



The official publication of the
BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB

Birch Barker

Weekend of July 2, 2011

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Happy Fourth of July!



Have
FUN
and be
SAFE
on the
LAKE
and on
LAND

Oh say can you see?

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Unbelievable that the 4th of July is already here. So many memories are wrapped up in one holiday weekend, like the year we had to wear winter coats just to watch the fireworks, or the year Karen's dad's new fishing boat had a whirly gig firework land on the carpet and burn a hole in it, or the year I watched from the car as I barreled down M-60 to arrive just in time for the grand finale. They were spectacular then and I am positive they will be awe inspiring this year, make

sure to have your spot staked out for at dusk the light show begins.

Saturday night at the Commodore's Party, I overheard one Boat Parade judge stating that their vote could possibly be bought for a point or two, so you have until 2 pm Saturday, July 2nd to finalize your creative Boat Parade entry and be part of this great 4th of July tradition. (Rain date for the Fireworks and Boat Parade is the same time Sunday, July 3rd.)

Speaking of the Commodore's Party, I hope everyone had a great time! I most certainly did. As usual the appetizers were out of this world and the con-

2011 BLYC Calendar

Sat, July 2	Boat Parade
Sat, July 2	Fireworks
Sun, July 3	Pancake Breakfast
Sun, July 3	Fireworks Rain Date
Sat, July 9	Board Meeting 9 am
Sat, July 9	Homeowners Meeting 10 am
Sat, July 9	House-walk
Sat, July 16	Spaghetti Dinner
Fri, July 22	Women's Golf & Luncheon
Fri, July 29	Men's Golf Outing
Sat, Aug. 6	Board Meeting 9 am
Sat, Aug. 6	Corn and Sausage Roast
Sat, Aug. 27	Fall Dinner
Sat, Sept. 10	Board Meeting 9 am
Sat, Sept. 10	Sailing Awards
Sat, Sept. 17-24	Game / Card Party
Sat, October 8	Annual Chili Cook Off

Note: ALL dates and times are subject to change.
Watch the Barker for updates!

Birch Lake House Walk Saturday July 9th - see page 6

The Birch Barker is always soliciting and accepting materials for publication. Please E-mail your materials to sailorphil@philvitale.com, 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 Stan Pitakos at (269) 476-8862. -Phil Vitale, editor

— Birch Lake Notes —

versation was free flowing, enlightening, and just plain stimulating. (Only disappointment was Stewart didn't do the Sugar Lump dance. I guess there is the Fall Dinner.) Thank-you to the set-up crew of Fleet Captain Jeff and Denise Smitley, Bartenders Extraordinaries Phil and Sandy Vitale, Karen Brovold and Mike Sheffieck. Also a BIG thank-you to the breakdown crew of Sausage Fest Kings Dennis and Keith Kinzler plus Lance and K-man, Rick and "Point Shaving" Patti Russwurm, Director of Pyrotechnics Jim and Debbie Bolinger, Our Wonderful Bartender Phil, Plus Bad Patti and Bill Luecht.

Don't forget you can purchase the July 9th House-Walk tickets and the July 16th Spaghetti Dinner tickets at the all-you-can-eat Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, July 3rd in the dining hall of Camp Tannadoonah from 8:30 a.m. to 11 am. You won't want to miss these Birch Lake classics.

Foursomes for the Women's Golf Outing need to be into Bad Patti by July 14th and the Men's foursomes need to be into Bob Baucus by July 20th. So this weekend don't delay, dust off your clubs and shore-up your teams for the annual Birch Lake scrambles.

Rumor has it, that the August 20th Sausage Fest crew (west shore) has started developing a prototype (something about Flamingo boxers??) for their annual water-skiing appearance. Can't

wait to see what they have in-store for us.

Remember anyone six years or younger must wear a type I, II, or VI personal flotation device (PFD) (Inflatable PFD's can not be used.), while the boat is underway. So be safe this 4th, (Save your self a ticket. It's the law.) and wear your PFD.

There's no better way to celebrate our Nation's birth and hard-fought independence than by spending this weekend with friends and family at Birch Lake!!

Star Spangled Stan Commodore 2011

ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The annual Pancake Breakfast will be Sunday July 3 from 8:30 to 11 am in the dining hall at Camp Tannadoonah.

ADULTS \$5; CHILDREN 6-10 \$2; CHILDREN UNDER 5 FREE. This is an all you can eat breakfast, so come enjoy, meet friends and neighbors.

All proceeds go to Camp Tannadoonah.

Save the Date!

Camp Tannadoonah and Camp Fire USA invite you to the 3rd Annual Hog Roast to celebrate another wonderful year and thank our supporters on July 23, at 4 pm. The event is Free (please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Pulled pork sandwiches and drinks will

be provided). No RSVP is needed.

Friends at Birch Lake

I've promised in early letters to keep you up to date on my plans for Tom's. We (Mom, Dad, my sisters Chris, Rachel, and myself) opened Tom's Garage in 1969 (42) years ago on Memorial day weekend. We started out with the old block building out back for the garage with the Gas pump being right about where it was last year. The gas pump was on a couple of cement blocks, Dad and Mom didn't want anything to permanent if it didn't work out. Well it worked and grew. First we added an old refrigerator to put oil in, then we added a metal shed. Then dad did a brake job for a man in exchange for the little one room hut we had for so many years. Then we built this building about 1977. Putting the whole business in one spot.

It is with a very heavy heart that I now write you that this will be my last season. Yes I will be staying open for the summer months and sometime this fall probably after Labor Day, I will close. I will soon set the date of closing and let you know. I will miss you greatly as I think of you more as my friends then customers. I'm still praying and dreaming of someone coming along and buying me out and somehow keeping the place alive. We have it listed with Prudential for \$125,000 that is the

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— Birch Lake Notes —

store/garage the house to the North (4 bedrooms 2 baths) and the lot to the South. At this point I have no leads on this happening but I know that my God can do all things and will do what is best for Keith and I. I also know that Keith and I can live in the house and be happy there if God chooses to leave us there.

