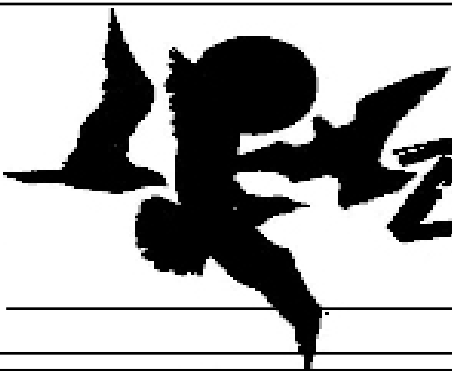


Weekend of | **June 22,
2024**



Birch Barker

<http://www.philvital.com/Barker/BirchBarker.htm>

The official summer publication of the
Birch Lake Yacht Club



Thanks to Bud Hall (cove) for the pic of the big duck on the camp's downed log ... (ok, li know, it's not a duck it's a heron).

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

With the Sunday sailboat races completed, I again sit at the end of my pier attempting to write the Commodore's Comments. Just a light breeze today, helping to keep the sun rays tolerable. Beautiful weather at Birch Lake.

First of all clarification of the boat parade date of July 6, not July 7, as I previously wrote in my Commodore Comments. My apologies to anyone planning for July 7 parade. Truth be told, I was hoping to thin the competition out a bit to help ensure a prize for my own family entry. "Favorite movies" is the theme this year and the chairman, Dan Waxman promises stiff competition.

The Trivia night committee asked me to include in this week's Commodore Comments that Dave Carroll (west side) won the 50/50 raffle and proceeded to donate his winnings to the water quality fund. Thank you Dave.

Last evening's Commodore/ Vice Commodore party took place with close to 100 Lakers coming in and out. I was pleased to see a lot of new faces at the

event and hope they enjoyed themselves. Donations of beer, wine, and pop are much appreciated. Thank you to Keith Kinzler for the use of his margarita machine and the "strong" backs of Tim Burchell and Ray Scholes who help set it up. The two guys seem to enjoy draining the machine far more than hauling it to the yacht club. Thanks to Jen Ball, Jill Scholes, and Vice Commodore Julie Dickey for helping me decorate. I really had fun cutting out the palm fronds that

turned the six pillars in the yacht club into royal palms, complete with balloon coconuts. Jill is getting very good at mastering our A/V setup and producing a playlist of some great Jimmy Buffett style songs. It's really a thankless job, as revelers can get pretty loud and drown out the great music, but thank you again Jill. Thank you to Pat McGann who brought his margarita bike to display. Vanessa Wozniak thought it would be a great auction item so he's lucky he

2024 Birch Lake Calendar

JUNE

June 27 - Card night 7 pm, BLYC, TBA
June 29 - Spaghetti Dinner, 5:30-8 pm, Tickets must be purchased in advance, BLYC

JULY

July 6 - Boat Parade, Theme: Favorite Movie, Line up at 2:30 pm at Waxmans', 3 pm start
July 6 - FIREWORKS, 10 pm (approx.)
July 6-7 - Fourth of July Regatta
July 7 - Camp T pancake breakfast
July 13 - Board Meeting, 9 am, BLYC
July 19 - Women's Golf Outing, TBA
July 20 - Kids' Kayak races
July 20 - Family Picnic, TBA
July 25 - Card Night, 7 pm, BLYC, TBA

July 26 - Men's Golf Outing, 8 am, Hampshire
July 27 - Don Harman Kidz Sunfish Regatta (Tentative date), King's (north side), TBA

AUGUST

Aug 3 - Corn & Sausage, 5:30-7 pm, BLYC
Aug 10 - Board Meeting, 9 am, BLYC
Aug 17 - Earl Troeger Jr. Memorial MC Interlake Regatta, more info TBA
Aug 23 - Women's Style Show and Luncheon - Woodfire Restaurant, TBA,
Aug 24 - Fall Dinner & Annual Meeting, TBA
Aug 29 - Card Night, 7 pm, BLYC, TBA
Aug 31, Sept. 1 - Sat/Sun, Labor Day Regatta, backup Mon.

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 7 - Board Meeting, 9 am, BLYC
Sept. 7 - Sailing Award Lunch, 1 pm, BLYC
Sept. 7 - Fall Frolic Free Concert, BLYC, TBA

OCTOBER

October 19 - Bad Patty Luecht Crockpot Challenge (tentative date), TBA

The Birch Barker will consider ads and editorial items for publication. E-mail items to onlinebarker@gmail.com, mail them or put them in the stone mailbox at 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore). For **editorial concerns contact Editor Phil** at onlinebarker@gmail.com, or at 476-1680 (no text). For **delivery concerns contact Ron Niezgodski**, birchbass1@gmail.com or 476-9317. For all other matters **contact Commodore Sue Davis**, at eyesnd76@gmail.com or 574-993-6031. **DEADLINE** is always Noon on the Tuesday of the week before the publication.

