

Finger Lakes Trail NEWS

Summer 2014



Inside...

- * *When Nature Calls*
- * *Major changes in trail sponsorship:
GVHC leaves us*
- * *FLT honored by Land Trust*

President's Message

Pat Monahan

Winter had a very hard time letting go this year, holding its grip on all of us through most of April and into May. Mud season has come and gone as well, and I am glad summer has arrived in New York with all of its outdoor beauty to enjoy.

We held our Annual Membership Meeting on May 31 at Cazenovia College. I would like to thank Scott Bahantka, Jon Bowen, Donna Coon and Melanie Okoniewski for their service on the Board of Managers and welcome the Board Class of 2017 that includes returning member Sigi Schwinge as well as new members Debra Nero, Mike Ogden, Wendy Stevenson and Neil Yoder. Thank you to the membership for your votes and confidence in these new board members. Our financial report indicated that we are a fiscally strong organization and operating within our means as a membership-driven organization. As such, I hope you have renewed your membership again this year. We cannot stay true to our mission “to build, maintain, enhance and promote a continuous footpath across New York State” without your continued support.

I would also like to give a big FLT thanks to our “retiring” Board Officer Ron Navik. Ron has volunteered in many roles throughout his years with the FLT including board member, Regional Trail Coordinator, Vice President of Trail Preservation, and Trail Chair for the Genesee Valley Hiking Club. Over the years, his leadership has helped keep the FLT focused on our mission. Ron has built the footpath. He has led the effort to get trail easements. He will be missed. Good luck with unpacking the boxes and settling into your new home in Asheville, North Carolina.

Finally, I hope all of you invite a friend to go out and enjoy the FLT. It is a footpath with plenty of character. If you happen to see one of our landowners, stop for a moment to say thanks. Those two words—thank you—will go a thousand miles for a landowner. It is that simple.

While you are at it, go take a hike!



Photo taken at the Moss Hill Lean-to. Left to right (front): Peter Fleszar, Pat Monahan, Joanna Swanson (back): Jim Garthe, Tom Johnson, Champ Zumbur, Marty Dominy

Great Eastern Trail Board Meets In New York

The Great Eastern Trail Association (GETA) held its annual Board meeting at Watson Homestead Retreat and Conference Center on April 4-6, 2014. Board members and guests spent the weekend in meetings and on the trail. This was the first meeting in New York State since the trail's inception. Trail reports were given from each sponsoring club. The Board approved the TuGuNu Club (West Virginia) and Narrows Now Club (Virginia) as new members to the GETA Board. The Board also approved various membership levels.

In addition to the Board meeting, several members made a successful attempt to reach the terminus of the Great Eastern Trail (GET) at the northern end of the Crystal Hills Trail. The GET meets the FLT main branch at the Moss Hill lean to in South Bradford in Steuben County on Map M13. This location is the crossroads of over 10,000 miles of continuous footpath across the United States and Canada. It also is the intersection of the North Country National Scenic Trail (NCT) heading east/west and the GET north/south. The 2015 GETA board meeting will be somewhere in Virginia.

FINGER LAKES TRAIL

New York's Premier Footpath

SUMMER 2014

Mission Statement

The mission of the Finger Lakes Trail Conference is to build, protect, enhance, and promote a continuous footpath across New York State. Forever!

FINGER LAKES TRAIL NEWS

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DEPARTMENTS

- 7 When Nature Calls
- 8 A Naturalist's View
- 25 A Walk on the Wordy Side
- 26 FLT Named Hike Events
- 27 Balance Sheet
- 29 Bug Bites
- 31 Name that Map!
Answers to the Spring Quiz

CONTENTS

- 4 Finger Lakes Trail Honored by Land Trust
- 6 First Annual North Country National Scenic Trail Day Hikes
- 10 FLT Fall Weekend at Chautauqua
- 17 Genesee Valley Hiking Club is Leaving the Fold
- 21 Wally Wood Hike
- 22 Landowner Hopes to Convince Neighbors to Donate Easement
- 33 Learning from the Master
- 34 Dedicated to the Dogs Who Hike with Us

COLUMNS

Inside front cover...

- President's Message
- 5 Executive Director's Report
- 8 Naturalist's View
- 16 Trail Topics, *reports from the trail management directors*
- 22 End-to-End Update

FLTC Office Hours

Mondays, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 9:00 to 2:30,
but there are frequent exceptions, so call ahead if you want to be sure:
585/658-9320

COVER: Inside a dandelion
by Chris Snow of Oxford.

THIS PAGE: Bog iris and fern, next to observation deck on Huckleberry Bog loop, map B3 between Prattsburgh and Hammondsport. Photo by Jacqui Wensich.

Finger Lakes Trail Honored By Land Trust

The Finger Lakes Land Trust, turning 25 this year, and the Finger Lakes Trail Conference both realized early that our missions overlapped in important ways. At a 1990 hike celebrating closure of the final gap on our then-new Map M12 at Hammondsport, we welcomed the infant land trust to set up an info table at a grape juice station for hikers in Pleasant Valley. *FLT News* editor Tom Reimers even put a big membership plug into an early 90's issue.

Since those early days, our two organizations have worked together on multiple protection projects that have benefitted both. In the early 90's, the Land Trust invented the language for us of our simple trail easement, AND held the first four trail easements for us temporarily, while our own board learned to become comfortable with the idea. This was a tremendous leap in thinking for the trail's Board of Managers twenty years ago, but the good legal minds who volunteered for the Land Trust knew how to craft such a document for us, advancing our capabilities by a quantum leap.

The Emerald Necklace concept, which involves the Land Trust's ongoing efforts to consolidate a green crescent stretching east-west south of several major finger lakes to connect public lands and private conservations easements into a continuous area, happens to cover the passage of the trail from west of Watkins Glen to east of Ithaca! So several Land Trust protection projects have also protected our trail route, too. Most recently, the Trail Conference accepted the Bock-



Andy Zepp, Executive Director of the Finger Lakes Land Trust, presents their Conservationist of the Year Award to the Finger Lakes Trail Conference. Left to right, Pat Monahan, FLT President, Irene Szabo, Tom Reimers, Andy Zepp, and Roger Hopkins.

Harvey Forest Preserve donation of property AND put a Land Trust conservation easement on it, too, to ensure its preservation forever.

Similar missions attract similar volunteers, too, so several of our own active people have figured in the Land Trust history, too. Prior presidents of the trail's board Tom Reimers and Irene Szabo have been presidents of the Land Trust board, too, our webmaster Roger Hopkins has been honored as 2010 Volunteer of the Year by the Land Trust, while Tom was their Conservationist of the Year in 2006. "Our own Board of Managers was helped on its way to maturity as a not-for-profit board by all I learned during my service on the Land Trust's board because they always attracted so many smart and experienced volunteers. I'll always say I took more from the Land Trust board those years than I contributed," Irene says.

At the Land Trust's annual meeting on May 17th of this year, they awarded their annual Conservationist of the Year to the Finger Lakes Trail Conference. We are honored and thrilled to be considered thus by such a fine organization. 🍁

Join the North Country Trail Association

A Special Deal for FLTC Members!

Now you can join the North Country Trail Association for just \$23 per year! You'll get a subscription to North Star magazine, and the satisfaction of helping develop the North Country National Scenic Trail. To join, send this coupon to:

NCTA, 229 E. Main St., Lowell, MI 49331 or call 866-Hike-NCT

Name(s):	
Address:	
City, St. Zip:	
Phone (optional):	
Email (optional):	
<input type="checkbox"/>	I'm enclosing a check for \$23 payable to NCTA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Please charge my credit card (MasterCard, Visa or AmEx only)
Card #:	Exp. Date:
Name as it appears on card:	
Signature:	



Send **address changes** to
Finger Lakes Trail Conference
6111 Visitor Center Rd.
Mt. Morris, NY 14510
or FLTinfo@FingerLakesTrail.org

Executive Director's Report

Dick Hubbard

TRACKING DOWN THE NEXT 2.6 PERCENT

Now that we have entered into our busy season and many of us return to the trail – for either pleasure or trail work – it is nice to know that we do this as members of our 52 year old organization! Our restyled annual membership letter came your way in the mail, and we begin another year together. Or if you are a new member, welcome! New members are important and healthy for our success.

Your letter encouraged you to continue your membership and maintain your interest in supporting our mission of the FLT. Truly, without you, we could never see it happen. But membership numbers have dropped over the past couple of years, a tough scenario for a membership based organization where growth is important.

Consider what membership means to our financial well-being. Over the past five years, membership dues represent 23.3% of our total income. Last year we only attained 21.1 percent. This year our budget for membership dues is \$43,500 or 23.7% of the budgeted income for the Conference. That represents a 2.6% increase in membership from last year. Where are these new members coming from?

This is not going to happen from within! We need to encourage new members and I'm asking you to help bear that burden. Membership growth will happen only if we are out asking friends, fellow workers, family members and fellow hikers to join our ranks! It really isn't hard, but it takes the

little effort to remember to ask. When you are finished with the *FLT News*, pass it on to a non-member and ask them to consider membership. Or copy the small member coupon out of the magazine and carry it with you on a hike. Pass it on to a potential member, and when you are at another hiking event, stand up and pass the word about membership in the FLT.

So, enjoy the FLT, but do it with a friend! Bring someone along on a work day or make it a point to take a prospective member on one of your favorite hikes. It's fun and easy and possibly your friend will thank you many times over for the favor of membership! 🍁



Early this spring Dick met with Kristina Schoepfer, the newly appointed OPRHP (State Parks) Manager for the Genesee Valley Greenway to bring her up-to-date on the repair work being done on an historic culvert that runs under a section of trail shared by the GVG and the FLT. Photo credit to Ron Cartwright, Highway Superintendent for Genesee Falls who met with us.



This was taken at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the dedication of the Belfast Park area of the Genesee River Wilds. Dick is pictured (L-R) with NYS Senator Cathy Young, Genesee River Wilds president Bill Hart and NYS DEC Senior Forester Ron Abraham. Following the dedication, Ron led a group hike on a new trail he created on nearby Allen Lake State Forest land. Genesee River Wilds is a project to connect and feature an impressive stretch of open space along the river from southern NY to northern Pennsylvania.

www.fingerlakestrail.org

FLT Office Hours

Monday/Tuesday & Thursday/Friday
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

There are exceptions so please call in advance
to be sure someone is in the office.

Contact: Dick Hubbard
Hubbard.RDH@gmail.com
716-604-8380

First Annual North Country National Scenic Trail Day Hikes on the concurrent Finger Lakes Trail [FLT] and North Country National Scenic Trail [NCNST], 27 September

On the 4th Saturday in September, annually, North Country Trail Assoc. (NCTA) members will host an event on the NCNST so that all NCTA Chapters and Affiliates (like the FLTC) will celebrate a section of the trail on the same day. Events will also celebrate National Public Lands Day as nearly half of the NCNST is on public land. It is exciting to think that most every trail maintaining organization will be hosting an event on the trail the same day.

