
FALL NEWSLETTER

1986

TEN MILE LAKE ASSOCIATION, HACKENSACK, MN



A fascinating presentation on Minnesota's state bird, the common loon, was enjoyed by the large audience attending the Association's annual meeting in the Hackensack Community Building Saturday, Aug. 2.

Ms. Susan Koschak, of the Minnesota Loon Preservation Project headquartered in Duluth, showed slides and provided a wealth of information on loons and what the organization she represents seeks to do to make certain the song of the loon will be heard for generations to come. If you are interested in cooperating with the Project, you may write for information at 806 Torrey Bldg., 314 W. Superior St., Duluth, MN 55802.

Other annual meeting business consisted of a review of the year's activities by President Jim Schwartz, an explanation of the implications of our new tax status by Linda Schwartz, a treasurer's report by Earl Holle (see p.7 for the Oct. 1 report), a record membership total (580) reported by Lois Sandell, and election of officers and directors. Ross Melgaard was named President; R. J. "Deacon" Larson, Vice-President; Lois Sandell, Secretary, and Earl Holle, treasurer. Elected directors were Walter Kane, Willa Shonkwiler Martin, Roy Stromquist and Susan Schmidt. A complete list of officers, directors and committee members will be found on page 2.

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BIG FINGERLINGS HARVESTED FROM HIRAM POND

After several years of near failure on our walleye rearing ponds, this season proved to be a winner. That was true, at least, for Hiram Pond. Nearly 1,000 pounds of walleye fingerlings ranging in length from four to ten inches were harvested in late September and early October. At 24 to the pound that figures out to almost 24,000 fingerlings.

Jake's Pond, however, proved to be a dud, producing fewer than 20 fingerlings. But the pond wasn't entirely empty; it teemed with golden shiner minnows. How they got there is uncertain, but it is likely they contributed to the pond's poor showing since they compete for the same food walleye fry need for rapid growth.

The fingerlings from Hiram were stocked at three different spots in Ten Mile from south to north. They were in excellent condition, darting off vigorously into their new surroundings. The DNR crew in charge of the harvesting operation consisted of Steve Campbell and Dave Donat. John Kollar, DNR area fisheries supervisor, directed the work.

TEN MILE LAKE ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED AT ANNUAL MEETING AUGUST 2, 1986

President.....Ross Melgaard Secretary.....Lois Sandell
Vice-President....Deacon Larson Treasurer.....Earl Holle

Directors

Resident Incumbent: John Elsenpeter, Virginia Wagner, Walter Kane (to fill out George Schulte's term). Terms expire 8/87.

Resident: Willa Shonkwiler Martin, Roy Stromquist (elected to 2-year terms). Terms expire 8/88.

Summer Resident Incumbent: Robert Crabb, Stan Skaug, Maynard Blowers. Terms expire 8/87.

Summer Resident: Susan Schmidt (elected to 2-year term). Term expires 8/87.

Honorary Member: Warren Goss. Ex-Officio Member: J. W. Schwartz.

Committee Chairs and Members

Gifts Grants and Memorials: Deacon Larson (C), Patty Larson, Bill and Becky Macklin, Roy and Lorraine Stromquist, Willa Shonkwiler Martin.

Lake Safety and Courtesy: Stan Skaug (C), Maynard Blowers.

Fisheries: Virginia Wagner (C), Walter Kane, Ed Swanson, Ken Chinander, Maynard Blowers, J. W. Schwartz.

History: Willa Shonkwiler Martin (C), Susan Schmidt, Sylvia Haase, Ruth Hirshfield, Seeta Richardson, Marge Garbisch, Kay Helscher, Virginia Moll, Dorothy Beasley, Breta Dow, Marian Hiserote, Shirley Sigveland.

Environment and Ecology: J. W. Schwartz (C), Warren Goss.

Loon Preservation: Susan Schmidt (C), Virginia Burnett, Peter Roberts, Jo Roberts.

Finances and Taxes: John Elsenpeter (C), Robert Crabb.

Zoning and Planning: Bill Macklin.

By-Laws: J. W. Schwartz.

Membership and Directory Coordinator: Lois Sandell.

