

The official publication of the
BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB

Birch Barker

Weekend of Sept. 5, 2009

© Copyright 2009, The Birch Lake Yacht Club



Thanks to Bad Patty, who shot this great sailing shot while aboard the Bad Patty Committee Boat last Sunday ...

Ode to Birch Lake

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

'A lake is the landscape's most beautiful and expressive feature. It is earth's eye; looking into which the beholder measures the depth of his own nature.'

-Henry David Thoreau

The verse above comes from a small book of sayings called "By the Lake," that I received from a friend.

It is chock full of cute, homey and insightful tidbits about the beauty of our surroundings and the great pleasures we can enjoy from the simplest of things. I hope to share more of them with you in future issues of the Barker. I think Hank sums up the way I feel about Birch Lake very well using few words.

Remember my deadline? I can't believe it's almost here already. Well, maybe it's not so bad after all, since I'm starting to get the hang of things again. Right now it is Sunday morning and I'm sitting at my desk, trying to see the lake over a stack of unpaid bills.



The day looks perfect — sunny and bright — a far cry from the cold, blustery 60 degree day yesterday when just a few brave souls ventured out on the lake. There's a hint of autumn in the air with lots of talk of Notre Dame and Michigan football. It is a little chilly today, but I can see our hardy sailing fleet out there preparing for today's races. At least there's a decent wind. If

2009 BLYC Calendar

- September 12 — Board meeting 9 am
- September 14 — Deadline for Directory Updates
- September 19 — Game night at BLYC
- October 10 — Chili Cookoff, BLYC

For more info on any BLYC event, contact the Commodore at 476-2293 or 269-365-7696.

2010 BLYC CALENDAR

The 2010 BLYC Calendar (tentative) is now completed and may be seen in this week's Birch Barker on page 5.

The calendar is also available in the ONLINE Barker (<http://www.philvitale.com/barker/>), and additions, changes and corrections will be posted as they occur (watch the monthly ONLINE Barker for more info).

you're like I am, you will miss the picturesque beauty of the sailboats on Sunday mornings. Sometimes I think I'm living inside a beautiful picture postcard.

I saw another sign of winters approach when I looked out this morning and saw my neighbor, Don Harman's, pontoon boat trail-

We are always soliciting and accepting materials for publication — especially in the ONLINE Barker, which will start soon. E-mail your items to sailorphil@philvitale.com, or, if you must, put the materials in the red newspaper box at my home, 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore), or mail to: Phil Vitale, 102 So. Broadway, Cassopolis, MI 49031, or fax to (269) 445-9200. To contact us by phone, call Phil at (269) 476-1680 or (269) 445-9200, or BLYC Commodore Bob Waddle at (269) 476-2293. -Phil Vitale, editor

er parked behind his house. The first of the "snowbirds" are ready to take flight.

Speaking of weather, can someone tell me the difference between "partly sunny" and "mostly cloudy?" Is it just optimism? Do you ever wonder about dumb stuff like this? If you do, write them down and send them to me. Maybe we can publish some of them next year. Another thing I would like to do next year is start gathering more history of Birch Lake, while we're all still around. I am fascinated by the history around here, but wish I knew more. Try closing your eyes and imagining how it looked here when Chiefs Pokagon and Shavehead came here to bask in our healing waters.

On a more serious note, before I finish these comments, remember this is our last Birch Barker of the season. Kudos to Phil Vitale, Barb Zesinger, Fred Freihofner and all of the delivery people (and anyone else I forgot) who are responsible for getting the Barker to you every weekend all summer long. Hip-HipHooray!

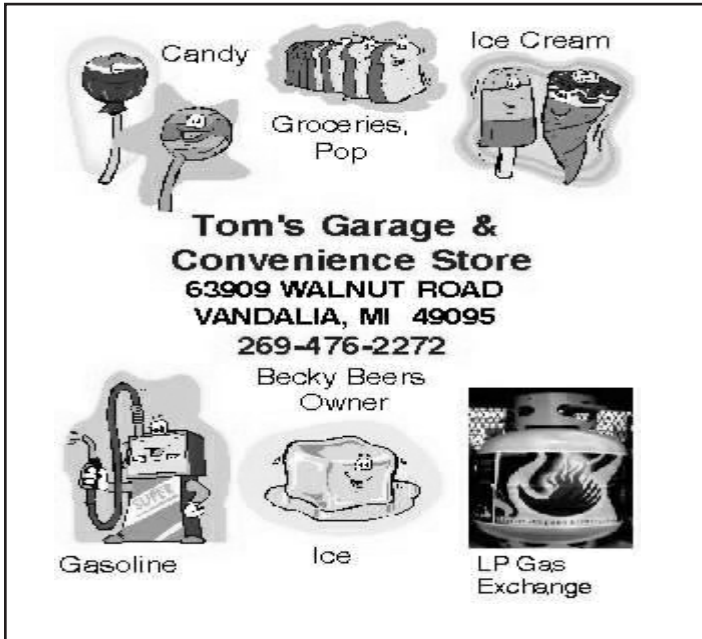
We have already developed a tentative schedule for next year that is included in this issue. We will always welcome input from all Birch Lakers to make the schedule work for everyone. A few dates have been tweaked a little, we've added the garage sale back in and a cool Birch Lake Trivial Pursuits Challenge has been added in September. But before we move on to next

year, remember that we still have this year's Game Night scheduled on September 19th and the Chili Cook-off on October 9th at the BLYC. Plan to be here as this cook-off is a real taste treat.

As your new Commodore I want to help you all in any way I can. If you have a complaint — come to me. If you have a problem-come to me. If you have a suggestion or idea — come to me. I can always be reached by landline (476-2293), cell phone (269-365-7696) or e-mail sparkybob220@comcast.net.

I hope everyone has a safe, cozy and warm winter and I'll see you'all at the Spring Dinner. Unless I see you sooner.

-Bob Waddle, 2010 Commodore



Tom's Garage & Convenience Store
63909 WALNUT ROAD
VANDALIA, MI 49095
269-476-2272

Becky Beers
Owner

Gasoline Ice LP Gas Exchange

We are a full service salon, specializing in hair cuts, hair coloring, nails, massage, body treatments, full-body waxing and facials.

We have a "Double Pedicure" unit. Which means that people can come and get pedicures side-by-side. Body Treatments are 10% off. We have a Mudd Wrap, Cryothermic Body Treatment, and an Aromatherapy Salt Scrub. Visit our Website for more information!

www.satorisalonnandspa.com



Satori Salon and Spa

11920 McKinley Street
Jones, Michigan 49061

244-5510

Lutz Concrete

SW Michigan's
FLATWORK
experts



We specialize in decorative
Concrete Stamping
Colored Concrete
Concrete Staining



17050 M-86 — Three Rivers, MI

Ph: (269) 279-7973

Fax: (269) 279-0133

E-mail: mmtlconcrete@aol.com

— Birch Lake Notes —

Game Night

Incoming Commodore Bob Waddle has scheduled a Game Night at the Yacht Club for Saturday, Sept. 19. Last year there were some wild 6-handed euchre, cribbage, and "Left, Right, Center" games going on — the place got a bit rowdy. Mark your calendar and more info will follow in future Barkers.

Visors for sale

Amy Trudell Lutz reports she still has a few Birch Lake visors for sale at \$10 each. To purchase one contact Amy at (269) 744-7746 or via email at www.amy-lutz.net

Chili cookoff planned for Oct. 10th

Break out the Tabasco and Franks Red Hot and get the crock pots boiling cause the BLYC will once again host the annual Chili Cookoff on October 10 (tentatively) at the club. Prizes and bragging rights will be awarded to the chefs who make the best chili.

Watch the Barker for more info.

Labor of Love

The First Church of God Cassopolis located at 21083 Spencer Road (behind Family Dollar) will host a "Labor of Love" garage sale on Sept. 4 and 5, from 8 am until 5 pm. On Sept. 5 there will be homemade corn dogs, music and lots and lots of well priced



Christmas presentation

"The Company" presents their performance of "A Merry Como Christmas, Singin' and Dancin into the Holidays." This year "the Company" will be performing a selection of toe tapping tunes memorable hits from Broadway, Rock and roll, jazz and a sprinkling of holiday music in addition we will perform a tribute to our Grandfather, Perry Como.

