

Birch Barker

Weekend of August 31, 2013



Not too long ago this was a caterpillar ... hope everyone has a butterfly kind of off-season. Printed Barker will be back next Memorial Day weekend.

The passing of the life jacket

Commodore's Comments

"Don't cry because it's over,
smile because it happened."

~Dr. Seuss

To the sailors, the swimmers, the
fishers, and skiers
The people who help neighbors
to put in their piers
Committees who keep the lake so
safe and so clean
And event chairs who enable our
lively social scene
To the board of directors who toler-
ate meetings
And the vice commodore who soon
will be leading
The fleet captain who insisted that
he wouldn't write
And the astronomer who kept our
eyes skyward each night
The fine Barker team that delivered

this news

And its editor whose persistence you
cannot refuse

Let's not forget my in-laws, who
stayed at the lake

Sherry and Bill, the many contribu-
tions they make

But finally my family I must cer-
tainly include

Elyse my sweet lady, Avery my cool
dude

And Amber's great patience with my
commodore's duties

Which deprived me of time to spend
with her beauty

But the job of the commodore I had
to undertake

For the sake of the community, for
the good of the lake

And because this year as the com-
modore was a joy to go through

To all of you I now say, from the bot-
tom of my heart, thank you.

~ Commodore Chas

2013 BLYC Calendar

Sept. 7.....BLYC Board Meeting, 9am
Sept. 7.....Fall Dinner 5:30 pm
Sept. 7.....Sailing Awards
October 12.....Chili Cookoff AND Card
& Game Night — 6 pm

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

From the incoming Commodore

Well, here we are, the last printed
Barker of 2013. I can't believe we are
thinking about the Fall Dinner, the chili
cookoff, and getting ready to take the
toys out of the lake and start putting
them away. What I REALLY find hard
to believe, is that Chas is writing his last
column, and I have begun writing the
first of many! I know this year's chang-
ing of the guard is a little different, since
the Fall Dinner is Sept. 7, but it will still
get done. I hope you have all gotten

— Birch Lake Notes —

your reservations in for dinner (since the deadline is **THIS** weekend) and are going to be in attendance . You won't want to miss when I announce.... (**Your Name Here**)...as the new vice commodore!

Most of you know me, but for those of you that may not, I am (Bad) Patty Luecht. My husband Bill and I live on the east side, about 1/2 mile north of the public landing. We have the smallest cottage on the lake, but the **ONLY** Flamingo Room. Bill has been coming to Birch Lake since his aunt and uncle bought the place in the early 60's. I have been tagging along since the mid-80's. Our kids Katie and John have been coming up since they were just a few months old. Unfortunately, we can only be here from April thru October, because our "big" house is in Danville, Indiana, and we haven't hit the lottery, so we still have to work. However, when we are here, we enjoy every minute! I can honestly say, this is my favorite place to be!

I'm not looking forward to winter, but I know in April when the rock bugs hatch and the frogs are croaking I will be back to the lake. It never gets old!!!! Have a nice, short (I hope) winter and ...**THINK SPRING!!!!**

~Bad Patty, vice commodore

LAST CHANCE!!!! DON'T DELAY!!!!

Reservations for the Fall dinner **MUST** be in by August 31st!!!!



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!

Drop checks to any of the following: (\$25 per person made out to BLYC):
 East — Phil & Sandy Vitale, or Bad Patty Luecht
 South — Pam VanHuffel or Sue Williams (if she's back from vacation)
 West — Denise Smitley
 North — Amy Lutz

~Thanks, Bad Patty, VC.

2014 Birch Lake Calendars

The 2014 Birch Lake Calendars are here! Get your copies for \$15 each from Carla Chester or Linda Yoshizawa (East Side), Vickie Rogers (Cove), or Sue Williams (South Side). Thanks to all the talented Birch Lake photographers who together submitted over 70 photos this year.

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!

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— Birch Lake Notes —

Change of Schedule

Attention ... the Game Night previously scheduled in September has been changed to OCTOBER 12th and will be combined with the Chili Cook Off. The event(s) will begin at 6 pm at the Yacht Club.

