



Ok, it was just too cool to be just another WOTW (weed of the week) ... thanks to Mr. Bob for the horticulture lesson

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

First, let me start by telling you, this is going to be a column that is very unique! Even more so than usual! As many of you know, I am not an early riser. I'm not one to burst out of bed at dawn and get the day started before I absolutely have to. However, on the other hand, our son John thinks he's wasted his entire day if he's not up and moving by 5 am. So knowing that, I'm sure you may find this story a little out there, even for me!!

This morning at 5:30, I hear what sounds like someone crying out, "Help! Bird!" Thinking it's my crazy neighbors, that do all kinds of bizarre things, I muttered some unkind words, and roll over to get my last 45 minutes of sleep. Seconds later, "Help! Bird!" Then both Bill and I realize it's coming from John! Down the stairs we went, just to find

John white with fear and under the kitchen table! When questioned what was going on he replied, "HOSTILE BIRD SITUATION!" Well, I don't know about you, but Bill and I have never been in a "HOSTILE BIRD SITUATION" and we really didn't know what to expect (and after reading Amy Lutz's link she had in the Barker a few weekends back on how flamingos can pick a T-Rex clean in under 90 seconds, I was a bit nervous.) Finally John calmed down enough so he could tell us that a bird had flown up from the basement and was still somewhere in the house. Well, I have had a few experiences with birds, and the No. 1 thing you can count on is that they are going to be very scared, and when scared they tend to poop a lot! Looking around, there is no evidence of that kind of mess, but John insists! Bill and I start looking for this creature that has robbed us of 45 minutes of sleep and has scared John so badly that he forgot all about his

2014 Birch Lake Calendar

Aug 23	..... BLYC Fall Dinner — 5:30/6:30
Aug 24	..... Photography and Beyond 2-4
Oct 18	..... Chili Cook Off
May 2, 2015	..... BLYC Spring Dinner
June 27, 2015	..... People's Regatta
July 4, 2015	..... Fireworks
July 5, 2015	..... Pancake Breakfast
July 11	..... House Walk
	More info as available
July 17, 2015	..... Ladies' Golf Outing
TBA	..... Poker Run 2015

Dates subject to change.
Watch the Barker for updates!

breakfast (which would take a lot of fear for that boy to miss a meal)! After an extended search, and no reenactment of Alfred Hitchcock's, The Birds, Bill discovered not a HOSTILE BIRD, but a bat hiding between a window frame and a

— Birch Lake Notes —

kitchen cabinet. Well, that was enough for me, so I went back upstairs, put a sheet over my head and thought, "This is going to be SOME kinda day today!" You just never can tell what goes on in the mind of a person on the autism spectrum, but I can guarantee you, when you live with someone like John, it is never boring!

Let me just close by saying this year has been some kinda year, also! I am so glad I was able to be your Commodore. I hope to see you all Saturday for the Fall Dinner, as we rally behind Fry to lead us on and learn the identity of the new VC!

I never get tired of the lake, and I plan on being here as much as possible until we close up the cottage in October! So have fun on the lake, stay safe and keep watching for the pink lights and always remember...

Pink...it's not just a color, it's an ATTITUDE!

~Bad Patty, Commodore 2014

Photography and Beyond

Birch Laker Carol Dugan, will be curating 'Photography and Beyond,' an art show at the Carnegie Center for the Arts. The show opens with a reception on Sunday, Aug. 24 from 2-4 pm. The five participating artists aim to expand our view of photography. The display will hang from Aug. 24 through Sept. 30. Carnegie is located at 107 N. Main in Three Rivers. Hours are Tuesday-Friday 10-5, Saturday 10-2, closed on

Sundays except for special events such as the reception. Call Carnegie 269-273-8882 or Carol 476-2814 with any questions.

In memory — JJ Harlan

SOUTH BEND — Juanita Jean "J.J." Harlan, 87, of South Bend and Birch Lake, passed away peacefully recently.

J.J. as her friends and family knew her was born Juanita Jean Marsh on July 15, 1927 in Twelve Mile, IN to the late Paul and Helen (Cover) Marsh. On Aug. 20, 1949 in South Bend she married Bruce Harlan of South Bend who survives.

Together Juanita and Bruce spent 45 wonderful summers together at beautiful Birch Lake, Vandalia, MI and raised their two children: a daughter Linda J. (Paul) Williams and their son Robert B. (Valisa) Harlan all of Granger; five grandchildren: Scott Williams of Columbus, OH, Brian Williams, Heather Thomas and her son Trevor Rhoton, their only great-grandchild; Tyler Harlan, and Spencer Harlan all of Granger; a brother Jack (Susan) Marsh of South Bend and her sister-in-law Betty (John) Currier of San Antonio, TX.

J.J. lived a full life, enjoying her family and giving back to the community: cruising around Birch Lake in their pontoon boat, as a 1945 Graduate of John Adams High School, and later a graduate RN of the St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing, class of 1949, Past

President of the Ladies of Notre Dame, The Women's Art League where because of her love of flower gardening she was elected the first Chairwoman of their Garden Walk. Her hobby of building very elaborate "to exact scale" miniature dollhouses allowed her to master the necessary skills of master carpenter, and electrician. Her work life as a Registered Nurse took her to St. Joseph Hospital where she spent 12 years as a Surgical and Recovery Nurse before retiring in 1980. She was loved by all and will truly be missed.

