Newsletter Date Winter Addition

# MARCEL LAKE ESTATES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

103 LAKE DR., DINGMANS FERRY, PA 18328

# President's Letter

By Frank Carrozza

First, I would like to start off by thanking our community members for voting me into my position as President.

As President, it is my goal to improve Marcel Lakes Estates as a Community. I would like to get more residents actively involved in the daily functions of this great community we live in. Please take a moment to read my agenda on how I plan to serve my term as President.

- It is my goal to improve at least two complete roads each year. Of course, this all depends on our yearly budget.
- 2. I will be looking into getting security back into our community. We currently have a person Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the guardhouse from 6:30pm-11:30pm. This schedule may change due to depleting security payroll. Should you have any issues pertaining to security, please contact the guardhouse @570-828-7986 during those hours or call the office.
- 3. Directors will be working with PA American Water to have our sewer system upgraded so that the moratorium can be lifted for vacant lot owners. Having this system upgraded will only benefit our community's revenue. Once the moratorium is lifted by the Township, land owners will build and our revenue will increase, making it possible to proceed with upgrading our facilities and roads. Unfortunately, our community suffers with the moratorium, land owners are walking away from their property. This is a priority for me as the President.

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- 4. It is also a goal for me to bring the community together in social activities. We receive a lot of complaints with little offer of help. We have positions on the Board that we cannot fill. It is hard for me to believe in a community of approximately 375 homes, we cannot find a total of 9 Directors. I understand that people are busy with their personal lives, but I do believe if we had more help from our residents we could come up with better ideas on how to benefit our community as a whole. We need more people involved in recreation for our youth. It is all about raising our youth in a great environment and it has to start within our community. If you are interested in helping, please contact our office during business hours @570-828-8244.
- 5. We changed the monthly meeting to bimonthly and switched the meeting day to the third Friday of the month. We were hoping that this change would increase our attendance at our meetings, yet we still get the same 5–7 attendees. This switch was to make sure the weekend homeowners get a chance to have their input, but the attendance numbers have stayed the same. Before you complain, please ask yourself "have you volunteered"? Thank you

Frank Carrozza

# Plans to better our Community

By Carl Williams

As Maintenance Director, I have stepped into a very large task. As most of you know the roads and landscape of this community has declined over the past years. It is my goal and the goal of the Board of Directors to turn that around. As the saying goes "Rome wasn't built in a day". I believe in the past year alone we have seen a vast improvement in the work being done. We have hired competent and reliable workers to get the job done.

Although, it has not been a smooth ride with the tremendous snow last year, aging equipment, and a budget that doesn't allow for much; we are working together to get things done. We do have some concerns with our community members who think throwing garbage around the community is fun; it takes a lot of time away from our daily work schedule to clean it up. The amount of garbage we pick up on a weekly basis is ridiculous and we should take some pride in keeping things nice. This is your community, if you see anyone littering, please call the office and report it.

We have had a lot of compliments about the improvements of this community and we appreciate that. It will certainly be a long road to get back into shape but we will not stop, as long as I am Maintenance Director, until we get there.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank our past President, Terry Sauvie and our current President, Frank Carrozza for the never ending help they have provided to the community and maintenance department. With that being said, we are looking forward to making Marcel Lake Estates a pleasant place to live.

Any help from our community members is greatly appreciated. We are doing the best job we can with the tools and materials we are afforded and will continue to keep doing that for the better of the community. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the office and I will address them as best as I can.

Carl Williams
Director of Maintenance

#### Note About Snow Removal

On the subject of snow removal, it seems that some people think that we are putting snow and stone into your driveways and yards on purpose. Unfortunately, snow and stone ending up in your yards and driveways cannot be avoided. We have to clear the roads and open them up as wide as possible for future snow storms. The maintenance department is <u>not</u> responsible for cleaning up rocks or clearing your driveway entrance. If you lived on a township or state road they would say the same thing. Also, people blowing or plowing snow out of driveways onto the roads will be subject to a fine. We would appreciate your help and understanding in this matter. I believe our maintenance employees do a tremendous job with clearing the roads.

