

Lake Plantagenet

the

Newsletter



FALL 2023

Volume 19

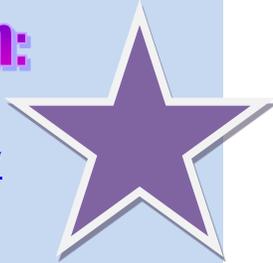
What your board is working on:

Go to our website:

<https://www.lakeplantagenet.org/>

and our Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/lakeplantagenet/>



- **The Last Mailed Newsletter**

The board decided to end the practice of mailing the newsletter out to landowners who had not provided an email address. The newsletter can be accessed by going to the website.

- **Low Lake Levels**

At the Annual Meeting, the issue of the extremely low level of the lake was discussed and the question was asked “Can we do something to slow down the outflow?”

The board realizes that there is no simple fix to the problem but decided to contact

the MN DNR hydrologist in Park Rapids to talk about the possibilities.

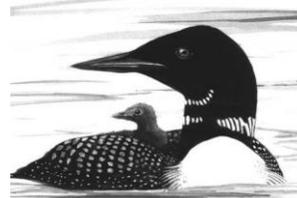
- **New lights for the buoys**

The board has authorized replacement solar lights for the shallow water buoys that Clint Mueller maintains. Thanks, Clint!

- **Shoreline & Property Taxes**

The usability of your shore can affect your property taxes. If you think your taxes should be adjusted due to unusable lakeshore, you can attend the Board of Appeals meeting in April.

- **Loon Liaison Program**



The board will work with the State to help with the conservation effort and join the program to provide information about loon nesting and number of loons on our lake. If interested, contact a board member.

We held our wonderfully successful...

Annual Picnic/Meeting:



*Cake provided by Paul & Trish Brewinski

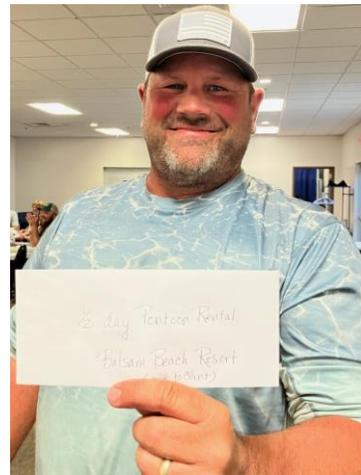
Here are the lucky winners of the raffle:



Lin Ward & the Maui Mat



Joan Bakke --the kayak &
Nature's Edge Gift certificate



Mark Ronning ---Balsam Beach
1/2 Day Pontoon rental

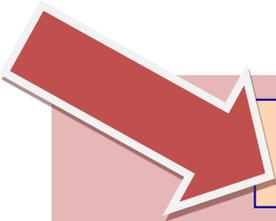
Thanks to all who donated door prizes!!!



Clint Mueller -fishing rod



Debra Gackle-fishing rod



Thank you

to these people who have

PAID their LPLA memberships EARLY for 2024:

David & Betty Ambers, Bob & Jill Anderson, Gene & Rosemary Bakke, Joan Bakke, Darrin Boese, Paul & Trish Brewinski, Sue & Gary Bruns, Alan & Susan Colliander, Tom D'Albani & Jane Kilgore, Pat & Mary Delmore, LaVon & Robert Dennistoun, Tim & Leann Engelstad, Kaye & Shane Foley, Debra Gackle, Marv & Jill Hoisve & Marnette, Keith & Eileen Horton, Fred & Teresa Hughes, Tony & Annette Jackson, John & Delphine Jacobson, Judith & Robert Johnson, Kathleen & Mike Jones, Karen & Alan Katz, Barb & Dan Koller, Mike & Dawn Kovacovich, Gretchen Knutson & Kyle Resler, Rolf & Lisa Lund, Rich & Erin Morehouse, Richard & Shannon Mortenson, Clint & Patty Mueller, Krystie North, Karen Page, Pam & Dave Rice, Mark & Natie Ronning, Tim & Pam Ross, Brad & Kristen Rundquist, Riki & Bill Scheela, Lee & Polly Scotland, Allison & Beau Seeger, Glen & Michelle Siebel, Shari Sigoloff & Michel Rawitscher, Renee & Joel St.Germain, Vicki & Steven Sukup, Casey & Jon Thiel, Lisa & Mark Teigland, Leaf & Karen Wallin, Lin & Joel Ward, Moe & Marleen Webb, Robert & Shari Wentz, Geri & Jay Wilimek, Bruce & Judy Wilson

**Membership Dues & AIS
Watercraft Inspection Donation
Lake Plantagenet Landowner's Association Form**

Annual membership dues are only \$30 (\$20 for Associate Member) and due each calendar year.