Condolences and memories may be shared with the family at: www:McGannHay.com.

Sending large files to the Barker

I know most people don't pay attention to the size of the files they send (especially in these days of unlimited data on cell phones), but the rest of us who are stuck in the computer world are unlikely to be able to have the high-speed, 24/7 instantaneous communication that you enjoy ... especially with social media items like photos and videos ... we are stuck in the rut of only getting seven or eight megs of data at a time (unless we can wait several hours for our email servers to catch up). So, please, please don't send files larger than four or five meg (especially from a smartphone or phone-account based iPod) ... it will only delay the Barker.

Thanks, ~PV

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 —

Tournament of Writers

Anyone with a valid Schoolcraft Library (or reciprocal) card is invited to enter fiction, non-fiction, or poems. Submissions accepted starting Sept. 2 until close of library at 5 pm Friday, Oct. 17. Free. 269-718-3593. www.folschoolcraft.org or www.booksfordessert.com

Online content

The printed Birch Barker is online again this season ... go to www.philvitale.com and follow the links.

Barker Deadlines

The deadline for submitting items for the Barker is **6 pm on the Tuesday** of the week before publication (example: the deadline for materials for the May 31 issue was 6 pm Tuesday, May 27)

Thanks, ~PV

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 (non-member 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.

For information and help building

your ad, contact Phil at 476-1680 or email me at sailorphil@philvitale.com. All ads are subject to the approval of the editor and/or Commodore, officers and board of the Birch Lake Yacht Club.

Against Editors

In the writing world, there is a hierarchy. The writers are on the bottom. Above them are editors, who tell the writers what to change. This is backwards. How many good writers has Big Edit destroyed?

"Pish posh," you might say. "You're

one to talk. Your grammar is wronged, your metaphors are blunt bricks, and your similes are like a hot needle to the eyeball. Your infinitives are split, your participles are dangling, your spelling is erroneous, your cliches are old as time, your sentences are repetitive, and your sentences are repetitive. Your concepts appear to have been plucked from thin air with no foresight, hindsight, or insight. If anyone is in need of a good editor it is you. And you are ugly." [...]

<http://gawker.com/against-editors-1623198702>

Labor Day Weekend FRIDAY NIGHT FLOTILLA! August 29, 6 pm

We are taking our cue from other lakes!

**Meet in the middle of the lake with your boat.
Boats will be tied together and we will walk from boat to boat**

**Bring an Appetizer.
Sharing food and camaraderie.**

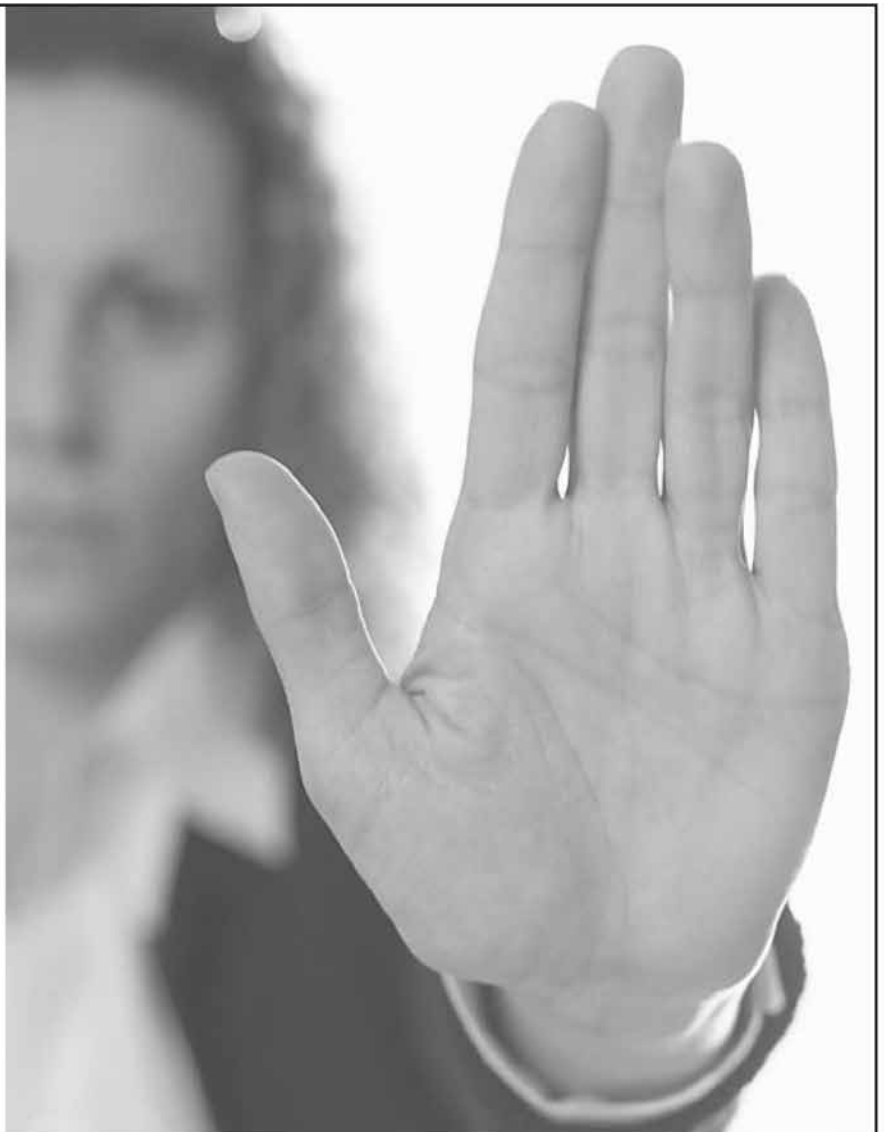
**Look for the boats in the middle!
Be there or be square!**