You're Invited

Birch lakers are invited to the Silver Wedding Anniversary of Keith & Becky Beers at an open house celebrating their 25 years of marriage on Saturday Sept. 14, from 3 - 6 pm at the Pleasant View Church of Christ, 60550 Crooked Creek Rd in Cassopolis. Please RSVP regrets only: Call or text 574-350-5529 or 269-228-1193 Via Facebook: Rachel Russey, or Linda Brossman

Last Printed Barker this season

This is the last printed Birch Barker of the Season.

Big thanks to all the advertisers who supported the Barker this year (ok, there's a couple who haven't paid yet but if they don't, I'll let you know so we can boycott their businesses!).

Thanks also to the dozens of people who chip in their time and talents every year and sent in articles, new items, photos, funnies, original art, and all of the other things we love to see while we're relaxing on Saturday mornings on our piers! Thanks also to the whole crew who picks up, distributes and deliv-

ers the Barker around the lake.

Assuming the Yacht Club approves it, beginning in October I'll be sending out the Online Barker monthly. If you're not signed up (or if you've changed addresses), drop me your email at sailorphil@philvitale.com and I'll get your name added to the list.

Have a great Fall and Winter!

-pv

Como Christmas

It is with heavy hearts that I send this note to you. We have reached an impasse with Battell Center as they are refusing to sell our tickets. We will provide new info as soon as we can find another home.

~Wendy Como

Memorial for Helen Weesner

There will be a graveside memorial for Helen Weesner, on Sept. 27 at 10:30 am at Prairie Street Cemetery in Elkhart. Please let people at the lake know if they want to join us we would be honored.

Directions to the cemetery: South on Main Street to Hively. Right (west) for about 1/2 mile. The cemetery is on the left. The site is in Section 5, plot 107.

~Leslie Pattullo

Birch Lake directory

If you're new to the lake, didn't receive a directory last year (updated

Question of the week:



Question: What year did Camp Tannadoonah come to Birch Lake?

Answer:
Camp Tannadoonah moved to Birch Lake in 1929 from Pleasant Lake near Edwardsburg, Michigan. That's 84 years campers have been enjoying the lake.

Thanks to Bud Zesinger for providing the Questions (and Answers) of the week this summer ... it's been a nice addition to the summer Barker!

2012), or would like an additional copy we have a limited number available. The first one is free, additional copies are \$3. Please contact Celia Fallon at 476-1467.

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— Birch Lake Notes —



Under the threat of missing the last Birch Barker for the 2013 summer season, Everett Bernard Schlemmer arrived early Monday morning. Proud parents are Callie and Jared Schlemmer, and ecstatic grandparents are Bernie and Blair Garceau (east side).

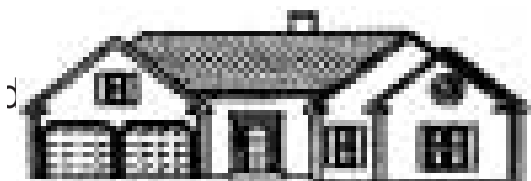


Congratulations to Ashlee and Kyle Dombrowski who were married last Saturday in ELkhart. Ashlee is the daughter of Bob & Sandy Baucus (north side).

photo by Bad Patty

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— Barker kids of the Week —



Dan Waxman (east side) submitted this photo of his nephew Ike Lopez and father Alberto taking a trio of Terriers (Scout, Kolby and Domino) on a paddle boat ride.



Taylor, Macey, Parker, and Layla Gableman give a group hug at Grandma and Grandpa Phipps house on a weekly summer somemore/weenie roast.



Thank you
Birch Lake

~ The
Kintzlers



BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB



2013 Dues, Contribution & Donation Form

SUPPORT THE BLYC; SUPPORT THE BIRCH LAKE COMMUNITY!

\$ _____ - BLYC Member Dues (\$30 / year)

TOTAL CONTRIBUTION:

\$ _____ - BLYC Associate Member Dues

(\$10 / year)

\$ _____

\$ _____ - Homeowners' Assoc. (\$10 / year)

\$ _____ - Sailing Fees (\$15 / year)

Name _____

\$ _____ - Building Improvement Fund

\$ _____ - Fireworks Fund

Address _____

\$ _____ - Water Quality Program

\$ _____ - Milfoil/Loosestrife

Eradication Program

\$ _____ - Safety Committee

\$ _____ - Other non-party related expenses

\$ _____ - BLYC Roof Fund (NEW)

Make checks payable to

BLYC

c/o Holly Troeger

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Fleet Captain's Corner



Let there be wind ...

