

# *Association for the Preservation of Long Pond*

67 Long Pond Circle, Centerville, MA 02632

July 25, 2012

Dear Members:

Once again, I'm happy to report that Long Pond is still adding to the charm and beauty of this wonderful Cape Cod community. Early summer water clarity has been excellent and native plants, which help to keep our lake healthy and clear, continue to do their job. As I stated last year, Long Pond remains a truly beautiful natural resource and sooo much better than when we started the Association in 2001.

We are another step closer to eradicating hydrilla in Long Pond, but as we've known all along, total eradication will not come easy. We still have some scattered plants in the eastern basin, plants which will rapidly grow and spread if we don't take action. So once again, as most of you know, Aquatic Control treated the eastern basin with Sonar on July 9<sup>th</sup>. This is good. With hydrilla continuing to menace many of our country's beautiful lakes, we should count our blessings and be thankful for the help and support we continue to receive from our Town and for the support we have received from the State. We must also remember what Dr. Haller, our mentor from the University of Florida, admonished us: "Don't let up. Keep after it and don't ever let up." We haven't let up and we have come a long way toward our ultimate goal of total eradication. The membership is to be commended for their support of the Association and its objectives!

Florida picture below is to remind everyone just how bad a hydrilla outbreak can be.....so we'll never let up!



**A picture of hydrilla out of control in Florida. Hydrilla is now showing up from Florida to Maine with some as far west as Texas and some in the Finger Lakes of New York.**

**Long Pond is working toward total eradication and getting closer to meeting that objective.**

## **Town Manager**

As you probably know, we have a new Town Manager. I wish outgoing Town Manager John Klimm the best of good luck and success and also wish him well in his next endeavor. He's a good man who was an understanding and caring friend of our Association. John is being replaced with another good man, Tom Lynch. Tom was our Assistant Town Manager for many years and more recently was Acting Town Manager. Tom lives near Long Pond on Phinney's Lane and YES, he is a long-time member and super-supporter of our Association. He truly cares about Barnstable and Long Pond. I wish him well in his new role and know he will do a great job for our Town!

Once again:

**Annual Meeting August 29 at 7 PM at Our Lady of Victory**

We do have sad news to add. Steering Committee member Dick Teel passed away on July 23rd after a lengthy struggle with his health. He was a true conservationist who loved Long Pond. He was one of the original members and Treasurer of our predecessor organization, The Committee for the Preservation of Long Pond. He was a graduate of Cornell University, a WW11 Navy Veteran, an athlete, a coach, and a gardner. He was passionate about preserving Long Pond. We would like to thank Dick's wife, Virginia Teel, for fulfilling a self-adopted informal role of Assistant to SC Member Dick Teel. He will be missed by all of his family and friends.

On behalf of your Steering Committee and myself, I'd like to say thanks to each of you for your support and encouragement. You've really helped to make this rather long journey seem easy. If you're out on the Lake, please remember the importance of SAFETY RULES. We all know them. Mostly common sense but not always adhered to. Take it slow. Lots of swimmers in the water this year so thinking safety at all times will help to avoid any tragic events.

Sincerely,



Ron Sirch, APLP Chairman

And

The APLP Steering Committee:

Tony Antin

Barbara Enos

Walt Jebens

Kallie Garoufes

Ron Fone

Tim Luzietti

Sandy Bartlett

David Elmer, MD

Ted Schilling, Esq.

## Hydrilla Survey and Recommendations

On June 15<sup>th</sup>, Aquatic Control Technologies completed their final survey of Long Pond. The survey was once again conducted by Keith Gazaille, Senior Biologist. His brief report follows:

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Ron:

*We performed our final survey on 6/15/12, which was the culmination of several earlier inspections. Based on our observations there is no growth of hydrilla anywhere in the west basin, similar to (recent) previous years. The only growth that was observed was located along the shorelines of the east basin. This growth consisted of scattered individual plants and localized areas of low density patches. The native plant assemblage remains "healthy" and diverse throughout the pond. The native plant growth is dominated by the macro alga nitella, quillwort, ribbon-leaf pondweed, and slender spike rush. Tuber sampling yielded a total of 4 tubers over the (10) 1 square meter sampling plots, which translates to roughly 0.4 tubers per square meter, which is on par with last few pre-season sampling results.*

*As a result of the higher density patches of hydrilla (primarily along the south shore of the east basin) we feel that it is in the best interest of the long-term control of the hydrilla to again treat the east basin with Sonar herbicide. We have therefore scheduled treatment for Monday, July 9, 2012. We will again install a limno-barrier across the narrow opening between the east and west basin to help maintain herbicide concentrations within the target area. If you are once again willing I will mail you posters today so that they can be put up around the pond in advance of Monday's treatment. Let me know.*

*I hope this helps. If you have any questions or need anything further please let me know.*

*Keith Gazaille  
Senior Biologist  
Aquatic Control Technology, Inc.*

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The sonar plan was executed on July 9<sup>th</sup> as proposed by Keith. Perfectly executed again. 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.

There are several rather large underwater plants called pondweeds still 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 12-13 feet of clarity like we have typically recorded.

## Our Association's 2012 Annual Meeting – Thursday, August 30

The 2012 Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 30 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 hoping 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 so. 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!

*Thursday August 30 !! Looking forward to seeing you there! Please mark your calendars!*

In closing, I would like to once again extend 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 (508-771-7225)

and

The APLP Steering Committee:

Walt Jebens      David Elmer, MD

Dick Teel        Barbara Enos

Bob Enos        Kallie Garoufes

Tony Antin      Tim Luzietti

Ron Fone        Sandy Bartlett

Ted Schilling, Esq.

### On Long Pond – the Quiet\* Lake ☺



Photo by Melanie Sirch

- \* Maximum 9.9 horsepower motor restriction is great. (Thanks to good work by Bill Bartlett (Don's brother) going door to door with a petition some 40 years ago.)
- \* Sailboats, kayaks, paddleboards, canoes and swimmers just plain wonderful to watch.
- \* In addition to being quiet, let's be careful out there and remember SAFETY FIRST.
- \* By the way, home fireworks are not encouraged. (They're actually illegal as well.)