

# MOUNTAIN VIEW ASSOCIATION

Indian Lake

The Channel

Mountain View Lake

VOLUME 5, NO. 2, SPRING 2014

NEWSLETTER

WWW.MOUNTAINVIEWASSN.COM

## **NEW RAFFLE PRIZE: Mirror Lake Inn Getaway - SEE INSIDE**

Spring Greetings. Regardless where any of us live in the wintertime, we are looking forward to the approach of another season on our lakes. As we left in the fall, the lakes were being drawn down for a repair of the dam. See Martha's report below and Jerry's article inside about water quality and weed control.

The sad news that must be reported at this point is the loss of several members of our Association since we were last at the lakes. We have lost Bob Darrow, Joe Ivanenok, Dorothy Booth, and Jack Byrnes. All had been lake residents for many years; they have all contributed greatly to our lakes and to our Association. Some have been Association Board members, and one was a past president. Each one of them contributed to the lakes and its residents by working for the health of the lakes and by leading various social functions. While they are no longer with us, they still are contributing to the lakes via others' donations to the Legacy Fund or Weed Control Fund in their memory.

In support of the diving and weed removal, we continue to need your support of our Association's various fund raising activities. This summer we will have our Garage Sale on July 19th; Marshall Fleury has more information on this event inside. We kick off the season with a July 4th Boat Parade as we have the last few years. Jerry Hickey provides details inside and introduces the barbeque chicken dinner to be held at 3:00 p.m. at the Trailside. The following evening, 7:00 p.m. on July 5th, we will have our general membership meeting at the Mountain View Church. The next event of the summer will be the Annual Potluck Supper at 4H Camp Overlook on Saturday, August 9th; a combined Board / Membership meeting will be held that morning at 10:00 a.m. at the Owls Head / Mt. View Fire Department. The well-received Community Event will return on Sunday, August 10th. Look inside for further word on these events.

As always we ask you to support the Owls Head Post Office. Also remember to support the Owls Head / Mt. View Fire Department, 4-H Camp Overlook and the Town of Belmont Food Pantry. It is always important to support local businesses and organizations. The Association's annual support of the 4-H Camp is designated for deserving Owls Head children, and we also support both churches in Mt. View and Owls Head.

See you soon - Tom Harrison, President



President Tom Harrison

## **DAM DRAWDOWN / DREDGING FEASIBILITY / BROADBAND**

*Martha Dishman*

Last fall the dam was drawn down from October until the end of November for inspection and repair. The Town of Belmont's contractors were able to take corrective action but the water levels did not stay low long enough to complete all of the work. John Carr, the engineer, found a leak on the south side of the gatehouse between the gatehouse and the dam. The plan is to contract with a crew from Watertown for underwater work to fix the leak this summer. The good news about the drawdown is that the many days of frost may have destroyed many of the weeds as it did during the last drawdown.

Our work with the Town of Belmont on the feasibility of dredging our lakes continues. Last year Chastity Miller submitted a grant to NYS on behalf of the Town; unfortunately the grant was not successful, despite Chastity's excellent work. On November 20, 2013, Bruce Russell, Liz Moran, Ecologic consultant, Jerry Hickey, Chastity Miller and I met with representatives of the APA and DEC to discuss the permit and approvals process of dredging the lakes. It was a very productive meeting, making everyone aware of our research and interest, and in turn getting the regulatory agencies' feedback and direction. APA representatives followed up with a visit to our lakes while they were still drawn down.

In a conference call meeting with Liz Moran of Ecologic, the next steps for dredging feasibility planning were outlined and a proposal was developed for the Town's consideration. There are two areas of the work plan being considered for this summer. First, collecting and analyzing core samples: this will be done with special equipment using a barge. The core samples will be taken from areas based on feedback from Association members at our meeting last summer as well as data provided by Chastity and from a video taken by Bruce Burditt from his plane during the drawdown. (Thanks Bruce B.) The core samples will be taken in mucky and firm sediment areas. Liz will be looking for particle size in the sediment materials: this will determine its use/value as well as phosphorus content, a request from the DEC. So if you see a barge this summer please wave and think progress. The second part of the research will be a study to identify the sources of the sediment coming into the lakes to determine where the sediment is originating. Here again researchers may be visiting you - please help them if you can.

On the Broadband front, \$6 million was designated to our region but not allocated to any projects as of this Newsletter. Thank you to everyone who wrote in support of this necessary initiative.

## LEGACY FUND

As of January 2014 the Legacy Fund contains a total in cash and pledges of \$284,246.