For the last month or so, I have been asking for some type of wind for our Sunday races! This last weekend, I finally got my request! Winds were out of the southwest at about 5 to 10 mph — which is probably the most wind we have seen for some time, at least on a Sunday. Our racing was delayed for an hour due to the lack of early winds!

Thanks to all the sailors that waited

to begin our weekend ritual.

Now we only have our Labor Day Regatta which will be Saturday and Sunday, with Monday as a rainout date!! Hope to see everyone out there!

Thanks, to our generous committee boat participants, that took time out of their busy Sunday to operate the committee boat, Chas, Amber, Avery, Elyse, Bill and Sheri. I want to say thanks to "Bad Patty" for all her help in organizing

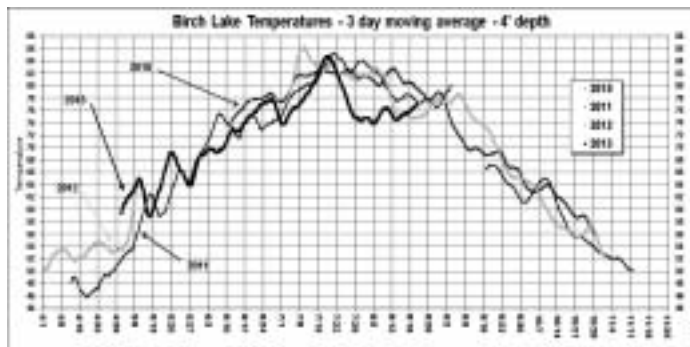
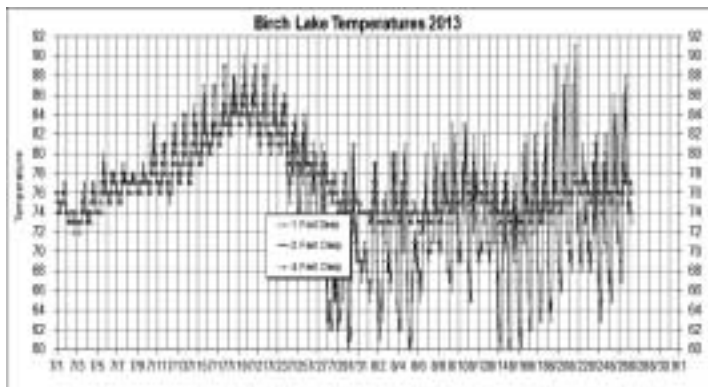
the schedule and doing a majority of the races, I could not have done it without you!!

-Fleet Cap'n Mike

Committee Boat Schedule:
 Labor Day Regatta
 August 31 — Bad Patty
 Sept. 1 — Bad Patty
 Sept. 2 (if needed) — OPEN

Sailing results and standings to date

Race.....	23	24	25.....	Total	Point
Date	25-Aug	25-Aug	25-Aug	Points	Average
MC Scow					
Scott Troeger #1489	3	1	6	27562	1531
Jeff Smitley #2002	2	3	4	28400	1495
Bill Luecht #1579	1	5	1	34822	1393
Harold Cranmer #1991/2412		2	2	29127	1387
Phil Vitale #500	5	7	DSQ	34532	1381
Gib Eberhart #916	6	8	7	27428	1306
Bob King #1199	4	4	5	24110	1339
Dave Olson #1979	7	6	3	17129	1224
Rick Harman #379				3614	1205
Patrick O'Brien				2883	961
Sunfish.....					
Stewart Spratt	2	2	1	24820	1551
Erica Vitale (White)				8757	1460
Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue).....	1	1	2	28996	1526
Sandy Vitale (White)		4	4	34992	1458
Chris Spratt (Blue/Green).....	3	3	3	20082	1434
Brad Davis.....				5494	1374
Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow)	4	5	5	30087	1368
Katie Luecht (White/Red/Blue).....				2665	1333
Peter Soldoto				7780	1297
Bill Butler				23366	1298
Amy Lutz (Yellow/Blue)				7374	1229



Water Temperature charts provided by Steve Quinlan (west side)

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Italians file protest in America's Cup

But the Italians didn't do that thankfully. They raced until the end, and then showed what real sportsmanship and grace in sports looks like. After the final race the Italians filed a protest with the America's Cup jury. The protest read:

LUNA ROSSA OFFICIALLY PROTEST EMIRATES TEAM NEW ZEALAND

From: Luna Rossa Challenge

Sent: Sunday, 25 August 2013 2:01 p.m.

