

The
weekend
Of

Aug. 19
2017

Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the
Birch Lake Yacht Club



Seven boatloads of partiers enjoyed a chilly but fun evening at last Friday's Birch Lake Flotilla.

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

It just me or did you sense a desperate need for fun by Birch Lakers last weekend? Everybody was out and about cramming in all sorts of lake activities before the summer comes to a close.

I know the flotilla was fun! I have decided it is my favorite lake event of the year. We had 7 boats full of people. Going back and forth from boat to boat, eating, floating, laughing, conversing etc. was so relaxing and enjoyable we decided to do it again. The Sunday of Labor Day weekend let's meet in the middle at 5! Don't be shy. Just approach the boats and we will tie you to the group.

Did you enjoy the free directory that was delivered with your Barker last weekend? That was compliments of the Birch Lake Yacht Club. This is another good time to remind you that your dues are being put to good use. Also, we just learned that fireworks are going to cost more next year. It's not too late! If you

haven't paid your dues, check this Barker for info on how to lend your support. If you would like another directory in case you want one for the office or for your other home, etc. you may purchase them for \$5 at the Fall Dinner. I know Dennis and I are going to get another one for our new FL. acquisition. By the way, it looks like it was not a failed experiment. The minute we finished renovating we started getting calls to rent. You can check out the Barker classifieds for why we had to miss some of our Birch Lake summer.

Speaking of the Fall Dinner, it is one week away and this weekend is your last chance to get tickets. The dinner is at the yacht club and is a great way to sum up the beautiful summer. Check this Barker for info on how to get tickets.

Moonbeam Moment: In each experience is a hidden treasure.

~Commodore Claudia

2017 FALL DINNER SHOUT OUT

No more procrastinating ... if you haven't purchased your ticket to next week's BLYC Fall Dinner, you need to do so as soon as you're done reading

Birch Lake Calendar

2017

August 26 - Fall Dinner
September 3 - BLYC Flotilla 2, 5 pm
September 9 - BLYC Board Meeting
September 16 - Tour of Heddon Museum
October 14 - Soup Challenge
October 29 - Memorial Mass for Stanley Pitakos, Our Lady of the Lake, Edwardsburg, 8 am

2018

May 19 - Spring Dinner
June 30 - House Walk
July 7 - Fireworks
July 20 - Ladies Golf
July 27 - Men's Golf
October 10 - Soup Challenge

More info as available. Dates subject to change. Watch the Barker for updates!

your Barker! You can still purchase your tickets this weekend by contacting any of the lake ladies listed on the Fall Dinner ad in today's Barker. Or call/text me at 574-261-6712 and I'll deliver

The Birch Barker is always accepting materials for publication. Deadline is 3 pm on Tuesday. E-mail materials to sailorphil@philvitale.com, or put the items in the stone/mailbox at my home, 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore). 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 —

tickets. I hope to see you on the 26th!

~ V.C. Karen

Sunday Night Flotilla!

Sunday September 3 – 5 p.m.

Due to the past successful flotillas, let's do it again! Meet in the middle of the lake with your boat. Bring an Appetizer. Boats will be tied together and we will walk from boat to boat sharing food and camaraderie. Look for the boats in the middle!

Fishing Lures, Local History

On Saturday, September 16, (4 pm) arrangements have been made for Birch Lakers to tour The Heddon Fishing Lure Museum (there are lures, reels, poles and antique cars!). It is a fascinating piece of local history as well as fishing history. Dinner at the Wounded Minnow would follow the tour. This tour/dinner is open to everyone: men, women, children (sorry no pets!) If you are interested in joining us for a brief overview of the lures and how they came to the couple who owns the museum and then enjoy a good hamburger please contact me. We have enough interest to make this event happen, however, contact me if you want to join us so I can give the museum and the Minnow a head count. The museum is free (donations welcome). Below is a brief account of this local history.

"In the late 1890s James Heddon



launched a hand-made lure into a Dowagiac, Mich. pond, and the ripples are still expanding. It marked the beginning of a new era – the artificial-lure fishing era – for all anglers. Heddon is the manufacturer of legendary lures, including the Spook, Torpedo, Lucky 13 and many more" (heddonlures.com). Joan and Don, a local Dowagiac couple, stumbled into obtaining a vast number of the antique Heddon lures and have created the Heddon Museum.

~Blair Garceau

476-9862, bgarceau@comcast.net

Compassion Cupboard

The Compassion Cupboard at the First Church of God Cassopolis, 21083 Spencer Rd., Cassopolis, will be open from 9 to 11 am. The food pantry will be open on August 26, and the Feed the Hungry Food Truck will at the church from 4-6 pm on August 23.

Simply STUNNING

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Birch Lake Notes

High speed Internet project

Birch Lake is part of the Jones zone for the high-speed Internet project by Midwest Energy. Midwest Energy is looking for more sign ups before they will begin construction in our area. Advise neighbors and family to sign up on teamfiber.com.

"The Company" to present A Como Cabaret Christmas



Date: November 3-4, 10-11, 17-18
Place: Battell Center Theatre, 904 N. Main St., Mishawaka, IN
Ticket Information: Tickets will go on sale September 20. There are 350 seats in the Theater, seating is limited. To purchase tickets, send a check & a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: "The Company" 50643 Sorrel Dr., Granger, IN 46530. Reference night of performance, seat preference, let us know if a wheelchair seat is needed, and please provide a phone number.
Ticket Prices: Seniors \$12.50, General Admission \$16. Any remaining seats



Thanks to Commodore Claudia for the pic of the campers at Camp T serenading the Princess last weekend.

will be sold at the door the night of the performance.

