2nd
Rick Russwurm	DNF	DNF	2	2	40.00	2.50	2969	1484.50	3rd
Erica Vitale	DNF	DNF	3	3	60.00	4.67	3965	1321.67	4th
Sandy Vitale	SB	SB	3	3	60.00	3.33	3819	1273.00	5th
Ashley Marquez	DNF	DNF	3	3	60.00	4.00	3689	1229.67	6th
Steve Richards	SB	SB	3	3	60.00	6.33	3606	1202.00	7th
Nancy Walker	DNF	DNF	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	8th

Sunfish B Fleet

Paul Fallon	DNF	DNF	2	1	20.00	1	3121	1560.50	1st
-------------	-----	-----	---	---	-------	---	------	---------	-----

Junior Fleet

Neil Troeger	DNF	DNF	1	1	20.00	1.00	1600	1600.00	1st
Katie Luecht	SB	SB	3	3	60.00	1.33	4486	1495.33	2nd

Regular Season Scoring

SB- Safety Boat will be scored at End-of-Season as Committee Boat Service

DNF - (Did Not Sail) does not count for or against any sailor; however a minimum of 2/3 of total season races must be completed to qualify in class

CB - Any sailor who volunteers to operate the Race Committee Boat and/or act as Starter will receive the point equivalent of a First Place finish for that day and will be counted in final season totals

DNF - (Did not Finish) will equal Last Place of Class minus 1 place (i.e. 5 boats race in class, DNF equals 6th place)

DQF - (Disqualified Foul/CB Ruling/Other) will equal Last Place of Class minus 1 place (i.e. 5 boats race in class, DNF equals 6th place)

GCDQ - (Gross Misconduct Disqualified) will count as zero points for that race or day (CB ruling)

Season points are determined using the Square 40 Scoring System (1st place equals 40 squared, 2nd place equals 39 squared, etc.)

Season place is determined by totalling season points and dividing by races completed. DNF does not count toward required season race minimum

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Stu's Star Stuff



The Milky Way

As the last hints of twilight fade away, look for the band of the Milky Way passing high across the sky. It looks like a long, skinny cloud.

The Milky Way is the combined glow of millions of stars in the Milky Way galaxy. The stars are all so far away that we can't see them as individual points of light.

The Milky Way begins in the northeast, where the W-shaped constellation Cassiopeia shines far above the horizon. It stretches almost directly overhead, through lovely Cygnus, the swan.

From there, the Milky Way reaches across the south to Sagittarius, a group of stars that outlines the shape of a teapot. You your imagination and you may see steam coming from the teapot's spout. The center of the Milky Way galaxy is just above the spout. It's invisible, though, because it's hidden behind clouds of dust that create dark streaks inside the Milky

Way.

That region of the sky is festooned with clusters and star clouds. A few are visible to the unaided eye, but you need binoculars or a telescope to see most of them. They help provide a beautiful light-show in the night sky — the glow of the Milky Way — as summer marches on.

Look for Cassiopeia in the northeast. Cygnus, the swan, is a prominent summer constellation that is also known as the Northern Cross. It is well up in the east at nightfall, with its body stretching parallel to the horizon. Its brightest star is Deneb, at one point of the Summer Triangle. Sagittarius scoots low across the south each night in the summer. Its brightest stars form the shape of a teapot. Just north of the teapot is a glowing cloud of gas called the Lagoon Nebula, which is visible through small telescopes. Get some popcorn and go enjoy the show. It's free you know.



-Stu Spratt

The Moon tonight:

The moon for July 14 (at Midnight)
Illuminated Fraction: 0.008
0.8 days since new moon

Your Horoscope

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20)
Travel will result in new romantic attractions. Sudden changes could result in estrangements. Be aware that a female you work with may be trying to hold you back. Relatives may play an important role in your social activities. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- may 21)
Minor accidents could occur if you don't take precautions. Make sure to arrange in advance to spend quality time together. Your self esteem will benefit. Friends will be loyal and caring. There will be hidden matters that you may find disturbing. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)
You can get ready to celebrate your new direction. Encourage the youngsters in your family. Everything is moving quickly, just the way you like it. The knowledge you have will enhance your reputation. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
Seminars will provide you with knowledge and amusement. You have bent over backward trying to help them and now it's time to let them stand on their own two feet. Major moves will be emotional and not necessarily to your benefit. Do your job and don't ask for favors. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22)
Your knowledge and good sense will help more than you think.

