

BIRCH *Barker*

vol. 77 issue 3

Weekend of
JUNE 7
2025

The official publication of the Birch Lake Yacht Club

BirchLakeYachtClub.com



*First sailboat races of the season on June 1st. It was a cold one, but we got in 3 races!
Photo credit to Karen Brovold.*

2025 BIRCH LAKE CALENDAR

June

- 7 - Commodore / Vice Comm. Stock the Bar Party, 6pm
- 14 - Trivia Night
- 18 - Card Night
- 21 - Yacht Club Board Mtg, 9am

July

- 5 - Boat Parade, 3pm
- 5 - Fireworks, 10pm
- 6 - Pancake Breakfast, 8:30-11am
- 16 - Card Night
- 18 - Ladies' Golf Outing, 9am
- 19 - Yacht Club Board Mtg, 9am

August

- 2 - Corn and Sausage Roast
- 16 - Yacht Club Board Mtg, 9am
- 20 - Card Night

September

- 20 - Yacht Club Board Mtg, 9am

October

- 25 - Bad Patty Crockpot Challenge, 6pm

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Water Quality:
Patrick Welch (S)
Homeowners Association:
Blair Garceau (E)

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Hello to everyone! This past weekend I had my first experience of seeing so many beautiful sailboats! It is a special sight to behold! Welcome back sailors!

The herons have also made a welcome return! I saw one heron land and wade in the water near our home. I watched as he consumed a small fish. I think the heron appreciates our clear water when searching for a meal!



Heron photo credit to Camille Butler

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at the BLYC Commodore/ Vice Commodore/ Stock The Bar party this Saturday at 6pm! Bring a dish to share! Don't forget to wear the hat of your choice! Variety is the spice of life! Take a chance and bring CASH for the 50/50 raffle to benefit the water quality fund!

The next event coming right up is Trivia Night on June 14 at the BLYC! Come join the fun and join a team! It's a battle of the brains!

What team will be victorious? It is always a good time!

This summer there will not be a BLYC Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser. I was informed that the planning for this fundraiser must start in the spring. It takes one or more individuals to chair the event and organize a team of volunteers to make this event a success.

It takes many hands, but the end result is a delicious dinner and a great fundraiser! The profits last year were near \$3000.

Some lake residents have been talking about considering Nelson's as a possible fundraiser for the BLYC. It was successful in 2020, with a profit of \$2800. The pre-orders were picked up around the July 4th weekend. It would again require a leader and team of helpers.

As lake activities increase during the summer months, so does our traffic. There are more people in the streets that are walking, running, biking, and working. More children are visiting residents. Please be very cautious and drive slowly. Contact Blair Garceau if you would like to have a "Slow Down" sign.

In our last Barker, I really enjoyed reading about the history of the Harvey home. There is so much history here. Numerous Birch Lake residents have descended from family that moved here many years ago. I encourage other residents to share their own special stories.

We come from many different places, but we are on the same boat, we love Birch Lake.

~Commodore Julie



The 2025 Birch Barker is
generously sponsored by Culver's.
See ad on page 2.

The Barker will consider ads, photos, and editorial content for publication.

Email items to birchbarker1@gmail.com.

For editorial concerns, contact editor Amber Grundy at birchbarker1@gmail.com or 574-315-0227.

For delivery concerns, contact Ron Niezgodski at birchbass1@gmail.com or 269-476-9317.

For all other BLYC matters, contact Commodore Julie Dickey at jdjuls@aol.com or 574-220-9132.

DEADLINE for submissions is always **NOON** on the Tuesday of the week before publication.

BIRCH LAKE NOTES



*Mr Duffy enjoyed a nice boat ride.
Photo credit to Camille Butler*

THANK YOU to all of our 2025 Barker advertisers! Please check them all out on the BLYC website and support our advertisers.



The Printed Barker

The Birch Barker is delivered to all of the homes on Birch Lake each week, and is available online at

birchlakeyachtclub.com

The submission deadline is noon on Tuesday of the week before publication. Contributions can be emailed to birchbarker1@gmail.com.

Advertising rates are posted at birchlakeyachtclub.com/advertise. To buy an ad or for more info, contact Amber at birchbarker1@gmail.com or 574-315-0227.



Grab your friends/neighbors/family and come to Trivia Night at the Birch Lake Yacht Club. Previous Trivia Nights have been very popular - so don't miss out on the fun! You can either form your own team or just come individually and we'll get you on a team. Teams can be anywhere from one to eight people.

WHEN: Saturday, June 14th
Doors open at 6:30
Trivia begins PROMPTLY at 7pm

WHERE: Birch Lake Yacht Club

BRING: Your own drinks, a dish to share (either an appetizer or dessert), paper and pen, and your wallet (for 50/50 raffle and to buy mulligans - good for free answers!)

QUESTIONS? contact
Blair Garceau (269-475-9862) or
Sue Williams (269-298-2839)
Hope to see you there!

Birch Lake Yacht Club FIREWORKS FUND

Our goal for 2025 is \$16,000

Contribute now at

<https://store.birchlakeyachtclub.com>



Yacht Club Building Use

For information on the rules and requirements, or to make arrangements to use the Birch Lake Yacht Club building for a non-BLYC event, call or text Sandy Vitale at 269-858-8184, or email sv6102@gmail.com.



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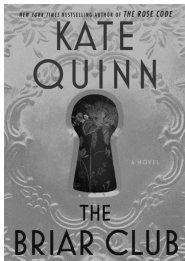
ODDS AND ENDS

Ladies Weekly Golf

We usually tee off Monday mornings and follow up with lunch after the nine-hole “adventure.” We don’t keep track of scores and welcome all levels of players. The only judgment and competition is with yourself. If you have questions or are interested in golf or just lunch, contact Blair Garceau (269-476-9862).