Box office and doors will open at 6 pm, warm-up starts at 7:30 pm, show begins at 8 pm. For information: call The Company at 574-229-0083 Mon-Fri 10 am to 5 pm, or visit <https://www.facebook.com/TheCompanyPlayers>.

The Birch Barker

As it has been in previous years, the deadline for submitting materials for

any given Birch Barker is 3 pm on the Tuesday prior to publication.

The printed Birch Barker is online ... to see any week, go to www.philvitale.com and follow the links to the "Latest Printed Birch Barker."

Birch Lake Totes

Birch Lake Totes are again available for just \$5 each (special pricing for large orders). Call Bad Patty Luecht at 476-2615.

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— In Memory —

Doctor Richard Green

**February 10, 1928 –
August 9, 2017**

George Richard Green, MD, age 89, died peacefully in Sheboygan, Wisconsin on August 9, 2017 from complications of heart disease. He was born on February 10, 1928 in Rochester, Minnesota, to his parents George Francis Green, MD and Geraldine McIntyre Green. He attended John Adams High School in South Bend and graduated from Hillsdale College in 1950.

After serving in the US Army for two years, he married his lifelong love, Barbara Claudon, at her home in Valparaiso, Indiana on September 6, 1952. He then attended Indiana University School of Medicine, graduating in 1956. He completed a general surgical residency at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota in 1961 and subsequently moved back to South Bend to join his father in his surgical practice. They worked together for 15 years after which he continued in solo practice.

Dr. Green is survived by his wife Barbara, four children, Sandra Green (Geoffrey Lamb), Kathryn Pawlak (James), Laura Green (John Hadley), and George David Green (Diana), eight grandchildren, Rick Lamb, Kelsey Lamb, Elizabeth Traudt (Ryan), Kristin Pawlak, George Kendall Green, Cur-

tis Green, Kyle Hadley, and Chelsea Hadley, and two sisters, Joanne Knoop of South Bend, Indiana and Suzanne Parshall of Eugene, Oregon, as well as his nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Frances Martinov.

While practicing surgery for almost 40 years, Dr. Green served a term as president of the South Bend Medical Society. He also served as president of the South Bend Shrine Club, and was a member of the Junto Goose and Duck Club, the Rotary Club, and the Elks Club.

His hobbies included boating and sailing, ham radio operation, skeet shooting, and building and flying remote control airplanes with his son. He enjoyed traveling with family and friends, and especially enjoyed water sports and family time at their cottage at Birch Lake, Michigan. He was an avid Notre Dame football fan, and loved Indy car racing. He and Barbara attended the Indianapolis 500 race for many years.

He was a loving, devoted husband, father, and grandfather, and had a quiet wit and fun-loving personality. He taught us all to dance and to enjoy life to the fullest. He had a total commitment to his beloved wife, and their marriage served to inspire not only their family

but many people they encountered throughout their life together.

Dick and Barb started renting cottages at Birch Lake in 1966 and bought their cottage on the South Side in 1977. Over the years they shared their home with their children and grandchildren and created many family traditions. Summers were not complete without gathering for the Birch Lake Bash over Labor Day weekend.

Birch Lakers are welcome to an open house celebrating Dick's life between 2 and 6 pm on Sunday, September 3 at the Green cottage.

The family extends its gratitude to the staff at Sheboygan Senior Community and to Dr. Louie Coulis, Dr. Mary Gentine, and Dr. James Pawlak, his son-in-law, for the compassionate and professional care given to our dear husband, father and grandfather. Memorials may be made to Camp Tannadoonah, YMCA Camp Eberhart, or Indiana University. Online condolences may be expressed at www.mcgannhay.com.



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FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER



Is there wind on Sundays anymore?

For the fourth Sunday in a row, we have not had enough wind to run our races. This reminds me of a couple of years ago when we went over 5 weeks without sailing due to light to no wind Sundays. Hopefully this Sunday will be different and we will start sailing again.

I need to thank the many people behind the scenes that make Sundays possible, without these people they would not be possible. Every Sunday, Harold and Bad Patty are on the phone with me to see if we are sailing or not! These two spend a lot of time and energy to make sure our sailing experiences are great! If you see them tell them thanks!

Until next week, "Splice the Main Brace!"

~Fleet Captain Mike~



The MC ... a sailing a spoon. Of old numerous mid-western boat builders produced the inland lake scow class. In the end, Johnson and Melges, battled for supremacy. Eventually Melges bought Johnson and so is now the only Scow hull builder though several lofts produce class approved sails. The MC is 16' long, 5'8" wide and weighs 420 lbs. Though rigged for crew, having a generous 135 sq. ft. sail, the boat is generally sailed solo. Long ago the MC replaced the venerable Snipe class on Birch. If we don't have wind this Sunday (which would be the 5th in a row for those keeping score at home) watch for Snipe history next week.

—COMMUNITY CORNER—

Meet the board member



Thanks to The Levy family (south side) for the reminder. Lake relationships are special, we all get to "play hard" together! Sometimes it's hard, but remember to be kind to your neighbors!

Hello! My name is **Mike Sheffieck** and I have been a Director since 2010 and the Board Secretary for six years. My wife and I bought our log-style home on the West Side in 2009 and became full-timers just over a year ago when I took a job in Cassopolis.