The Mountain View Association's priorities for the uses of the Legacy Fund are as follows: removal of invasive species of weeds in the lakes and Channel; maintenance and supervision of the boat launch, kiosk, public picnic area; community outreach and activities; expenses associated with the activities of the Mountain View Association. No more than 5% of the total cash value of MVA Legacy Fund may be expended on an annual basis. The Legacy Fund shall not be used for the repair of the dam or dredging of the lakes or channel.

Campers and supporters of our lakes are urged to continue supporting the Legacy Fund by:

|                     |                             |                        |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Direct contribution | Gifts of appreciated public | Gifts in kind          |
| Wills and trusts    | traded securities           | Retirement plan gifts  |
| Named Gifts         |                             | Taxable property gifts |

Gifts to the Legacy Fund are tax deductible as the Mountain View Association is a 501(c)(3) organization. Your contribution will increase the Legacy Fund and help preserve our lakes for future generations.

## WATER QUALITY AND WEED CONTROL FUND – LEGACY FUND – 2013 DONORS

*Thank you to all contributors. Those donating to multiple funds are indicated with an asterisk (\*).*

|                                  |                                    |                                 |  |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
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Editors: John Dalphin, Editor-in-Chief; William Dalphin; Martha Dishman; Connie Burton;  
Tom Harrison; John Jungbluth

Mailing: Burt Emory



## Special Thank You Offer with \$150 plus Donation to the Weed Fund

This year we would like to thank you for your support with a limited edition mug featuring an award winning painting by artist, Mary Ellen Harrison. The beautiful painting of the lake on an 11 oz. white ceramic mug is a wonderful keepsake and is yours with a \$150 or more donation to the Water Quality and Weed Control Fund through August of this year. You may pick up your mug at either of the two Association meetings or the Pot Luck Supper. Please help us increase our Weed Fund and support the important diving work to be done.

### **WATER QUALITY AND WEED CONTROL - 2014**

*Jerry Hickey*

With winter at long last waning, our thoughts and anticipation turn toward this coming summer and enjoyment of our beautiful yet fragile lakes. Protecting, maintaining and improving the quality of these valued resources is of the highest importance to our Association as it is to all of us who enjoy them. We have extensive plans for this summer; the highlights, including ways you can help, are below.

As in past years, we have a multi-pronged approach toward controlling invasive weeds (Eurasian milfoil) in the lakes. First, we'll make the best use of volunteers (that could include you) to locate and report milfoil plant beds for possible harvesting. The most critical area for action is Indian Lake, keeping it as free of milfoil as possible in order to maintain the strong success found there. The second priority areas are those through which boats travel, in order to minimize milfoil fragmentation; these include the boating lanes in Mountain View Lake and the boating lane through The Channel. The next priority areas include those in Mountain View Lake and The Channel that are out of the boating lanes but from which milfoil fragments can move toward the other priority areas.

Again, we'll employ divers from Aquatic Invasive Management to harvest milfoil in the most critical areas. This is the most expensive operation we undertake regularly. To lower costs for this year, we will reduce the number of divers used. Two divers will be on the lakes for a week in July, four in August. Reducing from eight divers in 2013 will bring the cost to the Association down to about \$23,000, a savings of almost \$7,000. We hope this reduction won't cause us to lose ground in the ongoing battle.

The need for volunteers this summer won't be known until our July 5th meeting. Extreme temperatures this winter combined with the November drawdown may slow the initial growth of milfoil. We can plan, however, on a two hour 'volunteer channel push' on July 26th starting at 10:00 a.m. We'll pull whatever milfoil we can find from The Channel boating lane and from the small side bays. This should reduce the potential spread of weed fragments. We'll follow with a hot dog lunch on the Island.

As you boat in the lakes, be sure to avoid heavy weed infestations in order to minimize fragmentation by propellers. A reminder too, that there is a speed limit of 5 MPH for all watercraft in The Channel, as well as within 200 feet of lake shorelines. This limit is in effect for safety reasons and to prevent shoreline damage and erosion.

And if we do seem to move at a snail's pace, we continue to learn more about the snails (the dead ones anyway) that have caused a stinky mess along the Indian Lake shoreline. Folks from the DEC are expected to come for a visit in July to positively identify the snails, to let us know whether they're invasive or native, and to explain how we might control them.

Another reminder is to not fertilize near the lakes – and be sure you have a healthy shoreline plant buffer to control water runoff. For plant suggestions you can call me at 483-5362 or Chastity Miller at Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation at 483-4061.