— Birch Lake Notes —

got it back home. As always, Phil and Sandy Vitale did an excellent job as our bartenders. As nothing has been budgeted for the Kids Kayak Races I'm hoping to use those funds to secure lifeguards and ice cream treats for the kids. It would really be helpful if I could get some kind of idea of how much interest there is in the event. Courses will be tailored to each of the age groups so there should be no need to be concerned about difficulty of completion of the course by younger ones. Kayaks will be provided if necessary, but competitors are encouraged to bring their own if they have them.

There is still plenty of opportunity to get your Birch Lake memories or Birch Lake history printed in the Barker. Please submit to me, and Phil and I will see to it that they are included in this summer's Barkers. Email EYESND 76@gmail.com.

As always I close with a nod to my father Joe's (Commodore BLYC 1975) thoughts, "May the memories remain and the view stay the same" on our Golden Pond.

~Commodore Sue Davis

Boat Parade theme

Dan Waxman, chairman of the annual Birch Lake Boat Parade scheduled for July 6 this year, has announced that the theme for this year's parade will be "Favorite Movie."

Kids' Kayak Races

We are in the planning stages for the first and hopefully annual Kids Kayak Races on July 20. Details for the layout of the course are still being hammered out as we want to make this as safe as possible for the participants. A



Join Claudia Phipps most Thursdays at the yacht club for Yoga ... (No yoga July 25) Classes are 75 minutes

● \$5 fee goes to water quality
BRING WITH YOU:

- Yoga mat
- Two beach towels or blankets for Yoga Nidra Shavasana (the YC is cold with a cold floor, body temp will drop)
- A pillow or two for under the knees and head
- An eye pillow or scarf to block out the light

life jacket must be worn, and a waiver must be signed by all participants' parents. If you would like to join the competition but do not have a kayak, we hope to have a number available for your child's use. There will be a 10-and-under race, 11-12 race, and a 13-15 race. Lifeguards will be present. Ice cream treats will be available at the end of the competition, and winners will be announced at the family picnic in the afternoon. Please email EYESND 76@gmail.com or phone 574-993-6031 if you are interested in participating.

~Commodore Sue Davis

Save the date for free concert

Some past commodores from Birch Lake would like to present the first "Fall Frolic" on September 7, with the DAWG Band featuring Duane Gundy on mandolin and guitar, Jim Shenk on pedal steel guitar and Randy Horst on upright bass. Their repertoire includes acoustic rockin' folk music and Americana old and new. Stay tuned for further details in the Barker.

Spaghetti Dinner is June 29

The spaghetti dinner this year will be on June 29. Please come and join your fellow Birch Lake neighbors at the Yacht Club from 5:30 until 8 pm, for an "authentic" Italian spaghetti dinner.

Please make sure to purchase your tickets before June 24; tickets WILL NOT be sold at the door; Tickets sales to date have been rather slow

Adult tickets (11 & up) are \$10, children (5-10) \$6, little ones (4 & under) free. Tickets can also be purchased from Vickie Rogers (Cove) 269-476-2383, Leslie King (North shore) 574-276-9996, Cam Butler (West shore) 574-596-1066, Sue Williams (South shore) 574-298-2839 or Blair Garceau (East shore) - 574-261-9817.

We will be serving regular and gluten-free spaghetti with the world-famous Niezgodski red marinara sauce (the Committee has completed 27 gallons of the marinara sauce), and the super-rich Plaia Alfredo sauce, along with Italian meatballs and a freshly made tossed salad accompanied by Italian bread and butter and delicious homemade desserts. Water, iced tea and lemonade will be provided.

Feel free to bring a bottle of vino to round out your dining experience. Carry-out will be available.

Proceeds from the sale of the tickets will go to the Birch Lake Yacht Club building improvement fund. There will be a 50/50 raffle with proceeds going to Water Quality.

Looking forward to sharing a meal with all of our lake neighbors and their guests.

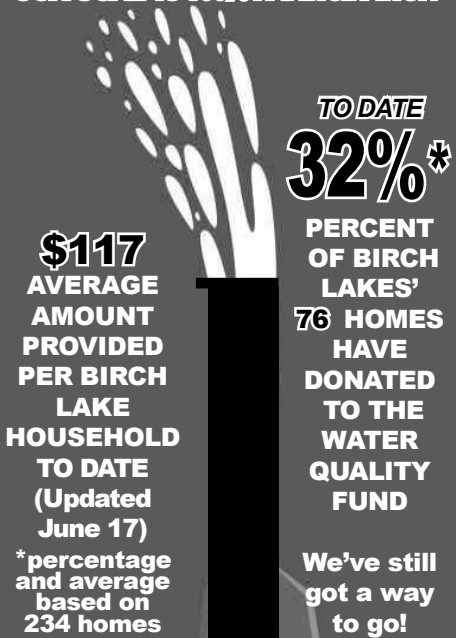
The Spaghetti Dinner Committee would like to thank the following individuals for their generosity and time. Without their help the annual spaghetti dinner would not be a success.

