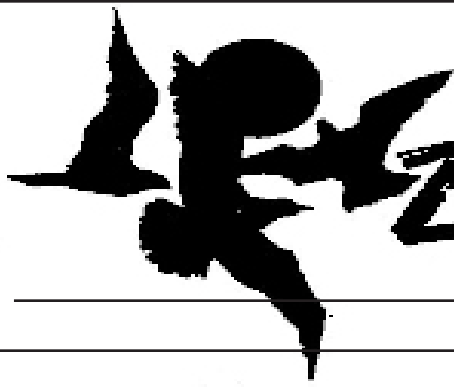


The
weekend
Of

May 27
2017

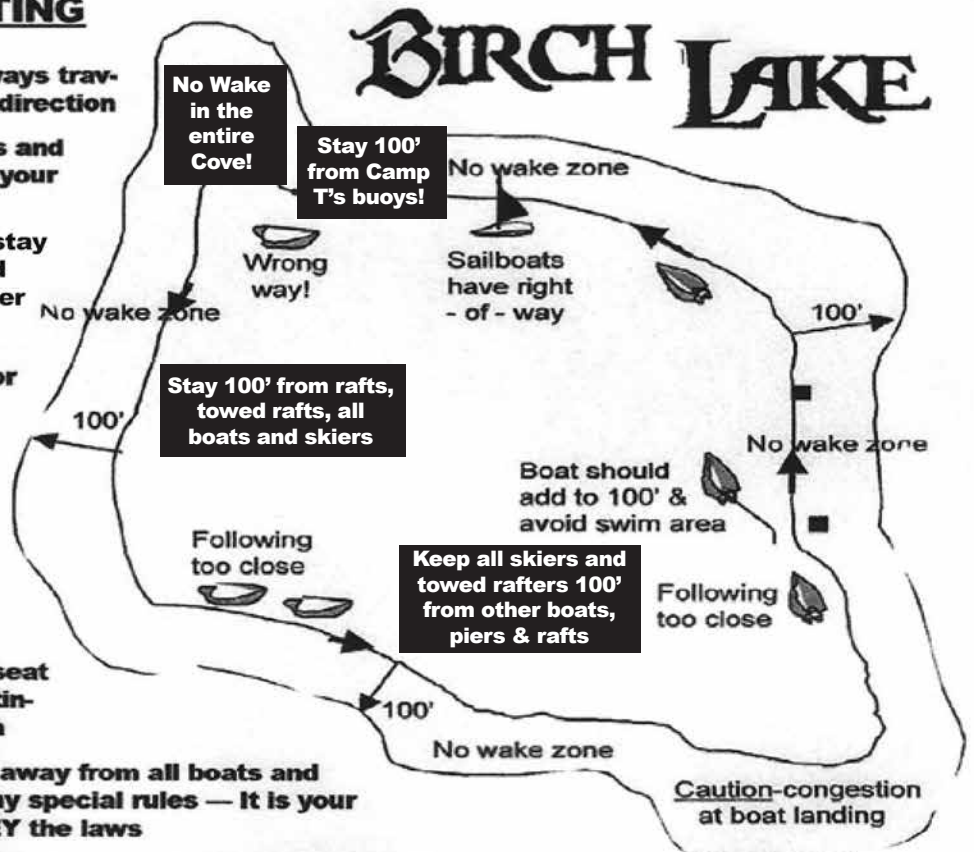


Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the
Birch Lake Yacht Club

COMMON SENSE BOATING

- * No matter what your speed, always travel in a **COUNTER CLOCK-WISE** direction
- * Go **SLOW** near other boats, rafts and shore. You are responsible for your wake.
- * Take your time and give room - stay **100'** from shore, other boats and rafts when you are travelling over wake speed
- * When pulling someone on skis or a tube, you **MUST** have an observer. Watch out for other boats and be sure to add the length of your tow line to the 100' clearance rule
- * There must be one **USCG-approved LIFE JACKET** for every person on board, as well as one throwable device (seat cushion, etc.), a horn, a fire extinguisher, and a valid registration
- * **PWCs (Jet Skis)** must stay **100'** away from all boats and other PWCs. Jet skis have many special rules — It is your responsibility to know and **OBEY** the laws
- * Be responsible for everyone on your boat — safety is **NO ACCIDENT!**



COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

So let the summer begin! Our first yacht club board meeting, spring road clean up, and the Spring Dinner have already taken place. The board has lots of exciting things planned for you this summer. Please check the schedule of events in this Barker because many events are coming up such as the Commodore/Vice Commodore party at the yacht club on Saturday, June 10. All are welcome to this fun get together of fellow Birch Lakers. Bring an appetizer or dessert and share in the camaraderie. June also hosts the delectable Spaghetti Dinner on June 24. The West side has already started preparations for this fun event!

If you want to stay organized, Birch Lake is having a lake wide garage sale on June 10. If you would like to participate and get rid of any no longer needed items please contact coordinator Staci Whiteman at 269-816-5755.

We are also currently looking for any exercise leaders to join in a group led class for fellow Birch Lakers. If interested send an email to claudia2154@gmail.com.

I want to officially thank our own Jim Bolinger for his past services in keeping the yacht club clean. Jim has retired his mop and broom and angel Bob Waddle has agreed to take over the job. We appreciate these volunteers who keep the BLYC in ship shape!

Last week was the Spring Dinner with 90 in attendance. It was a tasty, wonderful, relaxed, fun filled night. Many connections were made and strengthened. Buzz Rasmussen topped the night off with his fantastic Birch Lake sunrise photography in DVD form. As a Birch Lake fundraiser, Buzz made DVDs which are available for \$15. Contact Buzz or myself for a copy. If there are any left over we may have them for sale at the club events. If not, it may be possible to place an order! There are a lot of people to thank for contributing to the excellence of this lake. In the Spring Dinner speech I tried to cover just a portion of those who deserve our appreciation. Following is a portion of that speech:

I have a formula for happiness that I would like to share with you. Birch Lake has a lot to do with that formula. The acronym is P O T C H.