To: AC Jury

Subject: Luna Rossa protests against Team New Zealand

Dear David,

Luna Rossa protests against Team New Zealand for speeding while sailing today's race and crossing the finish line at more than 40knts!

We will however withdraw the protest immediately if they undertake to take the XXXIV America's Cup from the Defender!

Luna Rossa desires to the Challenger good winds and the best of luck!

It has been a pleasure to compete against you.

Luis Saenz Mariscal

Now that's making a statement.

Follow Christopher Caen on Twitter: www.twitter.com/citizencaen

Thanks to Mr. Bob for the protest note ...

BIRCH BARKER FUNNIES

Mufasa should've taken



the Gas-X



PREHISTORIC GOOGLING



BE HAPPY.



THANK GOD YOU'RE HOME! SOMEONE BROKE IN AND ATE YOUR ROTISSERIE CHICKEN AGAIN.



You need coffee.

You just left the baby in my crate.

Money can't buy happiness, but it sure makes misery easier to live with.

There's a fine line between cuddling and holding someone down so they can't get away.

I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not so sure.

You're never too old to learn something stupid.

Stu's Star Stuff

Musings from a cool frood with a towel

Let's part company on a whimsical note. Many of my offerings in the past may have perhaps had a somewhat editorial agenda, making them only tangentially related to our intended subject of the Earth, Moon, stars, galaxies and the answer to the ultimate question of life, the universe and everything. A specific example I could site might be my Andy Rooney-style questioning of the sanity of "Indiana Standard Time" (again and for all, no such thing) back when sanity was about to prevail in the early two-thousands.

Douglas Adams, a now-deceased British author, wrote a "trilogy" of five books published between 1979 and 1992 beginning with "[The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy](#)" and I've found the series of tales equally tangential, immensely entertaining, and chock full of quotes that you might wish you could remember at the next cocktail party had you not learned them at the previous cocktail party.

In brief, the series of books follows the adventures of Arthur Dent, a hapless Englishman, and Trillian, a woman Arthur once met at a party in Islington and the only other human survivor of Earth's destruction.

Some of my favorites include:

■ All you really need to know for the moment is that the universe is a lot more complicated than you might think, even if you start from a position of thinking it's pretty damn complicated in the first place.

■ There is a theory which states that if ever anyone discovers exactly what the Universe is for and why it is here, it will instantly disappear and be replaced by something even more bizarre and inexplicable. There is another theory which

states that this has already happened.

■ "You know," said Arthur, "it's at times like this, when I'm trapped in a Vagon airlock with a man from Betelgeuse, and about to die of asphyxiation in deep space that I really wish I'd listened to what my mother told me when I was young."

"Why, what did she tell you?"

"I don't know, I didn't listen."

■ Space, it says, is big. Really big. You just won't believe how vastly, hugely, mindbogglingly big it is. I mean, you may think it's a long way down the road to the chemist's, but that's just peanuts to space.

■ Nothing travels faster than the speed of light with the possible exception of bad news, which obeys its own special laws.

■ (for Phil) — There is an art, it says, or rather, a knack to flying. The knack lies in learning how to throw yourself at the ground and miss.

■ The disadvantages involved in pulling lots of black sticky slime from out of the ground where it had been safely hidden out of harm's way, turning it into tar to cover the land with, smoke to fill the air with and pouring the rest into the sea, all seemed to outweigh the advantages of being able to get more quickly from one place to another.

■ A common mistake that people make when trying to design something completely foolproof is to underestimate the ingenuity of complete fools.