SLOW DOWN

**BIRCH LAKE HAS
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A TON OF CHILDREN,
GRANDCHILDREN AND PETS**

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travel COUNTER-CLOCKWISE at all times!**

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— Birch Lake Notes —

Calling all dogs — Pooch Parade

SATURDAY, Aug. 30

Raindate, Aug. 31

Registration 10 am

Parade 10:30 am

Grand Marshall:

Our own local Veterinarian
Duffy DUFOUR

All Birch Lake Dogs and their owners are invited to meet at the Sears Memorial Park boat landing for a Labor Day dog parade celebration.

If parking is a challenge, you are invited to park at the Yoshizawa's, Steffen's, or Chester's. After the 10 am registration, the parade commences from the boat landing at 10:30 am and proceeds north on Birch Road, ending at the home of Dennis and Claudia Phipps.

Costumes are encouraged. All participants will receive doggy AND human treats!

Prizes will be awarded in these categories: MOST WELL BEHAVED; BEST COSTUME; LARGEST DOG; SMALLEST; CUTEST; UGLIEST; DOG-OWNER LOOK ALIKE

PARADE RULES:

1. Animals must be current on vaccinations
2. No aggressive animals or females that are in season
3. Animals must be on a leash and in control by their owner at ALL times.
4. Pet owners must pooper scoop after their dogs

PARADE ORGANIZERS:

Carla Chester, Linda Curtis, Sue Waddle, Claudia Phipps

Thanks to Duffy Dufor for the great illustration!



Zoe Blough (Lutz's niece) and Camron Phillips (our grandson) get ready for some serious kid dragging.



BLYC COMMODORES

1960 – RAY MESSNER
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1962 – BILL KING
1963 – SELDON FOOT
1964 – EARL TROEGER
1965 – CHAS PURDY
1966 – JOHN BALL
1967 – DALE BRATCHER
1968 – FLOYD FULMER
1969 – DICK COWEN
1970 – JACK TROEGER
1971 – BRUCE HARLAN
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1973 – TERRY MONTAGUE
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1976 – BILL HAYDEN
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1982 – EARL TROEGER
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1985 – RANDY WELCH
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1990 – BUZZ RASMUSSEN
1991 – BUD ZESSINGER
1992 – JOHN GABLEMAN
1993 – RICH MULLIN
1994 – BOB WADDLE
1995 – LINDA CURTIS
1996 – SUE WAGNER
1997 – SCOTT TROEGER
1998 – AL COVER
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2009 – PAUL FALLON
2010 – BOB WADDLE
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2013 – CHAS GRUNDY
2014 – PATTY LUECHT
2015 – FRED FREIHOFFER
2016 – ?



Welcome to Jaywalker



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Thanks to Mr. Bob for the nice illustration with a list of the past (and current) commodores of the BLYC

— Barker kids of the Week —



Above: Nathan Sandler (north side) on his first paddle along the north shore.

Above left: Amanda, Ruby, Nathan, and Emily Sandler with four baby bunnies they found on their lawn. Ruby found the first bunny. Having no fear of predators as of yet, the bunnies never moved when approached. Gloves we worn and care was taken to return the bunnies to their home, unharmed, under the porch.

KID-OF-THE-WEEK PHOTOS!

Everyone loves to see their kid in the paper ... and one picture is worth a thousand words! Send your kid of the week to me (or grandpa of the week or neighbor of the week or dog of the week ... we even print weeds of the week!) with the details via email at SAILORPHIL@PHILVITALE.COM (Please send files of 6 MB OR LESS ... huge email attachments bog down my email server!)

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— Barker kids of the Week —



Above, the Band Strawberry Fields played music at the Camp Tannadoonah annual hog roast last weekend. The band consists of a group of former Ball State University students who began playing together while they were in college, and have continued to play a few times a year since. Although they're hardly kids anymore, they certainly qualify to be Barker Kids of the Week.

~Photo by Chuck Horn



At left is the gang of guys who attended the 8th Annual Sausage Fest on the west side of Birch Lake this last weekend ...

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— Barker kids of the Week —



'WHEN I SAY MORE BEER ... I MEAN IT!'

At left, that's 2014-3/4 outgoing Commodore (in more ways than one) Bad Patty Luecht flexing her beer muscles at last weekend's West Side Sausage Fest. Bad Patty will hand over the rod and scepter (not to mention the stinky old life vest and a brand new blue Commodore's flag) to Vice Commodore Fry this Saturday at the Fall Dinner at the Yacht Club. Happy Hour starts at 5:30, dinner is at 6.

Below are Gilligan and the Skipper skiing/riding around on a replica of the SS Minnow ... ah, er, the SS Sausagefest ... that was made specially for this year's annual west side bash.



