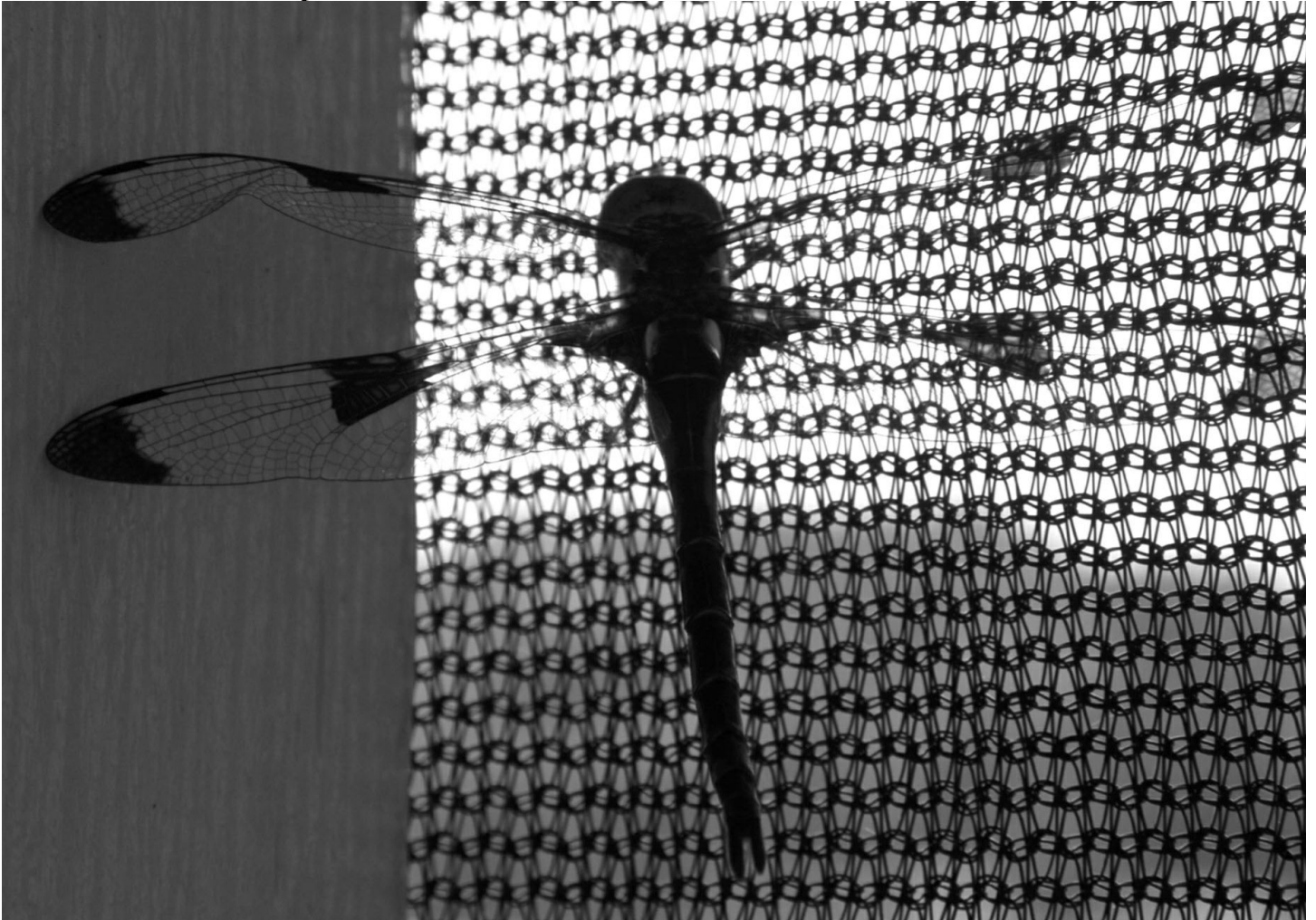


The official publication of the
BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB

Birch Barker

Weekend of July 30, 2011

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Thanks to Mr. Bob for this great bug photo he shot last weekend while a couple east siders were hanging out at the boat house drinking Bill's beer!

He who pays has a vote

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Recently, I have had several comments on my previous article concerning the Home Owner's Association meeting and hiring the Cass County Sheriff Dept's Marine Patrol to do extra patrols of our lake on holiday weekends (Labor Day weekend this year, then the 3 major summer holiday's for 2012).

Most residents were in agreement, but a couple felt that the patrols wouldn't do any good, possibly be an invasion of their privacy, and they didn't want the cost coming out of their B.L.Y.C. dues. They also felt it wasn't necessary to pay Home Owner's dues of \$10 and hadn't paid.

I explained that it was an unanimous vote of all the Home Owner's who attended, and the funds to pay for the extra patrol came from the Home Owners Association fund, not Yacht

Club funds (no co-mingling of \$\$\$).

The #1 concern was SAFETY on the lake and if we could possibly prevent an accident by having the CCSMP here an extra time isn't it worth it? I think it is. It was voted on to approve up \$250 from the H.O. Association fund for 1 extra patrol each holiday. That is roughly \$1.06 for each home on the lake, the same cost as a large drink at McDonalds.

Both Diamond Lake and Indiana Lake had boating accidents over the 4th of July, no serious injuries, alcohol wasn't involved, since Indiana doesn't have a public access a drop-in wasn't involved.

