



MARIAVILLE LAKE AROUND TOWN



Mariaville Civic Association (MCA)

January 2014

Volume I, Issue I

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello friends & neighbors,
Winter is rearing it's ugly head, but as usual, we will make the best of it. Time for some skiing, ice skating, snowmobiling, and snowman making... And a warm fire with a hot chocolate or hot toddy wouldn't be bad, either!

Back in July, we held the annual "Take Back Our Lake Day," which Mike Blood, Lake Management Chairperson, organized. After successfully pulling the weeds from the lake, we had a group cookout at the Mariaville Lake Bed & Breakfast. Thank you to Rick & Lorrie Reynolds for letting us have the cookout at their establishment.

We also sponsored our 4th of July Boat Parade this year, which was organized by Ruth Benequista. Ruth already has some new and exciting ideas for next year's parade. If anyone else has ideas for the event, please let me know, and I will pass on the information.

The Adopt-A-Highway Clean-up events, organized by Jerry Smith, were held in both the spring and the fall. Taking pride in where we live is important, and we hope to see you at the next spring clean-up.

Though a great deal of work is accomplished during the warmer months, the MCA continues to work during the colder season. Bob Cuttita, Dam Committee Chairperson, meets with engineers and the DEC throughout the year to make sure our dam remains up to code and is safe. Bob recently made arrangements with our engineer to have a diver inspect the dam for safety. Additional information regarding the report is contained in this newsletter.

To sum up, these are some of the things the MCA does:

- Dam maintenance and inspection**
- Water level control for flooding/drought**
- Boat launch maintenance**

- Bimonthly monitoring of lake waters (CSLAP Program)**
- Secure permits for weed harvesting**
- Insurance for the lake, dam, launch, and volunteers**
- Provide and set weed mats for shoreline control**
- Participate in the Adopt-A-Highway Program**
- Sponsor the 4th of July Boat Parade and Take Back Our Lake Day and much more.**

I want to thank all of you for your continued support as members of the Mariaville Civic Association. If you are not a member yet, please consider joining, as this is your lake, too. We are a small association, and every member counts! We can't do it without you! Please note: If you would like to make a donation to the MCA, it is tax deductible.

Please feel free to contact me at 864-5240 with any ideas or concerns on how to better serve our community.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season!
Sue Weakley



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5 Things you can do to improve your lakes health

SHORELINE BUFFER— The land that abuts your lake represents the final watershed filter. Maintaining natural vegetation along the shore serves as a Natural biological, chemical and physical buffer.
SHORELINE BUMP— Consider leaving the shoreline

bump caused by ice push. This bump will keep watershed runoff from running into the lake and pollutants can soak into the ground instead.
UNPAVED AREAS—Are you thinking about paving your driveway? Instead explore other options that minimize impervious surfaces and allow rainwater to penetrate the

ground. **NATURAL YARDS**— Consider leaving the fertilizer off the yard. This will keep fertilizer from running into the lake.
JOIN UP— Maybe its time to join your local lake association. You can voice your concerns about runoff and other issues and meet some good neighbors.

In this issue:

President's Corner	1
Lake Improvement Ideas	1
Sewer District News	2
A word from Rene	4
Cookbook Request	4
MCA Dam Update	5
Rodger Tidbal	6
Lake Management	7

Important Dates 2014

Board of Director Meetings
**March 11th , April 8th,
May 13th , June 10th,
Sept 9th, October 14th**

Annual Membership Meeting
July 11th

Spring Clean-up
May 17 and Sept 13

**LAKE PARADE
July 4th**

Take Back our Lake Day weed pull
July 12th

All meetings to be held at the Mariaville Volunteer Fire Department 7:00pm start

MARIAVILLE SEWER DISTRICT NEWS

The Department of Environmental Conservation cited the Town of Duanesburg for exceeding maximum permitted inflow rates in Sewer District #1 (Delanson) during storm events. In response to this citation, the Town is currently conducting an investigation checking basements for illegal connections of Sump Pumps, drains, water softeners, etc. into the Municipal Wastewater Treatment network. My understanding is Sewer District #2 Mariaville would be the next district to be checked probably in the Spring when weather permits. In addition to illegal connections we are also checking cleanout that are located outside the building for damage that may allow water to enter the Sewer System. **Dale Warner**

In addition to the upcoming inspections it should be noted please be careful of flushable items such as female products, baby wipes, and items that claim to be sewer safe. Pumps are being clogged with these items and it is notices that this usually occurs when family and friends visit our homes. (family parties) The grinder pumps are not equipped to grind these types of items. For those of us on gravity feeds your waste goes to a pump station and the items mentioned above eventually make it to a grinder pump.