Compromise may be necessary. Insincere gestures of friendliness may be misleading. Your bank-book will suffer and your restrictions will put a damper on your relationship. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23)
You can make money but not through harebrained schemes or gambling. Relatives will not agree with the way you are dealing with your personal problems. Avoid too much discourse with colleagues this week. Instant romance could be yours if you go out with friends. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23)
Pleasure trips will be most enjoyable and should lead to new and lasting friendships. Try to spend some time on your own. Your determination may make you a little overbearing when dealing with others. Your ability to converse with charm will entice someone you may have had an interest in for some time now. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
Don't let children or elders put demands on your time. Avoid being intimately involved with clients or colleagues. Curb or cut out that bad habit you've been meaning to do something about. You may not be happy if members of your family are not pulling their weight. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21)
You might find it difficult to control your emotions. Put your efforts into job advancement. You may not have the same ideas when it comes to what you both enjoy. Social events will lead to a strong and stable relationship. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20)
You need to fulfill your needs and pre sent your talents. Don't be afraid to make additions to your house. You have the ability to motivate others. Make alternate plans just in case you need to make a career shift. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19)
Hold on; your time will come. You may have some difficulties with someone you live with. Get friends to help you with the preparations. Don't be too quick to react. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)
Don't make large purchases unless you have discussed your choices with your mate. Overindulgence will mean poor health. You can make headway in the workforce if you put your mind to it. Take your time be fore making personal decisions. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.



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FOR THE HEALTH OF IT!

By Ima Foodnudge

KIWIS

- Aid digestion
- May help protect against cancer
- Darn good for ya
- Strengthens immune system

Kiwis deserve to be liberated from the fruit salad and stand on their own as a top healing food. The gem-like green flesh of one kiwi contains 120 percent of the RDA for vitamin C - almost twice as much as an orange. And unlike many fruits and veggies, which lose many of their nutrients when stored for more than a few days, kiwis retain 90 percent of their vitamin C even after six months, making them a valuable staple for your frig's fruit bin. Kiwis also provide an abundance of heart-protective potassium, more fiber than an apple, and an enzyme called atinidin, which aids digestion. All that for very few calories and an abundance of flavor.



about 1,000 IU's of beta carotene - more than 150 % of the RDA. It also contains 95 % of the RDA for vit C. Together these disease-fighting antioxidants do double battle against the free radicals that can damage healthy cells and cause cancer. TIP: You may need to handle mangoes with kid gloves - or plastic gloves, anyway. Mangoes belong to the same family as poison ivy, and their peel can severely irritate skin. Even if you've never had a reaction before, you may still be susceptible.

MUSHROOMS

- Strengthen immune system
- Lower cholesterol
- May reduce risk of heart disease
- May help prevent cancer

In Asia, mushrooms are an enduring symbol of longevity, and the Chinese have used them medicinally for some 6,000 years. It took us a while to appreciate more exotic cuisines which call for more delicious nutritious types such as shiitakes and maitakes. These mushrooms have potent immunity-building powers. The shiitakes contain a compound called lentinan that revs up the immune system, strengthening the body against infection and disease. Studies have shown that lentinan is even more effective than powerful prescription drugs in fighting influenza and other viruses. WOW. When fed to lab animals with tumors, lentinan, in the form of dried



mushroom powder, inhibited tumor growth by up to 67%

Got to go, off to the store for some extra shiitakes.

Summertime Tropical Fruit Salad

"A yummy and refreshing fruit salad with or without the dip. You should be able to find all of the fruits in larger grocery or special food stores. You can substitute almond extract for the vanilla extract, if you wish." Serves 2 to 4

INGREDIENTS

- 1 mango - peeled, seeded and cubed
- 1 papaya - peeled, seeded and cubed
- 2 mandarin oranges, peeled and segmented
- 2 kiwis, peeled and sliced
- 1/2 fresh pineapple - peeled, cored and cubed
- 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, room temperature
- 1 (7 ounce) jar marshmallow fluff
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract

DIRECTIONS

1. In a large bowl, gently toss together the mango, papaya, oranges, kiwis and pineapple.
2. In a medium bowl, blend cream cheese, marshmallow and vanilla extract on medium speed with an electric mixer until smooth and creamy. Topping can be poured over fruit or left in a separate bowl for dipping.

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

MANGOES

- Aid digestion
- May help protect against cancer
- May help prevent heart disease and stroke

Mangoes are among the most popular of tropical fruits because they taste so decadently good, not because they're so good for you. A super-healthy way to "have your cake and eat it too," their sweet, juicy flesh packs a nutritional wallop. One mango provides





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Clean-up Crew Lifts Face of

ANNUAL JONES DINNER IS COMPLETE SELL-OUT

our directors have done a remarkable job in contacting all the cottages because the biggest number of folks in Birch Lake history as purchased tickets for the annual dinner and square dance at Jones Community Hall this Saturday night.

