

Friends of Timbercrest

Fall 2020 Work Weekend

Friday, October 9 - Monday, October 12, 2020

Work Report

1. **Lean-to Deconstruction**

This was The Major Project for the weekend and took up most of the time. It is pretty remarkable that the shelter was put up by Girl Scouts using only hand tools, and it was taken down by Girl Scouts (including some of the same ones who put it up back in 1975) using only hand tools. (We were grateful to Scott for cutting up and hauling away the lumber.)

The boards on the walls of the leanto were originally from an old barn. They were salvaged and will be up-cycled into items that will be for sale/auction to raise money for the new lean-tos that will go up on this site.

2. **Strawberry Hill Shelter Tidy-Up**

We had planned to do all our cooking under the roof of the open part of the shelter, but the wind was too strong and would have put out the flame on the camp stoves. So, we cleaned up the shelter to serve as our kitchen.

- a. Moved tent poles into rafters
- b. Moved cots to end of shelter
- c. Patched the biggest of the holes used by chipmunks and squirrels
- d. Removed spider webs (then regretted it... would have been a nice addition to our Halloween-themed decorations, hahaha)
- e. Swept out piles and piles of hickory nut shells and other debris
- f. Burned the two-year-old firewood pile and started cleanup of an even older pile

3. **Timber Trail Blazes**

The Timber Trail used to be a hiking trail up in the Day Camp area. When that side of the road was leased to the Gravel Company, the sign for the Timber Trail was brought over to the main camp and placed at the entrance to the trail that goes down to the spillway. While making the new map, not knowing exactly where this new Timber Trail was supposed to go, we decided! It goes up behind Sprucewood and Hawthorne Grove, then up one level above what we are now calling Nita's Trail, and ends back at Nita's trail just above Sunset.

Orange circles will now guide you from the entrance on the camp road to the end of the Timber Trail where it meets Nita's trail. We still need to blaze in the opposite direction.

Nita's trail will be next with yellow triangles.

NOTE: There are a couple of chainsaw-worthy logs over this trail.

ALSO: There is a spot above Hawthorne Grove that will get one of our footbridges, eventually.

4. **Memorial/Honorarium Plaques:** Seven of the new picnic tables were purchased using donations given in memory or in honor of someone. The plaques were attached.

5. **The Food:**

You know you will never go hungry at camp. I'm listing the menu to tempt you to come to future weekends. :)

- a. Friday Night "Snack" - hot dogs, chips, baby carrots and red peppers and chocolate chip cookies for dessert. (Can you believe no one toasted a single marshmallow?)
- b. Saturday Breakfast - French toast, sausages, home-fries
- c. Saturday Lunch (Panda cooked this meal!) - sloppy joes (choice of turkey or lentil), pasta salad, brownies, and birthday cake (Bill's birthday was Monday, but we celebrated early)
- d. Saturday Supper - pot roast, potatoes, vegetable medley, salad, peach cobbler
- e. Sunday Breakfast - scrambled eggs, bacon, home-fries
- f. Sunday Lunch - vegetarian chili, grilled 3-cheese sandwiches, pickles
- g. Sunday Supper - shrimp scampi over spaghetti, salad, apple pie
- h. Monday Breakfast - made-to-order omelets, sausage, bacon. (Ricki cooked this meal, giving Birthday Boy Bill the chance to loop the lake - for the first time in years!)

6. **Real Camping:**

It has been a while since some of us has had the opportunity to do any Real Camping, but we more than made the best of it!

- a. Water: Ro brought along some BIG water coolers so we only had to haul water from the lodge twice.
- b. Coffee: The camp percolator made fine coffee,ut it was made even better when Ro pulled out her stove-top espresso maker!
- c. Toileting: Jen shined up the latrine closest to the shelter and Ro brought coffee cans to protect the toilet paper from mice. She also made some drip-a-lators from one-gallon jugs and golf tees for hand-washing. For needs out at the lean-to site, Ro brought a Luggable Loo, with toilet in a bag insert, and a Pup-Poop Tent.

7. **Shenanigans:**

- a. Splashing: After the first day of deconstruction, there was considerable sweat all around. While no one fully immersed themselves in Keyser Lake, there was some wading and splashing that refreshed!

- b. Jack-o-Lanterns: A pumpkin carving contest using only our jack knives and mess kit spoons took place Saturday evening before dinner. Photos were posted to the Friends of Timbercrest Facebook Group for voting.

Pictures

I didn't even want to mention stupid COVID. But for the sake of the record, the masks you see in these pictures were intended to help slow the spread of the virus. We were super careful. We had our temperatures taken daily and kept our distance most of the time, except for a few quick group photos and some work that needed buddies. There are LOTS more pictures on Facebook and Flickr.



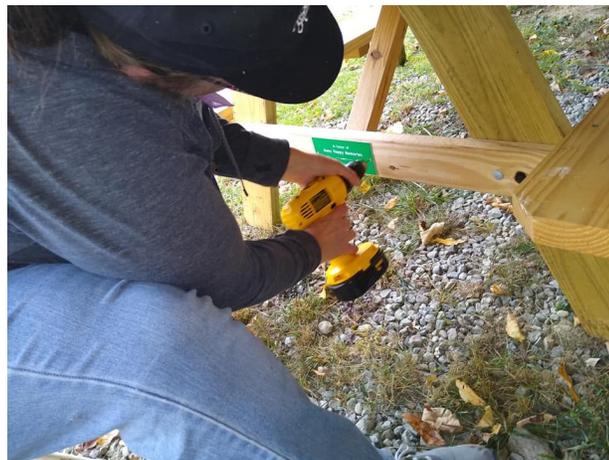
One of the last pictures of the 1975 Lean-to



Almost done with deconstruction. These 4 were there when the lean-to was built in 1975. Jo Nelson was camp director. Erica Tener was a camper. Ro Woodard was unit leader and Diane Powell was the counselor.



And done. Standing (or squatting) in the site where the lean-to used to be.
Standing: Ricki, Pickles, Otter, Jo, 'Nnifer. Squatting: Ro, Didi



Otter sets up the Luggable Loo and Poop Tent; Erica attaches memorial/honorarium plaques.



Didi and Otter blaze the Timber Trail



Kitchen in the Strawberry Hill Shelter. Coffee - with a shot of Espresso.



The winner was Didi's #1. Second place was Otter's #5.

Attendance

Over-nighters: (We all agreed: Gosh, it was nice to sleep in Strawberry Hill!!)

1. Jennifer Schlick ('Nnifer)
2. Ro Woodard (Ro)
3. Bill McIntyre
4. Erica Tener (Ricki)
5. Diane Powell (Didi)
6. Dawn Cicchini (Otter)
7. Peggy Jungquist (Pickles)

Day Trippers:

1. Mary Beth Mazzone (Nip)
2. Joanne Nelson (Jo)
3. Barb Conklin
4. Anne McIntyre
5. Carol Barnes (Panda)

6. Kathy Moller (Piazon)
7. Dave Moller

Could not attend, but supported us with donations: THANK YOU!

1. Kimberly Meabon (Binky)
2. Corry Johnson (Splash)
3. Jerilyn Hickey
4. Kennie Campbell
5. Bonnie Swoger (Red)
6. Karen Logan (Fyfe)

Sadly missed due to covid-19 travel restrictions requiring a 14 day quarantine:

Natasha and Allan Patchen, TN

Donna Dolce, DE

Stay tuned for exciting announcements about THE BUILD of two new lean-tos in 2021.