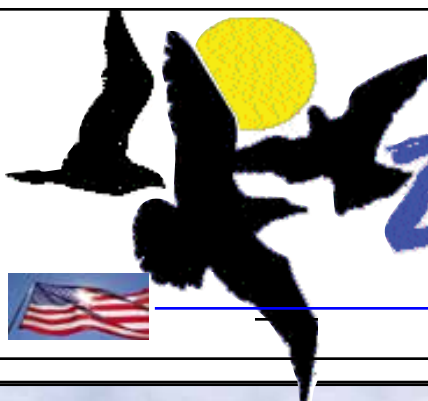


**FOURTH OF JULY
EDITION**

**The
Weekend
Of**

**July 2,
2022**



Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the
Birch Lake Yacht Club



Happy Fourth of July

Please be careful and stay safe
on Birch Lake this weekend!

photo by the PattiCam

Getting ready for the 4th of July with friends from Clarendon Hills. Connor & Abby Caplis (north shore) and Kaczmarek kids Jack, Vivian & Ben.

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

*Commodore's Comments #6
July 2, 2022*

We had another gorgeous and busy Birch Lake weekend! Saturday. Deb Hall and her husband Bud (Cove) and myself and husband Tom, hosted the annual Commodore/Vice Commodore Party. About 80 people joined us for the Key West themed night. As guests drove up to the yacht club they were welcomed with lit tiki torches, and entering the building they heard island music (thanks Phil Vitale for sharing your music collection) and saw parrots, pineapples and other island decor. Thanks to Marcia Qualls (South side) for loaning the tiki torches and other decor. The slushie machine, provided by Keith Kinzler, (West side) served up delicious frozen margaritas. Thanks Keith!

Keeping the bar running smoothly all night were Sandy and Phil Vitale (East side) with the help of their good friends Debbie Zabarenko and John Doyle from Bethesda, MD. We appreciate them arriving early and staying late for set up and clean up. Thanks to all who brought delicious appetizers and sweet treats and were extremely generous in getting our bar stocked for this and future yacht club events. The sound system was borrowed

from Camp Tannadoonah with Chas Grundy (East side) setting it up for us. Lots of guests came in island attire but Bob and Sue Waddle (East side) caught our attention for the "Best Dressed" prize with their "parrot" noses.

We were very pleased to see some new Birch Lake neighbors join us and as with all our events we want everyone to know you are encouraged to come out and join us. Birch Lake is known for its welcoming reputation. Lastly, I'd like to thank Bud Hall and my husband Tom for their set up, clean up, errand-running ("Bud, we need paper towels now!") and overall support. In addition to all the people that helped make the party a success, there are other volunteer projects being completed behind the scenes. I want to thank Bud Hall and Phil Vitale who replaced rotten boards with new ones on the yacht club deck. Chas Grundy and Mike Sheffieck (West side) are currently getting quotes for a new, much-needed sound system that will go before the BLYC Board of Directors for their consideration.

This weekend will be hopping at Birch Lake. Friday, don't forget to pick up your pre-orders for the BLYC Port-A-Pit Chicken Fundraiser from 11 am - 12:30 pm at the Waxman's (East side). Cash-only purchases start at 12:30 pm up until 2 pm, or until we are sold out. Saturday is the Boat Parade at 4 pm. Participants line up at the Waxman's pier (East side) by

2022 Birch Lake Calendar

**July 2 - Boat Parade, FIREWORKS
July 2, 3 - July 4th Regatta** (rain day Monday, July 4 if needed)

July 3 - Camp Tannadoonah Pancake Breakfast, 8:30-11 am

July 22 - Ladies' Golf Outing, Diamond Lake Golf Course, 9 am, Luncheon, See P 8

July 23 - Family Picnic, BLYC, See P3

July 23 - Five Lakes MC Regatta, Indian Lake, details tba

July 29 - Mens Golf, Pine View., 1:30 pm shotgun start, dinner & awards following

Aug. 6 - Corn & Sausage Roast, 5:30-7 pm, BLYC

Aug. 20 - Fall Dinner, BLYC, See P3

Aug. 26 - Birch Lake Ladies Style Show & Luncheon, Woodfire, Dowagiac, See P 2

Sept 11 - Sailing Awards, Frew's house, time tba

Sept 17 - Crockpot Challenge, 6 pm, more details tba

BLYC BOARD MEETINGS

July 9, August 6, and Sept. 10

All meetings start at 9 am @ BLYC

3:45 pm. The highlight of the weekend will be the Saturday night fireworks that begin about dusk. The 4th of July Sailing Regatta features racing on Saturday and Sunday, with Monday as a back up day.

The Birch Barker will consider ads and editorial items for potential publication. E-mail items to sailorphil@philvitale.com, mail them to me (or put them in the stone mailbox) at 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore). Contact Editor Phil at onlinebarker@gmail.com, or at 476-1680 (no text). Contact Commodore Barb Cassady, via email at barbcassady49@gmail.com or call 574-574-229-9815. **DEADLINE** is Noon on the Tuesday of the week before the publication.

— Birch Lake Notes —

And finally, lots of pancakes will be flipped at the Camp Tannadonah Pancake Breakfast Sunday from 8:30 – 11 am. We hope you will join us for all these great events. Thanks to all the many volunteers making this fun available to Birch Lake.

With all this activity and lots of extra guests coming to Birch Lake, please use extreme caution whether you are out on the roads or on the lake. We want everyone to enjoy a SAFE and FUN weekend..

Take care, be safe, and I'll see you out on the lake.

~Commodore Barb Cassady

The Fourth of July Boat Parade

Everyone loves a parade! The marvelous, stupendous, and fantastic Birch Lake Boat Parade will be happening Saturday July 2 at 4 pm. The theme this year is "A Song that Reminds You of Birch Lake." On those cold, dreary winter days, a song will come on and you'll think, "that reminds me

of summers on Birch Lake." That song can be the theme for your boat! We want this year's parade to be the best attended ever. Who will win the coveted "Grand Champion" award? It could be your family!

