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SARATOGA LAKE ASSOCIATION

EST. 1936



SHORE LINES

The Newsletter of the Saratoga Lake Association



Top Photo: Injured Owl
George from Powerboat Services
Below: Muskrat swimming
Jon Weillbaker

President's Letter

The transition from winter to spring is important and to be honored. It represents a shift from darkness to light. But winter on the lake is not necessarily a time of dormancy. I understand it was a good year for ice fishing, having witnessed those hearty individuals from the warmth of my home(never did understand them). Fishing will continue with the thawing of the Lake. There were snowmobilers and cross country skiers on the Lake. Soon to be replaced by the jet skis, water skiers and tubers.

Winter may be a time of rest. Spring is a time of awakening and renewal.. We "Spring Forward". To spring into action with new initiatives, sharing with friends and enjoying the various planned events. I want to encourage members of the Association to actively participate by becoming involved as a member of the Board or simply to volunteer. We could use, no, we need your help. Remember, "the lake can't speak for itself".

PLEASE TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO DO THE SURVEY ON ROAD SALT BY SKIDMORE COLLEGE STUDENTS BELOW. ALSO PLEASE JOIN US AT THE SARATOGA SUSTAINABILITY FAIR ON SATURDAY, APRIL 5TH FROM 10:00 - 2:00. EMAIL ME AT: jmdmd@yahoo.com. IF YOU'D LIKE TO WORK THE FAIR FOR AN HOUR.

Wishing everyone a wonderful, safe and healthy Spring and Summer.

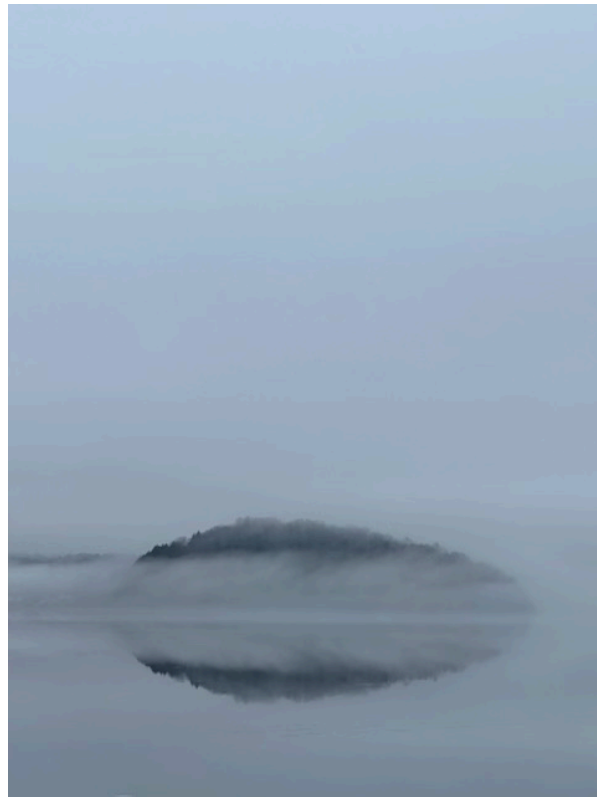
Jim DeMasi
President

UPCOMING EVENTS!! MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- APRIL 5 SARATOGA SUSTAINABILITY FAIR
10:00 am - 2:00pm
Billie Tisch Center for Integrated Sciences
Join us for a day of learning about sustainable living!
EMAIL Jim DeMasi at jmdmd@yahoo.com if you'd like
to work for an hour!
- MAY 21 Preserving Your Home or Camp for Future Generations
David Kubikian, Esq., Herzog Law Firm
Harvest & Hearth, 6:00 - 8:30
Join us for pizza, salad and drinks!
- JUNE DATE TBD:
Join SLA for Happy Hour at Carson's!
- JULY 15 ANNUAL SLA BBQ
- JULY 24 WATER CHESTNUT PULL
Join Saratoga PLAN and Kayak Shak at the Kayak
Shak
Kayak's provided.
Rain Date: July 25th
- AUGUST 19 ANNUAL MEETING
Hideaway at The Saratoga Lake Golf Course
6:30 - 9:00



ALMOST OUT ON MARCH 21ST.....
BELOW....ALL GONE!!!!