Book Club

Our first meeting will be June 24th, discussing *The Briar Club* by Kate Quinn. Any questions, or if you’d like to join in the fun, contact Jackie Frew: seeitall8@gmail.com or call/text 708-285-2999.



HAPPY READING!

Boat Parade

This year’s theme is Favorite TV show so start planning to dress up your boat for the July 5th parade that will start at 3pm from the Waxman pier. Will you go with “Gilligan’s Island” or “Love Boat”? Or maybe something more current (and different) like “Deadliest Catch”? Come one, come all for another festive event on the lake!

“Newsies”

This week’s Barker delivery spotlight is Buzz Rasmussen who lives on the West Side with wife Linda and his route includes the homes on Storey Hill. Buzz is our most experienced delivery boy with 35 summers of service, which started the year he was Yacht Club Commodore. Buzz’s favorite part of the Barker is the photography; some editions have shots that Buzz has taken. He has a picture-perfect eye and I have several framed photos in our home from Buzz’s collection. Thank you, delivery boy Buzz!

Slow Down Signs

“Slow Down” signs are available for lake home owners. Contact Blair Garceau (269-476-9862) if you need a sign for your yard. Courtesy of the BL Home Owners Association.



Boat Parade Grand Marshall

After Al Cover was the inaugural Grand Marshal in 1998, we had Loretta Drolet in 1999, Bernie and Helen Weesner in 2000, John and Arline Machalleck in 2001, Earl and Connie Troeger in 2002, Bill and Le King in 2003, Bruce and JJ Harlan in 2004 and then Herm and Bev Kruggel in 2005. Next week’s Barker will list the Grand Marshals from 2006 to 2012 as we count down to this year’s honorees. Who do you think they will be?

Coffee Talk

In the heart of Brazil’s Cerrado region, Datterra Estate stands out as a model of excellence in sustainable Arabica coffee production. Founded by the Pasqual family in 1976, Datterra has been a trailblazer in environmental responsibility, achieving Rainforest Alliance certification and the highest sustainability ranking. Their dedication to quality and sustainability is reflected in their diverse coffee offerings, including Sweet Blue and Sweet Yellow, which are renowned for their rich flavors and balanced profiles. By integrating innovative agricultural techniques with a deep respect for the environment, Datterra Estate continues to push the boundaries of the coffee industry. At Savage Bean Coffee Company, the aroma of freshly roasted Sweet Blue and Sweet Yellow fills the air daily.

~submitted by Kim Savage from the Savage Bean Coffee Shop in Cassopolis

Ladies’ Golf Outing

The 2025 Ladies’ Golf Outing will take place on July 18 at 9am. A luncheon will follow the golf outing. More details and registration coming soon!

GET YOUR BIRCH LAKE GEAR!

20% of all sales will be donated to the Birch Lake Yacht Club. Orders will be shipped or distributed at the lake late June/early July. See website for more details. Order Deadline:

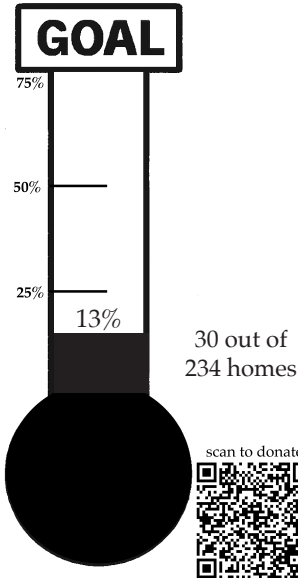
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Birch Lake Yacht Club WATER QUALITY FUND

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Water Quality Committee

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WATER QUALITY REPORT

Minimizing Environmental Impact Through Considerate Boat Operation

Last summer I wrote an article discussing the environmental impact of wakeboats, and the proper operation of these boats to minimize that impact. In this article, I intend to reiterate the key points from the previous article, as well as expand to include all boats, and how to navigate around some of Birch Lake's features.

First, let me state that the focus of this is on disruption of the lake bottom. We have all been informed of the impact of phosphorus on the lake, with emphasis on human factors like lawn fertilizer. Studies of freshwater lakes have indicated that up to 40% of the phosphorus content in a lake can come from disruption of the lake bottom. That can be human disruption or natural disruption like wind and storms. Phosphorus occurs naturally, and we can't, nor would we want to, eliminate all phosphorus, but we do want it to remain close to the levels that occur naturally. Therefore, minimizing disruption of the lake bottom is in our best interest.

From last year's article, the key points of operation for a wakeboat in surf mode were to stay in water at least 15 feet deep and at least 500 feet from shore. With Birch Lake's shape and depth, this is easy to accomplish just by staying close to the middle of the lake. I have rarely witnessed a wakeboat operating improperly on Birch Lake by these standards. Kudos to those of you who are being considerate and following those guidelines!

What is worth mentioning is that a normal sized runabout boat, 18-23 feet in length, when on plane will disrupt up to 10 feet of water depth. I have witnessed this several times from my own bedroom window. The shallow point in the northeast corner of the lake, which begins roughly in front of the Zesinger's, is easily seen from my home. On numerous occasions I have watched a boat speed over this point and leave a trail of sediment-filled water like an airplane leaving a vapor trail. This is a problem, as re-suspending the nutrients on the lake bottom essentially accelerates algae growth.

Those nutrients are already in the lake, but being packed on the bottom of the lake slows access to these nutrients for

algae growth. If you see that "mud trail" behind your boat, you have essentially fertilized the algae in the lake.

The Water Quality Committee asks that everyone take a few minutes to look at a satellite view of Birch Lake, or review a bottom contour map. Some of the key areas to be aware of (measurements made using Google Earth, so these are my best estimates):

- The point already mentioned in the northeast corner in under 10 feet of depth out approximately 400 feet from shore.
- The west side, notably in front of Jamie Green's home, is under 10 feet of depth at least 250 feet from shore.
- The point in the southwest corner, in front of the Becker home, also is less than 10 feet of depth at 250 feet from shore.
- The shallows in front of Cassady's as you come out of the southeast cove is under 10 feet at over 600 feet from shore.