■ He hoped and prayed that there wasn't an afterlife. Then he realized there was a contradiction involved here and merely hoped that there wasn't an afterlife.

■ (My favorite) — That young girl is one of the least benightedly unintelligent organic life forms it has been my pro-

The Moon for August 31
(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed
from the Northern Hemisphere)
Illuminated Fraction: 0.160
3.9 days after last quarter



Sunrise: 7:08am
Sunset: 8:20pm
Moonrise: 2:35am
Moonset: 5:19pm
Day length: 13h 12m

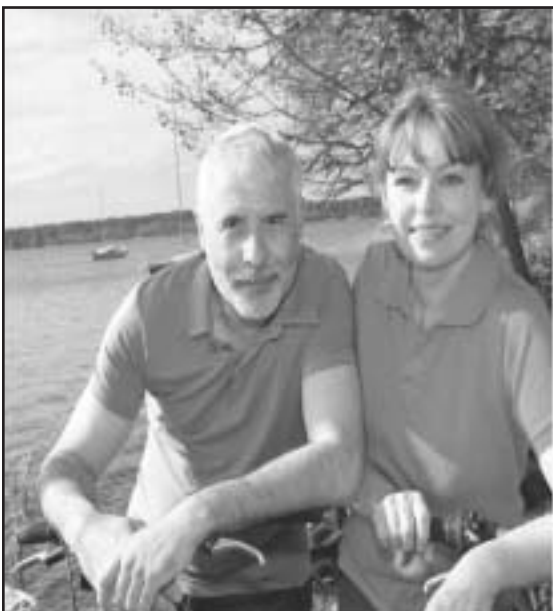
found lack of pleasure not to be able to avoid meeting.

■ And finally — It is known that there are an infinite number of worlds, simply because there is an infinite amount of space for them to be in. However, not every one of them is inhabited.

Therefore, there must be a finite number of inhabited worlds. Any finite number divided by infinity is as near to nothing as makes no odds, so the average population of all the planets in the Universe can be said to be zero. From this it follows that the population of the whole Universe is also zero, and that any people you may meet from time to time are merely the products of a deranged imagination.

Have a great fall, winter, spring. Check out the show often. It's always free. So long, and thanks for all the fish.

~Stewart Spratt — Celebrating my
50th summer at Birch Lake



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YOUR HOROSCOPE

ARIES — (Mar. 21-April 20) — You'll find it easy to meet new people. If you're looking to do something worthwhile, consider volunteer work. Opportunities will develop through those you encounter while attending organizational events. Social functions will bring you in touch with new lovers. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

TAURUS — (Apr. 21-May 21) — You need to be careful not to make promises that you can't fulfill. Set your goals and stick to your guns. You can enhance your cash flow if you pick up additional skills. Do not invest in ventures that only appear to be lucrative. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

GEMINI — (May 22-June 21) — Try to spend time with those having similar interests. You may want to pull out some of those unfinished project you've got tucked away. You may want to try your hand at a little creative writing. Don't let your boss get the better of you. The distance may make you both appreciate each other more. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

CANCER — (June 22-July 22) — Your energetic nature and ability to initiate projects will add to your popularity. Don't let your partner get you going. You are best to travel or attend lectures or seminars. Work quietly behind the scenes. Arguments could prevail. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

LEO — (July 23-Aug 22) — Don't make excuses. Your fun loving approach will be admired and appreciated by others. You can certainly gain popularity; however, don't do it by paying for everyone else. Empty promises are evident; therefore, get it in writing, to be safe. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

VIRGO — (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) — Travel should be on your agenda. Exaggeration or deception coupled with overindulgence might be a problem. You need a job with more responsibility and a higher wage. You can get good solid advice from relatives or close friends you trust. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

LIBRA — (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) — Try not to lend or borrow money or belongings this week. You can make favorable real estate offers this week. Empty promises will cause upset. Sort situations out as best you can. Watch your spending habits. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