1. Passion: Make sure you follow your passion. We see a lot of people's

2017 Birch Lake Calendar

Birch Lake Garage Sale - June 10
Commodore/ Vice Comm Party - June 10
Spaghetti Dinner - June 24
Fireworks - July 1
Fireworks rain date - July 2
Ladies Golf Outing - July 21
Mens Golf Outing July 28
Corn and Sausage Roast - July 29
Fall Dinner August 26
Soup Challenge - October 14

Board of Directors Meetings:
May 6, June 3, July 8, August 5, Sept. 9

More info as available.; Dates subject to change; Watch the Online Barker for 2017 schedule when available and for updates!

passions at Birch: Sailing, Kayaking, Skiing, fishing, walking, boating, etc.

2. Outdoors: Spend time with nature.

3. Thanks: Be thankful for your friends and neighbors and for what you see and for what you have.

4. Community: Research shows that people who have a sense of community live longer and are happier. We are so lucky to have our Birch Lake commu-

The Birch Barker is always accepting materials for publication. Please E-mail your materials to sailorphil@philvitale.com, or put the items in the stone newspaper/mailbox at my home, 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore). Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want photos or other materials returned. To contact me by phone, call (269) 476-1680, or contact Commodore Claudia Phipps at 476-7073 or email claudia2154@gmail.com. ~Phil V

— Birch Lake Notes —

nity. I believe the Yacht club functions and the Birch Barker are the two biggest ongoing contributors to the success and high quality of our lake. We inherited a winning formula and we need to support it any way we can for us and for those who follow us. I want to thank the BLYC board of directors, present, past, and future. I want to thank the event chairs and volunteers who head up our events; I want to thank the Yacht Club members who lend their support. I want to thank all of those who have helped with the making and distribution of the Barker, including our wonderful editor Phil Vitale.

5. Health - Take care of yourself. We have had a lot of passings this year and we have a lot of people dealing with health issues. We pray for our Birch Lake families. It reminds us that Life is short and we need to take notice of the love in this room.

Hope you can get out there and enjoy the lake this weekend, but please be safe! Let's watch out for each other so we can all enjoy our common backyard!

-Commodore Claudia

Boat Parade Help Wanted!

The Yacht Club is seeking new volunteers to plan and oversee the Annual Birch Lake Boat Parade. The current chairs are Sue and Bob Waddle, who have decided to retire after this summer's parade. They were hoping for



Just a small park my shipmates and I stumbled across in Key West, Florida on a recent vacation ... don't know if it is named after our west-side Bill Butler.

someone to volunteer, who has a better understanding of the world we now live in. The Waddles would welcome any new volunteers and invite them to participate in the planning for this year's parade. Please call 269-476-2293. Operators are standing by.

High speed Internet project

Birch Lake is part of the Jones zone

for the high-speed Internet construction project by Midwest Energy. This zone is currently in 5th place, at 35 percent of its goal. Midwest Energy is looking for approximately 451 more sign ups before they will begin construction in our area for 2018. The more sign ups they receive in our zone the more quickly construction will begin. Spread the word! Advise friends and family to sign up on [teamfi-](#)

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Have you seen the stunning new stamped-concrete compass rose at the Birch Lake Yacht Club?

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— Birch Lake Notes —



Pat McGann (east side) submitted this photo for some Birch Lake neighbors on Harvey Street.

ber.com. Signing up there does not commit you to anything it just shows that there is interest in the fiber service.

Township News

At its May 9, 2017 meeting,, the Porter Township Board enacted an ordinance prohibiting permanent docks and dredging at Birch Lake.

Sailing news

NBC Sports Group will present more than 40 hours of coverage of the 2017 America's Cup from Bermuda across NBC, NBCSN and the NBC Sports app, beginning this Friday, May 26, with coverage of the Louis Vuitton America's Cup Qualifiers on NBCSN.

In addition, the NBCSN and the NBC Sports app will provide comprehensive coverage of the Louis Vuitton America's Cup Qualifiers and Challenger Playoffs through Monday, June 12. The first races of the final stage of competition in the 35th America's Cup, the America's Cup Match, presented by Louis Vuitton will take place on Saturday, June 17, at 1 pm ET on NBC.

Advertising in the Birch Barker

Advertising is always welcome in the Birch Barker. All money paid goes to support Birch Lake Yacht Club events and activities, and everyone who helps produce and distribute the Barker are unpaid volunteers.

Display style ads are produced as "modular" ads in 1/8 page, 1/4 page, 1/2 page or full page increments. Rates for an ad for any part or the entire season are: \$65 for 1/8 page; \$130 for 1/4 page; \$260 for 1/2 page; and \$560 for a full page.

Classified advertising in the Barker is free for BLYC members or \$5/week for non members.

To place an ad contact Barker Editor Phil Vitale at onlinebarker@gmail.com or sailorphil@philvitale.com, mail or put the ad materials in the stone mailbox at 63174 Birch Rd. (east side), Vandalia, MI 49095, or, as a last resort, call me at 269-476-1680.



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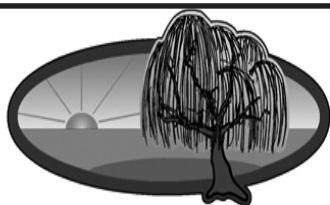
— Birch Lake Notes —



Thanks to our Birch Lake Artist Duffy Dufor for the great artwork!

Sympathies

Our sympathies to the families of long-time Birch Lakers Earl Troeger and William "Bill" Lloyd, both of whom died in early May. At left is a photo sent in by Bob King (north side) of one of Earl's many sailing trophies from the Yacht Club.