Mariaville Tornado Damage 2013

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These items not only create our sewer maintenance people to have to pull the pumps to remove the items that can get stuck they also have to replace the pumps that burn out. When this happens we all pay for it through our sewer taxes. If pumps burn out the tax on the district go up.

Please be ware of sewer safe items and let your family and friends know to flush only toilet paper and NOTHING ELSE. This will not only help our sewer maintenance personnel but it will keep our costs manageable.

Thank you for your cooperation—Town Sewer Committee

Gene Bannon
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A Good Bye Word from our Town Supervisor

Rene Merrihew

I have written, scrapped and rewritten this article a dozen times this week. It is a difficult one for me to write as I sit here with just 24 days left to one of the most unique experiences anyone could have. Usually I can just sit down and recap the previous year or give consideration to the issues yet to be addressed, but realizing I won't be around to face those issues is unnerving to me.

Working with the MCA and all the people in Mariaville has been my privilege. I have always tried to do the right thing for everyone. That was an impossible task and left unaccomplished I know, but I will leave knowing I tried my best.

Of course the biggest accomplishment for Mariaville is the sewer district. Whew!!! That was a long, long, long project. It took an enormous amount of work from all of us at the town and an enormous amount of patience from you. At the end of the day it is done and Mariaville is a better environment for it. Did I mention how long that project took?

I have enjoyed attending the annual Lake Association meetings and will miss them a great deal. Some years I was the windshield, and...well...some years I was the bug but it was always time well spent and I hope you extend the same opportunity to the new Supervisor. I will miss my position more than I can put into words,

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as many of you know; serving the town has been my passion for all these years. I've met so many people and established so many friendships that I would not have been exposed to otherwise. Many times, even through adversity with someone there is a healthy respect and bond that develops in the end.

Please be kind to and remember the importance of one of your fire department. They are a generous group of men and women who are always there for you regardless. My time spent with them has made me richer in more ways than you can imagine.

I end with a humble thank you. Thank you for letting me serve you and I will miss each and every one of you.

Rene'

MCA Cookbook Request—Another try



*Calling all
recipes*

We are looking to produce and print a hometown cookbook. We would like to gather all of your favorite recipes and put them in one of the following categories: **Appetizer, Soup/Salad, Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner** and of course a **Dessert**. We are going to put all of your favorite recipes together in a cookbook and distribute them as a gift to all MCA members. Then use them as a fundraiser.

We are also looking for your input on a Cookbook Name. With your recipe submission please give us your suggested cookbook name. After all of the entries are submitted we will conduct a blind vote at

one of our board meetings to select the best cookbook name. The winner of the cookbook name contest will receive a special prize. (The prize is yet to be determined)

Please submit your recipe and cookbook name to:

YBcut@aol.com. **Subject line MCA COOKBOOK**

Please submit your recipes by **March 14, 2014**.

Cookbook Name

Recipe:

Submitted by & phone number:

Yvette Cuttita

Mariaville Lake Dam Update

The Mariaville Civic Association (MCA) has been working with our engineer Tom Bates from McDonald Engineering. We have three of the four major engineering studies done on the Mariaville lake Dam. On November 4, 2013 we hired Seaway Dive Services. They are professional divers who work all over to include underwater demo, fabrication and did extensive work on the Crow Point Bridge. They are also involved with new construction and demolition of old dams. This dive was supervised by Tom Bates. They were able to get accurate measurements of the opening of the valve area. While inspecting the valve they discovered sandbags blocking the valve area and a decision was made to not remove the sandbags at this time. According to DEC regulations all dams in NYS need to have an operable valve. Although there is no specific date this valve has to be completed and operational the MCA is working toward getting the valve operational sooner than later. There were no issues found with the bulkhead to the left and the right of the valve and Seaway Dive Services will be developing a detailed report with there findings. Some other issues noted by DEC are concerns involving the slope to the left of the dam and the taper in the bulkhead wall where they meet the guard rails and the water laying in the curve behind the left bulkhead and the road. The road slopes into this area and leaves standing water behind the dam. Again the MCA is working with our engineer and the county to address these issues.