We have four children – two in the area and two in Chicago – and two beautiful grandchildren.

I shout out "Go Blue" to the few other Wolverine fans on the lake and spend the Fall either planning or attending a large tailgate in Ann Arbor.

We truly feel blessed to belong to our wonderful community, filled with kind and caring neighbors.



Mike Sheffieck

— Water Quality Report —

More initial reflections on our 'Score the Shore'

... this time provided by the DEQ's senior aquatic biologist that led the members of the Birch Lake Water Quality Committee on our Score the Shore voyage.

The pros and cons of what we saw in Birch Lake.

■ **Pros:** Birch Lake has a high percentage of submerged vegetation and the absence of erosion along the shoreline. Vegetation provides fish and animal habitat, while stable shorelines decrease water turbidity and lowers your chances of losing land to erosion.

■ **Cons:** Birch Lake would benefit from leaving branches/logs along the lake bottom and along the shorelines for fish habitat and to reduce wave action along the shoreline. In addition, vegetation buffers would improve water quality by reducing land runoff and chemicals from entering the water, decreasing wave action along the shoreline, and preventing Canada geese from accessing your property.

The general categories that we look at for Score the Shore are:

Good: 76-100

Fair: 51-75

Poor: 26-50

Highly Impacted: 0-25

Birch scored a 50, with an average density of 21.8 structures per 1,000 feet.

While reviewing Score the Shore data from 2015 and 2016, it was noted that a correlation is present between the structure density and the score from the procedure. For example, Gull Lake in Kalamazoo County, received a score of 46 with an average density of 23.7 structures per 1,000 feet. In essence, the more homes/development, the lower the scores.

There are ways to mediate a lake with higher development. When looking at the Score the Shore data sheet, it is best to look for ways you can achieve the highest scores. For example, if you have >75% emergent floating vegetation, >75% submergent vegetation, no plant management, >16 pieces of large woody debris, and no erosion along the shoreline, you could max out the Aquatic Zone Characteristics and Shoreline Erosion portion (of the score within a section). In addition, increased vegetation buffers and decreased seawalls would improve the Shoreline Erosion Control Practices portion (of the score within a section).

Birch Lake could look to improve these factors by planting emergent vegetation such as cattails along the shoreline on the lakeside of rock riprap or seawalls. Another positive factor would be to have unmowed vegetation belts along the shoreline instead of having a



mowed lawn to the water's edge.

These details from Score the Shore can help residents of Birch Lake protect high quality shoreline on your lake and learn ways to improve lower scoring shorelines around the lake as well. If you are interested in learning more about natural shoreline practices, please visit the Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership's website at www.mishorelinepartnership.org.

Our sincere thanks to Marcy Knoll Wilmes, and to her employer, Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality.



2017 BLYC FALL DINNER

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26 AT THE YACHT CLUB

5:30 - Appetizers and Mingling

Nibble on White Cheddar Pimento Cucumber Cups; Baked Brie & Bacon Fig Jam Crostinis; Mango Salsa & Arugula Shrimp Shooters; and Feta & Watermelon Mint Bites while sharing your summer highlights with other Birch Lakers

6:30 - Dinner

Pecan Crusted Chicken w/ creamy Dijon Honey Mustard over Creamy Parmesan Herb Orzo
Spinach Berry Salad with Apple Cider Strawberry Vinaigrette
Lemon Herb Grilled Summer Vegetables with Balsamic Drizzle
Savory Breads and Rolls with Herb Olive Oil

Dessert will be an assortment of mini-treats

7:30 - Year-End Meeting

Catering provided by Chic Eats

Ticket Price: \$30 per person

Tickets must be purchased in advance and presented at the door. All tickets need to be purchased by August 19

Please contact the following Birch Lakers to purchase your tickets:

Vickie Rogers - Cove

Denise Smitley or Claudia Phipps - North Shore

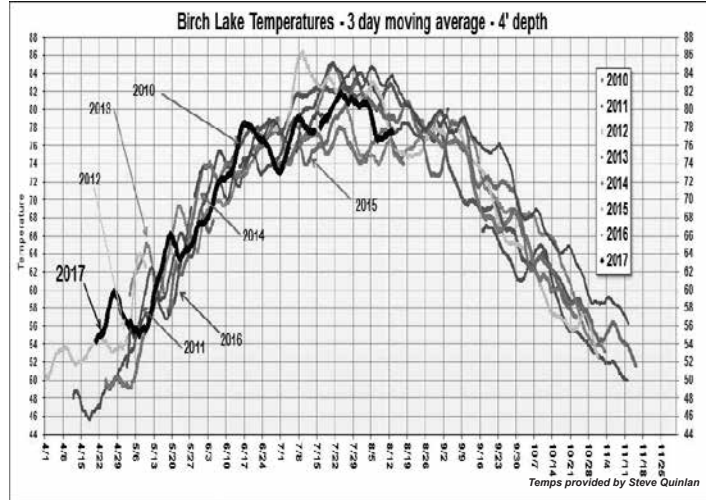
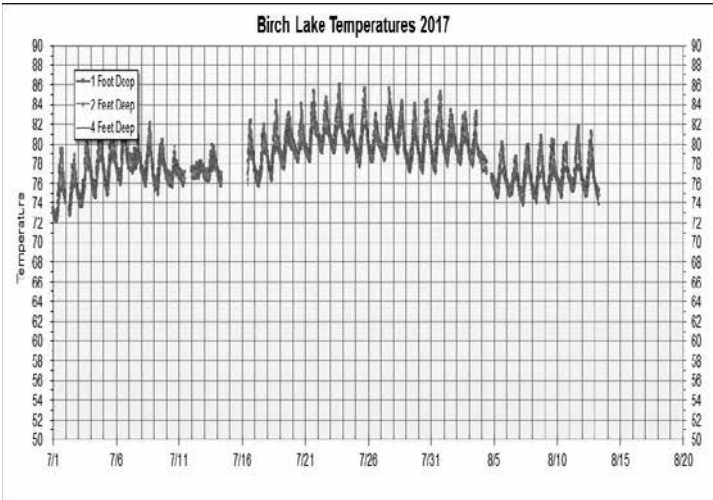
Karen Curtis-Miller or Patty Luecht - East Shore

