BIRCH Barker

vol. 78 issue 14

The official publication of the Birch Lake Yacht Club

BirchLakeYachtClub.com

Weekend of
August 22
2026



Candlelight Serenade at the lake on the last night of Camp for 2026. Thank you to everyone who came out on their boats to watch and listen to us sing!

2026 BIRCH LAKE CALENDAR

August

22 - BLYC Board Meeting, 9am
22 - Fall Dinner
26 - Women's Style Show

September

5 - 6 - Labor Day Regatta
9 - Card / Game Night, 6:30pm
12 - Sailing Awards
19 - BLYC Board Meeting, 9am
26 -Bad Patty Crockpot Challenge

2026 BLYC Directors

Officers

Commodore: Steve Frew (E)
Vice Comm: Ron Niezgodski (W)
Secretary: Mike Sheffieck (W)
Treasurer: Deb Spratt (N)
Fleet Capt: Bob Niezgodski (W)

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

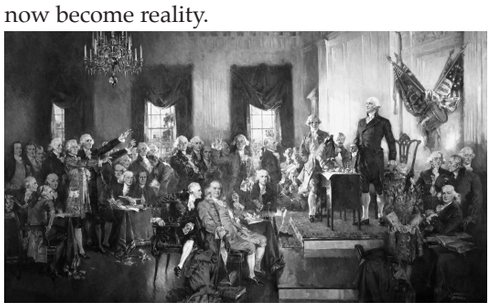
COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

The Fall Dinner arrives Saturday at 5:30 with a catered BBQ of brisket, pulled chicken and ribs, potato salad, green beans, baked beans and dessert. Maybe you can tell that just reading that menu is making me hungry. Looking forward to seeing a big crowd enjoy the delicious dinner and also the annual meeting that will follow, in which Ron Niezgodski will become our new Commodore, put on the ceremonial Commodore's life jacket, and then give us his big reveal of our new Vice Commodore for the coming year. Many thanks in advance to soon-to-be Commodore Ron Niezgodski, along with wife Kathy and son Fleet Captain Bob and their volunteers, for putting this great event together.

239 Years Ago

The guns fell silent at Yorktown in October 1781, but it was not until September 17, 1787 that the U.S. Constitution was signed. Its three most influential architects were James Madison, Gouverneur Morris and Alexander Hamilton. For inspiration, they drew upon the republican governments of ancient Greece and Rome, Enlightenment political philosophy; and the English Magna Carta, Bill of Rights, and common law.

James Madison of Virginia is known as the "Father of the Constitution." His Virginia Plan provided the basic framework for a strong national government with three separate branches, proportional representation, and checks and balances; and he was more prepared than any other delegate. He took the most detailed notes of the debates and later co-authored the Federalist Papers while helping secure ratification and drafting the Bill of Rights. Gouverneur Morris of Pennsylvania was the Constitution's principal wordsmith on the Committee of Style and Arrangement. He is credited with writing the famous Preamble"We the People." Alexander Hamilton of New York was the leading advocate for a strong national government. He later wrote the majority of the Federalist Papers (51 of the 85 essays), which remain the most important contemporary explanation and defense of the document and were crucial to its ratification on June 21, 1788. The dream of a United States of America had now become reality.



Signing of the Constitution, *painting by Howard Chandler Christy, 1940, U.S. Capitol*

Culver's

The 2026 Birch Barker is generously sponsored by Culver's.
See ad on page 3

The Barker will consider ads, photos, and editorial content for publication.
Email items to ***birchbarker1@gmail.com***.
For editorial concerns, contact editor Amber Holleman 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 Comm. Steve Frew at ***stephenbfrew@gmail.com*** or **239-315-1177**.
NEW DEADLINE for submissions is **11AM** on the **MONDAY** of the week before publication.

EVENTS

Less than twelve years earlier, on July 4, 1776, America had declared its independence with these stirring words: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness." May God continue to bless and protect the United States of America.

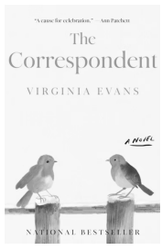
It has been my pleasure to serve you this year.

~Soon-to-be Past Commodore Steve Frew





Book Club



Our next book will be *The Correspondent*, by Virginia Evans. Our meeting will be August 25, 6:30pm at Debbie Soldato's house (63159 Walnut Rd). Any questions, or if you'd like to join in the fun, contact Jackie Frew: ***seeitall8@gmail.com*** or call/text 708-285-2999.

