*Thunder Bay Audubon Society thunderbayaudubonsociety.com*

*July 29, 2013*

Twenty-one people gathered for a pontoon ride from Jack’s Landing at Fletcher Pond to view some of the Osprey nests. We met at 5:00 for dinner at the resort restaurant, with Sergej Postupalsky as guest. Linda had a wait list for people interested in the event. Next year, we will consider having 2 separate tours on the same day to accommodate the additional people.

A short meeting was called to order by President Linda Klemens at 5:30.

Linda gave an update on an executive decision concerning the treatment of phragmites. Bill Grigg moved that TBAS donate up to $500 for invasive phragmites treatment, covering the area from east of the Lafarge discharge ditch, Isaacson Bay, and the Alpena Township Nature Preserve. Time was the factor in making the decision before this meeting as it has to be done by mid-August. Karen Tetzlaff seconded and the executive board supported this unanimously.

Craig Klemens gave a brief treasurer report.

Linda reported she has helped in 2 more bird rescues: a baby Merlin and a Barred Owl. She drove both to Standish and met Barb Rogers from the Wildlife Recovery Association. After some discussion, Esther Cole moved that we donate $300 to the Wildlife Recovery Association to help defray the cost of their care. Seconded by Chuck Tetzlaff. Motion unanimously approved.

Vernie Nethercutt passed out fliers from the Thunder Bay River Center and Linda had copies of the TBAS event program flier. The speaker we had lined up for the August 20 meeting is unable to come. Watch for an update.

Our special guest was Sergej Postupalsky, Ornithologist with the National Audubon Society and also a wildlife biologist. He gave a brief history of his involvement with the Osprey at Fletcher Pond. He began coming in 1962, but the platforms were not put up until 1967. Pete DeSimone, Director of National Audubon Society Sanctuaries comes in from California to help. Originally, the Osprey nested in dead trees. In the late 1980s and early 90s, there were an average of 20-22 pairs of nesting Osprey. This spring there were 15 pairs with 14 laying eggs. A total of 42 eggs were laid with 27 hatching. As of this morning, there were 14 surviving chicks in 11 nests. (During our pontoon ride, 2 more young were found dead.) Since 1965, Steven Stackpole, philanthropist from Gross Point has funded much of the research project.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Tetzlaff