Additionally, here are some other high negative-impact situations to minimize or avoid:

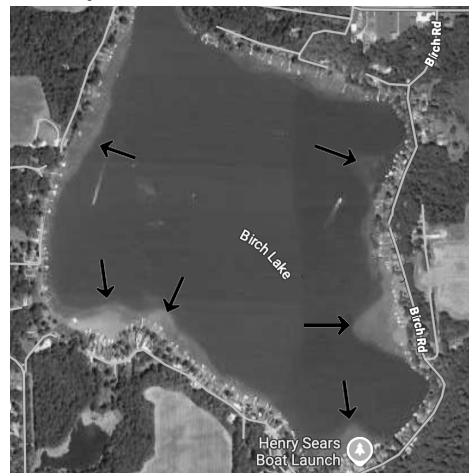
- Power loading at the boat launch. Using the throttle to load or position your boat on a trailer stirs up large amounts of sediment. Over the course of a season on Birch, this may well be the most impactful action we experience. Best practice would be to make sure you back your trailer in as far as you can, then use the winch on your trailer to bring the boat forward.
- Acceleration from low speed. When a boat accelerates, especially from a low speed start, the transom drops deeper into the water, and the angle of the thrust drops down more toward the bottom. The deeper the water you are in when you accelerate, the better. For instance, if you have a skier capable of a deep

water start, that is preferred versus a shallow water start.

- Low speed use in shallow water. While not as impactful as a high speed boat, the transom generally is deeper in the water at low speeds, and our awareness of our position is often decreased because you are simply at low speed. It is still best to avoid shallow areas.

State regulations put the legal distance to be on plane as 100 feet from the end of any pier or structure. The point of this article isn't to discuss legal operation of a boat; it is to emphasize mindful, considerate operation. The shape and depth of Birch allows for plenty of space to enjoy the lake while also minimizing negative impact.

~Contributed by Zack Nickell, Water Quality Committee Member



THE SIX COMMANDMENTS OF BIRCH LAKE WATER QUALITY

- I. Thou shalt prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).
- II. Thou shalt minimize surface runoff.
- III. Thou shalt minimize the effects of waves.
- IV. Thou shalt protect and expand Natural Shorelines.
- 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.

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Lake References Available

FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER

First MC Races of the Season

The wind was good, so we had the first sailboat races of the season, and my career as the fleet captain. Seven brave souls toughed it out in the chilly sixty-degree weather. The combination of wind blowing over the cold water and the cooler air can make it a bit cold out on the lake.

Even though it was chilly, it turned out to be a fun day of sailing. The wind was a bit shifty and gusty, with winds of seven to ten mph. All in all, we had five MCs, but only two sunfish sailors. It takes a minimum of three sailors in a class to hold a race.

We were able to hold three races for the MCs but were not able to hold an official race for the sunfish. Stu Spratt and I raced each other but just for fun and practice. So, if anyone has a sunfish, come out and join us. We would love some more competition!

The MC results were pretty consistent. Scott Troeger got all first places, Phil Vitale got all seconds and Pat Welch and Amber Grundy split third places two to one. In the last race, Amber almost pulled off a second place, but Phil edged her out at the last second.

As I write this, I am helping a friend move down to Florida. Then I am down to Key West for the weekend. Maybe I will get some sailing in while I'm down there! In my absence, Stu Spratt has generously accepted the role of Assistant/Vice Fleet Captain and will be running the races this next weekend.

~FC Bob Niezgodski
rjniezgodski@gmail.com



MC Races on June 1st. Left to right: Committee boat manned by Ron and Kathy Niezgodski, Karen Brovold, and Bill Butler, Amber Grundy, Scott Troeger, Sandy Vitale, Phil Vitale, and Pat Welch. Photo credit to Bob King.



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BIRCH LAKE SAILING

BLYC sailing results & season standings to date

Date.....	6/01.....	6/01.....	6/01.....	Total	Point.....	Races	%
Race.....	1	2.....	3.....	Points.....	Average	Finished.....	Finished
MC Scow/Sailor.....				Total MC Races = 3			
Scott Troeger #1489	1	1.....	1.....	4800.....	1600.....	3.....	100
Phil Vitale #500.....	2	2.....	2.....	4563.....	1521.....	3.....	100
Patrick Welch #1979.....	3	3.....	4.....	4257.....	1419.....	3.....	100
Amber Grundy #1173.....	4	4.....	3.....	4182.....	1394.....	3.....	100
Sandy Vitale #2159.....	5	5.....	5.....	3888.....	1296.....	3.....	100

Sunfish/Sailor.....Total Sunfish Races = 0.....
No official Sunfish results to report yet.....

Key and Scoring Information
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) or DSQ (Disqualified) scores as last place (if 5 boats started the race, you will be scored as 5th place).
DNF, DSQ are 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

Sunday is SAILING DAY!
Races start at 11am
Please steer clear
of the course!

Tom Athanas (Camille Butler’s dad), sailing in the Diamond Lake Labor Day Regatta (Snipe Class) in 1978



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Friday, June 27: Touch of Texas
Friday, July 25: Memphis Underground
Friday, August 22: Whistle Pigs

The COA’s Summer Concert Series is back by popular demand. Join us at the COA Lowe Center’s Pavilion for some great music and an opportunity to purchase food from our food truck vendors. Bring a chair or blanket enjoy three FREE outdoor concerts!

Food is available from 5:30-7:30pm
Concerts begin at 7:00pm

more info -->



CAMP T CORNER

As you read this, Camp T is welcoming in the first campers of the summer! We are very excited for the staff to apply everything they have learned over the past two weeks of training, and to see our months of preparations come to fruition. Our staff is prepared, our grounds are ready, and we can't wait for a fantastic first week!

