



## *Presidents Corner*

*by Tom Collins*

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**Special points of interest:**

- MCA General Meeting July 7, 2017– Firehouse
- Pancake Breakfast June
- Looking for community input
- 4th of July Boat Parade

Dear Residents:

Well the wet weather we had this spring is finally becoming only a memory, and it seems activity on the lake is beginning to increase as everyone starts to enjoy the onset of good weather.

Controlling the lake level in times like we saw this spring can be challenging. It takes a lot of time and effort on the part of our volunteers to keep the lake level be balanced. Oversight and management of the dam is by far the largest expense we face as an Association. We have to adhere to strict State regulations that are very costly. This year, the job of regulating the lake was a little easier because of the new value that we had to have installed at a cost of around \$26,000.00. However, without that kind of investment, made possible mostly through membership dues, we could face the real threat that the State could force the drainage of the lake to protect downstream homes and properties.

Another major investment the Association has been working to try and make a reality is the purchase of a weed harvester to help clean the lake and provide better recreational opportunities. We have started a dedicated fund to move the project along, and have had discussions with members of the Duane Lake Association about possibly joining the effort as co-owners of a harvester. The cost is projected to be somewhere around \$65,000-\$70,000 but it would significantly improve the lake. When weed growth goes unchecked, and gets out of control you face the problem of algae blooms that can become toxic and prevent use of the lake. We have seen some small blooms in past years.

In closing, I want to thank those who already do so much for the Association with their efforts and contributions, and I encourage anyone to contact a member and find out more about the benefits and activities the MCA conducts.

Tom

**MCA APPROVES HUGE FUNDRAISING EFFORTS FOR A  
WEED HARVESTER**

As you have seen by the Presidents Corner and the Lake Management report, Mariaville Lake is in desperate need of a weed harvester. The weeds not only cause a problem with recreational use of the lake but the continued growth, dying and decay of the weeds is adding nurturance to the lake causing larger and more aggressive algae blooms. Efforts by the members and the volunteers to pull weeds, place

weed mats and get them out of the lake although a great community event is just not enough. The MCA board has researched many options to include; costly and harmful chemicals, weed eating carp, hand harvesting, weed matts, and the list goes on and on. At this point we have two viable options, first is to lower the lake in the fall. This comes with risks. The first concern is to the aquatic life. Lower the water to

much and we could have a fish kill, lower it to little and nothing happens. Then there's the issue of what happens if we have no snow and little rain in the spring? Do we loose a swimming / boating season? The Second option is to purchase a Weed Harvester. This is the BEST option. The harvester we are looking to purchase pulls the weeds out by the roots and delivers them to the shore to

be removed. Thanks to a few members that have gone above and beyond with tax deductible donations the MCA Board has a separate account for the purchase of a Weed Harvester. We currently have approximately \$15,000.00 set aside for specifically this purpose.  
We need your help Please Donate for a Weed Harvester. All donations are Tax Deductible.  
Send Checks payable to MCA c/o Nicolette Cuttita. Memo section Weed Harvester. 794 South Shore Road, Delanson, NY 12053

**Fourth Of July  
Boat Parade**

The annual 4th of July boat parade will be on July 2, 2017 All boats including all kinds are welcome, the decorating categories this year are, the **Funniest, Most unusual, most patriotic, along with a children's decorated boat.**

**Cans, Cans Everywhere**

The MCA bottle drive has been a complete success and we will continue this fundraiser. Every 1st Saturday of the month look for the sign on the end of South Shore Road reminding you of the pickup.  
  
Thank you all for your continued support.

**Important Date to Remember**

- June 28th 8:00pm- Friends on the lake
- June 24, 25 Mariaville Volunteer Fire Department Pancake Breakfast
- July 2nd 11:00 am—Boat Parade
- July 7th 7:00 pm Mariaville Fire Department—MCA Membership Meeting
- July 8th 8:00am—Take Back Our Lake Day Weed Pull—Followed by meet your neighbors at the B&B  
12:00 Noon
- September 16, Spring Clean up 9: am at the boat launch

# Mariaville Volunteer Fire Department -Chief's Corner

By Eric Horn

## From the Chief's corner

Well we all made it through another wet winter, a very, very wet spring, and remember the last killer snow storm we had late in the snow season? well due to the bad weather many house numbers have gone missing, people lost mail boxes with numbers on them,

Now that the weather has broken please take the time to get your numbers back up and visible. If on

your mail box please put the number on both sides as you can never know what direction we will be coming from while responding.