If you don't want to decorate but want to join in the fun, just have your family name on the side of the boat and participate in the parade. Please stop at the Waxman pier on the east by 3:45 to register and allow the judges to see your boat. The line will form behind the Grand Marshal's boat which will lead the parade around the lake. Awards will be given out as you come back around by the judges.

And the Grand Marshal Is Coach Bill Doba!

Bill was born and raised in South Bend and graduated from New Carlisle High School. He attended Ball State University where he met Judy, his wife of 44 years. He started his successful football coaching career at Goshen High School,

moving on to Angola and Mishawaka High Schools. He coached college football at Indiana University, Purdue University, and the Citadel and retired as head football coach at Washington State.

As the Doba family moved around the country for Bill's coaching career, the one thing they always looked forward to was their time at Birch Lake. They've owned two different cottages on the south side over the last 31 years. His three children Scott, Kris, and Beth are regular visitors, along with his 6 grandchildren, Erin, Will, John, Sam, Taylor, and Parker.

Birch Lake Flotilla

Thursday July 14 – 6 pm

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

Bring an Appetizer.

Look for the boats in the middle!

Ladies Style Show and Luncheon

Mark your calendars for the Birch Lake Ladies Style Show and Luncheon on Friday, August 26. Lunch will begin at 11 am at the Wood Fire Trattoria in Dowagiac. Six lovely Birch Lake ladies will be modeling fashions from the Marshall Shoppe. Ticket information will be available soon.

MEN'S ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

The last Friday in July, 29. 1:30 pm shotgun start, \$75 each, \$300 per foursome at Pine View Golf Club, 52065 Pulver

WE DID IT! Birch Lake Yacht Club FIREWORKS FUND



June 27...

\$18,693

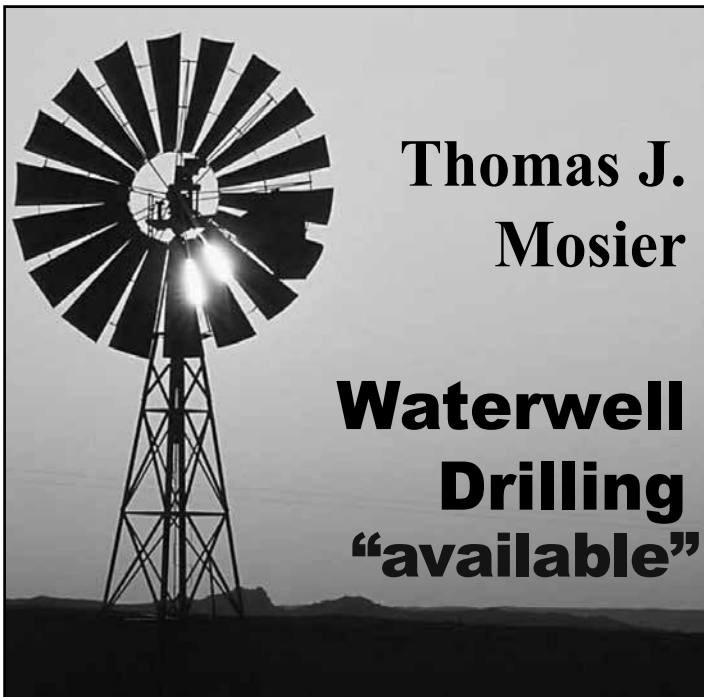
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— Birch Lake Notes —

Rd., Three Rivers, MI 49093. Be careful many GPS services lead you to a house on Marcellus Hwy, but you want to go north about 3/4 of a mile. Please show us how your foursome makes it fun and dress accordingly. Awards for best (craziest) dressed! The theme will be Olympic Gold Metal efforts. Our normal fare will be Chateaubriand, etc. Before July 10 please send your foursome names and checks to me, made out to BLYC, and mail to or drop in my mailbox at 63156 Birch Rd. Include your cell phone.

~ Pat McGann

Birch Lake Book Club

At our first meeting we had a wonderful discussion about The Betrayal of Anne Frank. It was great to see everyone! We want everyone to know that you are welcome to join these meetings anytime. We love to hear from everyone and their unique points of view. If you thought you needed to be invited, well this is your invitation!! We hope to see you next time.

For our July meeting we will be reading The Summer Cottage by Viola Shipman set in Saugatuck, MI. Thank you new member Jeanie Wiedenbeck for the suggestion. The author will be in St. Joe, MI on Tuesday, July 19 for an introduction to his new book and for a book signing. Decisions were made that we'd like to go and hear the author and have

dinner beforehand where we can discuss the book. We need to make reservations for the event ASAP so please let Claudia Phipps or Blair Garceau know by this Monday, June 27. Hope you can join us.

We're trying to update the Book Club email list. If you want to receive these emails please let Jackie Frew know. Thanks Jackie for taking on the management of the email list!! Her email is: seeit-all8@gmail.com

We hope to see you in July!

Guests coming

We look forward to arrival of Holiday guests, including: Calvin and Elizabeth (Liz) King (Oronoco, MN), Steve and Mary Kramer (Liz's parents, Dodge Ctr., MN), Chuck and Karen Horn (Carmel / Westfield farm, IN), Rick and Lisa Dwenger (Muncie, IN) and Steve and Nancy Barron (Bristol, RI). Cal's pals usually arrive by twos or tens. Apologies in advance :0)

~Leslie and Bob King

2022 Dues, donations, fireworks

Great Job Birch Lake, we exceeded our goal for the 2022 fireworks fund, but now we need to start the fund for next year, and the BLYC still needs operating capital. Please use the dues form in the Barker to submit your donations, or use

the online link (birchlakeyachtclub.com) to pay your yacht club dues. Checks should be mailed to Deb Spratt, 18100 Farmington Hills Dr. South Bend, IN 46637.

