

Birch Barker

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Weekend of August 25 2007



photo courtesy of Bob King

Commodore's Comments

Writing my first commodore's comments has made me think of some things that we can all feel grateful for!

First is the friendship that we gain from all the wonderful people that call this lake home.

Second, the greatest lake — we are all so blessed to have either grown up here or found it by some other method, with the sun's rays beaming down or the moon's glow glistening over. We have all found a place we can call home.

This last weekend's fall dinner will always be very special for many reasons, but Saturday night made me realize why we call this lake home. We are sur-

rounded with so many great people that care and are willing to help with anything.

I want to thank all the people who helped make the fall dinner a success. I could not have done it without you — And a very special thank you to Amy, my partner and future wife. You make my life complete.

The fall dinner makes us realize that summer is winding down and that autumn is right around the corner — kids returning to school, cool nights, pontoon rides watching the colors change, bon fires, sweatshirts, card parties and the annual chili cook-off.

Just because summer is over doesn't mean we close up shop. Fall is a wonderful time to be at the lake. It is without a doubt my most enjoyable time of the year.

In closing, I would like to thank Blair

Tentative BLYC Calendar

Sept. 1BLYC Board Meeting 9 am
Sept. 3BLYC Sailing Awards

for all the time and hard work she devoted to the BLYC and the many hours, calls, and e-mails that were needed to keep everyone up to date with the discovery and treatment of the Eurasian Milfoil.

I can't say it enough, thank you so much, Blair, it's people like you that makes this lake what it is "GREAT."

Hope to see you on the H2O!

-Mike Lutz, Commodore 2008

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 —

Recycling at Birch Lake

I have received some information from Michiana Recycling and Disposal Services about a new program they are starting in our area. They are starting a curbside recycling program for newspapers, brown paper bags, clear bottles and jars, aluminum and tin cans, plastic #1 and #2 bottles and jugs and cardboard boxes. The cost of this program is \$2 per month. For the first year they are asking for a full year payment to help them with their initial costs. I do not know if they will allow residents to sign up on a seasonal basis. The recycled items need to be placed in specially designed bags that will be delivered to your home once you sign up. If you are interested in participating please call them at 1-800-722-9710. **-Blair Garceau**

Birch Lake Book Group

The BL Book Group will meet at 10 am Saturday, Sept. 15 at the home of Denny Weesner. *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* is the book that will be discussed. There will also be discussion about books to read over the winter. All readers are invited.

Volleyball?

Last week's rain kinda put a damper on our volleyball fun. (Ha, good one) Let's try again this week. Join us at 1:00pm on Sunday at the court near Ben and Vanessa's barn in the southeast corner. You don't need to have a team to play. Just show up and we'll make up sides.

Birch Lake Kids of the Week



How about a pair of Patties as Birch Barker Kids of the Week? Patty Luecht and Patti Russwurm were cheesing it up at last weekend's Fall Dinner ...

See you all there.

Spratts visiting

Chris Spratt and friends are visiting dad on the north shore this weekend.

They've all come from northern Kentucky to enjoy one of the last great weekends of the summer. Chris is an auto technician at Raceline Tuning in Hamilton, OH and will be here through the weekend.



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

-Ben and Vanessa Wozniak

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'Have A Safe and Fun Summer!'

— Birch Lake Notes —



Birch Lake Kids of the Week



Thank you Whitemans!

Ron and Ian Whiteman posed with the Birch Lake Yacht Club sign post that they installed a new post in the Whitemans' yard and re-hung the sign last week. The old post has been broken and the sign has been propped against a rock in their yard for quite some time. The Whitemans bought the materials and corrected the situation. The Birch Lake Yacht Club officers and board of directors extend a big "thank you" to the family for helping all of our members and visitors to find their way to the Yacht Club in the future.

Patrick (23) and Sarah (22) Mullin are Barker Kids of the Week. Mom and dad (Pam & Rich) say it isn't often that they get both kids home at the same time.

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— Birch Lake Notes —

Birch Lake Kids of the Week



My grandson Dominic gets his pic in again, this time because bad Patty got a cool photo of him grinning while wearing neighbor John's Mario hat.



Katie and John Luecht get KOW honors again after both attending Camp Tannadoonah during the same week this summer.

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— Birch Lake Notes —

Birch Lake Visitors spot Loosestrife

On a recent visit to Cove Cottage, my friends Bill and Rosmarie Worsteii from Chagrin Falls, Ohio, took an early morning kayak tour around Birch Lake.