New Year's Day
2025
Patti Borisenok

ROAD SALT SURVEY FROM SKIDMORE COLLEGE

Skidmore Senior Capstone Research Project

Help Skidmore and SLA by completing the survey below!

On behalf of the Environmental Studies and Sciences Department at Skidmore College [we're excited to hear your ideas concerning road salt usage in the Saratoga Lake Watershed.](#) This survey will take 10 minutes to complete.

This survey will help to inform our Senior Capstone research: "**The Effect of Road Salt on Conductivity on Soils and in Saratoga Lake: Public Perceptions and Ecological Outcomes for Local**

Watersheds"

For the purposes of this survey, a watershed can be best understood as an area of land or water that is associated with or eventually runs towards a major water body. In our research, Saratoga Lake is our watershed's endpoint.

Conductivity is how well a substance can conduct electricity. This is based on salinity or amount of salt in water. The more salt, the higher the conductivity is.

Click [HERE](#) to start 10 minute survey.



Angelina on the Lake
Sunset
December 23, 2024



Top: Jon Weilbaker's eagle with bands eating fish near Waterfront Park.

Below: Debbie LaMay's eagle at the south end of the lake.

BOTH TAKEN ON MARCH 15TH.



The Eagles Have Landed (and having lunch!)

By Jon Weilbaker

It's hard to believe the difference a week makes: today Saturday March 22nd the lake is free of ice. Last Saturday it was covered with ice.

And last Saturday, Debra LaMay and I both got photos of two different eagles in the same pose at different ends of the lake, feasting on some fish probably left by the last of this year's ice fishermen.

Debbie's eagle looks a little more regal in stature, mine looks a little more feisty as she was being harassed by a crow who wanted a share of the meal.

Also, if you look closely, both the legs of my eagle are banded for tracking. The right leg has the metal federal band, and the left leg has a burnt orange fabric band used by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife. It traveled from Massachusetts; maybe a Red Sox fan?

Keep your eyes out for eagles on Saratoga Lake, we have quite a few!!

Observations on Litter from a Roadside Cleaning Expert

By James Close

All of us who live on or near the lake – especially SLA members – know the environmental insults that the lake faces, most notably that of development in the large watershed that is Saratoga Lake, and the ancillary effects of such – most notably, road salt. It's not clear whether the road salt studies and committees convened at both the local and state levels have had any measurable (and shouldn't we be trying to measure it?) impact either way, but there are other insults that you may not be aware of that we may have more control over, and worth pondering.

I'm a self-appointed roadside litter expert. I have picked up thousands of cans and bottles along the roads in my neighborhood (Lake Rd & vicinity), and have drawn some conclusions about the origin and nature of that unsightly litter. You can experience it firsthand by putting on your walking shoes and setting off down your local road on foot (do wear a traffic vest). There are some conclusions to be reached when you've picked up as much roadside litter as I have: First of all, 90% of it is alcoholic beverage containers, which says, "There's a lot of people out there drinking and driving". That might lead you to ask, "Why does it end up on the road, which is a littering offense?" I'll suggest that the primary reason is those who drink and drive (who are probably experts in that field) know that an "open container" is a violation of the Vehicle and Traffic Laws of New York, so why not just dispose of the evidence? This results in the irony of one law aggravating the commission of a different law – i.e., disposal of the beer can then violating litter laws – two crimes for the price of one.

You might think this is a problem without a solution, but I would argue otherwise; you see, most of these empty cans and bottles of the alcoholic variety likely originate from convenience stores (we're not naming names, but you can), which cater to a clientele who likes nothing more than to buy a tall cold one for the ride home after a long day at work. Those convenience stores gladly cater to these customers, selling them that single 24 ounce can of Coors that will end its useful life in a roadside ditch, when empty. But what if convenience stores were not allowed to sell those single, individual cans of alcoholic beverages? *There's a thought:* Might the litter actually diminish, as the drink-and-drive crowd suddenly finds it inconvenient to grab that 24 ounce of whatever from that local convenience store, inhibiting that desire to nestle a cold one between their legs and get a buzz on?

It's speculative, of course, but when laws work at odds with each other, I think of ways in which they could work together: Proscribing the sale of individual cans/bottles of alcoholic beverages *might* put a dent in the amount of drinking and driving, as well as diminish the number of cans and bottles ending up as roadside litter. If that's not a societal benefit, I don't know what is.

