

Thanks to Keith Kinzler for the great sailing photos he shot during the races last weekend from the Committee Boat!

Have you seen the rain?

Commodore's Comments

"If I were running the world I would have it rain only between 2 and 5 a.m. Anyone who was out then ought to get wet."

~William Lyon Phelps

oes it seem like the summer is flying by? The Spaghetti Dinner was earlier than it has been in some past years, so don't worry - we've still got most of the summer ahead of us. We couldn't make it this time, but I understand that plenty of delicious food and hungry Birch Lakers found their way to one another. Thanks to Sandy Vitale and the East Side for hosting this event!

Meanwhile, be sure to register for this summer's golf outings. If you're willing to sponsor a hole, please contact Patty Luecht (women's) or Chas Grundy (men's). My father-in-law has been arranging the details for the men's outing and we're hearing some eye-opening stories about past outings. Sorry for those long-time residents who remember the good ol' days, but they just won't let us get away with some of the tricks. Don't worry, we'll have a great time anyway.

I hope everyone weathered the storms this week without much incident. Power outages, downed trees and limbs, and mini-floods are nothing for a hardy bunch of lakers. It's a chance to fire up the generator and take a break from watering the garden. We've seen worse, even in the last couple of years.

Just to be clear, I'm knocking on wood as I write this on Tuesday morning — hopefully the rest of the week goes smoothly and I'm not eating crow come Barker delivery day.

~ Commodore Chas

Question of the week:

Question: Where is the deepest

2013 BLYC Calendar

July 6	Fireworks and Boat Parade
July 7	Fireworks rain date
July 7	Pancake Breakfast
July 19	Ladies Golf Outing
July 20	Poker run
July 26	Men's Golf Outing
July 26	Ladies on the Lake
July 27	Camp T Hog Roast
August 3	Corn and Sausage Roast
August 17	Fall Dinner
September 7	Sailing Awards
September 14	Card and Game Party
	Chili Cookoff

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

spot in Birch Lake and how deep is it?

Answer: The deepest spot in Birch Lake is 200 yards directly south of Camp Tannadoonah's piers. It has been measured at 105 feet.

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 stone newspaper/mailbox at my home, 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore), 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 photos or any other materials returned. To contact me by phone, call (269) 476-1680 or (269) 445-9200, or BLYC Commodore Chas Grundy, 269-476-7062. --Phil Vitale, editor

— Birch Lake Notes —

Pancake Breakfast

Come join your Birch Lake neighbors at the annual Fourth of July Holiday Pancake Breakfast next Sunday, July 7, from 8:30 am to 11 am at Camp Tannadoonah.

All-you-can-eat pancakes (a limited supply of gluten-free pancakes will be available), sausage, fruit, coffee and juice for just \$5 for adults, children 6-10 are \$2, and free for under 5 kids. All proceeds go to Camp Tannadoonah.

Disney is the theme of the 4th of July Boat Parade for 2-13

The theme of this year's Birch Lake Boat Parade is Disney. Use your imagination and create a Disney World on your vessel. Birch Lake will celebrate the holiday on Saturday, July 6. The boat parade will b3gin at 2 pm from Dick Bender's pier on the south side of the lake.

Boats will line up one behind the other for registration and instructions at that time.

The parade will be led by this year's Grand Marshall who will be named in the Birch Barker on July 5.

After the parade lap the boats will return one at a time to the registration dock to receive their trophies.

Each family will receive a trophy for their participation in the parade but only one boat will receive the much sought after First Place Trophy.

~ Linda Curtis & Sue Waddle



Duffy's Artwork — Thanks to Duffy Dufor (east side) for the cool paintings

Pier section lost?

East side lakers have reported that a like-new, light-colored pier section has appeared near the Mitchell, Curtis homes. It is propped up at water's edge if you're looking ...

Your Help is Needed!

The Sewer Department & Porter Township need your help! Please do not

flush any type of wipes, diapers or feminine hygiene products into the sewer system. These items get tangled in the grinder pumps and in lift stations causing maintenance problems that could be avoided. Problems like this may cause replacing pumps or other mechanical parts which may necessitate increasing the maintenance rate. If problem causing items are not flushed into the system

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the cost of maintenance and the sewer maintenance rate can be maintained.