Ron, Kathy & Bobby Niezgodski - consultants and door ticket takers
Tom Kuhn & Jan Temple - donating the

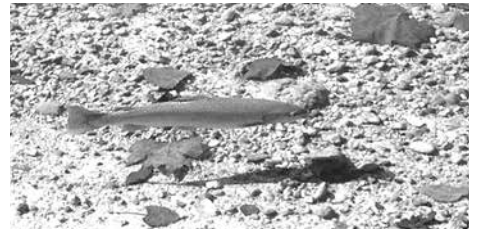
Birch Lake Yacht Club WATER QUALITY CONTRIBUTIONS

Contribute now with a click at:
<https://store.birchlakeyachtclub.com>

OUR GOAL IS 100% PARTICIPATION



To donate for **WATER QUALITY** or any BLYC activity or event, use the form in the back of this week's Barker or visit the website above



This was taken in about 3 to 4 ft. of water. I always use this picture to brag to people about our amazing lake. Thanks Water Quality!

~Barb Rondot, east side

regular and gluten free spaghetti; Andy Snyder, Bill Luecht and Steve Plaia - spaghetti cooks; Dan Waxman - donating the Italian bread, butter and dish washer/clean-up; Jim Calderwood- bread server; Carla Chester - dessert maker & dessert server; Amber Gundy, Camp Tannadoonah - use of kitchen; Lynn & Marc Caenepeel and Deb & Bud Hall - donating salad fixings and salad table servers; Debbie & Carmen Soldato - donating drinks; Steve Plaia & Karen Brovold - donating Alfredo sauce and clean-up; Peggy Geik - dessert maker; Julie & Mike Sheffieck - cookie maker and set-up; Cindy & Kevin Bernaciak -

BLYC and social media

The Birch Lake Yacht Club **DOES NOT** have a Facebook page, nor is it participating in any form of social media. If you see Birch Lake Yacht Club information on any social media, the information has not been provided, checked or approved by the BLYC, and may be incorrect or misleading. If you have questions or concerns, please check <http://www.philvitale.com/Barker/BirchBarker.htm>, or contact any BLYC director or officer (see "officer and director" information in any edition of the Barker).

— Birch Lake Notes —

50/50 raffle; Jennifer & John Ball - dinner servers; Bruce Wagner - Parmesan cheese server; Claudia Phipps - dessert chairperson; Bill Butler - set-up and clean-up; John Luecht clean up, Vickie Rogers, Leslie King, Cam Butler, Blair Garceau & Sue Williams - ticket sales; Stacia Andriano & Cam Butler- donating supplies; Andy & Lori Snider – serving and clean-up; David & Terry Carroll – serving; Holly Troeger – serving; Paramount Properties, from Rick and Patti Russwurm – cash donation; Robert & Kim Dunlop – cash donation, and an

Roger Falk - cash donation (north shore). We are looking for additional donations and help for the dinner. If you would like to volunteer, contact Stacia Andriano @ 260-710-5883, Karen Brovold @ 269-362-3150 or Cam Butler @ 574-596-1066.

GRAZIE MILLE from
~The Spaghetti Dinner Committee

Raffle to split the pot

There will be a 50/50 Split-the-Pot raffle to benefit the Water Quality Fund at the Spaghetti Dinner on June 29. Please bring **CASH** for a chance to win half the pot!

The printed Barker

The Birch Barker is delivered to homes on Birch Lake each week, and is online at <http://www.philvitale.com/Barker/BirchBarker.htm>.

The deadline for submitting materials is noon on Tuesday of the week before publication. Materials can be emailed to onlinebarker@gmail.com or sailorphil@philvitale.com, or put in my mailbox at 63174 Birch Rd. (if you want materials back, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope).

Advertising rates are at <https://www.philvitale.com/Barker/BirchBarker.htm>. To buy an ad or for more info, contact me by email or at 476-1680.

Yacht Club building use

For information on the rules and requirements, or to make arrangements to use the Birch Lake Yacht Club build-

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Our goal for 2024 is
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ing for a non-BLYC event, call or text Sandy Vitale at 269-858-8184, or send her an email at sv6102@gmail.com.

Birch Lake Flotilla

**Sunday July 14 – 6 pm
(Rain date-July 15 at 6)**

Due to past successful flotillas, let's do it again! Meet in the middle of the lake with your boat.

Bring an Appetizer. Dessert will be provided.

Boats will be tied together and we will walk from boat to boat sharing food and camaraderie.

Look for the boats in the middle!

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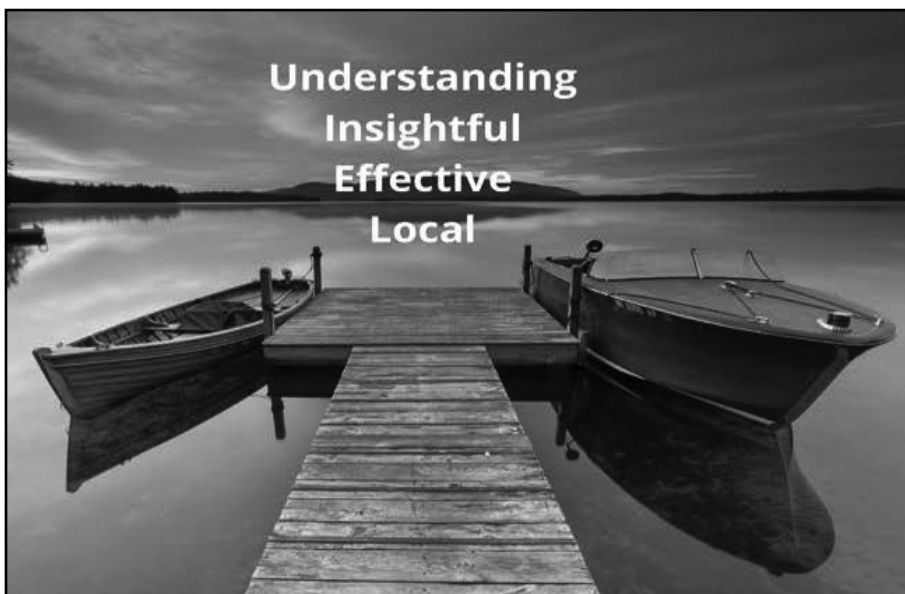
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— Comm/Vice Comm Party —



