

MCA News

Message from your President

Dear Members of the Mariaville Civic Association and fellow community members.

I hope this newsletter finds you well and filled with the spirit of the season, as we embrace the promising beauty of spring. I am honored to address and serve you as your president of the MCA. It is with great pride and excitement that I share some updates and reflections with you.

First, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to each member of the community. Your dedication, support and engagement are the cornerstones of our association’s success. Together, we have cultivated a vibrant and thriving neighborhood that we can all take pride in.

Spring brings a sense of renewal and possibility, and I am excited to announce several initiatives and events that reflect our shared commitment to our community for building and growth.

I encourage you to review our Social Committee’s activities section. These activities could not have happened without the members of the social committee under the guidance, organizational attributes, support of their Co-Chairs Peter Pelkey and Linda Hayen. Our association is embarking on exciting projects aimed at enhancing the quality of life in the entire Mariaville Community. From lake management work, to our new dedication wall. This project has been a labor of love, designed to honor and celebrate the rich history, diverse stories and cherish memories of our community. **There is no end date with this fundraising initiative, as it will go on forever.**

As we look ahead to the warmer months, I encourage each of you to renew your commitment to your association and your community. Your active participation and involvement make all the difference in creating a welcoming and inclusive neighborhood where everyone feels valued and respected. I strongly encourage you if you have concerns, recommendation, or questions, please contact me directly.

Inclosing, I want to extend my thanks to each and everyone of you. I am continually motivated by the passion and dedication of our association. Together, let us embrace spring, and continue to make our neighborhood a place we are proud to call home.

Save July 12, 2024 @ 6:00 PM at the Mariaville Fire department for our annual meeting. Our engineer for the dam will be sharing the important dam facts.

Sincerely,
Eric J. Unser Sr.
eric.unsersr@aol.com
518 864-5293

Mariaville Civic Association

Supporting Mariaville Lake and the
surrounding community



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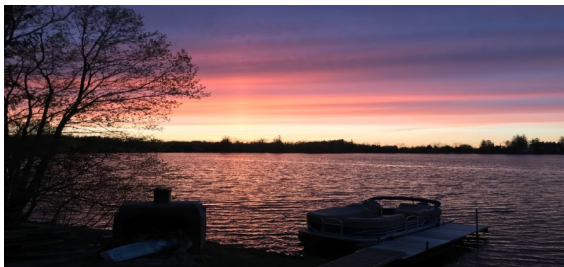
Want to Contribute?

- Submit an article for our next newsletter

Mariaville Dedication Wall

We are thrilled to announce the unveiling of our community's newest addition: **the Dedication Wall**. This project has been a labor of love, designed to honor and celebrate the rich history, diverse stories, and cherished memories of our community members.

The Dedication Wall stands as a testament to our shared experiences, milestones, and the individuals who have shaped our community's journey. It serves as a canvas for preserving and showcasing our collective heritage, achievements, and values for generations to come.



There is no end date for this fundraiser. It will be existence forever. You should have received a brochure by mail in mid-March 2024. To order your brick, visit our website www.bricksrus.com/donorsite/mariavillewall.

As we gather to witness the unveiling of the Dedication Wall, let us reflect on the stories it tells, the memories it preserves, and the legacy it represents. This wall is not just a symbol; it is a living testament to the vibrant tapestry of our community.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who have contributed to the realization

of this project, whether through donations, volunteer work, or sharing of your stories.

We invite each one of you to join us for the official unveiling ceremony of the Dedication Wall. This momentous occasion will be held on May 27, 2024 at 12:00 Noon Memorial Day at the Mariaville Lake Dam. Together, let us celebrate the spirit of unity, resilience, and inclusivity that defines our community.



Dedication Wall committee: Pete Pelkey, Peter Skelly, Chris Shaver, Scott Bukowski, Bob Cuttita, Nikki Cuttita & Eric Unser

A very special Thank you to Phoenix Fence!