As I mentioned last week, staff training involves many different preparations. I thought I would outline some of the specialized trainings our staff do to make sure they are ready for and can prevent various types of emergencies. All of our staff who attend staff training complete American Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED certification for adults and children, which involves both online courses and in-person practical skills demonstrations. We use partners and models to practice these skills and give feedback.

All of our lifeguards are required to hold an American Red Cross Lifeguard



Our beautiful new Archery Range, which doubles our space for this activity. Built by Diamond Construction on Birch Lake.

Certification, and any who are certified by us here at camp also receive specific Waterfront Skills training that is specific to non-pool environments. These certifications require lifeguards to be able to swim laps, tread water, hold their breath, and swim while carrying weights. They also learn and practice rescuing swimmers in multiple different scenarios, including conscious and unconscious, injured or uninjured, etc.

Any staff members who attend staff training also receive a certification in Youth Mental Health First Aid. Staff learn to identify warning signs and risk factors of mental illnesses, as well as how to promote their own and campers' mental health through positive self-care techniques. Staff learn the steps of de-escalating crisis situations, if needed. All of these trainings ensure that our staff can adequately prepare for and respond to emergencies, so that we can provide the best and safest possible care for all of our campers.

A fun and additional training exercise our staff got to participate in last week included a visit by the 6th and 7th grade students from Christ the King School in South Bend for their field day! We taught them activities such as low ropes (team building), drama, handcraft, nature, archery, and sports & games. It was a great way for the students to end their school year, and a great way for our staff to practice their leadership skills!



In addition to summer camp, we at Camp T love hosting all kinds of other events. We also host retreats, reunions, weddings, and more! Our own School Year Programs Director, Miss Carmen, got married to her husband Robert at Camp T in early May. It was a beautiful ceremony, and we want to send her our warmest congratulations!

We are so ready for an exciting week of settling in, getting back to routines, taking on new challenges, and setting the tone for the rest of the summer. We still have camper openings for most weeks, so please do visit our website if you'd like to join us. See you on the Lake!

-Miss Meghan at Camp T



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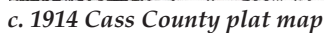
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Editor's Note: This season in the Barker, we plan to feature different properties on the lake each week, with historical information about the families who have lived there, photos, and stories. If you would like to submit content about your home at the lake, we will gladly accept new submissions! Please send to *birchbarker1@gmail.com*

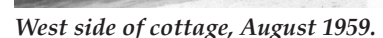
Henry Sears had viewed the property in the late 1800's and fell in love with it. He became a sheep farmer in Iowa and Nebraska, so he could earn enough money to move back and purchase the property. At that time, the lakeside property spanned the distance from the boat launch to the Haines/DeCocker/Mikulak home at the bottom of Kinsey St., and extended as far south as Shavehead Lake. In 1924 or 1925 Henry subdivided the lake parcel and sold to relatives, friends, and neighbors from Elkhart.



A black and white photograph of a dirt road winding through a wooded area. The road is flanked by large trees and dense foliage. In the background, a small building is visible through the trees. The text "SOUTH SHORE DRIVE BIRCH LAKE" is written in white, stylized letters across the bottom of the image.

Supposedly, the Sears family was the first on the lake to waterski in 1946, using a wooden boat and 25 H.P. engine. From 1947 to 1955, Linda's parents, Ray and Ruth Ann ("Fran") Larson spent lots of time at Birch Lake in the summers, and ice-skated there in the winters. In 1959 the property was passed on to Linda's mom. The property at that time included the cottage, woods on either side of it, woods up the hill, a clay tennis court, a garage, and a pony corral. Fran Larson passed away in 1986, and the property was subdivided once again, this time to Linda and her siblings. In 1991, Ron and Linda Witchie purchased some of Linda's siblings' portions and became the new owners of the cottage and the woods behind it.

Ron and Linda started coming to the lake together in 1987. Friends from Ann Arbor were invited for 4th of July. Now, almost 40 years later, those same four couples still visit every 4th of July weekend. The couples turned into families, and this spring, the first grandchild of that group was born. The cottage has also been a wonderful place to host family reunions.



BLYC 65TH ANNUAL MEN'S GOLF OUTING

FOUR MAN FLORIDA SCRAMBLE

Friday, July 25, 2025

Shotgun Start at **NOON**

Sauganash Country Club
61270 Lutz Rd
Three Rivers, MI

Dinner and awards at Sauganash
Cocktail hour at 5pm
Dinner and Awards at 6pm

REGISTRATION INCLUDES:
Four Man Scramble
Team Prizes⁺ & Contests
Cocktail Hour & Dinner

Questions? Contact John Ball (john.ball0452@gmail.com or 574-535-3736)

⁺ Donations of door & team prizes are needed. If you have access to golf- or lake-related merchandise that could be donated, please contact John.

ALL ENTRIES DUE BY JULY 14

2025 BLYC Men's Golf Outing Foursome Registration

\$75 per man*

Please PRINT names:

Team Captain: _____ Player 3: _____

Player 2: _____ Player 4: _____

Questions? Contact John Ball (john.ball0452@gmail.com or 574-535-3736)

Please make checks payable to BLYC and mail to:

John Ball
63690 Birch Rd.
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***Individual registrations available.**
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BARKER KIDS OF THE WEEK




Beckham (left) and Ezra (right) are cousins enjoying being at the lake and petting a friendly neighborhood cat.

Want your kid to be a Barker kid of the week?
Send your photos to birchbarker1@gmail.com


Chari Ford and Nancy Schoenbucher on Birch Lake for their annual visit along with other former Camp Eberhart counselors. They helped Delivery Boy Dan Waxman with last week's Barker along the East Side.





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Joanna and Bruce Scholes first trip of the summer to the lake. They are visiting Gramma and Papa Scholes (south side).



