

2009 LPLA Meeting

Annual Meeting Agenda\*

Saturday June 20, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

Homestead Township Hall in Honor

Call to Order: Ronnie Brown

Update – Grand Traverse Band Biologist Brett Fessell

Secretary's Report: Minutes of '08 Annual Meeting

Treasurer's Report: Proposed Budget

Water Level Report: Lynn Walker

Water Quality Report: Dave Van Hammen

Fishery Report: Ronnie Brown

MLSA Plant Mapping: Gretchen Staub

Bird Report: John Ester

Web Site: Keith Farley

Old Business

New Business

· Election of 5 directors for 2009 - 2010

· Lake Observer Contacts

· 2010 Annual Meeting

Adjournment

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

Cash Flow Comparison

posted 6/7/09

**Little Platte Lake Association**

**Cash Flow Comparison**  
6/1/07 through 5/31/09

<b>Category Description</b>	<b>6/1/07- 5/31/08</b>	<b>6/1/08- 5/31/09</b>	<b>Amount Difference</b>
<b>INFLOWS</b>			
Contributions	160.00	0.00	-160.00
Dues			
Received	2,515.00*	1,235.00**	-1,280.00
Other Dues	30.00	0.00	-30.00
TOTAL Dues	2,545.00	1,235.00	-1,310.00
Reimbursement	0.00	110.00	110.00
<b>TOTAL IN</b>	<b>2,705.00</b>	<b>1,345.00</b>	<b>-1,360.00</b>
<b>OUTFLOWS</b>			
Dues Paid	170.00	70.00	100.00
Fees			
Bank Process	14.55	0.00	14.55
Other Fees	40.00	40.00	0.00
TOTAL Fees	54.55	40.00	14.55
Hall Rental	35.00	35.00	0.00
Materials	29.38	120.00	-90.62
Postage	90.20	100.80	-10.60
Printing	118.00	107.00	11.00
Reimbursable Expense	0.00	129.24	-129.24
Water Testing	169.50	0.00	169.50
<b>TOTAL OUT</b>	<b>666.63</b>	<b>602.04</b>	<b>64.59</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>2,038.37</b>	<b>742.96</b>	<b>-1,295.41</b>

\*Includes \$1,330 in dues received prior to 5/31/08 for the fiscal year of 6/1/08 - 5/31/09.

\*\*Includes \$700 in dues received prior to 5/31/09 for the fiscal year of 6/1/09 - 5/31/10.

LPLA received total dues of \$1,865 for the fiscal year ending 5/31/09.

**Account Balance**

<b>5/31/08</b>	<b>5/31/09</b>	<b>Difference</b>
\$3,890.38	\$4,593.34	\$712.96

Proposed Budget

posted 6/7/09

**Little Platte Lake Association**

**LPLA Proposed Budget**

**6/1/09 - 5/31/10**

	<u>6/1/08 - 5/31/09</u>		<u>6/1/09 - 5/31/10</u>
	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Proposed Budget</u>
<b>Income</b>			
Dues	\$1,600	\$1,865*	\$1,600
	1,600	1,865	1,600
<b>Expenses</b>			
Dues (MLSA)	70	70	70
Education (MLSA)	300	0	300
Fees	55	40	40
Hall Rental	35	35	35
Postage	100	100	110
Printing	140	110	140
Miscellaneous	300	140	250
Cash Reserve	600	1,105	655
	\$1,600	\$1,370	\$1,600

\*Includes dues received prior to 5/31/08 for FYE 5/31/09

Minutes of the 2009 Annual Meeting

LITTLE PLATTE LAKE ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING

JUNE 20, 2009

The annual membership meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m. by President Ronnie Brown at the Homestead Township Hall.

The business portion of the meeting was immediately recessed so that Brett Fessell, the Chief Biologist for the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, could present a PowerPoint program of their watershed restoration projects. The tribe in conjunction with the Conservation Resource Alliance received over \$100,000 of EPA grant money to improve five sites in the area that directly affect the watersheds and water quality. He also discussed the results of the fish survey which was conducted in the summer of 2007 on Little Platte Lake. Those results will be posted on the LPLA website. Our fishery looks good but could be improved with near shore structure (downed trees for cover). He will also speak with Todd Kalish about recording the temperature of the lake.

The membership meeting was resumed with the first item of business to approve the minutes of last year's meeting. A motion was made from the floor to do so; Lou Glatzer seconded the motion, and it passed.

John Ester gave the treasurer's report. The bank balance is currently \$4,593.34. We have had fewer expenses this year so we have more funds in the bank. He also stated that last year's membership increased to 70 individuals. A motion to accept his report came from the floor and after being seconded it passed.

Lynn Walker was unable to attend the meeting but left his prepared handout of water level, rainfall, snowfall, and other interesting facts for those who wanted a copy. Today the water level at the dam on Deadstream Road was at its court appointed level (reading 1.8 at the gauge by the dam).