-*Becky Beers*

Visitors coming

This year we are pleased to welcome back dear friends: Rick and Lisa Dwenger, from Muncie, IN; Chuck, Karen and Sarah Elizabeth (aka: SE) Horn, from Carmel, IN; and SE's friend Anastasia, from Essex, UK. Lakers who have met our frequent 4th of July visitors (and those who haven't) are encouraged to toodle by, drop anchor and visit with our guests!

-*The Kings*



Flyover at regatta

Hopefully most Lakers and their holiday guests will arrive in time to see the US Navy Blue Angels fly-over in their F/A-18 Hornets. The low level subsonic pass is scheduled for Saturday at 11 am (sharp) to coincide with the start

of our annual 4th of July Regatta.

OK ... uhm, the fly-over part is fiction ... hopefully that got your attention! BLYC holds just a few Regattas each summer and it would be much appreciated if power-boaters would stay in the outer traffic lanes and refrain from cutting through the course while the racing is in progress.

Racing is scheduled for: 11 am Saturday and 11 am Monday (12 noon Sunday alternate).

Thanks in advance,

-*The Sailors*

Getting small

From toothpaste to tuna-fish, manufacturers have fought rising input costs (producer prices) by downsizing products while prices remain the same (or worse, rise) on the products we buy. Last weekend the Birch Barker came out in miniature to disdain of many. An unscientific poll, conducted on the BLYC deck during the Commodore's cocktail, indicates most Lakers prefer the full sized version. The scuttlebutt (speculative rumor) was that not enough people had paid their dues and this was the future ... reading with a magnifying glass. It's never too late to pay dues and/or contribute to the annual fireworks show. Contact: Commodore Stan Pitakos or Treasurer Holly Troeger. Thanks for your support, Gerry Atrick.

Last week's tiny Barker ...

From: sailorphil

Sent: Friday, June 24, 2011 2:15 PM

To: OfficeMax

For the record: I am VERY displeased

with the production of this week's Birch Barker. The files I sent this week were identical in size to the files I have sent for the past two years, yet the pages were printed on the WRONG SIZE PAPER.

I want it noted for ALL future BIRCH BARKERS that unless I specify otherwise, the BARKER is to be printed on 8-1/2 x 14 inch, legal size, white paper. It is to be printed on both sides, in the order that the pages appear on the pdf file I send. It is to be collated and stapled top left.

The number of pages and the number of sets produced will vary from time to time, and I will specify weekly both of those items ...

If you are unclear on any of the mechanical specification, please contact me via email or by phone at 269-445-9200 (office) or at my home at 269-476-1680 before printing. Thank you, Phil Vitale

From: OfficeMax

Sent: Friday, June 24, 2011 2:48 PM

To: Phil Vitale

I am extremely sorry for any inconvenience that was caused by us to you. We will note this so that all associates know in the future. Please let me know if there is anything I can do for you.

Sincerely, Sarah Beck

OfficeMax

5520 Grape Road

Mishawaka, IN 46545

Times for July 4 Regatta

The Fourth of July Regatta will be on Sat and Monday at 11am. If we can't

SLOW DOWN

**BIRCH LAKE HAS
NARROW ROADS,
LOTS OF PEDESTRIANS,
CHILDREN,
GRANDCHILDREN AND PETS**

**SLOW DOWN ON
OUR ROADS
AND ON THE HILLS
TO AND FROM
THE LAKE!**

**SPEED LIMIT
15_{MPH}**



sail on Sat., we will sail on Sunday at noon. The later time on Sunday is due to the pancake breakfast at the camp.

Second annual waterski contraction challenge

Defending, undefeated, all-time champion Keith Kinzler is putting his title on the line by inviting all comers to challenge him once again in a wacky waterskiing contraction contest.

There are only two rules...

- 1.) You have to be towed at speed. This isn't the boat parade.
- 2.) There are no other rules.

Last year second place finisher Stu Spratt's entry was under-engineered and not thoroughly tested but it is rumored that he will try again with a different and secret variation. All are welcome to participate. No entry fee required.

Judges will be announced at a later date and the coveted prize awarded accordingly. The date will likewise be announced soon. It will be whatever weekend Sausage-Fest is, sometime in August, so everyone still has plenty of time for planning and testing. Good luck and let's have fun and a good turnout.



Fred Freihofer and Bill King (north shore) wanted to wish everyone at Birch Lake a Happy and Safe Fourth of July!
photo by CHUCK HORN

Next week's Barker deadline

The editor and staff of the Birch Barker remind all the contributors that even though Monday is a holiday, the deadline for next week's Birch Barker is still Tuesday ... even though it will feel like Monday to most of us ...

Thank you in advance,

-Iamthe Edandstaff

Homeowner's Association

The Birch Lake Homeowner's Association will host its annual meeting on Saturday, July 9 at 10 am (following the BLYC Board Meeting).

There will be a brief update on the Williamsville Drain Project, and Porter Township Trustee Steve Northrup will provide information on the Shavehead

Lake sewer problem resolution and discuss roads and road repair funding in Cass County.

The group will also discuss proposed new signage for the lake designed to slow traffic down on our roads.

All Birch lake homeowners are invited to attend.

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- Shower Doors
- Metal Roofing
- Composite Decking
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INTERIOR DESIGN - Kim Crose

- Kitchen & Bath Layout
- Color Choices
- Furniture Staging
- Fabric Choices
- Fixture Choices
- Art/Decorating Ideas
- Ideas on how to remodel/construct
- In Home Consultation available

— BLYC Boat Parade 2011 —

Is your boat ready?

4th of July Boat Parade Update

Congratulations go to our esteemed 2011 Grand Marshals, Judy and Dave Olson! Judy and Dave have given so much to our little lake community for many years. As a result of their many gifts, we privileged to honor them as the leaders of the 2011 4th of July Boat Parade, which will take place at 2:00 pm on July 2nd, 2011.