Ladies Weekly Golf

This year we tee off on Thursday 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).

Birch Lake Ladies Style Show and Luncheon

The Birch Lake Ladies Style Show is back! We look forward to seeing you Wednesday, August 26th at 11:30 at the Woodfire Trattoria in Dowagiac. Our beautiful models will be wearing fall fashions from The Marshall Shoppe. Contact Ronni Eshleman 317-418-9557 with any questions.



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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

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

birchlakeyachtclub.com/advertise

BIRCH LAKE NOTES

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.***

AED Support Needed

Our six (6) AEDs around the Lake require periodic battery and pad replacements so they are always ready when needed. The batteries have a four (4) year life and were last replaced in late Summer 2024. The pads have a two (2) year life and were last replaced in Fall 2025. That means next Fall we will need to replace the pads again at a likely cost of more than $2,100 in total. We currently have not received enough in AED donations to cover this impending cost. When you are reviewing your future donations to the Yacht Club please consider a donation toward our AEDs. Our Lake Community appreciates it!

Birch Lake Floating Keychains are still available for purchase for $5.00 each. 100% of proceeds go to the Water Quality Fund. Text or call **Jennifer Ball at 574-535-3733** or **Cindy Bernaciak at 773-401-9191** to get yours.



THANK YOU to all of our 2026 Barker advertisers! Please check them all out on the BLYC website and support our advertisers. The Birch Barker is delivered **free** to all Birch Lake residents because the advertising revenue covers all of the printing costs, website hosting, and our new membership platform. Publication and distribution is all managed by volunteers.

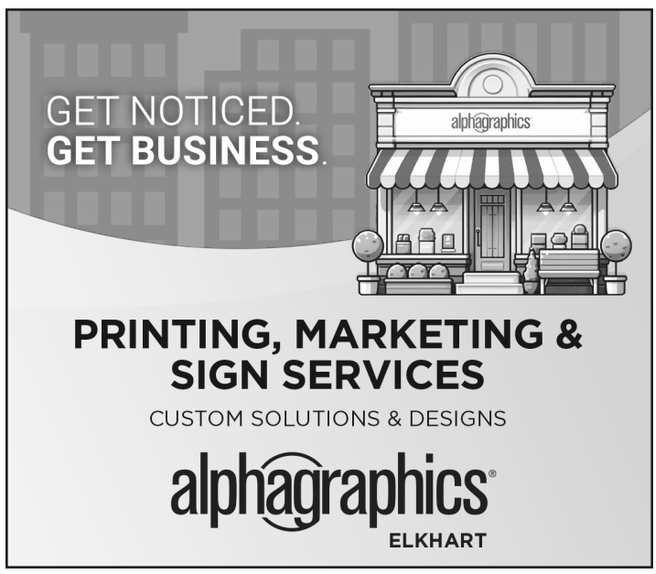
Slow Down Signs

"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.



New BLYC Directory

The 2027 BLYC Printed Directory is now available! There is a complimentary copy for all current BLYC members; non-members may purchase a copy for $5. Extra copies are also available for purchase. We will have the directories at the Fall Dinner on Saturday night. If you're unable to make it to the Fall Dinner, please contact Amber at ***birchbarker1@gmail.com*** or 574-315-0227 to get your directory.





WATER QUALITY: MAIL BAG

It's time to check what's in the Water Quality mailbag. Buckle up because here we go!

From: Pope L., Rome.

I love the work you're doing at Birch Lake. Keep it up! As you may know, I was born and raised on the South Side of Chicago and dreamed of living on a beautiful lake in Michigan, like Birch. So clean, so pristine - it's perfect, just like the Vatican. May God continue to bless Birch Lake – except the geese. They're sinners – like the Cubs.

Thank you, Father. And, Go Sox!

From: Zohran M., NYC.

I understand your committee is asking that 75% of the lake contribute to the Water Quality Fund. Yet only 50% have done so. I have an idea. Tax everyone! Create a Special Assessment District (SAD) and it will automatically show up on their property taxes. Every year, I guarantee 100% participation. Wallah! Plus, the government will take care of the lake for you and make all the decisions – like it should be! No need for a WQ Committee. We might even start a goose estuary to protect our featured friends with all the money we'd raise.