Online content

The printed Birch Barker is online this season, ... go to www.philvitale.com and follow the links. The Michigan Lakes & Streams May Newsletter is also available on the Printed Barker page.

Advertising in the Barker

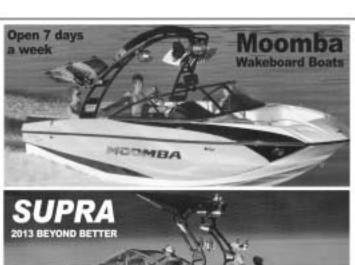
We are still (and always) accepting both display and classified advertising for the Birch Barker.

Classified ads are free to members of the BLYC (nonmember rate is \$5 per ad). Email your classified ads to the Barker at sailorphil@philvitale.com. Display ads are charged at the low, one-time rate of \$65 for a 1/8 page ad; \$130 for a 1/4 page ad; \$260 for a 1/2 page ad; and \$520 for a full page ad.

All ads are subject to the approval of the editor and/or Commodore, officers and board of the Birch Lake Yacht Club.

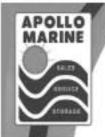
Barker Deadlines

The deadline for submitting information for any edition is always the Tuesday of the week before publication.









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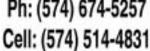
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— SPAGFEST thanks —

Grazie mille!

First and foremost, thank all the great Birch Lakers who attended our annual SPAGFEST. With your support and empty tummies we were able to raise approximately \$1074 for the Yacht Club Landscaping projects and 3 new roaster ovens. Team South Side will not need to borrow roasters in the future.

I want to take a moment to thank all the team members for a job well done. A big hand to the inside crew. Lynn and Tom Decocker, Terry Curtis and Irene Steffen made both sauces, and Bad Patty Luecht slaved over a hot stove to pre-cook 60 lbs. of spaghetti.

Marlo and JP Hoyer again provided the perfect bread to go with that great garlic butter made this year by our sauce makers. Tom Decocker and Dan Waxman kept the bread buttered and ready to eat.

Oh my goodness, Deb Bolinger and Carla Chester out-performed us all with the great Ice Cream Sundae Bar and all the fixings and brownies to give out to the To-Go crowd.

Next a big round of thanks to salad ladies Celia Fallon and Linda Yoshazawa for filling the bowls with your favorite salad, grape tomatoes and croutons. I really liked the Basil tomato salad dressing, too.

We could not have kept the tables cleaned and ready for the next crowd without Linda Curtis and Holly Troeger — they made a great crew. Holly and Scott also provided the water for us this year.

Tory Troeger and Katie Luecht were drink-station attendants, and Tori made great signs. Give them a hand, someday they will move up to sauce makers.

A big thanks to flower arranger Karen Miller , Irene Steffen, the great red sauce recipe developer ... they were troopers to stand there and deliver the spag and sauce; and Lynn Decocker kept up the olive oil & garlic sauce and kept Sandy from worrying over how much sauce we hade left.

And on a final note the award of Kitchen Elf and all-around take out specialist goes to Eric Miller, who filled more To Go orders than ever before — 28 this year.

I want to thank Paul Fallon and Jim Bolinger for taking tickets and money, and our sales team of Linda Yoshazawa, Paul and Celia Fallon, Lynn and Tom Decocker, and Phil Vitale.

All right then we had the most motley crew of Spag cookers you would ever want to see. Kudos to Ed Chester, Scott Troeger, Jim Yoshazawa, Bill Luecht, Vic Jones and John DeCloedt. Thanks to Neil Troeger for being the muscles to lift the coolers of Spag.

And special thanks to the cleanup crew of Millie Zelasko and John and Tammy DeCloedt, who jumped in and cleaned up the room so we could finally eat!

A million thanks to all the Lakers who contributed pots, turkey fryers, tents, large spoons and silicone gloves.

One final note, this event is mostly funded by the East Side Spag Team members in charge of salads, ice cream bar, bread, water and supplies. Their donations allow the final dollars raised from the ticket sales to go to the fund the team picks. Without your attendance we would not be able to provide the funds. We as a community are all involved in making Birch Lake the best place to live.

I hope you all know I am most grateful for all the support and assistance in making this event a success, and I hope we see all of our friends from the lake next year for the first SOUTH-SIDE SPAGFEST.