I say get involved, come to the meetings, pay your dues to be able to vote for Directors to represent your opinions and views at the B.L.Y.C. monthly meetings (next vote for Directors with expiring terms is the Fall Dinner) and pay your Home Owner's dues to be able to vote at the annual Home Owners meeting. I'll get out of my Crow's Nest soapbox now,

2011 BLYC Calendar

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!

I must have heat stroke or just P.M.S.ing.

On another note, Thank-you Denise Smitley, the Fleet Captain, and Birthday Boy Wrigley for getting the first round of green 2011 "paid" B.L.Y.C. dues stickers out. A second round will be coming out shortly. I appreciate all your efforts in locating the correct mail boxes and taking your time to do this for

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 —

the Yacht Club.

Unfortunately, I do not have a first hand accounting of the Ladies Golf outing experience (I wasn't able to attend for my golf skort was at the cleaners), but sources tell me that the outing was a fun day, especially the Wheel of Fortune and the Frisbee holes. I did hear that there was some technical problems with one cart — the golf clubs kept falling off the back of the cart and that foursome still managed to place in the middle of the pack. Plus the weather cooled down and the rain held off until everyone was in for lunch at Zeke's.

Bad Patti and her committee scored an Eagle with this event. I just hope my skort will be back in time for next years outing.

The Men's Golf outing is always a blast!! What could be better than spending 4 hours with my buddies swapping stories, drinking cold beverages and hitting a little white ball (I just wish I knew where the aspirins are). Thank-you Bob Baucus, Stewart Spratt and Rich Mullin for making the 51st Birch Lake Men's Open a true hole-in-one success.

Thank-you Camp Tannadoonah for hosting the 3rd annual Hog Roast last Saturday. It was nice to see all the new improvements to camp and be part of the unveiling of the Legend Tree. I know our lake kids (both young and old) are VERY proud of their camp and want to take every opportunity to show it off.

BLYC Fall Dinner

Saturday, August 27, 2011
Dining Hall at Camp Tannadoonah

Cocktail Hour at 6 pm
Dinner Served at 7 pm

The Polish Feast catered by The Skillet
Broasted Chicken
Polish Sausage
Kluski Noodles
Mashed Potatoes and Country Gravy
Sweet & Sour Cabbage
Seasoned Green beans
Biscuits & Honey Butter
Assorted Cream Pies

Tickets are \$20.00 each and can be purchased at the following homes around the lake: Sue Williams, Southside; Le King, Northside; Karen Brovold, Westside; Patty Luecht and Lynn Decocker, Eastside.
Tickets will not be sold at the door.

More information to come.

A great time was had by all and the food had us in hog heaven.

Can you believe next week is the Corn and Sausage Roast? Where has the summer gone? Dinner is served from 5:30 to 7:30 (Michigan time). Come and enjoy Bernie's sweetest, roasted corn, and Grill Master Trainee Mike's dogs, brats, or chicken with 4 sides, a

cookie and beverage for the low, low price of \$5, \$6, or \$7 depending on your meat. (Just try to get a meal for this price at McDonalds.)

Tickets are on sale for the B.L.Y.C. August 27th Polish Fest Fall Dinner today from the sales agent on your shore or next week at the C & S dinner. Besides being able to vote on the new

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— Birch Lake Notes —

Directors, there will be an open Silent Auction taking place with the proceeds going to Camp T. Past Executive Director Marty McKiernan will be donating 3 stained glass artworks this year, of which one will have the Michigan University logo, one will have the University of Notre Dame logo, and one will be a larger lake-themed piece. (Get your wallet out Mike, they take credit cards too.)

I'll be using the healing waters of Birch Lake to sooth my sore muscles after a strenuous day on the golf course. Not to worry I won't use any soap.

*Not ready for the Senior Tour,
Commodore Stan*

Happy Anniversary

Happy 55th Anniversary Peggy and Dick Cowen (Westshore). A family dinner was held at Corn Dance this past week to celebrate the blissful event.

Rumor has it ...

Rumor has it that Sproghon Team will be enlisting Purdue Engineering Northshore Wannabee's to help design their Sausage-Fest Waterskiing contraption. Team Weiner Boys had a closed meeting at the Butler Barn to go over their design, which is reported to be of "Epic" proportions.

The Flying Mare (or...The Flying Vet)

Wrestling on TV has been quite a popular sport for viewers. I have heard of a hold and throw in the sport called

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the "flying mare". It was considered to be quite a spectacular maneuver. Well... in my horse and farm practice many years ago, I witnessed it in close proximity.

It was in regard to the treatment of

a mare who had suffered a large divot-like wound in her rump. It had to be sewn down.

She was led out of the barn into a sunny area where I could asses the situation and find the best way to replace

SLOW DOWN

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— Birch Lake Notes —

the divot and stitch the wound. After the local anesthetic was administered, I started to sew. On the last stitch, the mare had some unexpected pain in that area. Up came her rear leg in a cocked position.

In defense, I leaned close to her so I could be pushed rather than struck.

The last thing I remembered after the kick was landing twelve feet behind her with my shirt torn and split.

I was happy to survive MY "flying mare" incident.

-Duffy Dufour



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Camp Tannadoonah

Come on Down!