Please print, fill out the information, and mail the following form along with your payment to:

LPLA, Box 1641, Bemidji, MN. 56619

First Name _____
Last Name _____
Mailing Address _____
Email Address (please print) _____
Phone _____

I have enclosed the following:

_____ \$30 check payable to the LPLA for my annual dues.
_____ A donation of \$ _____

Volunteer Information

I am interested in the following:

___ Board Member ___ Membership ___ Aquatic Invasive Species ___ Loon Program
___ Water Quality ___ Land Use ___ Shoreline Restoration
___ Social Committee ___ Website ___ Fisheries

A Message from President Brewinski:

Over the last five years or so, LPLA has been supporting the **Lake Access Inspection Program** managed by Hubbard County. The State and County have been funding 600 -700 inspection hours per year and LPLA, with the support of Helga and Rockwood Townships, **has** been purchasing the balance of hours to reach 1000 inspection hours per year.

Because Lake Plantagenet already has **Zebra Mussels** and because **Starry Stonewort*** is the next Aquatic Invasive Species that is seriously threatening our lake, the board is taking a different strategy.

For the 2024 season, the board has decided to move away from providing funds for boat inspections. Instead of purchasing the inspection hours, we are going to take our AIS funds and establish an **AIS Remediation Fund**. We feel at some point in the future we are going to need significant dollars to deal with AIS remediation. Currently we have been spending these dollars on inspections that have proven to be ineffective: **since many hours at the access still go unchecked and many AIS are almost impossible to detect.**

We will still have the inspection hours provided by the county program, which has been 600-700 hours per year. LPLA will continue to fundraise and seek donations for our **AIS Remediation Fund** to insure we have the ability to maintain the integrity of Lake Plantagenet.

*Here is the link for more information about Starry Stonewort:

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/aquaticplants/starrystonewort/index.html>

Lake Plantagenet Landowner's Association Board Members:

Paul Brewinski-President

Mike Kovacovich-vice-president

Clint Mueller-treasurer

Sue Bruns-secretary

Lin Ward- newsletter

Board members: Bob Anderson, Krystie North, Jane Kilgore and Moe Webb



Are Invasive Cattails a Problem on Our Lake?

By Sue Bruns

At the fall LPLA Board Meeting, during a discussion of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), the topic of invasive cattails came up. There are many online resources with information that addresses the issue. Two that you might want to check out present simple, basic information about cattails and a study that is being done in Minnesota lakes through the University of Minnesota Duluth:

The Minnesota DNR story -- https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/aquatic_plants/emergent_plants/cattails.html explains the importance of the plant, stating that it “helps stabilize marshy borders of lakes and ponds and helps protect shorelines from wave erosion.” In addition, cattail growth in the lake provides a spawning area for northern pike and cover for nesting waterfowl as well as food for muskrats and beavers.

People can eat the starchy roots, young flower spikes and pollen, too. (Feel free to share your favorite cattail recipes, and we'll publish them in our next newsletter!)

The DNR site also gives a management strategy which focuses on preserving as much cattail habitat as possible. Removal of plants, the site says, should only be done in small areas to provide boat access to deeper water. This can be done by cutting the cattails below the water surface after the first frost. (Get on your insulated waders. Brrr.) Another strategy is to apply a DNR-approved herbicide to the leaves. Once cleared, the area will likely remain open for several years.

Before doing any kind of removal, however, consult the DNR Regulations (<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/shorelandmgmt/apg/regulations.html>) where clear instructions are listed as to what interventions are not allowed and what can be done with or without a permit.

Another online source -- <https://seagrant.umn.edu/events/practical-water-wisdom-are-invasive-cattails-taking-over-your-lake> -- describes an ongoing study being carried out in nine Minnesota lakes where invasive hybrid cattails are being removed.

Sites where cattails are removed are then compared over time sites where cattails are not being removed. The study focuses on how removal affects the re-emergence of other natural aquatic life as well as the effect on fish and wildlife who inhabit these areas. The following link will take you to a simple, short video and additional information about the study.

<https://seagrant.umn.edu/programs/healthy-coastal-ecosystems-program/invasive-cattail-dominated-shorelines>

Lakeshore owners need to be informed about cattails before taking any steps to remove them and become informed about what steps require permission or are absolute no-nos. This site emphasizes that “cattail removal is not appropriate in every environment.



Peeking through the maple leaves *photo by Lin Ward



Heron on the dock *photo by Sue B



Super Blue Moon *photo by Lin Ward
August 30th



Flying a kite by the lake *photo by Sue Bruns

My View of the Lake