Sue Williams - South Shore

Julie Sheffieck - West Shore



Birch Lake Water Temperature



Temps provided by Steve Quinlan

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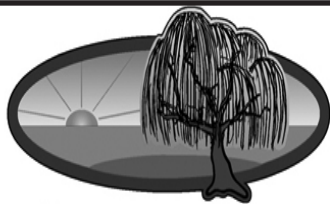
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Elizabeth Carey and Steve Decker -- Sold our home on Indiana Lake

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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!"

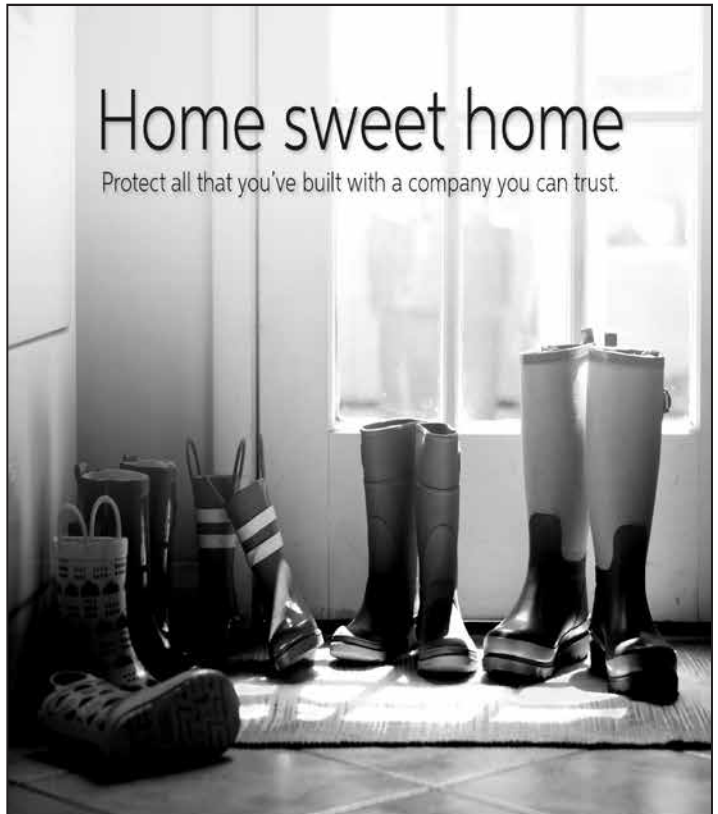
Tom Davidson -- Top qualities: Personable, Expert, High Integrity

"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."

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— Barker Kids of the Week —



Luke, Jack and Adelyn Carey (Cove residents) on a recent visit to the lake.



KID-OF-THE-WEEK PHOTOS

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Working in conjunction with Birch Lake resident Rick Doolittle

— Barker Kids of the Week —



At left and below: "Hello World," Our newest addition, Graciella Belle Rolon, great-granddaughter of Jack and Sandy Holbert (south side).



At Right: Brody Baucus celebrated his 24th birthday last week end ... happy birthday Brody!



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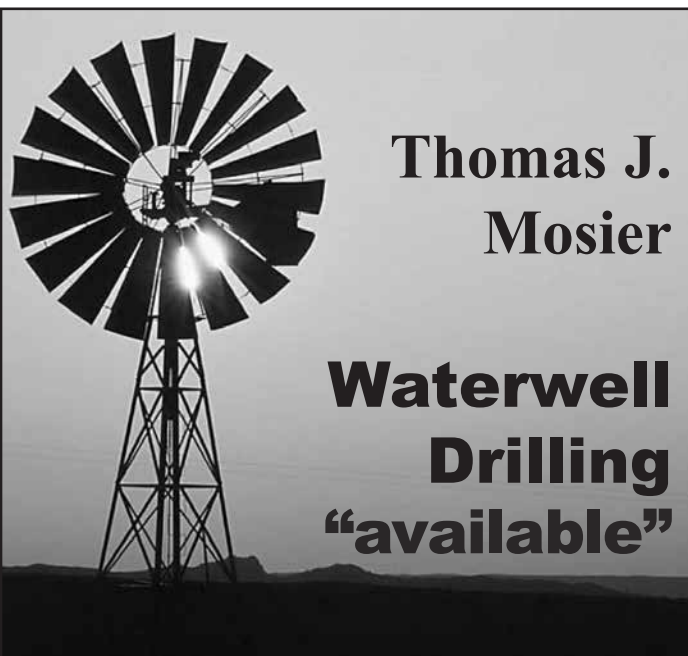
— Barker Kids of the Week —



Above: Aurora (aka Aurorable), granddaughter of Mike and Amy Lutz (north side) enjoying dinner at her favorite restaurant, Frankie's, of course.



