SINGLETARY SUN

THE VOICE OF THE LAKE
SINGLETARY WATERSHED
ASSOCIATION

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Once again we find ourselves passing through the coldest segment of our annual voyage through the tumultuous ocean of the seasons. Like a ship with its rudder lashed only to port or starboard, we sail in a perpetual great circle. Our continual route transports us to four distinct ports of call we know as the New England seasons. Those of us fortunate enough to enjoy this journey from our 'staterooms' overlooking Lake Singletary, have a first class vista of the special charm each season offers. We experience the re-emergence of spring as we sail towards summer's warm glow. We cruise onward through nature's vibrant palette of colors in fall, and then dodge the icebergs into winter's wonderland. This may sound like a mundane cruise with the same four stops each year. But in reality, the familiar ports offer us new and unique challenges and activities with every visit. Boredom is seldom a problem when cruising aboard the SS Singletary. We all have our favorite destinations along the route. I prefer the warmer regions but still appreciate and enjoy the variety of options afforded throughout the annual trek.

When you step off the gangway this winter, be careful on the ice. Our frozen lake, while providing for winter enjoyment, also presents seasonal dangers as it freezes and thaws unevenly. Many areas of the lake, especially the shallow protected coves, tend to be safe earlier in the season. Some areas will continue to be unsafe, possibly for the entire winter. It is important to review ice safety with children and those adults that continue to act like children. Also pay special attention to your pets that may venture out on the ice before it's not uniformly safe while forming and at the end of the season when the ice degrades from below.

Hazards aside, try to embrace and enjoy the exclusive opportunities that our winter offers. Even if you're not the alpine outdoor type, enjoy the beautiful panorama through the porthole of your cozy stateroom.

I am pleased to report that our association remains strong. During the past year, our association hosted another series of successful events. In April, we kicked off the year by tidying up the area with a record number of volunteers at the Earth Day Cleanup. In May, we enjoyed another fabulous social gathering of our members at the Spring Wing Ding. At our own annual 'chain of lights', we lit up Lake Singletary with the Fourth of July Boat Parade, and at the conclusion we were treated to an amazing aerial light show. Our annual membership meeting went off without a hitch in August, but later that month our Rafting Party was cut short by Mother Nature's fireworks in the form of a severe thunderstorm. Our official events calendar wrapped up in October with the 3rd Annual LSWA Golf Tournament with fun competition and great food at Blackstone National.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED. . .

In addition to our association's events, Lake Singletary hosted 19 sanctioned fishing tournaments and the water portions of 3 athletic competitions. The Town of Sutton continues to expand programs utilizing its lake access at Marion's Camp. Speaking of Sutton, I want to thank the town officials that annually agree to provide financial support to our association. Money we receive from the town helps defray a portion of our expenditures used to maintain the water quality of our lake.

The success our association enjoys is a result of the year round efforts of the board of directors, individual volunteers and all of you that support the Lake Singletary Watershed Association through your membership and donations.

On a sad note, we recently lost two people that played a large part in our continued success. Each of these dedicated individuals devoted over 30 years of their life to the association serving on the board of directors. In September, we lost Dick Norlin, a past president and continual board member. I met Dick when I was 6 years old, and he was one of the 'older' kids at the advanced age of 10. Dick lived on Lake Singletary and was my early mentor of all things related to the lake; swimming, diving, fishing, motor boating and sailing. I have to admit that we had limited success trying to master the sailing part in Dick's leaky wooden sailing pram. We couldn't always point it in the direction we wanted to go, but we had a lot of fun trying. Dick, as most of you know, went on to spearhead many accomplishments during his tenure on the board. Most recently, in December we lost Mike Salem. Mike was also a champion of protecting and continually improving our lake for the over 30 years he served on the association's board of directors. Compared to Dick, I met Mike considerably later in life, almost 18 years ago when we moved to the lake. Mike and his family were among the first to greet us as we became neighbors living on the same small cove. At that time Mike was already going into his second decade as a director of the LSWA. I will personally miss both of them and always feel honored to have had the opportunity to serve alongside each of them. I know that all of you will miss them, some personally, but all for their part in the work that made our lake a better place to call home.

And finally, back to our continual voyage. We have once again arrived at winter, and if like me, this is not your favorite stop, don't despair. The ship hasn't stopped, the rudder is still hard over and spring is the next port of call on our itinerary.