Yacht Club Site SURVEY STAKED OUT; ENTRANCE CLEARED

There was enough brawn on hand for a good football squad as teen-age boys and some of their dads tackled the underbrush and that encumbered the 25-foot wide roadway

Yin Yang, Feng Shui, and the number 69 ...



Albert Einstein is perhaps most famous for the equation $E=mc^2$. A lesser known, but, potentially more important contribution (relatively speaking), is another equation he related: the Rule of 69, which has to do with interest and inflation.

Above is a scan from the August 15, 1959 Birch Barker, reproduced here for several reasons: it's fun to see the hand-drawn mast-head, remember the old custom of holding the Fall Dinner in Jones, and read about the Yacht Club site being cleared for construction.

Please note the hand written price of

ten cents. If you enter that amount in the Federal Reserve CPI calculator (1), \$0.10 in 1959 = \$0.69 in 2007. That's about right. The Barker you are reading, at 69 cents times 230 copies equals \$159, roughly what the 2007 Barker costs Birch Lake Yacht Club per week to print.

In a really good year, 70% of the residents pay Member dues. 30% of 230 is, you guessed it, 69. 69 times \$0.69 = \$47.61. That's what the Yacht Club spends (or loses) per week on those who don't pay dues. With 15 weekend editions, the Yacht Club spends (loses) roughly \$714 on non-supportive residents on the Barker alone.

In past we tried various tactics to encourage dues and donations. We threatened to cut off the weekly Barker (an empty threat ... it's too much trouble for volunteer delivery folks). We published the list of those who had paid. We considered publishing the list of those who had not paid (since it would consume fewer column inches).

A favorite story is about the fella who thoughtfully explained he hadn't paid dues since he didn't attend the parties. Mind you, the guy was at the annual Corn

and Sausage Roast at the time! But, BLYC does a lot more than host social functions.

This year Birch Lake Yacht Club will spend an estimated \$3,000 on milfoil treatment. \$3,000 divided by 230 cottages comes out to \$13 per cottage. \$13 (milfoil) + \$10 (Barker) = \$23. The \$20 dues won't even replace what the YC will spend per household in 2007!

In simplest terms, Yin and Yang are woven through Chinese philosophy to describe balance. In Mandarin, Fengshui is Wind for Feng and Water for Shui. The wind and water, here at Birch, are free. Everything else costs money. The Yacht Club provides service to our neighborhood, whether you attend functions, or no.

Birch Lake Yacht Club, as an agent of the community, deals with issues too large for individuals (like invasive species), through a collective. Please pay your fair share and support the Club.

-Bob King, Past Commodore

(1) Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis consumer price calculator can be found at: <http://www.minneapolisfed.org/research/data/us/calc/>

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BIRCH LAKE WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

July 8, 2007 Report to Residents – Gert Temple

Eurasian milfoil: Awaiting a report from Tony Groves regarding permit from DEQ

Water Quality Lake Contacts:

Dan Reynolds 476-8877 Rick Russwurm 476-2407 Bob/Gert Temple 476-2773

Thank you Phyllis White, Fran Welch, Doug Eichorst for your help and concern.

- Phyllis reported fisherman in roped off area. Removal of buoys. Rick responded.
- Fran questioned plants. Bob identified Arrowhead, beneficial: Protects shorelines from erosion. Shelter for young fish. Food for wetland mammals. (Minnows liked it)
- Doug questioned plant. Bob identified Eurasian. Doug removed small bed with great care as Bob instructed via Tony Groves. No fragments from that patch; however, Doug's daughter, Julie picked fragments out of the lake from boat activity.

Thank you Scott Troeger and Holly and "kids" for your help and concern.

- Scott offered help to Rick to remove Eurasian patch per Tony Groves instructions to prevent fragmentation from public landing boat activity. Holly and "kids" picked from the lake to prevent spreading.
- Thank you, Tom Rogers for helping Bob and Rick. Hopefully, the tarp will prevail.

Rick and Bob appreciate the immediate response and help in roping off the areas with buoys. Thanks to our daughter, Jan, husband, Tom. And thanks to our Grandson Scott.

Don Winne, Executive Director Michigan Lake & Stream Associations, (MLSA) was at the lake at first call to identify Eurasian. His instructions were followed: Rope off area. Get permission from affected area. Get BLYC support. Contact Tony Groves.

The Eurasian milfoil alert superseded the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program Annual Summary Report for 2006. Bob is the lead coordinator for CLMP which provides sampling methods, training, workshops, technical support, and quality control at the ML&SA Conference. Don Winne requested that Water Quality enroll in CLMP in 1998.