When you see our Maintenance Department working on the roads, please proceed with caution and slow down!

# Marcel's Building and Structures

#### By Michael Kabbeko

At this point, because of our budget, we are in maintenance mode. We are currently weather stripping, caulking and installing, sweeps to the maintenance building and clubhouse. Doors were also repaired and adjusted, in hopes of lowering energy cost.

In the spring, a private contractor will be installing vinyl siding to the office building. The office building exterior is in dire need of maintenance. The building shingles are rotted and some windows are falling out. By siding and repairing windows, this will help save on heating cost.



We will be looking for volunteers for various upcoming projects to better our community. Any help that can be given will be greatly appreciated.

Our Board of Directors are all volunteers, they put a lot of time and work to better this community, it would be nice to have more than 5-7 people doing their share. This is for the benefit for all members within Marcel.

Marcel Lake Estates common areas are on surveillance cameras, any building damage or violations will be subjected to a fine and possible police involvement. Thank you for keeping Marcel Lakes Estates a safe place to live!

# Lake Marcel and Lake Renee Update

By Dick Hanel

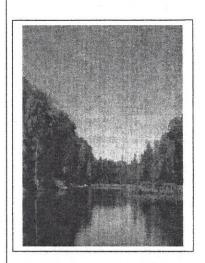
To bring everyone up to date as to what is happening with the dams and the DEP. In January 2013 the DEP put through new rules and fees for dams. They sent out letters in January 2014 stating we must pay a \$1,500 registration fee per dam every year costing us \$3,000 a year. The DEP also said we must have a bond for each dam at a cost of \$80,000 for Marcel Lake dam and a \$30,000 for Lake Renée dam. They also told us that our spillway will only let 54% of 34 inches of rain to pass over the spillway and we must build an additional spillway to allow for the remaining 46% flowing over the spillway. We have received estimates from four engineering companies, we have reviewed these companies and decided on Chuck Givler engineering to design a new spillway at an estimated cost of \$30,000. The new spillway will be 28 feet wide and will be approximately 50 feet from the other spillway opposite the bridge going over the Dingmans Creek. The estimated cost of this project will be \$590,000.

As of this date we have received the final drawings and application letter of authorization for major dam design revision to be sent to DEP for approval. The application goes to four different agencies the PA game commission, the PA Department of conservation and natural resources, the PA Fish and boat commission, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. This information is sent to these agencies to assure them that we aren't endangering any species or wildlife within the project area. The total fee for permits for these agencies is \$4,400.00 which has to be sent with the drawings.

Since receiving the letter from the DEP we immediately sent out a letter to the State Representatives Rosemary Brown, Sen. Lisa Baker, Congressman Mike Peifer and Representative Tom Marino. A copy of the letter was also given out at the Alliance of Community Associations in Pike County and to the CAI (Community Associations Institute's) of Pennsylvania.

State Representative Rosemary Brown set up a meeting with the DEP in October to sit down with 30 other community associations to discuss these problems. The outcome of this meeting has Rosemary Brown and Mike Pfeiffer trying to put a hold on the bond issue and to institute a new piece of legislation that would help the communities with the cost. On February 4, 2015 I received a phone call from Rosemary Brown's office saving that she is trying to get the new governor to form a committee before the end of February to stop the DEP from going ahead with the bond issue and their deadline of January 1, 2016. The governor seems slow in getting up committees and this does not look good for us. I am now in the process of writing to Rosemary Brown, CAI, the governor of Pennsylvania and to the DEP. I cannot see why we have to have a bond when we have \$100,000 catastrophe fund in our community, which would cover any dam issues and buildings in the community. We pay out a \$1,500 registration fee to the DEP, a \$1,500 inspection fee to an engineer every year for Marcel Dam and a \$3,000 EAP (emergency action plan) every five years. I would like to thank Old Marcel Lake for their contribution of \$3,019.35 in helping us out to meet these fees this year.