We are expecting a number of fantastic and creative entries for this year's 4th of July Boat Parade. Rumors are abounding that at least one entry may involve oh, we can't give it away! That might spoil everything. So please, put your collective genius to work for the fun and entertainment of our entire lake community. As you know only one boat can

win the coveted 1st Place Trophy, but each and every family participating receives a separate trophy standing forever as a testament to a very fun project. One of the best things about our boat parade is the ability of all lake frequenters to devise a family wagering pool on which boat will be the big winner. Step right up! Place your bets! Have fun at Birch Lake!

The judges for this years 2011 Boat Parade will be Linda Rasmussen, Sandy Baucus, Bob Baucus, Patti Russwurm and Rick Russwurm. They will be stationed at Dick Bender's pier on the south side of the lake. If you are unsure which is Dick's pier, just follow the other decorated boats and you can't miss it. Registration will begin promptly at 2:00

pm. All participants should approach the dock slowly, one at a time, and register your boat. The judges will need a description of your boat and the names of the families that are participating. You will then receive some instructions and your boats number. After you register, each boat must line up behind the Grand Marshal's boat (in single file). The Grand Marshal's boat will lead the

parade. After the parade lap, you will return to Dick Bender's dock and return your number to receive your hard-earned but well-deserved trophies. Once again, approach the dock slowly. We don't want Dick to get bent out of shape (ha ha get it?). Thanks to all for a great 2011 Boat Parade!!

BE SAFE AND HAVE A HAPPY 4TH OF JULY



Kudos to new Sunfish sailors Peter Soldato (and his unknown crewman), who made their debut appearance last weekend in the Sunday sailboat races. Hey guys, you might not have won but your boat was colorful, you looked cool and, well, the wind wasn't great for sailing anyway ... but at least you tried. Hope to see you again soon!

photo by BadPatty

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Now, let's go play some golf!

BLYC House Walk/Art Fair 2011

Birch Lake Home Tour Next Saturday!

After weeks of preparation, the much anticipated day of the Birch Lake home tour and art fair has arrived!

The event kicks-off Saturday at the Wozniak barn at 63021 Rd. at 11am with several local artists and vendors displaying their work. We will have free refreshments and several drawings going on throughout the day. The house walk will begin at 12 noon and the last home tour will begin by 2pm at the latest in order to finish by 3pm, so please plan accordingly.

From the barn, the tour will begin across the street and a free boat shuttle service will whisk you from home to home at your leisure every few minutes.

Ticket sales have already exceeded our expectations and all proceeds will be going to Camp Tannadoonah for camperships (underprivileged children). If you have not purchased your tickets in advance, tickets will be on sale at the barn for \$20 a person.

On display at the barn will be: several jewelry artists with their custom made jewelry, pottery with Birch Lake logos, photography, custom made wood pieces and more. Be sure to stop by and get your free mini chair massage!

The focus for the House Walk this week is the Zesinger Family's lake home at 63184 Birch Rd. (east shore)

Bud and Barb Zesinger

Bud Zesinger's parents purchased a cottage on Birch Lake in 1941 (now the Wiseman's house) and spent summers here through 1954. When Bud married Barb, they rented cottages on Birch Lake throughout the 1960's until they bought their first cottage on the North shore in 1973 (this is now the Kolber's home). The Zesinger's had three children, Buddy, Cindy, and Brad, who all spent enjoyable childhood summers at Birch Lake. In fact,



Photo by Carol Dugan

the boys became expert barefoot skiers.

In the fall of 1985, they purchased their current home on the East shore. The house was totally remodeled in 1988 and they moved in year-round in

made to look like the "original cottage".

The Zesinger house was originally built in the 1940's by Dr. Fred Reed. The three stone fireplaces were hand built out of boulders collected from surrounding farm fields. Dr Reed's brother, Ralph, was an accomplished stone mason and spent 4 months building the fireplaces. These three fireplaces are still intact and are the centerpieces of the home.

A little Birch Lake trivia: During World War II, Dr. Reed, a surgeon, and his wife, a nurse, used their dining room in this house as a medical clinic, since he was the only available doctor in the area. In fact, the State Police had Dr. Reed's phone number to contact him for emergencies.

Bud and Barb's six grandchildren love Birch Lake and continue to spend as much time as possible at Gram ma and Gram pa's "Birch Lake House."

