# Birch Banken

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Weekend of July 27, 2013



The winning hand in last weekend's Birch Lake Poker Run ... congratulations to Vice Commodore Bad Patty Luecht.

Photo by Stanley Pitakos

# Plenty of kittens

### Commodore's Comments

"No matter how much cats fight, there always seem to be plenty of kittens."

~Abraham Lincoln

ast week I attended the Second Annual Birch Lake Poker Run, organized by Rich Mullin and hosted at the homes of Spratt/Taghon, Williams, Troeger, and Mullin. It was a very different event than I'd been to here at the lake, and I had a blast. There were quite a few visitors, which was particularly fun. I'm already looking forward to next year's. Thanks to everyone who attended and especially to those who contributed their hospitality.

As I write this, I look forward to another weekend packed with activity (i.e., I can't wait for it to be over). The men's golf outing on Friday will be fun, though I don't need to be psychic to know that my team didn't win. Still, I predict that the entire event will be enjoyable. I learned recently that Herm Kruggel started the golf outing over 50 years ago, and he continues to golf in it. Cheers to Herm.

This Saturday is the Camp Tannadoonah Hog Roast. As I wear two hats, being the Commodore and also deeply involved with the camp, I get to consolidate my usual invitation. All are invited to the Hog Roast. It's free, just bring a dish to share. There are many things to celebrate and people to thank, so have a great time.

Finally, I'd like to remind everyone to send in your 2013 member dues. The Yacht Club supports and works with a wide range of interests in the lake, including water quality, homeowner's association, safety, the fireworks, sailing,

### 2013 BLYC Calendar

	Public Safety Fair & Pancake Breakfast, 8am, Cass Shrine Club
July 27	Camp T Hog Roast
August 3	Corn and Sausage Roast
August 6	SEPSA millage
	renewal election
September	7Fall Dinner
September	7Sailing Awards
September	14Card and Game Party
October 12	Chili Cookoff

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

the Birch Barker, and various charitable programs. Our community picks each other up and makes Birch Lake the exceptional place that it is. Thank you.

~ Commodore Chas

Fall Dinner date changed

Due to a scheduling change, The

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 —

Fall Dinner 2013 will be September 7. Please Save the Date. More information coming soon.

~Thanks, Bad Patty, VC.

Corn & Sausage Roast Aug. 3

It's almost here! The event you've been waiting all summer for is just around the corner! Get your taste buds ready for the annual Corn & Sausage Roast, next Saturday, Aug. 3. From 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Yacht Club we'll be serving delectable meals consisting of your meat choice, roasted corn, four sides, cookies and lemonade or iced tea. Prices are only \$4 for a hot dog meal and \$7 for a bratwurst or chicken breast meal (we'll only have a limited supply of chicken breasts so come early to try to snag what we have!). Pay at the door no reservations required! Come hungry, visit with your neighbors and leave with a smile! Hope to see you there!

Birch Lake Calendar

It's calendar time again. We're searching for photos for the 2014 Birch Lake Calendar. We need photos from all seasons, and color photos in horizontal, or landscape, format work best. E-mail your best photos (up to five per person) to sailorphil@philvitale.com or lindal1008@comcast.net, or get them to Linda Yoshizawa by Friday, August 9.



Big thanks to our good neighbor Duffy Dufor for continuing to supply us with the great paintings for the Birch Barker ... Keep it up, Duffy!

Jim Freel Golf Outing

On Saturday, Aug. 24, St. Augustine Catholic Church of South Bend will host the Jim Freel Golf Tournament at Juday Creek Golf Course in Granger.

To register call Mary/Steve Filbert,

574-234-7992 — \$65/per player (\$75 after 8/17/) Register a 4-some w/checks in one envelope for \$250 and save \$10.

Spear fishing, Bow fishing
A correction on the spear fishing
and bow fishing item in last week's

# Be the first

Later this year Lutz Concrete will be installing a beautiful compass rose made of stamped and stained concrete (see photo at right) in a new concrete garage-style apron at the entrance of the Birch Lake Yacht Club.

This design is an example of the services and products available for our our friends and neighbors at Birch Lake!

Interested in a whole new "nautical" look for your plain old garage or entrance?

