

# Cossayuna Lake

## WINTER NEWSLETTER

# 2026

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*Photo courtesy of Jack Newton*

## Greetings

Wishing all of our dear friends and lake families a safe, healthy, happy and joy filled new year. We look forward to gathering with all of you again in the Spring for another year of fun and fellowship.



Your friends at the CLIA



*Photo courtesy of Jack Newton*

A frozen lake, a silver sheet  
Where winter's breath and stillness meet.  
Beneath the ice, deep secrets keep,  
While frosted trees stand silent, deep.  
A glassy world, so calm, so stark,  
A diamond bright in winter's dark.

*Author Unknown*

## Lake Management Update

*Sheila Rappazzo, Lake Management Taskforce Chair*

Last year was the final year of a 3-year contract with Pond and Lake Connection. They used the relatively new herbicide ProcellaCor, which was supposed to have a very good long-term effect on Eurasian Milfoil, supposedly controlling it for three years. But it didn't work quite like that on our lake. While the first two years were good, this last year, the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the contract, by early summer there were significant large beds of milfoil. Fragments from these large weed beds has resulted in the spread of milfoil to many areas throughout the lake.

So this next year we are anticipating a large treatment area to knock it back again. We believe we need to treat 120 acres in order to accomplish that. It was been over ten years since that much acreage has needed to be treated. One hundred twenty (120) acres were treated in 2013 and 2014 and that made a significant difference in controlling the invasive weeds. The cost of herbicides, similar to almost everything else, has risen significantly in the last 10 plus years. So this large treatment is going to be expensive, but necessary.



*Eurasian Milfoil*



*Brittle Naiad*

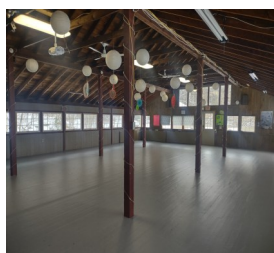
In addition to the milfoil issue, we have found that the naiad weed species that has become so problematic is invasive Brittle Naiad, not Southern Naiad that has traditionally been in our Lake. Other lakes in the region, including Saratoga Lake and Glen Lake have also had significant problems with overgrowth of this weed. We are pursuing this issue with the DEC. Currently the DEC in Region 5 (our region) does not allow treatment after June 15<sup>th</sup>, and that is too early to allow effective treatment of the Naiads.

We hope you will be supportive of these efforts as we treat the lake as a whole body. Please be generous when you decide to donate.

**Please make the choice, donate, and help keep Cossayuna Lake healthy. Please donate generously to the Lake Management fund found on the Membership form. You can also donate online by going to our website, click on the "Online Sign-up" page and click on the Lake Management projects link. THANK YOU!**

## Building Updates

The CLIA clubhouse gets extensive use during the season and regular maintenance is required to keep the place looking spiffy. You may have noticed this year we replaced the ceiling tiles in the kitchen and installed a new stove. Later in the season Fred Winchell stained the outside ramp and Jeff Jackson built and installed fold out tables near the building entrance—a very handy addition! And at the end of the season John Felicetti repainted the clubhouse floor. Thanks to all the volunteers who worked on various projects during the season!



## Membership Update

*Bob Reilly, Membership Chair*

It's winter but spring and summer are on my mind. Remember how great lake life was last year? Remember all the terrific events that were held at our wonderful clubhouse? Remember that monster harvester cruising around the lake helping to keep it clean? What you didn't see is all the work the Association does behind the scenes to get these things done. Most of the work is carried out by volunteers. Once a year we ask for your assistance by paying a modest one-time yearly membership. In addition, this is your opportunity to sign up and donate for harvesting and whole lake management.

Early sign-up allows us to better fund and plan our activities and programs for the season. Use our "All in One" membership form on page 11 of this newsletter or you can print the form by going to <http://cossayunalake.com/forms-and-applications/> and select the 2026 All in One Form. Please completely fill out all the boxes and mail in your form and check.