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Elizabeth Carey and Steve Decker -- Sold our home on Indiana Lake

"Vickie is an extremely dedicated professional who will make you feel like you are her top priority. She can grasp complicated situations easily, explain them to you accurately, and then wisely advise you as to what to do. We found her knowledgeable in many areas and helpful in many ways beyond her obligations as a Realtor. You will enjoy working with this personable, warm, trustworthy lady who will take the stress and strain of buying and selling a home off your shoulders and put them onto hers."

Amanda North Druckeniller "Working with Vickie to sell our home was a pleasure! Our home sat on the market for a year with another realtor. We switched to Vickie and had an offer within a month! Vickie is prompt, professional and very knowledgeable in her field. I strongly recommend her for your realty needs!"

Tom Davidson -- Top qualities: Personable, Expert, High Integrity

"Vickie did an excellent job in finding a house in Michigan that represented what I was looking for. She also was instrumental in providing detailed information on the history of my property and several adjacent Birch Lake properties which along with her knowledge of building regulations allowed me to obtain a reduction in property taxes. She is dependable, knowledgeable, and follows through. I would highly recommend her."

Tony Clark -- Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres

"Vickie is the hardest working and most knowledgeable Realtor I have ever known. I have flipped about 7 properties. She sold my partner's house on Eagle Lake in a couple of weeks. While another Realtor had the listing for 9 months. She helped with taxes, inspections and legal transfers that were outside of her realm of duties."

See more at www.VickieHall.info under the "resources" tab

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Quotes to ponder on Memorial Day

Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty. - **John F. Kennedy**

Soldier, rest! Thy warfare o'er,
Sleep the sleep that knows not breaking, Dream of
battled fields no more. Days of danger, nights of
waking. - **Sir Walter Scott**

Four things support the world: the learning of the
wise, the justice of the great, the prayers of the
good, and the valor of the brave. - **Muham-
mad**

And each man stands with his face in the light of
his own drawn sword. Ready to do what a hero
can. - **Elizabeth Barrett Browning**

In valor there is hope. - **Publius Cornelius
Tacitus**

Valor is a gift. Those having it never know for sure
whether they have it till the test comes. And those
having it in one test never know for sure if they will
have it when the next test comes. - **Napoleon
Bonaparte**

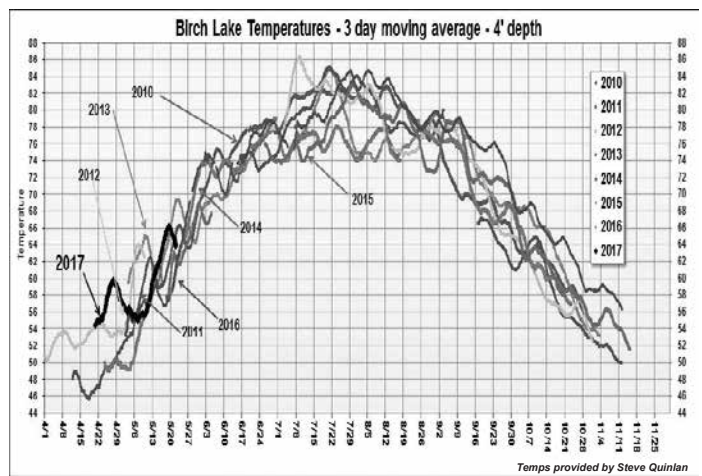
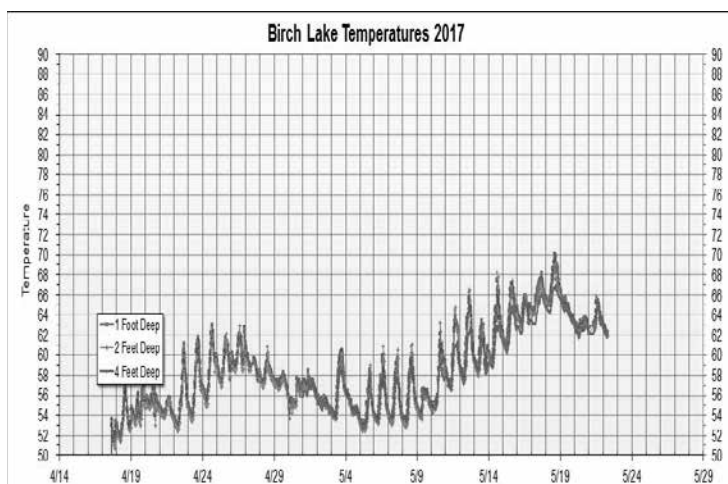
Bravery is the capacity to perform properly even
when scared half to death. - **Omar Bradley**

It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died.
Rather we should thank God that such men lived.
- **George S. Patton**

All we have of freedom, all we use or know -
This our fathers bought for us long and long ago.
- **Rudyard Kipling**

I have never been able to think of the day as
one of mourning; I have never quite been able
to feel that half-masted flags were appropriate
on Decoration Day. I have rather felt that the flag
should be at the peak, because those whose dy-
ing we commemorate rejoiced in seeing it where
their valor placed it. We honor them in a joyous,
thankful, triumphant commemoration of what they
did. - **Benjamin Harrison**

Birch Lake Water Temperature



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— BLYC Spring Dinner —



Photos by
Claudia
Phipps

Invaders threaten butterflies

Swallow-wort has been reported in small populations in Southwest Michigan since 2012, and is still being found in new areas. This invasive creeping vine grows very quickly and very densely, meaning that it can swamp and smother other vegetation and trees. It also is poisonous to monarch butterflies, which are attracted to the vine because of its distinctive seed pods. The butterflies will lay eggs on the vine, but the larvae will be poisoned when they hatch, killing entire generations of the butterflies. Because of this, it is highly encouraged to manage populations as soon as they are found.