So many thoughts. None printable.

From: Curt C., Bloomington, IN.

The only thing I love about Michigan is Birch Lake. Well, Bo Schembechler was pretty cool too, but that was then, and this is now. Keep up the good work and remember, invasives suck… and so does Purdue, Michigan and Ohio State!

As far as Cig goes, this is tame.

From: Lionel M., Argentina.

Ok, so we lost to Spain. Pfft. But we had more yellow cards, and that's a fact! I'm exhausted from all that acting. Can I come to the lake and just relax?

Doubt it. No acting up here. Just real folks. Facts being facts and all.

From: Warren B., Omaha.

Congratulations to your committee for maintaining near perfect water conditions at Birch Lake. Take care of the lake and she will take care of you. I hear you're exploring the idea of converting the Water Quality Fund into a 501c3 organization. Great idea – it mirrors my investment strategy (that's worked kinda well) - Rule #1: Never lose money. Rule #2: Never forget rule No. 1. Tax deductible contributions will amp up the fund. Look at me, I started with $10,000 and have about, oh, $150 billion now. So, I know a thing or two about compounding – it works! Be transparent, listen to all the voices and explore all options but never forget: price is what you pay and value is what you get! My advice, value the lake!

Well, that's fair. And great advice. Thank you, sir.

From: Tiger W., Jupiter Island, FL

I haven't won in a while (my "driving" has been erratic), but you're all winners at Birch Lake. How do you keep that place so… perfect? Birch reminds me of my approach shots - they rarely find the weeds. Kudo's to all who have contributed to the effort. They say Scheffler might be better than me. That's like saying Diamond is a deep, spring fed lake. AHEM! Keep your head down, focus on the mission and wear red on Sunday. Ok, that red thing – replace it with "write a check to the WQ fund". If your ball ever lands in the water, you want it to be clean. Like I'd ever know… Thanks, Tiger. Get well. Can you play on my Men's golf outing team next year? Free beer and Uber.

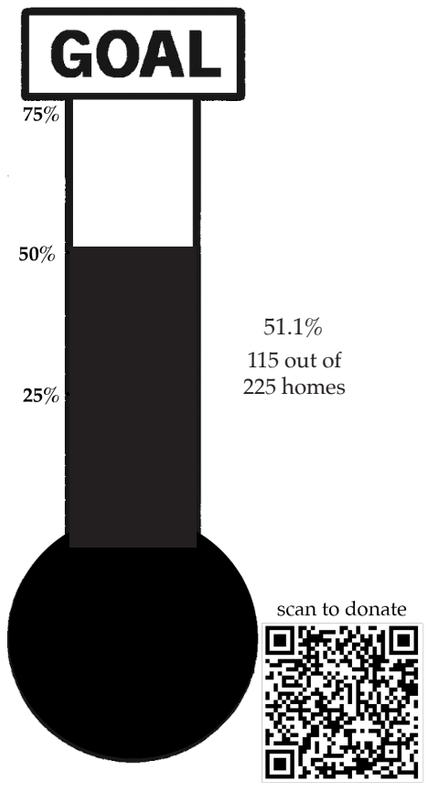
That's it from the Mailbag. Now, get out there and enjoy the lake!

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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BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB DUES

Support the BLYC and the entire Birch Lake Community by becoming a member!

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.

NEW in 2026!

We are excited to introduce a new membership platform this year for BLYC memberships! This platform – called JoinIt – allows us to take online membership payments, collect donations, and take payments for events like the Spring or Fall Dinner. JoinIt also gives us an online directory that is only accessible to current BLYC members. It's entirely up to you what information you want to put into the directory to be shared with other BLYC members.

Scan here to go to Join It

When you get to the JoinIt page, **make sure to click the blue "JOIN" button under the membership type you're interested in**. Don't click log in at the top right of the page, because you won't be in the system if you haven't joined yet.