A faster way to sign-up for membership and harvesting is to use our online forms, which you can access by going to <https://cossayunalake.com/online-sign-up/>. Online registration is fast and gives you the convenience of paying with credit or with debit card or through Pay Pal. In addition, you will immediately receive a receipt for your transactions, and you save a trip to the post office. Membership is available anyone living within one mile of the lake. The CLIA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

The clubhouse and pavilion are available, for a modest fee, for members to rent for special events. This past year members rented the property for an engagement party, wedding, baby shower, birthday party, family and school reunions and a celebration of life event. For any questions on membership or rentals please contact Bob Reilly at 631-897-4811 or dakotabr1960@gmail.



## Ice Safety

*Lynn Jackson, Education Chair*

As a friendly reminder, most bodies of water such as Cossayuna Lake don't freeze over evenly. The general rule for safely walking on ice is a minimum thickness of 3-4 inches on solid clear ice. Always be cognizant of what's ahead of you. A minimum of 5 inches of ice is recommended for snowmobiling or driving on ice with an ATV. If you are driving a car or small pickup, you'll need ice 8-12 inches thick. Medium-sized trucks require 12-15 inches of ice. Be cautious of "bubblers" which are generally used to protect docks from ice buildup. Areas near the shoreline where streams enter and exit the lake likely will also affect the integrity of the ice.

It's a best practice not to ice fish alone. The buddy system can save lives. If you must go out alone, let someone know where you are going and expected back. And be sure to dress appropriately. The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) highly recommends carrying ice safety picks in case of an emergency should you break through the ice.

For more information visit [www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov) or email the Washington County DEC office for our region at [fwfish5@dec.ny.gov](mailto:fwfish5@dec.ny.gov) or call 518-897-1200. Of utmost importance, please use common sense!



**CLIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** We welcome Cathy Cavanagh, Christine Cooke and Susan Holbritten to the Board for the upcoming year and we thank Tom Atkin, Tom LeCours and Cheryl Stanford-Smith for their hard work and dedicated service to our lake.

**2025 – 2026 CLIA STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**BYLAWS:** John Felicetti 914.441.8266

**FINANCE:** OPEN

**LAKE MANAGEMENT:** Sheila Rappazzo 518.429.8312

**NOMINATING:** Joanne Bonacker 518.369.9889

**2025 – 2026 CLIA OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT** Lynn LeCours 518.253.9377

**VICE PRESIDENT** Peggy Pahoulis 757.635.9891

**TREASURER** Rick Ryan 518.860.2916

**SECRETARY** Kathy Gaughran 914.523.2977

**2025 – 2026 CLIA DIRECTORS**

Joanne Bonacker

Cathy Cavanagh

Christine Cooke

Marie Dumas

Gene Henry

Susan Holbritten

Lynn Jackson

Sheila Rappazzo

Bob Reilly

Karen Ryan

Star Schmalzer

Lisa Zibella

**2025 – 2026 CLIA AD HOC COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**MEMBERSHIP:** Bob Reilly 631.897.4811

**SPILLWAY:** Gene Henry 518.744.4768

**COMMUNICATIONS:** John Felicetti 914.441.8266

**BUILDING & GROUNDS:** Jeff Jackson 518.878.9378, Tom LeCours 518.366.1151

**RENTALS:** Bob Reilly 631.897.4811

**SOCIAL & FUNDRAISING:** Marie Dumas 212.920.5511, Karen Ryan 413.281.2772

**SIGNAGE:** JoAnne Bonacker 518.369.9889, Lynn LeCours 518.253.9377

**DATA MANAGEMENT:** John Felicetti 914.441.8266

**EDUCATION:** Lynn Jackson 518.878.9384

**HARVESTING:** Tom LeCours 518.366.1151, Gene Henry 518.744.4768

**HERBICIDE:** Sheila Rappazzo 518.429.8312

**CSLAP DATA COLLECTION:** Lynn Clauer 631.335.4704

**PROMOTION / MERCHANDISE:** Tom LeCours 518.366.1151

**INSURANCE:** Tom LeCours 518.366.1151

**WATER CHESTNUT REMOVAL:** Gene Henry 518.744.4768



*Photo courtesy of Mark Samu*

## Notes From Your Social Committee....

Greetings Cossayuna Friends Near and Far!