The SWxSW Corner Collaborative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA) is a grant-funded program to manage invasive species in Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren Counties. With funding from the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program, the CISMA aims to help landowners and stakeholders in Southwest Michigan manage invasive species. If you believe you've seen swallow-worts, report to the Midwest Invasive Species Information Network (MISIN) at misin.msu.edu. If you have questions contact the Cass County Conservation District at 445-8641 ext. 5 or Kimberly.barton@macd.org. If you're interested in volunteering for the Cass County Conservation District please contact Korie Blyveis at korie.blyveis@macd.org or at 445-8641.



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Sailing is on the horizon!

Well it has been eight months since you have seen a large group of sail boats racing around Birch Lake. As the official start of summer, we are planning on starting our sailing races for the year. I am hoping for Sunday at our usual time of 11 am, depending on wind and weather. We will be doing just one day (3) races. If Sunday doesn't work we will try for Monday, which might give some people some time to get their

boats ready and in the water.

We are also looking for committee boat participants to help start and tally the final results from the races. If that is something you would like to help us on please contact "Bad Patty" Luecht or myself! We would love to have your help for a great Sunday morning experience.

Until Next week,

"SPlice THE MAIN BRACE."

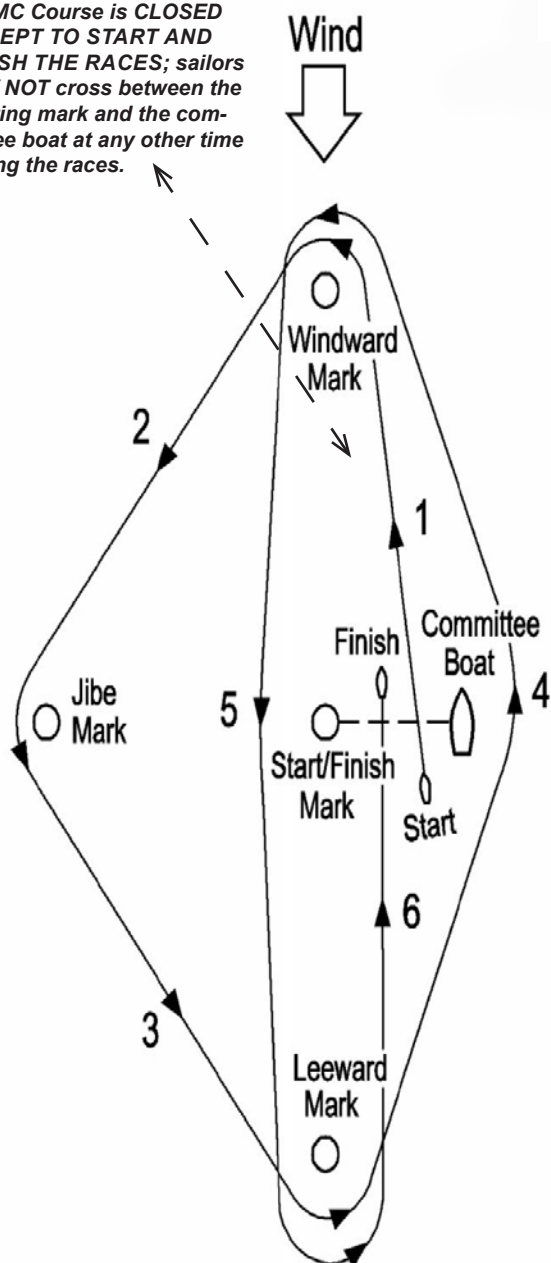
~Fleet Captain Mike



BLYC sailing courses for MC and Sunfish

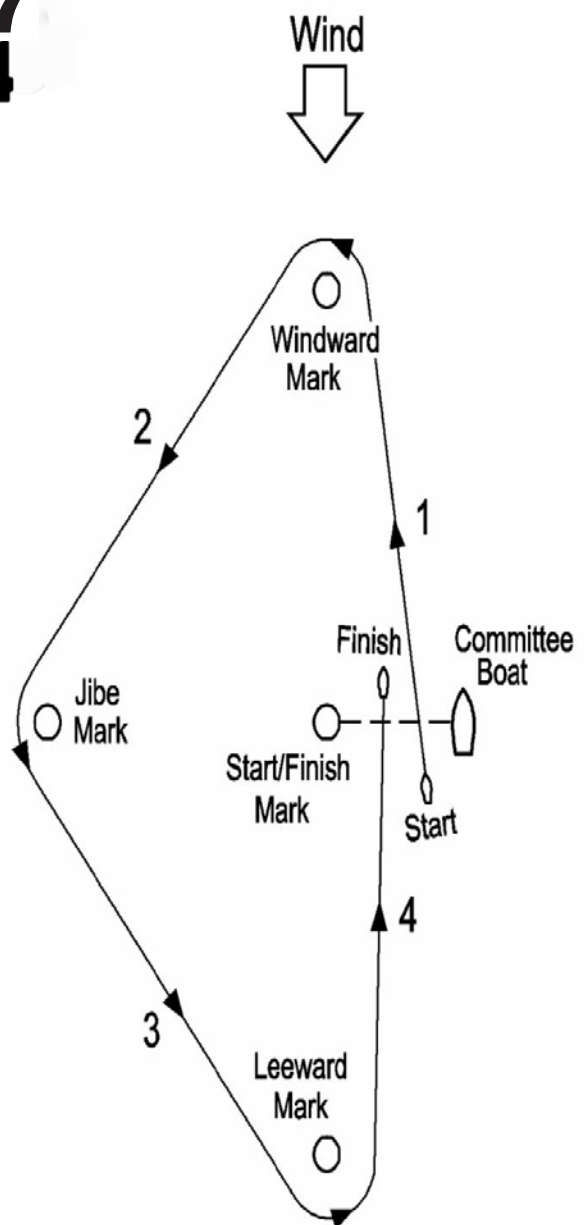
Note: The Start/Finish line of the MC Course is CLOSED EXCEPT TO START AND FINISH THE RACES; sailors MAY NOT cross between the starting mark and the committee boat at any other time during the races.