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# — Birch Lake Notes —

Barker. Apparently it was only partially correct. According to the state guide to fishing, even though Birch Lake is a Class "B" designated trout lake, not all spear and bow fishing in banned. While it is illegal to take trout in that manner, it is legal to use spears and bows to take certain other species (carp, gar, etc.). A list of approved types of fish that can be taken is at the website: michiganlakes.msue.msu.edu/uploads/files/2 011\_fishing\_guide.pdf?

### 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.

### 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 sta-



The golf queens, elected by the golfers at the 2013 Birch Lake Ladies Golf Outing are Queen Bev Kruggel, Runner up Lynn Decocker

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

### **Barker Deadlines**

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

### Question of the week:

?

**Question:** How many acres does Birch Lake cover? A clue ... Diamond Lake covers 1020 acres.

**Answer:** Birch Lake covers 295 acres

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# Tidings of comfort and joy...

... is a well worn phrase hopefully bringing peace and happiness to all those so addressed. Out of season? Very possibly. But when sharing seemingly good news about a subject that is always such good news to start with (sewers, what else?) the automatically expected phrase "good news2" (or "good news squared") just doesn't quite get the job done.

A few Saturdays ago, on the occasion of an "open house," I prevailed upon my neighbor to join me in putting off my chores (and his), an art form at which I'm damn near perfect, and to which I regularly try to lead others, and instead tour the Porter Township Wastewater Treatment Plant. Is Ed glad he went? Of course. Not only did he learn some important things about a very important subject, his presence appeared to be very statistically significant.

Before sharing my comments, I must describe some of the many limitations of their source. Although he's worked over the years on a number of treatment plants, your author has never designed, permitted, or operated one, nor is he capable of doing so. My shortcomings, as an expert are further compounded by my memory, or lack thereof.

All I can offer is a genuine sense of care and interest. My recollections of impressions are as follows:

- 1. The plant, located on the south side of US 12, almost to Mottville, is owned by Porter Township (perhaps in conjunction with Cass county for funding purposes).
- 2. Within the last year or two, the contract for its operations has been switched to a firm out of Grand Rapids that operates a number of other plants throughout Michigan.
- 3. The plant operations firm has assigned two full time employees, Ray & Terry, to maintain and operate the plan and collection system. They both seemed friendly, open, competent, and industrious.
- 4. Given the subject matter being treated, the plant seemed relatively clean and in good order.
- 5. The typical process of sewage treatment as I learned it many years ago is still largely intact. First large solids and/or foreign objects are either macerated or screened out of the flow. Then the sewage is pumped into one or more vessels in which varying

amount of oxygen and bacteria are introduced to facilitate the absorption of suspended solids and break down of undesirable bacteria. The solids are separated and stored for later permitted agricultural land applications. The then relatively clear water is treated to kill any remaining objectionable bacteria, by ultraviolet light in this case, before discharge into an area waterway.

- 6. Maintaining the right balance of various bacteria and oxygen for the right amount of time does require some skill and effort.
- 7. The plant intake varies from around 110,000 gallons / day in the winter to 175 200,000 gallons / day in the summer.
- 8. This flow is provided by 1,487 REU (Residential Equivalent Units) spread over some 1,300 addresses. (An apartment or commercial building could have more than one REU).
- 9. Our rates had to be raised higher than initially intended for three reasons:
- a) Less income has been earned on investments.
- b) More people paid off their balances earlier than anticipated.c) 50 60 homes on the south (Michigan) side of Indiana Lake, although initially included in the "budget", did not hook up to the system.
- 10. Our new staff has stepped up its system wide maintenance, embarked on a cleaning program, and is keeping better records.11. They discovered, and replaced, a faulty pump at Birch Lake's main lift station.
- 12. These efforts have resulted in far fewer emergency service calls and possible elimination of the forcemain blockage problems we had been suffering on an almost annual basis just before its connection to Shavehead's forcemain.

Whenever good things happen there is usually one or more good reason why. Our gratitude is due not only to our Township Board but perhaps even more so to our Township Sewer Board. Birch Lakers who have served in this capacity include: Herm Kruggel, Gert Temple (both retired) and Carl Klappauf.

Good news about sewers is good news indeed.

Was I glad I went? Absolutely. As they say, does a bear defecate in the woods? Hmmm, sewers for bears, now there's an idea.....