You can also make donations to the BLYC online. We are using a platform for donations called Zeffy that allows nonprofits to accept payments with no fees, but they automatically select a donation to Zeffy on the checkout screen. If you choose to pay online with the QR code, **you can avoid paying any credit card fees by choosing "other" from the dropdown menu and entering $0 in the box.**

You can also mail in a paper form:

Membership Fees

$ _____ BLYC member dues ($50 per year)
$ _____ Associate member dues ($15 per year) (non lake residents)
$ _____ Homeowners Association ($10 per year)
$ _____ Sailing Fees ($15 per year)
$ _____ Water Quality donations

Donations

$ _____ General Fund
$ _____ AED Fund
$ _____ Barker Donations
$ _____ Building Fund
$ _____ Fireworks Fund
$ _____ Safety Fund
$ _____ Water Quality / Milfoil Program
$ _____ Other Donations (please specify: _____)

$ _____ **TOTAL CONTRIBUTION**

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FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER: A RAINY DREARY DAY

Last Sunday started off with much of the Lake's power going out. MEC indicated that close to 500 homes were without power. Due to the power outage, we had to get our generator going, to get the committee boat out of the lift, and to get my coffee going. By the time we got it up and running, it was a little late, so I decided to postpone races until noon. Then the rain came and just decided to call off the races. In theory, we could have raced between waves of storms, but with storms comes the potential for lightning, and it wasn't worth the risk. All in all, so far we have held 11 MC races and 16 sunfish races. There are three more weekends of races, including the Labor Day Regatta, to go. Let's cross our fingers for some good days of sailing to close out the year!

Fleet Captain, Bob Niezgodski

Sundays are SAILING DAYS!
Races typically start at 11am
Please steer clear
of the course!

SAILING SEASON STANDINGS: CORRECTED

MC Scow Standings

	Total Points	% Races Finished	Average Points	Season Rank
MC Scow Sailor				
Scott Troeger #1489	14242	81.8%	1582.4	1
Patrick Welch #1979	4642	27.3%	1547.3	2
Barb Cassady #2506	16895	100.0%	1535.9	3
Bill Luecht #1579	15661	100.0%	1423.7	4
Rick Harmon #852	4257	27.3%	1419.0	5
Phil Vitale #500	7070	45.5%	1414.0	6
Gigi Cassady (crew for Barb C)	0	18.2%	0.0	7
Eliza (crew for Rick H)	0	27.3%	0.0	7
Max (crew for Rick H)	0	27.3%	0.0	7
Tory Troeger (crew for Scott T)	0	27.3%	0.0	7

Sunfish Standings

	Total Points	% Races Finished	Average Points	Season Rank
Sunfish Sailor				
Rick Russwurm	15459	62.5%	1545.9	1
Stewart Spratt	20018	81.3%	1539.8	2
Amy Troeger	10580	43.8%	1511.4	3
Pete Soldato	2965	12.5%	1482.5	4
Herb Cleveland	13014	56.3%	1446.0	5
Bob Niezgodski	22587	100.0%	1411.7	6
Connor Caplis	8439	37.5%	1406.5	7
Max Parnell	4182	18.8%	1394.0	8
Marlee Soldato (crew for Pete S)	0	12.5%	0.0	9

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





2026 BLYC OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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CAMP T CORNER

Camp T has officially concluded our 2026 season, and as I do each year, I want to recognize the many people who helped make the summer a success. Camp has always been strengthened by the generosity, involvement, and support of the Birch Lake community, and this year was no exception.

We faced a number of challenges with our water system and wells this summer. I would especially like to thank Tom Mosier and Mosier Well Drilling, who came to camp numerous times to help us get everything sorted out. Tom is always willing to donate his labor to support camp, and we are endlessly grateful for his generosity. On at least one occasion this summer, he even canceled another job so he could come to camp and take care of our situation. Thank you, Tom, for your responsiveness, your expertise, and all the time and energy you have contributed to camp over the years.

Several Birch Lake residents serve on our Board of Directors, giving their time and leadership to help keep camp running smoothly. Thank you to Bob Bender, Jamie Green, Tom Kuhn, Carrie O'Brien, Patrick Welch, and Kara Nickell for their service on the Board. We are also grateful to Mike Sheffieck, who has served on our Finance Committee for many years.

Thank you to Bob and Layna Bender for loaning us their speedboat for several days when one of our camp boats was experiencing mechanical problems. Their generosity allowed our waterskiing program to continue running and our campers to keep learning and enjoying their time on Birch Lake.