In New York there will also be hikes on the NCTA CNY Chapter section, east of Syracuse; contact jacobr7@yahoo.com. And for a hike on the Adirondack route, western end near Forestport, contact maryccoffin@gmail.com. Below are two hikes to be held along the Finger Lakes Trail system.

North Country National Scenic Trail Day Hike, **Highland Forest**, FLT Map O2
Leader: Lucy Hawkins, Lucy.Hawkins@rocketmail.com
Highland Forest North Country Trail end to end, 5 miles, Map O2, ADK-Onondaga section. We will climb gentle, forested hills on the west side of the park then drop to DeRuyter Lake on the east side. Expect spectacular autumn vistas. Meet at 10:00 AM at Highland Forest, Skyline Visitor Center
Directions: Highland Forest is on Route 80 in Fabius, NY, south of Syracuse and north of Cortland. From the west, exit Interstate 81 in Tully and take Route 80 just east of Fabius or approach from the east via Route 80.

Please note the new user fee of \$3 per person in Highland Forest.

North Country National Scenic Trail Day Hike, **Little Rock City**, FLT Map M2
Leader: Mike Schlicht, pageazi@yahoo.com, 716/ 316-4388

Hike Description: Approx. 10 miles, parts very hilly. Our hike will start at the base of the Holimont Ski Resort (6921 Rt. 242) which is just east of Ellicottville, NY. We'll raise our heart rates by climbing UP the ski hill and then will enjoy the sights of Ellicottville from the top of the mountain. From there, we'll traverse south towards Little Rock City along the top of



The tornado's "clear cut" through state forest north of Salamanca near Little Rock City.

the mountain before descending towards Camp Seneca and then see the results of a tornado that touched down in this area in 2010. Shortly after ascending the hill we'll encounter the St. Lawrence divide. Water from this part of the mountain either flows towards Lake Erie and the Atlantic Ocean, or

south towards the Allegheny River and the Gulf of Mexico. We will then encounter the skyscrapers of Little Rock City. The trail was rerouted last year to encompass more of the treasure trove of multistory rocks as big as buildings. We will then have a nice downhill hike towards our cars but not before we cross a rock bridge built in 1860.

Meeting Time and Location: We will meet at the roundabout at the end of Stone Chimney Road at 9:00 am. Stone Chimney Road is just north of Salamanca, NY on Rt. 353 and goes through a golf course. When parking your car, please park on the right side of the road to limit the potential for golf ball sized ... uh ... golf balls from hitting your car.

If you are coming from the north or east, drive to Ellicottville, NY, take Rt. 242 West towards Little Valley. When you reach Rt. 353, turn left and proceed south, looking for the golf course on your left.

If you come from the south, take 353 north out of Salamanca and turn right into the golf course onto Stone Chimney Road. Once we assemble at Stone Chimney Road, we'll car pool to the Holimont Ski Resort to start our hike. 🍁

When Nature Calls

Jennifer Schlick

The spunky little twenty-something facilitator of the workshop asked us all to think about something we all do every day, perhaps even several times a day. In fact, she encouraged us to review in our minds a typical day and count how many times we do it.

Once upon waking, once after breakfast. Again before lunch, and once before supper. Once before bed and that makes at least five for me.

Next, she instructed us to take marking flags, one for each time we do it – yellow flags for number 1, oranges ones for number 2 – and “plant” them in the surrounding woods. There were probably twenty of us at the Leave-No-Trace (LNT) workshop, by now all giggling, some slightly embarrassed. When we returned to the teaching circle, we were surrounded by over one hundred yellow and orange marking flags ... a visual representation of the impact we might have on an area ... just doing what we all have to do.

As with any human activity, there are ways to do even this while having less impact on the environment, which, of course, was the whole point of this part of the LNT training.

What prompted me to write about this topic? I recently took a nice long hike along trails in Allegany State Park and found three little piles of toilet paper on top of the fresh blanket of autumn leaves. One was right next to, almost right in the trail. One was within 3 feet of a creek. And the third, of the orange flag variety, was behind the lean-to where campers eat and sleep. Really, people?

What makes someone do that? Is it a disregard for other people's experience? “I'll be gone in a few minutes, what do I care if someone has to come upon my excrement while hiking?” Is it a fear of our own bodily functions? “Ew! I don't want to touch that any more than I have to!” I hope it's just that they've never been taught the proper way. So let me teach you.

The Leave-No-Trace guidelines instruct us to use facilities if they exist. This seems like a no brainer, but I've camped at several lean-to areas where others have not used the outhouse. If no facilities exist, and you are camping together with several others, you should designate a potty area at least 200 feet from trails, campsites, and water sources, and dig your own mini-latrine. If you are hiking, walk 200 feet away from trails, campsites, and water sources. Deposit human solid waste in a “cat hole” 6-8 inches deep, then cover and disguise the hole. Pack out toilet paper and hygiene products. Read it again: Pack out toilet paper and hygiene products.

Some of my hiking companions are “grossed out” by this last guideline. It's not that hard to do. It just takes a little planning. One of the pockets on each of my packs is the

potty pocket. In one ziplock bag is clean toilet paper; in another is the dirty stuff that I'll throw away when I get home.

You may be surprised to learn that there are some heavily visited natural areas that also require you to pack out the human solid waste. Oh, I can hear you screaming, “That's so gross!” But think about it. Is it less gross to pull your canoe up onto a sandy beach to set up camp only to find that every place you dig brings up someone else's deposit? That's what was happening along the Colorado River as rafting became more and more popular. And that's what prompted organizations to recommend “pack it in, pack it out” – and to have that principle apply to EVERYTHING you bring in. There are products to facilitate the packing out of your own waste.

Next time you are online, do a search for “how to poop in the woods” and see what comes up! In addition to products and advice, you will find a lot of conversation and disagreement about whether it is necessary to cart ours out. Isn't ours just as natural as the animals'? Won't ours disintegrate just as the animals' does? Sadly, given our diet and medications, ours is not as natural as the animals. And yes, ours will disintegrate over time, just as the animals' does (or doesn't depending on the weather and climate)... but as it breaks down (if it breaks down), our pathogens and medications are passed along.

One of the websites I read encouraged people who will be hiking or camping together to have The Potty Talk before venturing out. Don't make assumptions about what your friends know and don't know about the proper way to dispose of human waste. Talk about it. Laugh about it. Make rules about it. But for all our sakes, please be responsible about it. The natural world is full of beauty and wonder. Let's not mar it with bad habits. When nature calls, answer responsibly.

Jennifer Schlick is program director at Jamestown Audubon in Jamestown, New York. She loves hiking, camping and photography.

Resources:

<http://www.amazon.com/Debbie-Meyer-Green-Bags-Pack/dp/B0011TMP3Y#>
These bags, designed to keep fruit fresh, also work to contain the smell of used toilet paper and hygiene products. There are other brands that do the same thing.

<http://www.rei.com/product/662978/cleanwaste-wag-bag-waste-bags-package-of-12>
When you are required to carry human waste out, these bags are the way to go.

<https://lnt.org/> Leave No Trace Website

Previously published in Jamestown area newspapers as an article from Jamestown Audubon Society. 🍁

A Naturalist's View

Randy Weidner

Most of us hikers take great care in the selection of footwear for traversing the sometimes rocky, sometimes boggy sections of the Finger Lakes Trail. Many favor low hikers, but there are advocates of higher boots and even some who venture forth in sneakers or heavy-duty sandals. Probably no one attempts to hike in slippers. Nevertheless, it is well worth keeping an eye out for slippers, not the bedroom variety, but the prized orchids of the Northeastern forest, the Lady Slippers (*Cypripedium* sp.). There are three species of Lady Slipper you might encounter while walking the trail.

Probably the most widespread is the Large Yellow Lady Slipper (*Cypripedium parviflorum* var. *pubescens*). This is to be differentiated from a smaller variety of Yellow Lady Slipper found farther north in calcareous fens and Northern White Cedar swamps. This small variety is a delight to find because unlike other Lady Slippers, it has a strong pleasant vanilla-like fragrance. Our Large Yellow Lady Slipper may have at best a faint, musky odor. It prefers rich woodlands and also favors calcareous soils, typical around limestone. Reaching 30 inches tall, often growing in groups, a patch of Large Yellow Lady Slippers is quite a sight. The herbaceous stalk rises from an underground stem. Large parallel-veined, alternate leaves branch off the stem. The single, bright yellow flower, up to 2



Yellow Lady Slipper

½ inches long, is unmistakably an orchid. The slipper-shaped bowl is highlighted by two long and spiraled, brownish lateral petals and a similarly appearing dorsal sepal. The earliest of our orchids to bloom, look for them from mid-May to mid-June. Unfortunately, like so many of our wildflowers, they are eaten by deer, who often limit their abundance.

The second most common, and next to bloom (mid-May to mid-July), is the Pink Lady Slipper (*Cypripedium acaule*), also known as the Moccasin Flower. Their habitat is listed as mixed hardwood and coniferous forest, but I find most of them under Eastern Hemlock trees. They are more tolerant of our typically drier, acidic soils. Also rising from an underground stem, Pink Lady Slippers rarely reach 15 inches tall. They produce only two, opposite, wide, parallel-veined leaves that seem to lie flat on the leaf litter. The flower stem rises from between the leaves and is topped by a single pink bloom, again with an obviously slipper-shaped bowl. The two brown lateral petals of this species are slightly twisted but the dorsal sepal is flat, and drapes down over the upper part of the blossom. Also eaten by deer and other animals, this orchid has another growth requirement that may limit its distribution. It seems to need filtered light, so if the forest floor is too open, or too dark, it will not thrive.

The third of our Lady Slippers, and the rarest, is the Showy Lady Slipper (*Cypripedium reginae*). This is the last of the three to bloom; look for them mid-June to mid-July. Showy Lady Slippers require a constantly wet seepage of cool water, so you will



Showy Lady Slipper

Joan Young

find them only in moist meadows, swamps, or fens. The tallest of our three Lady Slippers, the Showy will grow over three feet tall and is often noticed above the swampy ferns and other plants. The stem and leaf arrangement is much like the Yellow Lady Slipper's, but the Showy uniquely produces multiple blossoms. The flower is magnificent, with three flat white sepals radiating from the top of the bloom and a white bowl flushed with dense streaks of bright pink. Between the bowl and the sepals is the orchid's column, a fusion of the pistil and stamens, which is bright yellow. As with the others, they are heavily preyed upon by deer.