Dick Hanel, Lake and Dam Chairman



## **ADMINISTRATION PAGE**

By Office Administration

### REMINDERS

#### Gate & Guests

A lot of home owners no longer have land lines, so for your convenience cell phones CAN be put in at the call box. Please contact the office if you would like to add your cell phone. All residents who are in our call box can be found by looking up the last name or dialing in the directory number. If you are not going to be utilizing the call box, please remember to call in all guests! Without your permission we cannot let anyone in to go your address.

#### Dumpster

Cameras are monitored daily, please remember ONLY household garbage is allowed in the compactor located by the mailboxes. There has been a significant increase in illegal dumping of bulk items. These items are being put in the compactor, which can cause damage and will become costly to the community. Other items are being left outside of the compactor which is also an issue, our maintenance has to go and clean up these items which is taking away valuable time. Even if the item is not garbage and can be reused, the compactor is not where they should be left. Bring them to a church or other facility that accepts donations. For items that are garbage we have a bulk dumpster located in our maintenance yard. Call the office for a price quote on these items PRIOR to dumping them. Any resident caught illegally dumping will be fined!

#### Dog Complaints

We have been receiving many dog complaints. Our community requires all dogs to be kept on a leash. DO NOT allow your dog to run loose we will issue fines and please clean up after your pet. It is winter, and animals get cold, so please do not leave them tied up outside all day and night.

#### Plowing

We understand it may be frustrating at times but all community roads will be plowed in priority order. Our maintenance does their best to remove the snow as quickly as they can. Unfortunately, we cannot put salt down on dirt roads, we understand they do get icy and we will do our best to put gravel down to help with that. Please give maintenance a chance to get to all of our roads, however, if you feel we missed you or you need extra salt/gravel on your road, do not hesitate to contact the office.

#### Payment Plans

Remember payment plans are available upon request. Payment Plans start on April 15<sup>th</sup> and due the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month thereafter until plan is paid in full. We offer 3, 6, 9 and 12 month plans. Please contact the office if you have any questions regarding this service. Also, if you are currently on a plan and it has not been paid in full, you would need to sign up for a new payment plan for the 2015/2016 dues, they do not roll over.

#### 2015 Bulk Dump Disposal Days

The Delaware Township Bulk Disposal will be open the first and third Saturday of each month from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for Delaware Township residents only.

January 3, 2015 and January 17, 2015

February 7, 2015 and February 21, 2015

March 7, 2015 and March 21, 2015

April 4, 2015 and April 18, 2015

May 2, 2015 and May 16, 2015

June 6, 2015 and June 20, 2015

July 18, 2015

August 1, 2015 and August 15, 2015

September 5, 2015 and September 19, 2015

October 3, 2015 and October 17, 2015

November 7, 2015 and November 21, 2015

December 5, 2015 and December 19, 2015

# PA AMERICAN WATER UPDATE

Pennsylvania American Water has informed us of their action plan on lifting the moratorium.

#### 2014-2015

2014 - 1st year PA American Water will assess the sewer plant.

2015 - 2<sup>nd</sup> year PA American Water is working with an outside engineer on plant/pipe designing.

#### 2016-2017

2016/2017- 3<sup>rd</sup> year is construction. Construction should start 18 months from the time they receive permit approval from Delaware Township. Everything has to be submitted to the Township and State for approval.

As of right now, PA American Water is on track. They will be submitting information to the township in hopes of a partial lift of moratorium to allow a few owners to be approved for building permits prior to construction to plant. PA American Water is asking for landowner to submit information to us (and we will send it to them) of when they were planning on building in Marcel, so that they may add this information to their collection management plan. Lot owners, please fill out the bottom information and mail this paper to the Marcel office.

Owners Name	
Address	
Phone	
Lot#	
Year/Month you would like to start building	

To: Members of Marcel Lake Estates and Old Marcel Lake Property Owners' Associations From: Tom Baker, Director, OMLPOA

April 18, 2015 is the first day of trout fishing in Pike County. In past years we have asked for donations from the membership to stock Marcel Lake with trout. Individual donations have probably averaged about \$20, however they have varied from \$10 to \$50, and occasionally even more. We usually stock with 13 to 14 inch trout which cost about \$4.50 each. In any event, if you are willing and able to contribute to this effort, any donation, no matter how small or large will be greatly appreciated. Many of our members really enjoy trout fishing in the summertime.