Yacht Club building rentals

To rent the BLYC building contact Sandy Vitale at 269-476-1680 or 269-858-8184.

2022 BLYC FAMILY PICNIC

Saturday July 23
5:30pm-9pm

FREE!

A free party for the Birch Lake community and your guests

Games, food, and music



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Commandment #2

A part of our study of The Six Commandments, let's consider Commandment # 2, "Thou Shalt Minimize Surface Runoff"

It has often been said that whatever is around a lake eventually gets into that lake. Unfortunately, that is typically true. This is particularly problematic when our lake takes some fifteen years to fully drain and replenish itself. Even worse, many of the most objectionable substances [phosphorus, etc.] settle into the material at the bottom of, and thus are not likely to ever leave, our lake.

Whenever planning to develop, modify, improve or even landscape your property, please consider that:

1) The fewer areas hard surfaced (by buildings, sidewalks, pavements, etc.) means less water is likely to runoff into the lake. Also, the greater the distance between the hard surface areas and the lake means less water is likely to runoff into the lake. These two axioms are important because this runoff often carries undesirable chemicals and objects into the lake.

2) Before disturbing the earth, you might be required, and it is a good practice, to first obtain a "Soil and Sedimentation

Control Permit." Installing a silt fence between the disturbed area and the shoreline to capture and contain runoff is typically called for by these permits and is usually a very wise thing to do anyway.

3) Capturing water and then piping it directly into the lake might only increase its velocity and minimize the chances that suspended solids will settle out before the runoff reaches the lake. Draining the water into dry wells instead of directly to the lake allows the water to be filtered by the soil below the dry well before it enters the aquifer (and eventually the lake).

4) Although better than hard surfaced areas, lawns don't do much to slow down or filter the runoff. However, a barrier strip of thick, rooted native plants at and above the shoreline does help to both slow down and filter the runoff. While any width strip is better than none, a 6' wide minimum barrier strip has been suggested as desirable. A barrier strip of 2 - 3' (or more) in height will help keep geese off of your property. (They like to be able to see the lake.)

At all times, even when not contemplating surface changes at your property, please remove and properly dispose of, or



protect and carefully store, any objects that are likely to, whenever washed into our lake, damage our lake. Examples that come to mind are oils, fuels, fertilizers, feces (goose, pet or other), ashes, leaves, trash, grass clippings, etc. Thank you for your help.

PLEASE PASS THE WORD

2022 Birch Lake Yacht Club

FALL DINNER

August 20, 2022

at the Birch Lake Yacht Club

5:30 – Appetizers:

an assortment of cheese and crackers, fruits, and vegetables and dip

6:30 – Dinner:

Polish Sausage, broasted chicken, kluski noodles, mashed potatoes and gravy, sweet & sour cabbage, seasoned green beans, rolls and butter (catering provided by The Skillet, South Bend)

7:30 – Year-End Meeting

\$25 per person

Tickets must be purchased in advance by using the Birch Lake Yacht Club website

<https://store.birchlakeyachtclub.com/>

or by contacting Vice Commodore Deb Hall (cove).

Tickets must be purchased by August 11.

No tickets will be sold at the door or after the above date.



FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER



BLYC Season Standings to date*

| Date..... | 26-Jun | 26-Jun..... | 26-Jun..... | Total | Point..... | Races..... | % | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|
| Race..... | 11 | 12 | 13..... | Points..... | Average | Finished | Finished | |
| MC Scow/Sailor | | | | MC Races..... | | | | 10 |
| Scott Troeger #1489..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | 8000..... | 1600..... | 5..... | 38.5% | |
| Barb Cassady #2506..... | 1..... | DNF..... | 1..... | 15017..... | 1502..... | 9..... | 69.2% | |
| Bob King #1199..... | 3..... | 2..... | 2..... | 7374..... | 1475..... | 5..... | 38.5% | |
| Phil Vitale #500..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | 10189..... | 1456..... | 7..... | 53.8% | |
| Bill Luecht #1579..... | 2..... | 1..... | 4..... | 15979..... | 1453..... | 11..... | 84.6% | |
| Pat Welch #1979..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | 13570..... | 1357..... | 10..... | 76.9% | |
| Pat McGann #1735..... | 4..... | 4..... | 5..... | 17379..... | 1337..... | 12..... | 92.3% | |
| Amber Grundy..... | 5..... | 3..... | 3..... | 15253..... | 1271..... | 12..... | 92.3% | |
| Sandy Vitale..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | 8171..... | 1167..... | 7..... | 53.8% | |
| Steve Frew..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | 1985..... | 993..... | 2..... | 15.4% | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|---------------------------|-----------|---------|--------|----------|
| Sunfish/Sailor | | | | Sunfish races..... | | | | 8 |
| Gail Turlock..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | 320..... | 1600..... | 2..... | 15.4% | |
| Bob King..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | 4721..... | 1574..... | 3..... | 23.1% | |
| Pete Soldato..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | 4565..... | 1522..... | 3..... | 23.1% | |
| Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)..... | 2..... | 1..... | 1..... | 19633..... | 1510..... | 13..... | 100.0% | |
| Stewart Spratt..... | 1..... | 2..... | 2..... | 8828..... | 1471..... | 6..... | 46.2% | |
| Scott Sortal..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | 7230..... | 1446..... | 5..... | 38.5% | |
| Bob Niezgodski..... | 3..... | 4..... | 3..... | 16596..... | 1383..... | 12..... | 92.3% | |
| Steve Frew..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | 11061..... | 1383..... | 8..... | 61.5% | |
| Herb Cleveland..... | 4..... | 3..... | DNS..... | 8887..... | 1270..... | 7..... | 53.8% | |
| Camille Butler..... | DNF..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | 13746..... | 1250..... | 9..... | 69.2% | |
| Chris Scofield..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | 2381..... | 1191..... | 2..... | 15.4% | |
| Jeff Walls..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | 9471..... | 1184..... | 8..... | 61.5% | |
| Tammy Walls..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | DNS..... | 1089..... | 1089..... | 1..... | 7.7% | |

DNS (Did Not Sail) does not count against season score, however sailor must complete 2/3 of races to qualify for season.