-Sandy Vitale

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— Barker kids of the Week —



Davis Olson, grandson of Judy and Dave Olson, with fishing mentor Tom DeCocker. On Davis' first time out they caught 17 gills. Then cleaned and had 'em for lunch the same day.



Hayleigh Kovach, Great Great Niece of Lois & John Groszek enjoying some summer fun at the lake.

Kids of the Week

The Birch Barker will try to print (and usually does) all photos of kids (of any age), pets and even the occasional bug, swan, duck or other lake critter as long as the photos meet our rigid decency standards. Email photos to sailorphil@philvitale and accompany them with the names and any other identifying or pertinent info ... thanks!



Cousins Khloe, 3 and Lily, Kinzler 4. getting ready to swim ... The Kintzler family resides on the west side



Menace alert: Emerald Ash Borer

The Emerald ash borer (EAB), Agrilus planipennis Fairmaire, is an exotic beetle that was discovered in southeastern Michigan near Detroit in the summer of 2002. It probably arrived in the United States on solid wood packing material carried in cargo ships or airplanes originating in its native Asia. Because ash trees in North America have no immunity to the insect, EAB has the potential to wipe out more than 700 million ash trees in Michigan. Since 2002, it has killed more than 30 million ash trees in southeastern Michigan alone. State and federal agencies in Michigan, and researchers in Michigan universities, are working to stop EAB from spreading. This includes the initiation of quarantines to stop the movement of infested ash wood and wood products, research to understand the pest's life cycle and what methods and strategies can control or eradicate it and development of educational and informational materials to help communities detect and deal with EAB infestations.

The canopy of infested trees begins to thin above infested portions of the trunk and major branches because the borer destroys the water and nutrient conducting tissues under the bark.



Heavily infested trees exhibit canopy die-back usually starting at the top of the tree. One-third to one-half of the branches may die in one year. Most of the canopy will be dead within 2 years of when symptoms are first observed. Sometimes ash trees push out sprouts from the trunk after the upper portions of the tree dies. Although difficult to see, the adult beetles leave a "D"-shaped exit hole in the bark, roughly 1/8 inch in diameter, when they emerge in June.

The adult beetle is dark metallic

green in color, 1/2 inch-long and 1/8 inch wide. There are several pictures of EAB in the Photo Album and EAB Life Cycle pages.

For more information on the Emerald Ash Borer or to report an infested tree contact your county Extension office or the nearest Department of Agriculture office. You may also contact the USDA Emerald Ash Borer Hotline toll-free at 1-866-322-4512

SLOW DOWN

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

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

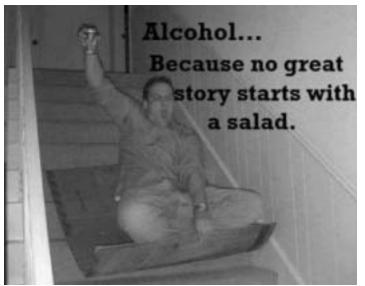
SPEED LIMIT

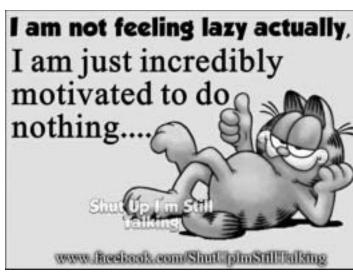
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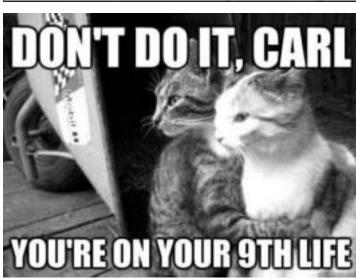


BIRCH BARKER FUNNIES

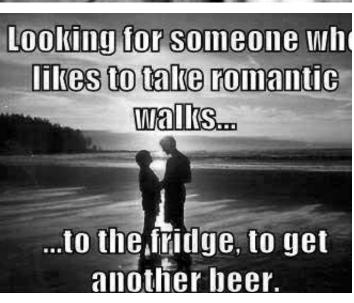












I'm never going to
get back to my
original weight.
I mean seriously,
7 lb and 6 oz is not
very realistic is it?



PONDERISMS (some things to think about) Healthy is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.