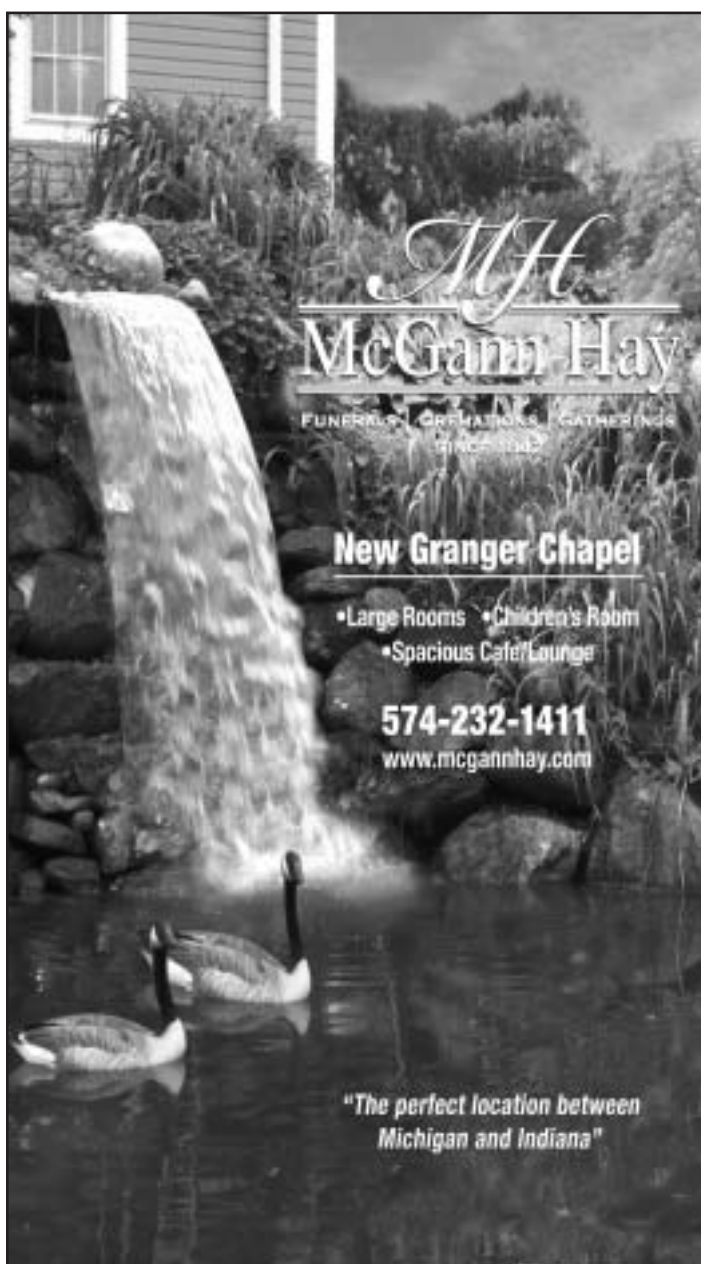
SCORPIO — (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Financial affairs do not look too favorable this week. Someone you like may be receptive and actively seeking your company. You can put in some overtime and make extra cash. You can make career changes that may put you in a much higher earning bracket. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

SAGITTARIUS — (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) — Arguments with relatives may lead to a split in the family. Don't avoid situations that may deteriorate; try to mend them. You may want to make changes that will not be to their liking. You will gain a lot if you listen. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

CAPRICORN — (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) — Exercise is always a good way to relieve stress. You may interest some of them in a service you have to offer. You can get a lot done if you get your hands on the right equipment. Creative pursuits should payoff. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

AQUARIUS — (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) — Don't overdo it. You need to enjoy yourself. You can anger others quickly this week. Avoid overspending on items for your home. Take time to help a friend who hasn't been feeling well. You need to fulfill your needs and pre sent your talents. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

PISCES — (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) — Learn some new skills that will increase your in come. Your ideas may be good, but they aren't necessarily right for everyone. Your emotional partner will push all the right buttons this week. Generosity will put you in the poorhouse. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.