CORN -MID JULY



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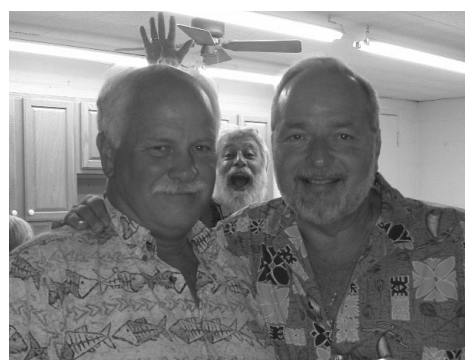
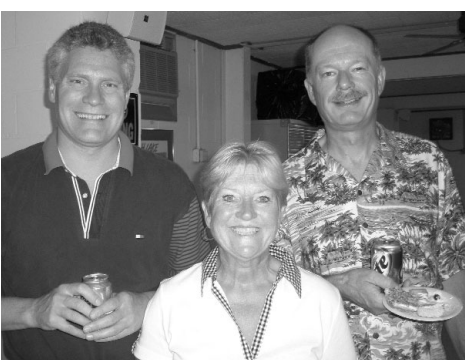
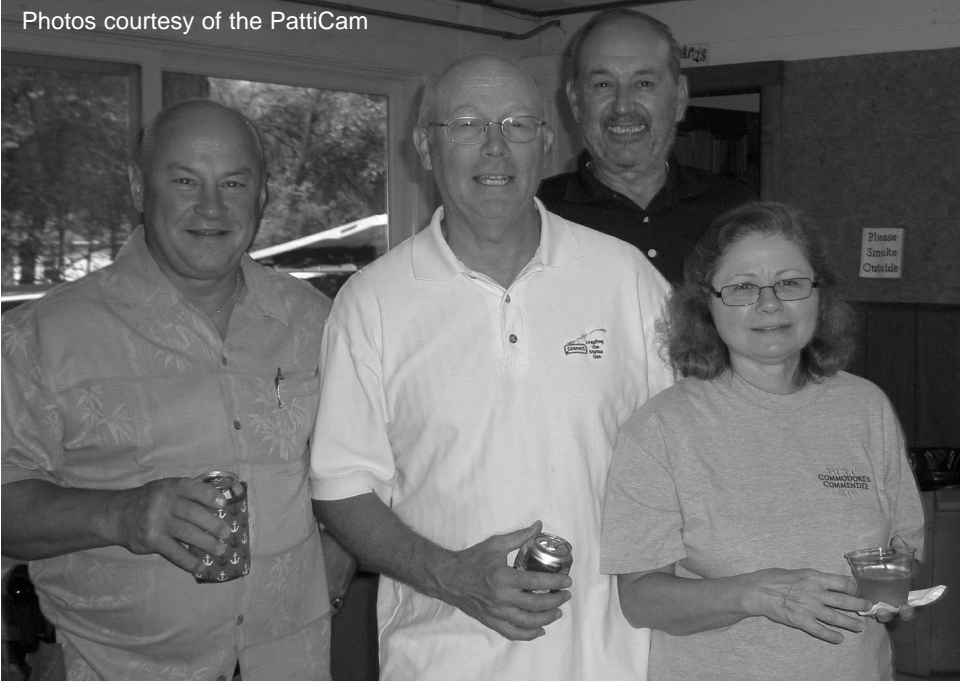


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**In Cassopolis behind the
High School on Kamp Kozy**

Commodore's cocktail party

Photos courtesy of the PattiCam



— Barker kids of the Week —



The Kintzler clan (west shore) made a time visit to the notorious Flamingo Room; last weekend. Above, ace costumed 'Kman' posed with Bad Patty Luecht and Karen Brovold ...



ABOVE: Elliott James Steffen, the grandson of Tim & Irene Steffen (East side) enjoys a toodle on his grandparents' boat recently.

Gabriella Cowen, 10 months old (in pic) will be visiting grandma Peggy and grandpa Dick Cowen for the Fourth of July weekend. The family is coming to Birch Lake from Los Angeles.

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— Barker kids of the Week —



Bob Waddle, Claudia Phipps, Sue Waddle and JP and Marlow Hoyer manned (and womaned) the committee boat for last weekend's sailboat races ... and if for no other reason than Marlow's sunglasses, merited kid-of-the-week honors!

Handyman Repairs

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Atypical winds for June

Last last Sunday. East winds are not very typical for this time of year. Harold and I were scratching our heads as to the best course layout given the shape of the lake and the 40 degree oscillations we were seeing. We eventually settled on a short course due east/west with marks to starboard. Short was good since the winds died several times during the races.

Finding pressure and clear air are key in these conditions. A brief wind shadow from another boat can be the difference in how you place. (For you landlubbers, a wind shadow is the area of disturbed air downwind created by the sail. It can extend up to 10 boat lengths and can be especially devastating in light winds.)

Thanks to Bob and Sue Waddle,

J.P. and Marlow Hoyer, and Claudia Phipps for running the committee boat. As I've said before, without volunteers we can't hold a race. We do appreciate their giving of their time on a Sunday morning for our benefit.

The schedule for Fourth of July Regatta is to sail on Saturday and Monday at our normal time of 11:00 AM. We will only sail on Sunday if we cannot sail on Saturday. The start time on Sunday would be pushed back to 12:00 Noon so as not to conflict with the Pancake breakfast.

The Fourth of July Regatta will be scored using the Low Point Scoring System. Winners will be announced in next week's Barker. As a reminder, all Fourth of July Regatta races will also be scored using the regular season Square of 40 System and included

in the season totals.

See you at the starting line...
-Fleet Captain Jeff

Committee Boat Schedule

July 2 (Regatta)	Karen Brovold
July 3 (Rain Date)	Karen Brovold
July 4 (Regatta)	Karen Brovold
July 10	Patty Luecht
July 17	Bob & Sue Waddle
July 24	Patty Luecht
July 31	Open
August 7	Karen Brovold
August 14	Amber & Chas Grundy
August 21	Open
August 28	Karen Brovold
Sept. 3 (Regatta)	Karen Brovold
Sept. 4 (Regatta)	Karen Brovold
Sept. 5 (Rain Date)	Karen Brovold

Season sailing results

Date	19-Jun	19-Jun	Season
Race	3	4	Average
MC Scow			
Scott Troeger #1489	2	1	1574
Jeff Smitley #2002	1	3	1522
Bill Luecht #1579	4	2	1359
Bob King #1199	3	7	1300
Harold Cranmer #1991/2412	6	4	1298
Phil Vitale #500	5	8	1274
Gib Eberhart #916	8	DNF	1256
Dave Olson #1979	7	5	1244
Tom Howard #1713	9	6	1107

