

# *Association for the Preservation of Long Pond*

67 Long Pond Circle, Centerville, MA 02632

July 27, 2011

Dear Members:

The Summer of 2011 is well underway and I'm happy to report that Long Pond is once again adding to the charm and beauty of this wonderful Cape Cod community. Early summer water clarity has been excellent and hydrilla remains pretty much under control. Native plants, which help to keep our lake healthy and clear, continue to do their job. As I stated just about one year ago, Long Pond remains a truly beautiful natural resource and sooo much better than when we started the Association in 2001.

## **Town Council**

As you probably know, there has been some discord on the Town Council and there is a possibility that John Klimm will not stay on as Town Manager. It is not clear how this will all shake out, but as of this writing it has not impacted the Town's support of the funding required for continued hydrilla control treatment for Long Pond. At the Town Council Meeting on April 7<sup>th</sup>, the Council voted on an appropriation recommendation from John Klimm for \$25,000 for "the purpose of funding the treatment of hydrilla in Long Pond and Mystic Lake". The recommendation passed with just one no vote which was cast by Gregory Milne. After the vote during a break, I got to say thank you and received some positive feedback on our Association's efforts from John Klimm, President Fred Chirigotis, Janice Barton and Janet Joakim.

As I've noted before, we are fortunate to have a Town Manager and a Town Council that have the desire and fortitude to maintain the quality and beauty of the lakes in the Town of Barnstable. But in times of tight budgets, every budget item gets closer scrutiny and that means we have to worry about being the victims of a budget cut. So once again our thanks go to John Klimm, Rob Gatewood and the Councilors who have supported the efforts that have served to save Long Pond.

## **Hydrilla Survey and Recommendations**

On June 26<sup>th</sup>, Aquatic Control Technologies completed a thorough snorkel survey of Long Pond. The survey was conducted by Keith Gazaille, Senior Biologist with able assistance from Biologist Drew Kelosis. (They are an outstanding team.) Keith's summary report and recommendation to Rob Gatewood, head of our Conservation Division, was similar to last year's:

"The cliff notes version is that we did find some scattered growth of hydrilla in the east basin that will likely exceed diver hand-pulling capabilities once full emergence has been achieved. We again found no hydrilla growth in the west basin of the pond, in fact, we are seeing an increasing diversity and abundance of native species in the western basin. So similar to last year we are recommending that the east basin alone be treated with Sonar. As in previous years, we will install a limno-curtain to aid in maintaining Sonar concentrations in the east basin. We are hoping to schedule the initial Sonar treatment for next Tuesday, July 5<sup>th</sup>. "

The sonar plan was executed on July 5<sup>th</sup> as proposed by Keith. Perfectly executed. As I've stated before, the decision to treat with Sonar herbicide is an easy decision – even when hydrilla plants are small and widely scattered. If we don't treat, the aggressive growing and expansion cycle will start anew. But every time we do treat, the number of hydrilla-growing tubers is reduced and our chances of total eradication are enhanced.

During the survey, I measured the water clarity with my Secchi Dish and came up with 12 feet 4 inches. Nice! But Keith measured it with his slightly more sophisticated Secchi Dish and got 13 feet. Real nice! The oxygen reading taken by Keith showed dissolved oxygen at near optimal levels. He stated that it just can't get much better than this. Also real nice!

I asked about algae blooms which are widely scattered across the Lake but are somewhat more concentrated in the shallowest water on the North side of the Eastern basin. Keith sees this as normal, especially for shallow water. Also that area does not benefit as much from the movement of water from the Herring Runs. Wind serves to disperse algae throughout the Pond so you may see some anywhere at anytime.

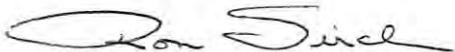
There are several rather large underwater plants called Pond Weeds growing in the Eastern Basin toward the north side. They look like they could be a problem but because they are native plants, they are not expected to multiply significantly like hydrilla and other non-native plants. Healthy native plants are ESSENTIAL to having a healthy lake even though we sometimes don't like how they look. No native plants, No way can you have 13 feet of clarity like we recorded on survey day. Other native plants doing well in Long Pond include Nitella, Slender Spike Rush and Quillwort.

### **Our Association's 2011 Annual Meeting – August 23**

The 2011 Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 23 in the Parish Hall at Our Lady of Victory Church on South Main Street in Centerville. As we did last year, the meeting date was set prior to Labor Day in hopes that more of our seasonal members will be able to attend. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM and will last for perhaps an hour or a little more. Light refreshments will be served after the meeting providing attendees a chance to socialize a bit with neighbors and friends. And yes, we will have a free drawing for a really nice door prize! *Tuesday August 23!! Looking forward to seeing you there! Please mark your calendars!*

Once again, my thanks to our Steering Committee and to each and every one of our members. Your support and efforts are deeply appreciated. As individuals we have a voice but as an Association we have a voice that is amplified many many times over.

Sincerely,



Ron Sirch, APLP Chairman

and

The APLP Steering Committee:

Dick Teel	Barbara Enos
Bob Enos	Kallie Garoufes
Tony Antin	Walt Jebens
Ron Fone	Tim Luzietti
David Elmer, MD	
Ted Schilling, Esq.	