~Paul Fallon

After Hours

Emergency

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# — Barker kids of the Week —



Six of Alan and Pam Van Huffel's 9 grandchildren (and 2 new puppies) enjoying their first dip in Birch Lake. Pictured are Erin Van Huffel (9) holding Rosie, Joci Bishop (10), AJ Bishop (6), Courtney Van Huffel (14), Claudia Van Huffel (11) holding Roxie, and Mason Talos (13).





They're hard to get moving and don't steer well, but a new boat-raft is sure fun on Birch Lake ... Thanks to Mr. Bob for the raft-paddlin' pic

Send your kid of the week photos to:

sailorphil@philvitale.com

Rich Mullin (north side) found a great way to unwind after not winning at the Poker Run last weekend ... he went tubing with grandsons Brogan and Ronan Scheuer.

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# Sailing our beautiful waters

ast Sunday's weather gave us typical winds, typical at least for the last month or so! Medium to light winds to start, then a mid-race lull! Due to the light or no wind moments we completed only two races! I would like to thank all the sailors that did race, for coming out no such a light wind morning.

Most importantly, I have thank our committee boat sailorettes for keeping our race results and the precise starting of our races! We had "Bad" Patty, Amy, Chantel, and Deb. All of us sailors thank you for your time in making our races possible. Everyone, don't forget to reserve your spot on the committee boat, so you can get upfront viewing of some really great sail boat racing!!

~Fleet Captain "Mike"

# Committee Boat Schedule:

July Races
28 — OPEN
August Races
4 — Bad Patty

11 — OPEN 18 — Amber and Chas

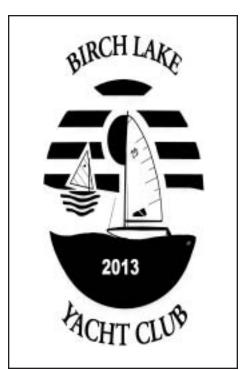
25 — OPEN Labor Day Regatta

August 31 — OPEN

Sept. 1 — Bad Patty Sept. 2 — OPEN

We need volunteers to help with the Committee Boat!

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



# **BLYC Weekly Sailing Results**

Date       20-Jul       20-Jul       Points       Average         MC Scow         Scott Troeger #1489       1       18649       1554         Jeff Smitley #2002       15228       1523         Phil Vitale #500       2       3       22755       1422         Bill Luecht #1579       4       5       22384       1399         Harold Cranmer #1991/2412       7       1       17778       1368	Race	15	16	Total	Point
Scott Troeger #1489       1       18649       1554         Jeff Smitley #2002       15228       1523         Phil Vitale #500       2       3       22755       1422         Bill Luecht #1579       4       5       22384       1399         Harold Cranmer #1991/2412       7       1       17778       1368	Date	20-Jul	20-Jul	Points	Average
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Bill Luecht #1579	Scott Troeger #1489	1		18649	1554
Bill Luecht #1579	Jeff Smitley #2002			15228	1523
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	Harold Cranmer #1991/2412	7	1	17778	1368
Gib Eberhart #916     6     15947     1329       Bob King #1199     3     2     16022     1335	Gib Eberhart #916	6	6	15947	1329
Bob King #1199	Bob King #1199	3	2	16022	1335
Dave Olson #19795	Dave Olson #1979	5	4	7638	1273
Sunfish	Sunfish				
Stewart Spratt       3       1       15457       1546         Erica Vitale (White)       4644       1548	Stewart Spratt	3	1	15457	1546
Erica Vitale (White)	Erica Vitale (White)			4644	1548
Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)       2       3       15064       1506         Sandy Vitale (White)       5       2       23357       1460	Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)	2	3	15064	1506
Sandy Vitale (White)	Sandy Vitale (White)	5	2	23357	1460
Chris Spratt (Blue/Green)	Chris Spratt (Blue/Green)	1	4	14381	1438
Brad Davis	Brad Davis			5494	1374
Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow)	Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow)	4	6	21717	1357
Katie Luecht (White/Red/Blue)	Katie Luecht (White/Red/Blue)			2665	1333
Peter Soldoto	Peter Soldoto	6		7780	1297
Bill Butler	Bill Butler	7	5	19476	1298
Amy Lutz (Yellow/Blue)	Amy Lutz (Yellow/Blue)			3267	1089

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.