Having been previously educated about the “perils” of the Loosestrife plant, they spotted what they believed to be a growth of the dreaded intruder.

Upon their return to the cottage they reported their findings, so out in the pontoon boat we went to verify the discovery.

Indeed, another pesky plant had developed along the West shoreline.

We pulled the boat into shore and with the help of Rosmarie, we removed the “dreaded” Loosestrife from the banks of our beautiful Birch Lake.

Good work, Bill and Rosmarie. Your watchful eyes paid off. You see, they also love and enjoy this beautiful lake.



This week's Questions:

39. A man's 12 week old son has 300 of these, but the man himself has just 206. What?

40. What important invention was envisioned by a 14 year old named Philo Farnsworth while he plowed his father's potato field?

41. In France in 1991, moviegoers flocked to see the hit Life, Love, Cows. In most other countries the film was called something else. What?

42. If you're walking down the street and "fillipping": what are you doing?

43. Katherine Hepburn and Hugh Hefner had the same major in college. What was it?

Answers to last week's Questions

34. In the last year 17% of Americans have had one of these. In 1997 the number was just 8%. A massage!

35. What TV show do Charo and Marion Ross (from Happy Days) share the record for most guest appearances on? The Love Boat!

36. In Europe, 90% of the cars have this, while in the U.S. only 11% do. What? Manual Transmissions!

37. What foreign country is the source of the most investment in the US? The United Kingdom!

38. The company that produces this is the world's largest purchaser of popcorn. Produces what? Cracker Jack!

-Bruce Wagner

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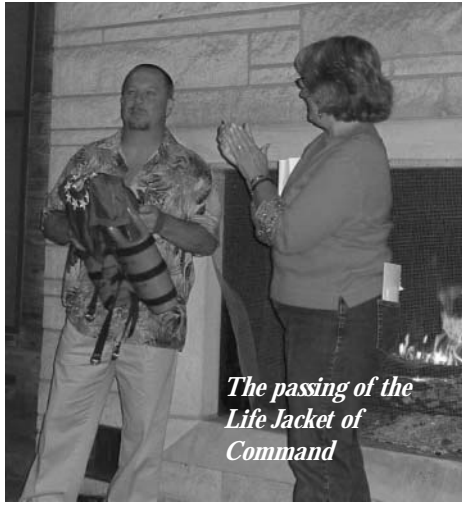
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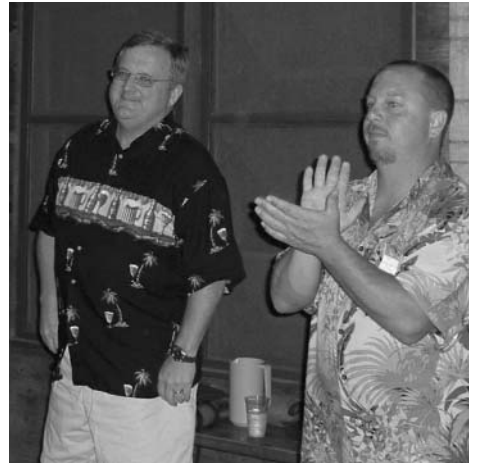
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Fall Dinner 2007



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New Vice Commodore Paul Fallon



Commodore Blair Garceau awarding Commodore's Award to Dave & Judy Olson



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Fleet Captain's Corner

Passing the Torch... As the last days of summer approach, and the children scream and laugh noisily on the corner this morning awaiting their bus, I prepare to pass the torch and Captaincy to the new 2008 Fleet Captain, Bill Luecht. Congratulations and thanks to Bill for taking over my favorite job for the past two years. It has been a challenge, pleasure, frustration and honor to serve as Fleet Captain. I hope someday to be honored with the position of Fleet Captain again or perhaps to serve as Vice-Commodore and eventually Commodore. Thanks to all for everything and please help Bill with all things sailing as much as you have helped me and my Fleet Admiral, Erica and our Fleet Cabin Boy, Dominic.

We will be having a Couple's Regatta, tentatively set for the second Saturday in September at about 3 or 4 PM. This time and date gives couples a chance for something to do together on the much quieter weekend after Labor Day, better sailing winds and still great weather, and it is also close to a dinner time and maybe a glass of wine. Definitely the perfect finish to a perfect lake day.

While shut out of regular season sailing by Mother Nature once again, the Kids Regatta was great fun. Standings for regular season are the same as last week and we only have one more day, this Sunday, to finish the regular season, so every race counts this weekend! Back to the Kids Regatta, although I didn't have a kid aboard, I still had the best sail of my year. I guess the "kid" aboard was me! I was just out for the sake of the wind and sail, no other reason, and my two laps around the course were my personal sailing highlight of my year.