I put this proposition to Assemblywoman Woerner several years ago, and she agreed to meet me at Stewarts at the south end of the lake, and do a roadside walk along 9P, and actually pick up litter. We walked almost all the way to Mangino's, collecting an impressive number of cans and bottles, which she surely took notice of (it was quite the haul). That's as far as my argument got, however. You can imagine the fierce pushback that might come from the convenience store lobby if a law were proposed to limit the sale of individual cans/bottles of alcoholic beverages, but one has to ask, "Is the price that is currently paid in drinking and driving, as well as increased roadside litter, worth the profits lost to the convenience store industry?" Ponder that as you walk down Route 9P (or your road of choice), picking up cans and bottles of Coors, Bud Light, Twisted Tea, and the like, and wonder if things could be different – and better.

Here's a partial day's collection of cans and bottles, neatly arranged; note that all but two are alcoholic beverages:



2025 NYS Boating Regulations

Brianna's Law is named after Brianna Lieneck, an 11 year old Long Island girl who was killed in a 2005 boating accident. Legislation passed in 2019 and named after Brianna, will require that all operators of motorized craft, regardless of age, complete an approved boating safety class by 2025. The intent is to help prevent future tragedies by requiring that all boaters know how to handle their vessels safely and to act in an emergency. It is not required for renters.

Requirement

You must be at least 10 years old to operate a boat and be accompanied by an adult.

You must be at least 14 years old to operate a watercraft

Boating Safety Course

You must complete a boating safety course and obtain a New York State boating safety certificate. The course contains 10 modules. It is estimated to take 3-4 hours to complete and is available on line.

You will be able to print a temporary certificate after completing the course and achieving a passing grade of 80%

A permanent certificate will be mailed within 35 days

Other requirements

You can drink responsibly but you cannot become intoxicated

You must obtain the boat's title if it has a motor of more than 10 horsepower

For information regarding boat certificate requirements and boating safety courses, call OPRHP (Office of Parks, Recreation and Historical Preservation) at 518-464-0456 or visit the OPRHP boating education page.



Spider Trying to Keep Warm
Joan Wade-Keszey



Thanks to everyone who attended our informational Zoom meeting on the future management of Snake Hill on Wednesday, February 26th!

PLAN's overall focus will be on education and resource protection, while using an adaptive management approach. This includes limiting public access to the site to small groups attending Saratoga PLAN or partner programs or volunteer events when conditions allow.

Next Steps:

Continuing research on Snake Hill ecology, geology, history, and cultural importance

Working with Town of Stillwater, Saratoga County and NYS for planning and permitting requirements

Developing educational materials to share with public and partners

Addressing invasive species and other stewardship challenges

PLAN will announce the beginning of public access opportunities after the proper permitting and safety concerns have been met.

**Recorded
Zoom
meeting**

**Slides from
presentation**

**Article in
Saratoga
TODAY**

[CLICK HERE TO READ IN MORE DETAIL.](#)

UPDATE ON MALTA'S POCKET PARK ON SARATOGA LAKE

By Cynthia Young
Malta Town Supervisor

The Town of Malta is looking forward to opening our newest park on Saratoga Lake sometime the summer of 2025. We had some set

backs in 2024 that prevented us from getting it ready. After the building was demolished, we discovered we had a drainage issue that was complicated to repair. There were trees that needed to be removed and a lot of general clean up to be done. The next steps are to install fencing to delineate our property from our neighbors. We plan to put chain link between the park and our neighbors on 8th Street and split rail everywhere else. The parking lot will also need some clean up and repair. For now, we will fence off the remaining building on the property. The building is slated to be demolished in the future.

The park will be a passive park, where visitors can enjoy the view of the lake, picnic and relax. There will be no actual access to the water for now. In the future, we will seek public input to decide what other improvements we will make to the park. Some things that are being discussed are a pier, a open air structure with information on the lake, its history and ecology, bathrooms, playground.

What shall we name our newest park? The Spring/Summer Town of Malta Newsletter will announce a contest to name the park. The newsletter will be out the first week in April.

Summer is on the way! I hope to see everyone at the lake.

Please email Cynthia [HERE](#) or call 518-899-3434 with any questions.