Even though it's cold outside at the Lake, the Social Committee is already at work planning a great summer 2026 season for everyone.

We'll be dancing to our very own Lakesiders with an opening dance, enjoying special events such as the Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast, Bingo, Trivia, the Annual Chicken Barbeque fundraiser and planning a very patriotic Boat Parade celebrating our country's 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday! We're always looking for volunteers and ideas for the season so feel free to contact us anytime.

We also have a couple of surprises up our sleeves so stay tuned. In the meantime, we wish you a happy, healthy, and warm Holiday Season with family and friends wherever you are!

Your Social Committee Co-Chairs,

Marie Dumas and Karen Ryan



## Harvesting Program Updates

In September we met with Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner about obtaining a grant for a new weed harvester. Currently, Lynn Wilbur is working on the long and often tedious process of completing the appropriate grant paperwork. This will require some patience; the grant process may take as long as 2 years to complete. In the meantime, we hope all lake residents will continue to contribute to the herbicide fund.

Our existing harvester is already set to go to work next season. Please bring your questions regarding Harvesting to the Membership Meeting so we can discuss and address your concerns. It's a big lake and we try our best to improve the quality of the water.

In addition to trying to secure a grant for a new harvester, we are also looking at a company that uses dredging to remove weeds and hope to have a demonstration in the spring. The lake may be frozen but we are still working to make it better for the coming season. Thanks for everyone's cooperation and support.

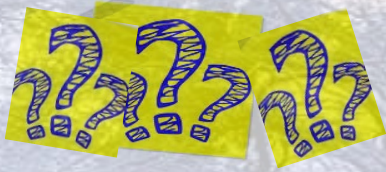


## Food Pantry Collection Update

During the month of November, we collected a total of 346 pounds of food for the Cossayuna Food Pantry from our Cossayuna friends and neighbors. Although we will not be collecting again until Spring, you can still drop off your donations to the pantry on Tuesdays from 12 noon to 4 pm at the rear of the Cossayuna Fire Station. Thank you all once again for coming together for our lake community. Your generosity shines brightly during this Holiday Season.



# DID YOU KNOW?



It's easy to reserve the CLIA Clubhouse for your next family reunion, wedding or private event. Contact Bob Reilly @ 631.897.4811 or go to the website for details.



In order to provide service to all members who sign up for extra harvesting, this year we are limiting the amount of extra hours to two (2) per property.



**March's** birth flowers are daffodils, signifying rebirth and hope, and jonquils, which signify affection and love.



**February** is the only month that gets longer every four years. Sure, everybody knows about **leap years**, and most know why we have them. But every so often we need a "**leap second**" as well. This is typically added to **Coordinated Universal Time** in December or June because of irregularities in our planet's rotation.



The first Super Bowl, officially the **AFL-NFL World Championship Game**, was played on **January 15th, 1967**, between the Green Bay Packers (NFL) and the Kansas City Chiefs (AFL) at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. The Packers won 35-10, with Bart Starr named MVP. It's the only Super Bowl broadcast by 2 different networks, CBS and NBC.



Rent a **porta potty** for a busy weekend, a party or all summer!

**North Country Excavating 518.852.3588** comes to empty, clean & sanitize them on a weekly basis. It's a great deal and helps reduce stress on the lake!



February is the only month that can go a full calendar cycle without a full moon. This last occurred in 1999, and will happen again in 2037.