Have a happy, healthy and safe passage.

Paul Kawolis

A REMINDER OF SUMMERTIME FUN!!!

PICTURE THIS!

VOLUNTEER WATER QUALITY MONITORING

We have completed the 23rd year of volunteer monitoring! This year, we had great participation in the program. Our volunteers included Lee Adams, Ann and Wayne Junnila, Brian Mellon, Rosemary and Mike Salem, and Don Swatik. New volunteers are always welcome.

Our program includes in-lake measurements for clarity (Secchi depth), pH, dissolved oxygen (DO) , temperature profiles, alkalinity, and total phosphorus. In addition, we monitor pH, DO, and temperature, and phosphorus at 3 upstream locations in the Merrill Ponds. These locations are Arnold and Welsh inlets and the Schoolhouse outlet.

We purchased a new meter and cable this year due to inconsistencies with the dissolved oxygen readings with the existing meter. We did some side by side comparisons and look forward to a full year of data our new meter in the 2017 season.

General observations from 2016:

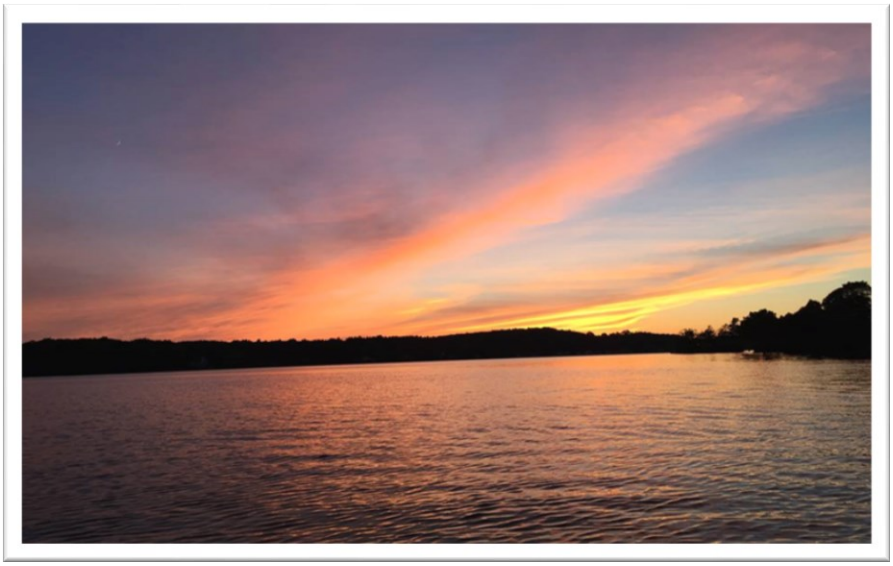
Clarity remains very good, with 4 meters as average for this past year (over 13ft)!

Dissolved oxygen and phosphorus levels are values that are impacted by decomposition of organic matter in sediments. The average parts per billion (PPB) for phosphorus at the surface was 10. This value has improved over the past; however, experts consider values between 10 and 20 to be detrimental.

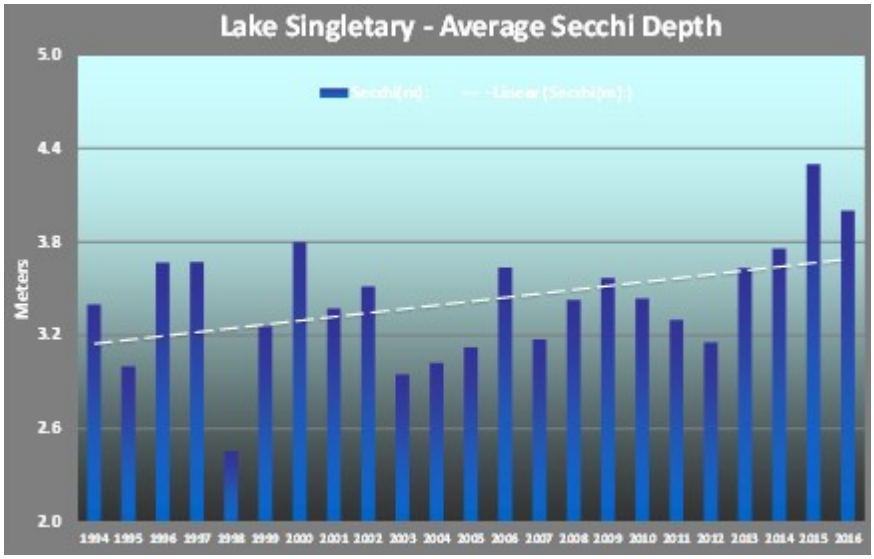
The LSWA continues to provide information to Geosyntec, the consulting company we contracted with to complete the Management Plan update, for their analysis with the goal of improving water quality of our lake.

