



Presidents Corner

by Tom Collins

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Special points of interest:

Safe operations of all motorized vessels on Mariaville Lake

12 Noon—8:00 PM

Dear Residents:

As I sit and look out at the grey cold sky and small whitecaps on the lake I wonder when we will see that gorgeous blue sky and hear the sounds of summer on the lake.

People swimming, boating, and fishing are some of the most beautiful sights and sounds you can imagine, but they are just part of what our beautiful community has to offer. It's the people that are really special.

While many communities have just hunkered down

during the pandemic, our amazing community has continued to grow and flourish. We have welcomed many new families and watched them dive right in with a willingness to be active and involved.

And while that has been a welcomed result, like most organizations we have been impacted by the changes mandated by Covid-19 protocols and procedures. Dealing with the State on issues such as water quality and dam safety has become even more difficult. Conducting Zoom meetings and completing common chores such as banking & post

office box pick-ups have even presented challenges.

But through it all our dedicated team of volunteers has stepped up and we continue to move forward with a sense of excitement and accomplishment. Some great new projects and activities are underway which you will read about in this newsletter.

I hope enjoy it and will consider becoming part of the fun and excitement.

Tom Collins
President

Volunteerism

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed

citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only

thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead (1902-1978);
Cultural Anthropologist



Ellis Wilfred (Bill) Blood, 87, of Mariaville Lake, passed away December 30, 2020 He was born on May 26, 1933, to Amos and Mildred Blood of Potsdam, N.Y. He leaves behind his loving wife of 66 years, Robin Thatcher Blood and four adult children, Michael William, Bobbi Jay, Scott Christopher and Kari Lynn, daughter-in-law Carol Gavin Blood, son-in-law Kevin Burt, and grandchild Corrina Adair Blood. Ellis met his wife-to-be Robin in middle school at Potsdam. They were married in Schenectady on New Years Eve in 1954. Long time Mariaville community member both Ellis and Robin built on Mariaville Lake and became active in the Mariaville Civic Association. In 2014, Ellis was given the Cooper's Award in recognition of 17 years of outstanding service to the Mariaville Lake community, which included being a board member and Lake Management Chairman. Ellis was loved and appreciated by his many friends throughout his life, and dearly loved by his family for his caring and self-sacrificing nature. He will always be remembered and deeply missed by the Mariaville Community.

Boating Ordinances on Mariaville Lake

**Safe operations of all motorized vessels on Mariaville Lake
12 Noon—8:00 PM**

Mariaville lake is governed by the Laws of NYS and the Town of Duaneburg. All motorized vessels must be registered as well as follow the town ordinances. There are several town ordinances that regulate the waters of Mariaville Lake. One of these is the operation of Motor Boats upon the lake. This town ordinance requires that it shall be unlawful to operate any vessel upon Mariaville Lake at a speed in excess of ten

(10) miles per hour except between the hours of 12 Noon and 8:00pm when such vessel may be operated at any reasonable and safe speeds. No vessel shall be operated within one hundred(100') from the shore at a speed in excess of five (5) miles per hour. This ordinance allows all of the residents to enjoy the lake from swimming, to fishing and kayaking to motorboating.

Another long standing protocol but not an ordinance or a law is to operate your vessel in a counter clock wise direction. With such a small lake keeping boat traffic between the hours of 12 noon to 8:00pm going in the same direction has and will continue to keep everyone safe while enjoying the lake. Thank you

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Mariaville Dam Update

The MCA was recently contacted by the NYSDEC concerning our dam and its up keep. The MCA has followed all of the rules and submitted all required documentation concerning our dam to include updated Emergency Action Plan, EAP and our current Maintenance and Operations Plan on the dam. We have also sent all required recent engineering studies to include the most recent updates to Batter street and the new covert installed by the county. MCA board members spend hundreds if not thousands of hours on these mandated plans and operations as well as spends time with engineers, town, county and state officials. Recently we have met with our engineering firm to discuss the recent

concerns from DEC and have provided them with all of the updated material needed by law. This will be submitted to DEC in the coming months by our engineering firm PRIME and our engineer Tom Bates who has been involved with the MCA for the past 11 years.