Although it is warm, and humid, or perhaps because of the wet, sticky weather, I start to think of the crisp winds of autumn, whispering and roaring in glorious waves of ambers, reds and gold flowing on the trees surrounding the lake. Fall is fast approaching and thoughts of college football, bonfires and a little nip of warm cider or an Irish coffee start to creep into my sailing dreams. In anticipation of the shortening days and growing, darkening nights, I thought I would include a little more sailing lore, that of the more eerie kind, for those that love a good story or two. So here is a story from my Navy days...

The Crew of the USS Constellation (1797), still on watch?

Three ships of the United States Navy have borne the name USS Constellation, in honor, according to the US Congress, of the "new constellation of stars" on the flag of the United States.

I. The original Constellation, a 38-gun frigate, was the second ship to be commissioned in the United States Navy; the first US Navy vessel to put to sea; and the first US Navy vessel to engage, defeat, and capture an enemy vessel. Built in Baltimore at David Stoddards Shipyard in Canton, a hamlet just east of Fells Point, MD and launched on September 7, 1797, the Constellation set sail under the command of Captain Thomas Truxtun.

II. The second Constellation was a sloop of war that served from 1855 to 1933, and is preserved as a National Historic Landmark in Baltimore, Maryland. From 1854 to 1991, the Navy maintained that the second ship was the same as the first; this resulted in considerable damage to the ship, especially when as a museum ship she was "restored" to her "former appearance" as a frigate.

III. The third Constellation (CV-64) was a Kitty Hawk-class steam turbine propelled aircraft carrier which served from 1961 to 2003. I served on this ship myself in various deployments in 1999 and 2001. "Old Connie" was a hideous, garbage heap of a ship when I was aboard, but the crew was a close-knit family of 4,300 and "the Boat" had a real feeling of home. The only "ghosts" onboard this ship were of sea bags full of dirty laundry from only God knows when! You knew what deck you were on by the smell alone.

It's the original Constellation though, my boat's grandmother, if you will that I'm talking about today...

Sitting proudly at rest in Baltimore Harbor, the original USS Constellation emits an aura of peace of and security. Where once men died under the hail of grapeshot and thrashing blades, children now walk gleefully with their candy.

During her 175-year history, much blood has flowed over her wooden beams. So what or who, among the countless who have met death on her deck, was the ghostly apparition that was photographed in the fo'cstle in 1955? Lt. Cmdr. Allen Ross Brougham, USN, the man who snapped the photo, believes it is a captain returning to inspect his ship. To a Catholic priest and former Navy Lieutenant who came face to face with the ghost, it is an old salt, unwilling to leave the beloved sea.

Legends of ghosts and other strange occurrences have long been told about the United States Navy's first ship. But the first indication that they were more than the reminiscences of old sea dogs came at 8 bells (Midnight) on a cold December night in 1955. Commander Brougham had his camera set. Waiting patiently, he allegedly caught the ghost forever on film. At 11:59:47 P.M., to be exact, the Navy officer "detected a faint scent in the air—a certain something not unlike gunpowder." Then before him, he said, appeared a "phosphorescently glowing, translucent manifestation of a late Eighteenth Century or early Nineteenth Century sailor, complete with gold stripe trouser, cocked hat and sword." He barely had time to snap the shutter before the eerie figure vanished, he said.

There is also a famous story concerning the experience of a Catholic priest and also former US Navy Officer who visited the Constellation in 1964. When the priest arrived, there was no member of the Maryland Naval Militia to take him aboard for a tour. So, being familiar with ships, and very eager to explore, he went below by himself. While

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wandering beneath the deck, he said, he was startled by an ancient chief petty officer dressed in the uniform of the time of the Constellation's glory, who happily volunteered information about history of the ship and the proper names for the equipment, even including a few personal stories about the ship. After thanking his guide, and well entertained by the period performance of the old chief, the priest went above deck where he met several of the regular tour guides. He congratulated them for having such a knowledgeable man as the one who led him around. The real guides were pale and horrified. "We have no one below," they protested. In haste, the guides and the priest rushed down the narrow stairway, but as the priest reached out for the old guide, he smiled sweetly and vanished into the air, leaving only a wispy scent of rum, gunpowder and tobacco.