Orchids are truly unique plants in many ways, and understanding their biology was quite a challenge. The most obviously different feature is the flower. The sepals are often modified to look like petals, but that in itself is not very odd. The lateral petals may be small and not very obvious, or long and highly altered, but the highly modified labellum, or lower petal, can form fantastic shapes like the bowls of Lady Slippers or the fringed structures of other orchids. The male and female flower parts are often highly modified into the column. Orchids do not produce nectar, yet are dependent on bees, moths, flies, and hummingbirds for pollination. They rely on their coloration and overall appearance to lure a pollinator, which may only visit once, having found no nectar. But there is evidence that some pollinators are drawn to pollen even in the absence of nectar, and when one does re-enter an orchid, the individual flower can produce tens to hundreds of thousands of tiny seeds. This severely stresses the plant, which can live upwards of a hundred years and it may not flower again for several years.

When a seed does land in a favorable location, it will germinate only when it forms a mutualistic association with a soil fungus. These fungi, typically of the genus *Rhizoctonia*, actually invade the orchid cells then serve as a conduit for bringing in nutrients from the wider fungal network in the soil, a condition known as an endomycorrhizal association. This association is absolutely critical to the orchid and will last as long as the plant lives. It takes a Pink Lady Slipper Orchid seed 3-7 years of growth to send leaves up through the ground, and another 5-10 years of growth to flower. What a marvelous life history it has, dependent on so many other conditions. This is why you must never, ever pick a wild orchid, nor try to transplant them to your garden. It never works because they need their elaborate fungal network. So look sharp and hopefully you can see one or more of our native orchids, but just look, take a picture, do not disturb them, and move on. 🍁



In Memory of:

Donald K. McCabe

from

Mr. & Mrs. K. Timko

Ann Garofalo

from

Edward J. Sidote

Christine K. Gibson

from

Edward J. Sidote



ENJOY THE SPECTACULAR TRAILS IN DULUTH, MINNESOTA

It's a rare city that features miles of GOOD forested hiking trail, views above the harbor and Lake Superior, bridges over waterfalls, and all of it part of a National Scenic Trail. Duluth is a treasure, and will be hosted in August by the four North Country Trail Chapters of Minnesota. Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy a special place. <http://northcountrytrail.org/trail/states/minnesota/duluth/>

Join your FLT friends who are already signed up! Six of us already have a "mountain villa" at Spirit Mountain, and others are coming in their camper.

FLT Fall Weekend at Chautauqua



Donnal Flood

A pond along the Chautauqua Rails to Trails

The historic Chautauqua Institution, sited on the south side of Chautauqua Lake and founded in 1874 as a training camp for Sunday school teachers, will be the location of the Fall Weekend 2014. The Foothills Trail Club and the FLTC will sponsor the event for hikers, bikers, and paddlers on September 19-21. Featured speakers will be Jonathan Schmitz from the Chautauqua Institution and Ed Kasperek from Search and Rescue on Friday and Saturday evenings respectively.

Chautauqua, long a home of the arts, lectures, plays, opera, and symphony concerts, has Victorian homes, many historic buildings, and art galleries. All are

contained on a walking campus surrounding Bellinger Hall where the event is centered. Though the summer season will have concluded, many hikes are scheduled for club members and guests. Bellinger Hall, a modern conference center, has single, double and triple rooms, shared baths and a large dining room. Hikes are arranged for the Chautauqua Rails to Trails, Eastside and Westside Overland Trails, and the Finger Lakes Trail and are from easy to moderately strenuous, led by experienced hikers. The Chautauqua County trails are new to many club members and travel through picturesque countryside, farmland and woods. Join us in discovery this fall.



Donna Flood

At the border between NY & PA in Allegany State Park on the FLT/NCT.



Bell Tower overlooking Chautauqua Lake.
Photo courtesy of Chautauqua Institution

Finger Lakes Trail Conference – 2014 Fall Weekend
September 19 - 21, 2014
Bellinger Hall at Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, NY 14722
Hosted by the Foothills Trail Club

Schedule of Events

Friday, September 19

11 am	Registration opens
11:30 – 2:00 pm	Hikes depart, see schedule
1 – 6 pm	FLTC Store open
5 pm	Social hour – <i>you may bring alcoholic beverages</i>
6 – 7 pm	Buffet Dinner
7:30 pm	<u>Evening presentation</u> – Jonathan Schmitz of the Chautauqua Institution will speak about the history of the Institution and Chautauqua Lake

Saturday, September 20

7 – 8 am	Buffet Breakfast Pick up trail lunches
6 – 9:30 am	Hikes depart, see schedule
1 – 6 pm	FLTC Store open
5 pm	Forever Society Reception – <i>wine and cheese</i>
6 – 7 pm	Buffet Dinner and Awards
7:30 pm	<u>Evening Presentation</u> - Ed Kasparek speaking about “Search and Rescue”

Sunday, September 21

7 – 8 am	Buffet Breakfast Pick up trail lunches Check out and leave key card in room
7:40 - 9 am	Hikes depart, see schedule
9 am – 12 pm	FLTC Board of Managers Meeting

Directions - The Chautauqua Institution is located in the southwestern corner of New York State.

New York State Thruway (Interstate 90), take exit 60 (Westfield). Turn east onto NY-394/North Portage Street. Stay on NY-394 East through Mayville for approximately 12 miles. Turn left to enter the grounds of the Chautauqua Institution.

Southern Tier Expressway (Interstate 86) - If westbound, take exit 8. Turn right onto Route 394 West and continue for approximately 5.6 miles. Turn right to enter the grounds of the Chautauqua Institution.

Parking Upon arrival at the institution, proceed through the gate (no charge) and follow signs for Bellinger Hall. A small parking lot next to Bellinger Hall is available for drop off and pick up. Then move your vehicle to the North Parking Lot for the weekend.

There are no facilities for campers or motorhomes on the grounds. Go to Camp Chautauqua-www.campchautauqua.com

Questions? Contact Donna Flood at (716) 759-6442, dmflood@roadrunner.com

2014 Finger Lakes Trail Conference Fall Weekend Hike Schedule
Meet in the downstairs lounge at Bellinger Hall for hike departures
NO SNEAKERS

Friday September 19th

A1 – Conservation Trail, 5.8 miles. Moderate. Meet at 11:30 am, drive time to parking is 1 hr. 10 min.

The M1/C1 trail in Allegany State Park will be hiked over 3 days. The Friday hike is the section from France Brook Road A-5 to Bay State Road A-8 in Allegany State Park, where the climbs are gradual and the trail is only moderately strenuous. Cars will be spotted at Bay State Road and the hike will begin at France Brook Road. Hike leaders: Fred and Sandy Becker

A2 – Westside Overland Trail (Q to S), 4.7 miles. Moderate. Meet at 1:00 pm, drive time is 30 minutes

This trail, with scattered gentle inclines, goes through NYS reforestation area, private land, Panama State Forest and Broken Straw State Forest. There is a combination of conifers and hardwood and several small creeks with bridges. Leader: Shari Senefelder

A3 – Eastside Overland Trail (A to E & return), 4.5 miles. Moderate. Meet at 1:00 pm, drive time is 35 min.

At the start of this hike there is a steep incline. The hike passes through the woods, by a pond, a lean-to and a fresh water pump. Hike Leader: Jeanne Moog

A4 – Audubon Center and Sanctuary, 3 miles or more. Easy. Meet at 1:30 pm, drive time is 35 minutes.

Hike the trails with fabulous views of field, forest and pond on the grounds of the 27-acre sanctuary in Jamestown. Plan to stop at the Nature Center to see Liberty, the bald eagle. Hike leaders: Carol Kobrin and Carole Orsolits

A5 – Chautauqua Rails to Trails, 4.5 miles. Easy. Meet at 1:30 pm, drive time 20 minutes

Hike passes through wetlands where blue heron have been spotted, followed by a pleasant walk in the woods. Hike Leaders: Sigi and Horst Schwinge

A6 - Bike around Chautauqua Lake, approx. 43 miles. Moderate pace with some hills. Meet at 1:00 pm.

Cycle starts at the Chautauqua Institution. Stop at Long Point State Park, Bemus Point and several other interesting points along the way. This ride has great views of the lake. Helmets required. Bike leader: Annette Brzezicki

A7-Chautauqua Grounds. Easy. Meet at 2:00 pm.

Leisurely walk around the Institution grounds. Hike leader: Barb Morrissey.

Saturday September 20th

B1 - Conservation Trail, 21 miles. Difficult, fast pace. Meet at 6:00 am, drive 1 hr. 10 minutes

The M1/C1 trail through Allegany State park will be hiked in one day! Fast pace. Come hike all 21.4 miles of the Conservation Trail in Allegany State Park! We will meet at PA #346 (M1/CT1, Access 1 at sunrise (7:00 a.m.) and car pool to Bay State Road ASP2 (M1/CT1, Access 8). We will hike from north to south. We will leave Bellinger at 6:00 a.m. for a one hour drive to PA #346 and drive 20 minutes to the beginning of the hike. With 12 hours of daylight to accomplish our task, maintaining a hike speed of 2.5 mph, we will get back to our cars before dark. For those who wish to do a half hike make arrangements with hike leader, Mike. All hikers must be in shape and capable of elevation gains and losses of 400-600 feet a number of times over the 21 miles. Hike Leader: Mike Schlicht pageazi@yahoo.com

B2 - Conservation Trail, 7.1 miles. Moderate. Meet at 8:00 am, drive is 1 hr. 10 minutes

The M1/C1 trail will be hiked over 3 days. The Saturday hike is the section from France Brook A-5 to Coon Run A-3 in Allegany State Park, where the climbs are gradual and the trail is only moderately strenuous. Cars will be spotted at Coon Run and the hike will begin at France Brook Road. Hike Leaders: Donna Flood and Lois Justice

B3 – Conservation Trail, 9.5 miles. Strenuous, fast pace. Meet at 8:00 am, drive time is 1 hour

This M2/C2 hike is from Access 3 to Access 6 which is from Sawmill Run Road to Route 353. Gradual 500 foot climb to Bucktooth Forest, full of red pine and hardwoods, then a gradual 600 foot descent to Route 353. Fast paced. Hike leader: Quinn Wright

B4 - Chautauqua Gorge Hike, approximately 8 miles. Strenuous. Meet at 8:00 am, drive 20 minutes

Highly recommend wearing old sneakers and socks for good traction and to help keep out stones. Sandals or water shoes are more troublesome. This gorge hike has a very steep descent to the water and a very steep climb back up. We will be creek walking most of the time and the rocks underneath will be very slippery. This hike passes Skinny Dip Falls which is 7' high. The mile surrounding Skinny Dip falls is a nudist area, so be prepared. We will pass First Falls/Dark Falls with a 30' fall, small cascades and some stunning views of the gorge. There are normally eagles all along the route. Hike is limited to 15 hikers. Hike Leaders: Annette Brzezicki and Claudia Lawlor

B5 – Eastside Overland Trail (I to O), 6.3 miles. Moderate. Meet at 8:15 am, drive 50 minutes

The terrain is gently rolling and mostly forested through Boutwell Hill State Forest with many streams and brooks and with footbridges for easy crossing. Hike leaders: Carol Kobrin and Carole Orsolits

