

THE BIRCH LOG

October 2005

WWW.BIRCHWOODLAKES.ORG

LAKES COMMITTEE UPDATE

Since the September 9th vote, the Lakes Committee has been continuing work in several areas:

1. Where to place the lake bottom silt? The Township has offered us 'the pit' near the municipal works facility. This was ideal for us (1.6 miles of transport) and beneficial to the Township to get near perfect fill. It was vetoed by the Pinelands Commission because of trace amounts of metals found in the material although easily passing NJDEP standards.

Our second option was a farm just north of Route 70, outside of the Pinelands. The farmer wants the material to help level his land. To see a picture of the farm, go to our website and click on 'Sept 6th member meeting'. We have had our professionals to the farm, have contacted the Township about the site, and so far it looks promising. A third option is a company that would take our material, mix it with some other ingredients and sell it at stores that sell bagged top soil, mulch and similar products. They already have a large operation doing this in other parts of New Jersey. Imagine yourself going to a local store six months from now, buying a bag of 'top soil' and carting it back to Birchwood in the Pinelands! Oh, the irony of it all. Beyond that, Trudy Ramsey has been in contact with a number of contractors and others who may be looking for fill. Our silt can be used for some types of fill but not for structural fill. With 193 owners in Birchwood, some one may know of companies that are looking for some or all of 66,000 cubic yards of fill. Contact Trudy at 654-4910. She'll take it from there if you can give her a name and a number. This could result in a substantial cost reduction. Hauling can amount to 50% or more of the cost of lake bot-

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, October 10th @ 7:30 PM

At the Clubhouse

The Birchwood Lakes Officers and Directors will be addressing the issues affecting our community. Members are encouraged to attend. The Officers and Directors will be making decisions for you. Why not express your ideas? For detailed info on the meeting format and future meeting dates, go to our website and click on "Board Meetings".

Nonmembers who wish to join the Birchwood Lakes Colony Club are encouraged to come to the meeting. Their application will be taken at the meeting.

tom cleaning.

2. Meanwhile, the dam repairs proceed on schedule (see the website for the schedule shown in the 'Sept 6th member meeting'). We are in the Application and Permitting phase on both the sediment removal and the dam repairs. IF we stay on schedule, the dam repairs and lake bottom sediment removal should be complete in the Spring of 2006.

The Dam repair project and the lake bottom cleaning project are two separate projects. Potential bidders for each of these projects have all said their project would not depend on or interfere with the other project. Stay tuned!

Ed Eck Day—Saturday, Oct 22nd 8 AM at the Clubhouse BE THERE!

2005 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

President	John Cirenza	953-8912
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The Birchwood Lakes Colony Club

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LOOKING FOR A LITTLE ACTION?

You can get it by running for any Board position or the two director positions that need to be filled. With the steam shovels and the blasting about to begin, you too could be helping make decisions about what gets done and how. Call the nominating committee, Christina Fennimore, 654-5292 or John Rothwell, 654-4678 to place your name on the ballot. If you would like to see what the different positions entail, go to our website and click on 'Constitution and By Laws'. Go to Article VI.

Committees

Clubhouse

Chairperson	Valerie Wall	654-6431
	KBWDECON@aol.com	
Sandy Scott		Kevin Wall

Lakes Restoration

Chairperson	Tom Andreacci	654-7922
	THOMASANDREACCI@msn.com	

Membership

Chairperson	Patty Yulick	953-2734
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The Birch Log

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Upper Lake	Connie Ziomek	654-4635

The Birch Log is published just prior to each monthly meeting and before any special meeting. Materials for the newsletter should be received 12 days before the meeting. Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month, at 7:30 PM, in the Clubhouse. Material may be faxed to 609-953-3222 but the preferred method is by e-mail to AHomann@aol.com. Your e-mail will be acknowledged within 48 hours. If you receive no acknowledgement, call 609-953-3222.

A BLAST FROM THE PAST!