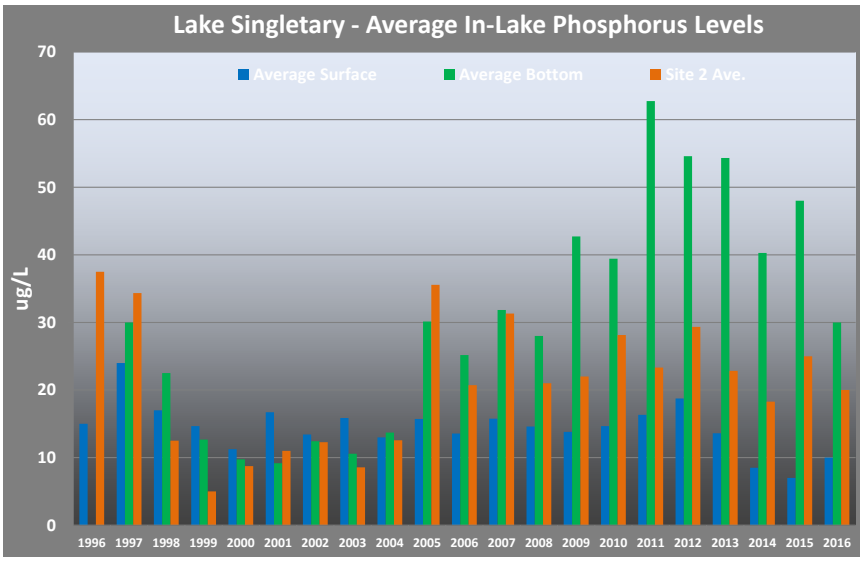
Diane Greenlaw

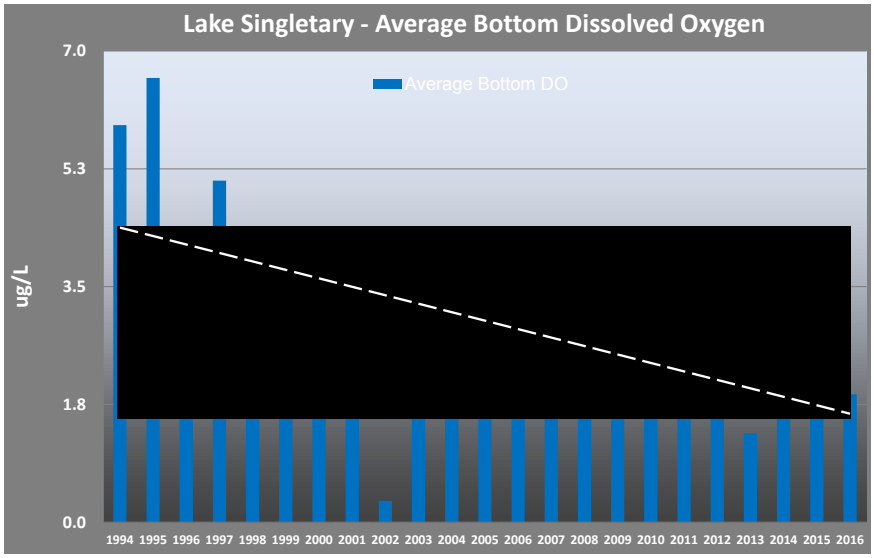
If interested in learning more about our sampling program, check out the web site at www.lakesingletary.org. Click on Maintenance/ Water Quality to explore our program.



WATER TESTING DATA







DON'T YOU JUST LOVE A GREAT PARADE!