With Mariaville road now going to be repaved from Maple Ski Ridge to route 30 this should help response time for all emergency vehicles and I know this will be a welcomed improvement for the area, for all who drive and walk it.

If you would like to know what is going on in your fire community I can be found at the Fire House just about every Thursday night, Please feel free to drop in and say hi and express any concerns you may have or just say HI!!

**Eric Horn**  
Fire Chief

Mariaville Fire Department

# Lake Laws

In order to keep everyone safe the MCA Board wanted to remind everyone of the laws of Mariaville Lake. All NYS boating laws are enforceable on Mariaville lake ALSO as a courtesy boaters should travel counter clockwise on the lake when there is more than one boat on the lake at a time.

## Ordinance Regulating the Operation of Motor Boats upon Mariaville

- 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 12:00 noon and 8:00 pm when such vessel may be operated at any reasonable and safe speeds.
- No vessel shall be operated within one hundred(100') feet of the shore at a speed in excess of five (5) miles per hour.

These laws are enforced by the Schenectady County Sheriffs Department and the NYS Police



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# Lake Management Report

## Lake Management Report

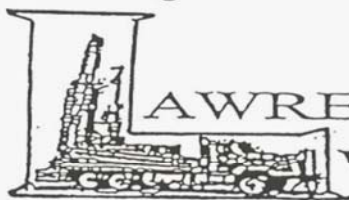
In early March I was going to offer my opinion that we would be seeing a repeat performance of last year with one of our two invasive weeds: Curly Leaf Pond Weed getting an early and unusually aggressive hold on our lake. This year however with the mid- March storms, the ice cover of the lake has persisted longer than it had last year, so we may not have to deal with weeds so early in the spring as last year. However if we do, please remember, if you want to deal with the weeds, as we do every July, with our community “weed pull”, call me three days in advance of your work, so I can inform DEC ,to comply with the terms of our permit. I found it interesting to note that our most dreaded invasive: Eurasian Water Milfoil, did not grow to the surface or show its flower spike as it usually does. Perhaps the increased competition for sunlight from the Curly Leaf Pond Weed and the high algae levels last year were a factor inhibiting its growth. I think one thing we can count on going forward, is that we will surely see increased algae levels and even Harmful Algae Blooms (HAB)

every year in late summer. This I think is due mostly to our inability to remove any significant amount of weeds from the lake and its decomposition provides a huge source of nutrients for algae to grow. The MCA has for some time now been reaching out to the community to let you know how desperately we need to purchase the Eco Harvester, [www.ecoharvester.net](http://www.ecoharvester.net). It still remains beyond our financial means.

Failing the acquisition of this unique machine, I think we need to consider the only other practice that is within our means, and that is doing a “drain- down” of the lake at the end of the lake’s useable season, which may coincide with the lake becoming unusable due to HAB. Drawing down a lake so that the water recedes 10 to 15 from the shoreline results in the freezing of lake weed roots and they are killed. I know this idea seems drastic and is still only a partial solution for the entire lake, but we need to consider all options available to us.

By Mike Blood– Chairman

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## Where Do Your Due's go?

Thank you to all our members who have donated their time and money to keep our beautiful lake and community 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, town officials etc, MCA coordinates the adopt the highway program by cleaning the roads and as well as planning and carrying out community activities for all to benefit in our community. 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. If you don't have the time to volunteer then send in a tax deductible donation.

Vivian Ferraro, Membership Coordinator



Picture by Suzanne Collins



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# Mariaville Civic Association - Around Town

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Phone: 518-864-5570  
E-mail: ybcut@aol.com

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Seek out our Facebook page  
[Mariavillecivicassociation.com](http://Mariavillecivicassociation.com)

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*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.”*

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**Fourth of July Boat Parade**

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