Please be aware that Pennsylvania Law restricts fisher-persons to harvest a maximum of 5 trout per day. Marcel Lake is, of course, a private lake with swimming, boating, and fishing rights for members only. Moreover, our covenants at Old Marcel Lake grant the right to fish to members, "their immediate family, and guests, not to exceed two guests at any time." Non-residents are not allowed to fish on Lake Marcel, except as MLE and OML member guests.

If you wish to contribute to the trout fund this year, please fill out the bottom section and send it by March 13, together with a check to

Marcel Lake Trout Fund 12037 Old Marcel Lake Dingmans Ferry, Pa. 18328.

Thank you so very much.	
Name	
Member: MLE	OML
Address (street)	
(town)	
(State, Zip)	
Amount Contributed: \$	

Note: If insufficient funds prevent a trout stocking, your donation will, of course, be returned.

#### Back Page Recipes!

Editor's Note: Named Bourbon Chicken because it was supposedly created by a Chinese cook who worked in a restaurant on Bourbon Street.

- 2 lbs boneless chicken breasts, cut into bite-size pieces
- 1 -2 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 garlic clove, crushed
- 1/4 teaspoon ginger
- 3/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
- 1/4 cup apple juice
- 1/3 cup light brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons ketchup
- 1 tablespoon cider vinegar
- 1/3 cup soy sauce

#### Directions:

Heat oil in a large skillet.

Add chicken pieces and cook until lightly browned.

Remove chicken.

Add remaining ingredients, heating over medium Heat until well mixed and dissolved.

Add chicken and bring to a hard boil.

Reduce heat and simmer for 20 minutes.

Serve over hot rice and FNIOY.

#### SEA SCALLOP RECIPE

All-purpose flour for dredging

4 tablespoons (1/2 stick) unsalted butter, divided

1/2 cup chopped shallots (2 large)

1 garlic clove, minced

1/4 cup chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley

1/3 cup dry white wine

1 lemon, cut in half

#### Directions:

If you're using bay scallops, keep them whole. If you're using sea scallops, cut each one in half horizontally. Sprinkle with salt and pepper, toss with flour, and shake off the excess.

In a very large sauté pan, heat 2 tablespoons of butter over high heat until sizzling and add a single layer of scallops. (Do not crowd the scallops in the pan.) Lower the heat to medium and allow scallops to brown lightly on one side without moving them, then turn and brown lightly on the other side. This should take 3 to 4 minutes total.

#### LOOKING FORWARD TO SUMMER DRINK



#### Ingredients

- 1 12 ounce can frozen pineapple juice concentrate, thawed
- 1 6 ounce can frozen limeade concentrate,
- 4 cups cold water
- 1 liter club soda, chilled
- Ice cubes
- Fresh strawberries (optional)
- Short (6-inch) wooden skewers
- Assorted fruits such as halved orange slices, halved lime slices, orange sections, raspberries, strawberries, sliced kiwifruit, and mint sprigs

#### Directions

In a large pitcher combine pineapple juice concentrate, limeade, and water. Chill for at least 30 minutes. To serve, transfer fruit juice mixture to pitchers; add club soda, ice cubes, and fresh strawberries. Serve with Fruit Swizzle Sticks, if desired. Makes 14 (6-ounce) servings. Fruit Swizzle Sticks:

On short (6-inch) wooden skewers, thread assorted fruits and mint sprigs.

MAKE AHEAD UP TO 24 HOURS AHEAD, PREPARE

THE JUICE MIXTURE AND CHILL WELL.

Melt remaining butter in the pan with scallops; add shallots, garlic, and parsley and sauté for 2 more minutes, tossing the seasonings with the scallops. Add the wine and cook for 1 minutes longer. Add salt and pepper to taste. Serve immediately with a squeeze of lemon juice.