- **January 5:** National Whipped Cream Day
- **January 8:** National Bubble Bath Day
- **January 13:** National Sticker Day
- **January 17:** Benjamin Franklin Day
- **January 22:** Hot Sauce Day
- **January 29:** National Puzzle Day
- **January 31:** National Hot Chocolate Day



**Online sign-up for membership, herbicide treatment harvesting or donations** is fast and convenient! Yep, from the comfort of your home you can go online and donate by credit or debit card, Venmo or by PayPal. Just go to the CLIA website: [www.cossayunalake.com](http://www.cossayunalake.com) and click on the **Online Sign-up** link at the top of the page. You will need to click on a separate link for each item you wish to pay for online.

Old school? Sure, you can still write a check and mail it in with the **All-in-One** form included in this newsletter, or go to the **Forms & Applications** link on the website. Questions? Call or email John Felicetti (914.441.8266 or jsfelicetti@yahoo.com).

**All operators of motorized vessels, regardless of age, must have a current boating safety certificate.** Fortunately, the US Coast Guard Auxiliary is holding a 1 day in person certification course at the CLIA clubhouse on **Saturday, June 6, 2026!** See the flyer on page 8 of the newsletter. Contact Lynn Enny at 518.499.2883 with questions or to register. **The deadline for registration is Monday, June 1, 2026.**



# Public Education Course Flyer: Boat America



*Boat America* is a boating certificate class that offers an in-depth and interesting boating safety course, and provides the knowledge needed to obtain a boating certificate.

Some insurance companies will also offer discounts on boating insurance to boaters who successfully complete this course.

## TOPICS INCLUDE

- **Introduction to Boating** – Types of power boats, boating vocabulary, sailboats, paddle boats, powering boats, and engine types.
- **Boating Law** – Boat registration, regulations, hull identification numbers, required safety equipment, Federal boating law, state boating law, and reporting accidents.
- **Safety Equipment** – Life jackets, fire extinguishers, sound-producing devices, visual distress signals, anchors, and other safety equipment.
- **Safe Operation and Navigation** – Buoys and beacons, aids to navigation, navigation rules, docking, and the dangers of alcohol on the water.
- **Boating Emergencies** – Hypothermia, boating accidents, man overboard, capsizing, emergency radio calls, carbon monoxide dangers, and weather.
- **Trailer**ing – Types of trailers, lights, hitches, towing a trailer.
- **Sports and Boating** – Water-skiing, hunting and hunting gear, PWC operation, and other boating tips.

## Presented by Flotilla 014-15-10 Lake George, NY

Course: Boat America

Start Date: Sat, 06 Jun 2026

Days: 1

Hours: 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Duration: 8

Lessons: 1

Location: Cossayuna Lake Improvement Assn

314 E Lake Road  
Cossayuna, NY 12809

Lynn Enny  
[glanenny@aol.com](mailto:glanenny@aol.com)  
(518) 499-2883

Contact: Charlie Pound  
(518) 361-2530

Course  
Cost: \$25

Register  
By: Mon, 01 Jun 2026

Comments: Students should report at 8:30 with class to start soon after. Age 10 years or older. Under 14 must be accompanied by an adult; must attend all 8 hours to obtain certificate; certificate is recognized by NYS Parks and Recreation as meeting state boating education requirement.

Posted: Mon, 08 Dec 2025

Marker location may be approximate; verify location before travel.



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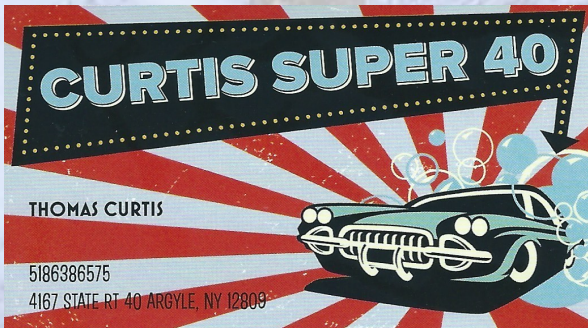
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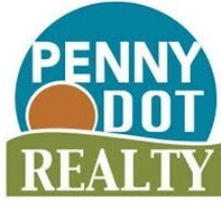


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Go to  
[cossayunalake.com](http://cossayunalake.com)  
and click on  
**CONTACT US** for more  
information about our  
ad programs!