Picture above shows Diver from Seaway Dive Services on the November 4,2013 MCA Dam Dive

All of these issues are being taken care of by your membership and your donations. Taking care of the dam is not cheap. Engineering studies are running in the neighborhood of \$15,000.00, the divers were \$2,100.00, the estimates on the valve repair range from \$6,000.00-\$16,000.00 depending

on what we eventually decide and can afford. This doesn't take into account the standing water issue, the road issue and the slope of the dam to the road issue. The good news is the Dam is in good shape. Another positive thing to mention is the MCA is a volunteer organization and much of the work being done is being done by dedicated neighbors and not costing us anything, just their time and effort. Most of this consists of paperwork, developing and updating reports, attending mandatory meetings and following up on issues noted by DEC, and our engineer as well as operating the dam during weather events.

Please stay involved and we appreciate your continued support and donations.

Bob Cuttita—Dam Safety Coordinator

Any questions give me a call 864-5570





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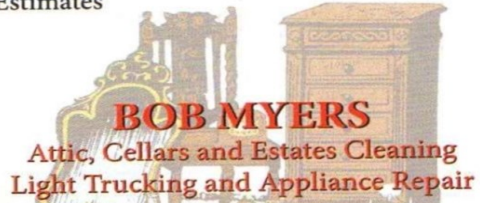
A WORD FROM THE NEW TOWN SUPERVISOR

RODGER TIDBALL

I would first like to say how great it was to see the amount of people who came out to vote in the last election, it was a huge turn out and the community was able express who they wish fill the positions that were open. I will be looking forward to working with the town board members in guiding this town and help maintain its rustic charm while building economic growth and encouraging community involvement. It was a pleasure during the campaign to get out and meet members of this community that I have not met before and to hear the concerns they have for our town. With the help of the community by listening to their inputs and ideas we will be able to make this this town the best place to live and raise a family.

There are several things that will needed to be addressed in the near future and I will devote whatever it takes to resolve these issues and projects that have been set in motion. The new sewer district in the Duaneburg hamlet is a much needed item and will help maintain property values and help bring in future businesses that will add to our tax base and help keep our town tax base low. We will be developing a much needed noise ordinance that will be able to help to keep a peaceful way of life that we all seek. Promoting local businesses and promoting community involvement is something that all the members of

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this town need to do to help build this town and make this town a place you can say you live with pride.

I look forward to serving you as the new Town Supervisor and continuing to be a neighbor and friend in this community.



Mariaville Tornado Summer 2013— Three minutes before the destruction

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Lake Management Information

By Mike Blood

Our July 20th sixth annual community “Take back our Lake” was just as successful as years past. This year we made the event one week later than in the past as we had many residents still recovering from the tornado that damaged many homes on the south side of the lake. We had seven boat teams participate this year for the West Basin representing a total of about 40 people. As last year there was no pontoon boat available for east basin to work for the July 20th event, but a boat team from the West basin volunteered to transport their boat the East basin and harvested weeds on August 3rd. Thanks to all who participated and a special thanks to “Team Cuttita” who volunteered their boat and labor to assist the East basin. Every year around Labor Day I survey the Eurasian Water Milfoil weed beds as the flowers are coming to the surface at that time, which makes it easier to tell what affect our efforts

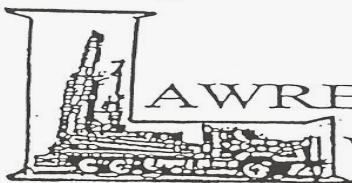


have made. This is the first year that I have seen an apparent and significant, reduction in weed bed density. I am hopeful this trend continues and that native weeds might return to these beds and help “crowd out” the Milfoil. Assistance from “Mother Nature” aside, this hand harvesting method continues to be an annual maintenance practice that will have to continue until our community is able to afford a more effective alternative. We will be contacting the DEC this winter to see if we can obtain a permit to introduce Sterile Grass Carp into the lake as an additional measure to reduce lake weeds. While some lakes have reported varying degrees of success, the States restrictions of the use of this biological control are formidable, and we may not have the able to obtain this permit, but every effort will be made to secure one.

Mike Blood—MCA Lake Manger



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THIS IS YOUR COMMUNITY, YOUR LAKE, AND YOUR HOME, MAKE A DIFFERENCE
get involved and join the MCA today

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