Dave Van Hammen is no longer testing water because the DNR is conducting tests on three locations on the lake as part of their ongoing monitoring for Platte Lake. We can access that information by going to the Platte Lake website. Ronnie and Diane Brown prepared a guide to help find the water testing results on the website: [www.platte-lake.org](http://www.platte-lake.org)

Former Board member Lou Glatzer explained that he would like to see our association continue to do the monitoring also. The board will discuss this idea further at a later date.

Ronnie Brown is concerned that no pike have been caught in the lake this year. Brett Fessell offered to provide us with envelopes to collect scales on any pike caught for analysis. Scales should be retrieved by scraping above the lateral line toward the front of the fish. A discussion on rainbow trout seen and caught followed. Fishing is good with bluegill, and bass are the most plentiful fish in the lake.

Gretchen Staub explained the aquatic plant mapping that was done last summer. It can be found on the web and will be updated as new areas are surveyed.

John Ester reported that neither the eagles nor the loons appeared to be successful in raising any chicks this year. The eagle nest has been abandoned and the loons appeared to be nesting briefly on two sites, neither of which were the platform. An immature eagle has been seen regularly around the lake.

Ronnie Brown had new informational signs made and installed at the Spruce Street public access site and the Saffron Road public boat launch site. These signs inform visitors about the shallow nature of the lake as well as loon information.

Lou Glatzer announced he had several informational pamphlets to share.

Ronnie Brown explained how the Lake Observer Committee will work. This identified group of lake residents will call 911 if they see that someone on the lake is in distress. They have phone numbers to call each other if they see something suspicious moving out of their area and into another observer's viewing area.

All of the existing Board members ran for reelection. Lou Glatzer withdrew as a candidate and ran the election. He opened the floor for any additional nominations for officers. There were none, so a motion was made to reelect the current board members for another year. The motion was seconded and approved. The board of directors will determine how the duties of officers will be assigned.

Thirty-one people attended the meeting. At this time the date for the 2010 Annual Meeting has not been determined.

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Staub, Secretary

Little Platte Lake Water Level



water-level-7-4-07.jpg

A REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE LITTLE PLATTE LAKE WATERSHED

posted 4/8/08

April 7, 2008 by Lynn Walker, Trustee

The water level at the dam has been as high as 2.12 on the vertical support angle this past winter.

On April 4th one board was removed to allow for the spring run off. The water level dropped to 2.10 by April 7th. The court ordered maximum level was set at 1.80.

Water levels are expected to bounce back from the low 14" to 16" watershed levels from the past, 2007 summer.

During the winter of November 2006 to April 2007 we received 144 inches of snow. The reason our level dropped so low was that we received only 6.1" of rain last summer.

This winter from November 2007 to April 2008 we received 147" of snow along with 1 ½ " of rain. So, in conclusion, the Little Platte Lake Watershed is back to normal as of April 7, 2008 .

-----  
MONITORING LAKE LEVEL May 19, 2008



The yellow crayon mark indicates the surveyor's notch for the court ordered maximum elevation of Little Platte Lake - 586.7 feet above sea level.

For easier visual reference, note that 1.80 on the scale is the same height as the surveyor's notch.

One-tenth difference on the scale is equal to 1¼ " on a ruler.

Examples: If the water level is at 1.70 the lake level is 1¼" below the court ordered level.

If the water level is at 1.60 the lake level is 2 ½ " below the court ordered level.



## Aquatic Plant Survey 2008

posted 4/11/09

Below are the results of the survey taken by Gretchen Staub of the Aquatic Plants found in Little Platte Lake during the 2008 season:

### **AQUATIC PLANTS of LITTLE PLATTE LAKE**

Little Platte Lake is home to a variety of fish and waterfowl because the lake supports a healthy aquatic plant system to nourish and house its native inhabitants. As stewards of the lake some members of the Little Platte Lake Association's Board of Directors attended a CLMP (Cooperative Lake Management Program) workshop in the summer of 2007 to learn how to identify native and non native species. The job of mapping the lake was larger than first anticipated but with help from friends most of the lake was surveyed last summer.

First let me thank those people who provided me with boats and time. Many members of the Little Platte Lake Association offered to help but I enlisted my closest neighbors for the exciting task of driving and stopping their boats while I hung over the side and pulled plants out of the muck and water. Those patient volunteers were John Christian, Don Franck, Sandy Mc Coy, and Chuck Retallick.

