

The official publication of the
BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB

Birch Barker

Weekend of July 17, 2010

© Copyright 2010, The Birch Lake Yacht Club



Could this come to pass?

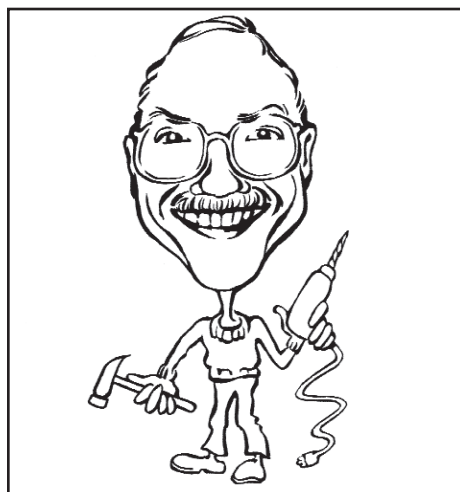
COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

The following article (might be) reprinted from the July 22, 2020 Birch Barker

VANDALIA — The future of troubled Camp Tannadoonah at Birch Lake in Porter Township was finally decided this week. At their monthly meeting, the Porter Township Board of Zoning Appeals granted a local developer's request to change the zoning at the camp from Residential-camp to Planned Unit Development.

Developer Paulie Delancy needed the change to move forward with his plans to purchase the camp and construct a new 200 unit condominium development on the bluffs overlooking Birch Lake. The township hall was overflowing with lake residents, there to protest the Zoning Board's actions.

One by one, scores of residents stood and spoke to the Board and condemned the changes that would forever change



their sleepy little lake. But the Board members were unswayed by the residents' plaintive testimonies, and instead considered the millions of dollars that the development would pour into the local tax rolls.

The camp had fallen on hard times in recent years with attendance declining and expenses increasing.

2010 BLYC Calendar

July 17	Spaghetti Dinner
July 23	Women's golf outing
July 30	Men's golf outing
July 31	Camp T Hog Roast
August 1.....	Board meeting 10 am
August 7.....	Corn and sausage roast
August 14.....	Garage sale
August 28.....	Fall dinner
	Camp T Silent Auction
September 11.....	Board meeting 9 am
September 18	Birch Lake Trivial Pursuit
October 9	Chili cook-off

Additionally, the camp's infrastructure needed many improvements. In today's world there are countless activities competing for the attention of our youth. Ultimately, Campfire USA, the camp's owner, decided their best course of action was to take the developer's generous offer and use the money to develop other projects.

We are always soliciting and accepting materials for publication. Please E-mail your materials to sailorphil@philvitale.com, or if you must, put the items 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. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want the materials returned. 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
The PRINTED BARKER is online every week at <http://www.philvitale.com/Barker/pvBirchBarkerNew.htm>

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

The developer plans to build 200 one- and three-bedroom units in 20 buildings. There are plans for two pools, a water park, and a miniature golf course. Two funicular tram cars will ferry owners from the bluff down to the new 200-boat marina complex at water's edge. Work on the development is scheduled to begin in the spring.

STOP! The article above is fiction. I was just trying to imagine the worst-case scenario if Camp Tannadoonah should ever have to be sold. There are lots of "ifs" in my story, but stranger things have happened, usually when there is a lot of money at stake. I know that Amber and Chas and their staff are doing their best, that Campfire's administrators are new and things seem a little better. But when I look at the camp donation thermometer in the Barker (see page 15), I don't see much upward movement.

The viability of the camp is largely our problem. We all have a stake in the camp's future, probably more than anyone else. On Saturday, July 31st, Campfire will host their Hog Roast at Camp T. You can go to Campfire's website or call Marty at 574-234-4145 to reserve your spot. You can also take a covered dish if you like. It sounds like it will be a great party, and most importantly, take your checkbook. Let's see if we can't heat things up on our Barker thermometer.

It looks like a scorcher coming up this weekend, hot, but plenty of sun. With all the steamy weather we're having, the lake water temperature is like bath water. Lots of folks out in the mid-

dle cooling their jets. I know I'm using up all my markers to get you this good weather. The sun is easy, now wind, that's another story. Just be safe and watch out for each other while out on the water.

All summer I've been searching for other ways that we here at Birch Lake can help Camp Tannadoonah financially. I have talked about trying to sell mugs or coolers or apparel, but they all have kind of a limited demand. And then, Carol Dugan, one of Birch Lake's resident photographers, suggested we produce a pictorial calendar for 2011.

What a great idea! The BLYC last put out a calendar for 2007, if you can recall. It featured 13 beautiful photos taken by Carol and other photographers from, guess where, Birch Lake. I think most of us still use calendars and would buy at least one, and I'd bet that a lot of you have other places to live and would buy two or three. What better way to remind yourself of this beautiful place?

In order to speed things up and have calendars available as soon as possible before the Great Fall Migration, I have invited only the group of photographers that provided photos for the 2007 version. I wanted to open the process to all, but time is too short to give everyone a fair chance and still meet the deadline. If we're successful this year, we can invite everyone next year. I'm still open to suggestions about format and size, although price will dictate a lot. I like calendars with big squares to write in. Maybe we can do two sizes? The project is still evolving. Then I'm going to appoint a committee with five impartial judges, who will choose the final 13 photos that will be used. Watch for details in subsequent issues of the Barker.

I guess I've been on a troubled Tannadoonah tirade (alliteration?), but after all, this is my bully pulpit. Time to move forward.

TURTLE ALERT! In case you've been wondering and remember, I was having trouble attracting turtles to our turtle raft. After several attempts at a fix, I finally realized it was a little too buoyant, and they couldn't quite get up over the edge. So I hung a couple of big bricks on the chain and, voila!, there's a turtle waiting list to get aboard. I had to stop the other day on Carter Lake St. to move a little, bitty turtle off the road. He had a long way to go to get across. You know, we're all God's children.

The Spaghetti Dinner is tonight, Saturday July 17, beginning at 6 pm at Trattoria BLYC. I hope you've already gotten your tickets. This is a really good dinner, so let's give the cook the night off and either go out or carry out.

Also, don't forget the two upcoming golf outings. This summer is movin' way too fast.

I've been writing this for a while now (picture pencil/yellow pad), and sometimes my pencil can't keep up with my thoughts. I think I had better save some for next time.

But to really end on a very positive note, I just learned that the Pancake Breakfast netted \$2,714.00, all of which will be donated to the camp. Hooray! I'm always looking for ways to wrap up these comments, and somewhat appropriately I happened upon these words from 1921 by Constance Baker Motley, "Something that we think is impossible now is not impossible in another decade." Stay cool.

-Commodore Worriedbob
sparkybob220@comcast.net

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 —

Challenge response

In response to the blurb in the last Birch Barker — “proposing a challenge,” by Stewart Spratt — I thought I’d share some pictures. We are the “Hill” family from Cincinnati, who were the winners of the boat parade (Birch Norseman)! We stay in the blue-gray cottage in the cove, owned by my grandmother, Helen Vath. We love coming to Birch Lake on July 4th for all the great traditions (boat parade, pancake breakfast & fireworks)! Check out the photos at: http://www.kodakgallery.com/gallery/creativeapps/slideShow/Main.jsp?sourceId=533754321803&cm_mmc=eMail_-_Share_-_Photos_-_Share

Local governmental meetings

Often we complain about the workings of our local Government yet we fail to be involved or even keep ourselves well informed.

We are all busy and most of us do not have time to volunteer to serve on the various local boards and commissions. However, we should all take time to attend an occasional board meeting. It will keep us informed on what’s going on in our community and give us the opportunity to know who our local officials are. We have a lot of good people working for us and most of them will truly listen to our needs and concerns if we will just take the time to be involved only if it is just attending an occasional

meeting.