There are many examples of ships in horror literature and ghost stories of the 19th and 20th century. Is there something naturally frightening about a ship? They can be creaky and strange. Perhaps it's the fact that once a ship sets sail, we are cut off from the rest of the humanity. We are dependent on a little floating world. We must stay with the ship in order to survive, for we can not survive very long in the water. And if we should discover something on board the ship, something inhuman or otherworldly, we can not

Kid's Regatta Results for 2007

The 2007 Kid's Regatta was last Saturday. We had a low turnout, but, fun was had by all. In future maybe holding the event earlier in the season will promote attendance.

Thanks to Bill and Le for hosting / Stew and Barry for doing Race Committee duty.

RACE 1	RACE 2	
1 (*)	1	MC 618 CLAIRE
3	2	MC 1199 TAYLOR and KENDALL
2	4	MC 500 MORGANN and AMANDA
4	3	MC 348 KATIE
1	1	SUNFISH 53 NEIL and CAL
NK	NK	SUNFISH X FLEET CAP'N STEVE

(*) - a late report from the RC indicated Claire made contact with the committee boat in R1 — Taylor and Kendall offer all contestants a sail-off, winner takes all (otherwise they claim 1st).

NK = automatic disqualification for sailing with NO KID.

Apologies in advance for mis-speeled names!

-Capt. Bob

easily escape it until the ship comes into port.

Some people don't like ghost stories, real or fictional and refuse to read them or even discuss the possibility. However, upon closer examination, ghost stories can teach us a lot about ourselves. Ambrose Bierce in his Devil's Dictionary said that a ghost was "The outward and visible sign of

an inward fear." With that in mind, the ghost story becomes not so much about the ghost but what the ghost represents. What am I afraid of? What am I afraid I will do or fail to do? Will I prevail in the end? Who knows? Only the wind and Davy Jones.

Stormy Nights and Raging Seas,

Steve Richards

2007 BLYC Fleet Captain



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Tannadoonah Tidbits



Well, camp is over for the summer, and it's back to "real life" for me and the rest of our staff. I seems like this summer went by way too quickly! Having the fall dinner up at camp was a lot of fun, and I hope we can do that again in the future. Congrats to Mike & Amy!

Even though our summer season is all done, we have a bunch of upcoming events this fall. First, September 7-9 is our annual Fall Festival, which is a mini camp weekend for kids. We do many of the regular camp activities, as well as a few special fall activities. It's a lot of fun, and a great way to get back in touch with camp friends and stay involved even though the summer has ended. I also need more volunteers for this weekend, so if anyone wants to come up and be a camp counselor for a few days please let me know!

The next event will be our first ever Women's Retreat Weekend. It is scheduled for September 29-30. We are planning on having crafts, games, lots of time for relaxing, cocktail hour, good food, and possibly massages, manicures, and yoga / pilates instruction! I'm also trying to figure out a way to do boat rides around the lake, so if anyone would be willing to let us borrow their pontoon (or captain a few

boat rides) we would really appreciate it! I'm still working out all the details, but if you are interested in attending please let me know so I can get an idea of how many people to expect.

The following weekend (October 5-7) will be a Family Camping weekend. The Family Camp weekend is sort of like an open camping weekend. We will have a family fee (to be determined still), and each family would get a cabin (or room in a cabin. If we have more than 12 families, we would have to combine families who know each other ahead of time. The kayaks and canoes will still be available, as well as the lifejackets. Generally for family camp weekends, we provide meals and organize a few group games (optional), but for the most part it's fairly unstructured so that families can do what they want during the weekend. Again, if you're interested in attending, please let me know!

On Friday evening, October 12th, we will be having a special fundraiser dinner up at camp. This will be a catered dinner, and we are hoping to make it a very nice event. This fundraiser will benefit Camp Tannadoonah and we really hope to have a big turnout from both the lake and the Camp Fire organization.

More details will be available soon! Finally, throughout the fall we

have work days scheduled. We have a lot of projects and tasks that need to be done in order to close up camp, and it takes a lot of volunteer hands to get them all done. Generally, we have work days on many of the Saturdays and Sundays throughout September, October and into November. The work days usually last from about 9am to 3pm, with people coming and going throughout the day. We provide lunch for all of the workers. There are lots of jobs of varying size and difficulty, so we can find something for anyone! Some of the jobs include: moving mattresses from the cabins into the dining hall, moving sailboats and canoes into the dining hall, closing windows and shutters on cabins, cleaning / sweeping buildings, splitting wood, raking leaves, etc. The more people we have, the fewer days we have to be up there, and the earlier in the fall we can get all the tasks done! If you have a few hours to spare on a weekend, please give me a call or email to see how you can help.