-1 - indicates Committee Boat participation



# — America's Cup —

# Artemis Racing launches new boat



Artemis Racing launching their second AC72

Photo published with permission © 2013 Sander van der Borch / Artemis Racing

rtemis Racing is the Challenger of Record (CoR) for AC34. In the modern regattas, with numerous Challengers versus a solo Challenge as with Lipton, the CoR is a placeholder. Whichever team wins the Louis Vuitton Cup challenger selection series will become the CoR and face Defender Oracle Team USA.

Artemis represents Kungliga Svenska Segel Sällskapet (the Royal Swedish Yacht Club). Their patron is Torben Törnqvist, a wealthy Swedish businessman. Though a first effort for Artemis, many Swedish Challengers have attempted to win the Cup. Interestingly, US Defenders in the late 1800s often employed "Swedish Steam," or Scandinavian fishermen known for their sailing skill.

The Artemis campaign has not been easy. There have been contentious claims and counter-claims, as is typical in the America's Cup circles, between the CoR and their fellow Challengers. Then, on May 9th, the Swedes flipped their enormous catamaran breaking her in several pieces. Worse, Andrew "Bart" Simpson, an English Olympic medalist, was trapped in the wreckage and died.

After a period of mourning, amid much discussion, the team elected to redouble their efforts and get back in the fight. On Monday July 22nd they launched their second boat and plan to join in the racing as soon as hasty sea trials are complete.

If there is an underdog, a sentimental favorite to root for ... it's Artemis.

Går Sverige (Go Sweden)!

~by Cap'n Bob - Sunfish 21351 / MC 1199 / E Scow Ego

The Louis Vuitton Cup challenger selection series is underway. The 34th America's Cup Match begins on September 7th and will be broadcast on NBC Sports. Go to americascup.com for more.



# — Birch Ladies' Golf Outing

# Birch Lake "Super-Women Fun Golf Outing 2013"

Boy what a HOT one!!! On Friday July 19, 27 "Super-Women from Birch Lake" took to the links at Diamond Lake Golf Course. As the temperatures started to go up, so did the excitement and fun. The scramble started at 9 am and each team competed in both traditional, and some very non-traditional golf games.

The individual hole winners were, Shortest Drive: Blair Garceau, Longest Putt: Sandy Vitale, Longest Drive: Carla Chester, Straightest Drive: Leslie King. Some games that were just for fun were Wheel of Golf Club, Card Sharks, and the String Game. We were also given a free-do-over shot, similar to getting a mulligan.

The fun didn't stop there!!! After putting away the clubs, we all headed to lunch at Lunker's in Edwardsburg. We had an excellent lunch with very friendly waitresses keeping us hydrated and well fed. Each team donated beautiful baskets to be raffled and the lucky winners were not disappointed! 50/50 raffle and "guess the number of tees in the jar" gave even the beginning golfers a chance to win a prize! And I am so happy to announce this year's Queen, Bev Kruggel and her court, Lynn Decocker. (if Bev cannot fulfill her duties, her run-









ner-up, Lynn will have to take on the royal responsibilities!!) These ladies were elected by a majority vote of the golfers. Thanks for being such good sports, ladies!!!

Team Prizes went to the following: 7th place Denny Weesner, Bev Kruggel, Peggy Cowen and Lynn Decocker. 6th place Lori Noyer, Allyson Gills, Sue Williams and Pam Vanhuffel. 5th place Lind Harman, Deb Bolinger, Linda Yoshizawa and Becky Dudek. The 4th place team was Linda Curtis, Sue Vandewalle, and Sue Waddle. There in 3rd place (this was a tie with the 2nd place team, and it was decided by going to the best score on hole #7) were Linda Bergan, Vickie Rogers, Leslie King, and Blair Garceau. Unbelievably in 2nd place were Amy Lutz, Carla Chester, Sandy Vitale, and Bad Patty Luecht. A much deserved 1st place went to Lois Groszek, Mary Filbert, Sherri Tubinis, and Pat Guzzi. Thanks to all the teams for being such good sports and coming out to play a little golf, laugh, and just have fun with all these "Super-Women of Birch Lake"!!! You are all wonderful!!!

Some others that we need to thank and acknowledge....our GENEROUS SPONSORS!!