B6 – Westside Overland Trail (K to S), Hike 11.5 miles. Moderate. Meet at 8:15 am, drive 20 minutes

This trail passes through state forestland with pine and spruce trees, brooks and creeks with bridges and a lean-to with a fresh water pump. This hike has scattered gentle inclines and several small sections of dirt road walk. Leader: John Burnham

B7 – Chautauqua Rails to Trails, 7 miles. Easy. Meet at 8:30 am, drive is 30 minutes

Stop briefly to see the view at Luensman Overview Park, and then drive a short distance to begin the hike. This hike offers a shady canopy of trees while gently climbing the Lake Erie Escarpment offering views of Lake Erie. Leaders: Roy Tocha and Jeanne Moog

B8 - The College Lodge in Brocton, NY, 4 miles. Moderate. Meet 8:30 am, drive 30 minutes

This beautiful property is owned by SUNY Fredonia and includes deep woods with a moderately hilly terrain, a nature preserve, wetlands and ponds. There is a bird watching and wildlife observation area. Hike Leader: Jennifer Schlick

B9 - Westside Overland Trail (K to Q), 6.7 miles. Moderate. Meet at 8:30 am, drive 20 minutes

Hike has gentle scattered inclines through state forestland with pines and spruce trees, brooks and creeks with bridges for easy crossing and .7 miles of country road walk. There is a lean-to and a fresh water pump. Hike Leaders: Frank and Maria Pecenco

B10 - Westside Overland Trail (A to G), 7.6 miles. Moderate. Meet at 8:45 am, drive time 20 minutes

Trail starts at the Chautauqua Gorge ending at Mt. Pleasant State Forest. It is mostly wooded, crosses creeks with footbridges and includes about ½ mile of road walk. This hike has several steep inclines. Hike Leaders: Marty and Donna Ruszaj

B11 – Rails to Trails, 6 miles. Easy. Meet at 9:00 am, drive 10 minutes

Hike starts at the old train depot, now a museum, in the village
www.fingerlakestrail.org



Along the Chautauqua Rails to Trails.

of Mayville on Lake Chautauqua. We'll see the Chautauqua Belle steam boat before continuing on the wooded trail offering views of farmland. Turn around and hike back. Hike Leader: Myra Lucero

B12 - Portage Trail, 7.2 miles. Easy. Meet at 9:00 am, drive 15 minutes

This hike features a pleasant trail in the woods passing a pond. The portage was used by Native Americans to carry their canoes from Lake Erie to Lake Chautauqua. Turn around and hike back. Hike Leaders: Carolyn Celeste and Kathy Clerkin

B13 - Portage Trail, 4 miles. Easy. Meet at 9:00 am, drive 20 minutes

This hike is in the woods and passes a pond. This trail was used by Native Americans to carry their canoes from Lake Erie to Lake Chautauqua. Hike Leaders: Tara Welty and Bob Schmidt

B14 - Long Point Park Hike, 4 miles. Easy. Meet at 9:30 am, drive 20 minutes

Long Point State Park, located in Bemus Point, juts peninsula-like into Lake Chautauqua. Admission is \$7 per car. The Empire Pass is accepted. Hike the nature paths inside the park and along Long Point peninsula for beautiful views of Lake Chautauqua. Hike Leaders: Gayle Syty and Rick Piraino

B15- Paddle Outlet of Chautauqua Lake, Easy. Meet at 9:00 am.

The stretch of flat water is suitable for beginners and nature lovers. Leisurely paddle through undeveloped area, launch at McCrea Point Park and paddle toward lake. If conditions permit, explore shoreline and return to McCrea Point Park. PFD required. Round trip 2 ½ hours plus time to explore

lake shore. Rentals available at Evergreen Outfitters (716) 763-2266. Paddle leader: Bob Ensminger

Sunday September 21st

C1 - Chautauqua Institution Grounds, 2 miles. Easy. Meet at 7:40 am for one hour hike

Informative stroll around the grounds of the Chautauqua Institution and back in time to start another hike! Hike Leader: Sigi Schwinge

C2 - Conservation Trail, 8.6 miles. Moderate. Meet at 8:00 am, drive is 1 hr. 10 minutes

The M1/C1 trail will be hiked over 3 days. The Sunday hike is the section from Coon Run to Route 346 Access 1 in Allegany State Park, where the climbs are gradual and the trail is only moderately strenuous. Cars will be spotted at Route 346 and the hike will begin at Coon Run. Hike Leader: TBA

C3 - Westside Overland Trail (C to G), 5 miles. Moderate. Meet at 8:45 am, drive 20 minutes

This trail offers ascents and descents in a woodsy setting, passing a pond and lean-tos. Leader: Charlie Stirling

C4 - Eastside Overland Trail (U to R to V to U), 4.2 miles with option: 7.2 miles. Moderate. Meet at 9:00 am, drive 40 minutes

The trail is at the southern end of the Eastside Overland Trail, passes through NYS forestland, and is wooded with moderately hilly terrain. No car spotting. Hike 4.2 miles with the option to complete another loop for a total of 7.2 miles. Hike Leader: Dee McCarthy

C5 - Chautauqua Rails to Trails, 4.7 miles. Easy. Meet at 9:00 am, drive time 15 minutes

This hike passes through wooded areas offering views of farmland, the Mayville lakefront, the Chautauqua Belle, and the old train depot. Hike leader: TBA

C6 - Luensman Overview Park, 1 mile. Easy. Meet at 9:00 am, drive 30 minutes.

This park is a 70-acre overlook on a glacial ridge. Enjoy the view of Lake Erie and on a clear day, you can see the Canadian shore. Hike the interpretive trail with easy grade approximately 1 mile long through the woods. Leaders: TBA

C7-Paddle Cassadaga Creek, Easy. Meet at 10:00, drive 30 minutes.

Easy paddle for all skill levels on a meandering stream with a chance to view wild life. PFD required. Paddle leader: Richard Schraven

Private Campgrounds

- Camp Prendergast – 6238 Davis Road, Mayville, NY (716) 789-3485 www.campprendergast.com
- Camp Chautauqua – Route 394 north of I-86 (716) 789-3435 www.campchautauqua.com
- Wildwood Acres – 5006 Brown Road, Bemus Point, NY (716) 386-7037

Other Activities for Hikers and Non-Hikers

- The Lucille Ball Desi Arnez Museum - 212 Pine Street, Jamestown, NY. (716) 484-0800. Memorabilia, replica studio sets, gift shop
- Roger Tory Peterson Institute - 311 Curtis Street, Jamestown, NY. (716) 665-2473. Nature art and photography exhibits. 27 acre wooded setting with trails.
- Audubon Nature Center - 1600 Riverside Road, Jamestown, NY. (716) 569-2345. Interactive exhibits, wildflower gardens and 5 miles of trails
- Grape Discover Center - 8305 West Main Rd., Westfield NY. (716) 326-2003. The story of the Concord grape.
- Our Lady of Lourdes RC church – two locations: Bemus Point and Mayville
41 Main Street in Bemus Point – Saturday Mass at 4 pm, Sunday at 8:15 and 9:45 am
24 E. Chautauqua in Mayville – Saturday Mass at 5:30 pm, Sunday at 11:15

FLTC Fall Weekend 2014 - Registration Form - hosted by Foothills Trail Club
September 19, 20 & 21 - Chautauqua, New York

Register one of two ways:

One person per form. Please PRINT.

1) Hardcopy -- mail form and check payable to "Foothills Trail Club" to FLT, 5010 Salt Road, Clarence, NY 14031

2) On-line -- register and pay at www.foothillstrailclub.org

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Cell phone: _____

City: _____ Email: _____

Emergency Contact Name & Phone Number : _____

Local Hiking Club/Affiliation : _____

FEES: Registration deadline is August 29, 2014. No refunds after 8/29/14.

Registration fee: FLTC/ FTC members - \$12 Non-members - \$20 Hike Leaders - \$0 \$_____

Rooms: Dormitory style rooms at Bellinger Hall at Chautauqua Institution. Cost is per person. No children, no pets.

Each room reservation includes 3 meals - dinner that night, and breakfast and box lunch the next day.

Includes Linens (sheets, pillow, pillowcase, blanket, towel and washcloth). Check out is Sunday after breakfast.

Double room	Friday	\$ 70	<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday	\$ 70	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$_____
Triple room (11 available)	Friday	\$ 70	<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday	\$ 70	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$_____
Single room (3 available)	Friday	\$ 112	<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday	\$ 112	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$_____

If sharing a room, list roommate(s) _____

If no roommate listed, available roommate of same gender will be assigned.

Saturday night Dinner only (Absolutely no "walk-ins") \$ 20 \$_____

A la carte meals: Please circle your choice(s):

Friday			Dinner \$17
Saturday	Breakfast \$8.75	Box Lunch \$10.75	Dinner \$17
Sunday	Breakfast \$8.75	Box Lunch \$10.75	

Total enclosed. Make checks payable to: **Foothills Trail Club** \$_____

Meal Selections (Check selection for lunch)

Friday Dinner	Buffet including Grilled Chicken Breast, Rosemary Pork Loin and Stuffed Shells		
Saturday box lunch-choose	Ham & Swiss <input type="checkbox"/>	Roast Beef & Provolone <input type="checkbox"/>	Vegetable with Hummus <input type="checkbox"/>
Saturday Dinner	Buffet including Stuffed Breast of Chicken, Yankee Pot Roast and Vegetarian Lasagna		
Saturday box lunch-choose	Ham & Swiss <input type="checkbox"/>	Roast Beef & Provolone <input type="checkbox"/>	Vegetable with Hummus <input type="checkbox"/>

Hike Selections

	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
First choice	_____	_____	_____
Second choice	_____	_____	_____

Please read and Sign the following:

Those persons enjoying the Finger Lakes Trail (FLT) and/or activities sponsored by the Finger Lakes TrailConference (FLTC) or any clubs conducting activities on behalf of, or in support of the FLTC, accept full personal responsibility for their own well being, or, for the well being of a minor when acting in the capacity of parent or guardian. Further, users of the FLT accept and understand that hiking is a rigorous activity often conducted in rugged outdoor conditions subject to variations in weather and terrain conditions which may involve the risk of injury or death, and that we are fully responsible for own safety and selecting activities that are consistent with our physical capabilities.

Signature_____ Print Name_____ Date _____

Trail Topics: Trail Sponsor News

Steve Catherman, Vice President of Trail Maintenance

Filling the Gap from Mt. Morris to Hornell

Early this February, with news of the impending departure of long time FLTC member **Ron Navik** and the abandonment of sponsorship by his Genesee Valley Hiking Club, for which he was the Trail Chair, we were left with nearly 75 miles of “open” trail stretching over five FLT maps from Mt. Morris to Hornell to find maintainers for. Ron, who is also our Vice President of Trail Preservation and the Regional Trail Coordinator for the Letchworth Trail and the main trail from Portageville to Bath, will be leaving for North Carolina this summer, but is willing to help us fill this large void in our trail maintenance network before he leaves. As a testament to Ron’s dedication to the FLTC, upon the writing of this column in early May, we have found Sponsors for all but about 10 of these 75 miles of trail!