The performances to be held at The "newly remodeled" Battell Center Theatre, on November 6, 7, 13 and 14, and 20 and 21. 904 North Main Street, Mishawaka, IN 46637. Curtain



time is 8 pm.

Since the beautiful remodeling, seating at Battell Center Theatre has been reduced, but seating for all performances is limited, so get your tickets early! Ticket prices are \$9.50 for seniors, and \$10.50 for adults. We, at "The Company," are sorry about the hike in ticket prices, however, we have fewer seats this year, but, on the flip side it will be much more comfortable!

For reserve tickets or for information about tickets please call 574-243-7704. www.thecompanyplayers.com

items... Prices will be EXCELLENT!

On Sept. 12 the church will also host a spaghetti dinner at the church.

Nelson's Port-a-Pit

On Saturday, Sept. 12, a BBQ chicken fundraiser will be held for

Elkhart YMCA Gymnastics Team. If you buy tickets in advance (chicken half is \$5.50), Mackenzie and Sandy will pick up and deliver it to your home on Birch Lake. Please call or email Sandy at 574-274-5819 or email sankev+1@comcast.net.

Everyone's raving about the new *SKI NAUTIQUE 200*

*Open Bow
Legendary wakes
Completely redesigned*



"I love my old boat ... but I wish it was new again..."



Wakeside can completely restore your old boat during winter storage!

*engines . upholstery . stringers . fiberglass . carpet
Call for details and a quote.*

Coming soon at



51305 SR 19 North
Elkhart, IN 46514
Wakesidemarine.com

574-264-2874

Located just one mile north of the Toll Road Exit #92 and one mile south of US 12.

— Birch Lake Notes —

Sandhill Crane Trail Run

Saturday, Oct. 10, 9 am at Dr. T. K. Lawless Park (5 minutes from Birch Lake) there will be a 10K and half marathon, all trail, non-repeat. Awards to the top three finishers in 15 age groups, colorful long sleeve t-shirts to all finishers. Walkers also welcome. \$20 postmarked by Oct. 2; \$25 afterwards. Registration form available from: www.cairnstoneadventure-tours.com/Sandhill_Crane_Half.html



Baby Grundy Shower

Once again the generosity of our Birch Lake Family is warming to the hearts.

The Baby Shower for Chas and Amber was quite a success. With the monetary contributions we were able to shower the Grundy family with the baby crib and all the bells and whistles from



their registry that made it absolutely adorable. The money left over was presented to the happy parents as a gift certificate.

The Baby Shower was a first for several of the guys that attended. They were pleasantly surprised that an event like this could be sooooo fun. (Look out ladies; they will want to come along every time.)

To put on this event, the first order of business was to present the main attraction. Thank you to Tom Rogers and Rick Russwurm for assembling the main attraction. (The crib)

A special thanks to all that made the yummy appetizers for the event: Barb Zesinger, Holly Troeger, Pam Mullin, Sandy Vitale, Leslie King, Sandy Dobosiewicz, Carol Freihofer, Bev Kruggel and Linda Curtis.

And let's not forget to thank Mike Lutz for bringing the tea and water. This was Mike's first baby shower and with Amy out of town, he came solo. What a guy!

Bad Patty Luecht special punch was certainly a hit. I think it may have induced some unexpected late afternoon naps.



Katie Luecht along with her mom Bad Patty combined their creativity and made the awesome table decorations and the cutest hanging ducklings.

Dave and Judy Olson who power scrubbed the Birch Lake Tug Boat Sand Box making it clean and perfect for baby Grundy. I understand the boat has been passed from family to family here at the lake starting at the Kings. This is how family traditions are made.

Denise and Jeff Smitley along with Stan Pitakos who disassembled the crib and transported it to its new loving home.

And last but certainly not least, a huge, I mean super colossal round of applause to Debbie Bolinger who made and decorated the wonderful cup cakes. What talent.

All of us that played a role in this celebration of life for Amber and Chas, (such giving people themselves,) truly feel blessed to have participated.



Wouldn't it be great to monitor and control your home from anywhere in the world?

"One-Touch Automation is a full service home technology company. Our goal is to provide systems that you can control from anywhere, are easy to use, look great, and fit your budget. Our work should complement the quality of your lifestyle."

-Ryan & Rachael McDaniel, Owners

Offices in Indiana & Michigan
ONE-TOUCH 800-526-6753
 Automation one-touchautomation.com

Home Automation ● Home Security ● Surveillance ● Climate Control
 Fire Protection ● Lighting Control ● Central Vacuum ● WholeHouse
 Audio and Video ● Computer Networking ● Home Theater ● iPhone
 and iTouch Home Control ● System Integration/Structured Wiring

SLOW DOWN

**BIRCH LAKE HAS
 NARROW ROADS,
 CHILDREN AT PLAY
 LOTS OF PEDESTRIANS**

DON'T HURT 'EM!

*Bev's Custom Sewing
 & Embroidering*

Sewing, Alterations

Special occasion gowns made to order and to fit

Personalize any item with embroidery
 towels - shirts - Christmas stocking - personalized
 hankies - personalized napkins - stemware coast-
 ers for weddings, anniversaries, graduations
 (many colors to choose from)

Bev Comer, Owner
 244-1165 cell 816-1389
 13475 Harvey Street, Jones
 bevscustomsewing@live.com

KEIRN CONSTRUCTION

Terry Keirn
 Owner

**RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL
 NEW CONSTRUCTION
 REMODELING REPAIR
 CARPENTRY - CONCRETE
 ROOFING**

62933 Birch Rd.
 Vandalia, MI 49095

Office: (269) 476-2767
 Cell: (269) 625-0818

— Birch Lake Notes —



And the winner is ...

Congratulations to Pam Mullin who compiled 80 words in the Grundy Baby Scrabble contest, narrowly edging out Carol Freihofer, who came in second.

Ok, Pam, you win; as promised, **you are the smartest person we know!**

DIRECTORY DEADLINE

We want to extend our sincere thanks to Celia Fallon, who has been working diligently compiling a new Birch Lake telephone directory. She is mostly finished, but we want to give everyone one last chance to submit data if you haven't done so already. **The final deadline is Sept. 14.** After that date the new directory will be sent to the printer. We hope for distribution to all of the BLYC members sometime this October. The directory update form is located On Page 8 in this Barker, and in addition, Celia has provided her e-mail address (philcele@comcast.net) if that will help you. Please submit your information ASAP.

Battery theft

Be on the lookout for suspicious activity around the lake. Our boat battery was stolen sometime between Sunday evening and Thursday morning.

-Beth Kenagy, North Shore

Thanks from the editor

I would like to extend my personal thanks to Fred Freihofer, Barb Zesinger, and all of the delivery staff around the lake for a job well done this year.

Also, thanks to all of the columnists and contributors, including (but not limited to) Bill Luecht, Good Patti and Rick Russwurm, Starman Stu Spratt, Mr. Bob King, Terry Dugan, Debbie Bolinger, Miss Amber Grundy and Duffy Dufor. Well done folks!

-phil

The online Barker is coming back

Assuming the continuing support of the Birch Lake Yacht Club, starting late in September or in early October, the BLYC will once again publish the ONLINE Birch Barker and will send it via email, free, to anyone who wants it.

If you received the ONLINE Barker last year, you won't have to do a thing (unless you have changed your email address) ... but if you are new to the lake or have never received the ONLINE Barker, you can sign up now and make sure you don't miss a thing.

Just send an email to

TENTATIVE BLYC 2010 CALENDAR

May 15	Spring Dinner
June 5	Board meeting 9 am
.....	Commodore's Cocktail Party
June 26	Vice-Commodore's
.....	Cocktail Party
July 3	Board meeting 9 am
.....	Boat Parade
.....	Fireworks
July 4	Pancake Breakfast
July 17	Spaghetti Dinner
July 30	Men's golf outing
August 1	Board meeting 10 am
August 6	Women's golf outing
August 7	Corn and sausage roast
August 14	Garage sale
August 28	Fall dinner
September 11	Board meeting 9 am
September 18	Birch Lake Trivial Pursuit
October 9	Chili cook-off

This Calendar can also be viewed
ONLINE at <http://www.philvitale.com>

sailorphil@philvitale.com and let me know that you want to subscribe (you can drop out at any time if you want by clicking on the "Unsubscribe" link on the email.