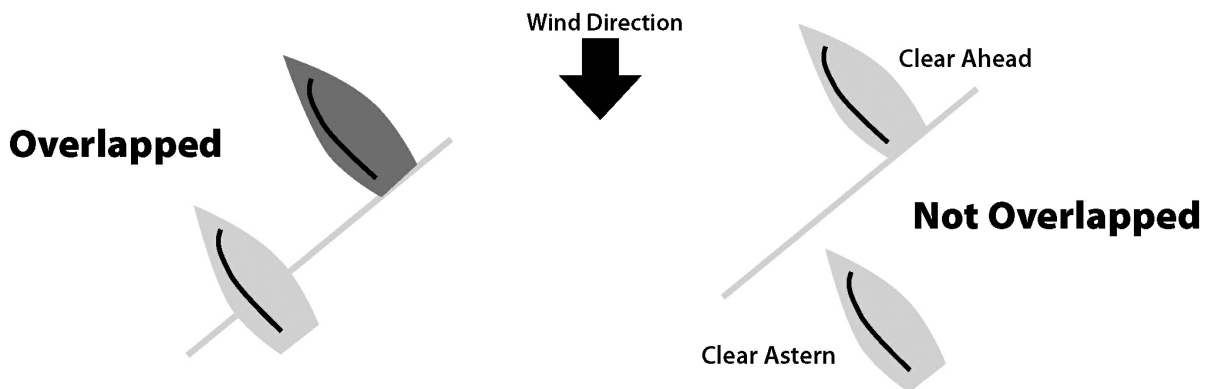
Date	19-Jun	19-Jun	Season
Race	3	4	Average
Sunfish			
Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)	2	1	1561
Stewart Spratt	1	2	1541
Chris Spratt (Blue/Green)	DNS	DNS	1463
Sandy Vitale (White)	DNS	DNS	1409
Bernie Garceau (Red/White/Blue)	DNS	DNS	1369
Erica Vitale (White)	DNS	DNS	1333
Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow)	3	3	1299
Katie Luecht (White/Red/Blue)	DNS	DNS	1297
Peter Soldoto	4	DNS	1161

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 Crew - Counted toward completed races, Points go to skipper of boat.

Basic rules of sailboat racing

Overlapped Boats

A boat Overlapped to Leeward has Right-of-Way. Overlaps are established from the transom.



Other Terms Used In This Discussion

- Close Hauled** - A boat sailing as close to the wind direction as possible
- Head-to-Wind** - A boat pointed straight into the wind. Sails will be luffing.
- Inside** - A boat positioned between the mark and another boat
- Outside** - A boat positioned with another boat between them and the mark
- Proper Course** - The course a boat would sail to get to the next mark as quickly as possible
- Room** - The space a boat needs to maneuver properly given conditions

Water Quality Committee Report

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

Summer Bacteria Testing

A few years ago, there was some concern expressed regarding potential bacterial contamination in the lake. Immediately your Yacht Club Board hired an independent testing agency to sample and test the lake water a number of times at a number of places. Simultaneously, the Water Quality Committee started gathering its own samples and running its own tests. All tests were negative. Since then, we have had a regular testing program through which we have been able to demonstrate that the lake has been safe to use.

The concern had been over potential E coli contamination. E coli is a bacteria found in the intestinal tract of most vertebrates and thus can be found in some waterways where one has ducks, geese, dogs, babies, and other assorted wildlife. The state sets levels for safe water usage and we have never been close to levels which could be used to close a beach. The usual reasons for beach closures have been sewage overflows following big rains due to combined storm and wastewater sewer lines or where huge infestations of geese have left pounds of

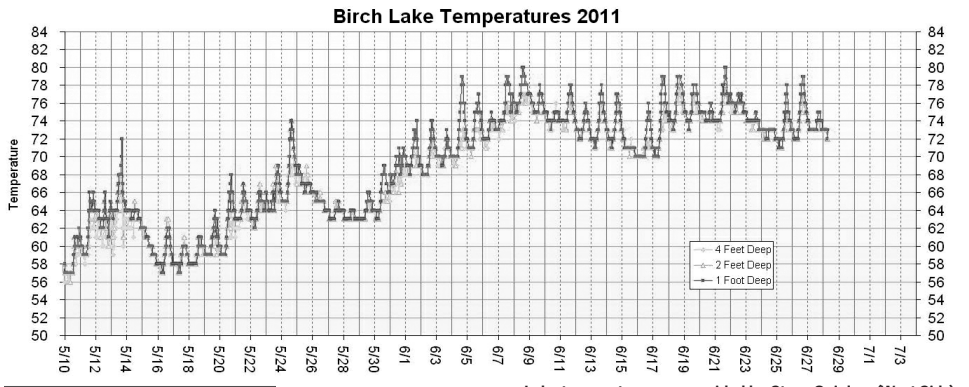
their grass fed waste on the shore line. The only location on our lake that has in the past demonstrated high levels of E coli is the little stream inlet on the northeast corner of the lake and we know that is not from the sewer, or any human source, based on testing. However, in sampling the lake water only a few feet away from the stream inlet, dilution led to only occasional findings.

This year we have just completed our first sampling of the Jake for E coli. Five sites were chosen and triplicate samples were taken at each site. The samples are plated out in a defined medium on petri dishes and incubated at 95 degrees for 24 hours. E coli will show up as blue colonies or spots on the plate. Large numbers of colonies can indicate a problem. The three samples from the little stream all had colonies on the plates but not as many as we have



recorded in the past years. The remaining 12 samples from the body of the lake had either (8 samples) no evidence of E coli or (4 samples) levels that could be considered almost random or background, i.e. way below (less than 10% of) the State set standards.

We will continue to test the lake during the summer season and report this information to you through the Barker.



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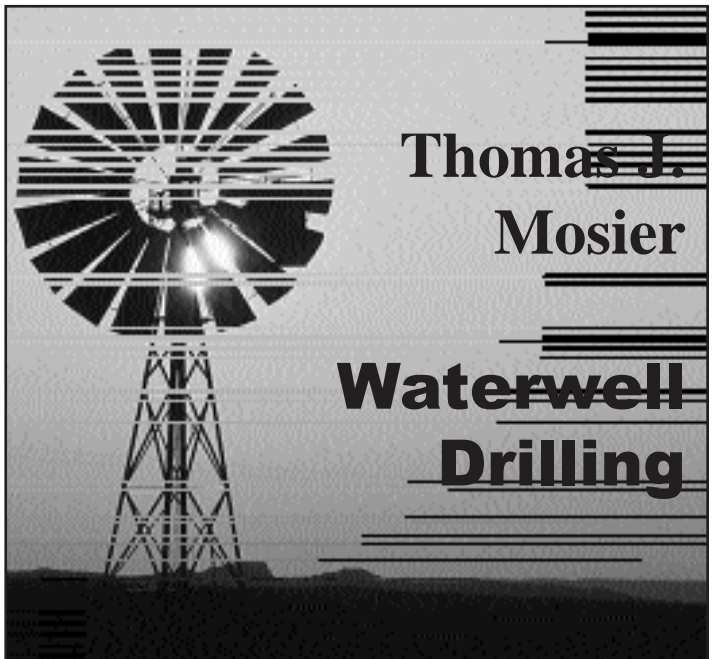
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Stu's Star Stuff

Sailing the summer sky

Wasn't Monday an awesome day? I felt the Earth move under my feet. I saw the sky come tumbling down. I was going to make a song about that but Deb just told me that someone else already did. Darn. Anyway, so what happened? An asteroid the size of a house missed Earth by a mere 7600 miles. Thankfully it missed the near side by that much because if it missed China by 7600 miles it would have splashed Birch Lake dry. The upside is that at least we'd find the covered wagons.