We ask everyone who lives on, has a camp on, or enjoys our lakes for recreational purposes, to join in our efforts. Please join the Mountain View Association as a member. Also you can become an active contributor of your time, and you can donate financially to help us. We all share in the joy provided by these lakes. In turn, we all need to share in the responsibility for protecting them.

Call me at 483-5362 anytime during the summer months if you have any questions or suggestions.

We are pleased to announce that the Association has a new website – [www.mountainviewassn.com](http://www.mountainviewassn.com). It is the Board's sincere hope that this website will provide our members with up-to-date information on the work of the Association. The website is a place where you can learn about the Association's efforts to maintain and preserve our lakes – see the section on water quality and weed control. The website is also a place where we chronicle and celebrate the Association and our members – see highlights of 2013 (July 4th parade, Ride for Our Lakes, Arts and Crafts Festival, Pot Luck Supper, and Community Celebration).

We encourage you to visit the new website. Posted on the site is a variety of interesting information ranging from the history of the Association, to prior Newsletters, to upcoming events for 2014. You can enjoy pictures of our lakes and links to other organizations. The website will be regularly updated as we head into the upcoming summer season.

**MOUNTAIN VIEW ASSOCIATION DIRECTORY - UPDATE** *Connie Burton*

Over the past few years, members of the Association have expressed an interest in having a Membership Directory to make it easier to connect with each other both during the summer and at other times. Over the past year-and-a-half, the Board has reached out to our membership with a plan to put together such a Membership Directory. So far, we have not had a significant response to this request.

We reach out to you again: let's make this the year for the Directory. Such a Directory will strengthen our ties as a community and enable us to stay connected during the summer when many of us are in camp and during the off season. If you would like to be listed in the Directory, and give the Mountain View Association permission to print and distribute your contact information, please send an email to us at [mountainviewassn@gmail.com](mailto:mountainviewassn@gmail.com) and include any of the following information that you would like listed in the Directory:

Name, Location of Camp (e.g., East side of Indian Lake), Camp Name, Camp Address, Camp Telephone Number, Home Address, Home Telephone Number, Email Address; *(If you have more than one email address that you would like listed, please include it.)*

Thank you! We will keep you posted on the progress of this project.

**2013 BY-LAWS REVISION***John Jungbluth*

It was determined in 2011 that a revision of the By-laws of the Mountain View Association was needed; the last revision had been in July 1997. The By-laws required editing to reflect the mission of our organization and to streamline the document. The By-laws needed to be revised to reflect current practices and regulatory requirements. This two-year effort by the By-laws Revision Committee has resulted in a document that supports the current focus of the Mountain View Association.

The following are the more important adjustments to the By-laws that were approved at the August 2013 general membership meeting.

- MOUNTAIN VIEW LAKES FOUNDATION, INC. DBA: "THE MOUNTAIN VIEW ASSOCIATION" The heading for our By-laws is in accordance with our 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit status as a charitable organization.
- ARTICLE I - MISSION, SECTION 1. MISSION. Article I in the original By-laws was titled, "Purposes." We deleted Section 1(b) ("common good and welfare...") and added language consistent with our Articles of Incorporation as a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit charitable organization.
- ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP, SECTION 1. MEMBERSHIP. Added language in this section is more inclusive and supports and recognizes that those, other than lake property owners, have an interest in our lakes.
- ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SECTION 3. TERMS. Directors now are limited to two consecutive four year terms. Terms are staggered so no more than a third will expire each year. This change supports our objective to attract new directors periodically.
- ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SECTION 5. NOTICE OF BOARD MEETINGS. Meeting notice has been standardized to one week except in an emergency. With the advent of electronic communication, one week notice is sufficient.
- ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SECTION 7. PERSONAL ATTENDANCE BY ELECTRONIC CONFERENCE. Conference calls have been a regular occurrence for several years and have been well attended by directors from all over the country.
- ARTICLE V - OFFICERS, SECTION 3. PRESIDENT. The President now has a term limit of two consecutive four year terms. The President's director term is frozen while in office. This change supports our objective to rotate leadership in a periodic manner.
- ARTICLE VII - FINANCES, SECTION 3. FUNDRAISING; ARTICLE IX - COMMITTEES; and ARTICLE X - EMERITUS have been added to the By-laws to support the mission of the Mountain View Association.

We thank the Committee members, Martha Dishman, Mac Evarts, John Jungbluth, Greg Langdon and John Needham for their effort in producing a document that supports the main mission of the Mountain View Association: *"To promote and improve the beauty, navigation, purity and safety of Mountain View Lake and Indian Lake and their connecting waters (the "Channel") in the Town of Belmont, County of Franklin, State of New York."*