Bob and Sue Waddle 2 holes

Rick and Good Patti Russwurm 2 holes

Linda Curtis 1 hole

Phil and Sandy Vitale 2 holes

Lee Oswalt (owner Zimmy's) Zimmy's T-shirt and \$40 gift certificate

And thanks to all of the others behind the scene, helping to make the day run smoothly!! It couldn't have happened without you!! All 27 golfers, Amy Lutz, Blair Garceau, Pam Vanhuffel, Carla Chester. We can't forget our photographer, Bob Waddle and last but not least, our drink cart driver, Phil Vitale!!! And my sincere apologies if I forgot anyone.

Again thanks for coming out in the heat and sharing the day with us. Hope to see you all next year, and maybe even a few new faces. Mark your calendar for next year, JULY 18, 2014!!!!! See you then!!!!!!

~Bad Patty







# BIRCH BARKER FUNNIES



Relatable Post #4217

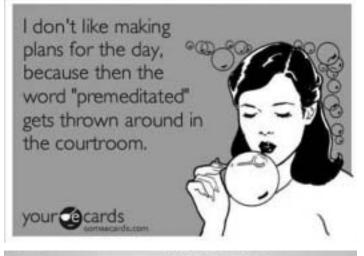
# I tried being normal once. Worst two minutes of my life.

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Water gets warmer. Drinks get colder.
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Dear paranoid people who check behind their shower curtains for murderers, if you do find one, what's your plan?

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PONDERISMS (some things to think about)

Does pushing the elevator button more than once make it arrive faster?

Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?

Do you ever wonder why you gave me your email address?

### BIRCH LAKE 2013 POKER RUN











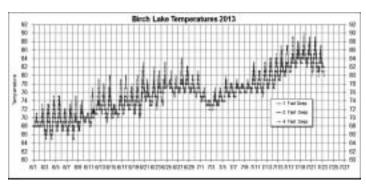


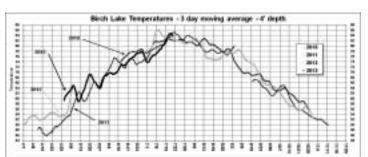




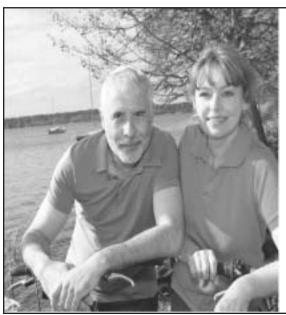


# Birch Lake Water Temperatures





Water Temperature charts provided by Steve Quinlan (west side)



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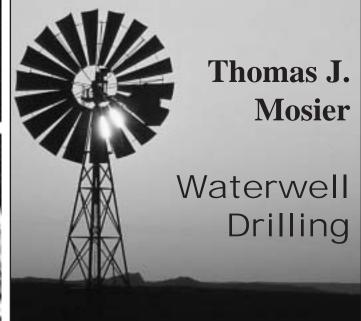




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# YOUR HOROSCOPE

ARIES — (Mar. 21-April 20) — It might be time for you to take a quantum leap from one career to another. You can continue to forge ahead if you make a few long distance calls pertinent to closing pending deals. You may have been trying to do too much, leaving yourself exhausted and open to colds and infections. Your partner could also use some time alone with you. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

TAURUS — (Apr. 21-May 21) — Don't forget that you've only heard one side of the story. Try not to at tempt to do something unless you are fully intent on following through with the plans. Listen to the problems of others and offer suggestions where possible. Residential moves should be considered carefully. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

GEMINI — (May 22-June 21) — Upheavals may occupy your day. Your dramatic nature may be too much to handle. Travel and entertaining conversation will be informative and uplifting. Visitors may drop by unexpectedly, resulting in tension with your lover. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

CANCER — (June 22-July 22) — Females may put demands or added responsibilities on you. Romance is likely if you participate in unusual forms of entertainment. Travel may be confusing. Investments that deal with property will be lucrative; however, upsets with family members may be likely. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

LEO — (July 23-Aug 22) — You will gain new friends if you get involved in environmental issues. Organize your day well if you wish to accomplish all you set out to do. You may find travel to be most rewarding. Interaction with colleagues will only be upsetting. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