Our annual Pancake Breakfast would not be possible without a wonderful team of volunteers. Thank you to Tom Kuhn, Bob Bender, Kara and Zack Nickell, Lori and Dylan Snider, Brad Zesinger, Scott Sortal, Tom Eslinger, Gaby Cowen, Elyse Grundy, Bill and Sherry Holleman, Andy and Lori Snider, and Carmen and Robert Garcia for pitching in and helping make the event a success.

We were also fortunate to have several Birch Lake youth on our summer staff this year: Avery Grundy (east shore) and Brendan Snider (cove) spent their summer keeping campers safe as lifeguards at the waterfront and teaching waterskiing and wakeboarding to the next generation of campers. Dominic Magro Algarotti and Tommy Magro, grandsons of Bill Magro (north shore), and Kat Snider, granddaughter of Tom and Vickie Rogers (cove), also worked at camp this year, as cabin counselors and activity leaders.

Thank you as well to all the lake families who sent campers to camp this year. We welcomed children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and friends from at least 25 families around Birch Lake! It means so much to us that our lake neighbors continue to entrust us with the young people in their lives and make camp a part of their family traditions.

Finally, thank you to the many individuals who volunteered their time at camp throughout the past year. Whether you served on a committee, donated funds, helped with an event, cleaned up a downed tree, loaned us equipment, shared your expertise, responded when we needed assistance, or supported camp in countless other ways, you played an important role in our success.

It truly takes a community to make camp possible. We are incredibly fortunate to be part of the Birch Lake community, and we are deeply grateful to everyone who helped make the 2026 season a memorable one for our campers.

~Miss Amber

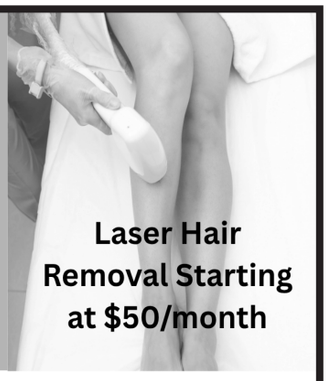
Join us for Grown Up Camp!

The Camp T Gathering of Friends is a grown-up camp weekend for adults ages 21 and older. Enjoy favorite camp traditions like archery, campfire cooking, crafts, and canoeing - along with adult-only fun such as cocktail cruises on Birch Lake and late-night songs around the campfire. It's a chance to unplug, relax, reconnect, and experience the magic of camp all over again! This year's grown up camp takes place September 25-27.

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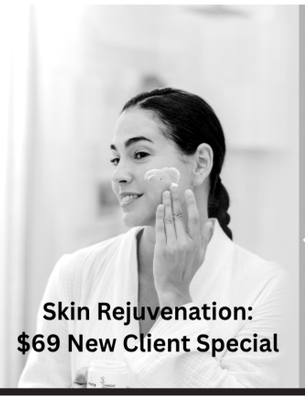
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BIRCH LAKE HISTORY: COTTAGE NAMES

Many people probably know that early cottages around the lake often had whimisical names. In the 1961 BLYC Directory, many of those cottage names are listed in the alphabetical listing of homes. I'm certain there are others that have had fun names in the past. If your house or property used to have a name and it's not listed here, please send those to me at ***birchbarker1@gmail.com***.

Here are the ones that were listed in the 1961 Directory. I've listed the name that was associated with the home in that directory, as well as the current owners according to this year's directory.

Add-a-Bit - W306, Starr and Mildred Wentworth. Now owned by Jon and Karen Scofield.

Bee Jay - E200-1, Bruno and Marie Winiarski. Now owned by Dave and Nina Frurip and Jim and Lisa Lyles.

Bide-a-Wee - S093, Lester and Eva Milne. Now owned by the Como Family.

Birch Aire - S019, C.E. and Violet Linton. Now owned by Dennis Leatherman.

Birch Haven - E116, Chester Hemminger. Now owned by Paul and Celia Fallon.

Bottom Dollar - W325, Jack and Evelyn Asire. Still owned by the Asire family.

Cowen's Cove - W308, Clifford and Avanelle Cowen. Still owned by the Cowen family. At one point also called ***Wilderness Cove*** (as noted in a 1946 Birch Barker).

Dreamwood - W353, Robert and Helen Doolittle. Still owned by the Doolittle family.

DunKampin - W302, Floyd and Ruth Fulmer. Still in the Fulmer family, now owned by Floyd's great-grandson Christopher Carey.