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Birch Lake Home for Sale — 14867 Birch Lakeshore Dr. — Reduced to \$ 149,000



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Birch Lake Home for Sale — 14878 Birch Lakeshore Dr. 2 bedrooms, 52 ft. frontage, sandy beach — \$289,900

Birch Lake Cottage with 52 FT of frontage, sandy beach, knotty pine walls, vaulted wood ceilings, stone fireplace and 2 enclosed porch areas with awesome views. Spacious living room, quaint kitchen area, and huge loft area with extra sleeping room for the guests. Two car detached garage and plenty of parking space. Bright and cheery with the many windows and enclosed front room for family gatherings.





FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER



No wind, no sail!

Well, as you may have noticed, we did not sail last Sunday, due to the fact that a warm front moved thru early Sunday morning and took our winds with it.

We will try again this Sunday and hopefully at least some moderate winds will prevail.

We only have two weeks of sailing left, this Sunday and our annual "Labor Day Regatta" scheduled for Saturday and Sunday of next weekend (with Monday being a rain make up day).

Until next week

~"Fleet Captain Mike"

Committee Boat Assignments for the upcoming Races

August Races

24 — *Amber and Chas*

Labor Day Regatta

August 30 — *Bad Patty*

August 31 — *Bad Patty*

Sept. 1 — *Committee boat needed*

Committee Boat volunteers are always needed to help start and run the races. It's fun, It's easy; will train!

Call Mike or Amy at 476-2843.



2014 Season Sailing Results

Date	Total	Season	Races	%
Race	Points	Average	Finished	Finished

MC Scow/Sailor			28	
Scott Troeger #1489	35945	1563	23	82.1%
Jeff Smitley #2002	36068	1503	24	85.7%
Phil Vitale #500	34080	1420	24	85.7%
Harold Cranmer #1991/2412	38911	1390	28	100.0%
Bob King #1199	34143	1366	24	85.7%
Bill Luecht #1579	31213	1301	24	85.7%
Gib Eberhart #916	24254	1277	19	67.9%
Rick Harman & Kids	1225	1225	1	3.6%
Pat McGann	2245	1123	1	3.6%
Katie Luecht	3401	1134	3	10.7%

Sunfish/Sailor			24	
Stewart Spratt	32585	1552	21	87.5%
Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)	30823	1541	20	83.3%
Brad Davis	11791	1474	8	33.3%
Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow)	30125	1435	21	87.5%
Herb Cleveland	23881	1405	17	70.8%
Katie Luecht (White/Red/Blue)	4186	1395	3	12.5%
Peter Soldoto	16073	1339	12	50.0%
Chris of the Scofields	2525	1263	2	8.3%
Bill Butler	13501	1227	10	41.7%
Nick Anderson	9739	1217	8	33.3%
Camille Butler	22948	1208	19	79.2%



That's Fleet Captain Mike's dog Hailey ... painted by First Mate Amy as therapy for the depression she experienced when there was no wind for sailing ...



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— Dana on Drugs —

Treating lice

By DANA SOLDATO, PharmD

At my company's end-of-the-summer intern meeting we asked each intern to speak about their experiences this summer. One intern passionately declared, "I SAW A LOT OF LICE!!!" I burst out laughing, because she was SO right. WHAT A SUMMER FOR LICE! I don't ever remember seeing so many people come in looking for lice treatment! Now that the kiddies are heading back to school this week, I only expect it to get worse.

Lice are parasites that feed on our blood. While it sounds disgusting that you might have a parasite living on your head, lice are considered to be harmless as they do not spread disease.

If you get lice, it does not mean that you have poor hygiene, it just means you came into contact with somebody with lice. Lice cannot fly and they have very short, stubby legs. Therefore, the only way lice can move is by slowly crawling around. Lice can be spread by sharing brushes, hats, pillows etc., but the most common route is by direct, persistent head to head contact—such as heads touching while sleeping.

The main symptom associated with lice is an itchy head. If you see somebody consistently scratching their head especially around the ears or nape of the neck, you might want to inspect for lice. Lice infestation can be confirmed by the presence of a louse egg (nit) stuck to the hair. Louse are adult lice that lay their eggs at the base of the hair shaft (about ¼ inch from the scalp). Adult louse are about the same size as a sesame seed and the eggs are the size of a tiny seed. Eggs can sometimes be confused with "dandruff", but dandruff can be easily brushed off the hair, where lice eggs cannot.

If you confirm a lice infestation, you can start the process of eliminating the lice. First, inspect all family members to confirm who does and doesn't have lice. Only treat those who have an active lice infestation. It is not recommended to treat the whole family "just in case" they might have lice.

To treat lice, purchase an over the counter lice treatment kit and follow the packaging instructions. There are 2 kits available for purchase, Rid® and Nix®. Of the 2, Nix® wins my recommendation.

1. Nix® (permethrin): Kills adult lice, but not the unhatched eggs. Remains working for several days, so might kill newly hatched lice. Treatment should be repeated in 7-10 days to kill any new lice that might have hatched. Safe for use in age greater than 2 months. This is the most effective over the counter agent for killing lice since it continues to kill lice even after it's rinsed out, it's safe for use in infants, and it's not associated with allergies.

2. Rid®(pyrethrin): Kills adult lice, but not the unhatched eggs. Treatment should be repeated in 7-10 days to kill any new lice that might have hatched. Safe for use in people age 2+. Should not be used if you have a ragweed or chrysanthemums allergy.

