

## Long Point Board Update – April, 2021



Looking south toward Little Otter Creek. Photo by K. Fehlhaber.

### **President's Letter**

Try to describe Long Point to someone who has never been here.

The descriptions will most likely be as unique as Long Point. Community may come to mind. Or words like love, joy, simplicity, calm.....home. People from all over the country come to Long Point year after year. We look forward to seeing family and friends. We come to Long Point to relax and tune out the real world for a bit. We come to celebrate love and mourn the ones we love who have departed. We come to see our Long Point friends. While we all may feel slightly differently about our Long Point, I would bet that, for the most part, the thought of being "at camp" brings a smile to your face and a certain joy to your heart.

As late spring and summer approach, we look forward to the "familiarness" of Long Point – the lake, the smells, the sunsets. So much of what we love about Long Point just happens as nature allows. And yet, some of the familiar things about Long Point take some work. Much work is done by contractors who are really more like family. But much work is also done by volunteers. This past year, when the Town road crew dumped fill dirt and rip rap on the beach at

Bay Road, so many people came forward to offer help to find a solution. While we were successful to a point, we have more work to do.

A quick glance at each year's Annual Report shows an entire page of volunteers on a variety of committees with some names appearing more than once. And THEN there are the many people who volunteer whose names do not appear on any published list – the people who organize the coffee hour before the Annual Meeting, join in with the Spring Clean Up, help with the 4th of July picnic, clean up lake weeds on the bays, help a neighbor find a lost paddle board, offer vegetables from the garden. We are a community RICH with people willing to help in so many ways which truly make Long Point the wonderful place it is.

For everyone who has volunteered, thank you for your time. We wouldn't be as strong a community without you. If you haven't experienced the fun of working on a committee or volunteering for a one-time event, just jump on in. You can find the committees in the last annual report or reach out to a board member. Everyone is welcome. Any time. Every time.

How very much I am looking forward to being back at Long Point with my family and with you, my friends. I don't know where I would rather be.

– *Mary Lou Ivey*

## **Water System**

The Long Point water system will be turned on May 1 and close October 31. As you know, ours is a seasonal water system and can only be operational for six months. If you find any leaks or other system problems please call Dick Preston at 802-373-4031.

## **Update: Covid 19 in Vermont**

In the fall, when people started moving indoors and gathered for Halloween and Thanksgiving, Covid-19 became more prevalent in Vermont, as it did elsewhere in the country. Vermont would go from very few new cases all summer to over 100 new cases daily, and this has remained so currently. However, hospitalizations requiring intensive care have remained within capacity, and the state has been able to go forward with vaccinations and the orderly reopening of the economy.

As of the end of March, more than 313,000 doses of vaccine have been administered, and more than 21% of Vermonters have been fully vaccinated. Vaccines are being offered to anyone over 50 years old, K-12 teachers, anyone over 16 years old with certain chronic medical conditions, and all health-care workers, child-care workers, and teachers. Age criteria are being lowered as more doses of vaccines come into the state. In case anyone returning to Long Point needs

vaccination, these are available through the Vermont Health Department, Kinney Drugs, and Walgreens. It's easy to make an appointment for a vaccine by following this [link](#).

Both the Centers for Disease Control and Governor Scott have been able to loosen restrictions that affected Long Pointers last year. Now fully vaccinated persons who are at least two weeks after their second dose do not have to quarantine when they travel to Vermont. Unvaccinated travelers, such as unvaccinated children, traveling with vaccinated people still need to quarantine for 14 days (or seven days followed by a negative Covid-19 test).

Vaccinated persons may gather in small groups indoors with others. Vaccinated persons may also gather indoors safely with one family who is not vaccinated (e.g. grandchildren), provided no unvaccinated person in the group is at high risk. Finally, vaccinated persons may eat in restaurants in groups of six or fewer.

Those who accept out-of-state renters must still have [quarantine compliance forms](#) completed and on file. A simplified guideline on who needs to quarantine is available [here](#).

However, everyone, vaccinated or otherwise, is still asked to continue to observe precautions to prevent spread of the virus in public: avoid crowded places, wear masks, disinfect hands, and maintain social distancing.

There has been widespread cooperation with these mandates in Vermont, and the test positivity rate is currently 1.5%, still one of the lowest in the country. [Testing](#) is widely available in Vermont, and more than 1,170,887 million tests have been performed to date.

As more people are vaccinated, and the weather warms, the number of Covid-19 cases and deaths is falling nationwide. Hopefully this trend will continue. As more data on the effectiveness of vaccines are analyzed, I expect CDC restrictions will continue to loosen, and this will be reflected in the opening of the economy and schools in Vermont.