Photos by *Jill Scholes* and *Ronnie Eshleman*



BLYC 64th Annual Birch Lake Yacht Club

MEN'S GOLF OUTING

FOUR MAN FLORIDA SCRAMBLE

FRIDAY, JULY 26, 2024

\$75/MAN*



**Hampshire Country Club - Dogwood Course
29592 Pokagon Hwy., Dowagiac**

Shotgun start at 8 am

Dinner and awards at BLYC

Cocktail Hour at 5 pm, Dinner and awards at 6 pm

Please submit your foursome registration to John Ball, 63690 Birch Road, Vandalia, MI 49095 574-535-3736

Make checks payable to BLYC

Individual registrations available

Must have completed registrations by July 15

2018 BLYC Men's Golf Outing Foursome Information

Team prizes and contests

Catered dinner at BLYC included

Prizes awarded at dinner

*Donations of door & team prizes needed**

*If you have access to logo or golf or lake related merchandise that could be donated, please

Contact John Ball at john.ball0452@gmail.com

2024 BLYC Men's Golf Outing Foursome Information

TEAM CAPTAIN:

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— Water Quality Report —

The state of the lake Part 2

State of the Lake: Part 2

Last week in the Barker we reported on the Cooperative Lake Monitoring Programs (CLMP) summary regarding the testing that had been conducted at Birch Lake by Jennifer Ball during the summer of 2023. This included transparency by Secchi Disk, spring and summer phosphorous levels, chlorophyll-a concentrations, and dissolved oxygen/temperature profiles over the course of the season.

The conclusion from CLMP was that we are a mesotrophic/oligotrophic lake. An oligotrophic lake is nutrient-poor, with few plants and very clear water. Eutrophic lakes are highly productive, with lots of plants and/or algae and have less clear water. Mesotrophic lakes are in-between.

Over the course of several years at Birch Lake there has been little change beyond minor year to year variations. Nonetheless, the 2022 trophic status (the total weight of biomass in a given body of water at the time of measurement) was above what we have been seeing and created some concern about a future trend.

Of note was the rise in the summer phosphorous in 2022, which has now been seen in 2023. Increased phosphorous normally means an increase in productivity in the lake. Thus, at the end of the summer in 2023, we decided to add some additional testing from Progressive AE to confirm or contrast what we might see from the 2023 CLMP report, and to look at a couple of additional parameters. The report from Progressive AE on their late summer testing is attached as an addendum. The time frame of the testing aligns with the last testing that was conducted for the CLMP report.

The Progressive AE report differs

from the CLMP report on the level of chlorophyll-a. Their test indicated a much lower concentration. However, the late summer phosphorous was quite similar and of concern. Progressive added a couple of additional data points, namely pH and alkalinity. pH refers to the acidity or basic level of the lake. Our own bodies operate at about a pH of 7.4 and most biological life exists in a range of 6-9. A pH of 8 or so is of no concern in our lake and, in fact, provides for the ability of our flora and fauna to flourish.

The term “alkalinity” is important. This refers to the ability of a body of water to buffer the effects of influxes like acid and acid rain. We are a carbonate rich lake due to springs that bring in water which percolates through limestone deposits. This makes the lake protective from any acid influx but keeps it in the more basic pH range. In addition to the data provided, the Progressive AE report is quite educational and clearly defines each of the testing parameters and their utility. Please read and keep a copy for future reference.

As noted above, both the CLMP and Progressive AE report define Birch Lake’s trophic status as mesotrophic/oligotrophic. This designation is not a negative. It means basically that Birch is a quality lake with modest productivity. Birch Lake is a wonderful fishery; deep, cold and with a good oxygen level (making it ideal for trout and other cold water stocking programs) and we hope that continues. What we do not want is for productivity to increase and push us toward a more mesotrophic leaning, especially with any speed. Maybe in a few hundred years or more but not in the ensuing decades.

So, what might be the causes or



reasons for the increases in late summer phosphorous? First, we are in a steep basin. That means when we get heavy rains, runoff is rapid. Secondly, we have a hardscaped perimeter. Houses of increasing size, concrete driveways, patios, roads etc. Thus, there is less forest, grass, garden, etc. to absorb the rain, meaning more stuff around the lake will get into the lake. Thus, please ensure that if you are using fertilizer, use a non-phosphorous fertilizer. Thirdly, our shoreline is not lined with lots of natural vegetation providing a buffer between the land and the lake. Lastly, our recreational activities could stir up the bottom from prop wash and wave action helping to suspend phosphorous from the sediment into the water column.