Thank you to everyone for all of your support of camp this year, and for all the years in the past!


-Miss Amber, aka

Amber Holleman Grundy, Ph.D.

Director, Camp Tannadoonah

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If you should you have any questions concerning the apparel available for order, feel free to give me a call. If you are interested in pursuing additional artwork from Coy, you may contact him directly via his email address: **www.coyjankowski@aol.com**.

Depending upon the number and size of orders received, delivery time is estimated to be two weeks from the date the initial order is placed. I will warehouse the apparel items in my home and will dispense them from here until November 19th (Thanksgiving

week). Orders will need to be prepaid by check made payable to BLYC where funds will be kept in a designated account.

The Board and I would like to consider adding additional items with Coy's designs at the Spring Dinner, 2008. We are considering: plastic drink glasses, beach towels, waffle-weave bathrobes, long-sleeved cotton t-shirts, walking shorts and/or a ladies' walking shirt/pants set as well.

Please keep in mind when ordering that Christmas is only four months away! Thank you for your consideration and support of the Birch Lake Yacht Club!

Fran Welch
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New designs by Coy Jankowski — Exclusively for the Birch Lake Yacht Club



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	Boat	Turtle		Women	S M L	XL		
				Men	S M L	XL	XXL	
T-Shirts (100% preshrunk)	Bird	Bikini	Black or White	Youth	S M L			\$15
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Stu's Star Stuff



Lunar eclipse coming

The other day my reader said to me, "You know what we haven't had this summer, Stu? A good old fashion eclipse." I thought, that's right. So why don't we have one? How about next week?

A total eclipse of the Moon will occur during the early morning of Tuesday, August 28. The event is widely visible from the United States and Canada as well as South America, the Pacific Ocean, western Asia and Australia.

An eclipse of the Moon can only take place at Full Moon, and only if the Moon passes through some portion of Earth's shadow. The shadow is actually composed of two cone-shaped parts, one nested inside the other. The outer shadow or penumbra is a zone where Earth blocks some, but not all, of the Sun's rays. In contrast, the inner shadow or umbra is a region where Earth blocks all direct sunlight from reaching the Moon.

If only part of the Moon passes through the umbra, a partial eclipse is seen. However, if the entire Moon passes through the umbral shadow, as it will on Tuesday, then a total eclipse of the Moon occurs.

A total lunar eclipse is a beautiful event. The Moon slowly enters Earth's long shadow, so it looks like there's a progressively

bigger "bite" missing from it until it almost disappears. As the Moon slides deeper and deeper into the shadow the Moon's disk can take on a dramatically colorful appearance, from bright orange to blood red to dark brown and (rarely) very dark gray.

Both lunar and solar eclipses have made big splashes over the centuries. Many cultures thought of them as omens of bad fortune, or signs of displeasure by the gods. Eclipses have even stopped wars. And knowledge of an impending eclipse saved one famous explorer and his men.

Christopher Columbus was on his fourth expedition to the New World when he and his crew were stranded on Jamaica. They survived by trading with the natives for food. But when the Spaniards mistreated some of the locals, they cut off the supplies.

Columbus knew there would be a total lunar eclipse on the night of February 29th, 1504. He told tribal leaders that his God was angry with them, and would take away the Moon. When the eclipse began, the leaders begged him to restore the Moon. He promised to do so -- if he and his men received the supplies they needed. The leaders agreed, the eclipse ended, and Columbus and his crew survived until they were res-

cued a few months later.

This part of the show doesn't happen very often, so be sure to check it out. It begins around 4:51am here at the lake and ends a little after 8:00am. And best of all, it's free.

-Stu Spratt



The Moon tonight:
The moon for Aug. 25 (at Midnight)
Illuminated Fraction: 0.939
2.2 days until full moon

Your Horoscope

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20)

Be sure to organize events that will keep the children busy. Don't overspend to impress others. Be careful not to push your luck or take too much for granted when dealing on either a personal or professional level. Overexertion and negligence will be your worst enemies. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- may 21)

Reevaluate your motives. Keep important information to yourself. You can't do everything on your own. Do not ruffle feathers if possible. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)

You may want to make changes that will turn your entertainment room into a real family affair. Do not let the reactions of others get you going. Eliminate situations that are no longer to your advantage. Some situations may be blown out of proportion. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

Be diplomatic when dealing with in-law. Don't promise to deliver the goods if you aren't positive that you can meet the deadline. Lighten up your serious attitude Organize social events or family gatherings. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22)