**2017
2014**



MC Course

Marks to Port (Mirror Image for Marks to Starboard)
Legs 4 and 5 cannot cross the start/finish line, but they can go around either end of the line.



Sunfish Course

Marks to Port (Mirror Image for Marks to Starboard)

— Barker Kids of the Week —



Lyla, Greta, Clara Boecher, the granddaughters of Rick and Patti Russwurm (north side) participated in a Junior Achievement Lemonade stand project (that grandpa Rick helped them build) in downtown Elkhart last weekend. The lemonade was yummy and despite the less-than-summer-like weather, the girls seemed to be having fun.



Thanks to Bob King for sending in the pics of the two tiny turtles ... just in time to celebrate Global Turtle Day (either May 23 or May 26, depending on which source you use). Featured in Chase's Book of Annual Events, Global Turtle Day was created as an annual observance to help people celebrate and protect turtles and tortoises and their disappearing habitats around the world.



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— Barker Kids of the Week —



In his youth, Spencer Reinhardt spent many fun filled summers at Grampa and Gramma's (Zesinger) Birch Lake house (east side). A year ago Spencer received his undergraduate degree from Notre Dame

Recently he received his masters of science in accountancy from the Mendoza College of Business at Notre Dame. He is the first double domer in his family.

Spencer has accepted a position with Price, Waterhouse, Cooper, Inc. He will be working in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Congrats Spencer!

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is seldom
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— Water Quality Report —

The Water Quality Committee (WQC) operates under the auspices of the Birch Lake Yacht Club. The members of the committee are appointed by the Yacht Club board, and all activities are funded by the Yacht Club through funds donated by the lake community. Current members are Rick Russwurm, Gordon Seyfarth, Terry Dugan, Bruce Wagner, Peter Saldato and Paul Fallon. If you are interested in participating, please let one of us know. Hopefully, the more the merrier.

The committee meets collectively at least twice a year to evaluate data gathered through monitoring activity and actions we have taken (especially regarding invasive species). We discuss additional strategies for evaluation of the lake, training we might need, contractor activities, and funding that may be required. All requests for funding are made at open Yacht Club Board meetings. Reports on lake status and activities are made at open Yacht Club Board meetings. Additionally information is also reported to the lake community through the Birch Barker.

Two primary activities of the WQC have been: 1) the monitoring of a variety of chemical, physical, and biological features of the lake both during the season and from year to year, and 2) the surveying, mapping, determining and executing of treatment strategies for invasive species. The latter is done in concert with outside specialist firms skilled in this work.

The monitoring of the different chemical, physical, and biological features of the lake is really a study in the developing productivity or aging of the lake. These monitoring activities are conducted through the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP) which is a subdivision of the Michigan Clean Water Corps (MiCorps). MiCorps is a State authorized volunteer monitoring agency funded by the DEQ. The CLMP is the second oldest volunteer monitoring program in the US. We participate through the Michigan Lakes and Streams organization of which we are a member. The volunteer program permits the continued evaluation of hundreds of inland lakes to provide information to the individual lakes as well as to have a State global basis of information, all on a yearly basis. All volunteers who do the monitoring are trained and effectively certified so that the data obtained is considered reliable. For years this monitoring was conducted by Gert and Bob Temple, and their family. Most of the sampling now is done by Terry Dugan. He has also worked twice with DEQ staff on side by sides to ensure quality of the sampling. A good way to look at the data for 2016 and to see it in perspective with some prior years is to go to <https://micorps.net/lake-monitoring/individual-lake-reports/>. On this site you can look up Birch Lake and there will be some descriptive information as well as graphs putting 2016 in context with prior years. Additionally, if curious you

can also look at other lakes. We will be further reporting on this data and what it might mean as the season proceeds.

Currently we know of at least 3 invasive species that visit Birch Lake each year. Bruce Wagner surveys the lake each year for purple loosestrife, a nasty shoreline invasive species. If you have not seen purple loosestrife on the lake, that is because of Bruce. He sees it and it is gone. Rick Russwurm works with our outside contractors in surveying, mapping, and treatment of the lake for Eurasian milfoil, the primary plant invasive species. A report on the status of this yearly project will be in a future Barker. Unfortunately, this is not a species we can eradicate.

Through the actions we have taken and through the funding provided by the lake community it has been truly managed to a relatively insignificant pest. However, should we cease this management, it would spread widely and quickly around the lake. We are also monitoring a third invasive species that sprouts at Birch Lake each year, curly leaf pondweed, that fortunately to date has not required any treatment. Also, we are under constant threat from other invasive species. Eagle Lake has a significant issue with Starry stonewort and with boats going from lake to lake we would not be surprised to see other species on the lake that may have to be dealt with. There are many reasons why funding and diligence are necessary.

More on all of this later.

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STU'S STAR STUFF



DANGER WILL ROBINSON!!!!

Fans of the mid 1960's show, Lost in Space, will recall that the cast was marooned on a planet circling the star Alpha Centauri. Not a made up name at all, Alpha Centauri is our nearest solar neighbor. At a simple hop-skip-jump distance of only 4.25 light years from Earth, popping over to Alpha Centauri or CVS for a Viagra refill might seem like no problem at all. Or would it be?

Alpha Centauri is part of a double, or triple, star system. The two main components are Alpha Centauri A and Alpha Centauri B. The third star, a red dwarf called Proxima Centauri, is thought to be about 4.22 light-years distant and is actually our sun's closest neighbor among the stars.