Cass County Commissioners: 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 7 pm.

Second floor of the Old Court House

Porter Township Agenda Meeting:

1st Tuesday of the month at 3:30 pm.

Township Hall

Porter Township Board: 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm. Township Hall

Sewer Board: 1st Tuesday of the month at 7pm. Township Hall

SEPSA: 2nd Thursday of the month at 7 pm. Porter Fire Station

Underground Railroad Days

The Underground Railroad will be the subject of a special celebration at Milo Barnes Park in Vandalia (on M-60) on July 17 from 10 am to 7 pm, and on Sunday, July 18 from Noon to 5 pm.

Tours will be led by the Underground Railroad Society of Cass County, and there will be Underground Railroad Presentations Sat. at 11 and 1, and Sunday at 2. Also on Saturday, there will be a Classic Car Show, and Music, Community Bake and Craft Sale (spots still available, call Beverly at 476-2344) and Local Food Vendors.

Ahem. I’m so confused ...

Harold used to have sail #916 – now he’s racing #2412 and the #916 number is flown on Gib’s boat. Somehow I doubt #1713 belongs on the beloved “whale boat” raced by Tom Howard. And, sud-

denly I’m surrounded by #500 sails (so, Phil is sometimes both ahead of and behind me).

To those racing with the wrong numbers on your sail (sail numbers are supposed to match the number of your hull) – they are very easy to replace. Lay the sail out flat – apply green / blue masking tape around the perimeter of the existing numbers (making a box for reference) – peel off the old (invalid) numbers. The fabric area CAN be cleaned with solvent (consult manufacturer), but that’s really not necessary.

Apply new numbers inside the masking tape reference box. Dust the area you were working on with talc (baby powder will do) to coat uncovered area of old glue. 15” class numbers are available from Melges / Quantum / Gus / White Bear Boat Works for \$5/ea. Contact: Melges - (262) 275-1110; Quantum – (888) QSDG-889; Gus Sails – (972) 998.5313; WBBW – (651) 429-7221.

Would you like to join the MC fleet? There are (4) MCs ranging from \$1,700 - \$2,750 in Michigan (one on nearby Diamond Lake) – to more info go to: <http://www.mcscow.org/>

For any sailor (or Race Committee member / spectator) who would like an electronic copy of the Racing Rules of Sailing ... write to boatswainbob@comcast.net — I will email a PDF file.

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**

LEAF REMOVAL, SNOW PLOWING, SNOW REMOVAL, LOT CLEARING

EXCAVATING

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

“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

— Birch Lake Notes —

Art in the Park

The Sunday Art Market in the Park will be Aug. 8 and Sept. 12 from Noon to 3 pm at the Farmers Market in Scidmore Park near downtown Three Rivers. Fine art, including fiber, water colors, metal sculpture, metal jewelry, oils, photography, fine art cards and prints, polymer jewelry, pottery and more. Birch Lake resident Carol Dugan is among the local artists exhibiting.

July 31st Camp T Hog Roast

The Camp Fire USA River Bend Council will mark the 100th year of its national organization with a Centennial Hog Roast on July 31st, 4 p.m. to 10 p.m., at Camp Tannadoonah on Birch Lake. Other festivities are planned that evening, including the honoring of local Camp Fire supporters at 7 p.m., and the lighting of a campfire at 7:30 p.m., simultaneously with 50 other Camp Fire Councils across the USA. The event is free to all Camp Fire supporters, including past counselors and program participants. RSVP at www.campislife.com. (Diners are asked to bring a side dish.)

"Camp Fire has deep roots in Michiana, having been launched in 1920 by Knute Rockne and Colonel and Mrs. C. Seymour Bullock, under the name of

the South Bend Camp Fire Girls Council," notes Marty McKiernan, Executive Director for the local nonprofit organization. "The South Bend and LaPorte councils merged in 1973 to create Michiana council, and that council merged with Mishawaka in 1993 to become the River Bend Council." "For over six decades, Camp Fire was a girls-only club -- but not anymore," McKiernan explains. "In 1975, boys were encouraged to participate nationally -- but that is still not widely known. On a national basis, 46 percent of Camp Fire participants are boys, with equal participation at Camp Tannadoonah. Last year, Camp Fire USA provided nearly 30 million program hours, to over 300,000 youth, through its 84 councils across the United States."

When the national organization was founded in 1910 by Dr. Luther and Charlotte Gulick, it was the first nonsectarian organization for girls in the United States. The Camp Fire name was chosen because campfires represented the center of early community life. Today, Camp Fire USA has evolved into a multifaceted nonprofit organization, offering overnight and day camps in Michiana and school-related programs related to our mission. Focus on the out-

doors, nature, and conservation continues to be a centerpiece of Camp Fire USA activities, which is particularly relevant in a world that has become more sensitive to the environment. For more information on local activities, including day-camp activities at Mishawaka's Camp Tawanchi in Merrifield Park, visit www.riverbendcampfire.org.

Rabbit Repellent

Quick and easy remedy. Wrap bunches of pet hair in old panty hose, and hang them in various parts of your garden. Rabbits think Fido or Mittens is standing guard and will hippity, hop down the garden path in a big, fat hurry! **Source: Jerry Baker America's Master Gardener**

Caps for cancer treatment

Our daughter is a nurse practitioner with a pediatrician in Ft. Wayne. Their office is collecting plastic bottle caps (these can be any plastic caps from bottles and cartons including laundry products). For every 1,000 caps collected and sent to Riley Children's Hospital someone receives a free cancer treatment. Caps may be dropped off at Don & Lind Harmans on the east side.

SWEET CORN!



Peaches, blueberries, cantaloupes — and so much summer produce I can't even mention it all!

Diamond

Acres Farm



VISIT OUR NEW WEB SITE!
www.diamondacresfarm.com

In Cassopolis behind the High School on Kamp Kozy

Open Every Day 10 - 6

JR's Home Improvement

Property maintenance & management

Remodeling

Floors

Roofing

Bathrooms

Drywall

Winterization

Decks

Honey-Do Lists

Floors

Pier Service

Kitchens

20 yrs experience

Birch Lake references available

Jeff Rienks

574-850-4499



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 coasters for weddings, anniversaries, graduations (many colors to choose from)

Bev Comer, Owner

244-1165 cell 816-1389

13475 Harvey Street, Jones

bevscustomsewing@live.com

<http://www.etsy.com/shop/bevscustomsewing>



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 kids of the Week —



If anyone would like fishing lessons from our Grandson, Jimmy (11) I am sure he could give them a few pointers. This is 37" pike he caught on Fish Lake. Way to go Jimmy, grandson of Jim & Linda Bergan.



Ashleigh Whiteman Celebrated her 14th Birthday at Birch Lake on July 8th. She is the daughter of Ron and Staci Whiteman and the sister of Ian Whiteman south side.

Got a kid of the week at your cottage?

To get it printed in the Barker, e-mail it to me at sailorphil@philvitale.com, drop it in the red newspaper tube at 63174 Birch Rd. (East Side) or mail it to me at Neighbors, 102 S. Broadway, Cassopolis, MI 49031.

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

Complete Plumbing Service
Sewer and Drain Cleaning



"Gilbert Goldfish"

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

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

— Barker kids of the Week —



Thanks to the Magros (North Side) for this great pic of their grandkids ... Pictured are, Back Row: Sarah Finstuen-Magro, Alex Magro, Sophie Magro w/Baby Gianna Magro. Front Row: Kate Finstuen-Magro w/ Dominic Magro Algarotti on her lap, Tommy Magro and Peter Magro



Jason Bender and his wife Amy Bender, and 4 of Dick Bender's 12 grandkids ... Austin, Dalton, Madison and Cierra. Jason was raised on Birch Lake. They all enjoyed a day of swimming and tubing 7/10/10. Dick Bender lives on the South Side.