You will be extremely receptive to new and progressive methods at work. You will be able to get good advice if you listen to close friends or relatives you respect. Your creative ideas will be put to good use if you dig in and do things around the house that will make your family happy. Frustrations and limitations could cause anxiety this week. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23)

Don't second guess yourself, just go to it. Sudden changes regarding your domestic scene are probable. You will encounter those who can help you further your goals if you attend functions that attract prominent people. Personal alterations will be in your best interest. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23)

Be sure to cover all the necessary groundwork before signing binding contracts. Avoid being intimately involved with clients or colleagues. Your ability to organize and get everyone together will enhance your popularity and bring interest from potential mates. You are best not to confide in anyone right now. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Organization will be the key to avoiding discord and family feuds. You might get behind if you spend too much time debating senseless issues. Get involved in sports events that will benefit your physical appearance. You can expect the fur to fly on the home front. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21)

Don't hesitate to voice your opinions at a group meeting; however, keep your thoughts to yourself at home. Those you work with may have little consideration for the underdog. Changes in your home environment may cause friction. Make a point of working on yourself. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20)

Your emotional partner will push the right buttons this week. Concern yourself with legal matters and formulating contracts rather than finalizing your objectives. You need to sit back and enjoy. Be discreet and don't present your ideas until you're certain that they're foolproof. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19)

You can make a difference if you take a position of leadership. Limitations at work might set you back. Secret affairs will only lead to deception. Catch up on overdue phone calls and correspondence. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)

You may have to take a short trip to visit someone who hasn't been well. You will have the stamina and the know how to raise your earning power. Get the whole family involved in a worthwhile cause or cultural event. You will be emotional with regard to your personal life. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

FOR THE HEALTH OF IT!

By Ima Foodnudge

Feel'en a little spicy this week so let's go for it!



5 SUPERSTAR SPICES

Ground cayenne adds heat and a slightly smoky aroma. The cayenne chile is one of the hotter chile peppers available, thanks to a hefty dose of capsaicin. This compound, which gives all chile peppers their heat, may boost metabolism slightly.

Coriander is a seed of the cilantro plant, and its smoky citrus flavor is indispensable to Indian Cuisine. It's used whole, coarsely crushed, or ground. Because it complements other spices so well, it finds its way into many Indiana seasoning blends.

Cumin seeds have an aromatic, peppery flavor popular in many cuisines, including Mexican and Southwest American. They're also said to help with digestion, so some natives of these areas chew a few whole seeds after a meal.

Mustard seeds are pungent, slightly bitter, and tiny. Most recipes call for very little (little dab will do ya). Mustard seeds stimulate blood flow and helps to improve circulation and warm the skin, easing painful muscles and sore joints. As a stimulant, it helps to improve digestion and metabolize fat.

Ground turmeric adds a distinctive yellow hue and musky flavor. A member of the ginger family, turmeric has antibacterial properties and also contains a compound called curcumin, which has been shown to destroy breast cancer cells in laboratory studies

RECIPES

INDIAN EGGPLANT - BHURTHA

"This is a traditional North Indian (Punjabi) Bhurtha made with eggplant and tomato, and seasoned with cumin, turmeric garlic and ginger."

4 servings

INGREDIENTS

- 1 eggplant
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1/2 teaspoon cumin seeds
- 1 medium onion, sliced
- 1 teaspoon chopped fresh ginger
- 1 large tomato - peeled, seeded and diced
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1/2 teaspoon ground turmeric
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon ground coriander
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon salt, or to taste
- ground black pepper to taste
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat the oven's broiler. Rub oil on the outside of the egg plant, or coat with cooking spray. Place under the broiler, and cook until the flesh is soft and the skin is blistering off, about 30 minutes. Turn as needed for even cooking. Cut the eggplant in half lengthwise, and scoop the flesh out of the skin. Discard the skin; chop up the flesh, and set aside.

2. Heat the oil in a large skillet or wok over medium-high heat. Add the cumin seeds, and let them crackle for a few seconds and turn golden brown. Be careful not to burn them. Add the onion, ginger and garlic; cook and stir until tender. I don't let the onions get very brown. Stir in the tomato, and season with turmeric, ground cumin, ground coriander, cayenne pepper, salt and black pepper. Cook and stir for a few minutes.

3. Place the eggplant pieces in the skillet, and cook for 10 to 15 minutes so some of the moisture evaporates. Taste, and adjust seasonings if desired. Garnish with fresh cilantro, and serve.

