



Attend the LPLA Annual Meeting on June 24!

Once again there are compelling reasons to attend our annual membership meeting. This year's meeting will be on **Saturday, June 24 at 10:00 a.m. at the Lake Township Hall on M-22.**

This Year's Program

This year we are fortunate to have two distinguished guests at our annual meeting. First we will meet Benzie County's new Drain Commissioner, Ed Hoogterp. Ed is the former President of the Crystal Lake & Watershed Association and was a featured panelist at the Michigan Lake & Stream Associations' recent Annual Conference. Then we will hear from Rebecca Koteskey of the Northwest Michigan Invasive Species Network. She will report on the survey her organization will have taken of aquatic invasives on our lake and what we might do about them.

The MLSA Annual Conference

The theme of MLSA's 56th Annual Conference last month at Crystal Mountain was "Enhancing the Ability of Lakefront Communities to Prevent and Manage Aquatic Invasive Species." It was interesting to hear what other lake associations are doing in this regard. To generalize, more and more associations from lakes both big and small are recognizing the threats posed by aquatic invasive species. Thus when we learned that the Northwest Michigan Invasive Species Network would be able to conduct a survey of aquatic invasives on our lake at no cost to LPLA, we jumped at the opportunity. As indicated above, we will learn the results of the survey at our Annual Meeting.

The Website

Last year we reported that we had revised our website in the hope of making the site more user-friendly. We noted that site visitors could communicate with us through a new Contact feature, and we encouraged members to submit photos for us to post in the site's Gallery. While the results have not quite reached the level of overwhelming, we have received and posted several great photos from members, including the one at the right of the bear at Dunes Edge submitted by Kris Del Monte. If you haven't already done so, check out the website at littleplattelake.org.



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.** If you'd like to save the cost of postage, bring your payment and completed envelope to our annual meeting. If you'd prefer paying by credit card, that option is now available through our website.

Wildlife on Little Platte Lake

We continue to have lots of wild creatures around the lake, but they don't always do what we have in mind. Last summer a pair of loons used the nesting platform we built for them, but for whatever reason they abandoned the eggs that they had laid before they hatched. We will try again this year with fingers crossed.

In the summer we were able to keep the beavers from damming up the Dead Stream, but in the fall they got even when they harvested numerous trees at various homeowner sites.



A more welcome visitor was the bobcat first observed polishing off a red squirrel at Dunes Edge during the Christmas Bird Count. It turns out that bobcats are quite fond of red squirrels, as the bobcat (or its look-alike) demonstrated in several follow-up visits. And just as there are lots of red squirrels around, bobcats aren't exactly scarce around here either. Residents at both ends of Dunes Edge spotted three bobcats on two separate occasions.

Election of Directors

Under our Bylaws we have five directors, each one serving a two-year term. The directors whose terms are up this year are the President (Dave Van Hammen), the Secretary (Diane Brown) and one Trustee (Lou Glatzer). While all three are running for reelection, any member wishing to run for one of these positions is welcome to do so by submitting a written nomination to the Secretary (Diane Brown) prior to the meeting or when nominations are invited from the floor at the meeting.

Annual Meeting Agenda* **Saturday, June 24, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.** **Lake Township Hall on M-22**

Call to Order	Dave Van Hammen
Program	Ed Hoogterp, Benzie County Drain Commissioner Rebecca Koteskey, Invasive Species Network
Secretary's Report	Diane Brown, Minutes of 2016 Annual Meeting
Treasurer's Report	John Ester on Finances & Wildlife
Water Level Report	Lynn Walker
Watershed Report	Lou Glatzer

Old Business

New Business

- Election of Officers
- 2018 Meeting: Saturday, June 23, 2018 (Tentative date)

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

Highlights: June 11, 2016 Annual Meeting at Lake Township Hall

Our meeting began with a presentation from DNR Fisheries Biologist Heather Hettinger. She reported that Little Platte Lake will have a comprehensive fish survey in 2017, the results of which will be available in 2018. She fielded questions about the survey and the lake's fish population. She suggested contacting Conservation Resource Alliance about problems caused by the runoff of sediment from Saffron Hill.

John gave the Treasurer's report and thanked members for their financial support. He said that the Board had shelved a proposal to purchase insurance. He also gave a wildlife report, noting that the loons had used the platform we provided but inexplicably had abandoned their eggs. More favorable were the eagles' nesting results (two new chicks). Also seen around the lake were sandhill cranes, beavers and a bear.

Lynn Walker gave his water level report, reminding us that the boards are removed from the dam in October. He described the insertion and removal of boards required throughout the spring and summer to try to keep the lake at its court-mandated level.

Lou Glatzer attended the Watershed Coalition and suggested that we have a one-time water sample taken to establish a base for reference. Others suggested checking with SBDNL and the DNR about such sampling.

By way of new business fish stocking was brought up, but Heather suggested that we wait until the DNR completes its fish survey before considering stocking. Mary Rupley proposed a garlic mustard pull for next May, an idea endorsed by the membership.

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.



Heather Hettinger



The 2016 LPLA Board

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:	Dave Van Hammen	620-4066	daud@maui.net
Secretary:	Diane Brown	325-2401	twinbirchresort@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	John Ester	325-2445	jester625@earthlink.net
Trustee:	Lynn Walker	616-560-9751	
Trustee:	Lou Glatzer	325-2397	louglatzer@bex.net

Visit our web site at: www.littleplattelake.org