Keep the recommendations in mind for wake boats (15-foot minimum depth and 500 feet from the shoreline) and all other activities such as skiing or tubing. Remember, we’re all stakeholders in this beautiful lake. It’s on us to keep it that way.

EMERGENCY HEART DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) locations on Birch Lake

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.

— Birch Lake Memories —

History of Williamsville

The first 100 years, 1828-1928

By **SUSAN DAVIS, Commodore**

If you've traveled the roads surrounding Birch Lake, your thoughts may wonder to what is Williamsville. The tiny village on the southwest corner of Birch Lake was once an integral part of Birch Lake commerce.

The first families settled in 1828-29, Nathan Williams, John White, and John East. In 1848 the town of Williamsville was laid out by Joshua Williams, son of Nathan. The first store and gristmill were built at that time.

The underground railroad ran through this section of Southwest Michigan ending near Cassopolis. The first sawmill with a water wheel was erected in the '50s, and the first school was built at that time. A second sawmill was envisioned but never finished as the surveyed railroad connecting White Pigeon, Constantine, Williamsville and on to Saint Joe, Michigan, never materialized. From Constantine, the rail turned and headed to Chicago instead.

The 1870s and '80s saw great expansion of the village with the grocery store, feed barn and livery, wagon shop, and a physicians office with a barbershop

situated in the office's hallway. With a population around 300 the town welcomed a second physician, blacksmith shop, cabinet and print shop, and general store. The '90s brought a telephone pay station and rural mail delivery in 1902.

It is recorded that much of the village's entertainment and socialization centered around music. The "McKinley Liberty Poll" with a team of gray and cream mules circled the pole to the tune of "Mule, Mule Song," composed by local resident Moses Garner. A band of nine instruments was organized with three harmonicas, three banjos, and three guitars, and they played at village get-togethers. It was said that Clarence East, the leader of the band, was the best harmonica player in the United States! The band had the honor of playing for CG Conn (Conn Instrument Co. of Elkhart) at his Shavehead Lake cottage on several occasions.

The women's Birch Lake Embroidery Club was organized in 1904 and a sociability "Grange" was organized in 1907 with a membership of 40 residents.

Next week, the second hundred, years 1920s to present.

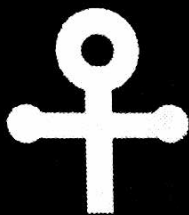
The Moon this Saturday

(At Midnight, US Central time, viewed from the Birch Lake)
Illuminated Fraction: 0.978
1.2 days after full moon

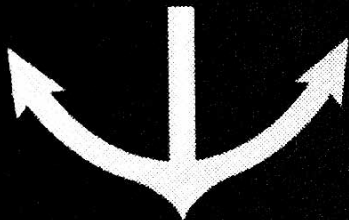


Sun and Moon this Week

Sunrise: 06:06:13 am
Sunset: 21:22:44 pm
Moonrise: 07:37:42 pm
Moonset: 06:08:26 am
Hours of Daylight:
15 Hr 16 Min 30 Sec



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FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER



We finished 3 races in less than 90 minutes, thanks to a strong south wind. Taking best advantage of the opportunity were Barb Cassady with her daughter Maggie Cassady in the MC fleet, and Rick Russwurm in the Sunfish fleet - both of these boats went 2-1-1 for the day. Other leaders of their packs were Scott Troeger with 1-2-3 and Bill Luecht with 3-2-2 in the MC fleet; while in the Sunfish fleet, Stewart Spratt was 1-3-2 and Bob Niezgodski came in 3rd twice.

Thank you to our loyal and steadfast Support Team! Committee Boat: Ron Niezgodski, Bill Butler and Steve Plaia. Course Setting / Safety Boat: Tom Cassady and Vic Jones. It wouldn't happen without you!

Interlake MC Regatta update

We are now less than two months from the Earl Troeger, Jr. Memorial Interlake MC Regatta on Saturday, August 17, with 3 races starting at 11. Please plan to stay off the lake during

those three races, as the course will take up most of the lake. Interlake Regatta Chair Barb Cassady is making plans to organize at least two spectator boats to take people out to watch on that day, and the captains will know how to avoid interfering with the race. Stay tuned. Thank you!

At this writing, next Sunday looks like another day of great wind for sailing! Prayers are being answered!

~F.C. Steve

2024 sailing results & season standings to date

Date.....6/16.....6/16.....6/16..... Total Points..... Point Average..... Races Finished

MC/Sailor Total MC Races = 12.....

Barb Cassady #2506	.....2	.....1	.....1	.....18807	.....1567.25	.....12
Scott Troeger #1489	.....1	.....2	.....3	.....15449	.....1544.9	.....10
Patrick Welch #1979	.....DNS	.....DNS	.....DNS	.....8666	.....1444.33	.....6
Bill Luecht #1579	.....3	.....3	.....2	.....8591	.....1431.83	.....6
Steve Frew #656	.....4	.....CB	.....4	.....16586	.....1382.16	.....12
Ashly Connaugaton #1979	.....DNF	.....DNS	.....DNS	.....5490	.....1372.5	.....3

Sunfish/Sailor Total Sunfish Races = 12.....

