

Association for the Preservation of Long Pond

83 Dunaskin Rd., Centerville, MA 02632

February 16, 2003

Dear Members:

This is to bring you an up-date on a number of issues prior to the release of the spring edition of Tony Antin's Long Pond Sentinel newsletter.

To say that we had a good year in 2002 would in some ways be a gross understatement, but it would be a reasonable start. Not only did we succeed in our efforts to get funding and approval to treat the Pond with Sonar, the results were almost miraculous (see below).

We sent a thank you letter to the Town Council in October to express our appreciation for their support and we wrapped it up with the following:

"It was a great summer on Long Pond. This year, for reasons that are not totally clear, a greater number of adults and young people enjoyed the many pleasures of Long Pond, including swimming and boating, than in any year in recent memory. The exquisite beauty of Long Pond is very apparent today as the sun bounces off of the calm waters: It's a perfect day to say thank you."

So can we now rest our oars and proclaim total victory? Unfortunately, the clear answer at the present time is NO. While the first year results were extremely encouraging, the probability that total eradication was achieved is low. We will have to see what the spring brings. Testing last fall indicated that 100% of hydrilla growth had been eliminated and approximately 90% of the tubers in the bottom of Long Pond had been eradicated. It's the remaining 10% that we will continue to worry about. We will be working with the Town's Conservation Division and Aquatic Control Technology, Inc. this spring to determine the best course of action to work toward total eradication of hydrilla from the Pond.

If you'd like to hear and see more, **there will be a meeting on Tuesday March 4, 2003** on the second floor of the Centerville Fire Department on Route 28. Start time will be 7 PM and it should be over before 9PM. The meeting will be jointly sponsored by our Association and the Conservation Division. Aquatic Control Technology will use a PowerPoint presentation to review last year's activities and results, and to lay out some of the possible options for this year. ***If you plan to attend, please call Ron Sirch at 508-771-7225 by Friday February 28 to assure seating.*** You can also call Ron if you'd like to see a copy of the 46 page Project Completion Report prepared by Aquatic Control Technology.

Other Notes:

Dues and Donations

Our current finances appear to be adequate for now, so the Steering Committee feels we can hold off paying the annual dues for 2003. However, we could have unanticipated needs for additional funds at some point, and the Steering Committee will advise the membership of such needs, should they arise. A number of members and supporters have sent unsolicited donations to the Association. We thank all who have done this and encourage others to consider doing the same.

Special Recognitions

In the last newsletter we had a rather long list of friends who helped our Association last year and called it the Honor Roll of Appreciation. We gave special recognition and appreciation to Rob Gatewood, Roy Richardson and John Klimm. We followed this up at our Annual Meeting and honored these three supporters with framed certificates granting to each of them:

"...the unrestricted right to proclaim to all who will listen, that during the years 2001 and 2002 he was one of the true heroes who helped save Long Pond. The Committee for the Preservation of Long Pond, on the occasion of its First annual meeting on August 20, 2002, hereby officially recognizes this accomplishment and offers its most heartfelt and sincere thanks."

We feel the Association is extremely fortunate to have the continued support of these fine officials and of each of you.

Sincerely,



Jerry Gilmore, APLP Chairman
and

The APLP Steering Committee:

Dick Teel Barbara Enos
Bob Enos Kallie Garoufes
Tony Antin Ron Sirch
David Elmer, MD
Ted Schilling, Esq.