Dunromin - E109, Mrs. J.W. Lott. Now owned by Marsha Williams.

Foursome - E145, Howard and Cleo Fischer. Now owned by Bob and Sandy Baucus.

Happy Valley - S099, Frank and Mildred Neterer. This is a back lot behind the Griffith's home next to the Boat Launch.

Hidden Inn - W350, Russell and Betty Carey. Now owned by Carmen and Debbie Soldato.

Hillcrest Lodge - S084, Wayne and Nancy Milne. Now owned by Bob and Lois Groszek.

Hillside - S073, Gaston and Margaret DeWulf. Now owned by Doug Barbour and Tammy Sobczak.

Idyll-Ours - W324, Lloyd and Lorene Krueger. Still in the Krueger family, now owned by Lloyd's granddaugther Camille Athanas Butler.

Just a Dream - W355, Lester and Doris Decker. Now owned by Buzz and Linda Rasmussen.

L's Half Acre - E117, Genevieve Lagoni. Now owned by Dan and Sharon Waxman.

La Palina - S076, Clyde Douglass. Now owned by the Russell family.

Lazy Lodge - E200, Peter and Wanda Winiwarski. Now owned by Ben and Vanessa Wozniak.

The Lowboy - W319, E.J. and Georgia Gavit. Now owned by Bob and Charlene Baumgartner.

Maple Hill - W365, Albert Osborne. Now owned by Rich and Beth DeYoung.

Mox-Nix - S100, Eugene and Jackie Luxenberger. Now owned by John and Anne Griffith.

Mull-Inn - S056, Paul and Belzora l Mullins. Now owned by Steve and Kim Fillenwarth.

Pair-a-Dice - S034, Frank and Rose Horvath. Still in the Horvath family, now owned by Frank's daughter, Denny Weesner, and granddaughter Ronni Eshleman.

Pennsylvanian - E200-3, Joseph and Helen Harris. This lot is no longer listed in the directory. It was likely behind the house now owned by Margie Trybus.

Sleepy Hollow - S027, Mahlon and Grace Eberhart. Now owned by Beth Crawford.

Snug Harbor II - W305, James and Helen Beard, now owned by Ellen Nyberg.

Summer Haven - S051, John and Arline Machalleck. Still owned by the Machalleck family.

Sunset View - E106, Ray and Ruth Anne Larson. Still in the Larson family, now owned by Ray's daughter Linda Witchie.

Wa-Na-Si-Ya - S002 - Hub and Dorothy Getzinger. Now owned by Ed Levy.

Wee Wood - W310, J.R. and Shirley Caenepeel and C.L. Partridge. Still owned by the Caenepeel family.

We-Luv-It - S064, Otto and Daisy Mais. Now owned by Ray and Jill Scholes.

There are also cottage names that I've come across in old Barkers and while doing research for history articles.

B-Ur-Self - Unknown.

Blue Heaven - S048 Ebeling family. Now owned by Bill Doba.

Camp Idle Days - S054, Kesler family. Now owned by Mike and Katha Machalleck.

D-El-Do - Metzler family.

Dan Tom - Budd family.

Double D - C290, Don and Dorothy Coleman. Now owned by Jim and Traci Limes.

Happy Ours - W307, I.T. and Helen Bowers. Still in the Bowers family, now owned by their granddaughter Marsha Bolin.

Hill-Top - Foulke family.

June-Bud Point - S046, Zesinger family. Now owned by Becky Wiseman.

Kum-an-Go - Nels Christianson.

Lake-Land - Proseus family.

Melody Lodge - W320, Elbel Family. Now owned by the Ann and Charlie Kesmodel and Karen and Mark Evans (Toth Family Cottage).

Penwallah - N272, Charles Smith family. Now owned by Mike and Paula Russell.

Royal Poinciana - N240, originally owned by Charley Julius, located where the Kenagy home is now.

Silver Spring - N245, Thayer family. Now owned by Beth and Bob Kenagy.

Ye Old Fun House - Unknown.

Cass County COA

Summer Concert Series

Friday, June 26: *The Van Dyke Revue*

Friday, July 24: *Whistle Pigs*

Friday, August 28: *Whiskey Retreat*

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BARKER KIDS OF THE WEEK



Regular Birch Lake visitors to the Stevens, Kelli and Jason Whitehouse visited with their daughter, Alex (right) and friends Bri and Shelby. A great time was had by all. Besides enjoying the water, they spent time taking pictures and creating content for Alex's internet page.