The only difference between a rut and a grave is the depth.

Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in hospitals dying of nothing.

Signal Fleet Captain's Corner 2 2

Sailing in two different worlds

he two races we had last weekend were the difference between night and day! The first race had winds around 8 to 10 mph, both the MC and Sunfish races were exciting and fun with many different position changes along the courses. The second race was a sailor's second worst nightmare, started with 8 mph winds and ended with 0 mph winds. By the way, sailor's worst nightmare is capsizing!!

On a brighter note we had 7 MCs and 8 Sunfish out on our pristine waters this last Sunday! Thanks to everyone and hope to see more boats as the season continues. I would like to thanks "Bad Patty," Keith Kinzler and Karen Curtis-Miller for their outstanding and keen ability to keep track of all the race results and help control my wife's boat (her first attempt at racing) as it brushed (banged) into Patty's boat. No injuries or damage was report, at least to yours truly!

Thanks, See you on the water, ~*Fleet Captain "Mike"*



We need volunteers to help with the Committee boat!

To sign up to do (or help with) the Committee Boat for Sunday sailing, contact Mike Lutz via email at: mmtlconcrete@aol.com or call him at 476-2843.

COMMITTEE BOAT

June Races
June 30 — Bad Patty

4th of July Regatta (these dates may change due to the Pancake Breakfast. Please watch for updates.)

> July 6 — OPEN July 7 — OPEN

July Races 14 — Bad Patty

21 — OPEN 28 — OPEN

August Races
4 — Bad Patty
11 — OPEN
18 — Amber and Chas
25 — OPEN

Labor Day Regatta August 31 — OPEN Sept. 1 — Bad Patty Sept. 2 — OPEN

2013 BLYC Sailing Results

Race	7	8	Total	Point
Date	23-Jun	23-Jun	Points	Average
MC Scow				
Scott Troeger #1489				
Jeff Smitley #2002	4	2	12028	1504
Phil Vitale #500	1	5	11495	1437
Bill Luecht #1579	6	4	11185	1398
Harold Cranmer #1991/2412	7	3	6940	1388
Gib Eberhart #916				
Bob King #1199				
g				
Sunfish				
Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)	2	2	7842	1568
Stewart Spratt	11	3	7613	1523
Sandy Vitale (White)				
Chris Spratt (Blue/Green)			8666	1444
Brad Davis	7	1	2756	1378
Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow)				
Peter Soldoto				
Bill Butler				
Amy Lutz				
Ally Luiz				1007

Attention Sailors

Diamond Lake Yacht Club and MC Fleet 28 will host its 29th Annual Open Regatta July 26 to 28. This year marks the club's 75th anniversary and it has a rich history of hosting major regattas including hosting the 1987 MC Nationals.

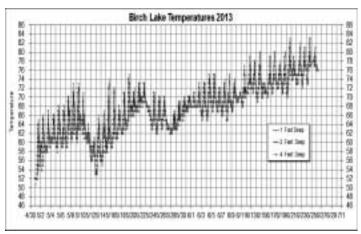
To participate, the club's web sight is: http://www.dlyc.org/index.html. It offers more about the club, or you can visit the official Notice of Race on http://www.mcscow.org/ for added information or contact Martyn Wills at martynawills@sbcglobal.net or Bob Miller at sailormc@gmail.com .

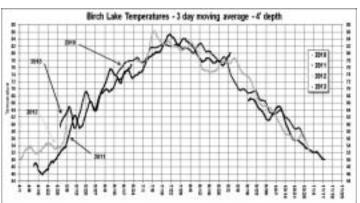
Sailors alert #2

This month's "Sail" magazine has an article and photos from yours truly ... about the sailing trip Sandy and I took from Southern Italy to the islands off the north coast of Sicily in 2011.

Available right now on better newsstands everywhere ...

Birch Lake Water Temperatures





Water Temperature charts provided by Steve Quinlan (west side)

— America's Cup —



Emirates Team New Zealand flying on foils - photo published with permission © 2013 ACEA (America's Cup Event Authority) / Photo Gilles Martin-Raget - go to americascup.com for more

The Party Trick

In 2010 the team owned by billionaire Larry Ellison, CEO of Oracle Corporation, won the America's Cup in a Deed of Gift Match vs. Alinghi, owned by Swiss billionaire Ernesto Bertarelli. The 33rd Match was sailed in enormous multihulls. The Deed refers to the gifting document executed by George Schulyer, a surviving member of the victorious crew on the yacht America.