General instructions for use: Wash hair with shampoo only (no conditioner). After towel drying hair, apply Nix® or Rid® paying special attention to the back of the ears and nape of the neck. Let sit in hair for 10 minutes, then rinse out. Try not to wash your hair for the next 2 days because some of the medicine remains on the hair and continues to kill newly hatched lice (Nix® only). After rinsing, separate hair into 1 inch sections and begin the process of removing the unhatched eggs (this is the most tedious, but most important part). Wash and machine dry bedding, hats, coats, clothing, etc on the warmest cycle, and throw away hair brushes. Vacuum all furniture and carpets and avoid using pesticide sprays that are marketed for lice prevention as they are unnecessary and can be dangerous if inhaled. Lice do not like heat so it may be extra beneficial to blow dry and flat iron hair. Repeat lice treatment in 7-10 days.

If live louse are noticed on the hair after a 2nd treatment, do not repeat with a 3rd treatment. If live louse are still present, the lice might be resistant to the treatment and you will need to go to a doctor to get a prescription lice shampoo.

Thank you for reading!



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STU'S STAR STUFF



The celestial scorpion

The celestial scorpion curves above the southern horizon as night falls on summer evenings, with the bright orange star Antares as its bright heart.

Antares is one of the most impressive stars in the galaxy; a supergiant that's destined to explode as a supernova any day now. But a fainter star that stands close to its right is pretty impressive, too. Sigma Scorpii consists of four stars, at least one of which will also end its life with a giant bang.

Two of Sigma Scorpii's stars form a tight pair their surfaces are separated by about half the distance from Earth to the Sun. They're so close together that even the biggest telescopes see them as a single pinpoint of light. But instruments that break the light into its individual wavelengths detect the presence of two stars, not one.

Both stars are much bigger, brighter, and heavier than our Sun. Their details have proved a bit elusive, but a recent study found that the dominant member of the pair is about 14 times as massive as the Sun and about eight times the Sun's diameter. Its companion is smaller and lighter, but still a stunner.

The heavier star is almost certain to explode as a supernova sometime in the next few million years. But the companion's fate is less certain. The star is near the mass limit for a star that will become a supernova. Above that limit, it goes boom. Below it, the star sheds its outer layers, leaving its hot, dense core a dead star known as a white dwarf, as likely our own Sun's fate.

What else is out there?

The two brightest objects in the night sky other than the Moon will stand side by side at dawn tomorrow like a pair of headlights. They're quite low in the eastern sky, though, so you need a clear horizon to see them. That likely means no dice for us down here in the hole.

Regardless, Venus is the brighter of the two. It's on the far side of the Sun, and is preparing to pass behind the Sun this fall. So right now, most of the hemisphere that faces our way is awash in sunlight. Seen through a telescope, the planet looks like an almost-full Moon. Unlike the Moon, though, Venus isn't brightest when it's full because that's when it's farthest from Earth.

Over the next few weeks, Venus will gradually drop lower into the dawn twilight as its orbit carries it behind the Sun. It'll get lost in the Sun's glare by late September or early October.

Jupiter stands just a whisker to the right or upper right of Venus just now. It's heading in the opposite direction, away from the Sun. Over the coming months, it'll rise a few minutes earlier each day, and stand a little higher in the sky at the first blush of twilight. By the time Venus disappears from view in early autumn, Jupiter will be standing half-way up the sky at first light, ready to dazzle skywatchers throughout the fall and winter.

Look for Venus and Jupiter in the east-northeast at first light. Also look for the scorpion low above the south shore all night long. Enjoy the show. It's always free.

Next week, a star here on Earth. Hmmm ... didn't I say that last week? This time I really mean it.

~Stu Spratt

Celebrating 50 Years at Birch Lake

The Moon for this Saturday

(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)

Illuminated Fraction: 0.319

1.8 days after last quarter



Sunrise: 7:00am

Sunset: 8:33pm

Moonrise: 5:15am

Moonset: 7:17pm

Day length: 13h 34m

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YOUR HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19) You've been in party mode for a while and it's been fun. Now it's time to pull your act together. You will want to become more efficient and more effective in everything you do. Many of you will make a 'To-Do' list and be eager to accomplish a lot. Give yourself the right tools to do a good job because it makes things easier and always get a better result. Set your standards high because in effect, you're working to improve your life.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) While many feel the need to get more focused and pull their act together, ironically, you are going to slip into serious party mode! If you can slip away on a vacation in the next month you will love it. Many of you are involved in music which means you will love the chance to express your creative talents in the next 4 to 6 weeks. Enjoy movies, the theatre, sports events, the arts, cultural events and musical performances. Romance will flourish as well!