VIRGO — (Aug. 23-Sept. 23) — Make decisions about your professional objectives. Quarrels will erupt if you get into philosophical debates with friends. Much can be accomplished if you compromise. Avoid friends or acquaintances who drink too much. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

LIBRA — (Sept. 24-Oct. 23) — Keep your feelings to yourself if

you want to avoid embarrassment. Your emotional stability may influence the changes taking place in your personal life. You should expect to have changes in your home. Now is the time to concentrate on building a strong financial future for your family. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

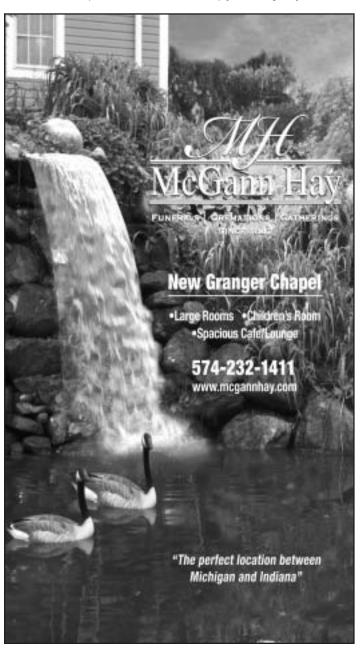
SCORPIO — (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Avoid boredom by being creative in your endeavors. Try not to lose your cool, and make your point known. You're likely to encounter new partners if you take short trips. You must avoid gossip and focus on what you have to do. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

SAGITTARIUS — (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — You will attract members of the opposite sex readily. You should be putting in some overtime. Don't expect the whole family to be overjoyed. Move forward if you want to turn your life around. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

CAPRICORN — (Dec 22-Jan. 20) — Don't be alarmed. Secret love affairs may be enticing; however, you must be prepared for the restraints that will follow. You need to do something energetic and different. Get into fitness programs to keep in shape. Your ambitious mood may not go over well with loved ones. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

AQUARIUS — (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) — Travel opportunities look positive, but be cautious while driving. Don't jump too quickly regarding an investment that appears to be good. Your health may suffer if you don't control your present situation. Education may be the answer. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

PISCES — (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) — Use your high energy and dynamic approach to win favors from superiors. Your self confidence will attract members of the opposite sex You can ask for favors and get sound advice from close friends or relatives. Your leadership qualities will come in handy. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.





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# ~Birch Lake Recipes~

# Simple Brussels Sprouts

# and Bacon

- 1. Cook some bacon. Fry, Bake, microwave however you like to cook bacon. Set aside.
- 2. Get some frozen or raw brussels spouts. If raw wash and cut more of the stem off. Cut sprouts in half. Raw tastes better.
- 3. Pan fry cook the sprouts. I like to cook in olive oil or coconut oil. You can use the bacon fat if you wish but I haven't tried that and that just makes my heart hurt thinking about it.
- 4. Crumble the bacon and add to spouts in the pan. crumble it. Salt Pepper and season how you like. Adding sesame seeds really makes it awesome but optional.





# -BIRCH LAKE WORDSEARCH PUZZLE-

### Sudoku Puzzle

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through to 9. There is only one solution to the puzzle.

		6	7		2	3	1	
8				9			2	7
7		5			8		9	
		9	3	6		8		2
4	7			1				3
2	6				9			1
	9	7				1		
	8		9		1	4	3	5
3	1				6	2	7	9

# Camp Tannadoonah

# Hog Roast this weekend!

on't forget that this weekend is our Camp Tannadoonah Hog Roast! The event will start at 5pm, and will feature a live band, the induction of our newest Legend Tree nominees, camp tours, and TONS of great food! The event is free, but we ask everyone to bring a dish to share.

This past week at camp was Buggin' Out Week and we had a total of 94 campers for the week. Camp is so much more fun with more kids, and these past two weeks have been quite full! On Sunday night it rained, so we had a Tannadoonah Auction in the dining hall. Tuesday night we played "Ant Colonies" (a.k.a. Capture the Flag).

On Friday this week we had the Lake Milton Raptor Society give another presentation to the campers. They brought 5 birds of prey and gave a 45-minute presentation about the birds. The kids really get into this program!

This week we also several new volunteers, including Miss Jessica, the niece of Dan and Sharon Waxman! We also had Bill and Patty Karban here volunteering, teaching science, soccer, and guitar all week.