Scott Sortal	.....DNS	.....DNS	.....DNS	.....4721	.....1573.66	.....3
Rick Russwurm	.....2	.....1	.....1	.....18730	.....1560.83	.....12
Stewart Spratt	.....1	.....3	.....2	.....18102	.....1508.5	.....12
Pete Soldato	.....4	.....2	.....DNS	.....2890	.....1445	.....2
Bob Niezgodski	.....3	.....4	.....3	.....17107	.....1425.58	.....12
Herb Cleveland	.....5	.....5	.....DNF	.....8143	.....1357.16	.....5
Camille Butler	.....DNS	.....DNS	.....DNS	.....3888	.....1296	.....3

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

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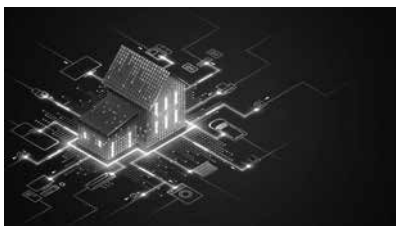
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— Barker Kids of the Week —



Tom, Connor and Abby Caplis, north shore kids with Dad on Father's Day 2024



Above: Caden King, newborn son of Cal and Liz King and grandson of Les and Bob King (north shore) is seen in an over-the-shoulder peek by Deb Hall (cove) and Les King in this nice photo sent in by Bud Hall.



Above: Elle Guyton, granddaughter of Diana Wozny and Craig Fredlake (south side) and Bob and Kathy Wozny (west side), celebrating her graduation from St. Joseph High School South Bend with her brother, Tate Guyton. So proud of our granddaughter.

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TO DO LIST!

- Call Ashly 3 months before turning 65 to discuss your enrollment in Medicare Parts A & B
- Avoid Penalties! If over 65, ask employer for proof of insurance.
- Watch for your new Medicare card to arrive in the mail.

Keep This List!

Let's Talk! Over-the-phone appointments welcome!
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No obligation!

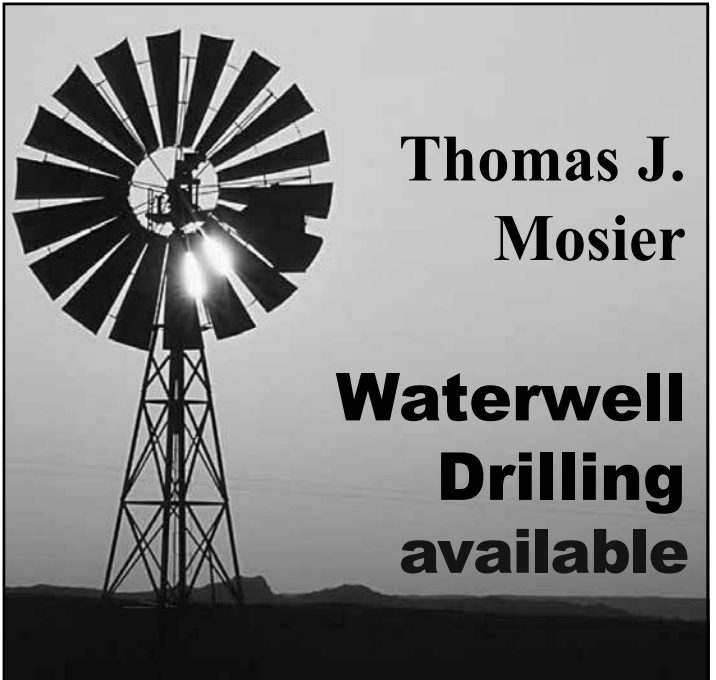


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Birch Lake Misc.

2024/25 BLYC Directory

We are planning to produce a new Birch Lake Directory this year (a lot of changes have occurred since the last one in 2022).

If you have new listings, changes, corrections or updates, please send them to Deb Spratt via email at debspratt@comcast.net or to me at onlinebarker@gmail.com, and we'll do our best to get them included.

Please use the format at right to provide the information.

If you are interested in advertising in the directory, please contact Phil Vitale at onlinebarker@gmail.com or call 476-1680.

Cottage # (if known)

Last name, first name(s)

Lake address

Phone #(s)

Email address

Children(s) names



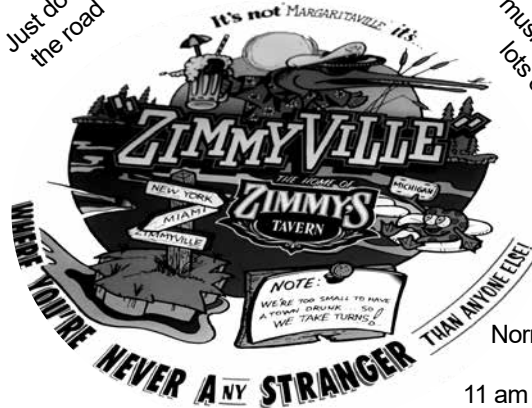
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Birch Lake Diversions



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

Best Strawberry Daiquiri

At's officially happy hour with these easy strawberry daiquiris made with either frozen or fresh, sweet, in-season strawberries if you can find them. A little citrus juice kicks the strawberry flavor up a notch and a bit of lemon-lime soda adds a hint of effervescence. Double or triple this recipe for a party and you'll never buy daiquiri mixes or canned, ready-made daiquiris again.