DNF (Did Not Finish) DSQ (Disqualified) scores as last place (if 5 boats started the race, you will be scored as 5th place).

DNF, DSQ not counted toward minimum number of races needed.

CB - sailor who serves on Committee Boat receives their season average place as of that date - counted toward season total.

Season Points are awarded on Square of 40 system (1st = 40 squared = 1600, 2nd = 39 squared, etc.)

Season Place = total season points/number of races attempted

Crew - Counted toward completed races, Points go to skipper of boat.

*Includes previous race data in totals

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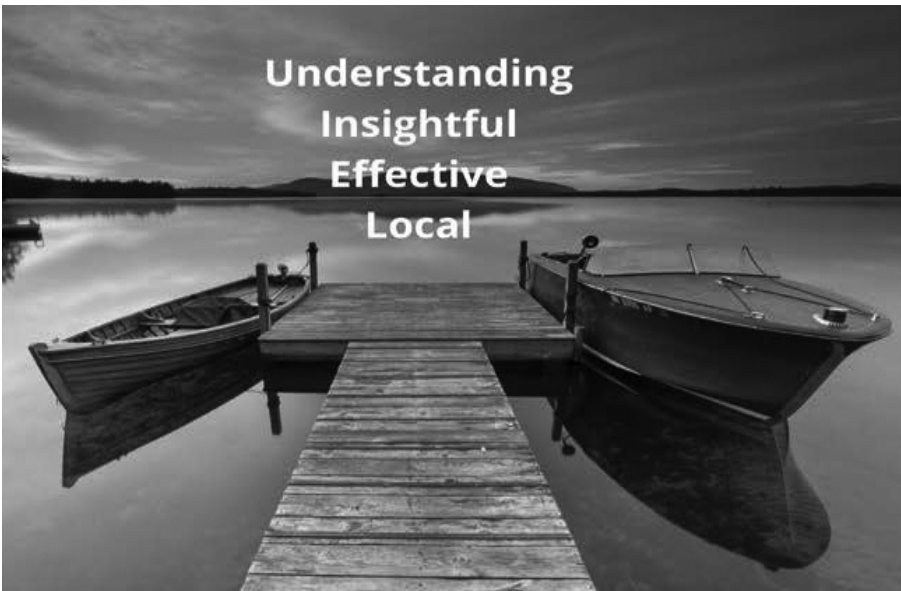
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FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER



Jackie and I were out of town on Sunday, June 26, but Commodore Barb Cassady told me that it was an absolutely beautiful, exhilarating day of sailing!

All three scheduled races were completed. Many thanks to all of the people whose generous service made that possible: Committee Boat Team Bad Patty Luecht, Good Patti Russwurm, and Deb Hall; Rescue Boat Captains Vic Jones; and Phil and Sandy Vitale and friends; and course-setting Captain Tom Cassady, who also crewed for his wife Barb on her MC.

And many thanks to Stewart Spratt, who over the winter had kindly agreed to back me up as Fleet Captain if necessary, and who did so last weekend.

In the MC class, Captain Barb and First Mate Tom scored two first-place finishes; Bill Luecht netted a first place and a second place; and Bob King went 3-2-2 for the day.

Among the Sunfish, Rick Russwurm and Stewart Spratt headed the field with Rick going 2-1-1 and Stewart going 1-2-2. Bob Niezgodski got two of the third-place spots, and Herb Cleveland also scored a third place finish.

We are looking forward to our Fourth of July Regatta, and are hoping for good wind!

Speaking of Regattas, we Birch Lake sailors and supporters are invited to attend the 5 Lake Regatta for MC sailboats that is being held on July 23 this year at Indian Lake. Commodore Barb put me in touch with John Smith at Indian Lake about this, and John provided the attached article written last year by Scott Troeger, that they will be using in their pamphlet for this year's Regatta. I enjoyed reading Scott's history of sailing on Birch Lake and seeing the photos, and hope that you do too.

~F.C. Steve

Birch Lake Yacht Club

Written by: Scott Troeger

Sailing on Birch Lake is the story of three fleets: Snipe, Sunfish and MC. Snipe racing began on Birch Lake in the late 1940s. The Snipe fleet thrived for several decades, with up to 14 Snipe regularly racing, and Birch Lake produced some sailors who competed successfully at the regional and national levels. During the Snipe era Birch Lake regularly participated in the annual tri-lake Snipe "Champagne Regatta" with Diamond and Eagle lakes, and in 1968 Birch Lake hosted the Jr. Snipe District 3 Championship Regatta, with 33 Snipe from states. With their mainsail and jib, Snipe required a crew member in addition to the skipper in order to sail competitively. This need for crew created great opportunities for kids to learn to sail - and also to learn how to cuss like true sailors.

The Sunfish fleet blossomed on Birch Lake from the mid-1960s. From 5 Sunfish in 1967, the fleet grew to 20 regularly competing Sunfish by 1970. In some years the Sunfish fleet was divided into regular and junior divisions for racing purposes and quite a few Birch Lake sailors competed in regional and national Sunfish regattas.

By the 1980s the MC scow had replaced the Snipe fleet on Birch Lake. The MC set up for single handed racing, so its skippers didn't have the problem faced by the Snipe owners in finding crew members when all the young sailors were skipping their own Sunfish.