"This Cup is donated upon the condition that it shall be preserved as a perpetual Challenge Cup for friendly competition between foreign countries."

~America's Cup Deed of Gift, by George L. Schuyler, 1887 After lengthy consideration and considerable debate Oracle Team USA and host Golden Gate Yacht Club chose a catamaran design for this, the 34th Match, to be held on San Francisco Bay. The carbon fiber cats are 72' long and sport a 130' tall rigid wing (like an aircraft wing mounted vertically) replacing the fabric mainsail.

The America's Cup, generally held every 3-5 years, is the Superbowl of sailing. It was thought wing design would win the day but it turns out that by mounting hydronamic winglets on the daggerboard tips the enormous cats can fly! Top admitted speed is 43 knots (49 mph).

In a presentation at Strictly Sail Chicago Gino Morrelli, an Emirates Team New Zealand designer, referred to the catamarans taking flight as "the party trick." The Louis Vuitton Cup (Challenger Selection Series) is scheduled to begin in July. The 34th America's Cup Match will begin on September 7th.

Opt BOB KING, MC 1199



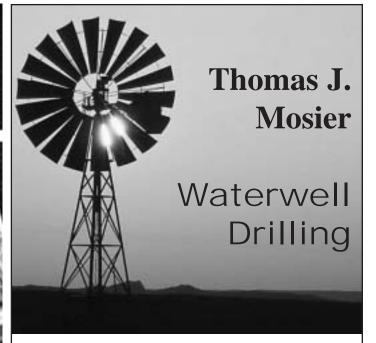




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Stu's Star Stuff



Building the solar system

ur galaxy is filled with giant planets. Astronomers have already discovered hundreds of them, and they expect to find perhaps thousands more over the next years. These worlds are many times bigger and heavier than Earth, and many of them are bigger than Jupiter, the giant of our own solar system.

There may be two recipes for brewing up such giants.

The first recipe calls for adding the ingredients slowly. Small bits of rock and ice come together to form planetesimals — solid bodies that are the size of small mountains. These planetesimals then stick together to form the cores of giant planets. When they grow big and heavy enough, these solid cores pull in vast amounts of gas left over from the formation of their parent stars, so the planets grow to giant proportions.

This recipe is generally considered the leading contender. In part, that's because a planet can form either close to the star or farther out, and because the process can happen quickly or slowly, providing more time to make planets.

The other recipe works only for planets that are far away from their stars. In this model, dense lumps in the material around a newborn star collapse to form planets. It's basically a one-step process — you don't have to make little objects before you make big ones.

It's possible that both methods are at work — giving birth to giant worlds throughout the galaxy.

Moving on, the planets in young solar systems constantly push and pull each other. This shoving match alters the orbits of the planets, deciding where each planet ends up — and even which planets survive.

This concept is borne out by the discovery of hundreds of planets in other star systems. Many of the planets are giants, but they're in tight orbits around their parent stars. Under current models of how planets form, there's just no way

for such a planet to take shape so close to its star. That means the planet must have been born farther out, but moved inward, toward the star.

One way to do that is through interactions with other planets — and especially other giant planets. The gravity of such worlds is strong, so it effects the orbits of other objects around it.

In our own solar system, the gravity of Jupiter probably threw billions of "leftovers" from the birth of the planets completely out of the solar system. These interactions pushed Jupiter itself closer to the Sun.

Similar interactions are common in other star systems too. But so are interactions between the planets themselves. These interactions push the planets into orbits that are lopsided or tilted. They can even push a planet so close to its parent star that it gets torn apart or gobbled up.

Eventually, the surviving planets reach a balance, so they form a stable system — a family of siblings that have learned how to get along.

The little guys, however, often get pushed around by the big guys. In the case of a planet, the "pushing" can have a big effect on the quality of life. In fact, it can determine whether a planet can sustain life at all.

For a planet to sustain life as we know it, it must reside in a region known as the habitable zone, or as we've heard it called before, the Goldilocks zone. It's the distance from the parent star where temperatures are just right for liquid water.