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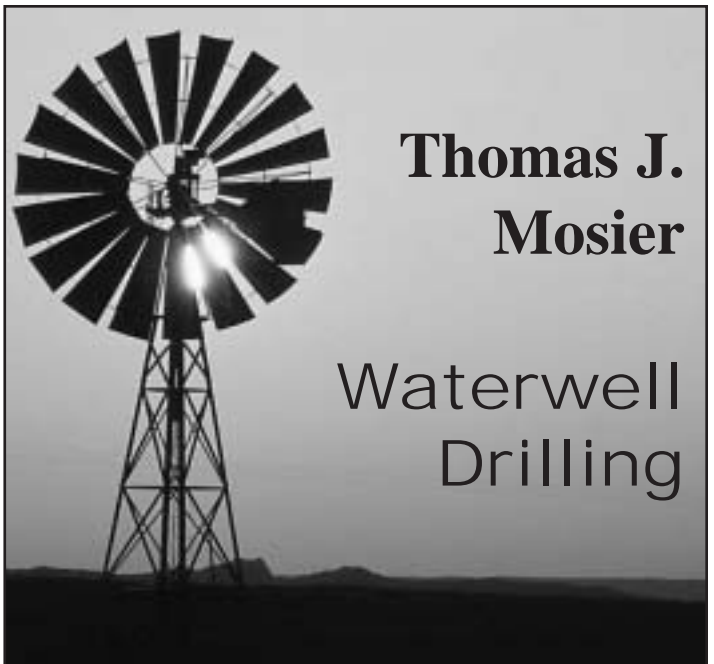
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~Birch Lake Recipes~

Famous Pork Chops

"My family loves these and they fall apart when you cut them with your fork."

Ingredients:

- 1 cup crushed butter crackers
- garlic salt to taste
- ground black pepper to taste
- 3 eggs, beaten
- 4 pork chops

1/2 cup butter

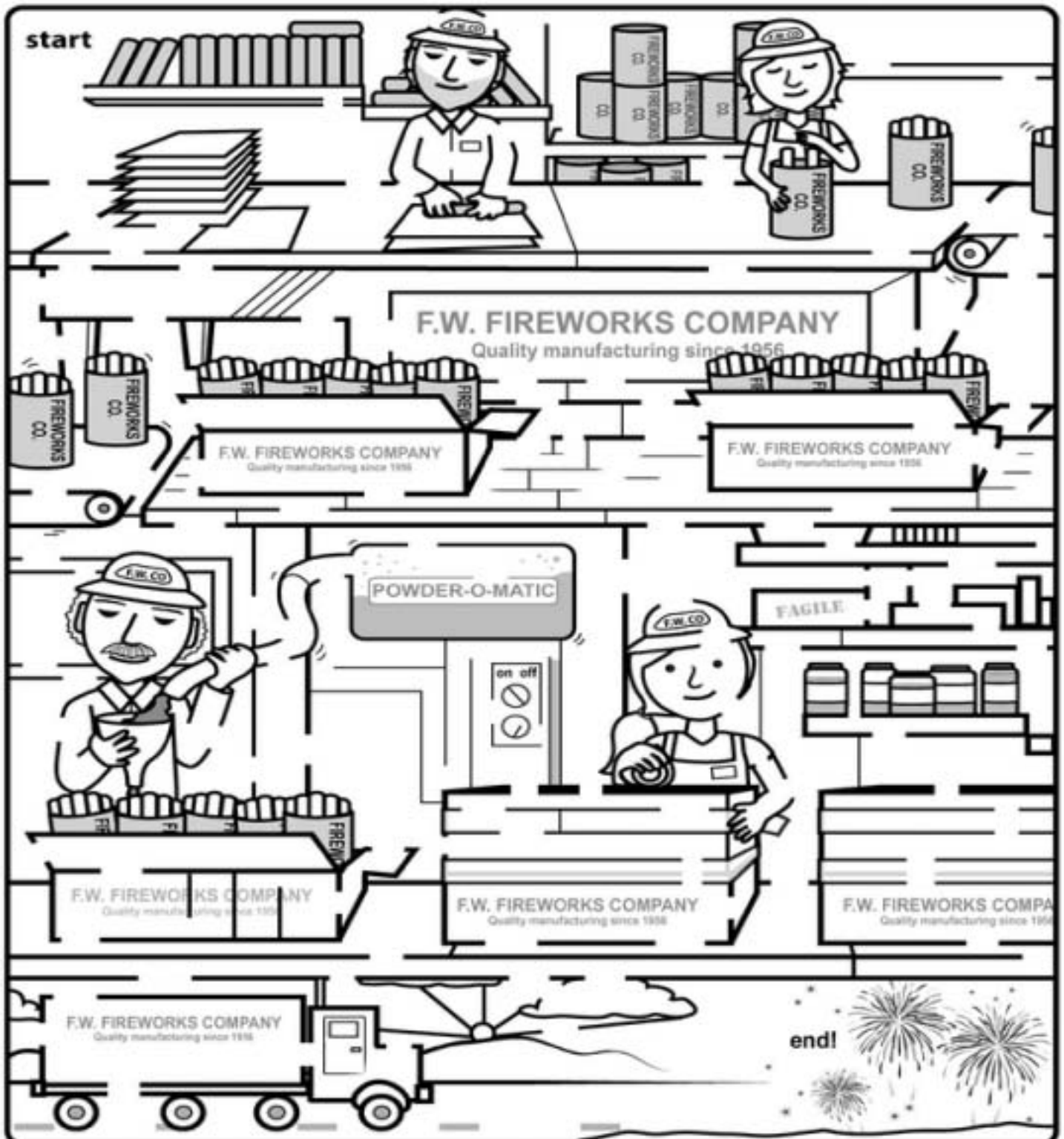
Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C).
2. In a shallow bowl combine crushed crackers, garlic salt and pepper; mix well. In a separate bowl beat eggs.
3. Dip your pork chops in the egg batter and then in the cracker mixture. Place the pork chops in