Currently Birch Lake conducts MC and Sunfish races each Sunday morning during the summer sailing season, with regattas over the 4th of July and Labor Day weekends. Fleet sizes have waxed and waned over the years, but this Season 1 MC and 9 Sunfish have been competing in their respective fleet races.



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— Barker Kids of the Week —



These are all seven of the grandkids of Steve and Vickie Quinlan (west side). The family will all be here celebrating and remembering Steve, who passed away recently. Thanks to Caroline Kappel (Steve and Vickie's daughter) for the pic.



Kayson Patrick Ball (east side) celebrating his first 1/2 birthday! 6 months.

Blair Garceau, Claudia Phipps, and Sasquatch reminisce with past East sider Lynn DeCoker in St. Joe Michigan.



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— Barker Special Content —

Consider the Sunfish ...

The Sunfish sailboat is a personal size, beach launched sailing dinghy utilizing a pontoon type hull carrying a lateen sail mounted to an un-stayed mast.

Sunfish was developed by (*) Alcorn, Inc. and first appeared around 1952 as the “next generation” improvement on their original boat, the Sailfish. In contrast, the Sunfish has a wider beam for more stability, increased freeboard and the addition of a foot-well for a more comfortable sailing position. Sunfish began as a wood hull design and progressed to fiberglass construction just a few years after its introduction.

Having a lateen sail with its simple two line rigging makes a Sunfish simple to learn sailing on and to set up. Upgrades can be added to enhance sail control for competitive sailing, making the boat attractive to both novice and experienced sailors alike.

Due to the broad appeal of the Sunfish, in 1995 it was commended by The American Sailboat Hall of Fame for being “the most popular fiberglass boat ever designed, with a quarter million sold worldwide” (at that point in time). Today, the Sunfish brand-name has



become so widely known it is often misapplied generically to refer to any brand board-style boat sporting the characteristic lateen sail.

(*) Alexander “Al” Bryan and Cort-

landt “Cort” Heyniger (the Al and Cort in Alcorn)

History per Sunfish:

<https://www.sunfishclass.org/about/the-sunfish-class-history>

The Hard Way

by Chas Grundy

Every year we welcome new neighbors and friends to the lake, and many of them are experiencing the joys of boat ownership for the first time. Amber and I joined the lake in 2007 and over the past 15 years I’ve learned a lot. I wanted to share some advice.

If you put your boat in the water and forget to put the plug in the boat first, it will begin to sink. I learned this the hard way.

If you run out of gas, your boat will cease to operate and it will be very embarrassing. I learned this the hard way.

If you leave the pump, radio, or other peripherals switched on for a long time, it will drain the battery and your boat will not start. I learned this the hard way.

Tubes and towables are expensive and don’t seem to last more than a year at a time with moderate use. I learned this the hard way.

Forgetting to crank up your boat or secure it properly at the end of the day may result in your boat drifting to another

part of the lake. I learned this the hard way.

Fishing near people’s docks and swim areas (like Camp) can leave hooks which embed themselves in kids’ feet. I learned this the hard way.

The wind will find anything that you haven’t tied down or anchored securely and it will deliver said items to the far corners of the lake. I learned this the hard way.

One neighbor was all too happy to laugh at my misfortunes and inform me that BOAT stands for “Break Out Another Thousand.” I learned this the hard way.

The same neighbor - and countless others - are also happy to tow you when you’re stranded, loan you a tool, give advice, help launch or pull your boat, and be helpful in any way they could. I learned this the easy way, which included generous offers, sympathy, and even a beer or two. I couldn’t be more grateful.

As you look around the lake, remember that many of us learned these the hard way, too - and we’re here for you with a helping hand, a bit of advice, or a cold beverage.

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ELKHART & SOUTH BEND

Birch Lake Ladies Golf

Ladies! Our annual fun golf outing is Friday, July 22nd. Grab three of your besties and join us at Diamond Lake Golf Course. Tee off is at 9 am, with an enjoyable luncheon afterwards at the Yacht Club. You say you're not a good golfer? We don't care. It's a best-ball scramble so everyone can come and play without any worries. If you are unable to get a foursome together let us know and we'll help find you a great group of ladies who'll make it a fun day.

Just want to enjoy the lunch? There's space for that too. Check out the Ladies Golf Outing form in this Barker for more info or call one of us. Lunch should start around 11:30 or so. Come join us.

~Carol McCoy and Blair Garceau



Birch Lake Ladies' FUN Golf Outing

Friday, July 22, 2022

Diamond Lake Golf Course, Cassopolis

9 am Tee Off - \$40 per golfer

Please arrive no later than 8:30 AM

Fee includes cart and lunch

Box Lunch at Diamond Lake Golf Course following the Outing

If you don't golf but would like to join us at noon for lunch

Please register and pay \$15

If you'd like to sponsor a hole please contact either:

Blair Garceau 574-261-9817 or Carol McCoy 708-738-3962

Don't have a team? Sign up and we'll help find you one.

Registration Form

Team Members (list captain first with phone number)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Please make checks payable to BLYC . Bring or mail to :

Blair Garceau, 63542 Birch Road, Vandalia, MI 49095 or

Carol McCoy, 63021 Birch Road, Vandalia, MI 49095

Deadline for registration is July 18

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A FREE MARKET ANALYSIS OF YOUR
PROPERTY.**



— Water Quality Report —

Commandment # 2

As part of our study of The Six Commandments, let's consider Commandment # 2, "Thou Shalt Minimize Surface Runoff."

It has often been said that whatever is around a lake eventually gets into that lake. Unfortunately, that is typically true. This is particularly problematic when our lake takes some fifteen years to fully drain and replenish itself. Even worse, many of the most objectionable substances [phosphorus, etc.] settle into the material at the bottom of, and thus are not likely to ever leave, our lake.