Want to skip the paperwork? You can sign up for CLIA membership or harvesting, make a donation to support lake management or rent the Clubhouse for your hosted events online! Go to [cossayunalake.com/online-sign-up/](http://cossayunalake.com/online-sign-up/)

## COSSAYUNA LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

### Participation Form for the period January 1 – December 31, 2026

*In order to receive harvesting and pavilion rental options, membership is required.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address of lake property \_\_\_\_\_  
Primary mailing address \_\_\_\_\_  
Seasonal mailing address \_\_\_\_\_  
Email / Alt email address \_\_\_\_\_

*Personal email addresses preferred; email addresses will only be used for CLIA news and alerts.*

Contact phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate contact # \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Level

Members must own property within one mile of the lake.

\$100 HOUSEHOLD – 1 vote: 1 or 2 names

(example: Mary Smith OR Mary & John Smith)

\$120 INDIVIDUAL – 2 votes: 2 names

(example: Mary Smith AND John Smith)

Enclosed are my membership dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Harvesting Participant

\$150 per lot

*If you have questions about your property Harvesting sign, please contact Gene Henry or Tom LeCours.*

I would like the standard harvesting program. Enclosed are my harvesting dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like additional harvesting @ \$75 an hour (limit 2 hours). Enclosed is my additional hours fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make an unrestricted harvesting donation. Enclosed is my harvesting donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Whole Lake Management

Herbicide treatment of invasive weed beds wherever they are found.

Donation of \$100, \$250, \$500 or more Enclosed is my Lake donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

All money can be submitted with ONE check GRAND TOTAL Check # \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form with payment to CLIA PO Box 81 Cossayuna, NY 12823-0081

Would you like your name and contact information to appear in an upcoming Contact Directory listing? \_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_ NO

Please indicate how you would like to receive the CLIA Newsletter (select ONE option; if no selection is made, newsletter will be emailed):

\_\_\_\_ Electronic – sent to me via email \_\_\_\_ Paper – mailed to me

Questions can be directed to the following:

Membership – contact Bob Reilly – 631.897.4811 / [dakotabr1960@gmail.com](mailto:dakotabr1960@gmail.com)

Lake Management – contact Sheila Rappazzo – 518.429.8312 / [sarappazzo@yahoo.com](mailto:sarappazzo@yahoo.com)

Harvesting – contact Tom LeCours – 518.366.1151 / [tunamantom@yahoo.com](mailto:tunamantom@yahoo.com)

*CLIA is a 501 c 3 nonprofit organization. Donations are tax-exempt to the extent of the law. A copy of our most recently filed financial report is available from the Charities Registry on the New York State Attorney General's website ([www.charitiesnyc.gov](http://www.charitiesnyc.gov)) or, upon request, by contacting the New York State Attorney General, Charities Bureau, 28 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10005 or the CLIA at PO Box 81, Cossayuna, NY 12823-0081.*

# JOIN YOUR LAKE ASSOCIATION TODAY!

Benefits of being a member of the CLIA include: Pavilion rental at a very reasonable price. Table and chair rentals for parties. Use of the CLIA beach and dock and a voice in the future of our lake.

Anyone who lives within one mile of the lake can be a member.

Please join us!

If you would like to receive this newsletter by email instead of paper, go to [cossayunalake.com/contact-us/](http://cossayunalake.com/contact-us/) and let us know.

CLIA  
PO BOX 81  
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*Photo Courtesy of John Felicetti*