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



Elyse Grundy (age 14, east shore) earned the Order of the Birch award at Camp T this summer. The Order of the Birch is the highest honor a camper can earn during their years at Camp and honorees are invited to the final closing campfire for a special torch ceremony in their honor.



Maggie Cassady (daughter of Tom and Barb Cassady, East Side), "Marge" to her nieces and nephews, celebrates another Camp Marge. The 6th year event theme was World Cup Soccer.



Kieran Grundy (age 9, east shore) waterskiing at Camp T during the last week of camp. On Monday he cried each time he fell. By Thursday, he was getting up on his own, going in and out of the wake on both sides, and asking if he could try slaloming!

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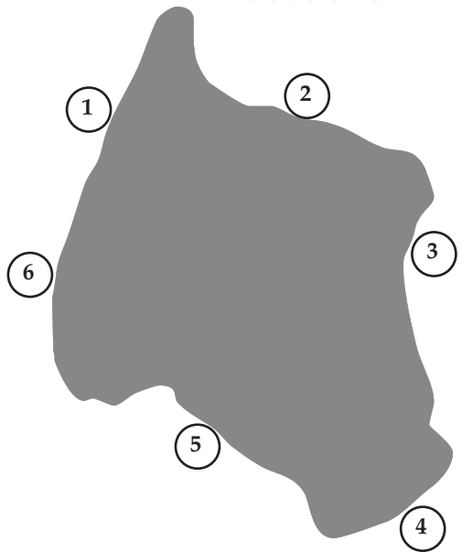
EMERGENCY HEART DEFIBRILLATOR
(AED) locations on Birch Lake

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.**

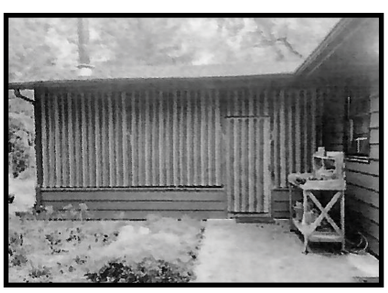
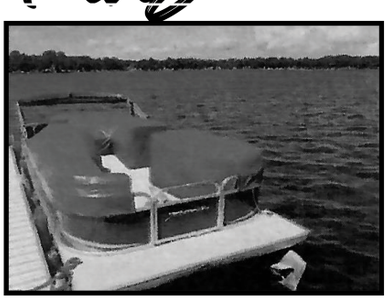
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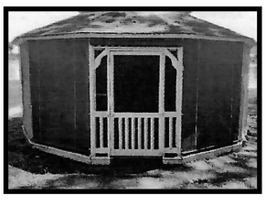
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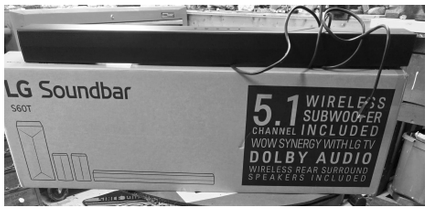
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LG soundbar with subwoofer and rear surround sound. Brand new, only thing taken out of box was soundbar, never used. Call Deb at **219-765-8691**. $175.00



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Classified Ads in the Barker are free to current BLYC members. Send your ad to ***birchbarker1@gmail.com*** Deadline is **MONDAY 11am** for the upcoming weekend's Barker.

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Outdoor storage space for two MCs (on trailers) in winter and for the two trailers in summer. Call Phil **476-1680.**