Keeping all of this in mind pursuant to the DEC regulations we are required to conduct a 10 year review of all of our engineering studies submitted 10 years ago. The estimated costs for this will be up to \$5,000.00 on the current requested materials and another \$15,000.00—\$20,000.00 on the updated engineering stud-

ies. These costs would be much, much more if we didn't have dedicated board members to complete the EAP and the maintenance and operations plan on a yearly basis. Observations on the dam on a daily, weekly and monthly basis as well as opening and closing the top board during storms help keep the community safe during these weather events.

The MCA board will continue to provide a safe environment for our residents and maintain the dam and the surrounding areas. We do need a committee for the dam as long time residents on this committee have either moved away or have past away. To keep our costs down and maintain the lake in a safe manner please get involved and contact Tom Collins to get on this committee. Thanks you Bob Cuttita—Dam Safety Coordinator

Bottle Drive Update



We want to thank the community for the continued support. This has been by far one of the best fundraisers for the MCA. I speak to many of you as you drop off your bottles and cans and have been told that you are collecting from your work. Thank you all so much. .

I have placed pictures of the people that are accepting these donations and sorting them. They are a great family and they tell me that some organizations have items in the bags that are not part of the bottle drive like garbage or non returnables.

Please lets not be one of those organizations. When dropping them off to my house please make sure the bags are tied so they don't blow around the area and that the bottles are all marked refundable. It will help out the family sorting them. THANK YOU



Lakeside Living - Healthy lawns healthy lakes

WWW.Lakeside Living - Healthy Lawns Healthy Lakes (govlink.org)

What does your lawn care have to do with the fish, the lake and your family?

The pesticides and fertilizers you use on your lawn may end up in our lake.

Steps to consider for natural lawn care

- Practice grasscycling;
- Reduce pesticide use;
- Using organic fertilizer
- Water deeply, but infrequently;
- Practice preventative maintenance and restoration techniques; and Consider alternative ground covers for steep slopes, shady, or poorly drained areas and along the lake edge.

Grasscycling: Mow high, let it lie

This is probably the most effective and easiest practice to follow. Leave pulverized clippings on the lawn with the use of a mulch mower or by replacing the blade of your existing mower with a mulching attachment. Don't worry; the clippings won't get tracked into the house. Grass is comprised mostly of water and nitrogen. So when you "grasscycle" you are watering and feeding your lawn each time you mow. And doesn't it seem crazy to be paying to haul these resources offsite?

Reduce pesticide use, especially products like Weed and Feed

These may damage the soil and, consequently, the health of your lawn. As many of these products are highly water soluble, they can run off into the lake and pollute the water. Besides, trying to combine two diametrically opposed goals such as weeding and feeding, might not be all that advisable. Do you want to apply poison over 100 percent of your lawn if you only have up to 20 percent weeds? The most effective means of reducing weeds is to build healthy soils through proper fertilization, irrigation and mowing techniques. For existing weeds, try spot spraying either with some of the less toxic clove oil sprays, vinegar or boiling water. There are long-handled weeding tools that save the back and get most of the root. It's another way to "keep you on the greens". Weeding is also a great way to keep your body limber and is a task where you can involve the kids. If you pay them "per weed", it could be a good way to start the college fund.

Fertilize only once or twice a year – use an organic slow release fertilizer

These natural fertilizers release nutrients slowly to feed your lawn. Less is wasted through leaching or runoff. Organic fertilizers also work with the microbes in the soil to make available minerals that are already in the soil but just not in a form that is available for plants to use. **May and September** are the best months of the year to apply organic, slow-release fertilizer. If you are grasscycling, you only need to apply organic fertilizer in September.

Remember: weeds prey on soil deficiencies. For example, dandelions like soils that are low in calcium and magnesium, which

is typical of many soils west of the Cascades. Clover takes over soils that are low in nitrogen. So think of feeding the soil when you think of feeding the lawn.

Water deeply but infrequently

The key is to get water down into the root zone. Avoid frequent shallow watering which leads to shallow rooting and disease. Frequent watering also leaches nutrients from the soil and wastes water.

The rule of thumb is to water about one inch per week. You can test your irrigation system by spreading one-inch-deep tuna or cat food cans around the yard. See how long it takes to fill up the cans, then adjust your watering times accordingly. Remember not to water when it's raining or during the middle of the day. It's best to water in the early morning or evening.