If you looked through a small telescope at the Alpha Centauri system, you'd see the two main stars, but you wouldn't likely see Proxima Centauri. It's too faint and appears too far away to be easily recognized as part of the system.

To the eye, Alpha Centauri A appears as the fourth-brightest star seen from Earth, just slightly outshone by Arcturus. (Remember, follow the arc of the handle of the Big Dipper to "Arc to Arcturus"?) However, the combined light of Alpha Centauri A and B is slightly greater than Arcturus, so in that sense it appears as the third-brightest star visible in Earth's sky. These stars are an average of 4.3 light-years away, and, as is so often the case, this author is telling you about stuff you can't see from here at the lake. The Centauri system is only visible from about Key West and places farther south.

Yellow Alpha Centauri A is the same stellar type as our sun, although a bit larger. It looks bright

because of its nearness to Earth. Just a few degrees away, the star Hadar (a separate star sometimes called Beta Centauri, not to be confused with Alpha Centauri B) appears dimmer in our sky than Alpha Centauri. But in fact, Hadar is much farther away at 525 light-years.

So you see that Alpha Centauri A isn't a fabulously brilliant star, as stars go.

Alpha Centauri A's surface temperature is a few degrees less than our sun, but its greater diameter (about 25% more than the sun) and the overall larger surface area gives it a luminosity nearly 1.6 times that of our star.

The smaller member of the system, orangish Alpha Centauri B, is slightly smaller than our sun. With lower temperature (about 5,300 K) and only half the luminosity of the sun, Alpha Centauri B would shine as the 21st brightest star in our sky.

These two brighter components of the system orbit a common center of gravity once every 80 years. The orbit is notably elliptical, with average distance between the two stars of about 11 Astronomical Units. (AU = 1 Earth-to-sun distance.)

Proxima is the closest of Alpha Centauri's three stars to Earth. Faint red Proxima Centauri is nearly a fifth of a light year from Alpha Centauri A and B. This great distance is what calls into question its status as part of a triple star system. In other words, there's some debate about whether Proxima is truly bound to the other two stars of the system. Is it? Its status is unclear. It might simply be passing nearby but not part of the system. Still, we say that Alpha Centauri is the closest star to our solar system, with the assumption that Proxima is a true part of the Alpha Centauri

The Moon for this Saturday

(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)
Illuminated Fraction: 0.167
3.5 days since new moon



Sunrise: 6:13am

Sunset: 9:09pm

Moonrise: 09:17:23 AM

NO MoonSet

Waxing Crescent Moon

system.

Next week, how did the Lost in Space crew ever end up get there? And will they ever return? Or will we someday find the mummified remains of Billy Mummy? Until then ... I'm not saying it..

~Stu Spratt Celebrating more than
53 Years at Birch Lake

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YOUR HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19) - In the next four weeks, your daily pace will definitely accelerate. Just accept this and go with the flow. (Resistance will be futile.) Your schedule will be busy! You will also spend time taking short trips. Make note: This same window of time is excellent to buy wardrobe treasures. A fun month ahead!

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - You are the financial wizard of the zodiac. This is why you are so clever at figuring out ways to make money. And for the most part, you handle your money well. In the next four weeks, your focus will be on money, cash flow and earnings. Believe in yourself and your ideas.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) - Once a year the Sun is in your sign for four weeks and that time has arrived! That's why this is your chance to recharge your batteries for the next 12 months. Not only can you replenish and restore yourself during this window of time, you will also have the upper hand. Without any extra effort on your part, you will attract important people and favorable situations to you. Grab a vacation if possible. Romance, the arts and sports are sources of enjoyment and pleasure.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) - Once a year, for four weeks, the Sun is "hiding" in your chart. This is not so dramatic as to make you aware of it. But if you think about it, you will see that this is true because in the next four weeks, much of your energy will be more subdued. Furthermore, you will work behind the scenes or alone more than usual. You will plan and strategize.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - In some ways, the next four weeks will be one of the most popular months for you in the year because at least three astrological influences support this now. Enjoy time with friends. Make new friends. Enjoy groups by attending meetings or joining clubs and associations. Please note: This four-week window is the perfect time to make long-range, future goals.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - For the next four weeks, the Sun will be at the top of your chart, which is the only time all year this occurs. The symbolism of this is that the Sun is shining down on you like a spotlight and this spotlight is flattering! This means that in the real world, inexplicably, bosses, parents and VIPs admire you even though you don't do anything different. Obviously, this is the time to make your pitch and advance your agenda. Ask for what you want.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - This is a wonderfully supportive time for you. Lucky Jupiter continues to help you to feel content in your world. No matter how many problems you have, you have many more reasons to feel grateful. And you know this. And the next four weeks specifically, are more exciting than usual because you are keen to expand your experience of the world.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - For your sign, the next four weeks will be passionate and intense. Yes, your gonads are in overdrive. Sex will be the stuff of steamy diaries - but who has time to write? Get ready for this. Do you know what you want?

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - For the next four weeks, the Sun will be in a sign that is 180 degrees opposite your sign. This happens only once a year. However, symbolically speaking, because the Sun represents your energy, and it is now as far away from you as it gets all year, it means you will need more rest and more sleep in the next four weeks.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Use the next four weeks to get better organized because this is what you really want to do. You want to be effective, efficient and productive in all your activities. Basically, you want to make your efforts count - you want the most bang for your buck. Fortunately, not only are you motivated to get better organized, you are also energized to work hard because Mars will help you do this.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Yay you! The next four weeks are the best time all year for a fun vacation. In fact, all kinds of exciting activities will be tops on your menu. Enjoy sports events, playful activities with children, romantic getaways, flirtations, fun socializing with friends as well as exploring opportunities to express your creative talents.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - For a while now, your focus has been on home and family. However, for the next four weeks, this focus will be much stronger because you will be forced to deal with increased chaos and activity at home. This could be due to residential moves, visiting guests or renovations and do-it-yourself projects. Even your earnings will get a slight boost.