It was Tannadoonah Fairy week this week, too, which means that all the counselors spent a good part of the week playing pranks on each other. We had



lots of meals where counselors were dressed in goofy outfits, or had to sing songs and do dances in order to get treats from their Tannadoonah Fairies. Plus they steal each others' beds and clothes and move them around camp, or make them solve puzzles and riddles to get their belongings returned to them. It's a fun and goofy week that we do midsummer each year.

We have just two weeks left of camp this year. Next week is Holidays Week, and it's a small session so far. And then our final week of camp is Gypsy Week. This year is a special year at camp - a Patteran Year. Every five years we dig up a time capsule called the Patteran during the last week of camp (in years ending in 3 and 8). The theme is always Gypsy Week, and we sing special songs that are only sung during Patteran years. There are currently 97 campers

signed up, which is nearly full.

We are up to 623 total campers for the summer - well short of our goal of 700, and about 35 behind our pace on this date last year. We won't get to 700, but we've revised our goal to 650 and are hopeful we can still get to that. We have lots of spots still open for next week (starting Sunday the 28th), so keep recommending campers for us!!!

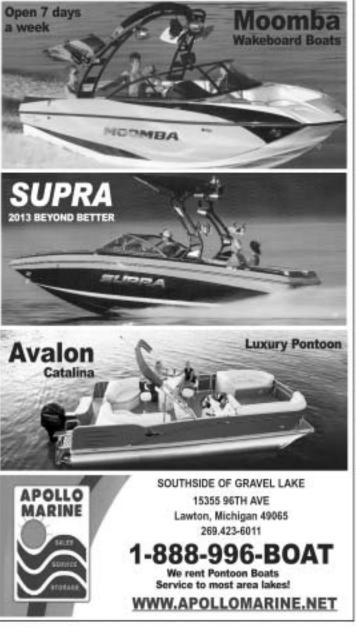
I hope to see everyone up here for the hog roast on Saturday!

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



http://tannadoonah.org





# 2013 Birch Lake Yacht Club officers and directors

2012 BLYC Officers	Steve Quinlan (W)476-8802		
Chas Grundy Comm (H)476-7062 Chas.grundy@gmail.com	stevequinlan2@yahoo.com  Vickie Rogers (C)476-2383 tvrogers@frontier.com		
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		
Mike Sheffieck Secretary (W)476-1849 mcsheff@aol.com	Denise Smitley (W)476-9000 dsmitley@industrial-pack.com		
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		
Harold Cranmer (W)476-2170 dhcranmer@yahoo.com	ATTENDEES:  Jim Bollinger BLYC Homeowners'		
Terry Dugan (S)476-2814 s581122@aol.com	Association Chairman (E)476-973 debo36@comcast.net		
Celia Fallon (E)	Paul Fallon, BLYC Water Quality Committee Chairman (E)476-1467 paulf@hrpconstruction.com		

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### **FOR RENT**

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

### 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

Found: BLACK WILDERNESS WAKEBOARD cover and a foam kickboard. Call 574-596-2154 unless you are Rick and Patti Russwurm. In that case we are keeping it. (Inside joke in case you did-

Lost: RED SCARF WITH ELMO IMPRINTS. Contact Morgann c/o Phil Vitale @ 476-1680.

Lost BOAT BUMPER FOR PONTOON. Large, white with black on each end, a white rope on one end with a metal clip. Call Jan Temple, 847-846-

Found: BLUE PADDLE BOAT FLOAT found in Cove. Contact Bergans at lkbergan@live.com.

Found: Washed up on the south shore last week; A VERY NICE YELLOW KAYAK. Call 476-2461

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



# BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB



\$ -	BLYC Member Dues (\$30 / year)	TOTAL CONTRIBUTION:
\$ -	<b>BLYC Associate Member Dues</b>	

(\$10 / year)

- Homeowners' Assoc. (\$10 / year) Sailing Fees (\$15 / year) Name

- Building Improvement Fund

Address

- Fireworks Fund Water Quality Program

- Milfoil/Loosestrife

**Eradication Program** Make checks payable to

**BLYC** - Safety Committee c/o Holly Troeger \_\_\_ - Other non-party related expenses

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\_\_\_ - BLYC Roof Fund (NEW)

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