Governor Scott and administration officials including Health Commissioner, Dr. Mark Levine, hold a news conference every Tuesday and Friday morning at 11 a.m. These events are carried live by [WCAX-TV](#) and [Vermont Public Radio](#), and tuning in is a good way to learn the most current information.

Bunky Bernstein, M.D.  
[richardbernstein@gmavt.net](mailto:richardbernstein@gmavt.net)  
802-598-8089

## Ash Tree Removal Update

The removal of Long Point ash trees imperiled by the emerald ash borer (EAB) began in March, with the cutting of ash trees larger than 5 inches that would pose a danger to North and Lakeview Roads, camps and parking areas. As we explained in the Board Update last spring, [Long Point Board Update - April, 2020](#), the trees are being removed as part of a multi-year plan to take down ash before it becomes infested with EAB, which eventually kill 99 percent ash in areas where EAB are present. Infested trees die within three to five years and become a danger to people and property. At this time ash have been discovered as close to Long Point as Charlotte, Bristol and the southeastern edge of Ferrisburgh. Before the trees on



Photos of the March 25 ash tree work and resulting cordwood and mulch. Photos by Pete Ross.

North and Lakeview Roads were taken down, shareholders were offered the opportunity to preserve any individual ash trees by agreeing to regularly treat the trees with insecticide for the indefinite future. Shareholders on North and Lakeview Roads agreed to preserve four trees, which remain standing. To defray the cost to Long Point Corporation of ash removal, the board arranged for the sale of felled ash as cordwood and sawlogs to a local lumber company. A limited amount of wood was made available to shareholders for use as firewood at Long Point.

To see the tree removal operation in action, [please take a look at this video](#). This at the top of North Road (the end of Long Point) where it turns back to head south. Teacher Tree Service of Shelburne did the tree work, with six to eight people on site each day. Removal of ash will resume in the fall and winter, after this camping season ends. If you have questions about ash removal at Long Point, you may contact Pete Ross at [pross23@gmavt.net](mailto:pross23@gmavt.net). Many thanks to Pete Ross for all his work on this proactive care for our grounds.

## Long Point Clean-Up Day

Saturday, June 19, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Volunteers should meet at the Farmhouse and bring gloves, rakes or pitchforks. If you arrive after 8:00 a.m., go to the Bay Road beach where there will be plenty of action. Residents should pile yard debris next to the road on their property. We will be collecting yard waste, branches and sticks that have washed ashore over the winter and taking them to Long Point's stump dump. We cannot take any lumber or metal debris – nothing man made. If someone has a large pile of debris at their property, try to be there to help load it on one of the trailers. If you have a truck to help move debris to the Stump Dump, please bring it. George Decker will be leading the effort. If you have any questions, call or email George at 703-909-5626 or [georgejdecke@gmail.com](mailto:georgejdecke@gmail.com).



Entrance to the Long Point "Stump Dump" – on the south side of Long Point Road. Photo by Fred Myers.

## Fourth of July

Be on the lookout for some fun around the Fourth of July! We are looking at a few ideas while we await developing Vermont COVID requirements. If we don't do the traditional picnic, there will still be an opportunity to celebrate.

## Long Point Community Gardens

The Long Point Community gardens are located across from the farmhouse. Our gardeners will be tilling and preparing their garden beds for planting before we know it! We are excited about the new growing season. Keep an eye on Nextdoor for when growers might have extra to share. The gardens produce many delicious and beautiful things during the summer months. If you are interested in knowing more about the gardens and finding out if there are any plots available, please contact Katy Nunn at [nunnkaty@hotmail.com](mailto:nunnkaty@hotmail.com).



From garden...



...to table. Flowers and photos by Katy Nunn.

## **Annual Assessments are in the Mail**

Although our new fiscal year begins each year on May 1, April sees the first official order of business: The mailing of the invoices for the annual assessments. The assessments are made up of three parts: the lot lease fee (\$120 per full lot and \$60 for a half lot), the water assessment for those who use the community water system (\$224), and the annual dues (\$456). Those shareholders with a single lot who use the water system will see an annual assessment of \$800. Payment is due by the end of May.

The assessments are based on the budget passed at the annual shareholder meeting last August. Revenue from the assessments is used to maintain the roads, grounds and public facilities on Long Point, pay the taxes, insurance, legal and accounting expenses, support the office and salary of the secretary, and maintain the water system. The success of our community depends on these assessments. If you do not receive an invoice in the mail in May, please get in touch with Nikki (email at [longpointcorp@gmavt.net](mailto:longpointcorp@gmavt.net) or phone at 802-545-2067) so that she may update our mailing list.

This year's economic turmoil associated with the coronavirus epidemic may present financial challenges to some of our shareholders. If you expect difficulties paying your fees on time, please contact Nikki to work out a payment plan. Thank you for your prompt attention to your invoice and for helping to get the new season off on a sound financial footing.