A note on deadlines for the Barker ... The deadline for getting items (including kids of the week) into any particular Birch Barker is Tuesday of the previous week ... thanks, ed

BLYC 50TH ANNUAL MENS GOLF OUTING (4-MAN FLORIDA SCRAMBLE) JULY 30, 2010 — \$70/man SAUGANASH GOLF CLUB



61270 Lutz Rd., Three Rivers, MI — Shotgun start at NOON; dinner at BLYC at 6 pm

* must have registrations by July 21st.

All par three's big prizes, including a hole in one for \$10,000

Additional Information

- * team prizes and contests
- * dinner only, \$25 per person
- * dinner includes 10oz. grilled ribeye, side salads, corn on the cob.
- * lunch not included but the club has complete restaurant and beverage service availability.
- * prizes awarded during dinner.
- * the mens' and ladies' outing is looking for

donations of door prizes. If you have access to logo merchandise that could be donated to one or both, please contact Artie McElwee at 574-514-3179. We have need for 80 players in the mens' and 40 players in the womens' event.

* **Send entries to artie@toefco.com or 63306 birch road 574-515-3179,476-1692**

*checks should be made out to BLYC

Foursome Information

Team Captain:

Please Print Players names:

Total Enclosed \$ _____

~Birch Lake Recipes~

Creamy Turkey Burritos

For the love of Pete, do not turn on the oven. Just make this for dinner. Yum — Creamy Turkey Burritos

Makes 4 burritos

INGREDIENTS

1-1/2 cups chopped cooked turkey
 1 cup nonfat sour cream
 2 tablespoons 40% less sodium Old El Paso® taco seasoning mix
 2 oz. (1/2 cup) shredded reduced-fat sharp Cheddar cheese
 4 (8-inch) fat-free Old El Paso® flour tortillas

DIRECTIONS

1. MICROWAVE DIRECTIONS: In medium bowl, combine turkey, sour cream, taco seasoning mix and 1/4 cup of the cheese; mix well.
 2. Spread 1/4 of turkey mixture down center of each tortilla; roll up. Place 1 burrito on each of 4 microwave-safe plates. Sprinkle each with 1 tablespoon of the remaining cheese. Cover with microwave-safe plastic wrap.
 3. Microwave each burrito on HIGH for 1 to 2 minutes or until thoroughly heated. If desired, serve with salsa and shredded lettuce. Serve with your cold beverage of choice.



Jaywalker Restaurant and Jaywalker Pizzeria

At the bridge on US 12 in Mottville and on the Point on US 12 in Union



RESTAURANT
 Fine dining in a casual atmosphere
 483-2305

www.jaywalkerrestaurant.com

PIZZERIA— Pizza, subs, coney & chicago dogs, salads and delicious Sherman's Premium Ice Cream
 641-5003

www.jaywalkerpizzeria.com



Satori Salon and Spa

11920 McKinley Street
 Jones, Michigan 49061

www.satorisalonandspa.com

244-5510

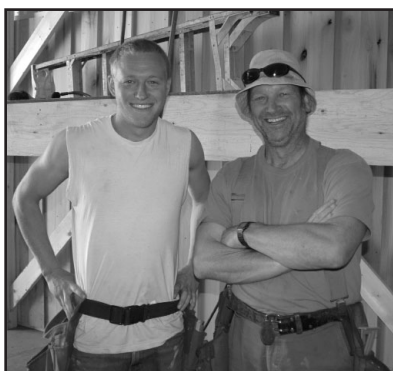
new hair stylists and nail technicians



Pamper yourself with any one of our signature services:

- Massage ● European Facial
- Body Treatment ● Manicure
- Pedicure ● Full Service Hair Salon and more!! Mention this ad and get 10% off your first service!

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!



Fleet Captain's Corner



Seagull Days of summer...

After being on the lake for several years, you begin to notice the rhythm of the seasons. For example, the seagulls always arrive back to the lake the week after the 4th of July. You can set your clock by it. (Actually your calendar, but I digress.) As the seagulls arrive, so do the dog days of summer — maybe we should call them “the seagull days of summer.” The winds are lighter, often from the southwest and frequently need a little daytime heating to start.

These were the conditions we had last Sunday. When Harold and I went out at 10:00 to set the marks, there was enough wind to set a sail at the leeward side of the lake, but the area with wind was way too small to set out a course. It filled in across the lake just before the 11:00 start time. Harold and I quickly set the marks, zipped in and out to get started ... just a little late. The first race was light but steady; the second was a bob and bake.

I want to thank Bad Patty, Good Patti, Blair Garceau, my Lovely Bride and our pup Wrigley for running the committee boat. Wrigley loves boat rides and cannot wait for the summer boating season to start. Every time a pontoon boat comes near our pier, he runs to the end hoping Bad Patty is coming to pick him up. On second thought, maybe we should leave it as “the dog days of summer” after all.

See you at the starting line...

-Fleet Captain Jeff

2010 BLYC Sailing Season Results

Date	11-Jul	11-Jul	Total	Season
Race	14	15	Points	Average
MC Scow				
Scott Troeger #1489/500	1	1	17209	1564
Harold Cranmer #2412	4	8	18972	1355
Phil Vitale #500	7	3	17543	1349
Bob King #1199	6	2	13438	1344
Jeff Smitley #2002	3	5	19731	1315
Dave Olson #1979	9	DNS	18358	1311
Bill Luecht #1579	5	7	19126	1275
Gib Eberhart #916	2	6	18734	1249
Don Harman #582	8	4	16064	1236
Jim Bolinger #1735	DNS	DNS	7412	1235
Tom Howard #1713	DNS	DNS	5857	1171
Sunfish				
Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)	1	2	18353	1529
Erica Vitale (White)	4	4	16666	1515
Stewart Spratt	DNS	DNS	8972	1495
Sandy Vitale (White)	DSQ	1	17530	1461
Katie Luecht (White/Red/Blue)	2	5	13704	1370
Chris Spratt (Blue/Green)	3	3	16438	1370
Mike Lutz (Yellow/White)	6	6	18375	1313
Bernie Garceau (Red/White/Blue)	5	7	2452	1226
Stan Pitakos	DNS	DNS	2450	1225
Rick Dwinger (Black)	DNS	DNS	2381	1191

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), DSQ (Disqualified) scores as one place worse than last place (if 5 boats finished, you would have finished 6th, will be scored as 7th place). DNF, DSQ not counted toward minimum number of races needed. CB - sailor who serves on Committee Boat receives their season average place as of that date - 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

Committee Boat Schedule

Here is the current committee boat schedule. To take an open slot, you can call me at 476-9000.

July 18	Bob & Sue Waddle
July 25	Patty Luecht
Aug. 1	Deb Taghon
Aug. 8	Bob & Sue Waddle
Aug. 15	Chas & Amber Grundy
Aug. 22	Open
Aug. 29	Open
Labor Day Regatta	Open

Smokin' Hot Bar-B-Que

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

Eat in, Carry out — Catering available!
Parties

We're just down the road!

Sauk Trail

US Highway 12 in Union, Michigan

641-7285



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

Water Quality Committee Report

Water Quality Program

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

E coli Monitoring

A few years ago, a concern arose that we might have an E coli problem here at Birch Lake. E coli are not necessarily a problem in and of themselves, but high levels of E coli may be an indicator of other bacterial / virus problems. Almost immediately, your Yacht Club responded in two ways:

1. Its Water Quality Committee had its sampling procedures checked by the State of Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality and commenced an extensive regimen of sampling and testing at numerous locations throughout the lake.