This past week at camp was Gameshow Mania Week. On Sunday night we played a rowdy game of "Cabin Feud." It was a combination of "Are you Smarter than a Camp Counselor" (Trivia), "Name that Tune," and other goofy games. The winning cabin was Cardinals and Wrens, our youngest girls!

Monday night we cooked out as always, and this week they made Pizza Bread over the fire. After cook-out, each cabin planned their own evening activity as a group.

Tuesday was a Gameshow Carnival. Each cabin set up a booth based on a different Gameshow. We had "Wipeout," "Minute to Win It," "Don't Forget the Lyrics," "Bozo Buckets," "The Friendship Game" (based on The Dating Game), "Pros and Joes," "Hollywood Squares," and "Plinko." The campers got to visit each booth and try their hand at the games. We ended the night with some Karaoke and a dance party on the dining hall lawn.

Wednesday night was

"Tannadoonah's Got Talent." Each cabin prepared a cabin talent or skit to perform for all of camp, and then individual campers or small groups got to perform. We were all amazed at the talents displayed by our campers!

Thursday night we held the Tannadoonah version of "The Amazing Race." Campers were divided into six teams, led by counselors and CITs. There were stations representing many of the different activities at camp - crafts, drama, dance, nature, sports, and archery.

Each group started at a different station and had to complete a short challenge in order to get the clue for where to go next. Some challenges required the entire group to participate, and others were "roadblocks" for which they had to nominate one or two campers. The final challenge was a fire-building task in which one camper was chosen to build a fire, which had to grow large enough to burn through a piece of string suspended over the fire pit!

We had a total of 106 campers this week. It was our 3rd straight week

over 100 kids, which I don't think has happened any time in the past 2 decades. As of today (7/26) we have 581 registered campers, just 19 shy of 600 for the summer! On 7/26 last year we had 485, so we're nearly 100 ahead of last year's pace still. We're still hoping to get to 600 before we start our very last week of camp on Sunday! There are still some spots open, so it's not too late to sign up your campers!

Don't forget that next Friday (August 5th) we will be having our Candlelight Serenade down at the lake after council fire. Typically the Serenade takes place around 9:30 pm on the waterfront pier. Bring your boats out and listen to our campers sing to you!

It's so hard to believe that the summer is nearly over! I'm already starting to think of ideas for next year's themes and activities, so if you have any great ideas, send them my way!

-Miss Amber

amber@tannadoonah.org
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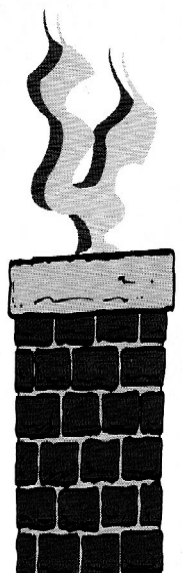
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— Ladies' Fun Golf Outing —

Not the scorching heat, heavy humidity, or the threat of rain, could stop the 34 determined women of Birch Lake from having their day on the links! We assembled at Spruce Ridge Golf Course in Dowagiac and on the stroke of 9, we started the carts and we were off! It was quite a sight! There were some surprises awaiting the golfers at the different holes. On hole #3 there was Wheel of Golf Club. Each lady had to spin the wheel, to determine which club they were to use on that drive. Some tee'd off with a sand wedge, a putter, or perhaps either a 3 or 5 iron. All the golfers were great sports, and proved they could rise to the challenge. On hole #5 was Frisbee Golf, in which a frisbee was thrown and used for the drive. There were lots of moans and groans, because frisbees seem to have a mind of their own and just like golf balls, don't always go as far or straight as we would like!

After 9 holes we met up at Zeke's in Dowagiac for lunch and prizes! The theme was "A Tropical Heat Wave" which was an obvious choice, considering the weather we had experienced last week.

Prizes were awarded to the following champion golfers:
Hole #1 Straightest Drive/ Closest to the Pin
 Sponsored by Rick & (Good) Patti Russwurm - won

by Lind Harman

Hole #2 Shortest Drive off the Tee Sponsored by Rick & (Good) Patti Russwurm - won by Blair Garceau

Hole #3 Wheel of Golf Club/Secret Hole
 Sponsored by Blair Garceau & (Bad) Patty Luecht - won by Team Weesner: Denny Weesner, Ronda Eshleman, Mardy Miller, and Maria Bradford

Hole #4 Closest to the Pin Sponsored by Bob & Sue Waddle - won by Bev Zaleski

Hole #5 FRISBEE GOLF! Sponsored by Phil & Sandy Vitale - won by Carol McCoy

Hole #8 Longest Drive Sponsored by Dick Bender - won by Maria Bradford

Hole #9 Longest Putt Sponsored by Linda Curtis - won by Ilene Golden with a putt of 11.5 feet

TEAM PLACES:

#1 Deb Taghon, Becky Wiseman, Debbie Soldato

#2 Jackie Frew, Ruth Ibus, Beverly Zalenski, Jan Johnson

#3 Denny Weesner, Mardy Miller, Ronda Eshleman, Maria Bradford

#4 Carol McCoy, Carol Henry, Margaret Gorman
 #5 Barb Zesinger, Janice Meixel, Peggy Cowen, Bev Heckamen

#6 Linda Bergan, Ilene Golden, Vickie Rogers, Blair Garceau

#7 Lind Harman, Linda Curtis, Deb Bolinger, Janet Foster

#8 Sue Waddle, Tammy DeCloedt, Carla Chester, (Bad) Patty Luecht

#9 Lori Noyer, Allyson Weaver, Kris Machalleck, Lesley Greenig

Other prizes and Sponsors:

Best Dressed Sponsored by Dick Bender and Bob & Sue Waddle: winners were Maria Bradford, Janet Foster, (Bad) Patty Luecht

Secret Golfer Drawing Sponsor was Dick Bender and won by Mardy Miller

Guess the # of Tees was sponsored by Phil and Sandy Vitale and the closet guess was by Bev Zaleski.