Whenever planning to develop, modify, improve or even landscape your property, please consider that:

1) The fewer areas hard surfaced (by buildings, sidewalks, pavements, etc.) means less water is likely to runoff into the lake. Also, the greater the distance between the hard surface areas and the lake means less water is likely to runoff into the lake. These two axioms are important because this runoff often carries undesirable chemicals and objects into the lake.

2) Before disturbing the earth, you might be required, and it is a good practice, to first obtain a "Soil and Sedimentation Control Permit." Installing a silt fence between the disturbed area and the shoreline to capture and contain runoff is typically called for by these permits and is usually a very wise thing to do anyway.

3) Capturing water and then piping it directly into the lake might only increase its velocity and minimize the chances that

suspended solids will settle out before the runoff reaches the lake. Draining the water into dry wells instead of directly to the lake allows the water to be filtered by the soil below the drywell before it enters the aquifer (and eventually the lake).

4) Although better than hard surfaced areas, lawns don't do much to slow down or filter the runoff. However, a barrier strip of thick, rooted native plants at and above the shoreline does help to both slow down and filter the runoff. While any width strip is better than none, a 6' wide minimum barrier strip has been suggested as desirable. A barrier strip of 2 - 3' (or more) in height will help keep geese off of your property. (They like to be able to see the lake.)

At all times, even when not contemplating surface changes at your property, please remove and properly dispose of, or protect and carefully store, any objects that are likely to, whenever washed into our lake, damage our lake. Examples that



come to mind are oils, fuels, fertilizers, feces (goose, pet or other), ashes, leaves, trash, grass clippings, etc. Thank you for your help.

PLEASE PASS THE WORD

THE SIX COMMANDMENTS OF BIRCH LAKE WATER QUALITY

- I. Thou shalt prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). Natural Shorelines.
- II. Thou shalt minimize surface runoff.
- III. Thou shalt minimize the effects of waves.
- IV. Thou shalt protect and expand
- V. Thou shalt not allow phosphorus, nutrients, and other undesirable chemical elements to enter our lake.
- VI. Thou shalt remain informed and active about other Water Quality issues

Birch Lake items of interest

The Moon for this Saturday

(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)
Illuminated Fraction: 0.150
3.8 days before first quarter



Sunrise: 06:09:54 AM
Sunset: 21:22:34 PM
Moonrise: 09:12:11 AM
Moonset: NO MoonSet
Daylight: 15 Hr 12 Min 39 Sec

Most Common Pets

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| F | E | R | R | E | T | L | I | A | R | T | C | M | A |
| D | N | I | R | U | I | I | K | P | A | K | C | S | E |
| L | O | I | H | Z | A | U | E | N | T | E | T | K | G |
| N | R | N | A | E | G | U | B | I | R | D | A | T | E |
| E | S | R | D | K | O | I | T | E | S | L | I | K | L |
| K | D | H | B | T | D | T | H | T | L | T | G | N | I |
| C | A | S | N | A | K | E | H | I | R | A | U | K | B |
| I | R | I | H | G | K | E | H | I | E | K | A | H | R |
| H | E | S | R | H | T | C | R | F | E | T | N | A | E |
| C | T | H | A | H | N | A | A | I | A | N | A | I | G |
| D | S | T | S | I | E | L | T | R | U | T | M | T | I |
| U | M | N | H | I | M | R | T | A | C | N | F | Z | R |
| I | A | C | I | R | F | I | H | M | O | U | S | E | R |
| H | H | E | T | F | G | I | P | A | E | N | I | U | G |

BIRD
GUINEA PIG
IGUANA
DOG
RAT
HAMSTER
CHINCHILLA
TURTLE
LIZARD
GERBIL
SNAKE
CAT
FISH
CHICKEN
FERRET
MOUSE

Birch Barker Funnies



"No, it's not water. You seem to be retaining food."

I never thought I'd be the kind of person who'd wake up early in the morning to exercise ...

And I was right.

Realized I had to pee

Got up and walked to the pantry...

forgot why I was going to the pantry

Remembered I had to pee so went to the bathroom

Sitting on the toilet remembered why I was going to the pantry.... To get toilet paper



"It's just a simple little operation, but we want you to pay now."



"Try to relax."

We're all brave in our own way. For example, I am not afraid of raw cookie dough.



~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

Cherry Angle Food Cake

Recipe Summary

Prep: 30 mins

Cook: 50 mins

Additional: 10 mins

Total 1 hr 30 mins

Servings: 12

Yield: 1 - 10 inch tube pan

Ingredients

1 cup sifted cake flour

1 cup egg whites

¼ teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon cream of tartar

1¼ cups white sugar

¾ teaspoon vanilla extract

¼ teaspoon almond extract

cup maraschino cherries, drained and sliced



Directions

Step 1 - Preheat oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C).

Make sure your 10 inch tube pan is clean and dry. Sift flour three times and set aside.

Step 2- In a large glass or metal mixing bowl, beat egg whites with salt and cream of tartar until foamy. Gradually add sugar, continuing to beat until stiff peaks form. Blend in vanilla and almond extract. Fold the flour

into the whites until no streaks remain. Pour half of the batter into pan. Sprinkle with half of the cherries. Fill pan with remaining batter and top with remaining cherries.

Step 3- Bake in the preheated oven for 50 minutes. Invert pan and allow to hang until cake cools.

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— Camp Tannadoonah —

Gearing up for full capacity

We're into week three of camp, and it's our last "smallish" week for the summer. After the 4th of July we go to full capacity and have 150-160 kids every week! Right now we've been averaging right around 100 for these first three weeks, so it's going to be a big increase in how busy we all are in a couple days!

This week we have our first Advanced Sailing group of the summer, and Fleet Captain Steve Frew is volunteering again this week to help teach sailing. He has one class of regular sailors, and one class of Advanced Sailing. They're going to set a course on Thursday to learn about sailboat racing! And Steve plans to bring his MC over to take the sailors out to learn on a bigger boat than our little Barnetts that we typically use at camp.