2. In addition, an independent laboratory was hired to perform its own sampling and testing.

Neither of these programs indicated any real issues with E coli in our lake. However, some E coli was found in the little inlet stream on the north east part of the lake. Later analysis at Michigan State University indicated that this E coli was non-human. (Please recall that E coli can come from a variety of sources that are other than human, i.e. geese, ducks, raccoons, deer, dogs, etc.)

Since the few years of aggressive sampling and testing have failed to identify an issue with bacterial contamination in the lake, this year we decided to monitor on a more limited basis.

Our first samples of the year were taken on July 8th at five locations, largely in areas where some concerns had been raised in the past. Triplicate samples were taken at each of the locations. The analysis requires mixing the samples with an appropriate growth medium for bacteria and then incubating the samples for 24 + hours at 95 degrees and then seeing if any colonies of E coli grew. Results are normally reported as number of colonies per

100 ml of sample, but since only 5 ml of sample were employed in the test system we have, you just have to multiply the results by 20. The results reported below will be total number of actual counted colonies per sample, and then the x20.

Just for reference purposes, safety concerns about E coli counts only arise when they are at 230 colonies per 100 ml, or greater.

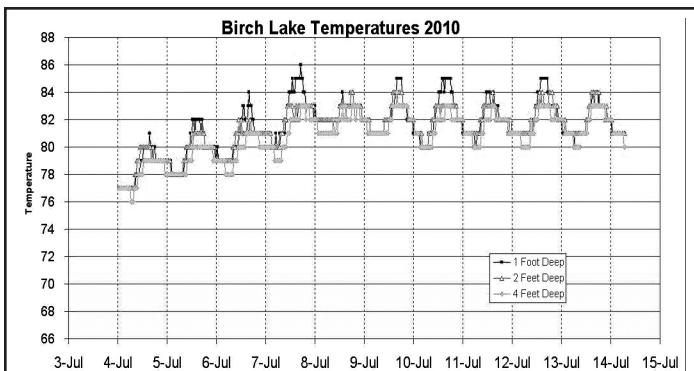


Sample location	# of Ecoli colonies counted	Colonies per 100 ml
(1)	0	0
(1)	0	0
(1)	1	20
(2)	0	0
(2)	0	0
(2)	0	0
(3)	0	0
(3)	0	0
(3)	1	20
(4 stream)	20	400
(4 stream)	24	480
(4 stream)	27	540
(5)	0	0
(5)	0	0
(5 stream)	1	20

The sampling sites were as follows:

- (1) park on south side of lake
- (2) in front of Weesner's cottage
- (3) north side of Klappauf's pier, which is just south of the stream inlet
- (4) stream inlet
- (5) between the two piers at the camp. However at the camp one of the three samples was actually taken about 20 feet into the little stream draining some wetlands that is just west of the piers and obscured by brush.

It is therefore a pleasure to report that aside from the expected finding in the stream inlet (previously identified as non human), E coli are virtually absent from the body of the lake including only a little way from the stream inlet.



West Sider Steve Quinlan is recording the lake temperature every every 30 minutes. The Temperature sensors are at the end of his pier, 50 feet out into the lake. The temperature sensors are 1 foot, 2 feet, and 4 feet deep. The graph above shows the data collected from from last week

APOLLO MARINE

SALES
SERVICE
STORAGE

**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

Monuments

BY *Design* LLC

Custom Monuments, Field Stones,
On Site Lettering and more

Jeromy Bogue

64760 Robinson Road
P.O. Box 202
Cassopolis, MI 49031

Phone: 269-445-3848
Fax: 269-445-3828

Stu's Star Stuff

Next stop the planet Uranus

Our next stop on our journey away from the sun is Uranus. Accent on the first syllable if you please. We aren't going down that road today.

Uranus is the ancient Greek deity of the Heavens, the earliest supreme god. Uranus was the son and mate of Gaia, the father of Cronus (Saturn) and of the Cyclopes and Titans (predecessors of the Olympian gods).

Uranus, the first planet discovered in modern times, was discovered by William Herschel while systematically searching the sky with his telescope in 1781. It had actually been seen many times before but ignored as simply another star. Skipping the boring stuff that came first the name "Uranus" was first proposed by Bode in conformity with the other planetary names from classical mythology but didn't come into common use until 1850.

The seventh planet from the sun is also the third largest. It is 19 times farther from the sun than Earth, thus, as we learned a few weeks ago, at a distance of 19 AU. Uranus has been visited by only one spacecraft and it is no longer the bland boring planet that Voyager 2 saw! Uranus' blue color is the result of absorption of red light by methane in the upper atmosphere. There may be colored bands like Jupiter's but they are hidden from view by the overlaying methane layer. (Methane. Great. I

said we weren't going down that road.)

Like the other outer planets in our solar system, Uranus is a giant. Compared to the other three giants, though, it's an oddball. For one thing, it orbits the Sun sideways, so both the north and south poles see more than 40 years of sunlight followed by 40 years of darkness. And for another, Uranus is the only giant that doesn't produce more heat than it receives from the Sun.

The planet's orientation is probably the result of a giant impact -- another planet-sized body probably smacked into Uranus, knocking it sideways.

The lack of an internal heat source is harder to explain, though. The other giants -- Jupiter, Saturn, and Neptune -- all radiate more energy into space than they receive from the Sun. Some of that heat is left over from their formation, while some is created as their gravity squeezes them tightly. But scientists still aren't sure why this isn't also happening with Uranus.

While Uranus has a rocky core it shares a common trait with the other gas giants. (Gas, here we go again.) Uranus has rings - 11 known but all very faint, composed of fairly large particles ranging up to 10 meters in diameter in addition to fine dust. There are also 27 named moons.

Uranus is sometimes just barely visible with the unaided eye on a very clear night; it is fairly easy to spot with binoculars (if you know exactly where to look). A small astronomical telescope will show a small disk. Look for Uranus in Pisces before sunrise, close to Jupiter. Check it out and enjoy the show. It's always free.

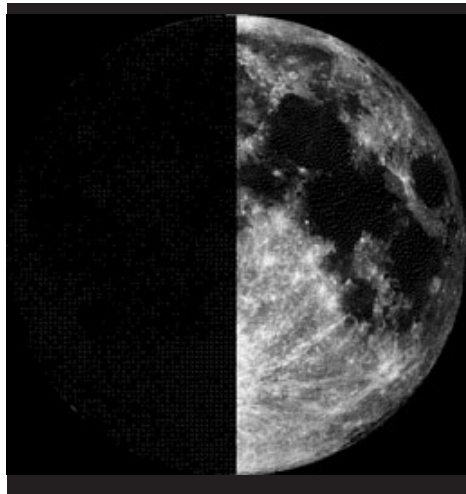
-Stu Spratt

The Moon for Jul 17, 2010

(At Midnight, US Central time)

Illuminated Fraction: 0.480

0.1 days before first quarter



BIRCH LAKE HOROSCOPE

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20)

Taking on too much won't help the situation. Changes at home might come fast and furious. Face any emotional problems head-on to avoid situations getting out of hand. Hidden assets can be doubled if you play your cards correctly. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- may 21)

Opportunities to make financial gains will develop through your connections with other people. You won't have to look for the action. Be prepared to make compensations and adjustments. You like to stay busy and now is your chance to do just that. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)

You'll be able to discuss your ambitions with your mate. You can expect to have a problem with your lover. Don't put off the things that they have asked you to do. Travel will lead you in new directions. If you try to manipulate emotional situations you will find yourself alienated. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

Avoid any gossip and be careful that you aren't misinterpreted. Plan your day carefully. Electrical problems may be an issue. You will learn a great deal from the foreigners you meet. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22)

Be prepared to meet new lovers through colleagues. You are best to back away from commitment. Your changing attitudes may be causing concern for your partner. Maybe it's time to look into ways you can improve your health. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23)