At right: Lorenzo Marco Magro Algarotti enjoying gelato grozen on a stick on the North Shore



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— Barker Special Feature —

A Sunny blast from the past

Birch Lakers, who remembers Sunny Waters and her amazing 'News from the Cove' column? Well, thanks to Sunny's BS (Beloved Spouse), we've received a number of her old columns and will reprint them here as space allows.

News From The Cove

By Sunny Waters

To John Gableman and his crew who man the grill at the Corn and Sausage Roast, I sadly offer my regrets. It has been a small but meaningful tradition that I make a trek up the hill to bestow a blessing upon the red-cheeked, handsome hunks and make sure they have plenty of lemonade and juice boxes. Be brave, gentlemen; this year I will be with you only in spirit due to a hapless conflict.

What, you may ask yourselves, could possibly supersede this long-awaited annual tribute to grease?

It is, dear friends, **THE GREAT AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL CLASS REUNION!**

The Mishawaka High School class of '56 will gather for an evening of "do you remember...golly, you haven't changed a bit, we've got to get together more often, let me show you my grandchildren's photos, etc."

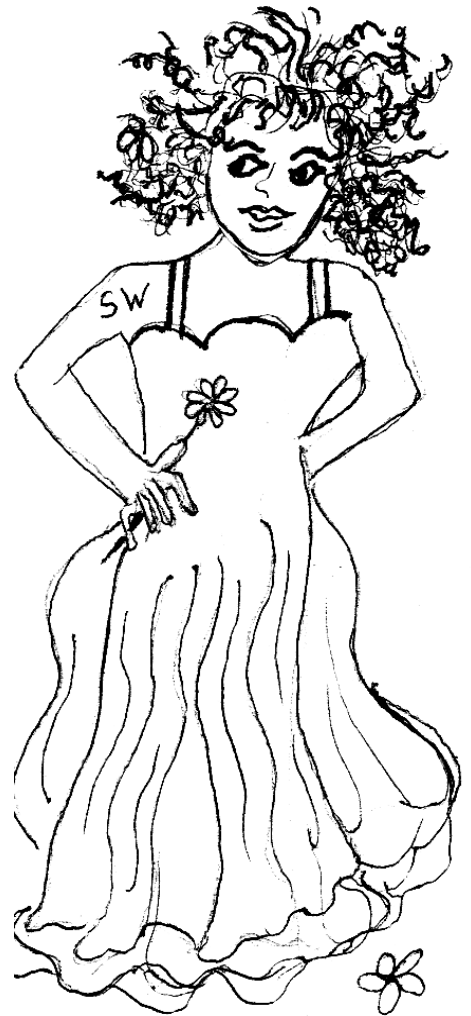
But before the gala event takes place there is a tremendous preparation frenzy. Cosmetic counters are wiped out, hair salons are booked solid and department stores lingerie departments are sold out of a popular item called The Tummy Tamer. (B.S. renamed it Meat Packer). We have dieted, we have Clairoled, we cake on the Estee Lauder and make our way

into a room of much older-looking people. Minutes after arrival a chunky, smirky man saunters up and says, "Hi! I remember you when you were cute an thin." Oh swell, it's Marvin who used to do disgusting things with his nose in study hall. Desperately I scan the crowded room in hope of signaling B.S. to rescue me. I spot him chatting with a former cheerleader who has squeezed her size 16 into her cutesy Size 6 uniform and is tickling everyone who walks past with her pom poms. I am beginning to seethe when Marvin the nose sculptor yells in my ear, "Hey, they're playing our song! Let's dance." Not at all certain my Tummy Tamer would hold up to Rock Around the Clock and marvin's sweaty hands, I excuse myself and hole up in the ladies until dinner is served.

The evening dwindles and the crowd thins. Someone starts singing the Mishawaka Fight Song and nostalgia sets in. Everyone hugs, eyes are dabbed and we all silently wonder if we'll all be together again at our 50th. Even Marvin gets a warm, if brief, hug from me.

Though I'll miss the frivolity at the Corn and Sausage Roast, it will have been worth it.

-Sunny



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STU'S STAR STUFF



More on the solar eclipse

A solar eclipse is the result of a combination of coincidence and clockwork.

The coincidence is that the Sun and Moon appear almost exactly the same size in Earth's sky. The Sun is about 400 times wider than the Moon, but it also is about 400 times farther away. So when the new Moon passes directly between Earth and the Sun, it can cover the Sun's disk, blocking it from view.

We don't see an eclipse at every new Moon, however, because the Moon's orbit around Earth is tilted a bit with respect to the Sun's path across the sky, known as the ecliptic. Because of that angle, the Moon passes north or south of the Sun most months, so there's no eclipse.

When the geometry is just right though, the Moon casts its shadow on Earth's surface, creating a solar eclipse, and that's where the clockwork comes in.

The Moon goes through several cycles. The best known is its 29.5-day cycle of phases, from new through full and back again. Other cycles include its distance from Earth (which varies by almost 30,000 miles over 27.5 days) and its relationship to the ecliptic (27.2 days), among others. These three cycles overlap every 6,538.3 days, which is a little more than 18 years. Eclipses occur at the point of overlap.