In young solar systems, it's hard for an Earth-like planet to find that zone — especially if it has larger siblings that follow elongated orbits. As a bigger planet orbits the star, its gravity pushes and pulls on the Earth-like planet — perhaps shoving the planet into an elongated orbit of its own.

As a result, the planet may spend part of its time inside the habitable zone,

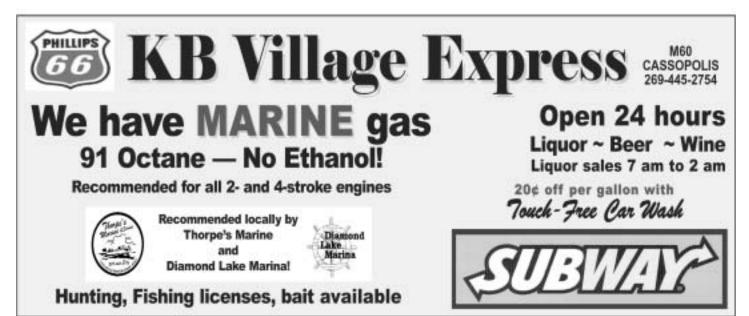
The Moon for June 29 (At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere) Illuminated Fraction: 0.486 0.1 days after last quarter Sunrise: 6:11 am Sunset: 9:23 pm Moonrise: 12:45 am Moonset: 1:30 pm

and part of its time outside. If the planet snuggles too close to its star, it gets too hot — the water on its surface boils off. And if the planet moves too far from the star, it gets too cold, so water freezes. Either way, it's difficult or even impossible for life to arise.

Day length: 15 h 12 m

And that may be what's going on in many of the planetary systems that astronomers have discovered. Many of these systems have giant planets in stretched-out orbits. No Earth-like planets have yet been found in these systems. But if such worlds exist, the pushing around they get from the giant planets may make it tough for them to support life.

Consider yourself fortunate for three reasons ... first — we are here at the lake and we can look up and see the rest of the universe forming around us in the never ending show, second — it's free, and third — Phil got one more out of me.



BLYC 53rd ANNUAL MENS GOLF OUTING (4-MAN FLORIDA SCRAMBLE) JULY 26TH 2013 - 70\$ PER MAN

61270 Lutz Rd, Three Rivers, MI - Shotgun start at Noon; Dinner at BLYC at 6 pm MUST HAVE REGISTRATIONS BY JULY 8, 2013

SAUGANASH GOLF CLUB

Additional Information

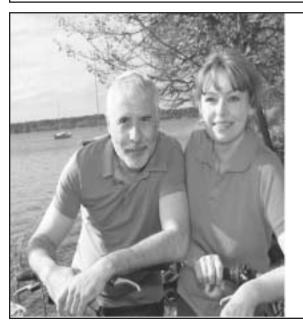
- * team prizes and contests
- * dinner only, \$28 per person
- * dinner includes 10oz. prime rib, side salads, corn on the cob.
- * lunch **not** included but the club has complete restaurant and beverage service available.
- * prizes awarded during dinner.

The mens' and ladies' outings are looking for donations of door prizes. If you have access to logo merchandise that could be donated to one or both, please contact Bill Holleman at wildbillh24@aol.com or Chas Grundy at chas.grundy@gmail.com for Men's Outing or Bad Patty Luecht at pgalloway4@yahoo.com for Ladies' Outing

Last year we had 60 golfers participate. I'm sure there are more golfers out there...

* **Send entries to** Bill Holleman or Chas Grundy 63258 Kinsey St. Vandalia Michigan 49095 or Phil Vitale 63174 Birch Road, Vandalia, Michigan 49095

2013 BLYC Men's Golf	Foursome Information
Team Captain:	Please Print Players names:
Total Enclosed \$	
*checks should be	made out to BLYC



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YOUR HOROSCOPE

ARIES — (Mar. 21-April 20) — Avoid any confrontations with colleagues. You will have some wonderful ideas that should bring you extra money. Lovers may prove unworthy of your affection. Don't make unreasonable promises. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

TAURUS — (Apr. 21- May 21) — You could lose a good friend because of it. Talk to someone you trust in order to see the whole picture. Do the necessary chores and then do things that please you. You could lose a good friend because of it. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