50/50 drawing was won by lucky Deb Taghon

I would sincerely like to thank all our wonderful sponsors and the terrific helpers I had to help keep things running smooth. Photographer Bob Waddle, Water Girl Denise Smitley and Frisbee Hole watchers Katie Luecht and Denise Smitley, Raffle ticket sellers Deb Taghon and Blair Garceau.

Thanks to all the teams for contributing absolutely fantastic prize baskets! I appreciate all your help and a special thank you to the wonderful group of Birch Lake Women out there playing and having fun!! You truly made this year's golf outing so enjoyable.

Any suggestions (pro or con) can be made to (Bad) Patty Luecht at: pgal-loway4@yahoo.com. Or drop a note in my mailbox at 63168 Birch Rd. I look forward to any and all comments.

My apologies to anyone I may have forgotten, or if I misspelled a name.

Next year's golf outing will be on Friday July 20, 2012.

Get your team NOW!!

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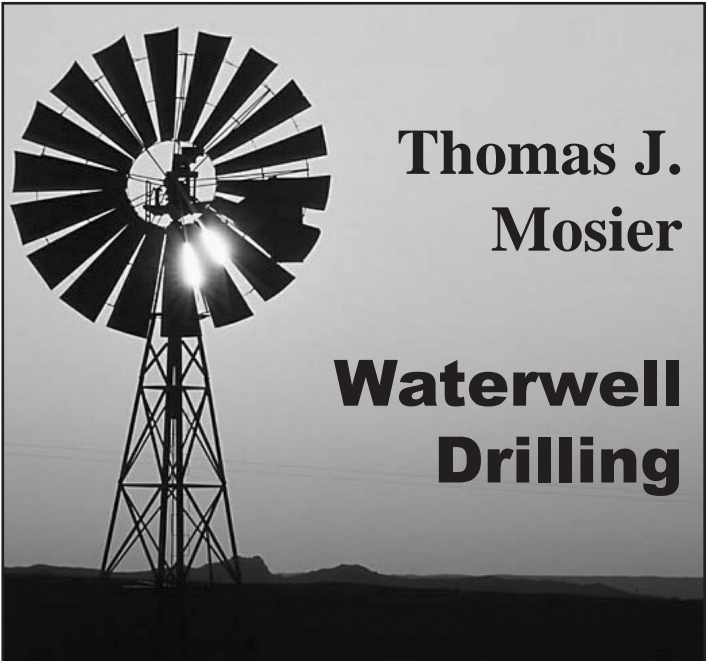
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— Ladies' Fun Golf Outing —



photos by the SparkyCam



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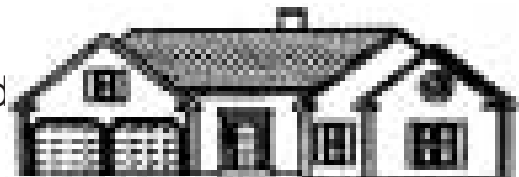
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— Barker kids of the Week —



Jack Applegate and his younger brother Zeb enjoy a Birch lake boat ride. Their one-month stay with Grandma & Grandpa Quinlan ends this week.

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— Barker kids of the Week —



Our oldest grandchild, Morgann Applegate, gets to be a Barker kid-of-the-week because she hasn't been in all year (so far) and because she'll be at Camp T this week (for the third time this year) ... oh, yeah, also because she's cute and her "pop-pop" is the editor!

send your kid-of-the-week photos to sailorphil@philvitale.com



CRITTER OF THE WEEK — many of you may have noticed the bald eagle that's been cruising over the lake from time to time in the last couple of weeks. Thanks Mr. Bob for snapping a photo of him for us.

send your kid-of-the-week photos to sailorphil@philvitale.com

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Lack of wind ...

The races were cancelled again last week. It seems as though the dog days of summer have taken hold. I was tempted to resubmit last week's column to see if anyone would notice. Other than writing about the non-cooperative weather, I'm always looking for material for the column.

There was absolutely no wind at 10:00 when we normally start to set the marks and there was a storm forming south east of Chicago. We waited an hour to see if the storm would reach us or if a breeze would develop. The storm continued to push southeast. All we had at the lake was a few raindrops later in the day. Just when we needed to make a decision at 11:00 a light south wind began. Harold and I were tempted to set the marks but a quick check of nearby weather reporting sites showed we were surrounded by calm air.

Although it's hard to cancel the races when you do have a minimum wind level, we scrubbed the races. I'm glad we did as the breeze died and I don't think we had any air the rest of the day.

(Filler... Filler... Vamp... Vamp...)
Speaking of filler material ...

Since Patty Luecht plans on marrying Sir Paul McCartney, Bill Luecht is getting ready to order his new MC fleet. I heard he might be getting a new one for each day of the week. Since he'll be retired and won't be using a calendar anymore, Patty said he'll need them to be different colors so he'll know which one to sail. I'm not sure where he's going to put all of them. If he's as rich as he hopes, perhaps Phil Vitale will be neighborly and rent him some shoreline.