NOTE: if you use Verizon or Comcast, you have to let them know you have subscribed or they may block the mail as spam.

Purity Cleaning

**Quality Cleaning
at a Pure Price**

**Commercial,
Residential &
Construction
Cleaning**

**Donna
Swartzentruber**

625-0519

**Licensed
& Bonded
in Michigan &
Indiana**

Gundy Custom Builders

Gundy Custom Builders is a family-owned and operated design/build construction firm in Cass County, Michigan

GCB specializes in:

- *Lake home construction and remodeling
- * Concrete home construction
- * Application of "universal design" theory, providing greater accessibility for all ages
- * Use of high thermal performance materials and technologies for energy savings and a cleaner "living" environment

Call today!

888-641-9205

Dick

BENDER

and Bender Mold & Plastics, INC.

Want all of our Birch Lake friends to have a safe and fun summer!

55951 RUSSELL INDUSTRIAL PKWY
MISHAWAKA, IN 46545

TOOLING — (574) 255-5176

MFG — (574) 255-5350

Now, let's go play some golf!

— Barker kids of the Week —



Want your kid to be a Birch Barker Kid of the Week?

Your kid can be in the Barker if you send pix to me (via email) along with their name(s) and pertinent info . If you don't email, make sure the info is legible and not too long because I have to retype all that stuff from scratch and I'm not a very good typist ... I'm even worse at proofreading the stuff I had to type. -Editor



Top left, Ella Quinlan (granddaughter of Steve & Vickie, west shore) celebrating her 1st birthday., and Zeb Quinlan Applegate (1 month old grandson of Steve & Vickie Quinlan) attending his first Tourist's baseball game in hometown Asheville, NC.



**Sales/Service/Repair/Docks/Lifts/Canopies
Rafts/Benches/Ladders/Accessories**

Serving Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana for 16 years.

O'Donnells Docks LLC

Best Prices on

ShoreStation

Lifts and Dock
Products &
Accessories

Free Online Quoting System!

www.odonnellsdocks.com

ShoreStation
Boat Hoists and Dock

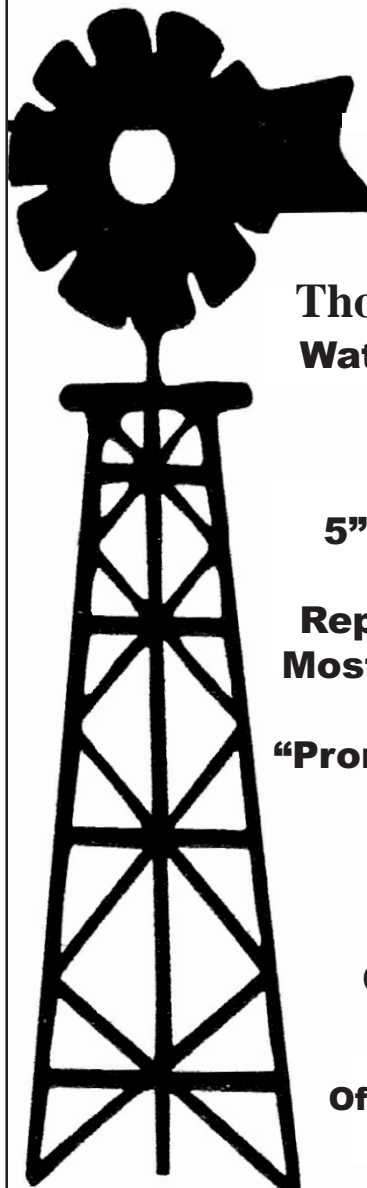
CRAFTLANDER

NEWITT

SHOREMASTER

12097 M-60 Jones, MI 49061 269.244.1446 info@odonnellsdocks.com

www.odonnellsdocks.com



**Thomas J. Mosier
Waterwell Drilling**

5" Water Wells

**Repair & Service
Most Water Pumps**

"Promise of Quality"

**M-60 E
Cassopolis**

**Office: 269-445-3246
Cell: 269-580-3246
Fax: 269-445-0008**



Fleet Captain's Corner



Racing season comes to an end

Last Sunday's races marked the end of the regular sailing season. The weather forecast was for cold and rain. I thought we were going to have to chop the ice off the lake in order to sail. But it turned out to be one of the most beautiful sailing days this year. We only had time to sail two races because our committee boat staff had to go get ready for a baby shower. But that's what happens when you have the proud-parents-to-be on the boat. Thanks to Amber and Chas Grundy for starting the races, along with Denise Smitley and Patty Luecht.

The results are in! The First Place winners for the season are Scott Troeger for the MC Scow fleet, and Rick Russwurm for the Sunfish Fleet. Second Place winners are Bob King for the MCs and Erica Vitale for the Sunfish. Third place remains undecided for both fleets. The scores won't change, but if they sail this weekend in the Labor Day Regatta, there are a couple of sailors out there who can still qualify for the season. Will Third Place go to Don, or to Harold? Katie, or Sandy?

One thing's for sure, though. I've got last place in the bag. Nobody's gonna take it away from me. Being Fleet Captain sure doesn't make you into a better sailor, apparently. But it has been an honor serving as the Fleet Captain for the last couple years. There are a lot of people who helped make the sailing program work. First, we wouldn't have a fleet if it wasn't for the dedicated sailors who come out in all kinds of weather (OK, so they have fun while they're out there, but it does take time and commitment). Then there are the race starters — we wouldn't have any races if it wasn't for the many volunteers it takes to staff the committee boat. But I would like to thank two people in particular: Harold Cranmer for setting out (and taking in) the marks every week, and my lovely wife Patty for taking charge of the committee boat, finding volunteers, and filling in when no one else was available.

Don't forget — this weekend is the

2008 BLYC SAILING SEASON RESULTS

2008 BLYC Sailing Season Results

Date	30-Aug	30-Aug	Total	Season	Season	Regatta	Total
Race	20	21	Points	Average	Races	Races	Races
MC Scow					21 (need 14 to qualify)		
Scott Troeger #1489	1	2	17059	1551	11	5	16
Rick Harman #379	DNS	DNS	7469	1494	5	0	5
Bob King #1199	6	1	21365	1424	13	5	18
Jim Bolinger #1735	DNS	DNS	4259	1420	2	0	2
Don Harman #582	2	4	16918	1410	12	0	12
Harold Cranmer #618	3	3	20935	1396	14	5	19
Jeff Smitley #2002	5	5	18950	1354	13	5	18
Phil Vitale #500	8	6	25416	1338	19	5	24
Tom Howard #1713	9	8	20671	1292	13	5	18
Dave Olson #1979	7	7	24418	1285	19	4	23
Gib Eberhart #916	4	9	24324	1216	18	1	19
Bill Luecht #1579	10	10	22312	1174	18	4	22
Sunfish					18 (need 12 to qualify)		
Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)	DNS	DNS	15921	1592	10	5	15
Erica Vitale (White)	1	1	18647	1554	12	2	14
Katie Luecht (White/Red/Blue)	DNS	DNS	7451	1490	5	4	9
Sandy Vitale (White)	2	4	20690	1478	14	4	18
Eric Odenwald (Blue/Yellow)	DNS	DNS	10262	1466	7	2	9
Bernie Garceau (Red/White/Blue)	3	3	23686	1393	16	5	21
Mike Lutz (Yellow/White)	4	2	16300	1358	12	0	12
Brad Davis (Yellow/Teal)	DNS	DNS	0	0	0	2	2

DNS (Did Not Sail) does not count against season score, however sailor must complete 2/3 of races to qualify for season.

DNF (Did Not Finish) scores as one place worse than last place (if 5 boats finished, you would have finished 6th, will be scored as 7th place); DNF not counted toward minimum number of races needed.

DQ (Disqualified) 0 points.

STT (Stopped to Teach) scored as first place.

CB - sailor who serves on Committee Boat receives a 1st place finish for that day - counted toward season total.

Season Points are awarded on Square of 40 system (1st = 40 squared = 1600, 2nd = 39 squared, etc.)