Encompassing nearly 26 miles on two FLT maps, the Letchworth Trail skirts along the east rim of the Genesee River gorge in the State Park from Mt. Morris to Portageville. Our

editor, **Irene Szabo**, and **Don McClimans** will continue

to maintain about half of the total mileage on Map L1, 3 miles from Access A to C and another 5 miles from Access E to F respectively. FLTC

Board member **Cate Concannon** from Genesee expressed her interest in maintaining a portion of the Letchworth Trail, so Ron met with her and she is now maintaining the 6 mile piece of trail between Irene’s and Don’s sections from Access C to E. This still leaves the southern 2 miles on Map L1 and another 10 miles of trail on Map L2 untended, but Ron is talking with a few other candidate volunteers, including **Michelle VandenBout**, an instructor at RIT, whose outdoor class has worked on several projects for the FLTC over the years.

Just south of Portageville, the Letchworth Trail intersects the main trail on Map M7 at Whiskey Bridge, which spans the Genesee River from Wyoming County into Livingston. Ron has signed up **Dave Cook** from Henrietta to maintain the first 5 ½ miles of this map from Access 1 to Access 2 on Short Tract Road. Dave had requested a piece of trail with a shelter on it and Ron accommodated him with the Hesse lean-to, a private shelter located about 3 miles into this section.

Board member **Scott Brooks**, also from the Rochester area, has agreed to maintain the second half of Map M7, another 5 ½ mile stretch of trail from Access 2 to the end of the map at Access 4 on Fox Hill Road. This section of trail features a lovely walk along Keshequa Creek before a climb to the top of Fox Hill at 1900’ with views to the north and west. Scott will also be tending the first 2 miles of trail on Map M8 starting from Fox Hill Road and descending to Access 2 at seasonal Delude Hill Road that forms part of the boundary between Livingston and Allegany Counties.

The balance of Map M8, from Delude Hill to Access 7 on Allegany County Route 13C, Slader Creek Road, contains slightly over 12 miles of main trail and nearly 7 miles of loop and spur trails, including the three Robinson Loops named after the landowner who hosts these trails and granted permanent easements for them. The trail on this map tops out at an elevation of 2020’ in Rattlesnake



Tammy Catherman



Irene Szabo

The New York State Association of Transportation Engineers is a professional organization whose principal objective is the advancement of the science and profession of engineering as it pertains to transportation and related subjects. The Hornell division, Section 6, is one of 11 sections which encompass the State of New York and have served transportation professionals in the State since 1926. The Section’s membership includes over one hundred professionals from state, county and private sector engineering offices.

These new volunteers met in Hornell with Steve Catherman and Irene Szabo to learn the requirements of trail sponsorship, along with helpful hints about trail maintenance. Steve, back to the camera, explains the job.

Hill Wildlife Management Area where Ron rerouted the trail several years ago due to lost landowner permission northwest of Swain. The challenge of sponsoring this large chunk of trail mileage has been accepted by the **Section 6 Chapter of the NYS Association of Transportation Engineers** from Hornell.

Continuing onto Map M9, the NYSATE organization has agreed to maintain the first 6 ½ miles of trail from Access 1 on CR 13C to Access 4 at the entrance to Bully Hill State Forest. This section of trail traverses Slader Creek, Gas Springs and Klipnocky State Forests, and features an old stone quarry, several ponds and bivouac areas and views to the north and east. At the first of these bivouac areas, Ron worked this spring with a prospective Eagle Scout, one of many he has mentored over the years, to fix up the campsite by repairing the outhouse, cleaning the spring and installing a pipe, catch basin and cover for it, and building a stone fire ring with log seats around it.

David Newman from Honeoye Falls approached Ron about maintaining the next 4 miles of trail on Map M9 between Access 4 and Access 6 on Bully Hill Road. This section of trail lies completely within Bully Hill State Forest and includes another primitive campsite and outhouse. This particular bivouac area has been identified on our proposed lean-to program as a probable location for a shelter in the near future. **Carl Luger** from Hornell has agreed to continue to

maintain the next 2 miles of trail on this map between Access 6 and Access 7 on Bishopville Road.

Ron also persuaded the **Genesee Valley Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club** to extend their limits of trail maintenance to include the last 7 ½ miles of trail on Map M9 from Access 7 to Access 10 on Steuben County Route 66, and one additional mile of trail at the beginning of Map M10. They will continue to sponsor their adjacent 4 ½ mile section of trail on Map M10 as well, ending on Lower Glen Ave just east of Hornell. Maintenance of the final piece of Ron's trail was accounted for with the enlistment of **Adam Clark** from Hornell to sponsor the 2 ½ mile spur trail from the main trail to the Kanakadea lean-to on Map M9.

Many, many thanks go out to all the new Sponsors who volunteered to help us fill this huge potential gap in our trail system, and also to those returning Sponsors for their diligence over the years in keeping our trail in good hiking shape. I especially want to thank Ron Navik for his many years of dedicated and distinguished service to the FLTC. It has been a true pleasure working with you, Ron. 🍁

Contact: Steve Catherman
stevec@roadrunner.com
607-569-3453

Genesee Valley Hiking Club is leaving the fold

Editorial by Irene Szabo

This is huge. GVHC was historically at the center of operating the Finger Lakes Trail since the beginning. GVHC President Wally Wood conceived of this cross-state trail in the first place, and then shanghaied club members into helping to get it underway. Harry Clar and Ed Willis had the great idea to create a branch trail up the east side, the wild side, of Letchworth State park, and now our trail-care award is named for them. Member Erv Markert was our first trail chair AND newsletter editor AND delegate to the fledgling State Trails Council, which he helped found, so yet another of our awards and a hike is named for Erv.

The list of memorable GVHC names continues. Our early home offices at Wally's and Howard Beye's benefitted from a lot of administrative help from club members Helen Brooks and Frances Jacobi, even when Dorothy Beye was being Howard's chief aide. Mary Coykendall laid out and tended the lower end of the Bristol Hills Branch Trail, which came to its south end at Wally Wood's Steuben County property. Gordon Jarvis created the first FLTC data base, Valda Layton created our first maps, while Tom Witt has built many an outhouse kit and most recently created the accessible ramp into our office in Mt. Morris. Don Riplinger, Gordon and Helen Jarvis, Bob Reinke, Jon Kreckman, and Victor Yates were longtime trail



Jacqui Wensich

Barb and Ron Navik doing endless maintenance for GVHC segments over the years.

maintainers on the forty-plus miles that GVHC built and tended from the Genesee River (Map M7) east to Hornell, Map M9. Don McClimans has been a Steward on the Letchworth Trail from Access E to F for years, while working with Joe Dabes on our early computer-generated maps.

The GVHC trail responsibility grew to sixty-plus miles when they agreed to take over the Letchworth Branch after Harry Clar retired and Ed Willis died of pneumonia probably contracted while cleaning up after the 1991 ice storm, which laid low hundreds of acres of trail forest, most of it in the GVHC sections! By now it's 73 miles with the network of Robinson Loops near Swain. Gert Hauck was our first part-time employee at the new office over a dozen years ago, while Larry Newman has been a steady maintainer for GVHC, ADK-Genesee Valley, and the Adirondack 46ers.

Current members Dave Newman and Scott Brooks have recently adopted sections of the old GVHC segment of main trail we are thankful to report.

Ron Navik has been our Vice-President for life, an amazingly successful negotiator of trail easements, and the Trail Chair for GVHC, which many years meant that he and his wife Barb took whole weeks of his vacation to maintain their long sections as club members dwindled. Now the time has come for Barb and Ron to retire southward, but it really was simultaneously happening that the club asked him to extricate them from trail responsibility.

It happens to every club that doesn't work hard to keep new blood circulating, and I've watched several of our big trail-hosting clubs snatch their fortunes from the brink once they started bringing in new people. However, this time GVHC has tied their destiny to the really young and uninvolved by swelling their weekly hikes with Meetup participants. Sadly, none of them wants to do even a full day hike, or even drive far from Rochester to the FLT, and only a few will step up to lead hikes, much less do trail care. It's breaking my heart. Thus ends this chapter of our shared history, but while we bid farewell, let us be cheered by the great response of many new volunteers who are already working to take over all those miles! My first two backpacking trips on the Finger Lakes Trail were on memorable portions of GVHC trails back in the mid-eighties, so I'm glad to know they'll continue to be cared for. Let us hope that many of these new sponsors come to enjoy trail care as much as I do. For me, THAT has become my FLT "sport," not hiking.

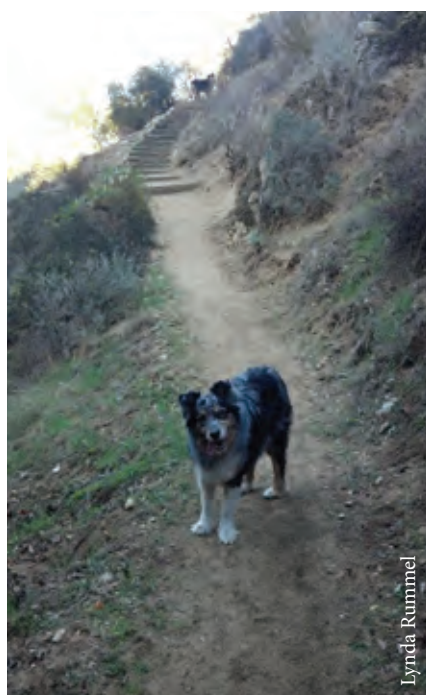
Meanwhile, the door remains open. It has happened that trail sponsoring groups have returned to their interest in tending the FLT. For instance, the large Genesee Valley chapter of the ADK was about to give up their very last miles back in the 1990's, but one member thought that just too sad, so he gathered a few of the faithful to take good care of a short segment on Map M10. By now they have increased their share to include some of the old Genesee Valley Hiking Club section, so their commitment is growing again. We'd love to welcome GVHC back some day. 🍁

Trail Topics: Terrain Matters

Lynda Rummel, Vice President of Trail Quality

Terrain conditions and geomorphology really do matter. As I observed while hiking recreational areas in southern and central California these past two winters, what works for dry ancient, compressed sand and wide open spaces doesn't work for rocky organic soil, (re)forested hillsides...or glacial till.