(Filler... Filler... Vamp... Vamp...)
Although we didn't race, I still want to thank Bad Patty Luecht,

Committee Boat Schedule

July 31	.....	Plaia/Brovold
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

Vickie Rogers, Sandy Vitale, Good Patti Russwurm and her guests: Katie Doherty and Kimmy Cambell for volunteering to run the committee boat. With the dead air and high humidity, I hope they had plenty beverages to keep hydrated as they cruised around the lake.

See you at the starting line (if we ever get any wind again)...

-Fleet Captain Jeff

Season sailing standings

2011 BLYC Sailing Season Results

Date	Total	Season	Races	%
Race	Points	Average	Finished	Finished
Sailor				
MC Scow			13	
Scott Troeger #1489	16678	1516	11	84.6%
Jeff Smitley #2002	19335	1487	13	100.0%
Bob King #1199	13182	1465	9	69.2%
Bill Luecht #1579	18117	1394	13	100.0%
Dave Olson #1979	13207	1321	10	76.9%
Phil Vitale #500	16811	1293	13	100.0%
Harold Cranmer #1991/2412	16752	1289	13	100.0%
Gib Eberhart #916	12527	1253	9	69.2%
Tom Howard #1713	11517	1152	12	92.3%
Sunfish			13	
Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)	20563	1582	13	100.0%
Stewart Spratt	9207	1535	6	46.2%
Chris Spratt (Blue/Green)	11712	1464	8	61.5%
Chris of the Scofields	5853	1463	4	30.8%
Sandy Vitale (White)	2817	1409	2	15.4%
Bernie Garceau (Red/White/Blue)	2738	1369	2	15.4%
Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow)	16379	1365	12	92.3%
Erica Vitale (White)	2665	1333	2	15.4%
Peter Soldoto	10404	1301	6	46.2%
Katie Luecht (White/Red/Blue)	6482	1296	5	38.5%

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

WHAT TO DO IF A FOUL OCCURS

IF YOU ARE FOULED

1. Avoid Contact!
2. Hail the word, "PROTEST" to the boat that you believe created the foul.
3. Raise a Red Protest Flag somewhere visible from your stern
4. At the finish, notify the Race Committee that you plan to issue a protest giving the name and/or sail number of the offending boat.
5. Once onshore, find a race official to fill out the appropriate paperwork.

IF YOU FOUL ANOTHER BOAT

1. Avoid Contact!
2. If you believe you fouled another boat, promptly get clear of all other boats and do two complete circles in the same direction consisting of two tacks and two gybes. Once the circles are complete, you can rejoin the race without further penalty.
3. If you do not think there was a foul, continue sailing the race with the understanding that you are racing under protest. Once the race is complete, and not necessarily on the same day, a protest committee will hear the incident to determine which boat was correct. If you are wrong, you will be Disqualified (DQ) from that race.

IF YOU HIT A MARK

1. Promptly get clear of all other boats and do one complete circle in the same direction consisting of one tack and one gybe.

NOTE — You have NO rights over any other boat during the time you are doing penalty circles. Make sure you are clear in both time and distance from all other racers during starting your circles!

Water Quality Committee Report

More on water quality testing data

Water Quality Program

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

In the Barker issue of two weeks ago, we outlined many of the types of tests performed on our lake. This information is available online from two different sources:

1. Dr. Wallace Fusilier's most current report, summarizing 2009 and 2010 Water Quality Studies, concerns itself with only our lake, includes data from the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP) as well as from his own tests, over a broader range of criteria, and might give more in-depth and understandable explanations. Directions for accessing that report are elsewhere on this page.

2. The CLMP has been collecting, testing, and recording data, and Birch Lake volunteers have been submitting samples for same, since the 1980's. Its reports are available by linking to it from www.mymlsa.org. Click on CLMP and then you can either download the "2010 CLMP Final Report" or visit the "micorps" website, go to "Data Exchange" then "View Data" and pull up all the data from when testing started.

Following is an article on the CLMP recently featured by "Lake Scientist".

Volunteer program watches over Michigan lakes for over 35 years

Posted Mon Jul 18, 2011 10:29 pm
by Audrey Rabalais

The Great Lake state can continue to be proud of its nickname thanks to its diligent citizens. Michigan residents have been volunteering to maintain the state's thousands of lakes for 39 years through the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program. The state-funded effort provides lake monitoring, management and education for about 230 lakes.

More than 400 volunteers record lake parameters, such as turbidity, phosphorous, chlorophyll, dissolved oxygen, and exotic plants. Their field season is from May to September, when algae growth is high. Volunteers record Secchi disk transparency weekly, dissolved oxygen biweekly, chlorophyll once a month, and phosphorous twice, at the beginning and end of the season. Volunteers send samples to the Department of Environmental Quality where they are analyzed. The results are then published online for the public.

Volunteers also raise awareness about test results through word of mouth, said Paul Steen, ecologist with the Huron River Watershed Council. He noted how important it is to educate residents on controlling nutrient loading.

"People who live on lakes tend to have very nice houses with beautiful lawns," he said. "It's a stereotype, but there's a lot of fertilizer that goes into the lakes." That fertilizer contains high amounts of phosphorous and nitrogen, both of which contribute to eutrophication. This reduces the amount of oxygen available for the local flora and fauna in the lakes.