Bluebird Resting
Near Waterfront Park
Pat Tuz

Myths of Spring and other Trivia

By Jim DeMasi

Equinox

Spring equinox is the first day of Spring. This year it is on March 20th at 5:01 AM. It is when the sun is directly over the equator at noon.

"Equinox" is from the Latin Aequus (equal) and Nox (night). Day and night are equal in length.

Spring

The word “spring” may date back to the 14th century perhaps originating from the phrase “springing time.”

Is seeing a robin the first sign of spring?

The old “wives tale” is that a robin is the first sign of spring. As the myth goes, all robins migrate south for the winter to avoid the cold. It can seem like robins appear all of a sudden as spring returns. However, American Robins are adaptable birds, comfortable in all sorts of habitats across North America. Breeding season begins in the spring which may be why spring is about to start. (But I still get exciting for Spring with the first Robin I see)

April Showers?

As the air gets warmer it holds moisture better than cold air. That's why it rains so much. It is actually July with the most precipitation in Saratoga Springs with an average monthly precipitation of 5 inches.

Final thoughts

“It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light and winter in the shade”
Charles Dickens

“A kind word is like a spring day” Russian proverb

“If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant” Anne Bradstreet



Saratoga Lake Sailing Club News and Events

Mary Kate McCarty, Publicity Chair

Once again, The Saratoga Lake Sailing Club (SLSC) is getting ready for the summer sailing season. We'll soon be having our “work parties”, where members work on the grounds, the house, the boats, the docks, the moorings, etc.

Sailing School registration is now active. Classes include beginner junior lessons, junior intermediate sailing, junior racing and adventure sailing. Adult programs include a Learn to Sail class, and an Introduction to Racing, among others.

We also offer private lessons for individuals and/or small groups. Some of the classes tend to have waiting lists, so we encourage

everyone who's interested to sign up, since slots frequently open up.

Please go to the registration page for the link to our registration system, and feel free to reach out with any questions at info@saratogasailingschool.org or sailingpgm@sailsaratoga.org

We encourage everyone to take advantage of our programs. You can also find more up to date information in our monthly newsletter "The Telltale" (dropdown under News and Events). You'll also boats and boat equipment for sale under "On The Block". There's also a list of club officers with contact information should you have any questions.

You might also enjoy some of our safety videos on the SLSC YouTube channel.

Happy Spring!





Lunar Eclipse
Eric Goodness



Saratoga Lake Real Estate Sales

February, 2025

Hello Saratoga Lake Association Members & Friends:

Here are the most recent real estate sales that have been published since our last Real Estate update on October 15, 2024 on or near Saratoga Lake.

1. **606 Route 9P, Saratoga Springs** - closed on **12/2/2024** for **\$606,000**. It was on the market for 9 days, had 2063 sqft. of living space and was on .15 acres. It was originally listed for **\$599,000**.
2. **58 Riley Cove Road, Malta** - closed on **2/3/2025** for **\$825,000**. It was on the market for 109 days, had 1,840 sqft. of living space and was on .22 acres. It was originally listed for **\$899,000**.
3. **7 Hill Road, Stillwater**, - closed on **1/29/2025** for **\$1,200,000**. It was on the market for 51 days, had 2800 sqft. of living space and was on 4.3 acres. It was originally listed for **\$1,295,000**.
4. **71 Waterview Drive, Saratoga Springs** - closed on **12/23/2025** for **\$1,500,000**. It was on the market for 10 days, had 3,385 sqft. of living space and was on .24 acres. It was originally listed for **\$1,600,000**.

5. **62 Riley Cove** - closed on **2/14/2025 for \$1,900,000**. It was on the market for 150 days, had 5,692 sqft. of living space and was on .44 acres.

The last six months have seen a slowing of the local Saratoga Lake market with a lack of inventory being the main reason. The 5 closed sales in this report since (10/15/2024) show a longer average time on the market and only a single home selling for over the asking price, as was commonplace earlier in 2024. There continues to be good demand for lake proximity homes as Interest rates begin to soften. A 30 year fixed rate loan is now available at approx. 6.25% and the outlook is favorable for that rate to continue to go down. It remains a good time to sell a Lake home as prices remain strong, while knowledgeable buyers know they must act quickly if they want to live on, or near Saratoga Lake.

Copy and paste the link below to see more detailed information on the properties that were included in this report.