- 20 years earlier I was inspired as I listened to Don speak about Birch Lake: a lake with individual characteristics unlike any other lake. A lake that needed a water quality committee to assist water quality specialists in their desire to return Birch Lake to the clean, clear water the Indians revered.

CLMP documents the return of Birch Lake to clean, clear water.

Birch Lake is a low productive (*oligotrophic*) lake. Birch Lake is deep and clear with little aquatic plant growth. Birch Lake maintains sufficient *dissolved oxygen* in the cool deep bottom waters during late summer to support cold water fish, (trout).

Parameters that are a good indirect measurement of a lake's *productivity* are measured by a Secchi disk, chlorophyll *a*, and total phosphorus. Dissolved oxygen and temperature are two fundamental measurements of lake productivity.

Long term monitoring of the basic indicators on a consistent and regular basis may provide the data needed to recognize changes in lake productivity. *Productivity* refers to the amount of plants that can be produced within the lake.

A downward trend will alert Water Quality and ML&SA to examine Birch Lake data to determine the reason for a change in our water quality from Oligotrophic (top quality) to Mesotrophic (middle quality). CLMP is designed to specifically monitor changes.

Plant *nutrients* are a major factor that causes increased productivity in Birch Lake. *Phosphorus* is the key factor. Birch Lake is *sensitive* to *phosphorus*. Birch Lake retains its water for 15.5 years. Any *phosphorus* entering the lake will remain for a long time and build up. Please remember to fertilize with our "No Phosphorus" fertilizer.

Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP) Results

provided by the Birch Lake Yacht Club

Year	# Readings	SECCHI DISK TRANSPARENCY (FEET)						Carlson TSI _{SD}
		Min	Max	Mean	Median	Std. Dev.		
2006	18	12	38	21.7	18.5	9.32	33	
2005	18	13.0	32.0	20.3	19.0	6.83	34	
2004	19	12.0	43.0	19.6	14.0	9.26	34	
2003	19	10.0	33.0	19.3	14.0	9.02	34	
2002	19	14.0	31.0	20.5	17.0	6.16	34	
2001	18	12.0	29.0	19.1	17.5	4.76	35	
2000	18	14.0	24.0	18.4	18.3	2.96	35	
1999	18	11.0	30.0	15.5	13.0	6.21	38	

Year	Total Phosphorus Results				Carlson TSI _{TP}
	Spring Vol	Late Summer (Vol)	DEQ		
2006	3w	10			37
2005	6	6			30
2004	5	11			39
2003	7	9			36
2002	10	3T			<27
2001	9	7			32
2000	7	8	9		39
1999	10	8			34

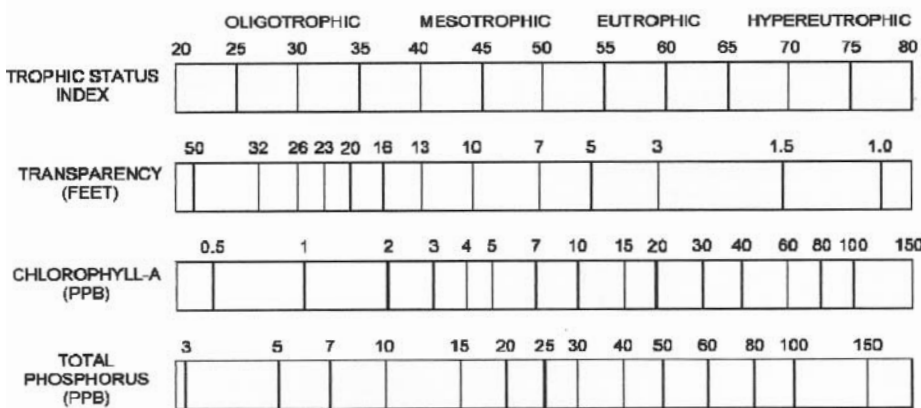
T=VALUE REPORTED IS LESS THAN THE REPORTING LIMIT (5 UG/L). RESULT IS ESTIMATED.
 W=VALUE IS LESS THAN THE METHOD DETECTION LIMIT (3 UG/L)

Year	CHLOROPHYLL RESULTS								Carlson TSI _{chl}
	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Mean	Median	Std. Dev.	
2006	1.0<	1.0<	2.5	2.1	2.1	1.5	2.1	1.0	38
2005	2.2	2.2	3.7	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.6	0.6	40
2004	4.1	1.0<	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.6	2.8	1.3	41
2003	2.3	1.4	*	*	*				
2002	2	1<	2	2	1	1.5	2	0.7	37
2001	5	2	2	2	3	2.8	2	1.3	37
2000	5	2	1	2	3	2.0	2	0.82	37
1999	2	5	1	3	4	3.3	4	1.71	43