Also outcompeting native species in some Michigan lakes are invasive plants. These include the curly-leaf pondweed and the more common Eurasian water milfoil, which covered nearly 75 percent of Lake Ovid's surface, according to a 2005 DEQ study. Volunteers know to look for these invasive species while



collecting samples.

CLMP meticulously monitors the lakes in its scope, but the majority of Michigan's 11,037 inland lakes are not a part of the program.

"The hope is that we have a representative amount so we can figure out a trend that all the lakes are going toward," Steen said.

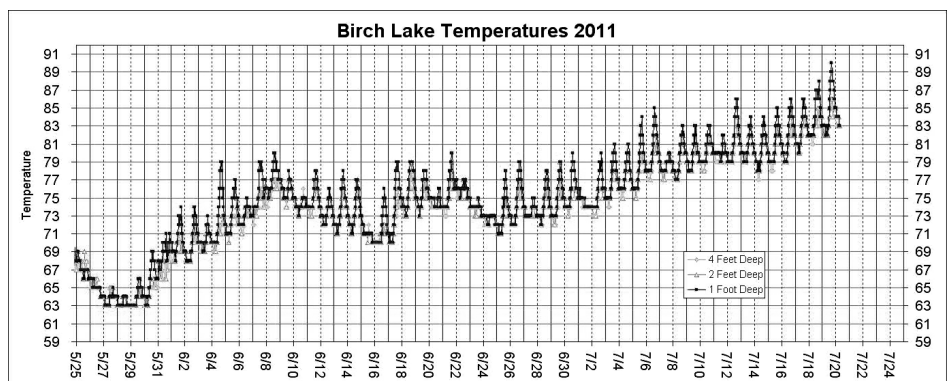
The program's name has changed over time, but Steen said he believes it first began in 1972, the same year the Clean Water Act was passed. It started with only Secchi disk measurements. One of the program's first volunteers has been making CLMP's Secchi disks for 37 years. Ralph Vogel, a retired engineer, began recording water data on Corey Lake in 1974 during an outbreak of swimmer's itch. Since then, he has gathered more than 1,500 data measurements and samples. He's also crafted more than 300 Secchi disks for the program. Vogel was named an "Amazing Volunteer" by The Volunteer Monitor, an EPA publication.

CLMP keeps costs low by using other homemade equipment, too, such as chlorophyll sample recorders made from juice cans and chains. The cans are lowered to the bottom of the lake with five-pound weights and then pulled to the top by the chain. Samples are then sent to the lab for testing. The only purchased equipment are 15 dissolved oxygen meters; the program buys only two a year due to funding constraints.

Though the program is only active May through September, some lake volunteers go above and beyond. The Glen Lake Association, just one of many member organizations of CLMP, received one of four annual National Fish Habitat Action Plan Awards in May. The GLA has been active for over 50 years monitoring Glen Lake and its surrounding waters.

2009-2010 Water Quality Report

The 2010 Water Quality Report on Birch Lake prepared by Dr. Wallace E. Fusilier, Consulting Limnologist with Water Quality Investigators of Dexter, MI, is now available online at the bottom of the same page as the 2011 Barkers ... go to <http://www.philvitale.com> and follow the links to the newest printed Birch Barkers!



Lake temperatures are provided by Steve Quinlan (West Side)

Stu's Star Stuff

Arcas gets circumpolar

Remember our first episode about Ursa Major (the Big Dipper)? Callisto, the wood-nymph bore a son, Arcas, to Jupiter. Jupiter's then wife, Juno was angry as all Hades and transformed Callisto into a bear. But what happened to the child, Arcas?

When Arcas was fifteen, he was out hunting in the forest when he came across a bear. The bear behaved quite strangely, looking him in the eyes. He of course could not recognize his mother in her strange shape, and was preparing to shoot her when Jupiter prevented him. Arcas was transformed into a bear like his mother, and the two were taken up into the sky.

Juno once again was annoyed. It irked her that the pair should be given such honor, so she took her revenge by convincing Poseidon to forbid them from bathing in the sea. It is for this reason that Ursa Major and Ursa Minor are both circumpolar constellations, never dipping beneath the horizon when viewed from northern latitudes.

Ursa Minor is better known as the Little Dipper. Polaris, the star marking the end of the dipper's handle, is located at the north celestial pole. You know where to find it.

Next let's learn about Hydra, the water-snake. This is a tricky constellation to find,

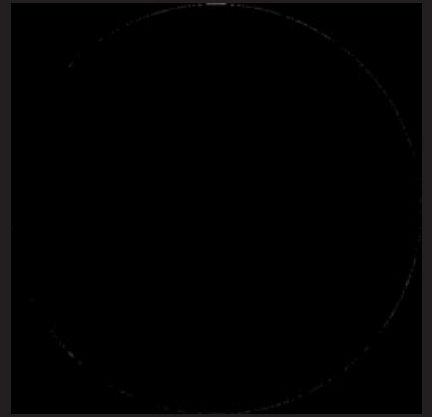
especially this time of year. This constellation represents the Lernaean Hydra, slain by Hercules as his second labor. The Hydra was a multi-headed monster--according to Diodorus (first century B.C.), it had a hundred heads; Simonides (sixth century B.C.) said it had fifty. The most common opinion, however, seems to be that it had nine. What made the Hydra so difficult was the fact that, whenever one of its heads was chopped off, two would grow in its place. Hercules managed to get around this rather major obstacle by having his nephew, Iolaus, cauterize each stump with a hot iron as soon as Hercules could chop off a head. The hero then buried the monster's immortal heads beneath a rock. The task was made somewhat more difficult by Juno, (here she goes again) who sent a crab to nip at the feet of Hercules while he battled the Hydra.

