LONE PINE HUNTER'S CLUB, Inc.

Rideout Road Hollis, NH

New Hampshire's Oldest Sportsmen Organization (Organized Sept. 17, 1913) Nashua, NH

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UPDATE

To our fellow Sportsmen, We deeply appreciate the support you've given us in the past. This letter is an update on our continuing effort to preserve our right to shoot. Lone Pine Hunters Club is New Hampshire's oldest hunting club, established in 1913. In the late 1980's an affluent development was built near the club. A few neighbors from this development didn't like the sound of gunfire, and in 1998 formed a group called (Stop the Noise). They hired a law firm and have dedicated over $600,000 so far to that firm to find a way to shut the club down.

The law firm first went through the Hollis town records, and could not find the original permit issued by the town to the Lone Pine Hunters Club to operate as a shooting club. They went to the Town of Hollis officials and said that the club was operating without a permit, and that all shooting at the club should be shut down until a new permit was issued. Even though the Town of Hollis had issued the Lone Pine Hunters Club permits in the past to build skeet and trap fields, pistol and rifle ranges, knowing these permits were for the sole purpose of shooting. As a result, we were forced to suspend all firearms shooting at the club, and apply for a new permit.

This law firm has followed us and tried to hamper our every move, from the planning board, zoning board, State Superior and Supreme courts where the constitutionality of N.H. HB 159B was challenged, and under appeal, we were then sent back to the Hollis Planning Board. The group changed its name to Residents Defending Their Homes after not getting anywhere with noise issues. They turned there focus from noise to saying our ranges were contaminating the ground water. Lone Pine had to hire environmental experts to drill test wells to see if there was any contaminants in the water. To date none have been found, but Lone Pine has been left with several very expensive bills from these studies.

It's been five long years of waiting for decisions, board meetings, and court dates but the end is in sight. We are working closely with the Hollis planning board on a RAP (Ramedial Action Plan) this manages the environmental issues on the property. Lone Pine will continue to monitor the test wells, and we will build self contained boxes to catch the shots from the ranges. We hope to be shooting again within a year.

This journey to preserve our rights has come with a heavy price tag. To date legal fees and environmental studies are over $600,000. The RAP will cost our club an estimated additional $300,000 to open our ranges again. We are a nonprofit organization who relies solely on member dues and donations. Since this battle has started we have held countless fundraisers, raised local awareness and support, received support from your clubs, took an equity line of credit against the property, and now regrettably we had to sell some of our land.

Our fellow sportsman clubs have been the backbone of our battle, they know what drives us. A proud heritage of shooting, fishing, and hunting passed down from generation to generation. The commitment to community service, whether it be letting law enforcement train on our ranges, or letting the boy scouts use our grounds for retreats. These neighbors have no clue what bonds and drives us. Again we deeply appreciate your help in the past, and humbly ask for another donation to help keep our effort going, any amount would be greatly appreciated. Please send donations to Lone Pine Hunters Club Inc, P.O. Box 641, Nashua N.H. 03061 or please visit our website at www.lonepinehuntersclub.com.

Thank You for your support
Mike Jacobs / Chairman Lone Pine Defense fund