Efforts made to improve yourself will turn out to your satisfaction. Be careful not to get involved in other people's personal affairs. Entertainment could be pleasing if it is of an energetic nature. You will have a tendency to exaggerate, which will lead to major confrontations with loved ones. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23)

Talk to superiors about problems that you feel are getting out of hand. You will gain a lot if you listen. Your lack of responsibility and attention has been a key issue in your relationship. Don't be shy to promote your own interests. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

You will have the discipline to make changes you feel are necessary. Pleasure trips or friendly get-togethers will be satisfying and intellectually stimulating. Visit someone who hasn't been feeling well lately. Hold on; your time will come. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21)

You might have some problems balancing your books. Purchases will be well worth it and they will last a long time. Opportunities for travel and communication are evident. Home improvement projects will run smoothly. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20)

Changes involving your domestic scene may be unpleasant. Relatives will be happy that you dropped by. Lighten up your serious attitude. You are going through a period of questioning. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19)

Come to your own conclusions rather than taking the word of someone else. Your partner may make you feel jealous and unloved. However, be careful with luggage; it may be rerouted. Things may not be as they sound. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)

Talk to superiors about problems that you feel are getting out of hand. Start sending out those resumes. You may not want to spend time around family or your home. Get involved in creative projects that will enhance your earning power. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

SPOTLIGHT

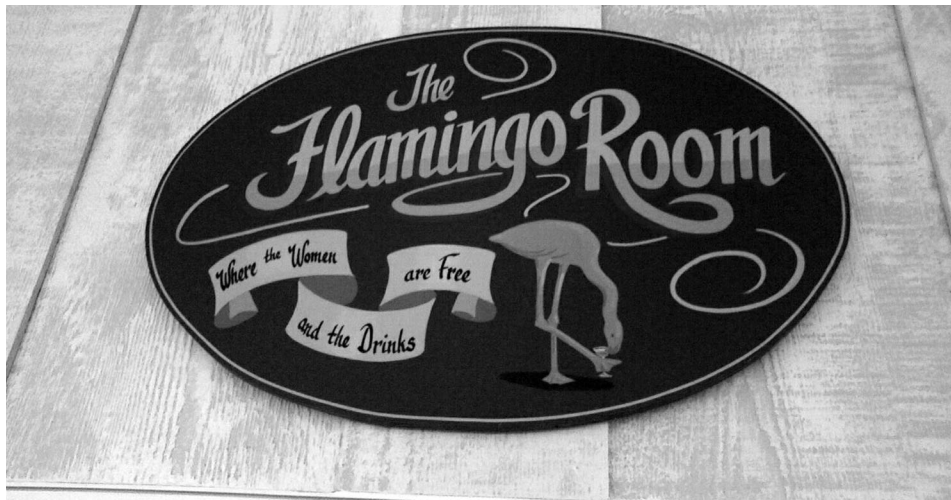
Bill and Patty Luecht

I know that when I started this column I said that I would be introducing some of the less conspicuous families on the lake, but this week I am going from the lesser-known to our, if not famous then infamous neighbors known to most as “Bad Patty” and Bill Luecht.

The Luecht family has been a fixture at Birch Lake for many years. Bill's Aunt and Uncle, Doris and Vic Goeller bought the cottage on the east side in 1963. As they had no children, they were happy to have Bill and his sister visit frequently from their home in Elkhart. (FACTOID - the Goellers had the last functioning outhouse on the east side!) All through his early years, then through his time at Purdue, and even after he began his career as a surveyor for a company in Mishawaka, he continued to visit Birch Lake whenever possible. In 1980, when Bill's aunt and uncle could no longer maintain the little cottage, they gave it to Bill who they knew would always love the little place as much as they did.

In 1982 Bill met Patricia Galloway, a Mishawaka gal, who even then loved a good party. (She went to Indiana University in Bloomington after all. She had no choice but to be a party girl!) After one short year, Patty moved to Indianapolis for her job with the telephone company. After a year, Bill could no longer stand her so living so far away, so he also moved to Indianapolis and became a surveyor for Indianapolis Power and Light — at least that's how Patty tells it! They dated for a long, long, long time until Bill finally decided that she was there to stay and asked her to marry him (also Patty's version). They married in 1991, daughter Katie was born in 1993, and son John in 1995.

Through the years, as the Luecht family was enjoying the lake, Bill



made several improvements inside the cottage, but still it wasn't big enough to really entertain the way that Patty wanted. She likes to be with people, having a good time, and because their son John is autistic, it was difficult for them to go out to the parties and over to neighbors' houses, so in 2003 the Flamingo Room was born.

A large Florida room was added to the back of the cottage and decorated in the most Floridian thing that Patty could think of — the flamingo. The Flamingo Room sports flamingos on the walls, tables, doors, eating utensils, light fixtures, clocks, stuffed animals, yard ornaments, flags and just about anything one could imagine.

Patty also developed a special punch drink (she says is a secret recipe) that has given her the name “Bad Patty” because of how one feels in the morning after imbibing the night before. Now, most weekend nights in the summer, Patty and Bill have plenty of company at the little cottage. In fact, many nights it's almost standing room only! But most weekend days you can find Patty and Bill out on the water, sailing, committee boating or just floating around on their pirate pontoon.

When the Luechts are not here

with us on Birch Lake, they call Danville, Indiana, home. It's a small town outside of Indianapolis where the Luechts have lived since 1996. Patty works as a para-professional at a nearby school district and Bill is still with Indianapolis Power and Light.

In his spare time in Danville, Bill enjoys bringing player pianos back to life and fixing and collecting victrolas. Patty says he's a genius.

Katie, the honor student, is starting to think about college coming up in a year or so, and stays busy playing bass clarinet in the band. This summer she is helping teach up at the Camp.

John loves making films, writing stories, playing trombone, and making maps.

So now you know the Luechts. If you don't know where they live, just wait 'til it's dark out and look for the pink glow on the east shore. That will be the Flamingo Room and if you listen closely you might hear the neighbors there “flamingle-ing.”

Oh, I can't forget to mention that Patty is acting as coordinator for the Women's Golf Outing this year. So, if you haven't reserved your spot, do it or you'll be too late!

-Debbie B

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

Eagle Lake Marine Sales ~ Service ~ Storage

SAN PAN, AQUA PATIO AND
SWEETWATER PONTOONS,
HURRICANE DECK BOATS &
POLARKRAFT FISHING BOATS



Eagle Lake Marine
on Eagle Lake in
Edwardsburg, MI
(269) 699-5103
web site eaglelakemarine.com

DEB THOMPSON

FREEDOM REALTY

3130 S. 11TH
NILES, MI 49120

CHRISTINE MOORE, REALTOR
269-362-5665



ENTREPRENEURIAL OPPORTUNITY — Business for sale on US 12 in Adamsville. Highly visible location across the street from Four Lakes Country Club. Currently used as upscale consignment shop (owner will stay on to help new buyer) — or would be great place for retail, health club ... you name it! Contact Christine Moore today!