This week I am going to be out all day Wednesday to visit another camp for their ACA (American Camp Association) Accreditation. The ACA organization accredits camps across the country – including Camp Tannadoonah – to ensure that everyone is following standards and meeting expectations for quality programming, training, staffing, and policies at their camps.

All of the accreditation visits for camps are done by a team of volunteers who have been trained in the standards, and have experience with accreditation at their own camps. Last summer we

had our ACA accreditation visit, which provides us with accreditation for the next 5 years. Each year, I visit 2-3 other camps for their accreditation process. It's always interesting to visit other camps and learn how they do things, and see their programs in action!

There is a long list of standards that everyone must meet in order to maintain their ACA Accredited Status, and they fall into seven categories: Core/Foundational Standards, Administration, Facilities, Health and Wellness, Staff Qualifications Training and Supervision, Program Design and Activities, and Aquatics.

We just launched registration for our "Gathering of Friends" Grown Up Camp Weekend this fall. It will be the weekend of September 23-25 and is open to all friends of Camp T – alumni, staff members, parents of campers, neighbors – anyone who loves camp! There will be options to register for the full weekend, Saturday only, or Saturday dinner only, and there is a young alumni discount for the weekend (for alumni in their 20s). Join us for a really fun weekend!

This weekend is our annual Pancake Breakfast at Camp T! Please come out on Sunday morning (July 3) between 8:30 and 11 am to have pancakes, sausage, coffee, juice, and best of all to see all your Birch Lake neighbors and guests at the lake for the holiday weekend! Cost is \$5 for ages 10 and older; \$2 for ages 5-10,



and free for kids 4 and younger.

If you'd like to volunteer at the breakfast, we can always use extra hands in the kitchen or helping in the dining room! Email me and I'll send you a link to the volunteer sign up. As always, we will have our Camp Trading Post open so you can stock up on your Camp T gear, too! We have Camp Tannadoonah t-shirts, hoodies, tank tops, hats, coffee mugs, water bottles, stuffed animals, frisbees, stickers and MANY more fun items to show your Camp T spirit.

~Mrs. Amber

Considering selling your lake home or property?

Don't wait!

Here are a few great reasons to put your home on the market.

- Beat the competition
- Inventory is at an all time low
- Plenty of qualified buyers actively looking
- More people than ever are looking for a second home

Dennis Bamber and his group sold over 100 waterfront and lake access homes in Michigan and Indiana over the past few years.

Dennis has been a Diamond Lake resident for over 30 years.

Many of the group's listings sold quickly and over asking price. Take advantage of their wealth of experience with lake properties and contact Dennis now!



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FOR SALE:

For sale: **Melges MC** with trailer. Hull # 247
Reconditioned two years ago and sailed for the last two
years. All new lines, many new parts. Solid, fully func-
tional, sails well. **PRICE REDUCED AGAIN**
NOW JUST \$600 (OBO).
476-1680, or email onlinebarker@gmail.com

Jet Ski lift for sale - PWC cantilever lift,
750lb capacity and 51"beam. Price \$500. Call 574-220-
0407

Vinyl boat lift cover. \$295. Call 574-596-
2154.

LOST:

Floated away from North Shore home sometime before
Halloween, **Turtle raft**, made out of deck material
with Styrofoam floats on the underneath on short rope.
Please contact Mike at (574) 286-3135

FOUND:

White cushion, looks like a
boat cushion,
washed up on west side
after the big storms last
week. Call Ron or Katie
(269) 476-9317 to claim.



Found: **One Pelican kayak paddle.** Sitting
on end of Dugan pier or call 269-832-5588.

FOR RENT:

Interested in a unique fun vacation? Check out our
Florida Village house at ourhome4rent.com/
cjp Call 574-596-2154 for more info.

For rent: Three bedroom, one full bath with tub and
shower, **lakefront house on Birch Lake.**
New granite kitchen and new stainless appliances with
dishwasher, washer and dryer also. Nice pier with big
platform. Plenty of parking. Beautiful sunsets all year
long. Possible ski, pontoon, row boat, and sailboats
available for rent also. Sleeps six in beds plus room for
more. Contact Pat McGann call/text 574-532-5377.

FREE:

Small children's rowboat, 8' long, free to a

good home. Contact Jon @ 574 339-6492

**Two sets of men's golf clubs with
bags, free** to someone who wants them, leave a
msg at 574-299-0705 ~ Bob

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I do **sewing and mending** at fair prices - zip-
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· feeding \$0.50 (water included)

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FAREWELL PARTY FOR GORDON & MICHELLE SEYFARTH

When: Wednesday July 27

Time: 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Bring: Appetizer to share

Where: Home of Claudia & Dennis Phipps

14719 Kiloqua Woods Lane

Help celebrate the Seyfarth's 20 years of living on Birch and their new life in The Villages, Florida. Dessert and Wine will be provided.

HOW TO BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR



**Tip No 4:
STAY
CLEAR OF
THE BOAT
PARADE!**

Boats that are not IN the Boat Parade should stay clear and out of the route.

This message is brought to you by the Homeowners Association of Birch Lake

2022 BLYC OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

2022 BLYC OFFICERS

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blairgarceau@gmail.com



BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB
THE TIME IS RIGHT
TO PAY YOUR DUES!



Support the BLYC, support our Lake, support our Community!

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

\$___ - BLYC Associate Member* Dues (\$10 / year)

*Associate membership is available to current associate members and for non-lake residents who wish to support the BLYC

\$___ - 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

\$___ - BLYC AED Fund

\$___ - Misc.