From the Recipe File—Terry Weber

Blueberry Pancakes

Looking to the season ahead I am reminded of summers long past. Being able to spend summer at the camp on the lake was amazing. And my fondest memory was waking to the sound of Mom mixing up the batter for Blueberry Pancakes. You could set a timer on how long it took three sleepy-eyed kids to get out of bed and to the kitchen table!

It's not a lot of extra effort or time to make them from scratch with ingredients most likely on hand already. Instead of reaching for a box of mix from the cupboard, grab flour, eggs, milk & vanilla. Perhaps you'll create lasting memories for your family. Or just indulge yourself!

INGREDIENTS:

1 pint blueberries	Milk (have 1 cup on hand)
2 or 3 eggs (depending on size egg)	1 cup Flour
1/2 to 1 tps Vanilla Extract	Oil or butter for fry pan—I use equal parts of each
Cinnamon sugar to garnish (I keep an extra salt shaker with this premixed on hand)	

Like most Mom or Grandma recipes there was no measuring going on here. The Ingredient list is approximate and adjustments encouraged. The eggs determine amount of flour to use. Batter should be thinner than box mix, but not too thin. The batter should drop easily from a spoon. Blueberries are added last and gently folded in. Or drop a handful at a time scooping up with the batter as they go into fry pan.

-Scramble the eggs in batter bowl until frothy.

-Add roughly ¼ to ½ cup milk and vanilla and give it a mix.

-Add half the flour and stir, adding flour a little at a time to get to right consistency. If you add too much flour thin with a little milk. It should drip off spoon, not run.

-Gently fold blueberries into the batter. Be sure the berries aren't too wet.

-Using a ladle or large cooking spoon drop into hot fry pan (seasoned cast iron or non-stick best).

Each cake should be roughly size of your palm. Don't turn too soon, let them get crispy and golden brown around edges – this is when some berries break & caramelize on the bottom (yum), then flip. The second side will take much less time.

NOTE: Sometimes mom would splurge and buy BROWN'S Honey Butter which goes well .

You can use apples, bananas, strawberries, etc., but blueberries are my fave. I hope you enjoy.

Mariaville Lake Dam Update

Bob Cuttita DAM Safety Coordinator

Upcoming Events:

May 18—Community
Wide Garage Sale

May 27—Mariaville Wall
12 noon

June 15—Mariaville Lake
Weed Pull

(Rain Date 6/29)

June 22—Take Out
Chicken BBQ

Can you all believe it? It has been 10 years since our first Engineering Assessment was completed on the MCA Dam. NYSDEC requires owners of Class C dams to submit an Engineering Assessment every ten years. I am happy to announce the MCA has entered into a contract with KB Engineering and Architecture for this assessment to be completed this year. This study will also include a review of the dam’s Inspection & Maintenance Plan and the Emergency Action Plan that is kept up to date every year by your dam committee.


This is a mandated assessment that we have been preparing for since the last one. These assessments are not cheap. The estimated cost for the 2024 assessment is \$22,700.00 and that does not include an underwater diver assessment of the bottom of the dam. If no issues are found, we can start saving for the next assessment in 2034. However, if there are issues discovered it will be the responsibility of the MCA to correct any

“Together, we have cultivated a vibrant and thriving neighborhood that we can all take pride in.”

any concerns. I am hoping that over the past ten years there have been no unseen developments, and we can move forward. I have been completing dam safety inspections every year and documenting concerns as needed.

Many have asked me about the spillway and the pending concrete work. It took the MCA about 10 months to get the permits from the NYSDEC to be able to pour the much-needed concrete on the spillway and old valve stem. Since the winter months it was almost impossible to do the repairs and with summer almost here, we are holding off to complete the repairs until after the summer season when we can lower the lake for such repairs. Please be patient as we are trying to keep everyone happy and still maintain the dam in tip top shape. Unless otherwise mandated by our engineering firm these repairs will be done in late fall of 2024.