WE HAD GREAT WEATHER FOR A GREAT BOAT PARADE WHICH HAPPENS EVERY YEAR ON THE 4TH OF JULY. THANKS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE PARADE AND DECORATED THEIR BOAT WITH GREAT PATRIOTIC DECORATIONS AND GREAT LIGHTS. THANKS TO ALL WHO VIEWED FROM THE SHORELINE AND DEMONSTRATED THEIR GREAT ENTHUSIASM WITH CHEERS AND WAVES AS THE PARADE WENT BY. WE HAD 25 BOATS IN ALL AND WHAT CAN WE SAY OTHER THAN IT WAS GREAT!

MORE PARADE

Golf Tournament

The 3rd Annual Lake Singletary 9 & Dine was held on October 1st at the Blackstone National Golf Course. After a 2pm registration, the golfers teed off at 3pm. Despite the damp weather, approximately 80 golfers enjoyed the day. They were joined by an additional 40 people for dinner, complete with DJ and dancing. In total, the tournament raised just over $3,000.00. A very sincere thank you to everyone who came out and supported the LSWA at this event.

Thanks to Rose Direnzo and Karen Rapp who put this event together with volunteers: Cindy& John Charest, Tara Dewolfe, John Direnzo Mona & Paul Kawolis, Karen LeBlanc, Rose & Mike Salem, Lynn Whalen and Tom Wojtkowski.

A big thank you to those who donated raffle prizes!

Anonymous
A & D Pizza-Millbury
Blown Away @ San Laurent-Sutton
Calabria - Millbury
Dewolfe & Sons Auto Repair-Northboro
Direnzo Towing & Recovery-Millbury
Eaton Farms Confectioners-Sutton
Elm Draught House Cinema-Millbury
Gorettis Market-Millbury
Hanover Theater-Worcester
Heritage Recreation-Sutton
John Heslin
Linders, Inc.- Worcester
Market 32-Sutton
Mcfee and Newton Towing-Northboro
Brian & Laurie Mellen
Miles to Go Sports-Sutton
Robbins Garden Center
Rockdale Rug & Braid
Rosalina's Kitchen
Village Knoll Sutton Center Store-Sutton
Don & Dee Swatik
Thompson Landscaping-Millbury
Starbucks-Sutton

GOLF TOURNAMENT

GOLF PHOTO GALLERY

SINGLETARY SUN

2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Earth Day Cleanup	Saturday, April 22rd	8:00 AM Meet at the boat ramp
Wing Ding	Saturday, May 6th	7:00 PM Dudley Gendron
Boat Parade	Tuesday, July 4th	8:00 PM Meet at the Southwest end of the lake
Rafting Party	Saturday, August 6th August 12th (Rain Date)	3:00 PM Gull Island
Annual Meeting Open to all members	Wednesday, August 30th	7:00 PM St. Mark's Church

LSWA BOARD MEMBERS

President	Paul Kawolis	paul@lindersinc.com	508-865-0741
Vice President	Lynn Whalen	gileswhale@aol.com	508-865-0646
Treasurer	John Charest	johcha01@gmail.com	508-553-9024
Secretary	Mona Kawolis	mona1223@aol.com	508-865-0741
	Tara DeWolfe	tara309a@gmail.com	508-865-6164
	Rose Direnzo	rosied3@verizon.net	508-865-4780
	Diane Greenlaw	d.greenlaw@verizon.net	508-769-3375
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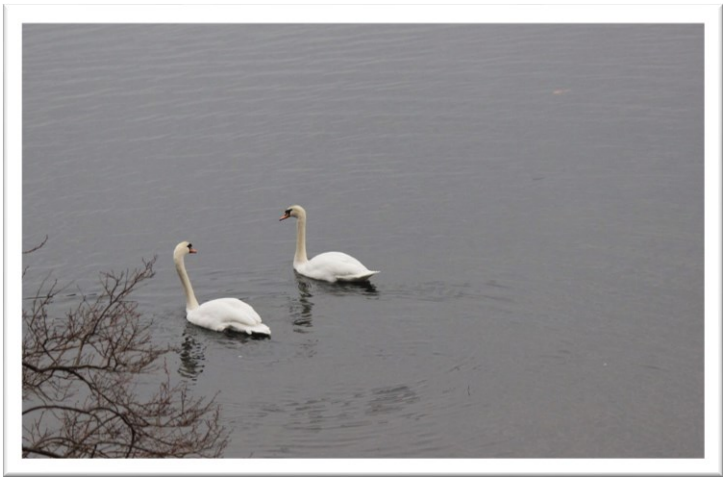
	Karen LeBlanc	kkleblanc1@yahoo.com	508-865-4977
	Bob LeClaire	sleclaire@benjaminagency.com	508-865-6763
	Dan McNamara	daniel.mcnamara@us.ngrid.com	508-865-1016
	Brian Mellen	brian.mellen1@verizon.net	774-708-0474
	Karen Rapp	karenprapp@gmail.com	508-634-8992
	Tom Wotjkowski	t_c_wojtkowski@hotmail.com	508.415.1669