GEMINI — (May 22-June 21) — Don't overspend to impress someone who interests you. Coworkers may not be on your side. Don't reveal anything about your personal life that could be used adversely. Social events will be favorable. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

CANCER — (June 22-July 22) — Travel and social activity will bring about interesting talks, not to mention contacts. Look into ways that you can make extra cash. You may enjoy doing something musical for entertainment. Your need to use emotional blackmail will only cause more conflict. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

LEO — (July 23-Aug 22) — You can ask for favors or run your ideas by those who will be able to support your objectives. Secret information will be eye opening. Take the time to do something nice for your friends and relatives. You've been a little down and you need a lift. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

VIRGO — (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) — Secret information will be eye opening. This will not be the time to give too much to your children. You will be able to borrow money in order to invest. You need to concentrate on solving existing problems. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

LIBRA — (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) — You may find yourself in the lime-

light for the wrong reasons. Acknowledge your lover's needs. You may find that purchases or entertainment could be expensive. Hassles with your boss are sure to erupt if you speak your mind. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

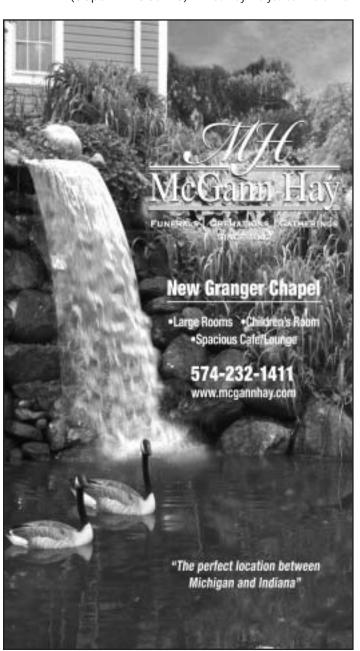
SCORPIO — (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) — You can accomplish the most if you travel for business purposes. Look into making changes to your personal papers and don't neglect those bills that have been piling up. Joint ventures might prove to be unfavorable. Deception will play an important factor in relationships. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

SAGITTARIUS — (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) — Your time, not your cash, will do a lot more for your relationship. Don't cause a scene, but when you get home let your partner know how you feel and why. Think about taking the time to complete unfinished domestic chores. Problems with your partner are apparent. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

CAPRICORN — (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) — You may need to lend an ear to an old friend. Extravagance will be a problem. Don't overextend your self in order to add luxury items to your entertainment center. You need to make changes that will raise your self esteem, such as a new hairstyle or a new image. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

AQUARIUS — (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) — Do not blow situations out of proportion. Friends may not be completely honest with you. Look into ways to make your home more comfortable. Discrimination will be in order. Control your temper when dealing with your emotional partner. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

PISCES — (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) — Do not get involved in joint financial ventures. You can anger others quickly this week. Avoid overspending on items for your home. You may be confused emotionally. Overindulgence may cause conflicts. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.





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~Birch Lake Recipes~

Apple Pie Bites

INGREDIENTS

1 tube Crescent rolls 1 Sliced apple (into a triangles)

DIRECTIONS:

Sprinkle with cinnamon & sugar Roll up & Bake for 11-13 minutes at 350 degrees.



—BIRCH LAKE WORDSEARCH PUZZLE—

Connect the dots to form words. Some letters will NOT be used.

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Camp Tannadoonah

The stars are all out ...

he stars are all out this week because it is Hollywood Week at Camp T! It's been a rainy, stormy week at camp so far (it's Tuesday night as I am writing this), but we are hopeful it will clear up soon! Sunday night we played "Big Base" kickball, and Tuesday night was "Star Search" (AKA Counselor Hunt). Wednesday we have planned a "Tannadoonah's Got Talent" talent show.

This week is also the start of our "Super Week," which means that about 30 of the campers who arrived for camp this past Sunday will be staying through the weekend and going home on Wednesday, July 3. That's 11 straight days of camp! Next week is Tropical Mini Week, which runs from June 30 to July 3.

All the stormy weather has led to a lot of questions about how we handle weather emergencies here at camp. During staff training, we spend time discussing procedures and what to do in different situations. Miss Sue (my assistant director) and I each carry walkie talkies with built-in weather radios. Whenever there is a storm watch, we

alert all of the counselors in camp, just to make sure they stay aware of what's going on.