2001 Aquatic Plant Mapping

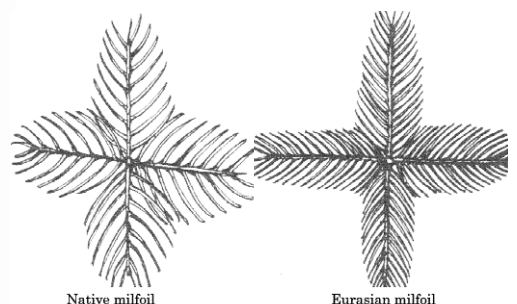
Plant Number	Plant Name	Distribution	Average Density
20	Stonewort	49	2.13
40	Native milfoil	20	0.79
34	Wild celery	17	0.47
36	Waterweed	11	0.44
32	Thin-leaf pondweed	10	0.44
43	Flat-stemmed pondweed	11	0.40
46	Illinois pondweed	12	0.33
48	Bladderwort	9	0.25
52	Sago pondweed	10	0.22
9	Arrowhead	4	0.22
47	Water marigold	6	0.18
45	American pondweed	2	0.05
51	Curly-leaf pondweed	3	0.04
37	A small leafed pondweed	2	0.02
12	White water lily	1	0.02
7	Bulrush	2	0.02
21	Bushy pondweed	1	0.01

CARLSON'S TROPHIC STATE INDEX



Milfoil Comparison

The figures below represent stem cross sections at a leaf node for both native and Eurasian milfoils. Note that Eurasian milfoil has more leaflets on each leaf than native milfoils. Eurasian milfoil generally has more than the 12 leaflets on one side of the leaf's central axis, while native milfoils have less than 12.



(Source: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency)

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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Team Captain _____ TOTAL \$ Paid _____

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

___Two Carts

___One Cart

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2007 Dues, Contributions & Donations Form

- \$ _____ - BLYC Member Dues (\$20 / year)
- \$ _____ - BLYC Associate Member Dues (\$10 / year)
- \$ _____ - Homeowners' Assoc. (\$10 / year)
- \$ _____ - Sailing Fees (\$15 / year)
- \$ _____ - Building Improvement Fund
- \$ _____ - Fireworks Fund
- \$ _____ - Water Quality Program
- \$ _____ - Eurasian Milfoil Eradication
- \$ _____ - Riparian (\$8/yr, provide address for magazine)
- \$ _____ - Safety Committee
- \$ _____ - Other (non-party related expenses)

Total \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

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1516 Ash Drive East
Elkhart, IN 46514

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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.

FOUND:

Yellow, 2-seat Float Tube (kid dragger). Call Bill at 476-2280, 14890 Birch Lake Rd.

FOR SALE

For Sale: Large Compost Tumbler in very good condition \$ 180. Also: **Holder 14 MK made by Hobie Cat** also in good condition \$1500. Will consider other offer .Claude Petit W. 847 675 6241 or cell 847 274 9932

FOR SALE: Four Passenger Peddle Boat. Save on gas! Great fun for the family & friends. Asking \$75. Call Doreen 630-816-3374.

For sale: 2002 Mercury 6 hp out-board engine. 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

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

Sunfish with stand/manual lift \$200. 476-1680.

Pontoon for sale. 24' Sanpan w/ 30 hp Evinrude motor. '80s vintage but runs good. Interior and seats in good condition. Asking \$2,500. Call Gablemans 574-215-0336.

12-foot aluminum fishing boat \$50. 476-2166 pr 773-304-8042. Kevin

Aluminum **Jet Ski lift**, 5 yrs old, used only 3 yrs, \$300. Brand new Aqualux white 30 x 60 **whirlpool tub**, \$300. 476-2040

Lake Safe Fertilizer - Only a few bags left. This fertilizer is offered by

the Water Quality Committee and is approved for greening your lawn without harming the lake. Don't feed the weeds, use lake safe fertilizer. It is only \$12 a bag and pick up or delivery can be arranged by calling the Bouwkamps at 476-1001.

Storage Facility for Sale or Lease - Zoned Commercial, Storage Facility and Property located around the corner in Williamsville and is available for lease or sale. Building is 7,600 sq. ft. or you can lease 4,000 sq. ft. with high bay doors for tractor trailer access. You can review the property at <http://home.comcast.net/~mill-racestorage> Inquiries may call 476-1001.

BLYC MERCHANDISE:

Birch Lake Posters, ready to frame, only two left at \$20@. Soon to be a collectors print signed by the artist.

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