This 18-year cycle is known as a Saros. The circumstances for each succeeding eclipse (solar or lunar) in a Saros are similar. The Moon is about the same distance from Earth, for example, and the eclipses occur at the same time of year. (Because of the extra one-third day, however, each eclipse occurs one-third of the

way around Earth from the previous eclipse; the next eclipse in this Saros, in 2035, will be visible across portions of Asia and the Pacific Ocean.)

A cycle begins with a partial eclipse. A portion of the Moon just nips the northern edge of the Sun, for example, blocking only a fraction of the Sun's light. With each succeeding eclipse in the cycle, the Moon covers a larger fraction of the solar disk, peaking with a series of dozens of total eclipses. Then the Moon slides out of alignment again, this time in the opposite direction, creating more partial eclipses. The series ends with a grazing partial eclipse on the opposite edge of the solar disk.

The August 21 event is eclipse number 22 of Saros 145, which began on January 4, 1639, and will end on April 17, 3009. The cycle will produce 77 eclipses, including 41 total eclipses.

Several Saros cycles are taking place at any given time, however, so we don't have to wait 18 years between eclipses. Solar eclipses occur at intervals of one, five, or six months, with no relationship between consecutive eclipses.

Yes, it's all quite confusing, but it's still a great show. And best of all... Ah well, I don't have to say it.

~Stu Spratt

Celebrating more than 53 Years at Birch Lake

The Moon for this Saturday

(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)
Illuminated Fraction: 0.028
1.5 days before new moon

NEW MOON IN
1.5 DAYS

Sunrise: 06:57:19 AM

Sunset: 20:39:13 PM

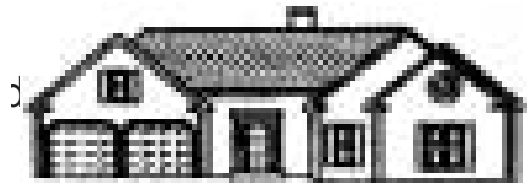
Moonrise: 04:27:19 AM

Moonset: 19:16:18 PM

Daylight: 13 Hr 41 Min 54 Sec

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YOUR HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19) - You are an initiator. The words "fresh start" turn your crank - and indeed, that's what this month is all about for you. Be open to exciting new adventure! Encourage laughter in your life. Demand more freedom for yourself. And above all, appreciate your creative, artistic talents because after all, you are the artisan of the zodiac. You love to create and do new things with your hands.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Exciting things are taking place for you that involve home, family and real estate - everything that is basic and intrinsic to your security. This is a signal from the universe that these are the areas where you can make great changes and fresh beginnings that will open doors, down the line in your future. If you are considering something bold and new in this realm of your life - go with it. Grab it!

Gemini (May 21-June 20) - You love words and ideas. Your awareness of your daily world will expand. This might happen through study or through a sibling or relative. You know the Gemini saying: "There's good, there's cheap and there's fast. Pick two cuz you can't have all three."

Cancer (June 21-July 22) - The Moon is your ruler, which is why you are interested in a Solar Eclipse, which is a direct alignment of the Sun and the Moon. What this Solar Eclipse portends for your sign will have a lot to do with your assessment of yourself: your feelings of self-worth. In a more peripheral way, it might deal with your assets and your wealth. |

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - It's hard to say how a Solar Eclipse will manifest for anyone, but quite likely, it will usher in an opportunity to begin new partnerships and close friendships. And in existing partnerships and close friendships, you will try something new. You will look at this person with new eyes. Or you might look at yourself with new eyes and decide to be more skillful, patient and caring.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - For your sign, the Solar Eclipse will signal a deepening interest in hidden matters, especially spiritual matters. You'll start thinking of things that most of us only think of when the power goes out. You will start asking questions about how you should live your life. You will travel new avenues that appeal to you -- not through an organized group or church - but through your own intellectual exploration.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Some friendships might fade away now while new friendships begin. You might also leave a group with which you have been involved, and quite likely, you have sensed this coming on for some time because ultimately, you will either begin a new group or join a new group.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - You will have a sense of something fading away, especially with your career and your reputation. Some aspect that you have been involved with will have less pull for you because something new is entering your world, especially in a way that affects your public persona. This new influence will create a new world for you. And we know it's going to be good news.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - This particular Solar Eclipse is going to activate all of the things you love best! It will bring you new opportunities in areas that are dear to your heart. You will have fresh, new opportunities to travel, new opportunities to study or go to school, new opportunities to explore avenues in publishing, the media, medicine, the law or any aspect of universities, colleges and technical schools.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - You are a careful, cautious sign. Yes, you often do bizarre things but they are the exception not the rule. You like to feel secure about your future. You like to know you have your bases covered. The Solar Eclipse will have much to do with the support you get from others. This includes the support you get from your partner or spouse.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - The Solar Eclipse on Aug 21 is going to have something to do with your closest friendships, your partnerships and your marriage. Some things are lessening or waning and the very reason this is happening is because something new is going to happen. For many, it will literally be a new relationship or friendship.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - This Solar Eclipse is related to your health, your pets, and your job. These are all areas that are undergoing change in your life. In other words, in these very areas, doors are closing and you are letting go of some things. And yet, at the same time, something fresh and new will also begin in these same areas.

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BIRCH BARKER FUNNIES

Been there—
done that. Then,
been there
several more
times, because
apparently I
never learn.

