

Friends of Timbercrest Work (and Fun!) Report

April 5-9, 2024



Participants



Almost the entire Patchen Family came to our work weekend! They were raised on the property as the children of the first Camp Ranger.

1. Zara Azzam, Endicott, NY
2. Carol Barnes, Tioga Center, NY
3. Jeff Barnes, Tioga Center, NY
4. EvaDawn Bashaw, Fredonia, NY
5. Martha Brown-Bashaw, Fredonia, NY
6. Sarah Buffington, Mount Lebanon, PA
7. Elizabeth Byrne, Nazareth, PA
8. Dawn Cicchini, Pittsburgh, PA
9. Gina Dawes, Louisa, VA
10. Donna Dolce Millsboro, DE
11. Judi Edgerton, Bemus Point, NY
12. Yvonne Falcao, Palm Bay, FL
13. John Falcao, Palm Bay, FL
14. Alyssa Farruggia, Rochester, NY
15. Janelle Farruggia, Rochester, NY
16. Emily Garrick, Lakewood, NY
17. Philip Garrick, Lakewood, NY
18. Anita Gaston, Bluff Point, NY
19. Rosalind Gatto, Sidney, NY
20. Annette German, Falconer, NY
21. Ava German, Falconer, NY
22. Lilli German, Falconer, NY
23. Zoe German, Falconer, NY
24. Ralph Gese, East Aurora, NY
25. Lewis Haskell, Nazareth, PA
26. Peg Jungquist, Lakewood, NY
27. Marie Karasin, Ithaca, NY
28. Allison Karasin, Ithaca, NY
29. Karen Martin, Friendship, NY
30. Mary Mastrosimone-Gese, East Aurora, NY
31. Mary Beth Mazzone, Ashville, NY
32. Bill McIntyre, Fredonia, NY
33. Kathy Moller, Russell, PA
34. Paulette Morein, Dunkirk, NY
35. Joanne Nelson, Jamestown, NY
36. Marlene Norlander, Falconer, NY
37. Marilyn Osborne, Lakewood, NY
38. Lois Oswald, Dryden, NY
39. Nancy Papalia, Jamestown, NY
40. Natasha Patchen, Knoxville, TN
41. Michael Patchen, Monroeville, PA
42. Allan Patchen, Knoxville, TN

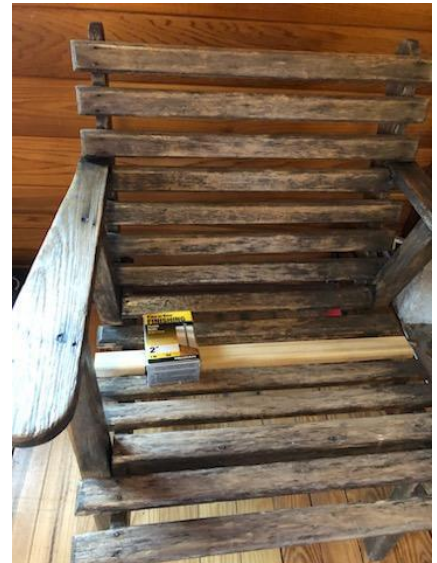
- 43. Bill Patchen,
- 44. Sally Patchen, Jamestown, NY
- 45. John Patchen, Rochester, NY
- 46. Diane Powell, Rochester, NY
- 47. Jennifer Schlick, Jamestown NY
- 48. Robert Schlick, Jamestown, NY
- 49. Annie Schroen, Brocton, NY
- 50. Salvatore Schroen, Brocton, NY
- 51. Richard Schroen, Brocton, NY
- 52. Tim Sullivan, Fredonia, NY

- 53. Brenda Sullivan, Fredonia, NY
- 54. Erica Tener, Woodstock, NY
- 55. Craig Thompson, Falconer, NY
- 56. Rob Thompson, Pittsburgh, PA
- 57. Reece Thompson, Pittsburgh, PA
- 58. Sara Thompson, Pittsburgh, PA
- 59. Pat Waite, Frewsburg, NY
- 60. Andrew Welton, Mars, PA
- 61. Rachel Welton, Mars, PA
- 62. Ro Woodard, Falconer, NY

Projects

Bellinger

Our woodworker friend Terry Saye made replacement parts for some of the chairs in Bellinger. These were attached to the chairs during the weekend.



Boat House

The canoe and kayak racks were moved into position for the summer.

Mealtime is Here

As usual, we were very well fed for the weekend. Many thanks to Bill, Pat, Alyssa, Tim, Brenda, and the many, many folks who pitched in to help with washing dishes! Bill especially wanted to honor Jennifer with her favorite meal of creamed tuna fish and peas on toast for lunch on Saturday. Several folks also brought yummy eclipse-themed snacks!



Miscellaneous

Benches: As requested by GSWNY, we built four benches to create seating areas at the basketball court and at the [gaga](#) pit.

Laminating: Back at the lodge, we laminated several copies of our newly updated camp map.



Outbuildings: We cleaned and swept out the staff cabin, staff cabin tents, and cook's cabin to get them ready for the season.