Restoration techniques: Aeration is like a trip to the spa for your lawn

Lawns often do poorly due to compacted soils, especially near the lake where soils are often waterlogged and clay based. These are not the conditions grass like to grow in. Aeration improves root development and drainage.

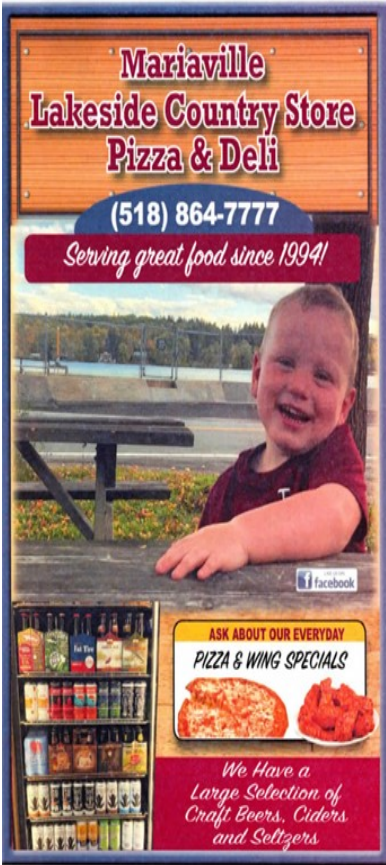
Use a rented power aerator for best results, or hire a professional. Since access down to lakeside lawns can be difficult, consider coordinating with your neighbors.

Overseed with a Pacific Northwest grass mix after aerating or weeding. Try to give the grass a competitive edge at the start. Dethatch with a power dethatcher or hire a professional to dethatch for thatch in excess of 1/2 inch. Grasscycling does not cause thatch. It is caused by roots that have not broken down. This may occur if the microbial soil life has been removed due to chemical treatment. Organic fertilizers and compost encourage soil life.

Consider alternatives to lawn

There are many attractive ground covers that might prove more suitable and eco-friendly near the lakeshore. Lawns like sun and well drained soils. Check with DEC on natural coverings so as not to introduce an evasive weed unintentionally. Near the lake edge, consider native plants that will not only reduce your maintenance, but provide fish with a source of food and cover from predators.

Remember what goes on your lawn goes into the lake and if you eat the fish goes into the body. It also could be causing our excessive weed condition. Play is safe and stay as green as possible



LAKE MANAGEMENT

LOOKING FOR HELP

The MCA is in desperate need for help concerning the Lake Management efforts. We have years and years of CSLAP findings and don't want to lose those efforts. DEC has made it clear to move forward with the purchase of a weed cutter we need someone to map the lake weed beds, which we have started and identify the weeds within those beds. Once that is done we need to work on a weed control plan and a weed disposal plan. Most of us on the board are currently put-

ting as much as we can so we need new blood. Please get involved and the MCA will pay for your training and conferences. Contact our president Tom Collins to let him know of your interest

Thank you

Your membership at work

Thank you to all our members who have donated their time and money to keep our beautiful lake alive and healthy. Our volunteers are involved in monitoring and maintaining the dam, taking water samples of lake, weed control, maintaining the boat launch, attending various meetings with DEC, county and town officials etc, MCA coordinates the adopt the highway program by cleaning the roads and lake as well as planning and carrying out community activities with our new social committee. If you are not already a member, please consider becoming one. Presently the financial burden and volunteer efforts are being carried out by too small a percentage of our community. We need everyone's help.

Membership Coordinator



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Social Committee Update

We are pleased to announce the most festive Christmas winning home, as voted by the residents of the Mariaville community is the **Ken Wolf family, 216 Batter Street.**



Several comments have been shared that there were more homes decorated this year than there have been over the past several years. We would like to thank everyone for their participation.

The first Social Committee meeting was held virtually through Zoom on February 12, 2021. Several areas were discussed and we would like to share the highlights with you.

The purpose for the committee is to have a platform to bring neighbors together to meet one another, and to develop friendships. **Enjoying each other's company on the lake is just that, neighbors enjoying neighbors and is not an MCA sponsored event/outing.** There is only one MCA sponsored event each year which is the 4th of July boat parade, under the provisions of Section 3A Local Law #1 Resolutions # 58-2000.