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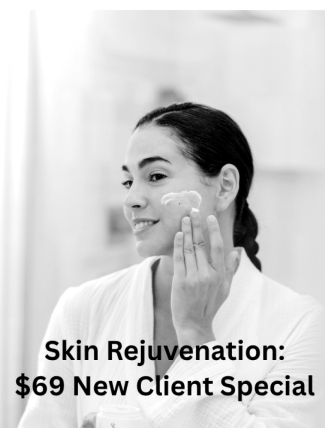
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SUMMER RECIPES: RHUBARB CRISP

Making a crisp is one of the best and easiest ways to highlight seasonal fruit. Crisps come together quickly with no special equipment, and they are a great way to use the odds and ends of fruit in your refrigerator. This recipe highlights one of early summer's finest flavors: rhubarb. It is often paired with berries, but it still shines on its own, with tart, puckery flavor and gorgeous color. Browned butter struesel adds a sweet note to the topping, making this an almost-effortless, high-impact dessert.

Ingredients:

Strawberry Rhubarb Filling

- 1 pound fresh rhubarb, cut into ½ inch pieces
- 1 pound fresh strawberries, sliced
- ¾ cup granulated sugar
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- ⅛ teaspoon salt

Browned Butter Struesel Topping

- ½ cup butter
- ¾ cup all-purpose flour
- ¾ cup old fashioned oats
- ¾ cup packed brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ⅛ teaspoon salt

Directions

1. Brown the butter for the struesel topping. Melt the butter in a small saucepan over medium heat. Continue heating the butter, stirring frequently. As the butter cooks, it will begin to bubble and foam. Continue cooking and stirring until the butter turns golden brown with little browned bits on the bottom of the pan, about 5-8 minutes. Transfer the butter to a small bowl and place in the refrigerator to let



*Recipe and photo credit
to ModernFarmhouseEats.com*

- it cool slightly while you prepare the strawberry rhubarb filling.
2. Preheat the oven to 350°F.
3. Add all of the strawberry rhubarb filling ingredients to an 8-9 inch skillet or baking dish and mix together.
4. To make the streusel, mix together the flour, oats, brown sugar, cinnamon and salt. Pour in the brown butter and use a fork to mix together until combined but crumbly. Sprinkle the streusel over the strawberry rhubarb filling.
5. Place the skillet or baking dish on a parchment lined baking sheet in case the filling bubbles over. Bake uncovered for about 40-45 minutes, or until the edges are bubbling and the fruit is tender.
6. Let cool for one hour. Serve with a big scoop of vanilla ice cream!

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CLASSIFIEDS

SAILBOATS

Free to a good home: Dennis Tudor (west shore) has an Alcott Minifish that he would like to give away to a good home. Needs a good cleaning! Has a sail, dagger board, and rudder. No major cracks or damage to the fiberglass. Contact Dennis at 269-476-2744 for more information.



Alcott Minifish

Sad Sunfish Seeking Sailors! Our boat pines to go racing on Sundays. Please borrow the boat (rigged and ready)! It's a great way to "kick the tires" at no expense. Contact the Kings at 574-299-0705 and leave a message.



Sad Sunfish

Two Sailboats: Tammy Hanstine has a 1990-vintage AMF Sunfish previously owned and raced by Tom Howard on Birch Lake for sale. Brand new sail (still in plastic), new tiller and extension, 3 daggerboards, 2 complete mast/boom set-ups with sails, 2 rudder assemblies, plus misc. extra parts. Everything is in good to great shape. Make an offer (minimum \$500) and take it all (or will sell parts individually).

Come see on the south side; contact Tammy at tkhanstine@yahoo.com

FOR SALE

Propane campfire cube, \$50. Text Jon at 574-339-6492.

Imitation Wicker Settee, \$10. Contact Deb at 219-765-8691.



Small Little Box, free. Contact Deb at 219-765-8691.



Classified Ads in the Barker are free to current BLYC members. The cost is \$5 per week for non members. Send your ad to birchbarker1@gmail.com Deadline is Tuesday noon for the upcoming weekend's Barker.



2017 22-foot South Bay Pontoon. 220 CR series. 70 hp Yamaha motor four stroke. automatic Bimini. Also for sale 2022 Shore Station boat lift. Both in excellent condition.

Call Claudia at 574-596-2154.

Free! Perennial Plants (Hostas, Ferns, Lilies, Sedum, Myrtle, and Lily of the Valley). Bring a shovel & container, and help yourself. Plants are located WITHIN THE ORANGE STAKES, lakeside of road, next to our shuffleboard court. We will be rototilling that area mid-month.



SERVICES

I do **sewing and mending** at fair prices – zippers, hemming, small alterations. Call Kathy at 269-476-9317.

WANTED

Wanted to Buy: Bill and Sherry Holleman are looking to get back on to Birch Lake part-time or full-time. If you are thinking about selling, please email Sherry at dakotalynn01@aol.com.

Save your plastic for camp! We need plastic containers with lids (like cottage cheese, cool whip, margarine, etc.). We are also in need of gallon plastic milk jugs, and plastic grocery bags. You can drop off items at Amber's house on the east side or the Welcome Center at Camp.

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EMERGENCY HEART DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) locations on Birch Lake

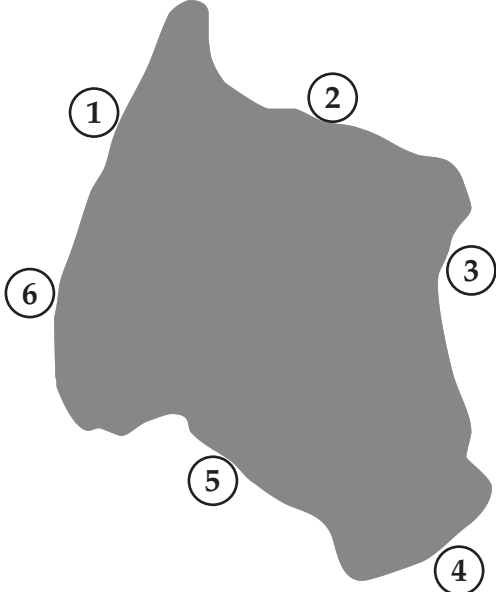
There are six (6) automated external defibrillator units (AEDs) on Birch Lake. The boxes that contain these devices are located at the following locations:

- 1. **West Shore:** Sheffieck Home
62875 Birch Lakeview Drive
- 2. **North Shore:** Smitley Home
14859 Birch Northshore Drive
- 3. **East Shore:** Vitale Home
63174 Birch Road
- 4. **Southeast Shore:** Troeger Home
63696 Birch Road
- 5. **South Shore:** Crawford Home
15046 Birch Lakeshore Drive
- 6. **Southwest Shore:** DeYoung Home
63255 Storey Hill Street

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



AED Locations



IN AN EMERGENCY

- 1. **CALL 911** and report the emergency and the patient's location
- 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 directions as they are given.
- 4. Continue to follow the instructions, and **stay with the patient until emergency personnel arrive.**

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

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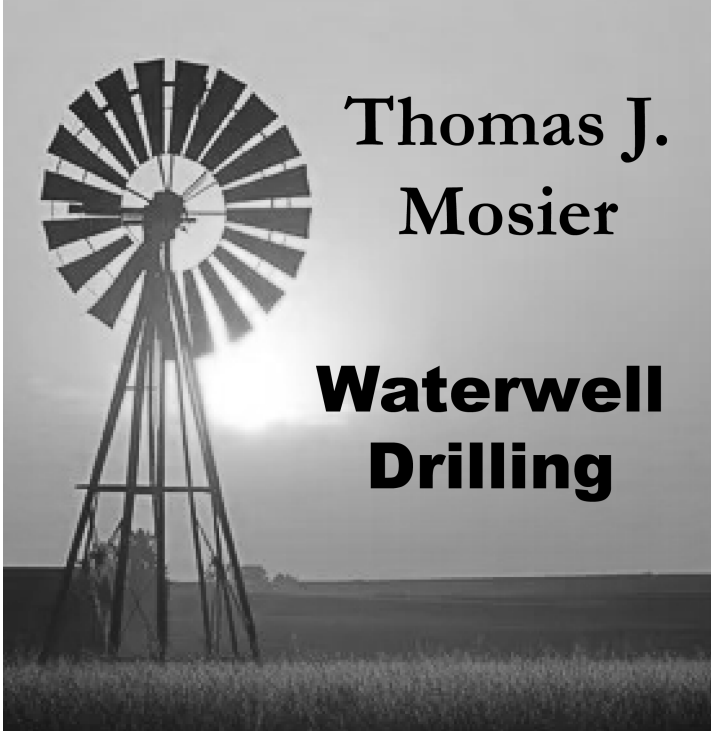


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PUZZLE PAGE

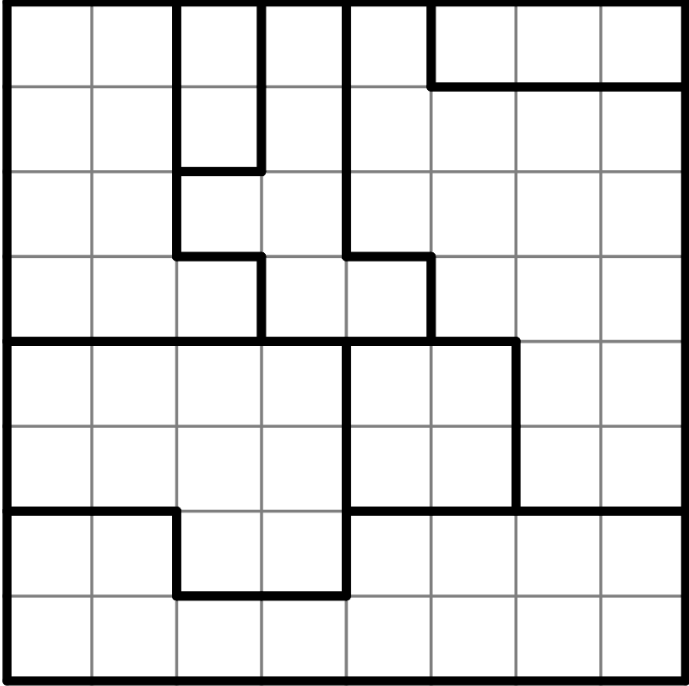
Sudoku: Expert

		9					1	6
	6				7			5
	1							
4			9					
9	3		7					
			6	1	5			
8		2				3		
					2		9	
				5		7		

