



### Attend the LPLA Annual Meeting on June 22!

Once again there are compelling reasons to attend our annual membership meeting. This year's meeting will be on **Saturday, June 22 at 10:00 a.m. at the Lake Township Hall on M-22.**

### Get the Latest in Lake News

As usual we will have reports on everything from water levels to fish stories to a report on wildlife such as the Red-breasted Merganser pictured below. Greet your neighbors from around the lake and hear what our new Drain Commissioner Christy Andersen has to say.

### Elect Officers and Directors

Under our amended Bylaws the President, Secretary and one Trustee will be up for election for two-year terms. The remaining Board members—the Treasurer and the other Trustee—will be up for one-year terms. **While the Board has nominated the five incumbents for re-election, additional nominations may be made by any Member at the Annual Meeting.**

### Restoring Tranquility

Last year members were unhappy about a small plane repeatedly touching down on our lake.



Members seeing the plane were urged to record its identifying numbers and then to report the incident to a DNR hotline. The problem: it was hard to see the numbers when the plane was out in the lake. The Board addressed the issue when John photographed the plane with his long lens and Dave looked up and contacted the plane's owner. It turns out that the company owning the plane was training pilots. While the owner admitted no wrongdoing, the flights stopped after Dave's call.

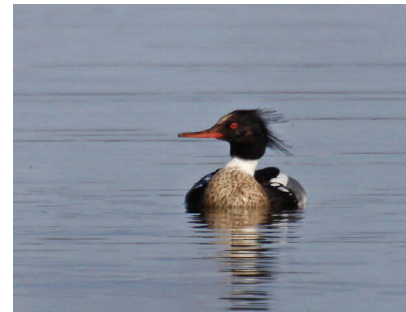
### President's Corner

Here it is May 1st, and the ice has finally melted. Boats are starting to appear on the lake, the loons are singing, and the fishermen are ready to meet the challenge of another great summer of fishing on Little Platte. May your cast be right and your line kept tight.

*-Ronnie Brown*

### Time to Renew!

LPLA membership dues run from June 1 through May 31. That means it's time to renew your membership. **For your convenience we have enclosed with this newsletter a self-addressed return envelope that also serves as a renewal form. Just complete the form, enclose your check, stamp and mail the envelope.**



## Walker versus the Beavers—Part Two

In 2010 we told how Lynn Walker had won a five-day battle with beavers at the Deadstream dam. Last summer the beavers resumed the fight. It was mid-August and the water level was high on the lake but low at the Deadstream dam. The reason? The beavers had constructed a 35' dam across the river! Lynn and Ronnie contacted the Field and State Fishery Divisions of the DNR. Neither could remove the dam, but they did give LPLA permission to remove it. Lynn then contacted Drain Commissioner Terry Money, who agreed on behalf of the county to contribute \$250—half the cost—to remove the dam. It took the two men hired by LPLA several hours to undo the work of the four-legged builders!



## Available for Occupancy!

Once again your Loon Committee has decorated and placed a floating platform near the traditional nesting site for our visiting loons. To us the platform has never looked better, but it remains to be seen what the loons will think. As of early May mute swans have been chased away from a nearby site, and loons are on the lake. All we can do now is to think family (and to keep our distance).



## Annual Meeting Agenda\*

**Saturday June 22, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.**

**Lake Township Hall on M-22**

Call to Order	Ron Brown
Program	Christy Andersen, Benzie County Drain Commissioner
Secretary's Report	Gretchen Staub, Minutes of 2012 Annual Meeting
Treasurer's Report	John Ester, Membership and Finances
Water Level/Dam Report	Lynn Walker
Water Quality Report	Dave Van Hammen
Wildlife Report	John Ester
Fishery Report	Ron Brown
Website	Keith Farley

### Old Business

- Deadstream Dam
- Plane # N3071M

### New Business

- Election of Officers 2013-14
- 2014 LPLA Annual Membership Meeting  
(Tentative Date: Saturday June 21, 2014 10:00 a.m. LAKE Township Hall M-22)

**\*Any member wishing to add an Agenda item should advise any Board member.**

**Highlights: June 23, 2012 Annual Meeting at Homestead Twp Hall**  
(The Minutes are posted in their entirety on the LPLA website)

The Little Platte Lake Association was formed in 2003, and our first meeting was held at the Lake Township Hall with featured speaker Ron Harrison of the Benzie Conservation District. When we met this year, we did so at that same Township Hall, and our speaker was Mike Jones of the Benzie Conservation District.

Noting that water is Benzie County's most important asset, Mike discussed his list of the "Top Ten Things You Can Do to Protect Benzie's Watershed." In fielding questions he also talked about the challenges to be faced with invasives and the like in Lake Michigan. He concluded with a summary of the Conservation District's 2012 Events Calendar.

Members also learned of the Association's efforts to monitor lake levels and to remove boating hazards. Loons are back on the lake and the eagles are on a new nest with chicks (see photo below). Members observing a sea plane stressing the loons and eagles with repeated touchdowns and takeoffs were urged to take down the plane's identifying numbers and to call the DNR hotline at 800-292-7800.

The meeting concluded with the election of directors to serve for the next year. Minutes of the meeting can be found in their entirety at [www.littleplattelake.org](http://www.littleplattelake.org).



Speaker Mike Jones  
(Photo by John Ester)



Chicks on the new Bald Eagle nest.  
(Photo by Kris Del Monte)

**LPLA**  
**PO Box 284**  
**Honor, MI 49640**



### *Little Platte Lake Association*

*LPLA is a voluntary association of owners of property surrounding Little Platte Lake. We are a charitable organization formed to preserve and protect Little Platte Lake and its environs.*

#### **Board Members**

President:	Ronnie Brown	325-2401	<a href="mailto:twinbirchresort@yahoo.com">twinbirchresort@yahoo.com</a>
Secretary:	Gretchen Staub	325-0077	<a href="mailto:gretstaub@centurytel.net">gretstaub@centurytel.net</a>
Treasurer:	John Ester	325-2445	<a href="mailto:jester625@earthlink.net">jester625@earthlink.net</a>
Trustee:	Dave Van Hammen	325-2170	<a href="mailto:daud@maui.net">daud@maui.net</a>
Trustee:	Lynn Walker	325-6654	<a href="mailto:walkerlonnie2003@yahoo.com">walkerlonnie2003@yahoo.com</a>

**Visit our web site at: [www.littleplattelake.org](http://www.littleplattelake.org)**