Fourteen different species of aquatic plants were identified in the lake. In addition, the lake hosts two types of water lilies- the white and yellow blooming varieties that even children can easily identify, and reeds called bull rushes. Cat tails and phragmites are just two of the tall plants that grow along the shore in shallow water. There are many plants that grow in the wetlands surrounding the lake but that is another survey that could be done someday. Because I am new at this line of work my identification might be wrong. Some of the plants start growing while the water is cool in the early spring and die out by late summer while others do not get going until mid summer. Many of them are difficult to distinguish from each other, even by experts. We collected our specimens the last week of July and the first week in August 2008. The plants were identified using drawings from a booklet I received at the training. There are websites with good photographs which I used to figure out some of the plants also. Just "google" Aquatic plants in Michigan and you will be able to pull up several helpful sites if you wish to learn more. Michigan Department of Water Quality's (DEQ) website is excellent.

To locate the sites to sample I used an outline map of the lake and "eyeballed" shoreline features so it is not scientific. When Don Franck took me out we used his gps to record the sites. My numbering system is pretty easy to follow. Look at the number on the map and check that number on the list of plants that were identified at that site. This summer I will have to survey the wild south east shore from the river around toward the eagle's nest. Another site I missed was the area to the left of the public boat launch on Saffron Road.

*Respectfully submitted by Gretchen Staub*

#### **Species of Aquatic Plants found in Little Platte Lake**

American Pondweed	Native milfoil
Augustifolius	Eurasian milfoil
Chara	Slago pondweed
Wild Celery	Smartweed
Coontail	Clasping leaf pondweed
Bushy Pondweed	Thin leaved pondweed
Elodea	Variable pondweed
Fern pondweed	





Below is a listing of the locations of aquatic plants found at the assorted location points:

### Little Platte Lake Aquatic Plant Survey

**Location of plants** (see Aquatic Map 08 to correlate location number on the lake)

**Location 1.**

bushy pondweed  
smartweed  
native milfoil

**Location 2.**

bushy pondweed  
smartweed

**Location 3.**

wild celery  
water lilies  
milfoil  
slago pondweed  
fern pondweed  
augustifolius  
slago pondweed

**Location 4.**

variable pondweed  
fern pondweed  
smartweed  
milfoil  
bushy pondweed  
chara

**Location 5.**

wild celery  
fern  
smartweed  
augustifolius  
variable pondweed  
thin leaved pondweed  
coontail  
chara

**Locations 6.through 9.**

chara  
milfoil  
smartweed  
bushy pondweed  
cattails near shore

**Location 12.**

smartweed  
bushy pondweed  
variable pondweed  
water lilies

**Location 13.**

fern  
milfoil  
bushy  
celery  
thin leaf

variable

**Location 14.**

same as plants in 13. but less dense  
chara

**Location 15.**

Very sparse chara, bushy, and  
smartweed

**Location 16.**

Same as location 15

**Location 17.**

fern  
smartweed  
American pondweed

**Location 18.**

milfoil  
water lilies  
bushy pondweed  
variable or clasping leaf  
thin leaf

**Location 19.** N44 42.123 W86 04.424

eurasian milfoil  
bushy pondweed  
chara

**Location 20.** N44 41.966 W86 04.024

bushy pondweed  
celery  
clasping leaf  
native milfoil  
chara

**Location 21.** N44 41.955 W086 0.837

fern  
native milfoil  
wild celery  
bushy  
variable  
chara

**Location 22.** N44 42.130 W 086 03.633

chara

**Location 23.**

chara

**Locations 25. through 27.**

chara  
smartweed

Below is a list in Internet links used for reference during this survey:

## **Links used for reference for this report:**

Michigan DNR

<http://www.deq.state.mi.us/documents/deq-lwm-inlandlakes-commonplants.pdf>

Michigan Sea Grant

<http://www.mseagrant.umich.edu/>

Minnesota DNR

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/shorelandmgmt/apg/index.html>

Texas A&MU

<http://aquaplant.tamu.edu/database/index.htm>

## 2009 Post Meeting Summary

posted 6/25/09

### Little Platte Lake Association Meets

HONOR - The Little Platte Lake Association held its annual meeting on June 20 at the Homestead Township Hall in Honor. Brett Fessell, Fish and Wildlife Biologist for the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, provided an update on improvements to the Platte River Watershed under an EPA grant. In partnership with the Conservation Resource Alliance and numerous other groups, the Tribe has removed a temporary dam and made other improvements along the Platte River in Honor. Next on the agenda is replacing culverts in Otter Creek within Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore with a wooden bridge. Mr. Fessell also answered numerous questions about the fishery at Little Platte Lake based on the survey he took at the lake in 2007.



GTB Biologist Brett Fessell provides a PowerPoint update to LPLA members on improvements to the Platte River Watershed

Members learned what the Association has accomplished since last year's meeting. LPLA monitors the water level of the lake in relation to that ordered by the Benzie County Court, and plant mapping efforts are continuing. LPLA is observing the water testing done by the Platte Lake Improvement Association at three locations in Little Platte Lake. The bald eagles are still on the lake but apparently have built a new nest in an unknown location. The loons came back but eschewed the floating nesting platform installed for their convenience.