Season Place = total season points/number of races attempted

Labor Day Regatta! We will race at 11 am Saturday and Sunday, with Monday as the rain date. This is your last chance this summer to sail with the fleet. Everybody come out and join the fun!

Sailors — We will have a short meeting and awards ceremony on Monday at 11 am at the Yacht Club (unless we have to sail on Monday, in which case the meeting will be shortly after the sailing).

-Bill Luecht, Fleet Captain 2009



C. Jeanne Wilkerson

Two spectacular Birch Lake Homes



14719 Kiloqua Woods — \$595,000



63306 Birch Rd — Reduced to \$989,900.

**Like Mother, Like Daughter
The Tradition
of Excellence Continues**



C. Jeanne Wilkerson
Realtor, Lake Specialist
Chairman's Club
(269) 462-0306

bjwilkerson@comcast.net
www.jeannewilkerson.com



www.cressyeverett.com/jeannewilkerson

~Birch Lake Recipes~

Shower treat is a ... treat!

For all of you who had the pleasure of Pam Mullin's appetizer that she donated to the Grundys' shower, I pried it out of her. I knew you would be pleased. If you didn't get any, you're going to want to make it. Trust me it was yummy.



Lettuce-Wrapped Chicken Piccata

1 pound chicken tenders, cut into
Bite-size chunks
Flour for dredging
2 eggs
2 tablespoons milk
2 cups fresh or panko breadcrumbs
6 tablespoons butter, divided
1 1/2 teaspoons flour
1/2 cup Sauvignon Blanc
1/4 cup chicken broth

1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
3/4 teaspoon sugar or to taste
2 gloves garlic, minced
About 26 small pieces escarole leaves

Dip chicken pieces in flour, then in egg/milk mixture, then in breadcrumbs.

Melt 4 tablespoons butter in a

large skillet; add chicken and cook over medium heat for about 5 minutes on each side or until golden brown.

Remove from skillet and add remaining butter.

Stir in flour and cook for 1 minute.

Add wine, broth and lemon juice, sugar and garlic to skillet; cook for about 5 minutes; remove from heat and let cool slightly.

Wrap chicken in escarole leaves and secure with toothpicks.

Serve with lemon butter sauce from pan.

Happy snacking!

-Good Patti

Birch Lake Directory update

Birch Lake Yacht Club Directory Updated Update:

The corrected entries are flowing in and there's still time for more. **The deadline has been extended to September 14!**

It's been great hearing from everybody.

-Celia Fallon

Here's how the information can be transmitted without too much nagging:

- call 269-476-1467, if there is no answer, I'll call you back
- stop by 63600 Birch Road, by water or land
- complete an update form, conveniently included in this week's Barker, and mail it to Celia Fallon, 63600 Birch Road, Vandalia 49095
- complete an update form, conveniently included in this week's Barker, and place it the Fallon's mailbox
- deadline for this information is September 14, 2009
- if we do not receive an updated form, what is in the current directory will be printed again.

INFORMATION SHEET FOR UPDATE OF BLYC DIRECTORY

Name(s) _____

Birch Lake address _____

Cottage number (if known) _____

Home address: _____

Other address: _____

Lake phone _____ Home Phone _____

Cell Phones: _____

Email addresses _____

Children : Please state ages as of September 1, 2009

Other information (optional) _____

Stu's Star Stuff

Watery constellations of fall

Fall usually isn't the best time for an outdoor swim — unless you're swimming through the night sky. A half-dozen "watery" constellations spread across the firmament, forming a region known as the celestial sea. By midnight, they span the entire southern sky.

From west to east, the lineup includes Capricornus, the sea-goat; Aquarius, the water bearer; Piscis Austrinus, the southern fish; Pisces, the fishes; Cetus, the whale or sea monster, and Eridanus, the river.

Much of the association with the water comes from the time of year the constellations put on their best showing: autumn, which was a rainy season for much of the Mediterranean, where the constellations were named.

There aren't a whole lot of standout stars in the sea. The brightest is Fomalhaut, in the southern fish. It stands low in the southeast at nightfall. It's easy to spot because it's the only truly bright star in that whole region of the sky. We'll have more about Fomalhaut tomorrow.

The standout constellation is probably Capricornus, because it forms the most easily seen shape — a wide triangle that's often compared to the bottom of a bikini bathing

suit. But most of its stars are fairly faint, so you need to get away from city lights to see the sea-goat.

Capricornus is in the south at nightfall, and wheels across the southwest later on. The other stars of the sea follow it. Eridanus is the last to rise, with its meandering trail of stars clearing the southeastern horizon by around midnight.

You may have noticed that the moon was full on Thursday. It is known as the Fruit Moon or Corn Moon. Most years, September's full Moon is also the Harvest Moon. This year, however, it's too far from the fall equinox, so October's full Moon gets the honor.

The rings of Saturn stand edge-on to Earth today, which happens once every 15 years. Unfortunately, the planet appears so near the Sun that it is hidden in the Sun's glare. Saturn will return to view in the morning sky early next month.

Also, along with the days getting noticeably shorter, and sadly, cooler, winter constellations are beginning to make their appearance in the predawn sky. Look for the Gemini twins, Castor and Pollux, Sirius, Capella and the Kids, and even Orion the Hunter in the east. Enjoy your winter

everyone. See you next year. See you on the water. See you on the pond. It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood. Let's get out there and have some fun on the healing waters of Birch Lake. And above all, enjoy the show. It really is free.-

-Stu Spratt



The Moon tonight:
The Moon for Aug 29, 2009
Illuminated Fraction: 0.752
2.8 days since first quarter

BIRCH LAKE HOROSCOPE

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20)

Get involved in creative projects that could turn into moneymaking ventures. It's hard to stay mad if the object of the anger refuses to react. Set your goals and stick to your guns. Rid yourself of that which is old and no longer of use. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- may 21)

Hold your temper and refrain from doing anything that might cause injury. False information is likely if you listen to idle chatter or gossip. You may find that you're being used. Take the time to sort out your personal papers and double-check your financial investments. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)

Broaden your horizons and look into programs that will teach you awareness and relaxation. Consider a trial separation if you and your mate just can't come to terms. You will be popular with acquaintances; however, loved ones could feel left out and insecure. Expect your workload to be heavy. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

Involvement in groups will be favorable. Business partnerships will prove lucrative. This could be a serious relationship. Opportunities for financial gains through investments and games of chance are likely. Secret affairs will come back to haunt you. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22)

Take a look at yourself and prepare to make those changes you've been contemplating. Be sure to pay attention to your bank account. Be sure to get involved in self improvement programs that will bring you in contact with interesting people. Be discreet about any information you uncover. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23)

Pleasure trips or friendly get-togethers will be satisfying and intellectually stimulating. Your involvement in sports or entertainment will lead to new romances. Protect your interests legally if necessary. You may not be as well received in group endeavors if you try to force your will on others. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23)

Try to do your job and then leave. Don't let your jealous imagination play games with you. Ignore colleagues who appear to be going in circles. You should be promoting your ideas. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Travel and communication will be lucrative for you. You can sort out any differences you have in an amiable manner. Travel opportunities must be taken advantage of. If you can't get away, make plans to do something special with friends or relatives. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21)

You can become obsessed with detail and must be sure to divide your time appropriately. Talk to people who can give you important knowledge. Heart to heart talks will clear up vague issues. Get out and get active. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20)

Residential changes, renovations, or moves are likely to disrupt your routine. You may find that you're being used. You won't be well received by superiors or by your spouse. You can get a great deal accomplished if you bring work home. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19)

Try to get out and socialize. You can make money but not through harebrained schemes or gambling. You can utilize your versatile mind and dazzle others with your speed and accuracy. Your temper may get the better of you if a colleague has tried to ruin your reputation. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)

You will have a greater involvement in groups; however, they may not be to your advantage. Your own small business on the side could ease your financial stress. If you are not already, think about going into business for yourself. Try to calm down and listen to your partner's complaints. Compromise may be necessary. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

Monkey Business

It was the middle of October when a call came in to see a trailer full of performing chimpanzees. It so happened a group of them were being trailered through Elkhart, Indiana, and had stopped for repairs. The owner and his wife had a truck-van and they pulled a trailer housing eight chimps in separate cages. The trailer had much more to be done to it than expected and had to stay an additional two days. I had never been in close contact with this kind of animal and didn't know what to expect. I was called to treat them for an upper respiratory infection. Only three of the eight chimps were sick and really were not very sick. I had the feeling that the holdover was an excuse rather than a reality, for the owner-trainer wanted to make sure that he had a statement from me that they were too sick to travel to the next performance date.