a casserole dish. Place chunks of the butter around the pork chops. Cover and bake for 45 minutes.

—BIRCH LAKE MAZE—



Camp Tannadoonah

What a great summer!

So long, farewell... Until next year, that is!

What a great summer it has been for Camp Tannadoonah! We finished with 635 campers for the summer. It was fun, and exciting, and busy almost all year long, which is exactly the way we like it. It's more fun with more kids!

We are looking forward to a calendar full of exciting fall events. We

try to offer monthly events, to keep our campers and club members involved with Camp and Camp Fire. All of our programs are open to kids ages 5-16.

Here's a tentative calendar for the upcoming months:

September 27-29: Club group camping

October 11-13: Fall Camp

November: Harvest Party

November: Camp Work Day

December: Craft Workshop

January: Bowling

February:

Valentine's Dance

We're already working on our plans for the 2014 camp calendar.

Some preliminary ideas include adding a new game called "9 Square in the Air," offering wakeboarding, and possibly changing the way we set up our themes for the weeks. We're also looking at some new early bird discounts, and a new setup for our



camper referral program.

In addition to potential programming changes, we're hoping to do some pretty substantial updating of some of our cabins and facilities. These may include updates to the "adventure cabins," shower house upgrades, a new porch and roof on the camp store / hand-craft building, and hopefully a few others!

Lots of other ideas are "percolating" as we start thinking about our plans for next year. If you have any ideas for new programs, or things we could add or change at camp, please feel free to share them with me.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on the lake this holiday weekend!

-Miss Amber

amber@tannadoonah.org

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STOLEN/REWARD

EARLY 1970'S 6 HP EVINRUDE (white with blue/red accents cover and blue lower unit) was brazenly taken off our fishing boat the night of Thursday, Aug. 15 while we slept close by. \$100 reward for it's return and/or information leading to the arrest and prosecution of these criminals. Watch your stuff, unfortunately it can even happen at Birch Lake. Cottage #133 on the east side. Tom @ 253-279-5907

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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

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 didn't guess).

Found: **BLUE PADDLE BOAT** found in Cove. Contact Bergans at 269-476-9359 or email at lkbergan@live.com.

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

Found: **BLUE KICKBOARD** ... pick it up at the group pier, middle of the east shore

Found: **SKI JACKET** on the north shore. Call Jan at 847-846-8600.

WANTED

Want to Borrow: **A SMALL FLAT-BOTTOM BOAT** to be used in Middlebury Elementary Library for the 2013-14 school year. The boat would be used for students kindergarten through 3rd grade to climb into and read while in the Library. Call 574-535-3733 or email balljkb@aol.com.

<http://birchlakeblog.wordpress.com/>

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