SUMMER OF '86 WAS A WET ONE

Steady rains all summer kept the TML level high into September. Howard Sandell, who monitors an official gauge for the Deep Portage Reserve, tallied 20.3 inches of rain from May 1 through September 24. This was 4 to 8 inches above normal from April through August, according to the National Weather Service. Later September figures are not available.

Wettest month was July (6.62 inches), according to Sandell. The months of summer showed 1.73" in May, 4.19" in June, 6.62" in July, 2.51" in August, and 5.25" through September 24. Old-timers recalled the contrast between 1986 and 1936. The latter was one of the infamous years of the Midwest drought. The reef across Flower Pot Bay, for instance, emerged from the lake, exposing boulders that provided roosting spots for gulls. This past spring, the high water and strong winds caused considerable bank erosion along south-facing shorelines.

YEAH! GIMME AN ELBOW!

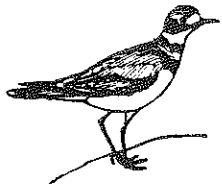
Mr. Del Hogen of Instrumental Research has made innumerable tests of Ten Mile Lake water from one end of the lake to the other. He has also tested most of the wells around the lake. He knows the reefs, the bays and the coves as well as anyone. He once counted 24 culverts around the lake, and his testing has led him to conclude that drainage into the lake from many of these culverts is a major source of pollution. His tests of swamp water around the lake invariably show nutrients in the form of nitrates, phosphates and fecal coliform, the latter doubtless from animals.

Last year the TMLA installed elbows on two culverts in Hiram Township with the cooperation and approval of the Township Board. An elbow has the effect of raising the drainage level of the culvert. In this way drainage directly into the lake can be slowed considerably, perhaps stopped altogether. The idea is to get as much runoff and swamp water as possible to evaporate or sink into the ground where it can be naturally filtered. Jim Schwartz and Warren Goss installed the elbows in Hiram Township with more than a little difficulty. However, the results have been positive from a water control point of view.

Residents on Batcheller Bay and on Shingobee 51 have been aware of two swamps that drain directly into the lake through culverts, one on a private road and the other on the township road. The drainage is considerable during and immediately after the spring melt or after excessive rains. Both swamps contain the nutrients and contaminants mentioned above, and the residents of Batcheller Bay to Chariton Beach have noticed a slow, steady increase of weeds in the lake over the past decade.

This year a small group in the Batcheller Bay area decided the time had come to slow the spring rush of swamp water into the lake to a trickle or less. Enough money was donated to the TMLA by seven concerned residents in the area to go ahead with a drainage control project on the private road. An elbow for an 8-inch culvert was ordered from Northern Culvert of Bemidji. The cost was \$60.77. The Larsons collected the elbow in Bemidji and, after a day or two to think it over, they proceeded with considerable fear and trembling to install it. Fortunately, and purely by chance, Bill Macklin happened along to supervise and help. They must have been lucky because they attached the elbow with a minimum of difficulty. However, this was the minor part of the project. The private road runs from the entrance to the old C. P. Peterson cabin

*
* HONOR ROLL *
* FOR NEW SEPTIC SYSTEMS *
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* Several residents have up- *
* upgraded their septic sys- *
* tems this year. Included *
* are Luther Fjelstad, Louis *
* Shelton, Lyn Beasley, David *
* Morris, Donald Purvis, Otto *
* Schneider, David Cline, Jim *
* Miller and Don Mason. *
*
* If you have installed a new *
* system and your name is not *
* on this list, send a card *
* to Lois Sandell, Secy., to *
* be carried on our next hon- *
* or roll. *
*



to the open field behind Msgr. Schmitz's cabin. There are several low spots where water collects, but the lowest spot is where the elbow is located on this 260-yard single lane road. With the elbow installed, the road could easily be flooded for 40 or 50 feet in the spring, and swamp water would still be flowing directly into the lake. The obvious solution was to bring in plenty of fill. Our specialist in that regard turned out to be John Piprude of the Walker area. He recommended a dozen loads of fill with appropriate spreading and shaping -- at a cost of \$350. A thing to remember is that when friends and neighbors get together on such matters, the cost is not prohibitive for any single individual.