They all made a big ruckus when I entered the trailer and in the darkened interior I could see eight monkey faces staring me through their cages. They had their faces pressed tightly against the wire so all I could see was eight pairs of large brown eyes, and on either side were their hairy fingers clutching the wires.

The owner was a short stocky man with powerful arms. His demeanor and walk resembled that of one of the chimps. He was of German descent and spoke English with a strong accent. While he had me there as a captive audience, he told me several stories about the chimps and what they did. Of course I was interested. He told me that he had the chimps on a circuit of stops and was hired to entertain at malls as an attraction for the patrons and especially the kids. He said most of the chimps were harmless, at least under his supervi-

sion. He told me of one time he had one of them out walking down the street in a small town and had him handcuffed to himself so he would not escape. The chimp, who was a powerful animal, swung his clenched hand and struck the owner in the face, knocking him out. When he awoke he remembers being dragged down the sidewalk on his back attached to the chimp's arm while the animal was trying to make his escape. Another story he related was about a man who had a chimp and traveled from town to town taking and making bets that no one could wrestle his chimp and put him on his back. Of course, no one could. A country boy, no matter how strong, is no match for an eighty pound chimp. The only way it could be done was to lie on your back and then the chimp would do the same in imitation!

I really had no idea just how strong these animals could be until he got one of them out of his cage. We had decided to give two of them shots of penicillin. There was a seating area in the trailer where the chimp could sit. The trainer proceeded to tie his hands to two rings placed at his arms length against the back of the bench on the wall. This was not easy, for the chimp objected. But the trainer had a rubber truncheon he threatened him with and on occasion actually hit the chimp on the head to make him obey. He must have been through this routine before, for the chimp knew what to expect and tried to protect his head with his arm. This had me concerned.

I prepared a shot of penicillin amidst a lot of screaming and objection from the chimp (and the other chimps who were observing, too). The trainer said "Give him the shot!". He was holding onto the chimp's foot to extend his leg and went back and

forth at the extension and flexion of the leg, like a yo-yo, his blond hair flipping back and forth with each movement. Even louder, he gasped, "Give him the shot." I held his leg and inserted the needle. It felt like plunging a needle into a log. I was amazed at the muscular strength that animal had. The trainer fell exhausted as he released the foot. After he had rested awhile, we injected another chimp, repeating the same routine. All this time, the other chimps were making quite a scene, pacing and rattling their cages. I did a cursory inspection of the others, being careful not to get too close to their cages, for they were pretty good spitters and hit me several times. In addition, there were other unmentionable particles that emanated from the cages.

One of the chimps was named Elvis and was the one that would work the malls among children. This one was not sick, so no treatment was necessary. He got her out of her cage and she walked up to me and put her powerful hand on my shoulder and looked up at me from her short stature. She was looking me squarely in the eyes. I can tell you that I had an instant feeling of fear go through me ... I didn't know what to expect and backed away. To my surprise, she did the shimmy, like Elvis Presley. As it turned out, she was docile and did not attack me, as I had expected from her stare.

Not seeing any other problems healthwise, I went to the truck that was their office. There, the trainer's wife made out a check and I gave her my report. While waiting and checking my clothes for spit and "other" smears, I looked away for an instant — just long enough for their little pet poodle to pee in my boot. I was kind of glad to go back to my office.

-Duffy Dufour

Handyman Repairs

- Roof to basement - inside and out
- Floors, doors, stairways, ceilings and windows
- Siding, roofing, driveways and sprinklers
- Decks and fences; fascia and soffits
- Plumbing, electrical, heating and A/C
- Piers and Seawalls

Home Maintenance

- Painting - interior and exterior
- Snow removal - sidewalks, driveways & roofs
- Gutters and chimney cleaning & repair
- We do windows
- Power washing, insulation and weatherproofing
- Spring and fall yard clean up
- Tree and shrub trimming
- Rototill your garden

Free Estimates

- Firm quotes for all jobs
- Fully insured
- No job too big or too small

Property Management

- Reliable caretaker
- Fulfills all absentee homeowner's needs
- Periodically checks your property
- Provides second home peace of mind
- Call for all lake property requirements



Dave's Residential Services
(269) 476-2797; Wireless (269) 362-0724
davehardisty@comcast.net
Emergency Service Available 24/7

No job too big or too small
 Waterfront Specialist — DEQ
 certified for shoreline work and piers
 Michigan Licensed and Insured
 10% Senior Discount
 Birch Lake references on request
 Insurance Work
 35 years of experience

Call Wally the Builder
269-663-2905 or 574-215-6070

yourht@comcast.net

Residential Construction — Our specialty
 We do the job well ... or don't do it at all

Your **Home Team Inc.**

- RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION
- HOME IMPROVEMENT
- DESIGN/BUILD

Get The Home Team Advantage

(574) 215-6070

We're known for our CHICKEN & FISH

Yes, I'm Dick Bender's brother. Mention his name and I will raise your bill by 10 % ...

Open M-F from 5 am to 10 pm
 Saturdays from 6 am to 9 pm
 Sundays from 8 am to 9 pm

Benders Corner Store
 Corner of County Roads 4 & 5, Elkhart

NICHOLS

TREE SERVICE & SMALL EXCAVATING

Justin Nichols, owner — 269-683-6656 — 2115 Spansail Dr., Niles

TREE SERVICE

TRIMMING - PLANTING - REMOVAL
 LOGGING - FERTILIZING - CABLING
 BRUSH HOGGING - STUMP GRINDING
 GUTTER CLEANING - HEDGE TRIMMING

EXCAVATING

HAULING - GRADING - RETAINING WALLS
 POST HOLES 9" TO 32" - DRIVEWAYS
 SEAWALLS - TRENCHING 0" TO 36"
 FOOTINGS - BACKFILLS - RETAINING WALLS

LEAF REMOVAL, SNOW PLOWING, SNOW REMOVAL, LOT CLEARING

"Justin Nichols recently put in a seawall at my home on Birch Lake ... and he did an amazing job in a very short time. Thanks Justin!"

-Tom DeCocker, East Shore

"Nichols brought in topsoil, graded my yard, buried the gutter drains and put in a short 25-foot wall ... now I'm ready to enjoy summer at Birch Lake thanks to Nichols Tree Service & Excavating."

Tim Liddell, East Side Hill

"I needed a retaining wall at my new home on the hill (Kinzie St.) while it was under construction. I called Justin Nichols, and he came up and put it in for me. He does very good work!"

-PJ VandeWalle, East Side Hill

"Justin Nichols was working next door when I met him. I needed several trees removed and the stumps ground ... Justin can do it all!"

Ryan Gableman, East Side Hill

Water Quality Committee Report

Good season ending; more to follow ...

Water Quality Program
Water Quality Committee Lake Management Report
Rick Russwurm, Chairman;
Terry Dugan, Gordon Seyfarth, Bruce Wagner



Secchi Disk Readings:

What a difference a couple of weeks of cooler weather makes. On Sept. 1 the secchi disk reading was at 16 feet. This is a gain in transparency of about 6 feet in two weeks. With the water cooling down we may be getting drop in algae production and thus change in transparency. We will continue to monitor this into October.

Water Testing Data:

In this last printed Barker we will not be able to give you the full results of all the testing data we will be doing in the year 2009. We just received the bottles for the summer phosphorous samples. We have one more chlorophyll data point to take, and we will be doing probably two more dissolved oxygen temperature profiles over the next month. Most of this data should be available from the testing labs sometime late fall or in the winter.

Thus, we would encourage all of you to sign up for the online Barker so when we have everything, we can consolidate it into one large report that will hopefully utilize some of Phil's graphical skills. We will put everything into context with data over the past 10 years as part of the evolving record of the lake.