Scan for
Solutions

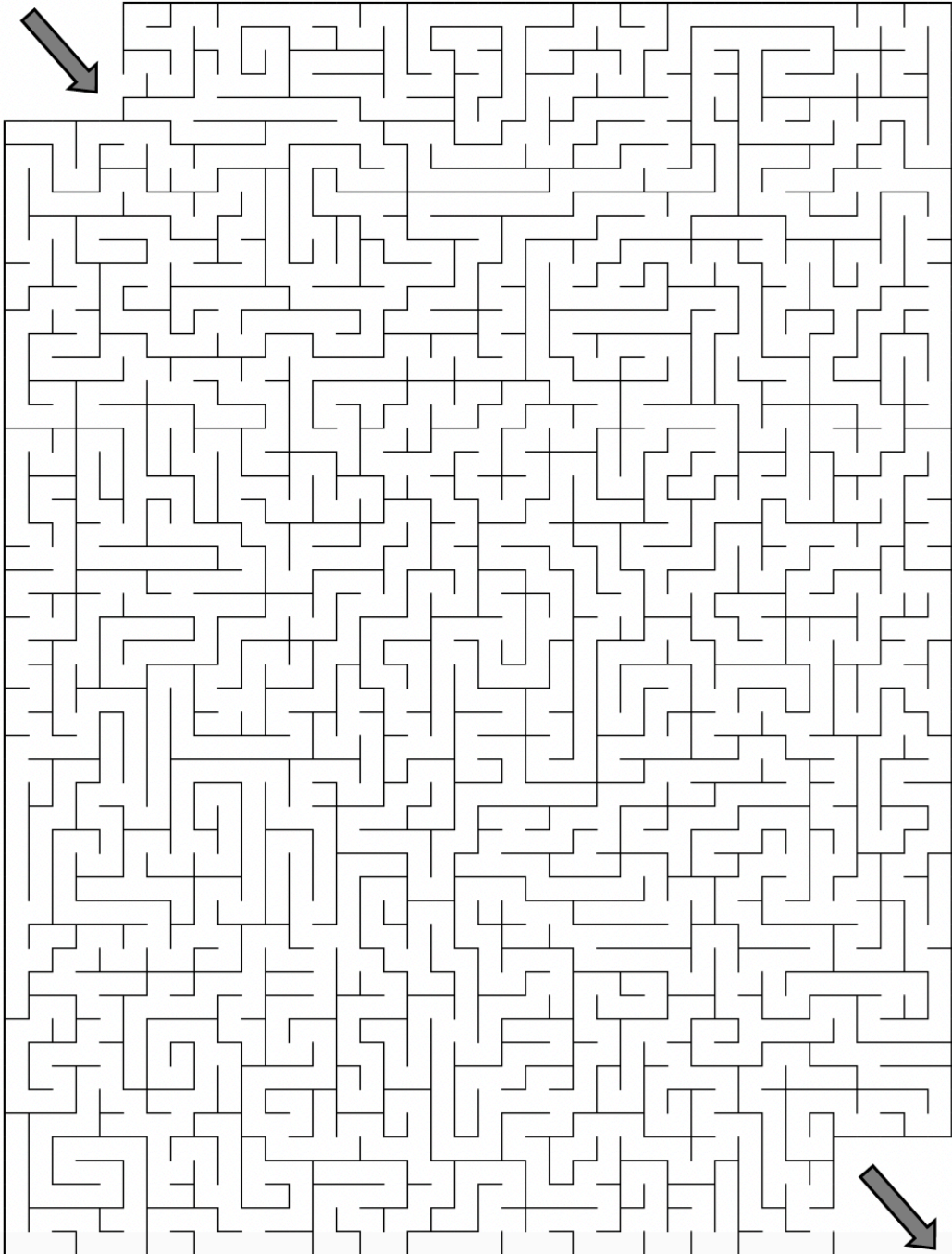


Star Battle Puzzle: Easy

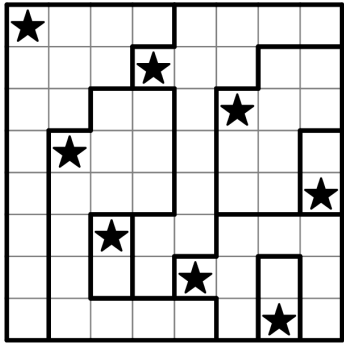


Star Battle Puzzles are also known as “Two Not Touch” Puzzles. Each puzzle is divided into 8 different regions. **Each region, row and column contains a single star.** The stars may not be adjacent to each other (not even diagonally). Check out the example below, before you try the one above!