Gemini (May 21-June 20) Your attention shifts to home, family and your domestic scene. This might mean family reunions and increased interaction with relatives. However, this month will also offer a chance to cocoon at home and enjoy quiet moments in familiar surroundings. You can use this month to replenish and restore yourself, which is a good idea because October will be full of social engagements and plans to have fun.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) Fasten your seatbelt for a busy month ahead! Your schedule will be jam-packed with people to see, places to go and things to do. Short trips will be a factor along with increased study, reading and writing. You're keen to talk to others because you want to enlighten them. You're full of bright, clever ideas you want to share. One reason, you might be wheeling and dealing is

you see financial opportunities you want to explore.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) This is an excellent time to shop for wardrobe treasures because you feel good about yourself. The month ahead will be focused on money, cash flow and earnings as well as your possessions. It's time to take stock. Do a reality check. At a deeper level, ponder your values and what matters in life. It's important to define what matters to you, so that you can make the right choices.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) This will be a fortunate time for you because when the Sun is in your sign (this happens only once a year for four weeks) it has the ability to attract favorable situations and important people to you. Make the most of this. Go after what you want because it now lends energy to all your communications - including your writing.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You will welcome the chance to enjoy the creativity of others, especially younger artistic types. Nevertheless, you can't be all things to all people all of the time. This means that the month ahead is a good time to pull in your reins and get some serious R&R. Grab every opportunity to seek solutions so that you can start to plan your new year ahead (from birthday to birthday).

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Prepare for a popular month ahead because everyone is going to want to see your face. Just accept this and go with the flow. Invitations to clubs, organizations, parties and social events will pour in. Say yes, because it will benefit you to interact with others. In fact, the month ahead is a good time to share your hopes and dreams for the future with others because their feedback will help you. Don't work in a vacuum. Get the benefit of think-tank discussions where ideas build to new levels with new perspectives and vistas.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) People in authority (as well as others) see you as competent, desirable and talented. This is an excellent time for you to think about your life direction in general. Are you headed in the direction you want to go? You are a forward thinking sign who is always planning your future. Meanwhile, travel for pleasure looks sweet.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You will have an exciting month ahead because you will make it so. Suddenly, you're keen to travel and explore more of the world because you want adventure and a sense of being alive and getting the most out of life. By all means travel if you can, but the coming month is also perfect for signing up for a course or undertaking studies that broaden your understanding of anything. Explore opportunities in publishing, the media, medicine and the law.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You will find that the coming month is more intense and primarily focused in two directions: Sex and money. Physical relationships will be powerful and transformative - for sure. But you will feel equally as intense about taxes, debt, inheritances and shared property because you want to sort these things out. Your ambition is strong now Think like an executive: Decide quickly and get someone else to do the work.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) During the next four weeks, you will need more sleep. Factoid. Respect your need for more rest. Meanwhile, this polarized position of the Sun will focus your attention on partnerships and close friendships. Examine them to see how they add up in your life. For a relationship to be successful, you must be as good for your partner as he or she is for you. And remember, a rich partner is wonderful labor saving device.

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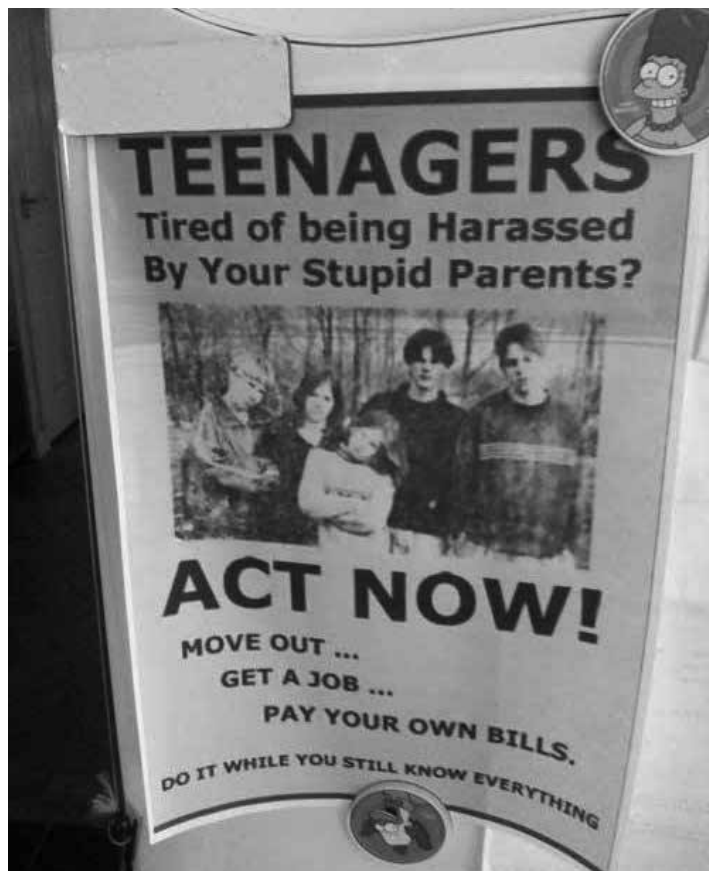


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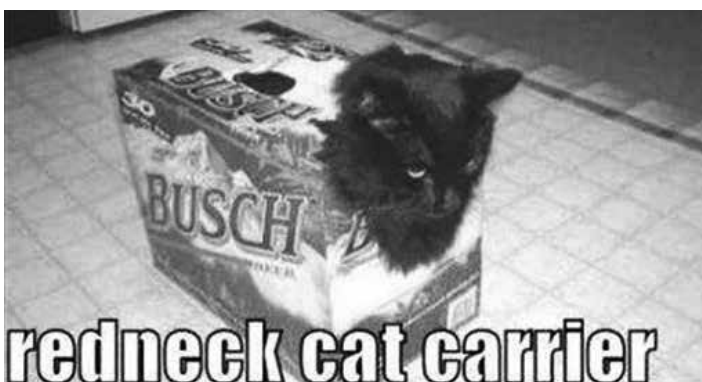
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 amvine@aol.com
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 mcsheff@aol.com
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 Chas.grundy@gmail.com
 Greg Bolin (W)..... 476-2420
 gbolin31@aol.com
 Ed Chester (E)..... 476-1010
 ed@chesterlawoffice.com