We have several different signals for severe weather, so if a counselor doesn't hear the message over the radio, we also blow the air horn or ring the big bell outside Main Lodge to signal an emergency.

If a tornado warning is issued, or if the storm gets bad, we immediately bring all of the campers to two central locations: The Dining Hall and Morris Lodge. Both of these buildings have basements, so they are the safest places in camp to bring the kids. During the time we're waiting out the storm, we sing camp songs and play games to keep the kids calm. We monitor the weather radar and radios, and if it gets bad, we move the campers to the basements.

We do periodic drills with the counselors to make sure they stay sharp and remember all of the proper procedures for various emergency situations. This week we took all the kids to the basements on Monday night during the storm. We also had to cancel a number of waterfront activities on Tuesday morning because of thunder.

The power outage on Monday night / Tuesday morning made for quite an adventure up here at camp, too! We ended up renting a generator to power the freezer on Tuesday morning, so that we wouldn't lose any food (Thanks to Jim Bolinger for helping get it set up!!). But we can't power our wells off a generator, so we were trucking buckets of water up from the lake to help flush toilets all night and morning. It was definitely a new experience for a lot of the campers. We had a big celebration when the power came back on during lunch!

We're up to a total of 549 campers for the summer! That's still a bit behind this date last year, but I do think we can still get to our goal of 700 for the summer. Keep signing up those kids and help us make this a really incredible summer at Camp Tannadoonah!

We're looking forward to seeing everyone next weekend at the annual pancake breakfast on the morning of the 7th!

-Miss Amber amber@tannadoonah.org 574-217-4731





http://tannadoonah.org

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Patty Luecht (E)476-2615 Pgalloway4@yahoo.com	Rick Russwurm (N)476-2407 paramountp@aol.com				
Holly Troeger Treasurer (E)476-9898 amvine@aol.com	Scott Troeger (E)476-9898 scott.troeger@btlaw.com				
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Mike Lutz Fleet Captain (N)476-2843 mmtlconcrete@aol.com	PJ Vandewalle (H)476-7086 pjvandewalle@gmail.com				
2012 BLYC Directors	Alan Van Huffel (S)269-244-3487 abec3@aol.com				
Bob Baucus (N)476-2863 rebauc@aol.com	Phil Vitale (E)476-1680 sailorphil@philvitale.com				
Greg Bolin (W)476-2420 gbolin31@aol.com	Sue Williams (S)476-8886 smwillia@comcast.net				
Karen Brovold (W)476-8862 karenbrovold@yahoo.com	NON-DIRECTOR ATTENDEES:				
Harold Cranmer (W)476-2170 dhcranmer@yahoo.com	Jim Bollinger BLYC Homeowners'				
Terry Dugan (S)476-2814 s581122@aol.com	Association Chairman (E)476-9737 debo36@comcast.net				
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BIRCH LAKE COTTAGE FOR RENT. Located on the west side of Birch Lake, just off Walnut Road. Weekly rental - \$650. Times: In Sunday 10 a.m. Out the following Saturday by 12 (noon). To reserve your week call 269-476-2744

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WANTED

Wanted: Two twin mattresses and box springs, in

good condition. For Camp T. Call Amber at 476-

RENTALS WANTED: Due to Brittany Gableman's wedding, we are looking for **SEVERAL COTTAGES TO RENT** for the two nights of August 2nd and 3rd. Call 574-596-2154. Thank you! Claudia and Dennis Phipps

FREE Free, good condition 8x10 pottery barn WOOL RUG. Call Sarah 476-7068

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LOST & FOUND

Found: **BLACK MUD MASTER INNERTUBE**. Call 269-476-7073. (Unless you are Rick and Patti Russwurm. In that case we are keeping it) Claudia and Dennis Phipps

Lost: WHITE VISOR "HRP" embroidered. Contact Celia Fallon @476-1467; and RED SCARF WITH ELMO IMPRINTS. Contact Morgann c/o Phil Vitale @ 476-1680. Both of these items flew out of the Camp Waterskiing Boat.

Want a Barker classified? Free for BLYC Members, \$5 for others: email to **sailorphil@philvitale.com**



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