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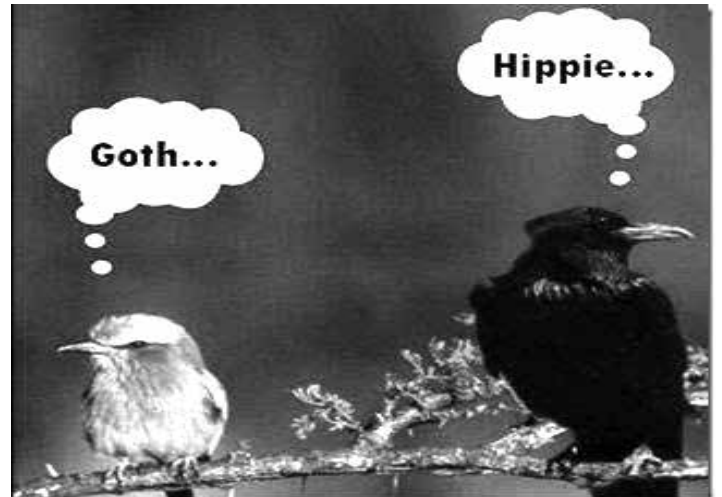
Holding on to **anger** is like grasping a hot coal with the intent of throwing it at someone else; **YOU** are the one who gets burned.

- BUDDHA -



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I'm thinking of calling in **GHOSTBUSTERS** coz I'm convinced I live in a **HAUNTED HOUSE.** Every time I look in the freakin' mirror, this old lady comes and stands in front of me and blocks out my reflection.

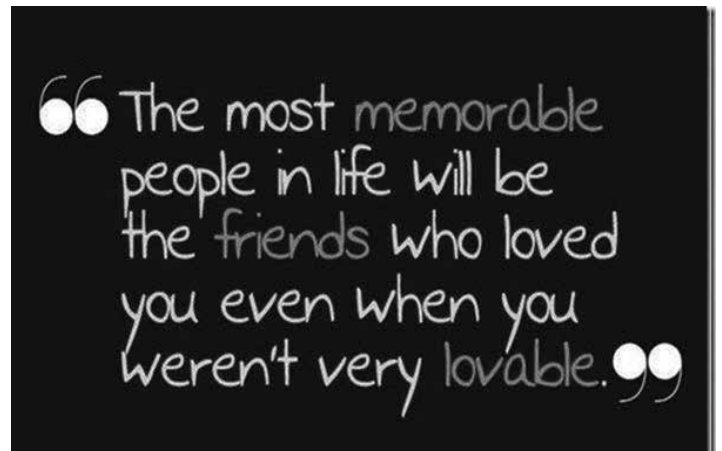


Did you know?



Line dancing was started by women waiting to use the bathroom.

www.facebook.com/ShutUpImStillTalking



Once you lick the frosting off a *cupcake* it becomes a muffin... and muffins are *healthy.*

You're welcome 😊

I have come to the conclusion that dryer lint is the cremated remains of all of my missing socks.

I ate 4 cans of alphabet soup, and just took probably the biggest vowel movement ever



Jewelz Gemz

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~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

Katie's Shower Coleslaw

Recipe By: Patti Russwurm
"Very good and very colorful coleslaw. Have received numerous compliments on this recipe. It is also easy and quick to make."
Prep 20 minutes

Ingredients

1/2 cup almond slivers
5 cups shredded cabbage
1 1/2 cups dried cranberries
3/4 cup celery, diced
3/4 cup chopped green onion

3/4 cup chopped red bell pepper

Directions

Dressing:
1/2 cup mayonnaise (such as Hellman's(R))
1 1/2 tablespoons honey mustard
1 1/2 tablespoons honey
3 pinches dried basil, or to taste
Salt and ground black pepper to taste



1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C). Spread almonds onto a baking sheet.
2. Toast almonds in the preheated oven until golden and fragrant, about 10 minutes. Cool completely.
3. Stir cabbage, cranberries, celery, green onion,

red bell pepper, and toasted almonds together in a large bowl.

4. Whisk mayonnaise, honey mustard, honey, basil, salt, and pepper together in a small bowl until dressing is thick and creamy. Pour dressing over cabbage mixture and stir to coat.

Cover the bowl with plastic wrap and refrigerate until flavors combine, about 3 hours.

Birch Lake lat 41.9153
Michigan long -85.8793

SLOW DOWN

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

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

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— Camp Tannadoonah —

Happy Spring! What a winter it has been up here at Camp Tannadoonah! We've been working on quite a few exciting projects in preparation for the upcoming camp season.

For the first time in nearly 30 years, we have built a new building at Camp Tannadoonah! This new building is a new camper cabin, which will house 20 campers and 4 staff each week, increasing our weekly capacity from 110 to 130 overnight campers. It has been exciting to see the progress on the building each time we come over to camp! It will be completed in time for the first week of camp, which begins on June 18.

Mr. Bob, our Camp Ranger, has just finished a complete renovation of both of the "birds" cabins – Robins and Woodpeckers and Cardinals and Wrens. These buildings now have new roofs, new windows, new interior paneling, a fresh coat of paint inside and out, and completely re-done bathrooms. The coolest part of the renovations are the custom made sinks (by Mr. Bob), made out of a huge tree found here on the camp property (see photo!).

Also this winter, we started work on a renovation of Morris Lodge. Morris also got a new roof, new electrical panel, and Mr. Bob has started installing the new windows. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this project and helped us get started with the first phase! We are still raising funds for

this project on our GoFundMe page (gofundme.com/morrislodgeatcamp-tannadoonah). The next phase of the Morris project will be to repair and replace the exterior siding, and give the entire building a fresh coat of paint. After that we plan to re-do and expand the bathrooms, build an outside porch, refinish the hardwood floors, add interior pine paneling, fix the fireplace and chimney, and update all of the plumbing and electrical. It's a huge undertaking!