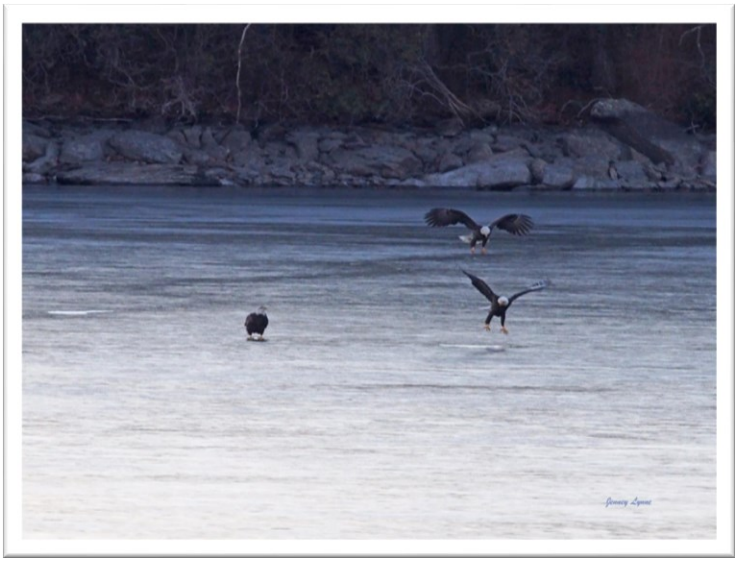
MEMBERSHIP NEWS…

The LSWA Membership Committee is pleased to announce that 141 lake residents have paid their dues for 2016. This is slightly below our all time high of 145 members, however it represents a continued strong commitment to the association. As usual, there has been some turnover and there are several new LSWA members this year: Ron and Sherri Bourgoin, Laurie Ballantine, Stephen Chabot and Gary Verill. Please join me in welcoming them to our lake community.

I would also like to announce that beginning in 2017, I will be stepping down as Membership Chairman. Tara DeWolfe has graciously volunteered to take my place. Please continue to extend Tara all the courtesies you have provided me in this important role over the past few years.