And now back to our stories...Most ancient cultures saw pictures in the stars of the night sky. The earliest known efforts to catalogue the stars date to cuneiform texts and artifacts dating back roughly 6000 years. These remnants, found in the valley of the Euphrates River, suggest that the ancients observing the heavens saw the lion, the bull and the scorpion in the stars. The constellations as we know them today are undoubtedly very different from those first few. Our night sky is a compendium of images from a number of different societies, both ancient and modern. By far, though, we owe the greatest debt to the mythology of the ancient Greeks and Romans.

Despite the many mentions of the stars in Greek and early Roman texts, clearly the most thorough star catalogue from ancient times belongs to the Roman Ptolemy of Alexandria, who grouped 1022 stars into 48 constellations during the 2nd century A.D. Although Ptolemy's Almagest does not include the constellations which may only be seen from the southern hemisphere, it forms the basis for the modern list of 88 constellations officially designated by the International Astronomical Union. The influence of both the Greek and Roman cultures may be plainly seen; the myths behind the constellations date back to ancient Greece, but we use their Latin names.

And now our story - The Great Bear

The wood-nymph Callisto was a maiden in the wild region



Arcadia. She was a huntress, not one who spent her time in spinning soft fibers of wool, or in arranging her hair in different styles. No, she was one of Diana's warriors, wearing her tunic pinned together with a brooch, her tresses carelessly caught back by a white ribbon, and carrying in her hand a light javelin or her bow.

Jupiter caught sight of her and immediately desired her. He took on the shape of the goddess Diana and spoke to Callisto, who was delighted to see the form of her mistress. She began to tell him of her hunting exploits, and he responded by raping her. She resisted him as far as a woman could--had Juno seen her she would have been less cruel--but how could a girl overcome a man, and who could defeat Jupiter? He had his way with her, and returned to the upper air.

Unfortunate Callisto bore a son to Jupiter, Arcas, infuriating Juno, wife of Jupiter. Out of jealousy, she transformed the girl into a bear. She lived for a time in the wild, until Arcas came across her one day while hunting. Unknowingly, he was about to kill his mother in her bear form, but Jupiter took mercy on Callisto, stayed Arcas's hand, and transformed him into a lesser bear. The king of gods then placed both mother and son into the heavens as neighboring constellations.

The constellation Ursa Major, representing Callisto, is one of our most familiar. It includes the Big Dipper, perhaps the most-recognized feature of a constellation in the heavens. Look for it in the norther part of the sky any time after dark. Follow the pointer stars to the end of the handle on the Little Dipper.

Who thinks up this stuff? We'll have more next week. Until then, put on your bug spray and get out there and enjoy the show. It's free.

-Stu Spratt



The Moon for July 2, 2011

Illuminated Fraction: 0.045

1.9 days since new moon

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Owners & Birch Lake Residents

BIRCH LAKE HOROSCOPE

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) — You should be raising your self esteem and confidence in order to promote your work. Tempers will mount if you are too pushy at work. Travel will be fun and entertaining. Don't think the worst if you hear something negative about your partner. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- may 21) — Finish off old projects before starting something new. Pamper yourself this week. Disappointments are likely if your mate embarrasses you in front of friends. Chances are you could get stuck with a colleague's job unexpectedly. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) — Try to be understanding. Don't let jealous friends put you down, making you insecure about your capabilities. Maybe it's time to look into ways you can improve your health. Visitors are likely to drop by and chances are, they may even stay a little longer than you want them to. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) — Uncertainty regarding your mate may emerge; reevaluate what you see in each other. Try to curb your habits, or you could find yourself in an awkward financial position. Sign up for courses that will help you understand yourself better. Group endeavors will provide you with entertainment. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) — You can expect to experience delays or additional red tape if you deal with institutions. Business trips might prove unproductive. Be prepared to meet new lovers through colleagues. You will be able to pick up on future trends if you keep your eyes peeled for unique ideas. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) — Don't overspend on entertainment, on children, or make poor investments. Your family may be feeling neglected and unloved. Look into attending seminars that can expand your perception. Get busy. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) — You can do well on stage or behind the scenes, the choice is yours. Dealing with foreigners will be most enlightening. Residential moves will be favorable, and larger quarters the most probable direction. Take the day to relax and pamper yourself. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) — Children or friends may try to talk you into lending them money. You're in the mood to do things such as competitive sports, or perhaps a night on the town. You can make extra cash if you act on a hunch. You can expand your circle of friends if you get out and socialize. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Direct your energy wisely. You will find that you can work progressively at improving yourself this week. Make plans to attend group discussions or get together with friends who like to talk as much as you do. Opportunities to upgrade your living standards will come through your lover or through joint financial investments. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan. 20) — You may have a problem dealing with elders. Don't give them the use of your credit card. Follow through on some of the good ideas that come up, and you could have a real winner of a deal. Be cautious of making any residential changes this week. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) — You can do well on stage or behind the scenes, the choice is yours. You may want to make changes that will not be to their liking. Generosity will put you in the poorhouse. Be tolerant, but don't let any one take you for granted. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) — If you can put some work into home improvements, you should. You can change your living arrangements. You may need help with your financial situation. You may blow situations out of proportion when dealing with the one you love. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