The Shingobee Township Board has been contacted about placing an elbow on township road 51. As soon as an affirmative answer is received the project will try to go forward. The kitty will be \$60 to \$80 short of the cost of a 15-inch elbow, so a few bucks for the culvert fund from those on Shingobee 51 would be appreciated. Fortunately, no fill will be required in this case.

Hopefully there will be other small groups around the lake who will want to stem the flow of nutrients and contaminants into the lake. If expert advice is needed, feel free to call on Goss, the Larsons, Macklin or Schwartz for intimate details on elbow installation. -- R. J. "Deacon" Larson.

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BATCHELLER BAY DEVELOPMENT A HALF CENTURY OLD

Back in the mid-Thirties, Batcheller Bay on Ten Mile Lake was a gem waiting to be discovered. From Flower Pot Bay on the north to the (Jim) Brandt point on the south there were no cabins, only a small farm operated by one Everett Batcheller. His cows roamed along the point and trampled a path, vestiges of which can still be seen. Some of the older ladies on the lake recalled they went there in their teens and, because of the privacy, skinny dipped.

But someone with an eye for development had discovered the shore. Elmer Johnson, a resident of Texas, but formerly from Minnesota, had heard of the clear waters and good fishing. He had vacationed with his family on Lake Belle Taine near Nevis, west of Ten Mile. When Belle Taine virtually dried up during the drought years of '34 and '36, Johnson decided to move to a lake with a reasonably dependable water table. Three friends from Belle Taine joined in the move -- Robert W. DeVoe, C. Petrus Peterson and H. G. Taylor.

The weighty books in the Cass County Recorder's office show Johnson, having secured the Batcheller Bay strip and carried in the ownership of Santa Rosa, Inc., TX, selected a sand beach lot, as did DeVoe, for \$400 apiece. It was October, 1935. Going southwest, the shore eased up to about four feet above the water and became rocky. Peterson and Taylor bought these at \$350 each. All four wound up with about 400 feet of shore at \$1 a foot or less. The last sand beach on the same bay sold for \$435 a foot this past year.

First structure, red and close to the water, is still in service as a sauna. It was built as a bathhouse with a divider and separate entrances for members of the four families to dress for swimming when they came over from Belle Taine. By 1937, all had cabins under construction. DeVoe built of logs. Taylor built entirely of split rock -- two bedrooms, large living room, kitchen, bathroom -- all on one level.

The craftsman on the stone was Olaf Solo, who divided one rock in two perfect halves, revealing a heart-shaped center -- broken, but not in sorrow. Another split into two diamonds. They were placed prominently on the lake side of the split rock wall. The stone cabin was sold to a Nebraska couple after Taylor's death. Present owner is the Nebraskans' son, David Pierson. Descendants of Johnson, DeVoe and Peterson still own the original places.

The Peterson family divided the land, each daughter getting a lot. The compound includes cabins built by Mr. and Mrs. David Dow, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Larson, and a grandchild, Patricia Mitchell. The finding quartet was not to be solo for long. Dr. and Mrs. S. E. Macklin discovered Ten Mile by a chance stop at the onetime Camp Iowa resort in the summer of 1936. They bought 200 feet from Farmer Batcheller the same year for \$4 a foot and built in 1937. Later they acquired 270 more feet and built a second cabin. Their children inherited the property.

Next came Ted Kolderie and Lloyd Sundin, who had been summering at a resort on the south shore. Kolderie bought 150 feet, Sundin 350 in 1939. Footage price had gone up 25 percent; they paid \$5 a foot. Al Woodcock, developer during the surge of construction on Ten Mile before and after World War II, built their cabins. Twenty years later, Ted Kolderie, Jr., built between his parents and Sundin. Elmer Nordlund acquired 150 feet and built next to Kolderie who by then had added 50 feet going west.

In the 1950s and 60s, cabins were built on the west side of the bay by the Rev. Mattson, Carl Oslund, and A. Mertens. Present owners of these sites are James Kellogg, Howard Sandell and Dr. Byron Hoffman. A few years ago, Lynn Abraham built south of Hoffman. Bill Macklin built in 1972 between Kellogg and Sandell. Just beyond the Abraham place toward Brandt point are cabins owned by Harold Ibach, Frank Reisz, and Joe Blaskovich.

