



Hampton Ponds News

Our Community Newsletter

Issue #13

Winter 2008

February 2nd
Roast Pork Dinner
5:00 to 7:00 PM

February 3rd
Ice Fishing Derby
6:30 AM Register
at the State Beach

March 1st
Corned Beef and
Cabbage Dinner
5:00 to 7:00 PM

"Andy" by Rosalie Dupont

Joe and Barb's brother Andy
His camera was always handy
He took pictures with glee
As people yelled, "Take me"
He was a hard working soul
Who always met his goal
He retired in May
And has enjoyed every day
I remember him at the last
party
Andy's laugh was so hearty
As he sat eating cake and
candy
We all said "God Bless you
Andy!"

Just a reminder...

The Hampton Ponds Association annual membership drive will be starting soon. Family memberships are \$25.00 and individual memberships are only \$15.00. Your membership supports scholarships and ponds related projects.

For more information
call 413-533-6336

The Annual Hampton Ponds Association Walk-a-thon by Barbara Giroux

Saturday, November 3rd was another successful Walk-A-Thon for the HPA! We had a total of 7 Walkers including; Nancy Valego, Janet Sanuita, Doris Rivard, Ken Boucher, Sandy Green, Joe and Barbara Giroux. Many thanks to Pete Sanuita and Rosalie Dupont for handling the after-party at the Giroux's home on Pequot Pond for pizza and beer. After expenses the money raised was \$528 for our general fund which supports all activities of the HPA. The winner of the \$10 Friendly's gift certificate was Janet Sanuita for raising the most money. The weather was great, exercise was tremendous and we look forward to more of you joining us next year!

Another year of watching the WEEDS GROW has passed by Don Leger

As most of you know, in the summer of 2006 HPA renewed our commitment to treat Pequot Pond for the control of non-native Eurasian Watermilfoil. That year a spring vegetation survey was conducted by Aquatic Control on 6-6-06 which established a proposed treatment area of 51 acres was necessary to bring the unchecked growth of Eurasian Watermilfoil under control.

At that time HPA decided to treat the proposed 51 acres while also establishing a long-term management program with the Conservation Commissions of both Westfield and Southamptton to allow a three-year management project with another two-year extension to the program possible.

A spring survey was performed in 6-07 to check the amount of re-growth of the non-native Eurasian Watermilfoil. Based on the relatively limited re-growth of the targeted non-native plants it was determined that no immediate additional control measures were required to maintain desirable conditions during the 2007 summer season.

A second vegetation survey was performed later in the growing season (9/10/07) to collect additional data on the plant growth conditions. This second survey was important not only in determining the weed growth, but also for determining con-management/control requirements for 2008.

Based on the fall vegetation survey data, we estimate that the current milfoil growth occupies in the range of 20-25 acres of shoreline. The cost to chemically treat 15-25 acres with Reward herbicide has been estimated in the range of \$6,700-\$7,500, for the 2008 season which would include MA DEP permitting, treatment services, and pre and post-treatment inspections, as in the past.

As an ongoing effort to manage the non-native Eurasian Watermilfoil in the Hampton Ponds, an additional weed management project in under consideration by HPA for Permitting and Chemical Treatment of Horseshoe Pond. This project is outside the Conditions of Intent of the Pequot project, therefore requiring it's own permitting and licensing. The current estimated cost of this project treating 15-20 acres and permitting is about \$12,000.

HPA hopes to continue improving the quality of the waters of Hampton Ponds to maintain their value and recreational quality. These projects are very costly and to this point have been paid entirely by the Hampton Ponds Association and donations by our members and friends.

Doggie Duty by Leslie Pirnie, IACP Certified Dog Trainer

Submissive Urination

I get asked this question quite often especially by owners of new puppies. What to do when their dog greets them with a puddle on the floor? Should they scold, comfort, ignore? Squatting to urinate because he becomes excited when greeting owners or strangers, is quite common in puppies and if not handled correctly could become an ongoing problem. To understand why will help the cure. Thousands of years ago wolves were the closest thing to the present day dog. Early man found that by training the wolf right, he could help him to hunt. He would take the cubs from the den and raise them to be friendly helpers and hunters for his family. Most of the wolf's manners have changed over the centuries. But one behavior, left from long ago, is submissive urination. The young wolf cub, to show acknowledgment of the older wolf and to keep it from beating the cub, will squat and urinate. This is telling the elder that it accepts it as the leader. This act has the power to stop aggression by the elder. It is what is called a hard wired behavior, which means that it does not have to be learned and it always works. An adult wolf, when confronted by a submissively urinating cub is powerless to be aggressive. We, humans, have to learn not to be hard wired, to be non-aggressive when confronted by submissive urination. Our reaction, often is just the opposite of the adult wolf and of what the puppy expects will happen when it acknowledges us as the superior animal. Since it knows that squatting and urinating will stop aggression, it assumes that we did not get the signal. So, it gives us a bigger signal and the puddle must act in a non-aggressive way. No punishing, no comforting. It is best to ignore the squatting. Get the puppy outside ASAP. It will go away if treated correctly.

Hampton Ponds Tidbits

*Welcome Isabella Rose born on January 8th to first time parents Bart & Lauren Potenza and grand daughter to Pat & Mike Potenza and great granddaughter to Betty Hennessey.

*Pete and Tony joined a fitness club!

*Congratulations to Pat Haber on her new gazebo!

*Congratulations to Denise & Jay Hyland on their new baby girl called Jade Sophia! What a cutie!

*Congratulations to newlyweds Cathy and Rocky!

*Welcome to Ryan Landry, the new owner of Annie Wilmont's old cottage.

*Welcome to the Cliff & Tammy Laraway family, the new owners of Bob McCarroll's cottage.

*Buck, formerly of Bob's cottage, fell and broke some bones, so he is being rehabilitated at Leeds.

*Pat Linnekin and Jean Pensabene had great Christmas lights this year, as did Rosalie and Doris.

*Thanks for lighting up the neighborhood.

*Another successful annual Turkey dinner on November 3rd raised \$480. Thanks to all who came and participated in the event.

For more pictures and information about our events...check out our website...www.hamptonpondsassociation.org

Join us for our next meeting. The Hampton Ponds Association meetings are held the first Monday of every month at 7:00PM at the HPA building.