E Coli Data:

The last round of testing for E coli will not be available for this Barker. However, should there be anything of interest; we will make sure to contact the property owners that may be affected. We will put this data into the first online Barker. We will do some experimentation and quality control with this set, and redo the genetic marker data if that seems warranted. Again, we would encourage everyone to sign up for the online Barker. We will not have something in there from the committee each issue, but we will be putting out all the data we have gathered with probably more space than would be available in the printed editions.

Summation:

The Birch Lake Water Quality Committee has had a very successful season.

We have continued to keep the invasive species in check.

We have narrowed down the E-Coli source to the inlet and have not detected E-coli in the body of Birch Lake. We will continue to work on pinpointing the specific source or sources

of E-Coli.

We have also resumed dissolved oxygen and temperature measurements which should be done annually. Dissolved oxygen and temperature measurements are a great indicator of developing productivity and thus aging of a Lake. This needs to be captured over a period of years and weather cycles so we can look at a pattern. It is important that we take these measurements annually.

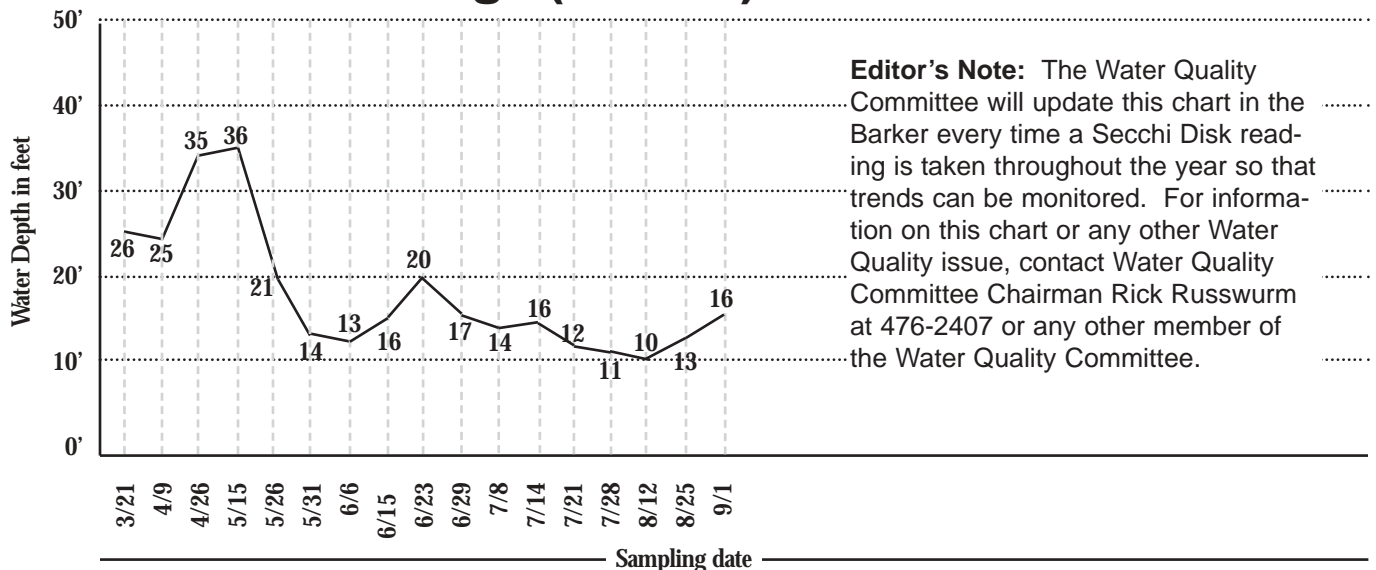
Your Participation Matters:

The success of the Birch Lake Water Quality Committee has been accomplished by the overwhelming majority of the Birch Lake residents that have supported us through membership, donations and physically participating.

Thank you for working together.

-Your BLYC Water Quality Committee

Secchi Disk readings (to date) on Birch Lake in 2009



Editor's Note: The Water Quality Committee will update this chart in the Barker every time a Secchi Disk reading is taken throughout the year so that trends can be monitored. For information on this chart or any other Water Quality issue, contact Water Quality Committee Chairman Rick Russwurm at 476-2407 or any other member of the Water Quality Committee.

REFLECTIONS

Last weekend our 31-year-old, unmarried daughter came home for her yearly visit. She brought with her the newest boyfriend in a series of young men that might be "the one." I keep pictures of her with past "ones" on the hidden side of the refrigerator. While she was here, she kept, mentally, a list of things she did not like about him, but according to the last phone call, he is still in the running. I'm pretty sure he will not be coming back next year because the list will eventually become too long and she will toss him away as she has so many times.

This made me curious about how some of the long-term marriages around the lake began so I did some interviews. Here's how some of your neighbors started their lives together.

DICK & PEG COWEN

In high school, Peg became friends with Dick's sister Carolyn. She became a frequent visitor to the Cowen family, especially to the Cowen's summer home on Birch Lake. As the pesky younger sister and her friend, Carolyn and Peg would keep close eyes on Dick and his friends as they partied and skied on the lake. By the time Peg was a Senior in high school, she knew Dick as a kind, steady reliable man that was going to make her a good husband. They married soon after. On returning to Birch Lake after the honeymoon, they were surprised with a good old-fashioned "shiveree" (spelling unknown). They put them in the back of station wagon, and drove them around the lake honking the horn and then threw Dick in the lake. They served cake and punch and gave marriage advise. They later discovered that cow bells had been attached to the underside of the mattress. That was in 1956. With such great memories of Birch Lake, they bought their own place here as soon as they could afford it. Great memories have continued with their own children.

DON & LIND HARMAN

Don and Lind were both working at the Toll Road; Don in maintenance, Lind did bookkeeping. One day she arrived for work and her office light was not on as it usually was so she called maintenance. Don arrived and literally "flipped her switch." She had neglected to check to see if it was actually turned on. After that, they kept their eyes on each other in the break area until Don got the courage to ask her out. They dated for a year or two and married in 1963. They recently won the award for longest married couple on the dance floor at the Fallon Wedding!

DAVE & JUDY OLSON

Dave and Judy are a true Birch Lake couple. In the '50s, the young kids that lived on the lake would regularly walk around the lake and "hang out" together. Though they knew each other from the group, dating didn't begin until they re-met after the Navy for Dave and grad school for Judy. They were engaged in October 1966 and married in February of '67. To carry on the tradition, the Olson's oldest son Jeff, married the Beth Davis, also a Birch Lake family, in 1998.

HERM & BEV KRUGGEL

Herm and Bev were both in high school in John Adams High School, Bev a sophomore and Herm a senior. They had never met, but both joined the glee club, where they would flirt a bit during rehearsals for an operetta. Herm asked to drive her home after a late rehearsal but she refused because she didn't really know him, and she had promised to walk home with her friend. He asked if he could accompany them home on foot for the long mile (Herm says two miles), so he did, then walked back the one (or two) miles back to his car. Bev thought that was pretty cool, and the love affair began that has lasted over 60 years.

BRUCE & JUANITA HARLAN

Bruce and JJ were high school seniors together at John Adams High School. They began dating then, and continued to date even though Bruce was busy attending Notre Dame and JJ was in nurses' training at St. Joseph Hospital. They both graduated in 1949 and married that summer. They have been married for 60 years. They also had ties to Birch Lake as JJ knew Birch Lake from attending Camp Tannadoonah and Bruce had vacationed in a rented cottage on Birch Lake with his family. They bought a cottage here in 1968.

BILL & LE KING

After high school, Le would go visit her friends at Ball State on weekends. She would see Bill there at parties and functions but didn't know him. He was a big star in Ball State athletics. At one of the dances, Bill asked Le to dance and they danced the night away. She didn't date him again then because he went away to play for Cleveland Browns, but when he came home, he called. They've been together since, marrying in 1951. Bill joined the Army shortly before the wedding, so they moved to Ft. Leonardwood in Missouri immediately after and returned to this area in 1953.

JIM & DEBBIE BOLINGER

That's me! We met at a teenage nightclub when I was 16 years old, when he asked my friend to dance. She said no but I said yes. Our first date was on April Fool's Day. In June, my family moved to Illinois so that I finished my senior year there. Jim and I continued to date throughout that year, with him driving over every weekend, and writing to me every day. We married in August after I graduated from high school, 38 years ago last week. Jim had ties to Birch Lake since he was a boy as his grandparents had one of the first cottages on the lake. They lost it in the depression but Jim's father continued to bring him here to fish, etc. He knew that some day he would have a place here, and now he does. He let me come, too!