The San Juan Capistrano Recreational Trails System in arid southern California includes a network of trails across rolling hills in Open Space encircled by San Juan Capistrano, San Clemente, Capistrano Beach, Dana Point, and Laguna Niguel. The vistas are stunning: from the tops of some of the hills, you can see all these cities, and the Pacific Ocean. *Official* trails are all "shared access" (the euphemism for multiple-use), wide enough for two-way traffic (~10' wide) to pass safely and reasonably well hardened, so horses and mountain bikes, as well as hikers (and dogs), are allowed. **Etiquette requires bike riders to give way to hikers and both to give way to equestrians, but except for immediately after a rain, the trails are parched and the meadow muffins dry out quickly, so there's rarely any reason to move off the wide official trails and there's usually only low vegetation on the shoulders, should you want to.**



Rex on a single track trail, built up, benched across a steep hillside (Garland Ranch), with a long length of steps. Once on this section, there's no turning back. There's no room to turn around, very little room to pass, and bends in the trail prevent persons from seeing each other; hence, only hiking is allowed.

I assume that San Juan Capistrano County, which owns the Open Space, does not have personnel to enforce the rules, since the San Juan Capistrano hills are also covered with a complex web of unofficial single-track trails made by mountain bike riders. Some of these trails shoot straight down a hillside (causing lots of erosion when there's a downpour); others end in jumps or ramps. The younger bike-riding crowd does not seem to care if a bike trail crosses an official trail or worry that they might hit someone if they are traveling too fast. Older bike riders do take precautions, are polite, and curse their daredevil brethren for eroding the hills and ruining whatever positive impression mountain bike riders may have with someone, somewhere, but they don't (and can't, really) enforce the rules.

Hikers use the unofficial mountain bike trails in order to create day-hiking loops, but it is clearly at their own risk. On these unofficial, single-track trails, I've seen hikers scramble off to the side far more often than I've seen the bike riders "give way" to the hikers. I've literally seen hikers limp away with visible cuts on their legs and/or torn pant-legs from the stiff brush at the side of the trail, after having to jump off to the side. While hiking there over a five-week period, I never saw an accident, but I did see a few very close calls, where mountain bike riders could not have stopped if a hiker, momentarily obscured from the bike rider's vision by a shoulder-height bush, had been one or two steps faster. Most of the time, bike riders can see pedestrians and equestrians and vice versa when a half mile away, so can avoid each other or move to a wide spot on the side safely. Hence, it works, more or less, as long as hikers, especially we older folks, families with kids, trail runners, or strollers looking for tracks, flowers or birds, stick to the official trails where there's room to pass or remain *constantly vigilant* and ready – *and able* -- to jump into the brush when on the mountain bike trails.

It works, as well, in Garland Ranch, the 3,000+ acre regional park in Carmel Valley (Monterey Peninsula), but for different reasons. The trail system is designed to accommodate equestrians, mountain bike riders, hikers, off-leash dogs, and even baby carriages, *but each in its place*. Horses and mountain bike riders are separated at all times by dodge-ways with 2-3 sections of wood fencing on both sides, and there are paid Park Rangers who patrol and can ticket those who ride on trails signed against them (\$200 fine). Bikes are further limited by the easements over adjacent private lands, which prohibit bikes from entering the park on certain trails.

A wide, low-level plain, created by the Carmel River on its south side, has 10' wide, hardened (compacted bank gravel or stone dust) trails that may be used either by horses and hikers or by mountain bike riders and hikers. Second-tier, level trails along the hillside are also wide, for dual use. But third-tier trails, higher up the hillsides, are much more limited: *if* they are 6-8' wide, they may be dual use, but anything more narrow is designated for one kind of user only, *including some trails signed just for hikers*. Equestrians and mountain bike riders seem to honor the signage and dodge-ways and only rarely do you see hoof prints or tire tracks trespassing on the hiking-only trails.

www.fingerlakestrail.org



Narrow dodge-way, no horses, no bikes, only people. My 62 lb. dog Ajax shows the width of this narrow dodge-way. With its sharp angle and minimum width of only ~ 2.5 feet, neither bikes nor horses can pass through, preventing each from going into the other's designated areas. Below: This dodge-way has a wider angle and a minimum width of ~ 3.5 feet; bikes can pass through but not horses.

Trails set aside for just hikers are built directly on the soil, with more rocks and more organic matter which collects run-off from the rains or hillside springs. These trails climb the hillsides through thick understory and relatively tall trees. Branches arching over the trails are trimmed to about 7 feet high. A hiking-only trail may be benched along a steep hillside or have narrow steps. There is often no shoulder, just the shear side of the hill; the turns are sharp, and usually oncoming traffic cannot see each other if more than 20' apart. It's clear that both horses and mountain bikes are incompatible with Garland Ranch's single-tread, narrow (16-18" wide tread) hiking-only trails, which are built, of course, to the same standards to which we build trails in our Finger Lakes Trail System, on terrain with many similar characteristics. 🍁



Contact: Lynda Rummel
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315-536-9484
315-679-2906 (Jan. - Mar.)

Trail Topics: Alley Cats

Matt Branneman, Vice President of Crews & Construction

I want to thank all the volunteers who helped make the 2013 building season a huge success. We logged a staggering amount of hours worked, totaling 1209. Traveled over 401 hours just to get to the work site! Total distance traveled over 12,810 miles. This is just a small testament to the dedication of our volunteers. The real testament is the fruits of their labor that anyone hiking the FLT can enjoy now and for a long time to come. Thank you!

The 2014 season will be adding a lot of new trail and rebuilding a bridge.

Rick Roberts is once again leading the second portion of Catskill trail re-route near Cannonsville Reservoir on map M28 that was started last spring, taking 5 more miles of trail off the road. Again Rick will be letting us use his house for this project on May 24 to May 28

Paul Warrender will be leading another bridge re-build in Danby State Forest south of Ithaca replacing Diane's Crossing on M17. We will be staying at Camp Badger again during the project from July 29 to August 3. Please note the dates have changed.

Mike Tenkate will be leading a trail re-route in Hoxie Gorge State Forest on Map M20 adding over 5 miles of new trail taking nearly all of the trail off busy Rte 11 with a much more forgiving road walk along River Road. This will take place August 4 to August 8.

A re-route in Rock City State Forest on M2 will separate the FLT from mountain biking trails. Marty Howden will be the project manager and Jacqui Wensich will be our chef, September 6 to September 10.

I hope you will consider coming out this year again or for the first time to help make the trail even better. As can be seen from the above list, each of these projects will improve our hiking experience. 🍁

Contact: Matt Branneman
607-220-7812
mattbranneman@gmail.com



Trail Topics: Mapping Input

Greg Farnham, Vice President of Mapping

Since last Newsletter update, the following FLTC Map changes have been made:

M26 - Updated wording on the back of Map M26 was incorporated. There was no change to the trail.

M25 - Map M25 was updated to reflect the main trail being moved to follow the high water bypass along Bear Brook.

M23 - Map M23 was updated to reflect construction of the new Pharsalia lean-to, added near the Sidote Bench. There was no change to the trail.

M06 - Map M06 was updated to reflect a permission loss resulting in moving the trail to the high water bypass and removal of Marge Hinz camp site. This results in M6 being 1.3 miles shorter than before. Previous Trail Conditions notices that have been incorporated into the current map were removed.

CT06 - permission loss resulted in the trail being moved slightly across a property border with no change in trail mileage. Also, a hunting closure was added.

M01 - Map M01 was updated to reflect DEC re-opening of Wolf Run Rd with text changes at mile 4.2, and relocation of

the Parking symbol on the front of the map. The trail did not change.

M13 has a short re-route that moves the trail back off of Switzer Hill Road. This reroute nearly follows the pre-re-route trail, except where it diverts around the property we lost permission on. This makes M13 0.1 miles shorter. This update has NOT yet been published.

Trail Conditions (TC) notices have been posted for each of these updates. Previously posted TC notices that have been incorporated into these or previous updates to these maps have been archived.

End to end mileages and tracking sheets were updated by Debbie Nero and posted by Jacqui Wensich.

We are looking for individuals interested in helping maintain our FLTC maps who have experience with our map-making software (ArcGIS). FLTC will provide a license to use this software to individuals who can help. 🍁

Contact: Greg Farnham
greg.farnham@me.com



Wally Wood Hike

19 hikers participated in the Wally Wood Hike on May 3rd where the longer of the two versions hiked two states and two trails! The long hike at 11.5 miles started on the Crystal Hills Trail, our branch off the main FLT that brings the Great Eastern Trail into New York, and continued south into Pennsylvania on the Midstate Trail, also host of the GET. Peter Fleszar of the MST met us at the beginning for a little historical orientation and info about the Midstate Trail.

The shorter hike of 6.5 miles stayed in Penna. and walked around Lake Cowanesque, partially on the bed of a rural NY Central railroad branch that used to connect tiny northern Pennsylvania towns. When a dam created the Lake, part of the railroad was drowned. Both groups enjoyed walking along the lake, especially seeing nesting ospreys. Leaders were Laurie Ondrejka and Deb Nero. 🍁



Nesting osprey on a manmade platform above the water where they fish for food.



Crossing the border on the trail.



Jen Mott standing below a railroad crossing sign added by trail managers even though hikers are walking ON the old railbed.



Left to right, Judy Austic, Barbara Nussbaum, Donna Coon, and Larry Blumberg on a bridge on the short hike.

End-to-End Update

Jacqui Wensich, End-to-End Coordinator

Newest End to Enders

Main Trail: No news.

Branch Trails: #80 Debra Nero of Ithaca and #81 Laurie Ondrejka of Avon completed the branches March 23, 2014. Both are main trail end-to-enders, too. Deb and Laurie are the first hikers to complete the Crystal Hills Branch Trails as part of the updated requirements. (Several others have hiked the CHBT after receiving their BT award.)

MANY THANKS to Greg Farnham, Director of Mapping and Debra Nero #346, for updating the main and branch trail spreadsheets. (This was a job ten time E2ER Joe Dabes had done for many years. He retired from his mapping duties last season.) Deb went through all of the maps and updated the spreadsheets. Greg established a system for automatically updating the spreadsheets and checking for accuracy. The new Main Trail total is 574.9. The new total for the Branch Trails is 364.2 miles. Many hikers utilize these useful spreadsheets.

It is important to send updates and notice of your intention to hike end-to-end for both the main and branch trails to me. Often simple tips can help you avoid difficulties. The End-to-End hiking pull-down on the website also has suggestions, forms and information. You are encouraged to contact me directly by email or phone.

Always check www.fltconference.org/trail conditions for the latest trail conditions.

Updates:

Owen Orsini of Yorkville plans to complete a large section of his main trail hike this summer and finish by next year. He is also a new car spotter for M1-2 which we really need. Nancy Hale of Norwich joined the car spotter list for M20-27. She is continuing her main trail hike this year. Gary Brouse of Horseheads is working on his main trail hike. You will see him at the Steuben County hike series. Matt, Robert and Nolan Huling plan to backpack the FLT in long sections, while Matt is preparing to hike the Appalachian Trail. Brother Robert and his 15 year old son Nolan plan to hike as much of the FLT as they can with Matt.