Harold Cranmer (W) 574-264-6817
 dhcranmer@yahoo.com
 Terry Dugan (S) 476-2814
 s581122@aol.com
 Celia Fallon (E) 476-1467
 celia.fallon@gmail.com
 Pam Mullin (N) 476-1080
 Classegirl1@comcast.net
 Steve Quinlan (W) 476-8802
 stevequinlan2@yahoo.com
 Vickie Rogers (C) 476-2383
 tvrogers@frontier.com
 Rick Russwurm (N) 476-2407
 paramountp@aol.com
 Scott Troeger (E) 476-9898
 scott.troeger@btlaw.com
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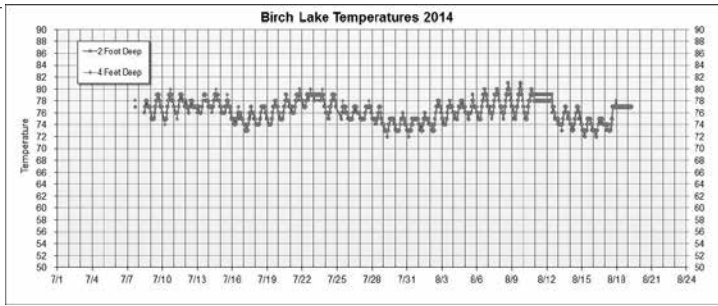
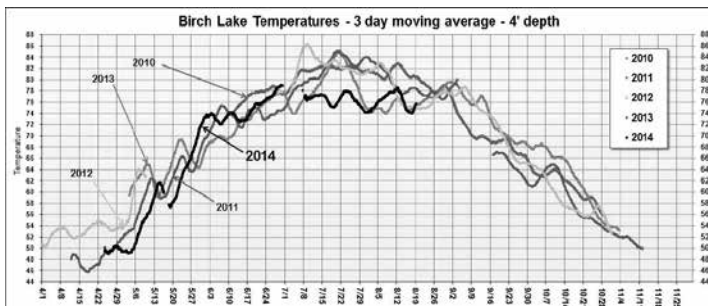
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 abec3@aol.com
 Phil Vitale (E)..... 476-1680
 sailorphil@philvitale.com
 Sue Williams (S) 476-8886
 smwillia@comcast.net

NON-DIRECTOR ATTENDEES:

Jim Bolinger BLYC Homeowners' Association Chairman (E)..... 476-9737
 debo36@comcast.net
 Paul Fallon, BLYC Water Quality Committee Chairman (E) 476-1467
 paulf@hrpconstruction.com
 Deb Spratt (N)
 debspratt@cressyandeverett.com

Upcoming Board Meetings
 August 9, September 6
 all board meetings begin at 9 am

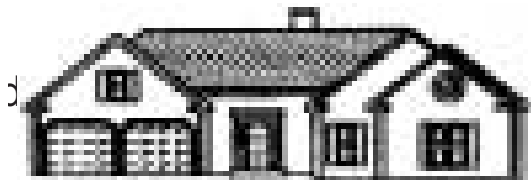
Birch Lake Water Temperature



Temps provided by Steve Quinlan

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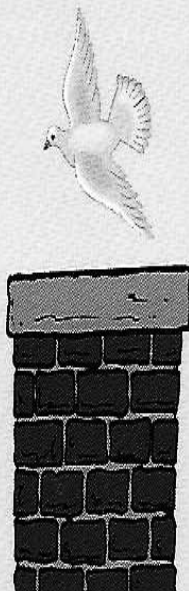
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Birch Barker Word Search

What the BLYC did in 2014

Find each of the following words.

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WATER QUALITY
LADIES ON THE LAKE
PANCAKE BREAKFAST
FIREWORKS
CORN AND SAUSAGE
COMMODORES PARTY
HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION
WATER TESTING
MOWTOWN NIGHT

TURTLE RACES
BOAT PARADE
BIRCH BARKER
FALL DINNER
WEED SURVEY
LADIES GOLF
PEOPLES REGATTA
BOARD MEETINGS
MENS GOLF
CAMP T HOG ROAST

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~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

Double Tomato Bruschetta

Bruschetta is a traditional Italian item in which small slices of bread are topped with such things as tomato, basil, and mozzarella cheese, as is the case in this delightful recipe.

This is a delicious and easy appetizer. The balsamic vinegar gives it a little bite. Dried basil can be substituted but it is best with fresh.

PREP 15 mins
COOK 7 mins
READY IN 35 mins

INGREDIENTS:

6 Roma (plum) tomatoes, chopped
1/2 cup sun-dried tomatoes, packed in oil

3 cloves minced garlic
1/4 cup olive oil
2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
1/4 cup fresh basil, stems removed
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
1 French baguette
2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese

DIRECTIONS:

6 Roma (plum) tomatoes, chopped
1/2 cup sun-dried tomatoes, packed in oil
3 cloves minced garlic
1/4 cup olive oil
2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
1/4 cup fresh basil, stems



removed
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
1 French baguette
2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese



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— Camp Tannadoonah —

Camp summer officially closed

The 2014 summer at Camp Tannadoonah has officially come to a close. We finished the season at camp with our 6th annual Hog Roast event at camp. It was a blast!