Prep Time: 10 mins;
Total Time: 10 mins
Yield: 8 daiquiris

Ingredients:

- 4 ounces frozen strawberries
- ½ cup white sugar
- ½ cup lemon juice
- ⅛ cup lime juice
- ¾ cup rum
- ¼ cup lemon-lime flavored carbonated beverage
- 6 cups ice, or as needed

Directions

Gather all ingredients.
Place frozen strawberries in a blender; add sugar, lemon juice, and lime juice.
Pour in rum and lemon-lime beverage, then add ice.
Blend until smooth.
Enjoy!

Spring Word Search

N Q F I P F S D R I B L S B F Z R
 J V P X X O X S B G P I S R E P S
 T D X M R A W S N P T R R F S Q E
 N M Z B G T E A E O Z P E N J M O
 Y D B M P G A R N I X A W A J E U
 G S Y C T X S G I U R V O T N V V
 G I S N Q E T X H V U L H Q X Q C
 E V P F J V E K S Y U S S Z B Y L
 V D T L C P R E N A P R E E Q M I
 K D W O R Y D R U M B R E L L A W
 M R G W D Z B A S E B A L L L R Q
 R R T E Q W Q Y V T J D L A H C E
 M B H R M W D Q T W W Q R Q X H U
 M F M S E R J F N O T T A G S H E
 N G N I R P S X X B G A I S I V W
 E R H I I I L M G R E E N Y L T R
 Y R W D M L G Q T T I A O A F F B

SPRING
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— Birch Lake Funnies —



Close competition in the MC fleet may have gone a bit too far? We all revel in the fact an east-shore sailor continues to be exceptionally fast. Now comes to us at Barker-Central an alarming photo. The CIA, FBI, NSA and various other three-letter orgs are probing the image for veracity. Hopefully this doesn't require a Rule 69 hearing? MCSA, the Class overbody, measures / rules Committee is on the job. Watch this space.

Sherman_Beardman 1.3k points 2 years ago

The fact that Kansas and Arkansas are pronounced differently bothers me way more than it should.

madamplease 13.7k points 1 year ago

Pronouncing words that end in 'ough'. Cough, bough, rough, dough, through, though....

Vaxtin 4.7k points 4 years ago

Is the "S" or "C" in scent silent?

AdventurousMan 4.6k points 4 years ago

Why does fridge have a "D" in it, but refrigerator doesn't?

Djimmieboy 248 points 1 year ago

Why are Zoey and Zoe pronounced the same but Joey and Joe aren't?

MundaneRiot 261 points 4 years ago

You can drink a drink but you can't food a food.

cherlishPanda 218 points 4 years ago

The word "queue" is just a Q followed by four silent letters

saranowitz 1 point 10 years ago

Why is a "w" called a "Double-U" when it is clearly a "Double-V"?

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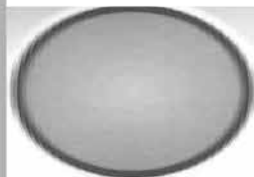
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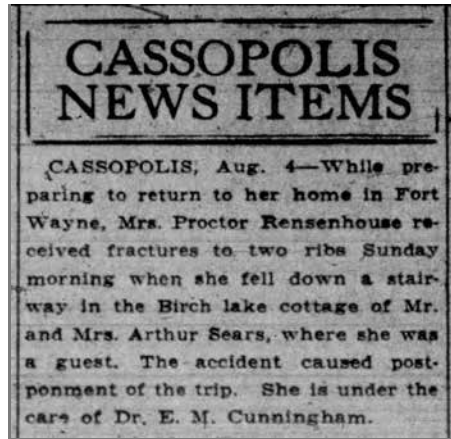
— Camp Tannadoonah —

Wow, what a hot week here at camp! Thank goodness we have the cool waters of Birch Lake to help cool everyone off. With temperatures over 90 every day this week (and heat indexes even higher), our staff had to be extra vigilant watching campers for signs of heat-related illnesses. We train most of our staff in first aid during staff training, so they are aware of the symptoms of heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke.

We sent an email on Monday to all of the camper parents, letting them know what measures we were taking to keep their campers safe during the heat wave. Some of the things we do include requiring everyone to drink at least one cup of water at each meal before they can have any other beverages, taking more frequent breaks from activities, reminding campers and staff to carry their water bottle with them everywhere, encouraging campers and staff to keep a cool wet bandanna or towel around their neck, setting up sprinkler stations, and requiring everyone to go to the lake during our open swim time.

We also have air conditioning for the Welcome Center and the Health Center, so we have two spaces in camp we can use to cool down if people are getting overheated. Our kitchen staff often find frequent reasons to go get things out of the walk in cooler on days like this! We also try to plan water-oriented evening activities on hot nights – things like water relays at the lake, or “sponge wars” on the sports field.

I've noticed when I'm driving back to



the lake from town that the temperature drops around 5 degrees as I get closer to the lake – sometimes more! Getting away from the parking lots and buildings and roads in town, and having lots of shade definitely helps keep us cooler out here at camp.

