*Thunder Bay Audubon Society thunderbayaudubonsociety.com*

*April 16, 2013*

Thunder Bay Audubon Society met at the Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary for a luncheon program (Catered by Take 5 Deli) beginning at 1:00. Guest speaker, Jennifer Muladore, Ecologist from Huron Pines, gave a PowerPoint presentation on Invasive Species: Help for Property Owners. A few community people also attended.

The meeting was called to order by President Linda Klemens at 1:15.

Recent bird sightings included: fox sparrow, wood cock, sandhill crane flyovers and yard landings, house finch.

A recap of the work bee at Min Hunt was given by Linda: Arnie Pokorzynski brought six blue bird and one American kestrel house to set up in the apple orchard area. Several older blue bird houses were cleaned out.

Minutes from the last meeting had been sent to members via e-mail and web-site. Lynn Field made a motion to approve them. Belinda Hanna seconded. Unanimously approved.

Roger Witherbee gave an update of the River Center. They are applying for a grant to help fund a field lab to hopefully be completed by summer, 2014. They are partnering with NOAA. A temporary display area will be setup at the Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary. One of the displays could be Birds of the Watershed.

A memorandum of partnership with the Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative will be filled out and signed by Karen Tetzlaff by June 1st.

Bill Grigg moved that $200 be given to Huron Pines for Jennifer’s mileage and presentation. Seconded by Chuck Tetzlaff. Unanimously approved.

The North American Migration Count will be held on Saturday, May 11. Bob Preston usually heads up the local count, but Linda has been unable to contact him, so no new information is available.

May 11 is also the Anniversary of Thomson’s Harbor State Park. Bill will be doing a Birding 101 Program. See Friends of Thomson’s Harbor website. http://www.friendsofthompsonharbor.org/

Karen Tetzlaff reported that the TBAS website is now linked to the Michigan Audubon Society’s webpage. See the “Chapters” section. http://www.michiganaudubon.org

The notes below are from Jennifer’s presentation:

* Jennifer will meet free with landowners to evaluate invasive species
* There is currently money available to help cover the cost of treatment
* Kirtland Warblers are going off endangered species list
* Invasive Species definition: live outside historical distribution
* Potential to negatively affect native plants
* Even native plants can become so aggressive, they are labeled invasive.
* Most problematic in NE Michigan:
  + Purple Loosestrife
  + Phragmites
  + Japanese Knotweed
  + Garlic Mustard (particularly invasive where horses roam)
  + Eurasian Water Milfoil (had been a problem at Fletcher Pond)
* Report invasive species and review data: [www.misin.msu.edu](http://www.misin.msu.edu) (site also contains identification tutorials)
* Several handouts were available
* Several members of the TBAS accompanied Jennifer to examine the phragmites at Isaacson Bay
* You can contact Jennifer at jennifer@huronpines.org