SPECIAL NOTE: We will be having our engineering firm at the summer General Meeting being held Friday July 12, 2024, at 6:00pm at the Mariaville Fire house. They will be doing a presentation on the dam and answering any questions you may have. Hope to see you there!



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MCA Social Committee

The Mariaville Civic Association's Social Committee was founded in December of 2020 by Eric Unser and a group of community members that had a vision of building relationships among our community and to help support and maintain our beautiful lake. One way to make this a reality, was by getting neighbors and community members together to hold yearly activities and events in order to raise the necessary funds needed for the lake. This committee is open to all community members that would like to participate and join us for some fun. For example, the following events have been formed on a yearly basis.

Line Dancing lessons in February / March

Community Walk Around the Lake / April

Community Garage Sale / May

Chicken BBQ Fund Raiser (Drive Through) / June

Annual Boat Parade / July

Craft Show, Farmers Market / September

Annual Soup, Chowder and Chili Stroll / October

Annual Fire House Trick or Trunk / October

Annual Community house decorating for Christmas / December

Community Tree lighting / December

The committee welcomes new members and meets once a month on a Wednesday or Thursday evening at 6:30 pm. The committee is open to suggestions and ideas to enhance and grow our platform. If you would like to receive event notices, meeting dates or any inquires, please e-mail us at: mariavillesocial@gmail.com attention Pete Pelkey or Linda Hayen.

Thank You

Pete Pelkey, Chair

Linda Hayen, Co-Chair



Sprinkles and Sparkles Bakery

A home bakery specializing in cookies, cakes, cupcakes and more! Custom orders welcome!

Located right here in the Mariaville Lake community.

Owner/Baker:
Heather Preissler
518-379-8018

hgopreissler@yahoo.com

Find me on Facebook/Instagram@
Sprinkles and Sparkles Bakery
2052 Weast Rd.
Pattersonville, NY 12137



Mariaville Social Committee

UPCOMING
events

2024

FEB. 28	LINE Dancing Line dancing lessons with Tony Riccio. \$50.00 for 4 weeks. To be held at the Mariaville Fire Department.	JULY 6	ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY BOAT PARADE
MARCH 3, 10, 18	LINE Dancing Line dancing lessons with Tony Riccio. \$50.00 for 4 weeks. To be held at the Mariaville Fire Department.	SEPT. 7	CRAFT FAIR & FARMERS MARKET
APRIL 20	COMMUNITY WALK Starting at the Mariaville Country store parking lot at 10:00am	OCT. 19	SOUP STROLL 4th annual soup, chili and chowder stroll. Stroll will take place from 12-4pm on Lake Ave and S. Shore Rd.
MAY 18	COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE	DEC. 1-14	HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST
JUNE 22	Drive thru Chicken BBQ. 12 noon till sold out \$15.00	DEC. 14	COMMUNITY TREE LIGHTING

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Membership News Linda Hayen Membership Coordinator

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2024-mca-membership-registration-862060114007?aff=oddtcreator>

Hello Mariaville Community Members

I hope everyone has been enjoying the warmer weather. It is so nice to see the sun shining and more and more people out and about and enjoying our community.

The 2024 Membership application went out in March. Thank you so much for those of you who have already joined. Your membership is so important to the community.

The Civic Association serves all of the Mariaville Community. Your membership dues provide the many social activities the social committee arrange, Scholarships for High School seniors, and most importantly the maintenance of the Mariaville Dam.

I often hear what does the Civic Association Do, so I am including a brief flyer.

I do hope that you will continue to support the MCA. If you need an application, you can find it on mariavillecivic.com or

please email:

mcamberhip2022@gmail.com Want to use a credit card? Follow the EventBrite link above

What exactly is the Mariaville Civic Association?