Back in the middle of the bay are two cabins set back several hundred feet and not easily seen, but each has lake access. They are owned by Monsignor Peter Schmitz and Robert Cogdill. And that's the story of Batcheller Bay's development, from the 1930s to now. -- Bill Macklin.

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SHORT SHOT: Three swimmers from the Chariton Beach area crossed the lake this summer, taking 1 hour and 20 minutes to accomplish the feat. The trio: Mike Gerber (Purvis), Cheris Garrison and Darel Shelton. We are sure they would agree that such long-distance crossings should be attempted only by seasoned swimmers, and even then, for safety reasons, there should be accompanying boaters.

ANOTHER 25 NEW MEMBERS FOR YOUR DIRECTORY!

Membership Chair Lois Sandell reports that, thanks to another 25 new members since the last newsletter, the Association's total number now stands at 590. Here is the alphabetical list for you to paste in your Membership Directory.

ADAMS, Stan and Loretta
3507 Lincoln Way, #13
Ames, IA 50010
Box 528 547-3346

BRANDT, Charles
3200 Lynnhaven Dr., #206
Virginia Beach, VA 23451
Box 414 675-6175

BRANDT, Jon
2934 Highway 10
Mounds View, MN 55432
Box 342 675-6103

BRENTON, Woody and Julie
(Irvine)
2600 Forest Drive
Des Moines, IA 50312
Box 264 675-6243

CAMPBELL, Dr. Douglas,
Jr., and Julie
Sonoma, CA 95476
Box 140C 675-6898

EATON, John and Margot
(McManus)
1503 W. 34th St.
Minneapolis, MN 55408
Box 152 675-6266

GRIFFIN, Robert C. and
Laurie L.
4868 Harmony Place
Waterloo, IA 50701
Box 284, Pinewood

HALLBERG, Gale Brandt
12411 W. 12th Place
Golden, CO 80401
Box 344 675-6454

HALVERSON, Myron and Joani
1021 Skyline Drive
Carroll, IA 51401
Box 490 547-1982

HANSEN, Carl and Ruth
435 North Main St., 2B
Portchester, NY 10573
Box 534 547-1077

HANSEN, Ellen
3309 Willow Crescent Dr.,
Apt. 34
Fairfax VA 22030
Box 534 547-1077

HANSEN, Kirk and Diane
6426 Country Squire
Omaha, NE 68152

HOOVER, Sarah
2816 Watrous Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50321
Box 534 547-1077

HORN, Bob and Nancy
1606 South 7th St.
Brainerd, MN 56401
Box 264 675-6243

IRVINE, Chuck, Jr.
711 41st St.
Des Moines, IA 50312
Box 264 675-6243

IRVINE, Ted
650 Folk Blvd.
Des Moines, IA 50312
Box 264 675-6243

IRVINE, Tom and Kathy
5014 Grand Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50312
Box 264 675-6243

Know a candidate for TMLA membership? Send the name and address to Lois Sandell, Secy., HCR 2, Box 424, Hackensack, MN 56452. Let's hit 600!-->

JOHNSON, Kenneth W.
 HCR 2, Box 604
 Hackensack, MN 56452
 PH. 547-3596

NETT, Steve and Becky
 (Stevens)
 1718 Ninth
 Peru, IL 61354
 Box 528 547-3346

MACKLIN, Tom
 Woodridge Apartments
 Blue Earth, MN 56013
 Box 426 675-6479

ROSS, Tim and Pam (Miller)

MARSHALL, Bill and Kim
 (Miller)

SKINNER, Dr. Lowell and
 Ruby
 303 North Main St.
 Clarion, IA 50525
 Box 44

MINOR, F. Grant and Emily
 Suite 1600
 First Tennessee Build.
 Memphis, TN 38103
 Box 140E

WAHTERA, Pete and Carolyn
 1450 Ranier Lane
 Plymouth, MN 55447

 TREASURER'S REPORT - TEN MILE LAKE ASSOCIATION - OCT. 1, 1986

Beginning Balance, 8/1/86 \$ 4,307.12

Receipts

Membership Dues and Donations	\$ 2,650.00	
Memorials	35.00	
Swamp Drainage Contributions	500.00	
Sale of Signs	21.50	

		3,206.50

		7,513.62

Expenses:

Copying & Printing	44.21	
Postage	32.78	
Supplies	1.32	
Telephone	24.11	
Hackensack Community Building Rental	25.00	
Hackensack Bakery	11.40	
Speaker, Minnesota Loon Preservation Project ..	106.00	
High School Cafeteria Rental	10.00	
Custodial Services, High School	28.56	
Culvert Riser and Road Fill (swamp drainage) ..	410.77	
Contribution to Deep Portage	200.00	
Tape Recorder	60.20	
Instrumental Research, Inc. (testing program) .	2,452.22	

		3,406.57

Balance, checking account, 10/1/86 \$ 4.107.05

Balance, savings account, 10/1/86 \$ 3,588.53

 -- Earl Holle, Treasurer

SUMMER EVENTS ADD TO LAKE'S LOON LORE

There were several interesting loon happenings on the lake this summer, not all of them positive. The most notable, though, concerned "Loony."

>On August 2, a wounded loon was sighted in Long Bay by the Lyn Beasleys. It was entangled in a fish line and, because of an injured right leg, was unable to dive for food or take off to fly. The Beasleys gave the bird first aid (a visiting doctor friend medicated the injured leg) and released it. The loon then was "adopted" by Rita and Clif Hereid. They fed the loon three times daily, with help from friends, especially Walter Kane and Swanson's Bait Shop, the latter supplying dead minnows.

"Loony" came on call and, as news of the "story" spread, became the subject of a lengthy illustrated article in the Walker Pilot-Independent on Aug. 14 and a television report at about the same time on Channel 12 news, Alexandria. It is rare for a loon to accept human help. The Minneapolis Zoo has the only one known to have survived in captivity; it was hatched and raised there.

"Loony" stayed in the quiet bay for approximately three weeks. She was unable to join the local family of loons there because they were protecting their territorial rights. The day after the TV interview, she joined other loons, coming back to eat twice more. She apparently had adapted to dive for food. Several days later a loon flew off the lake in an unorthodox manner. Instead of paddling madly in a long, straight takeoff, this loon took off in a wide, clockwise circle. Was it Loony?

>In mid-summer a dead loon drifted onto the Deacon Larsons' shore. It was a fledgling, not a TML resident, probably killed by a propellor.

>Later in the summer a loon was hooked on a trolled minnow in about 15 feet of water. The fishermen found the loon an armful as they removed the line, but they were unable to extract the hook.

>We now have a Loon Preservation Committee, chaired by Susan Schmidt. Members are Virginia Burnett, Peter Roberts, Joanne Roberts, Clif and Rita Hereid.

>Peter Roberts, who made the loon videotape seen at the annual meeting, has photos of Ten Mile loons in an article appearing in Natural History magazine. He reports the lake population this year was 4 pairs and 3 to 6 single loons. Because of the large territorial rights loon have, the number is normal. Two young loons were raised on Ten Mile. In addition there were five nest or hatch failures, three due to high water and one from predation.

The fifth failure has a history. Last year a loon pair had a successful hatching. During the summer, though, the male had his upper beak partly torn off, perhaps from a fight with a beaver. He did not return this year. The female did, and brought with her a new male, showing they do not "mate for life." The female did virtually all the brooding, without the customary sharing of the task by the male. One day, after sitting 8 hours in a hot sun, she quit -- a failed nesting. -- Ross Melgaard.

QUESTIONS RAISED ABOUT DEEP PORTAGE CONTRIBUTION

The Board has been asked why the Association made contributions totaling \$1,200 to the Deep Portage Foundation. In the Board's view, the reasons are several: (a) Deep Portage is conducting long-range studies and experiments on environmental questions whose results and findings will be of value to the entire region, including Ten Mile Lake, (b) the Well Water Testing Day sponsored by the Association a year ago was done conveniently and efficiently because Deep Portage had the needed facilities, (c) our continuing water quality testing program makes regular and frequent use of laboratory equipment and personnel at Deep Portage, and (d) Association officers, directors and members have extended their knowledge greatly by attending seminars and programs that would not be available were they not being sponsored by Deep Portage.