Variation

You can also add peas to this dish. Stir in 1/2 cup of frozen peas when you are simmering the tomatoes.

ICED TEA III

"Cool, refreshing, and abundant summer drink. Serve in a tall glass over ice."

16 (8 ounce) servings

INGREDIENTS

- 6 black tea bags
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 1 gallon boiling water
- 1 (6 ounce) can frozen lemonade concentrate

DIRECTIONS

1. Place the tea bags and sugar into a 1 gallon glass jar. Fill with boiling water. Let steep for 2 hours at room temperature. Remove and discard tea bags. Stir in lemonade concentrate. Refrigerate until cool.

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

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BIRCH LAKE WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
August 19, 2007 Report to Residents – Gertie Temple

Water Clarity is a measure of water quality related to the chemical and physical properties of Birch Lake. As phosphorus from fertilizers enter the lake, more algae are produced and Water Clarity decreases. Call Bob 476-2773 or Dave 476-1001 for "O" phosphorus fertilizer if needed.

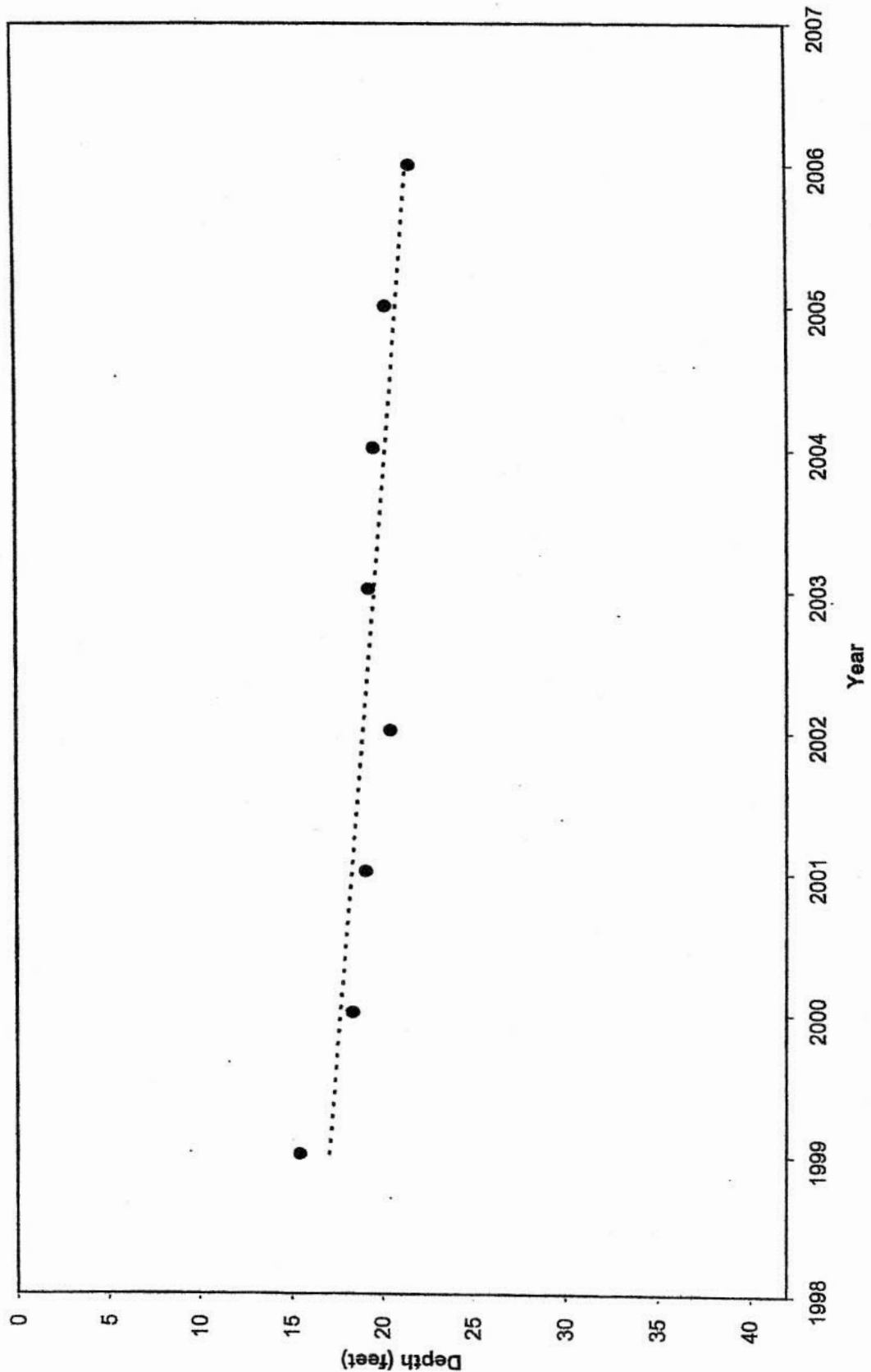
The annual means can be compared to evaluate changes or trends in the trophic status of the lake. The mean, or average, is simply the sum of the measurements divided by the number of measurements taken weekly (with a Secchi disk) from May until the last week in September.