The "Intrepid Trio" of Carol Romero, Rita Jensen and Jo Kish plan to finish mid-July. They hiked a combination of the county hike series and on their own. William Miller of Ithaca has completed about 70% of the main trail. John Andersson of Ithaca (#101 in 1999) is about half finished with his second E2E hike.

End -to-Enders Bob #203 and Sue #202 Bliven, previously from the Norwich Bullthistles and now in Somerset, Kentucky, are hiking all over that beautiful area. They recently spent five weeks in Australia and New Zealand. They keep up with the FLT and their old friends. We miss them. (#242) Mahlon Hurst's daughter Sarah (#244) married this past September. With second daughter Ruth going steady,

Mahlon and Eleanor may soon have an empty nest. I sent Mahlon several Alley Cat shirts as a small token for all he does in preparing and transporting kits for the Alley Cat lean-to projects. Eleanor says he wears them under his flannel. They are very comfortable. I have to stop by and take a photo.

TIPS for aspiring E2ERs: 1. Review the End to End Hiking section on the FLT website. 2. Join the FLT Yahoo group (often find more spotters, specific location hints). 3. Purchase the updated manual for thru hikers 4. Purchase new MAPS (remember FLT members receive a 20% discount for all purchases). 5. CHECK trail conditions frequently on the website. 6. If you are not already a member, **join the FLTC**; membership supports this wonderful trail 7. LET ME KNOW about when you plan to complete the main/branch trails to receive the correct number. 8. Email captioned photos as you hike and keep trail notes so you can write your E2E article.

Car Spotters:

Owen Orsini and Nancy Hale – see "updates." Tessa Careaga of DeRuyter joined the car spotters. She is also an Alley Cat worker. Our volunteers are the best.

NOTE: Thanks to those who have become spotters. Car spotting is a great assistance for hikers, so accepting the offered gas money gives hikers a way to thank you back. We ALWAYS need more car spotters, so please email jwensich@rochester.rr.com to apply or find the form directly from the website. This includes the Branch Trails. (For a complete list call or email below)

"Happy Hiking" from Ed Sidote. 🍁

Contact: Jacqui Wensich
jwensich@rochester.rr.com
585-385-2265

Donations In Honor of:

Harry Clar

from

Lonnie & Suzanne Clar

Charles & Mary Jane Uttech

from

Rachel Frey
for car spotting

Landowner Hopes to Convince Neighbors to Donate Easements

By Lynda Rummel, Regional Trail Coordinator, Bath-Watkins Glen

An exceptional story has come to light about a heretofore unknown benefactor who says the good feelings she has gotten from donating a Trail Easement to the Finger Lakes Trail have touched her heart so profoundly that she has made it her personal mission to try to convince others to do the same. Catherine Powell, who until recently owned the *key* parcel that connects NY 54 in Pleasant Valley to the top of Mt. Washington high above Hammondsport (FLTC map M12), says she put a trail easement on her land for two reasons: as “just” a gift to the public, so they could enjoy the woods and the vistas, and in honor of her son.

Her son is very much alive, so this is not a memorial (although if it were, that would also be appropriate); Catherine just wanted her son to know how very much he means to her. The idea is a lot like telling someone you love that you love them now, before it’s too late, but there’s even more. The *expression is tangible and it’s forever*. This brief story is one step towards accomplishing her mission.

A tasteful sign, small bench, or other marker will let hikers know that the trail is on the land because a generous landowner wanted to honor a loved one by “giving back” to her community. This particular easement allows the trail to be moved to a new driveway off NY 54, a feature that helped the new landowner decide to purchase the property. However, any new trail must be built (by the current landowner) to specifications and then connected to the existing trail before it starts its steep upward climb. So while the trail can be moved on the valley floor, it can’t be moved from the narrow ridge that hosts 28 switchback legs, and the easement keeps the trail on the parcel, provides access to the mountain top, and allows hikers to walk it, for all time.

Landowners need to know that outside the narrow easement corridor, the landowner retains all his/her rights to use the land as permitted by law. The mile-long segment of trail across the former Powell property is also part of the North Country National Scenic Trail, one of only eleven national scenic trails that, like the older Appalachian Trail, were established by an act of Congress. The North Country National Scenic Trail rides on the Finger Lakes Trail for 423 of its 4600 miles. Except for the fact that the parcel now hosts a hiking trail of *national* (not just regional) significance, which helps bring visitors and prestige to the southern Finger Lakes, there is no other benefit to the easement-grantor beyond the satisfaction of having done something really nice for the son she wants to honor and for her fellow human beings.



Pinkster azalea adorns the Mt. Washington hillside in May. Yes, those are infant oak trees growing amongst the shrub, too.

We always hear that we should say “I love you” with roses. In this case, it’s with wild azaleas, which grow on the hillside the trail switches back and forth across on the side of Mt. Washington. You may find out more about Trail Easements and preserving the Finger Lakes Trail by contacting the Finger Lakes Trail Conference at FLTinfo@fingerlakestrail.org. 🍁

FLT MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
County _____ Phone (_____) _____
Email _____

Make check payable to the Finger Lakes Trail Conference, mail to 6111 Visitor Center Rd., Mt. Morris, NY 14510 along with this form.

Annual dues (Membership year runs from April 1 to March 1. Dues paid after Dec. 31 will be applied to the next membership year.)

Individual	\$30	Contributing:	
Family	\$40	Pathfinder.....	\$50
Student (full-time; give		Trailblazer.....	\$75
permanent address) ..	\$15	Guide	\$100
Youth organization	\$15	Life (individual).....	\$400
Adult organization	\$50	Life (family).....	\$600
Business/Commercial			
(includes a listing on the FLT website).....	\$100		

A Walk on the Wordy Side

Marla Perkins

When Is a Mountain a Hill, or a Hill a Mountain?

In my last article, I worked on why there is anything “Connecticut,” such as Connecticut Hill, in the middle of the state of New York, but that left “hill” as an interesting possibility for this issue: here we go.

“Hill” might seem to be a more straightforward term than Connecticut, and if we’re looking at the history of the word, it is. It’s much easier to track down words that have written forms for millennia than it is to look for information without written records. “Hill” is a good Germanic word (note the “-ic:” this is a category description for a group of related languages), meaning that it is very old in English and that related words, such as *hound* in English and *Hund* in German, are common in related languages: it’s *Hügel* in German, “Hill” in Icelandic (for other reasons, Icelandic is generally considered the exotic Germanic language), “*huevel*” in Dutch, and “*kulle*” in Swedish.

It’s old even in the entire Indo-European language family, with cognates in languages throughout the family and going back at least 3000 years and meaning “rock” originally. It’s “*kodër*” in Albanian, “*kopec*” in Czech, “*lophos*” in Greek, “*cnoc*” in Irish, and “*pahārī*” in Punjabi. Unlike “Connecticut,” “hill” has a lot of written evidence behind it in many languages. In case anyone’s concerned about the many instances of “k” sounds in these cognates, just pronounce k/h a few times—you’ll notice that both sounds are produced in relatively the back of the mouth and throat. Some of the other variations are trickier, but feel free to contact me if you want the gory details.

A major linguistic difference between “hill” and “Connecticut” is that in the case of “hill,” the languages are backing up information about the word because there are piles of written information in many languages that provide context for the word; for “Connecticut,” the word is giving information about the language because it is one of the few items left from the language at the time when the term came into a written form.

What’s tricky about “hill” is determining what counts as a hill. In British English, usually hills are anything below 2000 feet and mountains are higher than 2000 feet. This geographic definition was a central plot point in the movie *The Englishman Who Went Up a Hill But Came Down a Mountain*. It’s not often that I can recommend a movie on a fine distinction in geography.

In the US, the definition is not so straightforward, with hills and mountains being defined most often contextually. In New England, the British English definition is most commonly used. Hills of only a few hundred feet are mountains in Texas, and in Colorado, where the level ground is about 5000

feet above sea level, hills are an intermediate stage between the level ground and the higher peaks of the Rockies. At 2099 feet, Connecticut Hill would be a mountain in either old or New England, but in central New York, it’s just a hill.

In other words, call them what you like—if you’re hiking, you’re still schlepping up them for a sense of achievement and a view. A hill or mountain by any other name is just as steep.

A much more effective way to talk about slopes is vertical footage, which many hikers are accustomed to using, the amount of up-ness from where we started. It’s more effective for hikers because it doesn’t rely on context (in Texas, landforms I wouldn’t pay much attention to are mountains) or on arbitrary definitions (why 2000 feet? Why not 2007.3?). Just getting to sea level from the shores of the Dead Sea requires at least 1,292 vertical feet, which is a significant hike with vertical footage comparable to some of the longer uphill sections of the Finger Lakes Trail. However, going up a significant hill or mountain and down the other side and up the next hill or mountain several times in a day of hiking can really pile on the vertical footage. This explains why serious users of the Finger Lakes Trail are so fit and fabulous: our interval training is built into the terrain.

As Humpty Dumpty said (Lewis Carroll, 1865, 1984 edition)

“When I use a word, [...] it means just what I choose it to mean - neither more nor less.”

“The question is,” said Alice, “whether you can make words mean so many different things.”

“The question is,” said Humpty Dumpty, “which is to be the master - that’s all.”

Words mean what people intend them to mean, which some people might consider a bad thing. However, it’s an essential property of language that allows people the flexibility to talk about, for example, the many variations that are observed in the natural world: “hill” and “mountain” demonstrate that flexibility in the domain of geography. Coming eventually: rivers, creeks, roads, paths, and other geographic considerations. 🍁

Marla Perkins, Ph.D., is a linguist and is studying speech therapy. She grew up on the slopes of Connecticut Hill and through-hiked the FLT in 2004 (#181) and has spent her vacations on the trail ever since. She now lives in Flagstaff, Arizona, with her cockatiel Mo, who also enjoys day hikes on the Arizona Trail. She welcomes comments, questions, and suggestions for future columns: marla.perkins@nau.edu

FLT NAMED HIKE EVENT

Saturday, August 2, 2014

Ed Sidote Summer Hike

Map:

Pharsalia, FLT Map M23 (Chenango County)

Hike Leader:

Warren Johnsen

wjohnsen@roadrunner.com or 607-373-3054

Hike Description:

We are offering a short 5 Miler and a long 9 Mile hike. Both start and finish at the same place, on Map 23. Trailhead is off County Rte 10 at the intersection of Stewart Road and Hoag Childes Road. Both hikes will visit the new Pharsalia Woods Lean-to, the Sidote Bench, and the 2011 tornado blow down area. Long hike participants should bring lunch and drinks. Short hikers should bring snacks and drinks. Goodies will also be available at the Pharsalia Woods Lean-to.

The Bullthistle Hiking Club, Ed Sidote Founder, invite all to celebrate their 10th Anniversary at the Pharsalia Woods Lean To during the Sidote Hike. Both the long and short hikes will be passing by the lean to. Those wishing to celebrate who will not be hiking are invited to stop by the Lean To between 11 and 12 AM. The Pharsalia Woods Lean To is on Map M23 just off Stewart Road near the Sidote Bench. It is less than a half mile walk in from the road. If you have questions contact Donna Coon at 607-445-4003, or coledonnarn@yahoo.com.