*
* NECROLOGY *
*
* Two more members have *
* died since publication *
* of the Summer Newslet- *
* ter. They are: Mrs. *
* Harold (Virginia) Cox, *
* 8/86, and John Ennor, *
* 9/8/86. *
* *

ORIGINAL OWNER OF HAPPINESS LODGE DIES

Dorothy Beasley, Long Bay, writes that her mother, Mae Smith Wittman, died on June 11, 1986. Mrs. Wittman and her husband were the original owners and builders of Happiness Resort. It was called Hustle Inn Lodge until 1936 when sold to the LaClairs. They changed the name to Happiness. The resort was built in the summers of 1921-22.

Mrs. Wittman was 89 at the time of her death. She had known and been a friend of Albert Thomas since 1922. Mr. Thomas was owner of the farm located at the lower reaches of Long Bay where the Boy River has its beginning. Mr. Thomas died August 17, 1985.

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COMMISSIONERS SET ROAD SURVEY, APPOINT HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

At a series of meetings in August and September, Cass County's Board of Commissioners took action to: (a) Go forward with a survey to establish the routing of County Highways 50 and 71 skirting the north and west sides of Ten Mile Lake, and (b) appoint a committee composed of three persons favoring and three opposing the proposed relocation and resurfacing of the two roads, two commissioners, the county engineer and a member of the county engineer's staff.

Those named to the committee are: Bill Macklin, Warren Goss, Jim Kellogg, Buzz Converse* and Lorraine Stromquist* (pro-road); Bob Nelson, George Brandt, Barbara Galdames, Gary Reiten* and Robert Larson* (anti-road), Erv Ostlund and Glenn Witham (commissioners); Jim Worcester (county engineer) and Dave Emblom (staff). *Alternates

The committee is charged with seeking compromises on areas of disagreement and on environmentally sensitive terrain that might be traversed as a consequence of the rerouting of the two highways.

THE YEAR OF THE RASPBERRY

In China they name each year after an animal. Thus they have the Year of the Rat, the Year of the Pig, or perhaps the Year of the Tiger. I have been thinking of doing something similar for the Ten Mile area, but instead of using animals, I would make use of plants. Now, we are not vegetarians, but we have become passionate gardeners since moving to the Northland for our golden retirement years. So it seems only fitting to use fruits, vegetables, trees or flowers.

To my way of thinking, 1986 richly deserves to be called the Year of the Raspberry. We began picking raspberries from our patch early in July, and at first there was only a handful. But, how wonderful they tasted. After nearly eleven months without fresh raspberries, these seemed tastier than ever. Within a week or ten days we were picking them by the gallon. About the 18th to the 21st of July we were at the peak of the season, and we were picking morning, noon and evening. By this time the jam factory in our kitchen was going full blast. We not only made dozens of jars of jam, but we also made jelly and juice in considerable quantity. In addition we froze pint after pint of whole berries. There were times when we felt we were drowning in raspberries. We had raspberry ice cream, raspberry filling for cakes, raspberry pies, raspberry sauce and crushed raspberries in white wine. Our grandson, Sebastian Galdames, came up with a brilliant invention -- raspberry pancakes. Yes, for us 1986 was definitely the Year of the Raspberry.

However, to get back to China for a moment, one Ten Miler, David Roberto Larson, has been working there for the past four months and is due back home in early October. He has been installing large computer systems in eight or nine of the largest cities. Also, Bob and Ellie Nelson are going to China in the latter part of October on a sentimental journey to see where Grandfather Macklin established a hospital in Nanking a century ago. We wonder if they will find any raspberries in the mysterious East. -- R. J. "Deacon" Larson.

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UNDERSTANDING LOON CALLS

Almost everyone who spends time in northern Minnesota has heard the loon's strange calls and to hear a loon "concert" is truly to know "the sound of the north woods." The most familiar and eerie call is a lonely, rather mournful wail which seems to signal that the bird has become separated from its mate or its chick. The brief hoot speaks of curiosity or happiness. The tremolo or "loon laugh" is a sound of aggression or warning and is given by both males and females. The yodeling call, given only by the male, is the territorial song or warning. These yodeling calls are sometimes accompanied by a sort of "penguin dance" when the bird's territory has been violated and are signs of extreme distress or agitation. Anyone observing such a response should retreat immediately and boaters seeing loons swimming, alone or in pairs, should keep their distance. -- Prepared by Katharine N. Cram for Mississippi Headwaters, Audubon Society, Inc.