Welcome Wagon: The Welcome Wagon is becoming a reality. Over the last 12 months, there have been over 10 new families that have move to the Mariaville Community. We would like to welcome each family to the neighborhood. There is a group within the Social Committee that are developing a welcoming package containing information of what is available within short distance from Mariaville , such as where to shop, restaurants, post offices, recreational activities etc.. The target date for the delivering of the welcoming packages is the end of April 2021.

Communications: Example: Neighbors meeting to run, bike, walk, crawl or be carried around the lake on a Saturday afternoon. How could we disseminate that information to the Mariaville community? The Social Committee has considered and is currently working on:

- Making a change to the MCA website adding a Social Committee link where people can learn what is occurring.
- MCA Facebook page. Having a community bulletin board Mariaville Watch Facebook: Posting the detailed information

The Social Committee has an email address Mariavillesocial@gmail.com. The concept would be to send a group email with the details of the outing. If you would like to be included, please click on the Mariaville social link above and furnish your name.

The social committee meeting is held monthly on the second Wednesday @ 7:00 PM. If you are interested in participating click on Mariavillesocial@gmail.com and furnish you name, address and telephone number.

The Mariaville Social Committee organized a walk around the lake, which occurred on a beautiful, sunny and no to chilly April 24th. There were an estimated 40 neighbors and friends who met in the Mariaville Lake Store parking lot to begin the approximately 2.8 miles walk, run or bike around the lake Cold refreshments and snacks were enjoyed by all at Lewis Needham and Darlene's home midway in the walk. Everyone met new people and neighbors they never met. Fun was enjoyed by all.

The Social Committee would like to give a huge Thank You to Dave at the Mariaville Lake Store for his support of the event. It is not a well-known that Shore Road is a private road and a huge Thank You to Chris Shaver for his consideration and support in making this outing successful.





Michael Griffin 63 of Mariaville Lake NY passed away on Thursday February 4th, 2021. He is survived by his loving wife Debbie of 41 years, his son Michael (Jessie) Griffin, daughter Stacy Griffin, son Adam Griffin, granddaughter Skylar, and grandson Kodi. He is also survived by his brother Ken Griffin, sister Debbie (Dave) Palkovic, sister Terri (Bill) Clark and many nieces and nephews. Known to many as Uncle Happy, he was a lifelong carpenter who could build or repair anything. When he wasn't working or tinkering in his garage and watching races, he loved hunting, fishing, snowmobiling and spending time on the lake with his family and friends. He was a life member of the US Water Ski Show Team and loved spending his summers driving the boat. Mike will be missed by his Mariaville Family

Gene Bannon

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Ladies of the Mariaville Volunteer Fire Department

Dear Friends of the Mariaville Community,

The Ladies of the Mariaville Volunteer Fire Department would like to extend an invitation to you to join our ladies auxiliary. We are establishing a group of residents that care about our community and our Fire Department, which keeps us safe.

We meet the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 PM at the Mariaville firehouse. Our dues are \$5.00 a year. In the addition to our support for the Fire Department, we plan community events such as Trunk or Treat and have social events for our members. We help other organizations, such as the Mariaville Civic Association with bake sales and other fund raisers when we can.

We'd like to Thank You in advance and hope you will join us at our next meeting on May 5, 2021.

Sincerely,

The Ladies of the MVFD Auxiliary

Mariaville Civic Association - Around Town

C/O Robert Cuttita
794 South Shore Road
Delanson, NY 12053
E-mail: ybcut@aol.com

Seek out our Social committee Facebook page

ALSO WE CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB

Mariavillecivicassociation.com

The purpose of the MCA is “to promote the welfare and the betterment of the community at Mariaville, NY and vicinity, and the preservation and continuance of Mariaville Lake for the use and enjoyment of its residents.”

President.....Tom Collins 864-2070
Vice President Sue Weakley864-5240
Secretary Dottie Tambosco
Treasurer Nicolette Cuttita MCAtreasr@gmail.com
Membership ... Vivian Ferraro 864-5882
Lake Management NEED SUPPORT.....
Dam Safety Coordinator Bob Cuttitaybcut@aol.com
Jim Cullen864-5890
Chris Shaver 864-5089
Gene Yauchler
James Barrett779-3059
Mary Lou Riddle Marylou.riddle@gmail.com
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All 518 area code



Picture by Judy Yauchler

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