Old BLYC Directories. If you have directories from between 1981 and 1996, I would love to scan them! I have many of the old directories, but nothing between '81 and '96. Email if you come across any!
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Kayak paddle during early July storm. Black blades, aluminum shaft.
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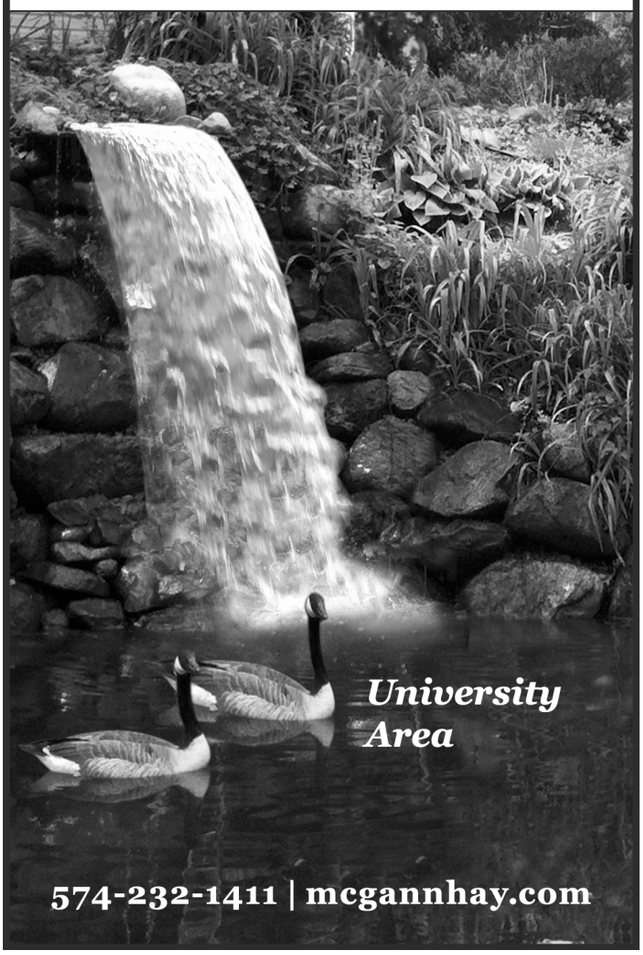
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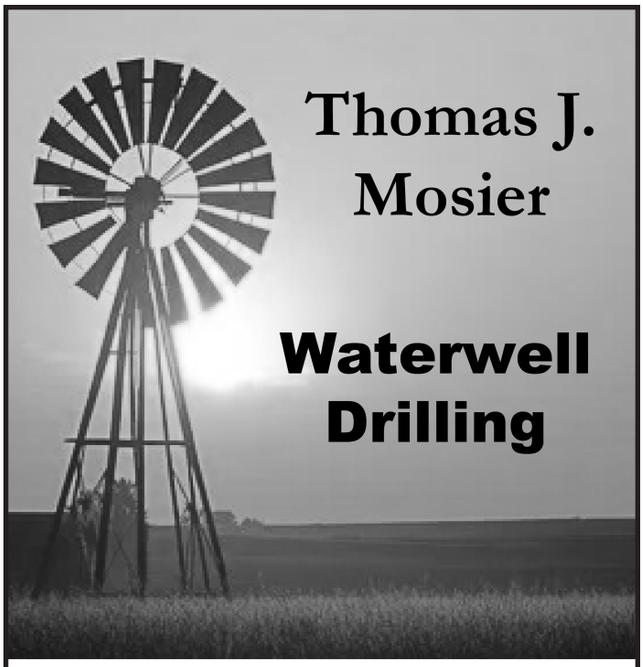
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BARKER FUNNIES

Three men are in the middle of a desert when their car breaks down. For their hike to town, they each decide to take one thing with them. One man takes a jug of water. The second man takes a sandwich. The last man takes one of the car doors. The first man says to the last man, "I'm bringing the water because if I get thirsty, I can take a drink. And it makes sense to bring a sandwich in case we get hungry, but why bring a car door?" The last man replies, "If I get hot, I can just roll down the window."

If your back goes out more than you do...you might be getting old...



One liner with a Smart Twist

- Why do we tell actors to "break a leg"? Because every play has a cast.
- Helvetica and Times New Roman walk into a bar. The bartender says, "We don't serve your type."
- Why wouldn't the shrimp share his treasure? Because he was a little shellfish.
- Why should you knock on the refrigerator before opening it? In case there's a salad dressing.
- When is a door not a door? When it's ajar.
- What did the fish say when it swam into a concrete wall? "Dam!"
- Did you hear about the Italian chef who died? He pasta-way.

The Quiz Master

I had to cancel my bullfighting lessons.

They were charging too much.

This book on marriage says "treat your wife like you treated her on the first date", so after dinner tonight I am dropping her off at her parents house.

Asked my wife if she would still love me if I was fat and ugly....

"Yes I do" was not the answer I was looking for!

God promised that men would find a good and obedient women in all corners of the Earth... and then he made the Earth round.

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