Looking back at all of these stories, it seems that the long ones start young. Maybe that's the key! Get 'um before they have a chance to see what else is out there! Have a great autumn, winter and spring! I'll see you all next summer!

-Antique on the East Side

UNION INSURANCE AGENCY

Corner of US 12 & Union Rd.

**Auto
Home
Life**

**Renters
Business**

**Boats
RVs**

**Motorcycles
Snowmobiles**

Pet Injury Coverage

**Sue McCammon
Independent Agent**

269-641-5995

email: Sue@unionins.net

PROGRESSIVE

Auto-Owners Insurance



Pat Keirn, Realtor

1111 E. State St., Cassopolis, MI 49031



Office: 269-445-2450

Cell: 269-625-8554

Home: 269-476-2767

Fax: 269-934-6979

Licensed in
Michigan



email: pat@discovermichiana.com

http://www.discovermichiana.com

Barker Word Search

Find these words that are related to a great summer at Birch Lake!

FIREWORKS
WORD SEARCH
STUS STAR STUFF
SECCHIDISK
PITAKOS
FUNDRAISER
FLEET CAPTAIN
BOAT PARADE
CHILI

CROSSWORD
BIRCH BARKER
WADDLE
GOLFOUTING
COMMODORE
SPAGHETTI
COCKTAILS
VICE COMMODORE
TURTLE RACES

PANCAKE BREAKFAST
CAMP
RECIPES
MARGUERITA MACHINE
COASTERS
BOARDMEETING
FALLON

P T G S F E S C F U N D R A I S E R A T
A B C C C W R E O F A L L O N R R I D W
N O C R O A S E C A I D C C T S F A C E
C A O O L D O T C C S I W A H C L M F M
A R C S A D R S A I H T I E H I E A S M
K D K S A A E H M R P I E N W U E R P P
E M T W C E N O P E C E D R C L T G A R
B E A O P I T A K O S N S I S S C U G O
R E I R P C F I R E W O R K S F A E H C
E T L D T U R T L E R A C E S K P R E S
A I S S T U S S T A R S T U F F T I T U
K N E G O L F O U T I N G S S E A T T N
F G H W O R D S E A R C H C L T I A I R
A B O A T P A R A D E I W D I S N M C E
S C O M M O D O R E L D D P L A T A O B
T R S E C C H I D I S A O E H R R C C D
S P A G H E T T H R W G A L D T T H K D
R E L V I C E C O M M O D O R E I I T M
B I R C H B A R K E R O E U R P E N A S
R T I O R T A I A I L A T T C O T E H O



"Your Birch Lake Neighbors"

Dick & Judy Lindzy

**FACTORY
TILE
I N C.**

211 Dixie Way North
South Bend, IN 46637
574-272-7000

How Can Pier Perfection Help You?

Pier Perfection offers custom design, installation, removal, sales and service of dock products to help make your time on the water more enjoyable. As the premier service provider in Southwestern Michigan, we have built a reputation of quality and a commitment to excellence.

17228 M60
Vandalia, MI
49095



476-1500
fax 476-1510

**PIER
PERFECTION**

www.pierperfection.com

Camp Tannadoonah

Wow, last Barker column of the year. It's amazing how fast this summer went by! We would like to thank everyone at the lake who so generously contributed funds, materials, and time to help us at Camp this summer. There are so many people who helped out and made it possible for us to have yet another fantastic summer at camp!

To recap this summer: We had a total of 432 paid campers, 25 shy of last year's total of 457. Counting staff kids and donated spots, we filled a total of 491 beds, which is exactly the same number as last year! Furthermore, this is the second consecutive year that we have surpassed 400 campers, something that we hadn't done in many years.

We donated 20 camp spots to the Camps 4 Champs program, which provides opportunities for children from the Homeless Center and Boys and Girls Club to go to camp. We also raised over \$13,000 in campership funds, and were able to send nearly 50 kids to camp on camperships! A large part of those campership funds came from the Pancake Breakfast, Spaghetti Dinner, and donations by individuals at the lake.

In August we held the 1st annual Tannadoonah hog roast, and had the grand opening ceremony for the Murphy Memorial Sports Complex. The 2nd annual Tannadoonah hog roast will be Saturday, July 31, 2010, so mark your calendars now! It was a very fun afternoon and evening, and next year we hope to have an even bigger turnout.

This fall we have a number of upcoming events, which I mentioned a few weeks ago in the Barker. Here's the list of those events:

Sept. 25: Camp Fire Fundraiser Dinner at Palais Royale

Sept. 25-27: Camp Tannadoonah Fall Camp Festival

Oct. 9-11: Camp Tannadoonah Family Camp

We are still looking for table sponsors for the Fundraiser Dinner — contact Chas if you're interested. We also have lots of openings still for both Fall Camp and Family Camp. These are really fun weekends up at camp! Email me or visit www.Tannadoonah.org for more info.

Finally, Chas and I would like to thank everyone who helped to organize the baby shower on Sunday, everyone who attended the shower, and all of the people who gave us such thoughtful gifts for the baby. It was really amazing and touching to have so many people come on Sunday to celebrate with us, and we were blown away by the generosity of so many wonderful people here at the lake!

Chas and my sisters took lots of photos, many of which are posted online at www.flickr.com/photos/abear23. The baby is due on Nov. 4, and we will be sure to get the news to Phil for the online Barker as soon as possible after he or she arrives.

Thank you all again for everything you do to make Birch Lake a really special place to live!

-Miss Amber



Advantage Plumbing
2400 North 5th Street
Niles, MI 49120
(269) 687-7192

*Complete Plumbing Service
Sewer and Drain Cleaning*



**DON'T LET A LEAK RUIN YOUR DAY!
CALL US AND WE'LL BE ON OUR WAY!**

"Gilbert Goldfish"

TOP 10 REASONS TO CHOOSE ADVANTAGE PLUMBING

1. Licensed Plumbers
2. Drug-Free Employees
3. Criminal Background Checked Employees
4. No Surprises with the Bill- You know the Cost *Before* the Work is Done
5. 100% Satisfaction Guaranteed
6. True 24-Hour Emergency Service
7. Fully Stocked Trucks-"Warehouse on Wheels"
8. Clean and Professional Technicians in Uniforms
9. Longest Warranties in the Business
10. Our Phones are Always Answered by a Customer Service Employee During Business Hours

Bonus- The Only Attitude You Will Receive is a Good One!



100% Satisfaction Guaranteed
Major Credit Cards Accepted



10% Senior Citizen Discount
Financing Available

2010 Birch Lake Yacht Club officers and directors

Commodore—Bob Waddle—476-2293;
cell: 269-365-7696
Vice Comm.—Stan Pitakos—476-8862
Fleet Capt. — Bill Luecht—476-2615
Treas. — Holly Troeger—476-9898
Secretary —Sandy Vitale—476-1680
Past Comm.—Paul Fallon—476-1467

BLYC Directors:

North — Rick Russwurm—476-2407
Fred Freihofer—476-9823
Mike Lutz — 476-2843; (cell) 269-207-1153
Bob Baucus — 476 2863
Cell: 574-535-4946 Home: 269-641-5644

East — Scott Troeger—476-9898
Jim Bolinger—476-9737
Phil Vitale—476-1680
Lind Harman — 476-2039
Hill — PJ VandeWalle —574-292-5966
South — Terry Dugan—476-2814
Sue Williams —476-8886
West — Harold Cranmer—476-2170
Karen Brovold — 476-8862
Steve Quinlan — 476-8802
Mike Sheffieck — 773-660-1673 X211
Greg Bolin — 574-876-3416
Cove — Vicki Rogers—476-2383
BLYC Water Quality Comm.



Rick Russwurm, Chair.—476-2407
Terry Dugan—476-2814
Gordon Seyfarth — n/a
Bruce Wagner — 476-2090

Home Owners Comm.