Viable data below is an indication of a high water quality index at Birch Lake from 1999 to 2006. Results of the 2007 Water Clarity measurement will be reported to you when received from the DEQ in 2008.

Thanks from your lake contacts: Chair, Dan Reynolds. Rick Russwurm. Bob & Gertie Temple

COOPERATIVE LAKES MONITORING PROGRAM
SUMMER MEAN TRANSPARENCY

Birch Lake (Cass Co.)



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Board of Directors

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Dick Bender
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Westside/Cove



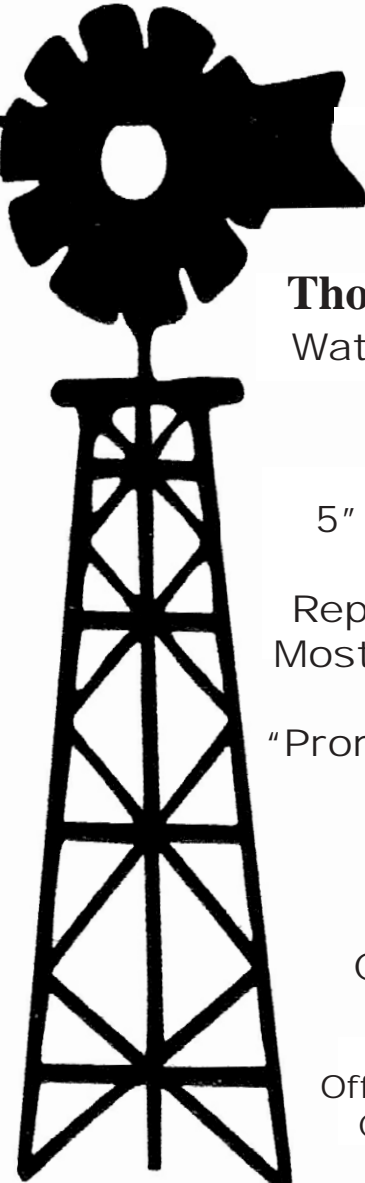
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CLASSIFIED ADS

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.

Florida rentals: We have a house in Naples and a condo in Daytona Beach for rent, if interested please call the Bergans, 476-9359.

FOUND:

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

FOR SALE

Window air-conditioner. Call Olson, 476-2125.

For Sale '94 Toyota Camry wagon, 4 cyl, 91,000 miles, runs good but needs a new muffler, \$3,400. Dave Olson 476-2125

Fishing boat for sale — \$500. 19?? 12' Aluminum fishing boat with 9.9 Evenrude motor. Old Gator trailer. Wide bottom boat very steady in the water, great to take the kids fishing in. Tom DeCocker 476-9821.

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

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

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/~millracestorage> Inquiries may call 476-1001.

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MISSING

Cast iron otter/beaver/muskrat boot scraper. The head and flat tail of this reclining beastie is brown metal. There's a coarse brush in it's belly area. He's been a constant fixture at our rear door for many, many summers. Please call Betsy Custard at 476-9835 or 574-255-8894 if you have any information about its current location. I appreciate your help.

BLYC MERCHANDISE:

■ Birch Lake Posters, we were very fortunate to receive additional posters from Camp Fire. These Birch Lake posters were given to the camp. Therefore, all money received on these sales will be returned to camp. Ready to frame and signed by the artist, selling at \$20.

■ 2007 Birch Lake Calendars, a few remain at a discounted price.

Call **Vickie Rogers** 476-2383

PETS:

4 kittens born on July 17th will be needing new homes soon. 2 female brown tiger stripe and 2 males - one is brown tiger stripe and one black. Also the loving mother cat needs a home. She is a brown tiger stripe also, approximately a year old and loves attention. Call Rita or Dennis at 476-2744 in the evenings.



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- \$ _____ - 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 _____

Address _____

Mail to: Holly Troeger, Treasurer

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

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