The Board announced that members around the lake had agreed to serve as monitors for boat safety. While anyone spotting a boater in distress should still call 911, the monitors should be able to assist in pinpointing the trouble when law enforcement officers arrive on the scene.

The members elected directors to serve on the Board until next year's meeting: President Ronnie Brown, Secretary Gretchen Staub, Treasurer John Ester, and Trustees Lynn Walker and Dave Van Hammen.



Left to Right - John Ester, Lynn Walker, Gretchen Staub, Ronnie Brown, Dave Van Hammen

Minutes of the meeting and further information about LPLA can be found at [www.littleplattelake.org](http://www.littleplattelake.org).

The above information provided by John Ester

=====

Below you will find a map showing locations of the placement of nets during the fish count

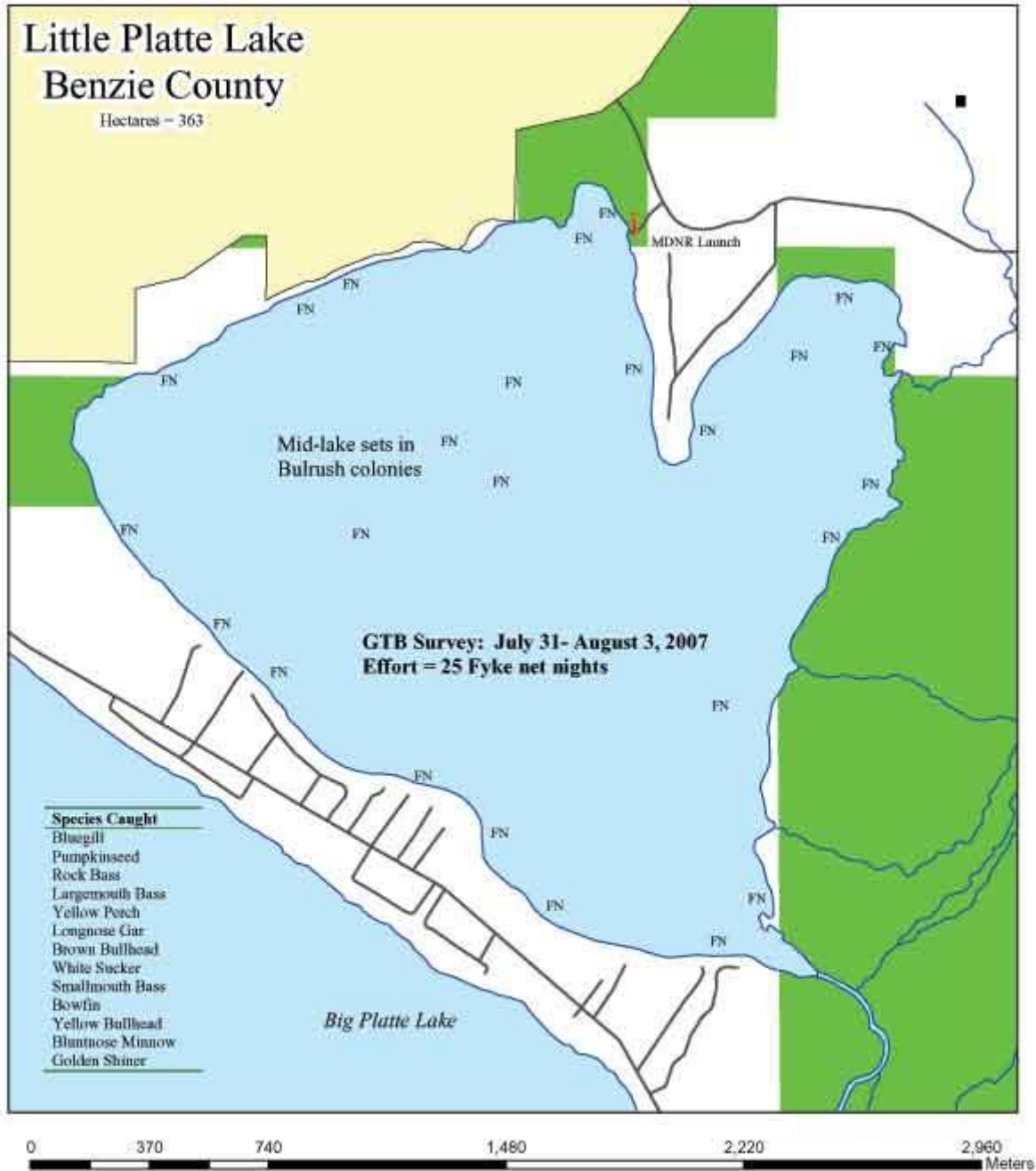


Figure 1. Little Platte Lake Survey Summary.