Sue's articles about Birch Lake history inspired me to include a little camp history in my Barker articles this summer. Back in 2020 I did a lot of history research because we were coming up on our 100th anniversary at camp. I found this news clipping from 1931, published in the Niles Daily Star, about a guest of the Sears Family who was injured in a fall while visiting their home at Birch Lake. The doctor mentioned in the article, Dr. Ersom Mills Cunningham, was the owner of the first piece property that Camp Fire purchased on Birch Lake in 1930. It is a nine-acre parcel that contained all of our waterfront



frontage, Main Lodge, and what is now the Camp store and handcraft building.

Dr. Cunningham and his wife lived in what we call Main Lodge, and had 6 children (5 girls and one boy). The oldest three daughters were Katherine, Margaret, and Dorothy, and their family called the house “KathMarDo Lodge” because of the girls’ names. One of the younger daughters, Mary, was born in 1912 in that house. Her married name was Mary Deitle, and she lived to be 102 years old. In 2011 she visited Camp with her daughters, and told us stories about growing up in Main Lodge with her family. They sold the property to Camp Fire when she was 18.

We're coming up on the Pancake Breakfast here at camp, and we're looking forward to seeing many lake residents and guests! This year's breakfast is Sunday, July 7, from 8:30-11 am. The cost is \$5 for ages 13 and older, \$3 for youth ages 5-12, and free for ages 0-4. We can always use helpers at the breakfast, too! If you're interested in volunteering for a shift, please email me at amber@riverbendcampfire.org.

~Mrs. Amber

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Katrina

Dennis

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For sale: **Boat lift for tri-hull pontoon** 22-24 feet. Like new, asking \$6500. Contact J. Habich, 269-476-9726.

For sale: **Tall water slide.** Very sturdy. 10' x 23" wide. Please call 269-476-9726

Moving Sale 63258 Kinsey St. East side of Birch Lake on the Hill. June 1 & 2, 9 am to 5 pm. Everything must go. Priced to sell. Jeff & Linda Myers 574-315-2570

18' Quest Adventure Pontoon with 60h.p. Mercury Outboard. Low hours. \$7500. 63258 Kinsey St. East side of Birch Lake on the Hill. Jeff & Linda Myers 574-315-2570



For sale: **100# LP Tank** (right) with some LP in it. Call Tom Rogers at 476 2383 will deliver \$75.



White composite closet doors. (Left) 48" w X 79" h. \$50 for the pair. Call

Deb at 219-765-8691.

Lost & FOUND

Lost: 1 white seat cushion during Sunday storm
Found: 1 flamingo platter and 1 floral bowl left at YC Saturday
Call Sue Davis 5749936031

For Sale: Headboard (Full or Queen), bed frame and 5 drawer dresser \$175. Call Machalleck's at 772-567-6154

SERVICES:

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

HELP WANTED:

Editor for the Birch Barker. We're still looking for someone to take on the job of being the editor of both editions (the online and printed) of the Birch Barkers in case the editor retires or dies (I'm not going to live forever, you know). You can take it all at once or you can start easy by taking on the responsibilities for the Online Barker (all you need is a basic knowledge of how websites work, and a minimal grasp of html code, web page production software and FTP software for the online Barker, and a familiarity with publishing software for the printed Barker. Training can be provided if required (and if I'm still alive). Flexible hours, no pay, but the lakers are gonna love you ... Contact Phil Vitale at onlinebarker@gmail.com, 476-1680 if you're interested in giving it a shot.

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HOW TO BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR MIND YOUR DOG!

In Michigan, the law requires that dogs be kept on a leash in public spaces. This means dogs should not be roaming freely without supervision, even in their owner's neighborhood. And when you walk your dog around the lake, be sure to clean up after them.

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



2024 BLYC OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

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Blair Garceau (E) Chairman, Homeowners
476-9862 blairgarceau@gmail.com



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and for non-lake residents who wish to support the BLYC
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- \$ ___ - **FIREWORKS FUND****
- \$ ___ - Homeowners' Assoc. (\$10 / year)
- \$ ___ - Sailing Fees (\$15 / year)
- \$ ___ - Building Improvement Fund
- \$ ___ - Safety Committee
- \$ ___ - Other non-party related expenses
- \$ ___ - BLYC Roof Fund
- \$ ___ - BLYC AED Fund
- \$ ___ - Misc.

**See page 2 for status of these important contributions

TOTAL CONTRIBUTION:

\$ _____

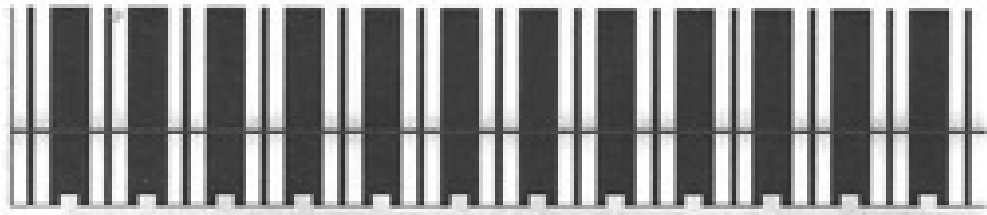
Name _____

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