Arguing with a woman is like
reading the Software License
agreement.



In the end you have to ignore
everything and click "I agree".

Mabel was questioning the laws of thermodynamics...



"Be decisive. Right or wrong,
make a decision. The road of
life is paved with flat squirrels
who couldn't make a
decision."

~Unknown~

DOOR KNOCKERS PLEASE NOTE:

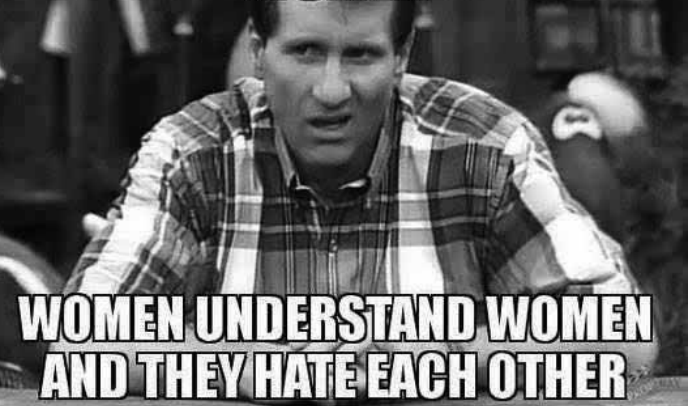
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Don't wear headphones
while vacuuming.
I've just finished the
whole house before
realizing the vacuum
wasn't plugged in.

**DON'T TRY TO UNDERSTAND
WOMEN**



**WOMEN UNDERSTAND WOMEN
AND THEY HATE EACH OTHER**

**SOME THINGS ARE JUST
BETTER LEFT UNSAID.**

**AND I USUALLY REALIZE IT
RIGHT AFTER I SAY THEM.**



~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

Its a cantaloupe kinda week

Chicken Salad with Cantaloupe

“A flavorful blend of chicken, fruit, lemon, and ginger makes for a light and delicious chicken salad. This salad is perfect for special occasions, but easy enough to make at home. Serve it in a halved cantaloupe for a fabulous presentation!”

Ingredients:

Dressing:

- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1/4 cup sour cream
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 1 1/2 teaspoons lemon zest
- 1 1/2 teaspoons white sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

Salad:

- 2 cups cubed cooked chicken
- 1 1/2 cups fresh blueberries
- 1 cup sliced celery
- 1 cup seedless green grapes, halved
- 1/2 cup sliced almonds
- 3 cantaloupes, halved and seeded

Directions:

1. Make the dressing by whisking the mayonnaise, sour cream, lemon juice, lemon zest, sugar, ginger, and salt in a mixing bowl. Add the chicken, blueberries, celery, grapes, and almonds; stir gently until evenly mixed. Cover the bowl and refrigerate for 1 hour.
2. Spoon into cantaloupe halves to serve.

Sangria Melon Chiller

“Juicy melon and crisp white wine make for the perfect cooler to sip during the summer.”

Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/3 cup water
- 1/4 cup packed torn fresh mint leaves
- 8 sprigs fresh mint for garnish
- 1 (750 milliliter) bottle Sauvignon Blanc, chilled
- 1 cup fresh orange juice, chilled
- 1/2 cup Triple Sec or other orange-flavored liqueur
- 3 cups bite-size wedges of cantaloupe
- 1 1/2 cups bite-size wedges of seedless watermelon

Directions:

1. Stir together sugar, water, and torn mint in a small saucepan. Bring to a simmer over low heat. Simmer 1 minute, then cool to room temperature, about 30 minutes. Strain syrup mixture through a fine-mesh sieve into a bowl, pushing on mint to extract as much liquid as possible. Discard mint leaves. Chill syrup until ready to use.
2. Stir together wine, orange juice, Triple Sec, and mint simple syrup in a pitcher or large bowl. Add cantaloupe and watermelon and chill at least 30 minutes and up to 4 hours.
3. Pour or ladle over ice, if desired, into 8 glasses and garnish each with a mint leaf or sprig.

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— Camp Tannadoonah —

Thanks for a great year

Well, we've wrapped up our summer at Camp Tannadoonah, and what a summer it was! We finished out the year with a total of 960 campers, our largest summer ever. Last year we had 909. We had a fantastic staff, and good weather for most of the summer.

For this week's article, I want to share the Thank You that Michelle wrote for our staff. She read this at our end of the summer banquet. It contains some of our favorite anecdotes and stories from the summer, and some of the things that made this year special for our staff.

Thank you. Each and every one of you.

This summer was crazy, fun, chaotic, beautiful, rainy, had all four seasons in a 24-hour time span, and was successful because of all of you. There was so much caring, love, good tears (and some bad tears), and energy - even if you had fake it! We served 960 campers. Two of those campers were here every day of the summer, even the weekends. One camper decided to convert from a day camper to an overnight

camper because of a conversation one of you had with him and his mom during the pancake breakfast.

Another returned for a second week as an overnight camper after one successful week of being a day camper. We converted a family from another camp to ours. We surprised one family by having two people on staff who speak Arabic. One of you helped five French kids feel welcome right away, and was always willing to translate. Another started giving staff seemingly random rounds of applause, which made people feel good.

Three of you performed a splinter removal that felt like open heart surgery. Several of you brightened any space and cheered others up with an amazing sense of humor. Eight of you guarded lives at the waterfront. We learned the weird ways to tell twins apart. Many of you contributed to Miss Amber asking, "Who has Kieran?" and/or "Have you seen my children?" She clearly trusts us all.