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

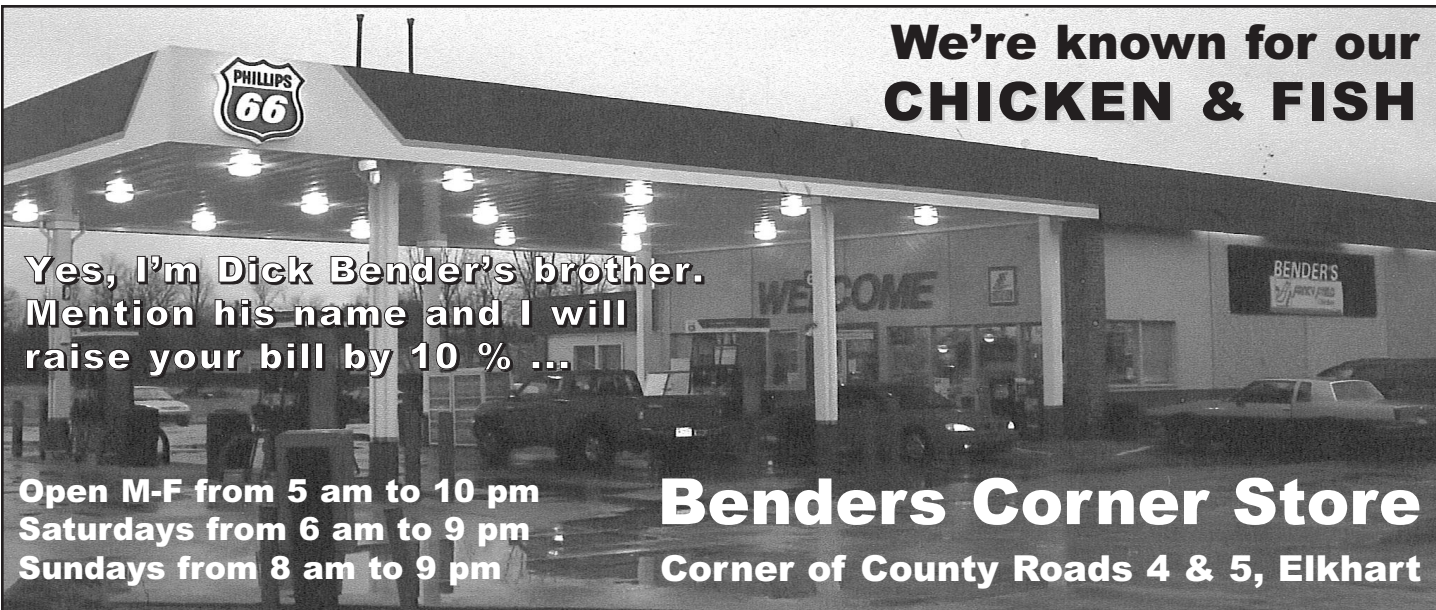
"One-Touch Automation is a full service home technology company. Our goal is to provide systems that you can control from anywhere, are easy to use, look great, and fit your budget. Our work should complement the quality of your lifestyle."

-Ryan & Rachael McDaniel, Owners

ONE-TOUCH Automation Offices in Indiana & Michigan
800-526-6753
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

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

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

Lawn Care

- Spring and fall yard clean up
- Tree and shrub trimming
- Rototill your garden
- Mowing and Trimming
- Fertilizing

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

MISCELLANEOUS

Camp T Silent Auction date changed

We still need your help!

Due to a scheduling conflict, Camp Tannadoonah has had to change the date of its fund-raising Silent Auction and Health Fest to Saturday, Aug. 28.

Among the items already pledged for the auction are a football signed by Notre Dame Head Football Coach Brian Kelly, a basketball signed by ND coaches Mike Brey and Muffet McGraw, a beautiful, framed display of Notre Dame season tickets, tickets to both Bears and Cubs games, a spectacular, hand-made Birchwood table, Elkhart Jazz Festival posters autographed by every musician there, gift cards from Buffalo Wild

Wings ... and a whole lot more to come!

We need some help with both the auction and with the events of the Health Fest!

For the auction, we are seeking sponsors and donations of of both money and items that we can auction.

The Health Fest (which will be held on the same day as the Birch Lake-wide garage sale) will include a competitive 5-mile run (around the lake), a kayak race, a tennis tournament and a bicycle tour through the countryside.

The events will begin early (more details soon), and continue throughout the day. Visitors will be able to look

over the items in the auction and make "silent" bids for them at the Camp Dining hall. After the events are over bids will be opened and the items will be "sold" for the largest amounts bid. All proceeds will go to Camp Tannadoonah.

We are still looking for people to help us organize and produce the running and biking events.

To volunteer, make a donation or contribution, or to become a sponsor, please contact Phil Vitale at 269-476-1680 (email: sailorphil@philvitale.com or mail to Phil Vitale, 63174 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095) or call Karen Brovold at 269-476-8862. Thank you!

Great idea for lake families with small children

As leaders of the New Gang in Town, Sheryl and I were apprehensive about the risk to our grand-toddlers around the Birch Lake waterfront. What if they leave the house alone? What if we turn our back? What if they get out of bed and wander outside while we sleep? Our son Joe came up with a solution in the form of a very effective child immersion alarm; the Safety Turtle by Terrapin. The Safety Turtle uses a wireless electronic wristband that locks onto the child's wrist. When the wristband is wet, a loud piercing alarm is sounded from the base unit. The effective range is reported to be 150 feet so the portable base unit can be located inside your home. The system runs on house current. A battery pack is also available. The setup costs about \$150 to \$200 for the base station and one wristband — a small price to pay to protect our precious darlings. Multiple wristbands can be used but must all be the same color. They run about \$50 each. Pet safety collars are also available. The best price we found was at poolsupplyworld.com. Discount coupons for this site are available online. We have a pair of two-year olds and found that the unit worked well ... that is, until the more mischievous of the two discovered that he could set off the alarm ... and Grandma ... by licking the wristband. We'll have to work on that one.

-Bill Magro



Birch Lake Tote Bags!

New Birch Lake Tote Bags with this attractive logo will be available soon — Just \$5 each ... to pre-order, contact 'Bad Patty' Luecht at 476-2615

LAST CHANCE!!!!

Sign up deadline is July 19th!!!

BL Ladies FUN Golf Outing!!

**July 23 2010 — Tee Off at 9 AM Shot Gun Start
Spruce Ridge Golf Course — Dutch Settlement Rd, Dowagiac**

Lunch : The Wounded Minnow, Dowagiac (salad bar, sandwiches, dessert, soft drinks, cash bar)

Cost: \$35 per golfer (includes: Golf Proxy Bundles Lunch)

Proxy Bundles include: Closet to the Pin, Closest to the Line, Longest Putt, Longest Drive (individual prizes awarded)

This year we are trying some new things to encourage more Birch Lake ladies to come out and enjoy a great day of **JUST FOR FUN GOLFING!!**

*Gift bags for all teams *Monetary prizes will be awarded equally to all teams *50/50 drawing
*Recognition will be given to top teams. *All teams are asked to donate a basket to be raffled

2010 Birch Lake Ladies "JUST FOR FUN" Golf Outing Participants

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Checks should be made out to BLYC and can be dropped off to Patty Luecht 269-476-2615or

Blair Garceau 269-476-9862 (both East Side). Donated baskets and items can also be dropped off to Patty or Blair

Entries in By: JULY 14th QUESTIONS? call Patty 476-2615

BIRCH LAKE WORD SEARCH

BIRCH LAKE NEIGHBORS

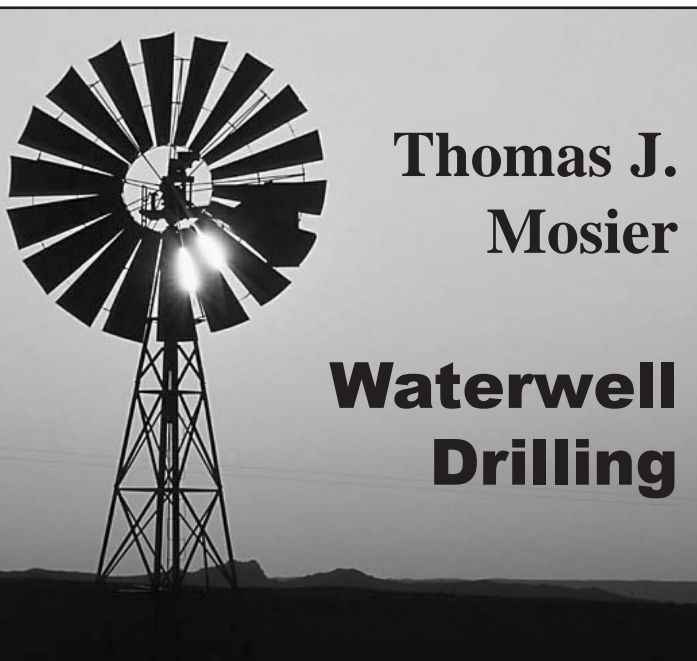
The Word Search puzzle at right contains the last names of several families at Birch Lake ...