Al Homann

Recently, Ruth Corbett provided me with a copy of the first Birch Log, Vol.1, No. 1, Spring 1958. Wow! I'll include excerpts from it in the next several Birch Logs. The first issue ran 13 pages so I have lots of material. Below are pages 2 & 3. Next month, I'll try to include their original organization chart. You won't believe it. It looks like GM or IBM. Fills a full page with small blocks. Everyone must have volunteered.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

We at Birchwood are in a unique position when we once realize that our surroundings can be just as beautiful as we want to make them -- and there are few restrictions when it comes to undertaking a project to make life more enjoyable for ourselves and our children.

While it is to be remembered that we do not have an inexhaustible supply of money, we can and will accomplish a great deal if we all pitch-in and cooperate with the various committee chairmen who have caught the spirit and intend to try making things nicer for all of us. Let's give them a hand!

We are most fortunate also in having an energetic group of men running the Colony Club and who, as you probably know, are not the type to attend Board Meetings just to hear themselves talk and then complain 'till next meeting about why their ideas weren't put into practice. They work every day, as we all do, but still find time to help when there is something to be done around the Lakes. So, if you are bragging about Birchwood -- as I know you are -- then let's go one step farther and offer your know-how, muscles, or whatever it is you have. We can use it and we know you'll enjoy the fellowship that is growing by leaps and bounds.

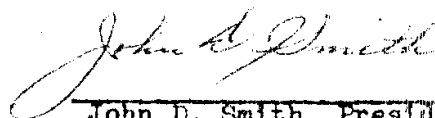
I personally feel that lack of money is not our main deterrent if! - and only if - all of us will dive-in when some manual task confronts us; and if we also will back-up our Colony Club when either the Ladies or Gentlemen have lined-up a social or any other affair that has been planned for our pleasure.

The following pages of "The Birch Log" are actually an honest effort to create interest by letting all our Colonists know who's who, what's planned, how we are organized, how we expect to spend your money, and of course those items on the lighter side.

I realize it's impossible to please everyone, but at this point I'm not even sure we're pleasing the majority. We hope we are, but if you feel differently then let's talk it over. If our aims are not what they should be, then there's no better time than right now to adjust our sights.

I speak sincerely when I say your Directors and Officers are making an earnest effort to improve our standard of living and to offer our children the things we didn't have when we were their age. It's nice to know our Colony Club is young and with each new family comes new ideas. We need ideas --- YOURS.

Cordially,



John D. Smith, President (1958)

Happy Halloween!



Join us at the Clubhouse for a Halloween Costume Party

On Sunday, October 30th at 3 pm

Activities to include: Tractor ride, Costume parade, bobbing for apples, pin the nose on the pumpkin, piñata and dancing games, pumpkin decorating, and family pumpkin carving.

(We'll supply small pumpkins for the kids to decorate. Families, bring your own larger pumpkin and carving tools. We will light up the pumpkins when the sun goes down.)

We will also be supplying **PIZZA** for this event!

Please RSVP ASAP to Michelle Swift at 654-6268 No later than October 23rd. This is it parents!

There will not be a separate flyer or reminder for the party so RSVP NOW!

We need to know how many children and adults will be attending. Please also let US know what your family will be contributing. We will still need: appetizers, snacks, treats, desserts and beverages.

(Remember, adults will be eating too!)

You can also volunteer to help with set-up and clean-up. This is greatly appreciated! Hope to see you there!

CAPE COD FOR SALE

20 NW Lakeside Drive. This large four bedroom, three bathroom home has many upgrades. Please call for information and to make an appointment.
Tom & Lisa Hulse 609-714-9083

4TH ANNUAL TOY SALE

I have a garage full of NEW TOYS at 1/2 off retail! Shop now for Christmas at wholesale prices. Dolls, Trains, Games & much more. Suitable for tot to teen. Starts this Saturday, Oct 8th at 9AM, 19 N. Lakeside Drive West. Ross Alber

Ed Eck Day—Saturday, Oct 22nd 8 AM at the Clubhouse BE THERE!