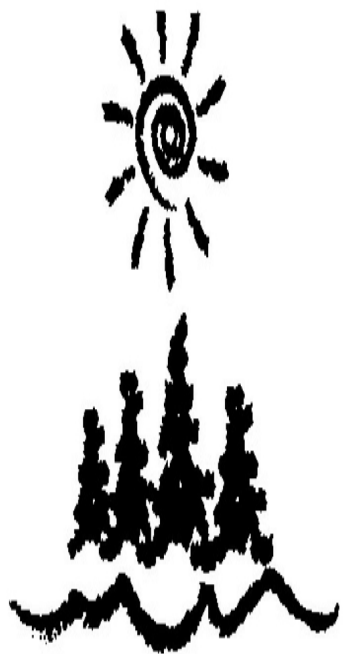
We all found some new Sparks, as well as found things that are definitely NOT our Sparks. Three of you who

aren't guards made your way downstairs to teach boating. About five of you learned about our new worm farm and how to utilize that resource. We had a seven-year-old who is "almost nine".

Everyone was woken at least once because of a storm; three of you led 4 am sing. Four of you survived a tree limb falling on your cabin, and one of those four got up to make sure none of the campers fell out of bed. One of you experienced your first (and hopefully last) concussion. One of you accidentally recited the American Pledge of Allegiance.

Most of you saw mystery footprints on the toilet seats. A few of us fell in the mud; one of you lost their shoe. Many of you cleaned wet sheets. A few even helped clean a wet floor. A few of you changed dirty diapers. And one of you dealt with a naked 5-year-old fisherman. Everyone helped campers and/or co-workers with homesickness.

All of you helped Build Our Amazing Team skills! Thank you for watching - we had great summer!



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FOR SALE: **Original un-restored 1976 Cadillac Eldorado convertible.** Firethorn red exterior (original paint), red leather interior, "straight" body, never wrecked, stored indoors. It's a driver. Priced to allow for bumper "fillers" and tires. A few Lakers have indicated interest. Absent local sale the car will go to auction this summer. Contact Bob King 574-276-9999 or 574-299-0705.

FOR SALE: **4 place pedal boat** (2 cyclors, 2 riders), available for showing and/or test drive at the King cottage. 269-476-2128 on weekends, 574-299-0705 through the week.

For Sale: **used Kenmore dishwasher.** Very good condition. \$70. Contact Tom DeCocker 476-9821

Ladies golf clubs, 3 woods, 7 irons, 2 wedges, putter, and bag. Balls and tees,



Found at the yacht club ... any takers out there?

good condition \$75.00 call 476-2383

For sale: **1999 Bayliner Capri,** 18.5 ft., 3.0 Mercruiser, Shorestation, and trailer. \$4800. Call Gordon at 476-1319 for more details.

For Sale: **Authentic blue slate.** 15 pieces random sizes approximately 10"x 20"x 1" thick. Great for patio tile accenting inside or outside. \$75 for all OBO. Call Lynn or Marc Caenepeel, 828-674-9187



For Sale: **Single jet ski trailer and/or single jet ski lift.** Call Peter Trybula for more info. (574) 339-3428

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WANTED

Seeking someone with scuba gear and training to help camp retrieve a lost sailboat rudder

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.

Found: **Golf club head cover** at men's golf outing. Contact Chas at 574-315-0217

Found: **Florida cap.** Blue. Call Phil @ 476-1680



We had a **blue older sunfish** wash up. I put the boat on a lift on the west side one house north of the clearing and new construction. Lori 574-274-6327

LOST

Lost **Canoe Paddle,** black and gray. If found please call 269-476-7062

Camp T is missing several kayak and stand up paddleboarding paddles

Lost: **Yamaha Waverunner key fob.** If found please contact: Bill Magro @ 937-657-8988



Lost: **Four ducks, one large, three small.** If found please roast with orange sauce and call me in time for dinner.



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Classified ads in the Birch Barker are free to paid members of the Birch Lake Yacht Club, and \$5 per ad for non-members (please pay in advance). To submit an ad, email it to me at Sailorphil@philvitale.com

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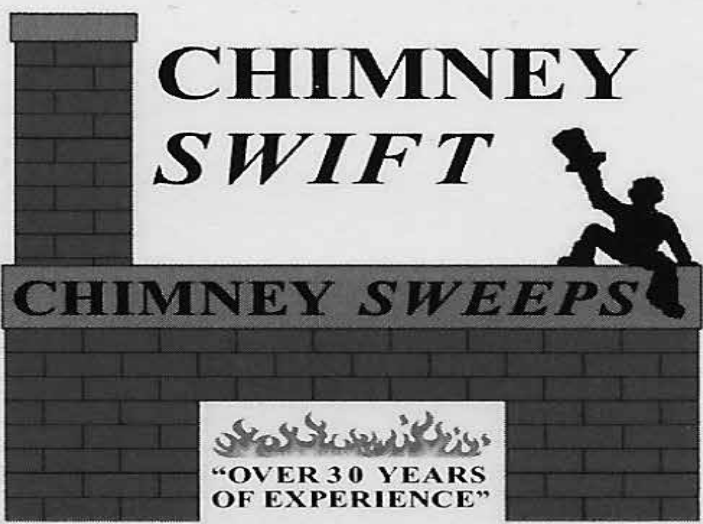
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