About 200 people came out for the Hog Roast and enjoyed a wonderful afternoon. The food was awesome, the weather turned out great, and the band was really spectacular, too. I hope that everyone who attended enjoyed their evening!

The Hog Roast is our annual event to thank all of the people who make Camp Fire and Camp Tannadoonah successful throughout the year. This includes our staff, our volunteers, donors, and most importantly the campers who attend camp! We are so grateful for everything that people do to help at camp, from volunteering their time, donating funds and goods, working at camp, and sending their children to us for a week.

This year was a banner year for camp on all fronts. We had a record number of campers attend, and a great group of staff and volunteers to serve them.

We also had a great year in terms of fundraising, which allowed us to make a number of improvements to the camp facilities. These included renovations on the shower house building, with new tile, better ventilation, shower dividers for the boys' side, new lighting, new sinks, and new urinals.

We also upgraded the "adventure" cabins (Rotary, Exchange, Exchangettes, and Luta Koda), with the addition of interior pine siding, and electricity. We also did some substantial work on Main Lodge, with a new roof, lots of cleaning, Internet boosters, and new furniture for the staff. Major work was done at the waterfront, as well, to improve the drainage and fix the seawall.

This fall we have a lot of other updates and renovations on the slate. Before you receive your Barker on Friday, we'll have taken down a number of trees around camp that were identified this summer as likely to come down in the near future. And in a few weeks we will be tearing down the store porch, and building a com-

pletely new porch and roof. It will be expanded out about 4 feet to make a better space for campers to gather and for programming to take place.

Not only that, but we've already launched registrations for NEXT summer! The email went out on Tuesday, with next year's dates and themes posted. This is by far the earliest we've ever opened up registration (the previous earliest was in November!). We're excited to see if we can replicate this summer's amazing numbers next year.

We have lots of events happening at camp this fall, too. The first thing on the calendar is Fall Camp, which is scheduled for September 12-14. Then we have 2 weddings, a family retreat weekend, and 2 service group weekends booked for the weekends at the end of September and early October. Just about every weekend is booked this year!

It's been a great summer, and we're looking forward to all the awesome stuff coming this fall!

~contact Miss Amber at
amber@tannadoonah.org



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Crafts for sale: Do you need a

baby gift? Bridal shower gift? Hostess gift? or just something to brighten up your own kitchen? I have several baby afghans for sale, crocheted dish rags, and decorated dish towels, crocheted doilies. I have ear warmers and boot cuffs to keep you toasty warm when that beautiful white stuff starts to fall again. All price ranges wonderful gift ideas Please call Staci Whiteman (south side in front of yacht club) at 269-816-5755 to see my items

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2 bedroom cottage on west side of Birch Lake for rent. \$650/week, call 476-2744

3 BR lakeside cottage for rent. \$850/week. Contact Ilene at 574-360-8766

LOST & FOUND

LOST - **prescription sunglasses**, gold aviator style. I lost them either at the turtle races, or on the west side. If you find them, please call Tricia Zoller @ 773-230-4521. Thanks!

FOUND: A square piece of **blue foam** floated up to our pier for a visit, its name is Bouwkamp and address is S 100. Please pick up your visitor at your convenience. It is sunbathing on the east shore, cottage 63418.

FOUND: at the intersection of Walnut Road and Harvey, a **ring of keys**. Call 269-476-1145.



Does anyone recognize this **love-seat/chair**? It washed up on our shore after a storm on July 22nd. It is sitting on Pat and Sue Williams' shore (south side) waiting for its owners to come claim it. 476-8886

During a recent storm we lost our **zipper pouch that holds out canopy for our Sweetwater pontoon.** The word Sweetwater is in white, and the rest is a reddish color. Reward offered ... two tickets to Singin' and Dancin' into the Holidays, 2014.

MISC.

I do **sewing and mending** at fair

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HELP WANTED

Camp Fire River Bend, and Camp Tannadoonah a growing Michiana based youth development non-profit with club programs, is seeking **volunteers to assist in our Fundraising, Marketing, and Finance Committees and to serve on our board.** Please contact us at info@riverbendcampfire.org or at 574-387-6095.

WANTED

Camp needs a ski boat. If someone has one and wants to donate it or sell cheap. Skiing is a real camper hit.

Work wanted: **looking for house cleaning and yard work jobs.** Contact Becky Beers at 269-476-1145 or 269-445-7584

CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified advertising in the Birch Bark-er is free to members of the Birch Lake Yacht Club (subject to the approval of the editor and the BLYC Board of directors), and \$5 per ad for non-members (please pay in advance). To submit an ad, email it to **Sailorphil@philvitale**



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(\$10 / year)

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

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

\$____ - Building Improvement Fund

\$____ - Fireworks Fund

\$____ - Water Quality Program

\$____ - Milfoil/Loosestrife Eradication

\$____ - Safety Committee

\$____ - Other non-party related expenses

\$____ - BLYC Roof Fund

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