

Work Report

Friends of Timbercrest

Work Weekend: April 13-14-15, 2018

1. **Painting.** The weather cooperated! The painting crew worked Friday and Saturday and finished the Cook's Cabin, the Director's Cabin, and the back of Bellinger Lodge.



2. **Wood Splitting.** The wood crew worked tirelessly all day Saturday to turn our pile of logs from the last work weekend into firewood. They got through most. There is a bit left to do.



3. **Storm Damage.** Wow. Between the winter snow and the recent wind storms there was a lot of storm debris requiring chainsaw work, loppers, and a lot of hauling. The crew in charge of storm damage cleanup did "party cleaning". That is, they made things look a lot better than before, but by dragging brush and branches off to the sides and stuffing under existing trees, etc. We are worried that as summer comes on, those piles that look OK now may become unsightly, or worse, if it is a dry summer, they could be dangerous fire hazards. We recommend removal of brush and branches, which will be a considerable task. Areas worked on include the path to the staff cabin, the path to boating, the area alongside Circle Road, the archery area, the area around the Infirmary and Director's cabins, and Beaver Trail.

4. Nest Box Trail.

- a. The sign and old boxes have been (mostly) removed. There were some poles we could not loosen enough to come out and there may be more boxes in hidden locations.

NOTE: on the right side of the road as you drive in from 3-Bay, before you get to the turn-off for Jackman Lodge, there is a bit of orange flagging tape. On the ground below it is a VERY SHARP remnant of a post that broke off. We are concerned someone working there could get hurt.



(The box and sign are gone now. Here you can also see some of the storm damage that was cleared.)

- b. The sign that says “Jim Hickok Bluebird Trail” has been stored in 3-Bay until we decide if we want to use it for a future trail, or display it as part of the camp’s history. Karen Cotton has offered to have girls from her service unit sand and paint it to make it more presentable.

5. Lake Trail.

- a. The layout of the trail is complete, as is clearing, raking, and some leveling.

NOTE: Some sections are rerouted. Of special note is that first bridge that is to be replaced with an Eagle Scout project. A slightly different angle will be required to match the new trail location. The orange-wrapped sticks show the new angle.



- b. A footbridge prototype was installed. It is made from 4x4s and 2x4s with galvanized steel stucco netting on top for anti-skid. The cost of materials for this bridge was approximately \$70. Feedback is mostly positive, though some have suggested a slightly wider design might help those who have difficulty walking.



- c. Several giant “tree cookies” were cut from the tree that fell in front of the first bench and were placed in areas where it was particularly muddy.
- d. Stepping stones were placed in some of the creek crossings, as well in some of the muddy spots along the trail. One spot even has some stone steps to help the hiker up a steep spot.
- e. The old blazes have been painted over with brownish-gray paint. Orange flagging tape has been used to blaze the trail temporarily. Eventually, blue rectangles will lead the hiker along the trail.



- 6. **Timber Trail.** The original Timber Trail was up in Day Camp. When that area was leased to the gravel company, the sign was brought across the road and installed at the entrance to the trail that leads down to the Spillway. This trail (an old logging road) then crosses a bridge, goes around the back of the hill and up behind Sprucewood and Hawthorne Grove. Much of that road, from just below

Sprucewood and on up, has been restored to hiking perfection by the logging company who took timber out of there last fall and winter. A small crew cleared the bit between the Spillway and and the spot where the clearing was already complete.

7. Miscellany.

- a. Mattress Covers: new covers were placed on mattresses in Bellinger, Jackman, and the two yurts.
Swim Shed: much underbrush was cleared from the upside of the building.



- b. Ladybugs: Many were removed from Bellinger. By many, we mean baskets-full. And the vacuum cleaner bag may need to be changed.
- c. Buddy Board is completely painted. It still needs new hooks to replace the rusty ones.
- d. Trail to and area around the lean-to was cleared.
- e. Walked the logging roads to assess how they might be marked for hiking. (They are in beautiful shape since the recent logging! Only the section behind Strawberry Hill and Sunset might need some clearing.)
- f. Hearty meals and snacks were provided throughout the weekend.



8. Fun Stuff:

- a. Guest speaker - Pansy's granddaughter, Deb Everts, told interesting stories about her highly intelligent and eccentric grandma, who many of us knew as The Goat Lady.
- b. Singing: (of course. duh)

- c. Cookie tasting: Ro set up a side by side taste test of ABC and Little Brownie Bakers.
- d. Just being at camp. Many thanks to the council for letting us return “home.”

Many thanks to all who helped:

Attended: Carol Barnes, Jeff Barnes, EvaDawn Bashaw, Dawn Cicchini, Barbara J. Conklin, Karen Cotten, Amy Jo and Wayne Dorler, Paul Farnham, Alyssa Farruggia, Janelle Farruggia, Annie Foti, Emily Garrick, Anita Gaston, Peg Jungquist, Jude Klock , Nancy Lombardo, Danay Marsh, Ann and Bill McIntyre, Kathy Moller, Joanne E. (Jo) Nelson, Allan Patchen, Natasha Patchen, Diane Powell, Terry Saye, Jennifer and Bob Schlick, Eileen Tallmadge, Erica Tener, Robert Thompson, Sara Thompson, Dee Wilson, Megan Wilson, and Ro Woodard.

Had hoped to attend, but something came up: Diane Evans and Dave Moller.

Could not attend, but helped with donations: Kimberly Lombard, Kathy Linn, Bonnie Swoger, Jerilyn Hickey, and Kimberly Meabon

Special Guests: Deborah and Bill Everts (Deb is Pansy's granddaughter)



I wish I had taken this picture after lunch Saturday when more people were still around!



This is only part of the Trail Crew.

There are lots more pictures on the Facebook Group feed. Check 'em out!

Fun Fact:

Volunteers travelled an estimated total of 8,950 miles round trip to participate in this weekend. Allan and Natasha Patchen came the furthest from Tennessee. Second place goes to Ro Woodard, and third to Erica Tener.