Click to **view** listing(s)

If you would like more details about any of these properties or a free market analysis of your home, click on the link above or contact **Ed Brewer** at 518-428-6184 or Edwardbrewer@howardhanna.com

The information contained herein is based on public records, provided for SLA member's educational purposes, and is not intended as sales or promotional material.

Information Provided By:
Edward Brewer, Associate Broker
518-428-6184



*Edward Brewer
Associate Broker
Howard Hanna Real Estate*



QUESTIONS, COMMENTS?

CONTACT US

Support our Business Members

Please join us in thanking and supporting our **Business Members**. Below is a directory with links and phone numbers. If you own a business in our community, please consider joining the **Saratoga Lake Association**.

AUCTION SERVICES

Auctions International
(315) 794-4660

BOAT RECREATION AND SERVICES

Kayak Shak: 251 County Rte 67 Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 | (518) 587-9788
| kayakshak.com

Saratoga Lake Sailing Club: 163 Manning Rd, Ballston Spa, NY 12020 | (518) 584-9659 | www.sailsaratoga.org

Saratoga Powerboat Marina and Repair Services | 251 Co Rd 67, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 | (518) 598-3091

BUILDING and HOME SERVICES

Trudeau Home Improvements: (518) 669-0400 | adamtrudeau14@yahoo.com
<http://www.TheTrudeauCompanies.com>
[Facebook.com/TrudeauHomeImprovements](https://www.facebook.com/TrudeauHomeImprovements)

CHRISTMAS TREES AND FIREWOOD

Boulder Brook Farm: 5186 Nelson Ave Ext, Ballston Spa, NY 12020 | (518) 584-1637 | Boulderbrookfarm.com

FINANCIAL SERVICES

KING Wealth Management Group: 270 W Circular St #1, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 | (518) 306-5640 | Kingwealthmanagementgroup.com

NewYorkATM.com: (917-842-6201) Jon@newyorkatm.com | NewYorkATM.com

HOTELS AND INNS

Saratoga Lakeside Villas: 728 Rt. 9P, Saratoga, NY. 12866 | 518-857-2463

INSURANCE

The Connors Agency *Insurance*; 40 North Central Avenue, Mechanicville, NY 12118 | (518) 664-7307 | mculligan@connorsgroup.com

LAND PRESERVATION

Saratoga PLAN; 112 Spring Street, Saratoga Springs, NY. 12866 | (518) 587-5554 | info@saratogaplan.org | <https://saratogaplan.org>

LEGAL SERVICES

Martin, Harding & Mazzotti, *Personal Injury Attorneys*: 18 Division Street, Suite 413 Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 | 1800law1010.com

MARKETING

The Creative Advantage: 620 Union Street, Schenectady, NY 12305 | (518) 370-0312 | Thecreativeadvantage.com

Power Communications: 1114 Ellsworth Boulevard, Malta, NY 12020 | (518) 587-5995 | powerny.com

MARINAS

Fish Creek Marina: 251 Stafford Bridge Road, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 | 518-584-1901 | Fishcreekmarina.com

Saratoga Lake Marina: 549 Union Avenue Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 | 518-796-5223 | saratogalakemarina.com

MEDICAL

Joseph J. Schwartz, MD, *Medical & Cosmetic Dermatology*: (518) 274-4305 | 137 Hoosick St Troy, NY 12180. <http://josephschwartzdermatology.com>

New York Pain Management, Dr. Charles F. Gordon III, MD, one of the most comprehensive centers in the world for treating acute and chronic pain: 518-371-0777, <https://www.nypainfree.com>

Osteopathy On Broadway, PLLC, Dr. Clara Somoza, Phone: (518) 290-0844 | 340 Broadway, Ste. 1, Saratoga Springs, NY. 12866 <https://osteopathyonbroadway.com>

REAL ESTATE

Howard Hanna Real Estate: Ed Brewer, Phone: 518-428-6184, Email: edwardbrewer@howardhanna.com

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OSTEOPATHY on BROADWAY



NYPM

New York Pain Management

Be set free

SARATOGA LAKE ASSOCIATION

EST. 1936

BECAUSE THE LAKE CAN'T SPEAK FOR ITSELF

Joseph Schwartz, MD

MEDICAL & COSMETIC DERMATOLOGY

saratoga PLAN

Preserving Land and Nature

TRUDEAU

Home Improvements

Saratoga Lake Sailing Club



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