John Charest





2016 HONOR ROLL

Paul & Lee Adams
Roy & Marilyn Ahlen
Steven & Pamela Anderson
Vincent & Diane Andresano
Laurie Ballantine **
Margareta Berg
Ken & Kathleen Bergeron
Carl & Penny Bergeson
John Bergin
Ed Bettke
Paul & Joan Bjork
Virginia Bliss
Ron & Sherri Bourgoin **
Carolyn & Mark Brigham
Brad & Karen Bumpus
John & Stacy Burl
Michael &Rie Poirier Campbell
Thomas Capistron
Dottie Capuano
Linda Carlson
Michael Catino
Lee Carman
Stephan Chabot **
John & Cynthia Charest
David Chase
Robert & Judy Clark
Robert & Jeff Clark
Deborah Cox
James & Amy Craft
John & Emily Crane
Helen Largess-Crewe
Paul & Lynn Dahlin
Dan & Mary Daly
lan & Dorothy Dearnley
Joe & Kelli Deliso
Joyce DeRosa
Andy & Tara DeWolfe
John & Rose Direnzo
Stephen & Theresa Dunne
John & Jeanne Esler
Jenny Fields
Robert & Bridget Fink
Joseph & Joan Fitzhenry
Donald Fouracre
Barbara & Julio Fusaro
Greg & Trish Gauthier
Dana & Diane Giampa
Michael & JoAnne Goodfriend
Everett & Janet Grahn
Nancy Grant
Karen Green
John & Diane Greenlaw
Walter & Joan Hagstrom
Tony & Elaine Halpin
Janet Hammarstrom
Tom & Marie Haynes
David & Deborah Hebert
John & Susan Hebert
Jon & Donna Heslin
Kathleen & David Holt
Donal & Dina Jamieson
Fred & Nancy Jarvais
Pam Jernberg
Gordon Johnson
Greg & Nancy Johnson
Paul & Debbie Johnson
Russell& Mary Johnson
Wayne & Ann Junnila
Paul & Mona Kawolis
Paul & Jean Larson
Paul & Kathy Laverdiere
Paul & Diane Lavoie
William & Patricia Lawton
Kenneth & Karen LeBlanc
Michael &Candace LeBlanc
Bob LeClaire
Jim & Ruby LeClaire
Jeannette Linder
Kenny Linder
Patrick & Erin Lundgren
Bob & Laura MacKinnon
Alan & Ellen Marcell
Paul & Vivian Marcell
David & Pam Marois
Normand & Gloria Marois
Garth Maynard
John Maynard
Kevin & Kristin McCarthy
Theresa McDermott
Daniel & Kyrenya McNamara
Garry & Peggy Melia
Garry T& Karen Melia
Brian & Laurie Mellen
Stephen Mong
Wayne Mong
Robert Kimball & Polly Morse
Stephen Moss
Dennis & Nancy Mulhane
John Murray
Bill & Barbara Nartowt
James & Barbara Sean F. Nash
Richard & Karen Norlin
Suzanne Nydam
Bernice O'Gassian
Lynne Olsen
Ginger Parker
Gangadhar & Brandy Patil
Gwen Stevens & Onezime Picard
Robert & Ginny Picking
Jacqueline Shakar & Debra Pinto
Jonathan & Elizabeth Rapp
Ken & Karen Rapp
Arthur & Deb Remillard
Mary O'Malley & Frank G. Rourke
Don Rudge
Richard & Carol Rudman
Michael & Rosemary Salem
Marna Hasz & Donald Salerno
Mark & Tim Salmon
Lucille & Jack Sampson
Jacqueline Shakar & Debra Pinto
Holland & Sylvia Shaw
Mark & Beth Shirman
John Silverberg
Heather Sims
Ronald & Jeri Stead
Dottie Sundquist
Don & Dolores Swatik
Bill & Wendy Talcott
Dana & Dolores Tschirch
Steve & Lisa Vaillancourt
Gary Verill **
Craig Warneke
Carolyn Wellington
Parker & Diane Wellington
Giles & Lynn Whalen
Stanley & MaryEllen Wilczynski
Stephen & Marty Winchell
Beth Winchester
Chris & Kellie Windle
David & Nancy Winn
Tom Wojtkowski & Cathleen Gagne

**Denotes new members

THANKS to all LSWA Members!

It's not too late to be a member!

Send Dues to:
LSWA
P.O. Box 33
Sutton, MA
01590

WATER LEVEL SUMMARY

WATER LEVEL AND DRAWDOWN

For the spring of 2016, Mother Nature blessed us with virtually ideal conditions for refilling our lake after the winter drawdown. Because of the potential for damage to shoreline structures from shifting ice, we cannot refill higher than 40 inches below the dam's spillway until the ice has melted. The early ice-out of this past winter, near the end of February, allowed us to start the final phase of refill well ahead of schedule. As a result of this jump start, we were able to capture the early rain and runoff before the drought conditions of summer began. Starting with a completely full lake, the water level remained within a few inches of the spillway for most of the boating season.

This fall, the drawdown began around Columbus Day with low water level of 78 inches below the spillway achieved by late November. After a few good freeze cycles, hopefully killing the weed roots around the exposed shoreline, the dam has been closed. As I am writing this report, the water level has already risen to 65 inches below the spillway.

For the balance of the season, we will allow the water to rise within 40 inches of full, then filling above that when the ice has completely melted. Now we just need Mother Nature's cooperation to complete the plan.

As a final note...

We regularly communicate via email for event reminders, drawdown timing, weed treatment timing and other useful news. As a reminder, your e-mail address is not shared and will only be used by the LSWA for membership communications. If you have not done so yet, please send an e-mail to LSWABOD@gmail.com with Add Me in the subject and get all the latest news electronically.

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