See if you can find them all!

If you send us your completed word search puzzles, we'll keep track of who gets the most names and give the winner a big prize at the end of the season!

(see Page 1 for addresses)
More next week!

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



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

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

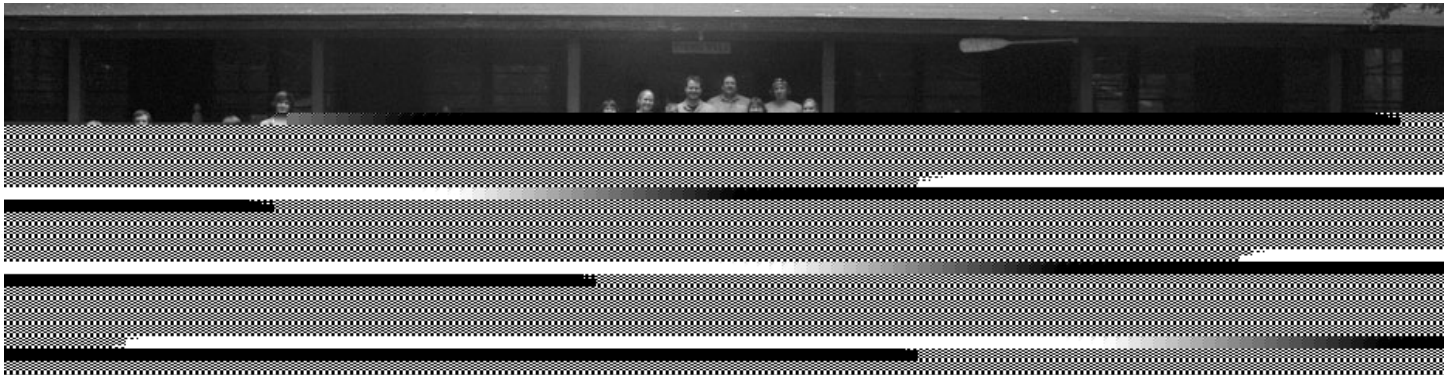
email: Sue@unionins.net

PROGRESSIVE

Auto-Owners Insurance

Camp Tannadoonah

The biggest week ever!



Aloha! It's been a crazy and fun week at Camp T this week! It was Hawaiian Week at camp this week, and we had our biggest week ever in terms of camper numbers. Our final total was 115 kids. There are only 111 beds in camp, so four of the oldest boys stayed in a tent! We had to bring in a couple extra staff to cover all the cabins.

This week we had two special programs at camp: Diving Camp and Science Camp. Three campers participated in the diving program, which was coached by my sister, Heather Holleman. By the end of the first day, she had all three campers doing back dives off the diving board, and one of the kids had never dove head first in his entire life. By Tuesday they were all doing front and back flips!

We had a last-minute cancellation by the instructor for Science program, and so last weekend I was scrambling to find someone to run it. Terry Dugan volunteered to do three afternoons, and Judy Olson did another afternoon, and finally my sister's friend did the final day. Thank you SOOO much to these three volunteers!

On Monday afternoon, the Science kids were down at the waterfront digging up muck and weeds from along the shoreline, and looking for living things. They found giant leeches, crayfish, copepods, and lots of other things that I didn't know the names of! The kids were so fascinated by their finds, and even got to keep a few of them in little bottles to show their parents.

On Tuesday afternoon, the Science kids got to go out on the boat and help Terry collect data for the water quality report. They were so excited about the boat ride, and even got to jump off and swim in the middle of the lake.

Wednesday was crystal-making day, Thursday was a nature hike with Judy, and Friday was another day of marine education. They all had a fantastic time, and learned lots of big words to tell their parents!

Sunday night this week we played Capture the Pineapple, which was really an experience with 115 campers! Monday was cabin night and cookout (hot dogs). Tuesday we held the first even Tannadoonah Luau and Carnival. The cabins each set up a booth for the Carnival. There were two different fortune-telling tables, a spa with nail painting, a karaoke area, face-painting, Plink-O, hay rides, a water balloon toss, a post office, and more!

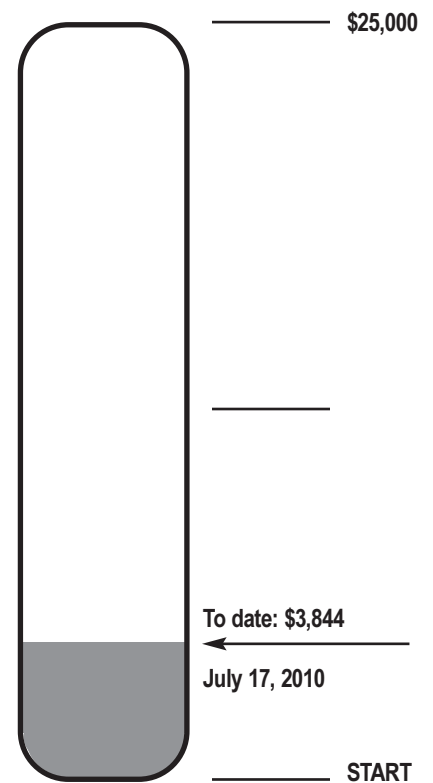
We're up to a total of 451 regular campers, and 516 total beds filled for the summer. This is definitely going to be a record year for us, but we want to keep on going! There are still spots left for All Star Sports Week (July 18-24), Christmas in July (July 25-31), and Survivor Week (August 1-7). Even with the great camper numbers, we're still well short of our fundraising goal (see thermometer below).

Here's some food for thought: we don't need people to make huge donations to get to that goal. If every family on the lake (that's about 200 families) sent just one child to camp, that would

completely fill camp for the rest of the year, and more than take care of our budget deficit for the year! It could be your child, your grandchild, your neighbor, or you could donate funds for a campership.

Have a great weekend! See you at the spaghetti dinner.

Camp Tannadoonah Needs \$25,000 ...



CAMP TANNADOONAH
BIRCH LAKE

<http://tannadoonah.org/>

Cards for Camp

Did you know that many area businesses — including Hardings and Martins supermarkets — that use their own non-credit identification cards, will allow users to designate a school or non-profit organization to receive a percentage of every purchase they make — at no cost to the users?

We urge you to contact your favorite merchant and have them send a contribution to Camp Tannadoonah right here on beautiful Birch Lake!

You'll be glad you did!

Martins valued customer
super markets
Advantage Card

Harding's

Harding's eScrip Community Card



Saturday, July 17th from 6 - 8 pm ~ 6th Annual Spaghetti Dinner

Menu: Spaghetti with Meat sauce -or- Alfredo sauce, salad, bread, tea and lemonade (or, BYO drink of choice).

**Proceeds will go to
Camp Tannadoonah**

~ N. Shore et al

\$7.00 - Adults
\$5.00 - Children (3-10)
FREE - If under 3

Dine-in -or- carry-out



Tickets must be purchased in advance (so the cooks can prepare enough for all diners). For tickets, contact Karen Brovold (476-8862) -or- other ladies around the lake.