Rick Russwurm—476-2407
Scott Troeger—476-9898
Paul Fallon—476-1467
Jim Bolinger—476-9737
Phil Vitale—476-1680

BLYC Fleet Captain

Jeff Smitley — 476-9000

“My love for Birch Lake is matched only by the emotion of a sincere brush stroke”

Whether it be your home, cottage, family or memories, consider a painting or drawing. Commissions start at \$275

574-298-4067
coyjankowski@comcast.net
www.coyjankowski.com

VLASICAKS' MEAT MARKET
SMOKE HOUSE & DEER PROCESSING

ATTENTION

HUNTERS


1st Prize BIG BUCK CONTEST
2nd Prize LARGEST DOE CONTEST
3rd Prize ANY DEER RANDOM DRAW
(Your deer must be processed by us to enter)

We will custom process your deer this season for \$75.00.

Our specialties are:
jerky, summer sausage, meat snack sticks and MUCH MORE!

Owners - Jeff & Geri Lyn Vlasicak
After hours deer cooler emergency call Jeff's cell at 269-228-1990

Hours 63490 M-62 South
Mon.-Sat. 9:00-6:00 Cassopolis, MI 49031
Sunday 11:00-4:00 (269) 445-8763
Closed Tuesday



Official BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB
2010 Dues, Contribution & Donation Form
BE THE FIRST TO PAY FOR 2010!

\$ _____ - BLYC Member Dues (\$25 / year)
\$ _____ - BLYC Associate Member Dues (\$10 / year)
\$ _____ - Homeowners' Assoc. (\$10 / year)
\$ _____ - Sailing Fees (\$15 / year)
\$ _____ - Building Improvement Fund
\$ _____ - Fireworks Fund
\$ _____ - Water Quality Program
\$ _____ - Milfoil/Loosestrife Eradication Program
\$ _____ - Riparian (\$8/yr, provide address for magazine)
\$ _____ - Safety Committee
\$ _____ - Other (non-party related expenses)

Make checks payable to BLYC

Total \$ _____

Name _____
Address _____

Mail to Holly Troeger
1516 Ash Dr. East
Elkhart, IN 46514




Sweet Corn, Peaches & Tomatoes ... in Aug.
Also — Blueberries, Red Raspberries, Green Beans.

Sue & Bob are back! Come on in!

In Cassopolis behind the High School on Kamp Kozy
Open Every Day 10 - 6
Local Maple Syrup & Honey available now!

Sweet Corn
By the ear or by the bushel

BLYC CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

Gas grill propane; will pickup /deliver \$15; Call Bill Butler, 476-9905

MC Hull #1103 – 1987 –\$2,400 – includes trailer, 2 sails: White hull, gray deck, kickup rudder. Raced on Eagle lake. Blue trailer in good shape with winch and third wheel. john-deelee@sbcglobal.net. 574-220-1873

21 foot Maxum, 1990 with recently rebuilt 120 HP Force outboard motor and trailer. Can be seen on the north shore. Call Stan Pitakos at 476.8862.

For Sale — Radio Shack High Range Antenna; excellent condition - \$25.00. Call Tom @ 476-2383

8x10' Aqua Patio swim raft with anchor and ladder. 2 yr. old carpet. \$200 or best offer. Call Helen at 476-2719 or 269-683-2051.

For Sale: Aqua Cat 12 Ft Catamaran, boomless sail rig, newer sail, trailer included. \$300 or best. Contact Dave or Terry Carroll @ 574-850-0359 or tcarroll@comcast.net or view at cottage W318.

LOST

Red, flat kayak lost from west shore last weekend. Call Cam at 476-9905

FOR RENT

Lovely 3 bedroom cottage on the beautiful north shore. Sleeps 6, plus

a pull out couch. Indoor plumbing and no mosquitoes. \$850.00/week. Discounts available. Contact Stewart at 574.514.0667 or 269.476.2113.

Lake Cottage: Willing to rent weekly, monthly, or for a weekend, Family room, large kitchen w/new appliances, recently remodeled, washer/dryer, central air, 3 BR, 2 baths, loft w/sleeper, new deck, gas grill, lake access. \$1200/week. Vickie or Sam Tomaino @ 630-775-9336 or mytoria@aol.com for information.

Single-Family Home in Naples Park \$750/ week. 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom. Open floor plan. Screened in tile patio overlooking big back yard. Florida fruit trees. Home located 0.7 miles from public beach; great shopping areas nearby & lots to do and see in Naples, Florida. Home includes all linens and dishes, washer and dryer. Please call Angela 561 603 5522 if you are interested or email berganfsu@aol.com

The Villages - Florida rental. Active community with 2 downtowns, restaurants, 34 golf courses, hospital, Sams, 2 Walmarts, tennis courts, swimming pools, bocce courts, polo fields all accessible by golf cart. Extra large stand-alone Courtyard villa (walled privacy). Completely furnished; 2 bedrooms (one a king and the other twin beds), 2 full baths, open layout, 3 tvs, cable, phone serv-

ice, newspaper, central radio/music system, washer/dryer, outdoor furnishings and grill, and more. One of the most active villas; they include any renters in all villa activities: weekly men/women golfing, monthly dinners, night golf, monthly game nights, block parties, sports activities, etc. It is available this year from Oct. through January. For more information and pictures, call 476-2786.

Luxury Condo for \$975/Week (rates contingent on availability and dates). Over 2100 square feet with panoram-

ic balconies that are over 400 square feet, overlooking the ocean, speedway and downtown Daytona. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths with walk-in showers. Fully furnished with washer, dryer, dishes and brand NEW appliances. King bed in master suite, 2 queen beds in guest bedroom and 2 twin beds in third bedroom. Large private swimming pool on complex. Hot tub, tennis courts, par 3 golf course, billiards room/game room, ping pong. Cleaning fees separate but optional. PLEASE CALL 561 603 5522. Ask for Angela or email berganfsu@aol.com

Contact;

Major O'Brien

269-476-2126

Approved by Major Roofing Manufacturers

SnapLock
Gutter System

- No Spikes
- No Nails
- No Screws
- No Gutter Penetration



The Gutter Experts

- New
- Repair
- Replacement

Roofing

Safe Air Solutions

Siding

doors

Windows

Sun Rooms

Smokin' Hot Bar-B-Que

Pulled Pork, ribs, chicken, sausage, wings, salmon & shrimp

Eat in, Carry out — Catering available!

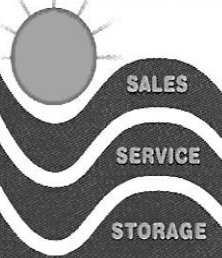
We're just down the road!

Sauk Trail

US Highway 12 in Union, Michigan

641-7285

**APOLLO
MARINE**



**Sales
Service
Storage**

SOUTHSIDE OF GRAVEL LAKE
15355 96TH AVE
Lawton, Michigan 49065
269.423-6011

1-888-996-BOAT
RAUAPOLLO@AOL.COM

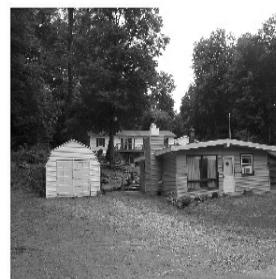
WWW.APOLLOMARINE.NET

Birch Lake



3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 2 garages, renovated kitchen, extra garage has an open upstairs for possibly a rec. room or extra living space. The 22x93 lake front lot with a shed and a pier to park your water toys are included. \$275,000.

Seller says "Bring them all OFFERS"



Rent out the cottage below for extra income. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, kitchen, dining area, and fireplace. This property also has an extra lot next to it. Lake access. \$115,000



Mark VanDusen
68827 M62
Edwardsburg, MI 49112
Cell: 574-215-6549
Office: 269-663-8585 ext 13



Prudential
One Realty

We've Got You Covered!



**SUMMER'S HERE!
CALL US TODAY!**

- Retractable Awnings for Deck & Patios
- Roll Curtains for Screened Porches
- Roll Shutters
- Boat Covers and Tops
- Canvas Repair
- Aluminum Awnings



SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION

**Call us for a free
at-home
demonstration!**

*Locally owned
and operated
since 1985*

**SUN
&
SHADE
AWNING**

12291 Bidelman Road • Three Rivers at Big Pleasant Lake

269 244-5307
www.sunandsshadeawning.com