

Friends of Timbercrest

*Preserving, enhancing, and promoting Camp Timbercrest
in partnership with Girl Scouts of Western New York*

Work Report

April 26-28, 2019

Projects:

- 1) **Footbridges Across the Powerline:** When Ro and Jennifer originally planned out and measured the span under the powerline, they determined it would take fifteen 16-foot footbridges to do the job. When Allan got there, he proposed a slightly different layout that is (a) more interesting, and (b) required fewer footbridges.



The crew was able to install 10 footbridges that should work well to keep feet a bit dryer as you hike around the lake. The mesh tread was not completed, but Ro and Jennifer plan to go back to finish it off.



The lumber for the other 5 footbridges was prepped and stored. There are definitely a few other spots that are wet enough to be improved by one of these footbridges. We'll plan on putting them in at the next work weekend.

A special shout-out and thank-you goes to Terry Saye who prepped pieces and parts in his woodshop. Because this ambitious project required so much lumber, he had it

delivered directly to camp and lugged equipment and tools out to camp to drill it onsite with the help of Craig Thompson and Jeff Barnes.



- 2) **Deep Clean of Kitchen:** Council had asked us to do a deep clean of the kitchen. We didn't plan on doing it. But when rain and cold left the painters with nothing to do, it hopped to the top of the priority list. Every dish, utensil, pot, and pan was cleaned and sterilized. Carts and surfaces were cleaned. It was sparkly in there when the crew was finished.



- 3) **Wood Splitting:** Allan had come out in March and dropped some trees in Sunset. The Sunset crew, which included members of Troop 10193, split everything they could lift and stacked it by the side of the road.



- 4) **Trail Tidy-Up and Camp Out Staging:** Now that the trail is hike-able again, we will begin to create little cook-out / camp-out areas along the way. The first of these in the hemlocks by Jackman Bay was tidied up by the girls from Randolph. For reference: this is the site where the Pioneer units often set up “back in the day.” In more recent years it has also been used as a cookout and campout location.



- 5) **Library tidy-up:** It was obvious the library had been used since last fall when a crew straightened it up, so it needed straightening again. The girls from Randolph took on the job, putting puzzle pieces back where they belonged, cleaning the shelves, and restocking everything neatly. Thanks, Girls!

- 6) **Program Brainstorming:** Now that the Lake Trail is walkable, we’d like to move on to the “promote” part of our mission. We discussed the “Loop the Lake” program series and brain-stormed several ideas. We decided to start simply with a four part series - Loop the Lake through the seasons.

We would love to design a central Loop the Lake patch with rockers to add for each season you attend the program. The first one can be nature-oriented as Jennifer can probably borrow teaching props from Audubon to set up learning stations that are easy to run. Others could also be nature-themed as nature changes with the seasons... or we can leave them vague and fill in the details of the program when we know the expertise of the folks who will lead the programs.

Other ideas for future Loop the Lake programs included:

- a) Birds
- b) Camp Craft

- c) Progressive Lunch
- d) Crafts
- e) Songs
- f) Games
- g) Story-telling
- h) (Camp) Trivia
- i) Nature
- j) Seasons
- k) Turtles (with Bernadette) (Around 2007, a snapping turtle in the lake got the name Bernadette. Now every snapping turtle is Bernadette!)
- l) Murder Mystery
- m) (Women's) History
- n) Edible Plants
- o) Night Hike
- p) Haunted Lake (Ghost stories around the Lake?)
- q) Girl Scout Ways / Girl Scout Traditions
- r) Camp Traditions
- s) Badge in a Day
- t) Tuesdays at Timbercrest

We also talked about having older girls help lead programs for younger girls. It was pointed out, however, that the older girls would like to have programs designed specifically for them... that they don't like to always have to lead for the little ones.

We also shouldn't assume that just because there are a lot of things competing for girls' time that no one would come to a program in the middle of the week during school. There may be girls who would prefer a program at camp to play rehearsal or sports.

7) Feeding the Hungry Masses:

There was a lot of delicious food to fuel our efforts prepared by Bill McIntyre and Sue Turnquist.

Discussion about Friends of Timbercrest:

- 1) **New Folks:** There was some discussion about how to recruit new folks into the group, and once here, how do we help them feel like a part of the group? One observation was



made that we all kind of know the traditions and routines and hardly have to say anything to have things run smoothly. But as new folks come in, we will have to be more intentional about orientation and communication. The upcoming University in the Woods event may be a good place for us to set up a recruitment table.

- 2) **Other Camps' Friends Groups:** We talked about the fact that Council claims we are an inspiration to volunteers at other camps and that others are interested in forming Friends' groups. Perhaps we should extend an invitation to volunteers at other camps to come to one of our gatherings - to observe, to help, and to exchange ideas.
- 3) **Succession:** Jennifer humbly accepted praise for providing leadership, but noted that the group should think about how to handle succession. A succession plan should include not only a shift to new leadership, but also documentation of website passwords, bank account information, etc.

Workers in Attendance: (24)

- 1) Carol Barnes, Tioga Center, NY
- 2) Jeff Barnes, Tioga Center, NY
- 3) Barb Conklin, Falconer, NY
- 4) Emily Garrick, Lakewood, NY
- 5) Anita Gaston, Bluff Point, NY
- 6) Peg Jungquist, Lakewood, NY
- 7) Danay Marsh, Little Valley NY
- 8) William McIntyre, Fredonia, NY
- 9) Allan Patchen, Knoxville, TN
- 10) Natasha Patchen, Knoxville, TN
- 11) Diane Powell, Rochester, NY
- 12) Terry Saye, Bemus Point, NY
- 13) Bob Schlick, Jamestown, NY
- 14) Jennifer Schlick, Jamestown, NY
- 15) Susan Turnquist , Ashville NY
- 16) Dee Wilson, Mount Morris, NY
- 17) Craig Thompson, Falconer, NY
- 18) Ro Woodard, Falconer NY
- 19) Katie Carrier (who joined us by accident. She was there laying out an orienteering course for a program in May and stayed for a couple of hours to help out!), Buffalo, NY area
- 20) Tracey Barron (troop leader of Troop 10193), Randolph, NY
- 21) Rylee Barron, Troop 10193, Randolph, NY
- 22) Riley Palmer, Troop 10193, Randolph, NY
- 23) Hannah Halom Troop 10193, Randolph, NY
- 24) Paige Johnson, Troop 10193, Randolph, NY



Standing: Jennifer Schlick, Diane Powell, Peg Jungquist, Allan Patchen, Anita Gaston, Bill McIntyre, Sue Turnquist, Ro Woodard, Craig Thompson, Jeff Barnes, Carol Barnes

Seated in Middle Row: Bob Schlick, Tracey Barron, Rylee Barron, Riley Palmer, Hannah Halom

Seated in Front: Emily Garrick, Katie Carrier, Natasha Patchen, Barb Conklin, Dee Wilson

Not pictured: Terry Saye, Danay Marsh, 4th member of GS Troop

Last but not least... Our Scout Reports

White-tailed deer, bald eagle, great blue heron, common loon, beaver, barn swallow, Canada geese, wood duck, barn swallows, red-shouldered hawk, barred owls, common merganser, cormorants, wood duck, American robin, American crow.

And for the plant lovers: leeks, false hellebore, skunk cabbage, trillium, trout lily, marsh marigolds (blooming), spring beauties (in bud), may apple (just starting to poke up like little rockets), colt's foot (blooming).