– *Sandra Pearson, Long Point Treasurer*



July 20, 2020 double rainbow over the bay. Photo by K. Fehlhaber.

## Rentals – Reminders as the Season Begins

As we head into a new season and, for some of us, a time when our camp will be occupied for periods by renters, here's a reminder of the requirements of your lease and Long Point Corporation rules regarding camp rentals.

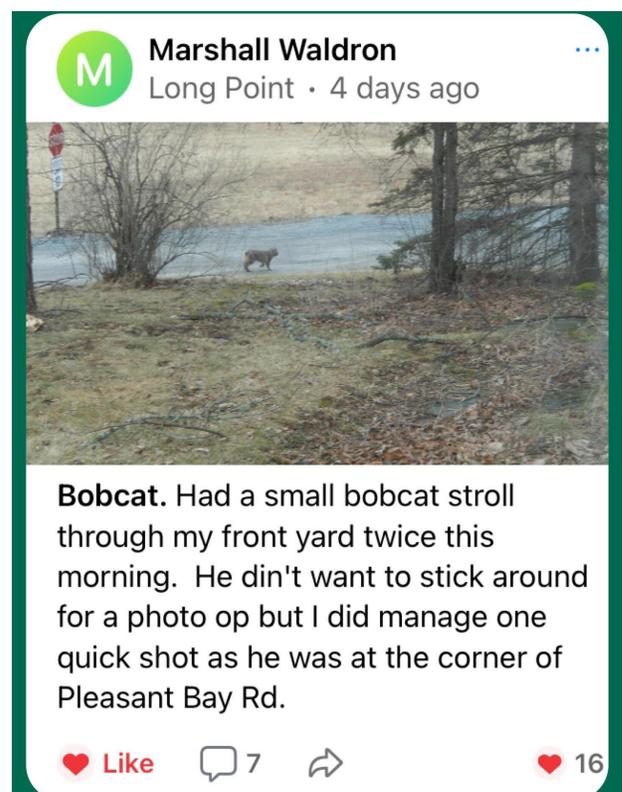
Long Point has a standard rental agreement that reflects LPC rules, lease requirements and community norms. Please visit the [Rentals/Sales page](#) of the Long Point web site for the [Camp Rental Agreement](#). Among other things, the agreement reminds renters of the expectation that they will "occupy the premises in a quiet and orderly manner," especially between 11:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. Please have your renter sign the agreement and send a copy to Nikki Fitzcharles, Long Point secretary ([longpointcorp@gmavt.com](mailto:longpointcorp@gmavt.com)), before the rental period begins. With the exception of a few older leases, Long Point leases require advance notice to LPC of any rental and require Long Point's consent to leases of more than four weeks. Those who accept out-of-state renters must still have [quarantine compliance forms](#) completed and on file.

As stated in the standard rental agreement, due to the additional burden on the roads, parking, and water and septic systems, the occupancy of any rental is limited to two persons per bedroom. Please be considerate of your neighbors and do not rent your camp to more persons than allowed under LPC rules.

## Connect with others through Nextdoor Long Point

Did you see the bobcat that recently visited Long Point? Here it is – *Lynx rufus rufus*. Last summer, the NextDoor app became a way to share wildlife sightings and this summer, Long Pointer Brian Farrell will use NextDoor to announce some impromptu nature walks.

NextDoor Long Point is a private social network for the Long Point community. Need help finding a lost pet? Have a kayak to sell? NextDoor can help. It's an easy way for Long Point neighbors to talk and share information online. If you have not yet signed up, please contact Duncan Adamson at [dsadamson@gmail.com](mailto:dsadamson@gmail.com) and he will send you an invitation.



**Do we have your email? Your correct contact information?**

We need up-to-date personal contact information for Long Point records. We also include this information in the annual report so neighbors can keep in touch. If your USPS address, phone numbers or email addresses have changed, or if they were incorrect in last year's report, please send corrections to Nikki at [longpointcorp@gmavt.net](mailto:longpointcorp@gmavt.net) by June 1. You can also reach Nikki by phone at (802) 545-2067. See you soon at Long Point!

**Long Point Corporation Board of Directors, 2020-2021**

President	<a href="#">Mary Lou Ivey</a>
Vice President	<a href="#">Gary Gray</a>
Treasurer	<a href="#">Sandra Pearson</a>
Secretary	<a href="#">Nikki Fitzcharles</a>
Director	<a href="#">Lisa Gwiazda</a>
Director	<a href="#">Maja Zimmermann</a>

For additional contact information, please visit <https://www.longpointcorp.com/board>

*Newsletter Editor - Kristen Fehlhaber – [kfehlhaber@gmail.com](mailto:kfehlhaber@gmail.com)*