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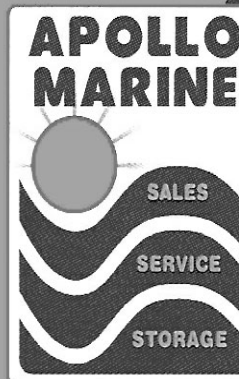


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Juicy marinated steaks



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“Tender, marinated steaks with a taste that will enhance and not overpower the flavor of a good steak.” Original Recipe
Yield 4 servings

Ingredients

- 1/4 cup canola oil
- 1/4 cup high-quality root beer
- 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- 2 tablespoons teriyaki sauce
- 2 tablespoons steak sauce (such as Heinz 57®)
- 1 teaspoon garlic salt
- 1/2 teaspoon onion salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon dried basil
- 1/2 teaspoon ground thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon dried rosemary
- 4 (6 ounce) rib-eye steaks

Directions

1. Stir the canola oil, root beer, Worcestershire sauce, teriyaki sauce, steak sauce, garlic salt, onion salt, black pepper, basil, thyme, and rosemary together in a bowl.
2. Pierce the steaks in several places on both sides; arrange in a single layer in a shallow non-reactive dish. Pour the marinade over the steaks, flipping the meat to coat both sides. Allow to marinate in refrigerator 3 to 4 hours, flipping meat once halfway through.
3. Preheat an outdoor grill for medium-high heat, and lightly oil the grate.
4. Remove the steaks from the marinade and shake off excess moisture; discard the remaining marinade.
5. Cook the steaks until they are beginning to firm, and are hot and slightly pink in the center, 5 to 7 minutes per side. An instant-read thermometer inserted into the center should read 140 degrees F (60 degrees C) for medium

— BIRCH LAKE WORDSEARCH —

2002-2011 GRAND MARSHALLS (NOTE: EACH ANSWER WILL HAVE 3 NAMES, EXAMPLE: JUDY DAVE OLSON)

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

Last week's answers

(the boats of Birch Lake)

LUND
 PONTOON
 NAUTIQUE
 SWEETWATER
 GLASTRON
 SMOKERCRAFT
 MERCUISER

CANOE
 BAYLINER
 AQUAPATIO
 SYLVAN
 MCSCOW
 HURRICANE
 GODFRY

HARRIS
 SAIL
 CHRISRAFT
 SOUTHBAY
 ROW
 BENNINGTON
 SEARAY

STARCRAFT
 SUNFISH
 CREST
 FOURWINNS
 ESCOW
 MOOMBA
 SPEED

SAVE THE DATE

Get your team together, dust off the clubs!

Tee off at Spruce Ridge July 22, at 9 am- Scramble

Prizes for best ball, closest to the tee, best putt and more!!! 50/50 Raffle — Each team is encouraged to donate a basket to be raffled. — Lunch will follow golf at ZEKE'S in beautiful downtown Dowagiac-Unlimited Soup and Salad bar, and soft drinks. Adult beverages may be purchased individually. — Cost per person will be \$35 includes golf, cart, lunch (same price as last year).

BE THERE!!!!!! LOTS OF FUN!!!!

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 269-476-2615

Donated money, prizes, baskets and other items can also be dropped off to Patty

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

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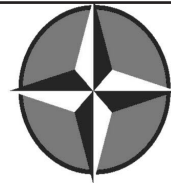
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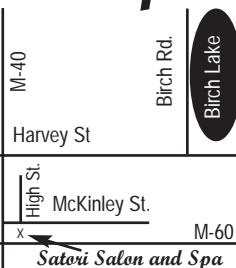
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Camp Tannadoonah

Happy 4th of July!

Happy 4th of July! We have a holiday break from camp for the weekend. The next group of campers arrives on Wednesday, July 6th.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel our trick-or-treating around the lake because of the weather last week, but we held a Halloween Costume Party in the Dining Hall instead. The weather finally cleared up in time to allow for a wonderful Council Fire ceremony down by the lake on Friday night for the first fire of the summer.

This past week was All Ball Week at camp. We have a total of 68 kids here this week. We kicked off the week with a Soccer Tournament on Sunday night. On Tuesday we had a Masquerade Ball in the dining hall. Wednesday night was Waterballoon Volleyball, and Thursday we played Big Base Kickball and Ball Wars. This was probably Avery's favorite week of camp so far because there was always a ball available to play with!

This week we also had a special Soccer program run by our current Executive Director, Marty McKiernan. Mr. Marty is a youth-league soccer coach

for the local Echo organization, and also played soccer on the club team at Purdue when he was a student. There was a large group of campers signed up for soccer, ranging in age from 5 to 13! Mr. Marty was assisted by Mr. Weston (nephew of Bob & Layna Bender), and Miss Kelsey, both of whom played high school soccer.

In addition to soccer, this was our first week of Science Camp for the summer. The science program is being led by Terry Dugan and Tory Troeger. Miss Katie Luecht is also helping with the science program this week. The 5 campers in this class have been conducting experiments all week, and collecting all sorts of interesting wildlife from the lake! The campers are learning a lot and having tons of fun!

For the upcoming week we have a mini-session from July 6-9. It's called County Fair Mini week, and so far we have 78 campers registered for the mini session. The mini week is a great opportunity for new campers to try out camp for just 3 days. It's a great sampler of all of our activities, while still being just a few days away from home. It's also the start of what we call Super Week - 11

straight days at Camp T!

We are now up to 526 campers for the season, which is 31 more than we had all last summer! That's 104 ahead of where we were on this date last year. So we've set our new goal to finish with 600 or more campers this year! If you know anyone who might like to come to camp, get them to sign up soon. We have one week that is completely sold out (Harry Potter Week), one week nearly full (Survivor Week), and one other week that is getting close (Game Show Week). This may be the first time in my memory that we have 4 weeks with over 100 campers!