Other projects this winter included new roofs on the Dining Hall, Showerhouse, and Nurse's cabin, re-wiring the electrical in the dining hall, running water and electricity to the sports and games field, running water to the hand-craft building, and burying most of our overhead electrical lines. Mr. Bob sure has been busy!

Our camper numbers for the summer are looking good. As of May 22, we have 811 campers registered for the summer. Last year on May 22 we had 742 campers registered, so we are 69 kids ahead of our pace from last year. In 2016 we finished the season with a total of 909 campers; this year we are hoping to get to 950. We have more beds with the new cabin, but we are running one less session this year because of the school calendars.

This past weekend we had a fun (but wet) spring camp weekend. We had a total of 40 people here for the weekend,



including staff and participants. We were very fortunate to dodge raindrops all day Saturday, and managed to

do all of the planned outdoor activities, except on Sunday morning.

Our first staff members arrive for Lifeguard training next Friday, June 2nd! It's coming up sooo fast! The rest of the staff will arrive for training on June 7th, and our first group of campers arrive on June 18th. We extended staff training this year by 3 days, which will give us extra time to plan for the summer, and establish a good team.

We wish to extend a huge thank you to everyone who contributed to Camp in the recent Give Local SJC event. We raised over \$35,000, and will receive matching funds from the Community Foundation, which will go into our endowment at the Community Foundation to fund camper-ships in future years. This summer we hope to have 100 campers receive camper-ship funding to attend camp.



CAMP TANNADOONAH
BIRCH LAKE

<http://tannadoonah.org>



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For Sale: **2007 Skeeter Bass boat** with a 90HP Yamaha engine, 17', Minnkota 24 volt trolling motor and 2 Lowrance X50 DS Fish Finders, Dual Pro Charger, 2 aerated live wells, 2 trolling motor batteries, 1 deep cycle starting battery, tilt and trim, locked Tackle and Rod storage, automatic bilge, carpeted, custom snap cover. Boat is in good shape and ready for fishing. Contact Kerry McCoy at 708-957-1122 for more information.

For sale: Leather sofa, 7' X 3' Burgundy leather. Excellent condition. \$200; **Outside Patio Set**, Brown with creme tile top. 6 matching chairs \$75. Call Deb McCay In the cove 269-476-7076 or 574-340-3870

For Sale: CLASSIC Century Resorter 19 ft. 1973, V-8, 225HP, New Upholstery and Carpet - \$7,000.

Power Shore Station also available with boat purchase, \$1,000. Call Tom Rogers, Cove, 476-2383

FOUND

FOUND: One white "San Marin" inflatable buoy, Item Number "NB60," approximately 20" diameter, on 2/17/17. Call 476-1467.

FOUND: Black "Kitchen Aid" grill cover. Please call Jeff & Denise Smitley at 269.476.9000.

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I do **sewing and mending** at fair prices - zippers, hemming, small alterations; call Kathy at 476-9317

WANTED

Wanted: In search of good-condition **shore station for 20' pontoon.** Contact Bud Hall at 219-669-9711 (new resident in cove).

Wanted: looking to buy a **Sunfish** in good condition to teach our 5th generation Birch Lakers the love of sailing. Please call Lori at 574-277-6327.

The Yacht Club is seeking **new volunteers to plan and oversee the Annual Birch Lake Boat Parade.** The current chairs Sue and Bob Waddle have decided to retire after this summer's parade. They were hoping for someone to volunteer, who has a better understanding of the world we now live in. The Waddles would welcome any new volunteers and invite them to participate in the planning for this year's parade. Please call 269-476-2293. Operators are standing by.

FREE

Free to good home: **Birch Lake Kittens.** Have been wormed and had the first set of shots. Call or text 574-274-3260 or email dbetv7@aol.com.

BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB



Saturday, June 24
5:30 - 7:30 PM

Enjoy a great dinner with friends and support the Yacht Club's Water Quality efforts too!

This year's dinner is sponsored by the West Shore and the Cove and promises to be a great event. Dinner includes spaghetti with two sauces, salad, dessert and ice tea or lemonade. Take outs are also available.

Tickets must be purchased in advance. Contact: Vickie Rogers/Cove; Patti Russwurm/North Shore; Linda Curtis/East Shore; Carla Chester/ East Shore; Katha and Mike Machalleck/South Shore; Sue Williams/South Shore; Mardy Miller/West Shore; Cam Butler/West Shore

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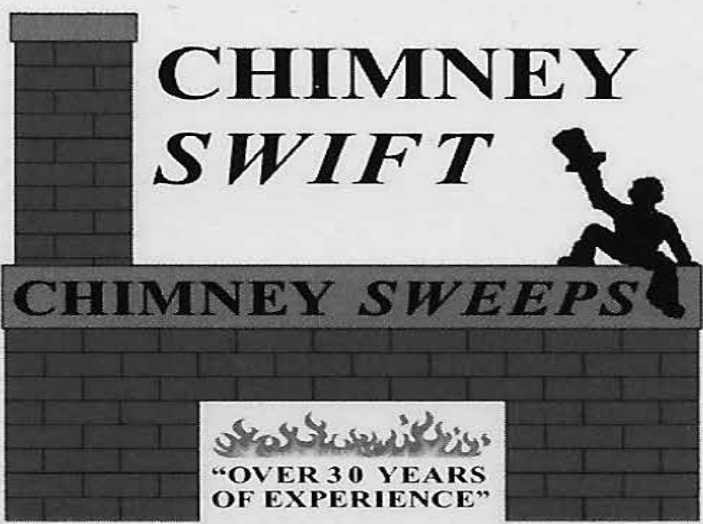
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