Nest Box Trail

We cleaned out the nest boxes to prepare for the spring nesting season.

Trails

Blazing: The blazes on the shortcut trails were completed. They look great!



General Maintenance: We did some clearing to get rid of trees and branches fallen during the winter storms. Some of our trail crew creatively turned a fallen tree into a bridge! They also did some tree trimming to remove dead branches.

Puncheons: The shortcut trails are convenient but muddy. We cut and hauled lumber and assembled several new puncheon footbridges to span the muddiest spots. Thank you to the trail crew for their hard work on this difficult job!



Signage: We corrected a few misspellings and added a few new squares on the trail signs installed over the last year. (Did you know that we spell our unit “Hawthorne Grove” with an -e?)

Tack Shed

We added a boot brush station outside the tack shed. Boots really take a beating at the horse area, so this should help!



Tidbits

We offered a Loop the Lake program for girls this weekend, in which they hiked the lake trail and looked for signs of spring. Thirty-two girls and adults attended the program, twenty-eight of whom had never been to Timbercrest before! It is always exciting to welcome new Girl Scouts to the property.



Units

All Units: In all of the units, we swept out the tents and latrines to get them ready for the season! We also built, painted, and installed new toilet-paper holders in the latrines to keep the toilet paper fresh and clean.



Sunset: As requested by GSWNY, we gave some attention to Sunset. This involved a lot of brush removal to make the spaces between the tents feel more open. We added wire to the

bridge in the unit to make sure no girls slip on the wet wood. We also dug a hole to create a new drainage pit around one of the spigots in Sunset. GSWNY filled this hole with gravel. Hopefully this will keep it from turning into a mud pit in the summer!



Wall of Fame Inductions

Sharon Soule Hammond Macintosh

On Saturday at lunchtime, we were pleased to have a presentation by Sharon Soule Hammond Macintosh, or as we have affectionately been referring to her, “The Lady Who Lived at Timbercrest Before it was Timbercrest.” She talked to us about life in the farmhouse on what is now the upper meadow, and we had a good time hearing from her and her beautiful family. Her memoir of that time, *Just Connie ‘N Me: A Recollection*, is [available on Amazon](#). Stay tuned for a biography to appear on our website.



Dorothy Pihlblad

We also had the great pleasure of viewing a slideshow put together by Dorothy “Dottie” Pihlblad, which showed the earliest days of the work transforming Timbercrest from a series of farms into a Girl Scout Camp. The slides included images of machinery digging out the lake and creating the camp roads, girls planting trees, and other interesting shots showing what the property looked like in the early ‘60’s. Dottie’s biography is now on the [FOT website!](#)



Louise Wood

After a long search, Jo Nelson has finally found a record of who gave Timbercrest its name! That honor went to Louise Wood. At the time, a name-our-camp contest was announced, with the prize of a two-week session at camp for free. For that reason, we had previously assumed the camp was named by a girl. However, the contest was actually open to anyone (not just girl members). Louise was a tireless volunteer who dedicated a lot of time and energy to the project that eventually became Camp Timbercrest. It is fitting that she also blessed the property with a name. Website biography coming soon.

Emily Garrick, Jennifer Schlick, and Ro Woodard

Finally, many of you conspired in secret to nominate FOT’s founders, Emily “Butterfly” Garrick, Jennifer “Nnifer” Schlick, and self-styled “fanatic follower” Ro Woodard. To say we are honored and humbled is an understatement. Thank you so much for the love you showered on us, and for the time, money, and heart you pour into our favorite place every year. We absolutely could not do this without you! Stay tuned for our spot on the website as well.



Shenanigans: Eclipse Edition!

Eggs

Throughout the weekend, Natasha Patchen offered training on how to decorate and dye eggs in the traditional Ukrainian style. The eggs were absolutely beautiful!



Eclipse

On Monday, April 8th, 2024, Timbercrest was in the path of totality for a total solar eclipse. While it was mostly cloudy, we had a blast throwing an eclipse-viewing party anyway! We saw sunset colors, watched the sky rapidly darken and become bright again, heard the frogs and crickets calling into the darkness, and sang “Mr. Moon, Mr. Moon, you’re out too soon!”



Donations and Fundraising

Many thanks to these folks who donated money toward our projects, and to those who purchased raffle tickets for the Timbercrest-themed “Ukrainian” egg, purchased an eclipse-themed Timbercrest t-shirt, and/or purchased items from our pop-up “store.”

Carol & Jeff Barnes
EvaDawn Bashaw
Sarah Buffington
Amra Cuhel
Anita Gaston
Rosalind Gatto

Marie Karasin
Bill McIntyre
Kim Meabon
Jo Nelson
Natasha Patchen
Didi Powell

Jennifer Schlick
Erica Tener
Rob Thompson
Ro Woodard
(and several anonymous donors)



Thank you again to everyone who helped make this weekend a success!

Mark Your Calendars

- **Friday-Sunday, October 11-13, 2024**
- **Friday- Sunday, April 25- 27, 2025**
- **Friday- Sunday, October 17- 19, 2025**