I hope to see everyone out at the Pancake Breakfast on Sunday morning. I'll be there with all our Tannadoonah items for this year. We have tie-dye t-shirts, purple hoodies, blue zip up hoodies, sweatpants, shorts, water bottles, backpacks, stuffed animals, and lots more!

Have a fun and safe holiday weekend, and keep referring campers to Tannadoonah!

-Miss Amber

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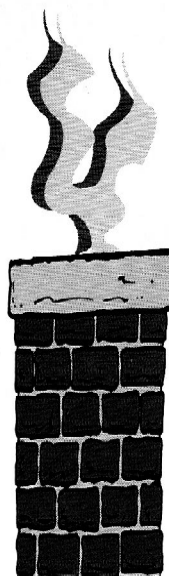
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Dine in - or Carry-out



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Tickets must be purchased in advance (so the cooks can prepare enough for all diners). For tickets contact Phil or Sandy Vitale (476-1680) or buy 'em at the Pancake breakfast on July 3 at Camp Tannadoonah.

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

* must have registrations by July 20th.

Additional Information

- * team prizes and contests
- * dinner only, \$28 per person
- * dinner includes 10oz. prime rib, 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 Bob or Stu at rebauc@aol.com or slsvb1@comcast.net

*We have need for 80 players in the mens' and 40 players in the womens' event.

* **Send entries to Bob Baucus**, 19470 Starbrick Rd., Edwardsurg, MI 49112 or drop checks to **Phil Vitale**, 63174 Birch Rd., Vandalia (east side)

*checks should be made out to BLYC

Foursome Information
Team Captain:

Please Print Players names:

Total Enclosed \$ _____



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- \$ ____ - Riparian (\$8/yr, for magazine)
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- \$ ____ - Other non-party related expenses

Total contribution \$ _____

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RAFFLE TICKETS FOR SALE: — Tickets are \$25.00 and will be eligible for: 3 drawings of \$1,000.00 and 6 drawings of \$100.00; A maximum of 750 tickets will be sold. All proceeds benefit "Our Lady of the Lake Church" in Edwardsburg. Please contact Denise Smitley 476-9000.

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1998 Chaparell 1930, bow rider extra clean. new custom bimini with stainless steel and green sunbrella canvas, paid \$1,000. 5 liter merc cruiser. Trailer has new brakes new master cylinder and good tires, Perfect lake boat. Two Anchors, skis, snap on cover. Dark Green trim. Low, 300 hours on engine. \$8495 obo. Call Tim Burchell at 850-554-076. Can be seen at Birch Lake

2000 VW Beetle. White, with black leather

Want a classified ad in the Barker? It's easy! Email sailorphil@philvital.com ... mail to Birch Barker, c/o Phil Vitale, 63174 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095, or put it in a plastic bag and put it into one of the two newspaper tubes of my cool new stone mailbox (thanks Duane!) at the above address on the east side of Birch Lake ...

int. Sun roof, spoiler, five speed, high miles... Driven highway. \$3695. Obo. Runs great. Six changer cd player. Power, AC, Heated seats. Radiator needs attention. Gets great 30miles to gal. Florida car- no rust! Call Tim Burchell at 850-554-0769

Full set of ladies golf clubs, includes cart, shoes. Asking \$300. 476-2298.

Dog for sale: eats anything and is fond of children. Call Lois Price at 476-2407

Sheer stockings. Designed for fancy dress, so fashionable that some women wear nothing else. Ask for Phil Landers at 476-2615

Monkey Run Yacht Chandlery - purveyors of quality PFDs. Stock up and save. Limit: one. Proprietor: Ben Dover (no phone)

FOR RENT.

Spacious Birch Lake home for rent. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, screened in patio for bug free beautiful evenings. Non-smokers only. Minimum 2 week rental - monthly rates available. Contact Doreen 630-816-3374.

Beautiful **3 bedroom cottage** overlooking the beautiful shore of Birch. (That means you would be on the north shore looking across the lake.) New well and indoor plumbing. Contact Stewart at 574.514.0667.

HOMES FOR SALE

BirchLakeHomeSale.com
BirchLakeHomeForSale.com

FOR SALE CHICAGO/LAKEVIEW AREA TOWNHOME — 3 BR, 2 BA, fireplace, hardwood floors, marble baths, Granite/maple/stainless eat-in kitchen, attached garage and tandem parking spot. Short walk to Lake Michigan and Wrigley Field! Questions and price info. please call Dan Soldato 574-514-5175.

FOUND

Floating in water - 25' to 30' graphite **cane pole**. Fish released !! Call Welch's 476-2370

Found: **a pair of reading glasses** in the

road behind 63486 Birch Road. Call Olson, 476-2125.

LOST



One very small map turtle, shown here in the hand of a (now very sad) little boy. Has the usual turtlish markings, measured roughly 1.5" diameter (shell only), friendly, liked kids, good swimmer, answers to Tiny. We let him play out front unsupervised and sham-wow, he was gone. Small reward - contact Arty Fischel at 476-1080

Lost: A Delta ski, with blue, orange, and possibly another color. Lost at the end of last summer. An ad was posted previously in the Barker, from the person who had found it. If you still are holding on to it, please give me a call. Lindsey Price 574-612-4867

WANTED

Donated items (and services) we can sell at the upcoming silent auction which will be held during the Birch Lake Yacht Club's Fall Dinner (to benefit Camp Tannadoonah). Contact Commodore Stan or Amber Grundy

Man wanted to work in local fireworks factory. Must be willing to travel. Dinah Mite, business number (269) 476-2591

Mixing bowl set designed to please a cook with round bottom for efficient beating. Phone Herbie Hind at 476-2383

Preparer of food for BLYC Ladies Luncheon. Must be dependable, like the food business, and be willing to get hands dirty. Eileen Dover. 476-8862

PUBLIC SERVICE:

Illiterate? Write today for free help. Justin Thyme, 62875 Birch Lakeview Dr., Vandalia, MI 49095

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