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. — Jeff Smitley — 476-9000

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 Officers and Board of Directors, from left: front row: Scott Troeger; Sandy Vitale, Secretary; Stanley Pitakos, Vice Commodore; Karen Brovold; Paul Fallon; Sue Williams; Jim Bolinger; Bob Baucus; Phil Vitale; back row: Holly Troeger, Treasurer; Bob Waddle, Commodore; Terry Dugan; Mike Sheffieck; Lind Harman; Rick Russwurm; Fred Freihofer; Steve Quinlan; and Jeff Smitley.

BLYC Fleet Captain

Jeff Smitley — 476-9000

Phil Vitale—476-1680

Home Owners Comm.

Jim Bolinger, Chairman—476-9737

Rick Russwurm—476-2407

Scott Troeger—476-9898

Paul Fallon—476-1467

BLYC Water Quality Comm.

Paul Fallon, Chairman — 476-1467

Rick Russwurm.—476-2407

Terry Dugan—476-2814

Gordon Seyfarth — n/a

Bruce Wagner — 476-2090

BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB

2010 Dues, Contribution & Donation Form

SUPPORT THE BLYC; SUPPORT THE BIRCH LAKE COMMUNITY!

- \$ ____ - 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, for magazine)
- \$ ____ - Safety Committee
- \$ ____ - Other non-party related expenses

Total contribution \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Make checks payable to BLYC

**Mail to BLYC
c/o Holly Troeger
1516 Ash Dr. East
Elkhart, IN 46514**

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

FOR RENT

Cottage for rent. Three bedrooms, sleeps six on Birch Lake's beautiful north shore. Indoor plumbing. Contact Stewart Spratt at 574.514.0667.

2 Bedroom 2 Bath Condo — Newly renovated. Located on Tierra Verde Island just south of St. Pete Beach. Situated on the beautiful Boca Ciega Bay. The complex offers views of the Sunshine Skyway from the pool and hot tub. Clubhouse has Big Screen TV, Pool Table and Fitness Facility. 3 mins. from award winning Fort DeSoto. For rent by month or season. Weekly rentals negotiable. email: Barb Rondot at babsdot@verizon.net (ps Don't forget to collect those plastic caps for cancer!)

FOR SALE



Birch Lake Tote Bags Coming Soon!
With the logo above — Just \$5.00 each ... contact Bad Patty Luecht, 476-2615

DANBY 12,000 BTU Portable Air Conditioner. This is a perfect portable air conditioner that is brand new. I bought it for the grandkids who later became involved in summer sports. It has not been used except to know that it works beautifully. The original price was over \$500. I will sell for \$400. Comes with all attachments to exhaust the hot room air to the outside thru any type window, including sliders. Comes with instructional manual and remote control. There is one exactly like it on Ebay (Item # 350267999432) if you want to check it out first, or on the lake at 14886

Birch Lakeshore. 574-340-0345. Bruce Harlan

Sold cottage. Selling **Shore Station brand with 24 volt, solar charged, remote** controlled lift system. Rated 3,200# for V Hull Inboard & I/O Stern Drive. White top, cables & lift system two years old. Includes battery tray, spring loaded gunnel guides and bow stop. Excellent condition. Invested value \$7,800 selling for \$4,500. Phone (269) 535-0213

18 1/2 foot CARAVELLE 1977, 165 HP Mercury I.O., good condition, 1- Owner on Birch Lake, \$3,000 or best offer. Kevin 476-2166, 773-304-8042. **SHORE STATION Boat Lift & Canopy**, on Birch Lake, \$1,000. Kevin 476-2166, 773-304-8042.

Used Aqua Cat 12' Catamaran. Trailer and lift included. On the lake, can sail it home. For information and video clip go to : <http://www.americansail.com/> \$250 OBO, call Dave or Terry Carroll @ 574-850-0359

Truck cap, silver/pewter. Fits GMC, Dodge or chevy crew cab pick up. Great condition. Also; **100 amp temporary electrical hook up** for new construction. Complete with pole, board, meter receptacle and outlets. Both offered at 25% of original cost. Call Major @ 476-2126

Thermador Stainless Steel **Double Convection Oven**. Cutout width: 28 1/2". Cutout height: 51-1/8". Model # SCD302TS. \$1395. (New: \$2985) No warranty. Thermador 48" Professional series **Stainless Steel gas cooktop** consisting of 4 burners, a griddle and an indoor grill. Matching Professional series stainless steel wall mount hood, blower and 12" back-guard. Model # PCS484G. \$2400. (New: \$4830) No warranty. Bosch stainless steel **dish-washer**. Model # SHU 5300. \$425. (New: \$875) No warranty. Amana Stainless Steel **refrigerator** with pull out bottom freezer. Refrigerator door is a single door. Touchmatic Electronic Controls. Model # B136CAR3.

Approximately 80" tall. \$1500. (New: \$3200) No warranty. GE Profile Stainless Steel 1.8 Cu. Ft. **Countertop Microwave**, 1100 Watts. Model # JE-1860SB. \$100. (New: \$225) No warranty. Builder's never been used Jenn-Air stainless steel **side-by-side refrigerator**. Model # JS42SEDBDA measures 82 1/2" tall, 41 1/2" wide and 25 1/4" deep. \$2950. (New: \$5950) No warranty. **Call 260-710-0333. Deb Balyeat**

Classic Sunfish in good condition. \$400. Yellow **X-360 electric scooter**. Used very little. For photos/info see the website www.x-tremescoters.com Kathleen McNamee. 476-2627

LOST

Please have the north side of the lake — east of Camp T. watch in the shallows for a lost **handle to a wind surfer kite**. It looks very similar to a ski handle and has line attached. We would appreciate a call if found — Ed Levy — 574-286-0436 or 269-476-9575.

WANTED

Wanted - **used Kayak**. Dana (Russwurm) 574-532-0198

Looking for someone to play tennis with at Camp Tannadoonah, preferably level 3.5 or above. Please contact at Clboesler@aol.com

VACATIONS

Attention: All of you who have expressed an interest in the **sailing trip to the Virgin Islands** in late-January or early-February ... **I will host a meeting on Sunday, August 1 at 3 pm on my deck (free beer)** to give details, explain, plan, discuss options and judge real interest. Questions or concerns? Contact me (Phil) at sailorphil@philvital.com or call me at 476-1680 or 445-9200.

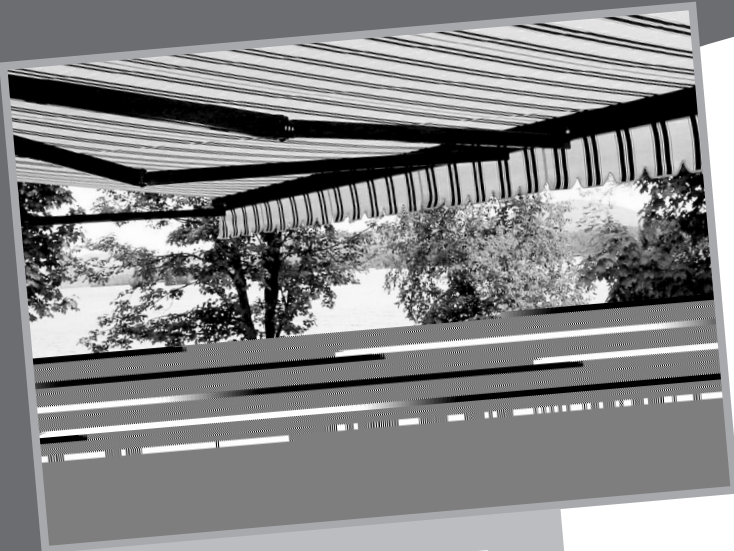
CLASSIFIED ADS

The Birch Barker will publish classified ads free of charge for paid members of the Birch Lake Yacht Club ... non-members will be charged \$5/ad. Send classified ads to sailorphil@philvital.com



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

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