Hydra is a long and wandering constellation, stretching almost from Canis Minor (near Canis Major, the Dog Star) to Libra. It lies south of Cancer, Leo, and Virgo, and is best seen in the northern hemisphere during the months of February through May.

Next week let's see if we can find out why Juno is so cranky. Until then, get out there and see the show. It's always free.

The Moon for July 30, 2011

Illuminated Fraction: 0.005
0.5 days since new moon



Sunrise: 6:35 am
Sunset: 9:06 pm
Moonrise: 6:28 am
Moonset: 8:51 pm
New Moon: 1:41 pm
Day length: 14h 31m



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Owners & Birch Lake Residents

BIRCH LAKE HOROSCOPE

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) — Don't prejudge. You may get drawn into a personal situation that will not be to your liking. Losses are likely if you get involved with uncertain individuals. Plan a trip to the country or take a drive to the beach. You must look into your options. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) — You hard work and dedication will payoff, so stick to your guns and do your job well. Don't be afraid to make additions to your house. You will have opportunities to advance, but you may have to be willing to make some changes and possibly a residential move. Health problems may prevail if you haven't been getting enough rest. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) — Investments will not be as they appear this week. There will be hidden matters that you may find disturbing. Don't let others take advantage of your good nature. Visitors may relieve the tension. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) — You're on the right track and you can make money if you are willing to go out on a limb. Networking will be a necessity. Take that long overdue vacation if you can. Misunderstandings at work could easily lead to your demise. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) — Physical work or exercise should be part of your schedule. Be sure not to burn any bridges. You can expect to experience delays or additional red tape if you deal with institutions. Try to keep your cool; you may be a tad frazzled by all the rushing around. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) — Get help to finish a project if you need it. You have to know what your boss wants if you expect to do your job correctly. You may find that female colleagues will be more help than you anticipated. Do your job and don't ask for favors. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) — Be honest in your communication and don't lose your cool. Look into alternate means of supporting your financial burdens. You should get involved in competitive sports this week. Don't get so wrapped up in being rich that you overlook the fact that your plan may not be as solid as you thought. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) — Try to curb your tongue and let others at least get a word in. Sit tight. Things aren't as bad as they appear. You will gain new friends if you get involved in environmental issues. Focus on using your creative abilities in other ways. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) — Look into family outings or projects. You could have a change of heart if an old flame waltzes back into your life. You need to focus on yourself, not on others. Travel will be favorable and bring you the greatest rewards. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) — Don't let your work and your personal life interfere with each other. Your practical approach to life may charm someone who has been observing you. You will have to put those you live with in their place if they try to interfere with your work. You are going through a period of questioning. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) — You can bet officials will be waiting for you when you do. Don't expect support from your mate. Pleasure trips or friendly get-togethers will be satisfying and intellectually stimulating. Travel will enhance romance and adventure. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) — Watch for empty promises that may give you false hope. You'll be surprised how much you can accomplish. Try not to get backed into corners. Don't let someone take the credit for a job you did. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

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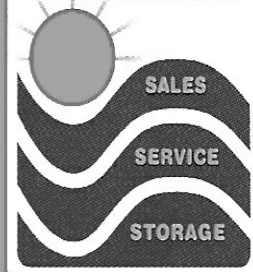


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~Birch Lake Recipes~

Corn & Walnut Dip

I made this dip last weekend and all my guests thought I was a Culinary Genius

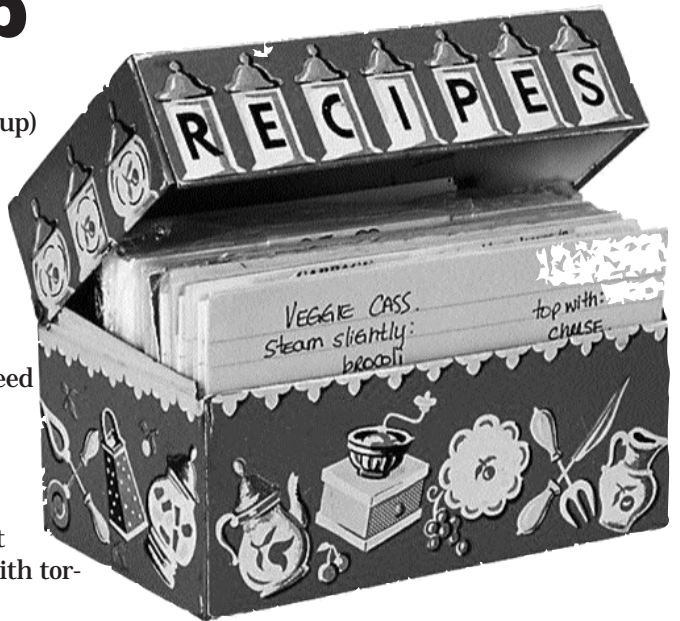
Ingredients:

- 2 packages (8 oz each) cream cheese, softened
- 1/8 cup lime juice
- 1 tablespoon ground red chilies or chili powder
- 1 tablespoon ground cumin
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- Dash of pepper
- 1 can (7 oz) Green Giant® Niblets® whole kernel corn, drained
- 1/4 cup chopped walnuts

- 1 small onion, chopped (1/4 cup)
- Tortilla chips

Directions:

1. In large bowl, beat cream cheese, lime juice, chilies, cumin, oil, salt and pepper with electric mixer on medium speed until smooth. (I just used a spoon) Stir in corn, walnuts and onion.
2. Refrigerate at least 1 hour. Serve with tortilla chips



— BIRCH LAKE WORDSEARCH —

FUN FRUITS

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

Last week's answers

Hot days
Cold Beer

COLD
BASSALE
GUINNESS
MILLER
LABATT
BUDWEISER
FALSTAFF
DOSEQUIS
COORS
DREWERY'S

STPAULIGIRL
STROHS
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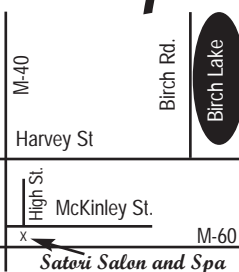
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1000# aluminum Shore Station MC lift, \$500 OBO 574-340-0345 (bruce.harlan.5@nd.edu)

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We still have 12 **Birch Lake Totes** left at 5 bucks each. Call Bad Patty Luecht at 476-2615.

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.

Creative Memories scrap booking items for sale. Items are all priced at cost to reduce my inventory. I have everything including adhesive, tools, paper, albums and cricut cartridges. I can also scrapbook for you or if interested can hold a crop night. Call Diana Betzer at 574-274-3260 located on Benders Hill.

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FOR SALE: **CHAPARRAL** 186ssi (19') 2001, 210 hp, 4.3 liter electronic fuel injected Mercruiser I.O. stern drive. White/Yellow with Yellow Bimini top and playpen cover. White interior. Hydraulic steering and trim operation, tilt wheel, snap in Carpet, Depth Finder, 4 Speaker AM/FM CD stereo with detachable face, remote, and helm controls, docking lights, retracting mooring cleats, fire detection and auto extinguish system in the engine compartment and additional fire extinguisher in the cockpit, full instrumentation. Sun deck cooler and flip down ladder. Two swiveling captains chairs with piano hinge booster pads, Storage locker for life jackets. Custom single axle Heritage matching yellow trailer with brakes. Total time only 133 hours. Beautiful and fun boat, great ski boat.. This boat was custom built for us at the Chaparral plant in Nashville, GA. Boat is in the water on Birch Lake. Part of the Harlan "yellow

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V30/V40 Model Shore Station for above listed Chaparral 19' with Blue canopy and Shore Station electric power lift. In the water on Birch Lake. \$1500 OBO. 574-340-0345 (bruce.harlan.5@nd.edu) SHORESTATION SS-V40108 BOAT LIFT Lists for \$4697 without motor

2000 VW Beetle. White, with black leather 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

Birch Laker Carol Dugan has for sale, **artistic photography**. Cards, matted work, and giclee canvas work is created. Custom orders are welcome. Carol is a member of the Three Rivers Artists Guild, has been juried into numerous shows, and has work included in the permanent collection at the new facilities of Michiana Hematology and Oncology. Carol can be reached at 476-2814 or online at CDugan5310@aol.com.

Toro CCR 3650 snowblower, electric start, 6.5 HP, red, hasn't been used in a few years (no snow in FL), \$350.00 (was \$741 new in 12/03) Sparkybob 476-2293

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.

Three bedroom cottage on Birch Lake's beautiful north shore. New well with wonderful drinking water and indoor plumbing included. No mosquitos. Contact Stewart at 574.514.0667.

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FOUND

FOUND MONDAY: **One white pontoon bumper** washed up after storm, Lacy's #98 (south side)

Found: **a pair of reading glasses** in the road behind 63486 Birch Road. Call Olson, 476-2125.

LOST

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

Lost: **UK white ball cap** in front of Kinzler's house. Fits Commodore's head. Please call if located.

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

Wanted to buy: Pre-owned 120 inch boat lift with canopy. Contact Stewart at 269.476.2113 (land) or 574.514.0667 (cell).

Looking for a ride. Attention sunfish owners — If anyone has a boat that needs to be exercised on Sunday mornings I would be happy to accept the mount. Naturally if I come in the money I would expect to receive a small percentage of the purse. Contact Stewart at 476.2113.

Sponsors Wanted — The Sausage-Fest Waterskiing Challenge of 2011 needs contestants and, in 2010 second place finisher Team Spraghton's case, sponsors. There are no entry fees and no restrictions on rules other than how fast you are towed. Contact Stu Spratt for entry/sponsorships at 476.2113 or Keith Kinzler for entries.

Wanted — Looking for a resident of Birch Lake, with a pleasant personality, hard working, well organized, must be able to delegate, easy to work with and willing to pay back to the Birch Lake Yacht Club for all the great events and times experienced. Position — Vice Commodore 2012. Contact Vice Commodore Pam Mullin if interested and qualified!
-Your 2012 Commodore-Elect

Want a classified ad in the Birch Barker? It's easy!
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or type up the ad, put it in a plastic bag and deposit 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 ...

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Birch Blog

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