Classic Maze

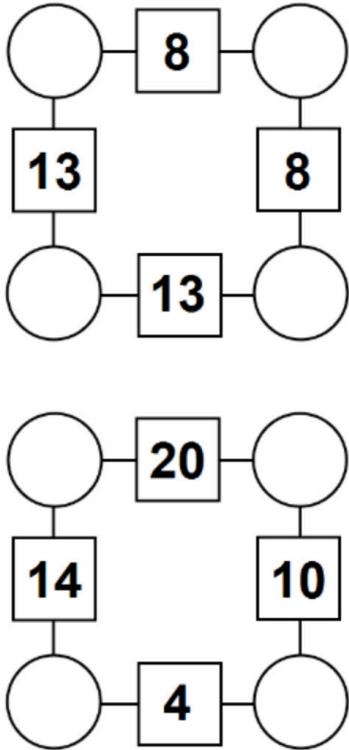


Star Battle Puzzle:
EXAMPLE

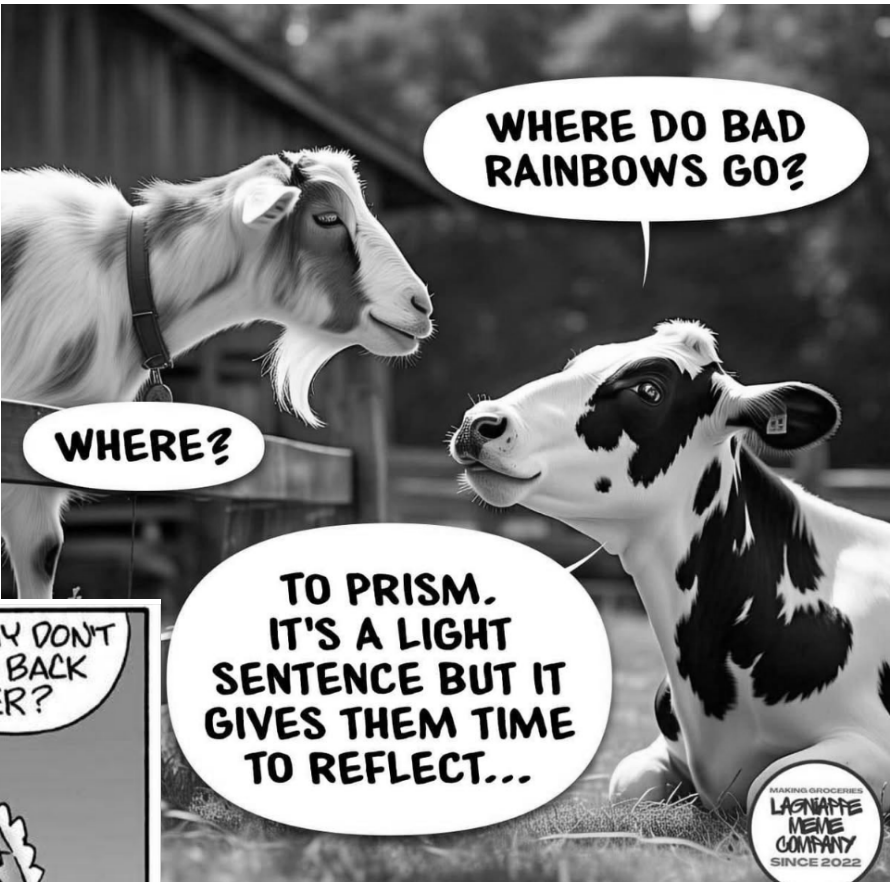
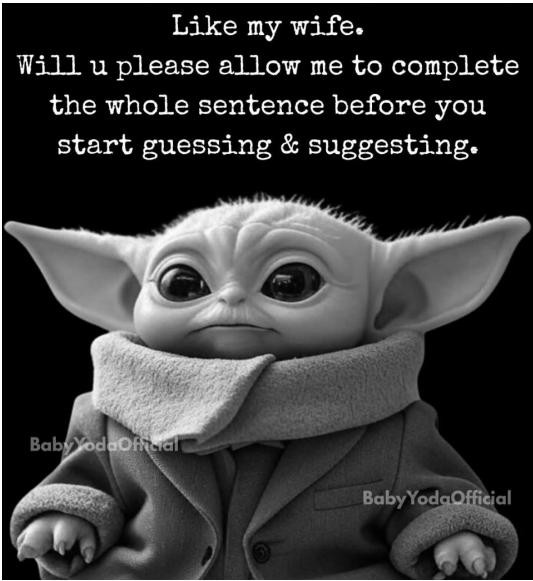
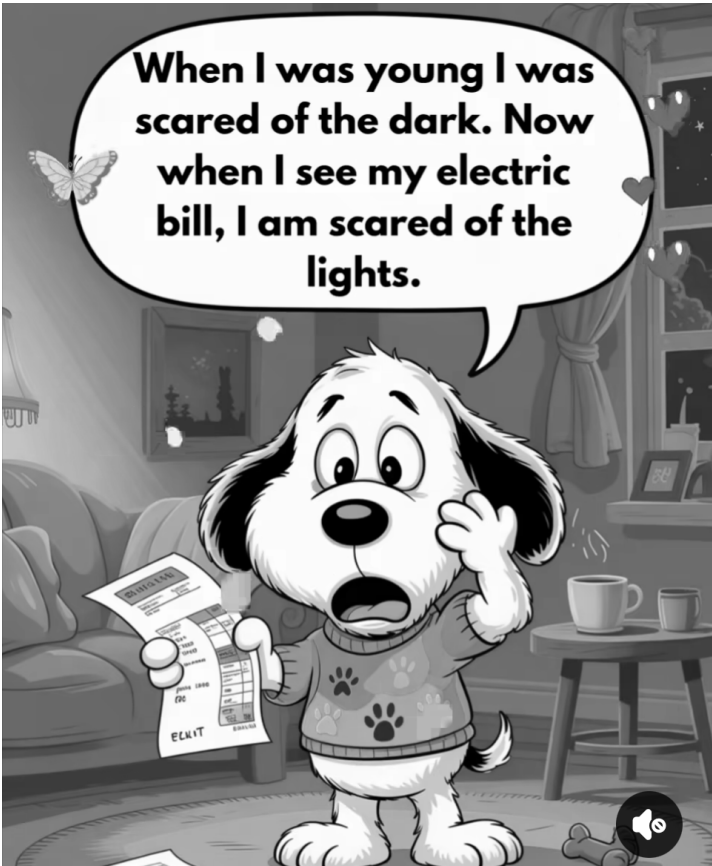


Arithmagons

The numbers in the square boxes are made by adding together the numbers in the circles either side.



BARKER FUNNIES



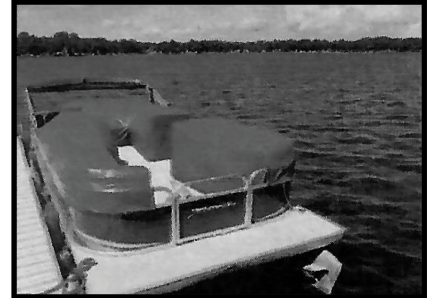


D & M CANVAS

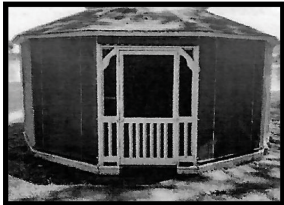
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The Birch Lake Yacht Club (BLYC) is a 501(c)(7) non profit organization

What your BLYC dues and donations support:

- Monitoring water quality, which helps keep Birch Lake clean, and improves our ability to respond swiftly to treat and eradicate invasive species.
- Maintaining the Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) around the lake.
- Producing and distributing the printed Birch Barker every week in the summer (and online every month in the off season).
- Publication of a biennial Directory.
- Fundraising for, planning and carrying out the 4th of July Fireworks show.
- Providing a forum and means for handling lake-wide concerns with local governmental issues.
- Helping to fund and host a variety of community-building activities.



BLYC dues are NOT used to purchase alcohol for events. All events sponsored by the Yacht Club are organized by volunteers. In 2024, the BLYC Board of Directors voted to make all events revenue-neutral and to not spend any Yacht Club funds on alcoholic beverages.

\$ _____ BLYC member dues (\$50 per year)

\$ _____ Associate member dues (\$10 per year) (non lake residents)

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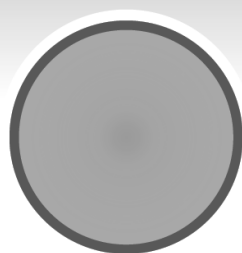
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