DID YOU KNOW:

- That the Mariaville Civic Association is the owner of the dam
- That the MCA is solely responsible for all costs associated with repairs of the dam and all NYS mandated inspections and certifications and receives no NYS funding or grants
- In 2024 the 10 year dam recertification must be done at a substantial cost to the MCA. If the MCA does not follow these stringent and costly regulations the DEC has threatened to drain the lake.
- That mandatory liability insurance coverage is also an ever increasing MCA expense
- That there are approximately 250 properties on the lake, with a view of the lake, or with deeded access and more than 75% of these property owners have NOT financially supported the MCA in 2023 and prior

IMAGINE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN WITHOUT THE MCA:

- A wonderful recreational resource would be gone
- We'd have a swamp instead of a lake
- Property values would plummet
- The MCA is run by volunteers. ALL proceeds from membership fees and MCA sponsored events go exclusively to maintaining and improving the Mariaville Community

**NOW you know some of what the MCA does for you!
Please consider joining and volunteering. I have.**

**Our Annual meeting is in July and check the website for other board meetings.
They are held at the Mariaville FD and is open to the public**

All Meeting minutes and community news at :mariavillecivic.com

Mariaville Lake Management

Dear Members of the Mariaville Lake Community,
As residents of our beautiful lakeside community, we are privileged to live near one of our most precious treasures – Mariaville lake. However, as our community continues to grow and develop, it's essential for us to recognize and address the potential effects of this growth on the delicate balance of our lake ecology.

Over the years, this community has witnessed the transformative impact of year-round homes and development on our surroundings. While progress brings many benefits, it also poses challenges, particularly when it comes to preserving the health and integrity of our lake ecosystem.

One of the primary concerns associated with growth is the degradation of water quality. Increased year round living often leads to higher levels of pollutants entering our lake, including sediment, nutrients, and chemicals from stormwater runoff, fertilizers, and wastewater. These pollutants can disrupt the natural balance of the lake, leading to algal blooms, decreased oxygen levels, and harm to aquatic life.

Furthermore, the loss of natural shoreline habitat due to over development can have far-reaching consequences for the ecological health of our lake. Shoreline vegetation plays a crucial role in stabilizing sediment, filtering pollutants, and providing habitat for fish, birds, and other wildlife. As we continue to develop our waterfront properties, it's imperative that we prioritize the preservation and restoration of these vital habitats.

As stewards of our lake and surrounding environment, we have a collective responsibility to ensure its long-term health and vitality for future generations. By working together as a community, we can implement sustainable land use practices, invest in green infrastructure, and promote environmental education and stewardship initiatives.

I urge each of you to consider the role you can play in protecting our lake ecology. Whether it's reducing your use of fertilizers and pesticides, volunteering for shoreline clean-up efforts, or advocating for environmentally friendly development policies, every action counts. Together, let's strive to strike a balance between growth and conservation, ensuring that our lake remains a thriving ecosystem and cherished natural resource for years to come.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue, and I look forward to working together to safeguard the future of our lake community.

Lake Management Committee



HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP

Here's a quick list of things you can do to help protect Mariaville Lake.

- If you are using lawn fertilizer, please ensure it contains no phosphorus and has low nitrogen.
- Pet waste and "compost" substances can also affect water quality. Please bag and properly dispose of it in the trash.
- Create awareness with your friends and neighbors, and make sure everyone knows the impact and how simple it is to fix.



The NYS Fertilizer Law
New York State passed a fertilizer restriction law 10 years ago. Scan the QR code below to view it.



Shoreline Buffer Strips
Check out this link for those of you who have a shoreline and want to landscape it in an environmentally friendly way.



Answer

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1	5	8	3	7	9	2	6	4
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Did you know that we have a website? Visit mariavillecivic.com to catch up on the latest news, events and meetings

Tony's Tileworks

Anthony J. Casso, Jr.