Total contribution:

\$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Make checks payable to

BLYC

and mail to Deb Spratt, Treasurer
18100 Farmington Hills Dr.
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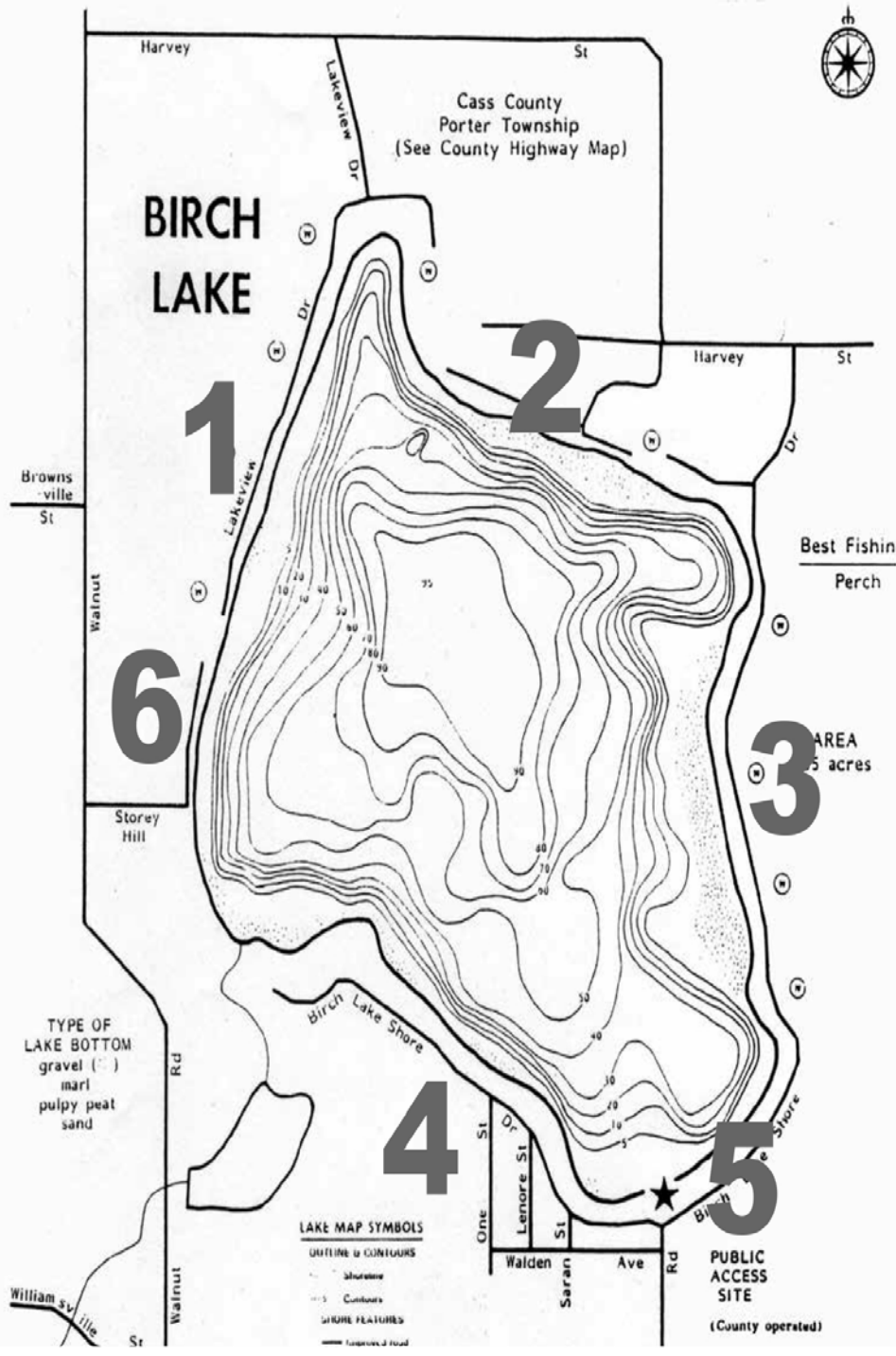
Now you can go online at [HTTP://BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM](http://BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM) to pay your dues

EMERGENCY HEART DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) locations on Birch Lake

CALL 9-1-1



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ALARM WILL
SOUND**



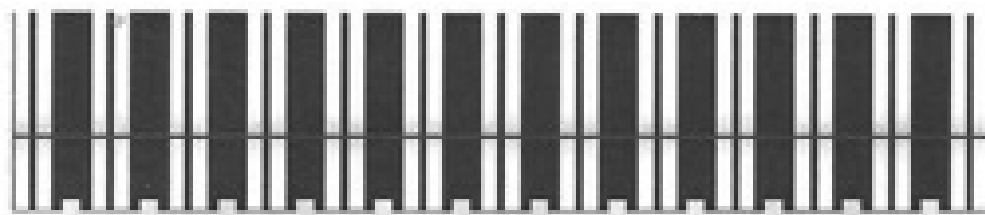
There are six (6) automated external defibrillator units on Birch Lake. The boxes that contain these devices are located at the following locations (see map):

1. **West Shore, Sheffieck home,**
62875 Birch Lakeview Dr.
2. **North Shore, Smitley home,**
14859 Birch Northshore Dr.15046
3. **East Shore, Vitale home,**
63174 Birch Rd.
4. **South Shore, Eberhart home,**
15046 Birch Lakeshore Dr.
5. **South/East Shore, Troeger home,**
63696 Birch Rd.
6. **Southwest Shore, DeYoung home,**
63255 Storey Hill St.

All units are on the ROAD SIDE of the property and accessible by vehicle or on foot.

IN AN EMERGENCY:

1. CALL 911 and report the emergency and the patient's location immediately.
2. Pull the box open, remove the orange-colored unit, TAKE IT TO THE PATIENT and open the device by pressing the white lever at the bottom.
3. An automated voice will guide you through the setup and use of the defibrillator. Follow the instructions as they are given.
4. Continue to follow the instructions as given, and stay with the patient until help arrives.



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