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Delanson, NY 12053
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By A.J. Construction Company

CERAMIC GRANITE

RETURNING SNOWBIRDS

By Lynne Latella

A few at a time, human snowbirds are now returning from their warmer winter retreats. While we counted the days until spring, they were frolicking far away from snow shovels and layers of clothing. And so were the feathered variety of snow birds that annually return to the Mariaville Lake area. As in the past, a small band of Canada geese flew in announcing their arrival with a fanfare of honks. Closely following them were clusters of quacking Mallards. Although they generally retreat to the woods rather than migrate, robins are now hopping through the grass in search of unsuspecting worms. Gradually orioles, a variety of warblers, rose breasted grosbeak, northern flickers and others settle in to their summer homes while hummingbirds zip around as if late for an appointment.

One of the most elegant of these snowbirds is the Great Blue Heron. They can be seen around Mariaville Lake all summer and fall. Each year, a heron chooses Mud Pond as one of his favorite hunting grounds. He perches completely still on a dead limb overhanging the pond or slowly skulks through the water or along the shoreline into the coves and thick vegetation. This year, I saw two of them searching for breakfast on separate branches several feet apart. Although solitary hunters, they temporarily hooked up for mating. Normally, the only time they are in a group is when they perch in trees to sleep. When I was in California, I saw a spectacular scene in a huge tree at the water's edge. It was completely overcrowded with herons thickly perched on branches like ornaments on a Christmas tree.

Great Blue Herons are the largest wading birds, and growing to about 4 ½ feet, they are one of the tallest birds in North America. They weigh about 5-6 pounds and have a wing span of 6 feet. It takes about two months before the young can fly. Those mighty wings allow them to cruise at speeds between 20 and 30 miles per hour. Watching them soar across the water and gracefully land is a breathtaking sight. They are meticulous about their grooming. Chest feathers continually grow and fray into a cleaning powder which they use to remove fish residue and comb their feathers with a special fringed claw.

Standing like statues, these mighty birds are patient and deliberate hunters. They eat not only fish but also amphibians, reptiles, small mammals and insects. When they spot a fish, they are decisive about striking with their over 5 inch long beak. Their vertebrae are constructed to allow the head and neck to launch forward to catch prey in a rapid bill stab. Once they impale a fish, they shake it to break or relax the sharp spine. They then consume the fish head first so it slides down the esophagus smoothly. It's interesting to see the procedure first hand. Recently I watched a heron catch a fish, spit it out, stab it numerous times while taking sips of water, then down the hatch! Without an after dinner drink, he returned to the water to continue fishing.



When herons issue a prehistoric squawk, it's a reminder that their genus dates back to 14 million years ago, with the oldest fossils found to be from 1.8 million years ago. We in this lake community are lucky to be witness to these remarkable fishers, along with a variety of other colorful, beautiful and musical snowbirds.



ATTENTION!

This could be your ad!!

Contact: Mariavillesocial@gmail.com for details

GARDENING TIPS

By Lynne Latella

Whenever possible, I like to use homemade concoctions to repel weeds and various garden pests. They usually include ingredients readily available and are safe, non-toxic and do no harm if leached into the lake. Although they may not work in every instance, in most cases I have found them to be helpful.

WEED KILLER

Before resorting to chemicals, mix up one of these recipes and use in a sprayer. Sun activates the mixture so be sure to use it on a hot day when the weeds are dry and there is no chance of rain. For lasting results, the solution should be applied periodically. Although these mixtures don't kill every type of weed, they work on most.

1

1 gallon of white vinegar
1 cup salt
1 Tbs Dawn

2

1 gallon of white vinegar
2 cups of Epsom salts
1/4 cup of Dawn

MOSQUITO RELIEF

At the beginning of the season and in the middle, spray this mixture on the lawn, bushes and other mosquito breeding grounds. More applications might be needed after a hard rain.

1/3 cup stale beer
1/3 cup Epsom salts
1/3 cup mouthwash with alcohol
(1 cup or more of fresh beer for the gardener to consume after performing this task)

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SAVE THE DATE

MCA Annual Meeting

July 12, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

At the

**Mariaville Fire department
Meet and interact with board
members.**

**Our engineer for the dam will be
sharing the
important dam facts.**



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