Meeting Location:

Meet at 9:00 AM at the intersection of Fred Stewart Rd and Hoag Childes Rd.

Directions:

Locate Chenango County Rte 10; it runs east-to-west, a few miles to the north of Bowman Lake State Park. There is a green Finger Lakes Trail Sign at the intersection of Cty Rte 10 and Fred Stewart Rd; turn north off of Cty Rte 10 and on to Fred Stewart Rd. Trailhead is approximately 1/2 mile up Fred Stewart Rd, where Hoag Childes Rd comes in from the right.

Please visit the FLT's interactive map at <http://www.fltconference.org/trail/go-hiking/interactive-map-segmented/> to aid you in finding the meeting location!

The Sidote hike will pass by tornado damage from a couple years ago.



FLT NAMED HIKE EVENT

Saturday, Oct. 11, 2014

Erv Markert Fall Hike

Onondaga / Skyline / Fellows Hill Trails

Map:

FLT Map #O1 (Onondaga Trail -- Cortland and Onondaga Counties)

Hike Leaders:

Sigi and Horst Schwinge

sigischwinge@aol.com or 315-437-6906

Hike Description:

Short Hike, 6 miles -

Take in the sights found on this stretch of the Skyline Trail from Heiberg Memorial Forest to Labrador Pond (with boardwalk over the pond's wetlands) and on to the lower end of Tinker Falls.

Long Hike, 10 miles - Continuing beyond the point where the short hike ends, we go steeply uphill to the top of the falls and take the blue-blazed Onondaga Trail over Jones Hill with breathtaking views over Labrador Pond and the valley below. Dropping down to the serene Spruce Pond we take the new 1.3 mile section of the orange blazed Fellows Hill Trail through some beautiful glens and along creeks with little waterfalls, to our endpoint on Herlihy Rd.

Meeting Location:

Meet at 9:00 AM Herlihy Rd. to coordinate car shuttles for the short and long hikes. Meet at the parking area on the right side of the road at the first trail crossing of the Fellows Hill Loop Trail, this is after the pavement ends.

Directions:

Take I-81 to the Tully exit #14, go east on NY Rt. 80 for about 5 miles, then turn right on Herlihy Rd for a little over 1 mile.



The Balance Sheet

Quinn Wright, Treasurer

This month I will attempt to continue achieving Jarret Lobb's major objective of making the books of the FLTC transparent to its management, members and benefactors. The last edition of the *News* had an article about the FLTC's last ten years' profit and loss position. This edition will present the growth of the FLTC balance sheet from 2003 through 2013. In summary, we have been fortunate to have achieved remarkable growth in our assets.

I do not have historical data in my hands prior to 2003. I doubt that the people who created the vision of the Finger Lakes Trail in 1962 anticipated where we would be today, nor the challenges that we must overcome in order to continue the vision. It took 40 years to grow the assets of the FLTC to nearly \$160,000. In the eleven years from 2003 to 2013 our assets have grown to just over \$900,000 as of the first quarter of 2014 investment portfolio. The average annual increase of the FLTC assets has been 17.9% over the last eleven years; that is remarkable!

How has this growth been achieved? First, and foremost, you, the membership, have been steady in your commitment to fund the FLTC's protection by donating funds during the annual campaign and throughout the year. In addition, a few generous individuals have considered the FLTC to be so important that in their passing they have left money to the FLTC. There are a few people who have made us aware of their intentions to do so at their passing either in wills or by creating a Charitable Remainder Trust. These monies have been under the management of the FLTC Investment Committee and currently the Karpus Investment Management firm. As you were advised previously, nearly \$400,000 in conservatively directed funds are currently worth a little over \$700,000. We can only hope that the stock portfolio will continue to achieve similar results into the future. I am very confident that under the stewardship of Rick Wall, our new chairman of the Investment Committee, in concert with the Karpus Investment Management team, that the FLTC portfolio will continue to grow over the long term.

During 2013 our fixed assets, real estate, had a dramatic change in value. Before 2003 the FLTC was able to protect some of the trail system because three landowners generously gave their land to the FLTC. The total value of the lands at the times they were donated is \$21,445. This year the FLTC received two donations of land that at full market value raised our land holdings to \$134,212. The trail protection increased because we now own more real estate.

In addition, we had more money available to invest in our portfolio for three reasons. First, the membership continued to donate money and labor at historical levels. Second, we enjoyed a \$21,000 windfall surge in income because of the

sale of timber from one of our properties. Third, as a result of the management by the Board of Managers and our Executive Director the FLTC was able to operate so effectively that, coupled with the timber sale and donations, the Finance Committee was able to approve a transfer of \$70,000 to our investment account.

Finally, during the annual audit of the FLTC books we became aware of the requirement to recognize the FLTC's share of a Charitable Remainder Trust that was made by one of our members (at current market levels that asset is worth over \$25,000). Considering all of these financial events the assets of the FLTC grew by more than \$200,000 in 2013.

However, and repeating the message in the last article in the *FLTC News*, one should not be lured into the comfortable feeling that the FLTC has plenty of money. It bears repeating that prior and current management teams have religiously saved money for the express purpose of supporting future requirements to "promote" and to "protect" the FLTC. If the FLTC is required to become more aggressive in those initiatives much more money will be necessary. "Promotion," or in other words advertising, of the wonderful experience and benefits of enjoying the FLT system will require a significant investment. The surest means to protect the financial health of the FLTC is to grow its membership numbers at least ten-fold. Growing that membership will put a significant focus on our Membership and Marketing Committee and the finances required to successfully accomplish the charge of promoting the FLTC will be dramatic.

And no less important is the additional charge to protect the trail itself. That may require periodic purchases of critical properties over which the trail passes from willing sellers. Without the financial resources to do just that the FLTC risks

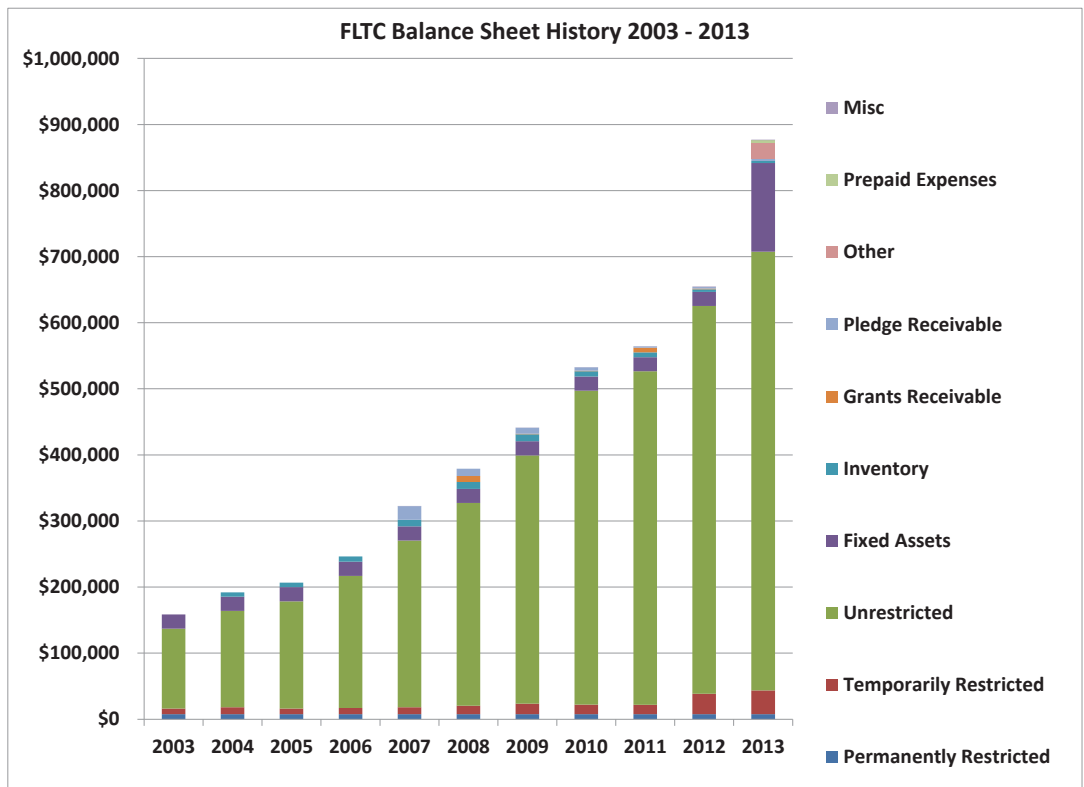
	Contributing and Sustaining Membership	Unrestricted Assets - Cash & Investments	Miles of Protected Trail - Public Land, owned by FLTC, Permanent Easements
Goal	7000	\$7,000,000	958
2033			
2032			
2019			
2018			
2017			
2016			
2015			
2014			
2013	1288	\$663,976	420
2003	1104	\$158,488	255

FLTC Balance Sheet History 2003 - 2013

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Permanently Restricted	\$7,612	\$7,612	\$7,612	\$7,612	\$7,612	\$7,612	\$7,612	\$7,612	\$7,612	\$7,612	\$7,612
Temporarily Restricted	\$8,413	\$10,542	\$8,527	\$9,364	\$10,603	\$12,723	\$15,951	\$14,373	\$14,051	\$30,774	\$36,043
Unrestricted	\$121,018	\$145,853	\$162,195	\$199,967	\$252,130	\$306,845	\$375,650	\$475,275	\$504,824	\$586,966	\$663,976
Fixed Assets	\$21,445	\$21,445	\$21,445	\$21,445	\$21,445	\$21,445	\$21,445	\$21,445	\$21,445	\$21,445	\$134,212
Inventory	\$0	\$6,465	\$6,894	\$7,810	\$9,937	\$10,467	\$10,450	\$7,877	\$7,187	\$3,840	\$3,079
Grants Receivable	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,000	\$900	\$900	\$7,264	\$1,018	\$0
Pledge Receivable	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$20,878	\$11,074	\$9,010	\$5,095	\$1,750	\$2,250	\$3,000
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,033
Prepaid Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,444
Misc	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$288	\$0	\$328	\$363	\$27	\$978	\$599
Total	\$158,488	\$191,917	\$206,673	\$246,198	\$322,893	\$379,166	\$441,346	\$532,940	\$564,160	\$654,883	\$876,998
Percent Growth over prior year		21.1%	7.7%	19.1%	31.2%	17.4%	16.4%	20.8%	5.9%	16.1%	33.9%
Cummulative growth since 2003		21.1%	30.4%	55.3%	103.7%	139.2%	158.5%	236.3%	256.0%	313.2%	453.4%

losing the continuity of the trail across New York State! We need to grow our cash reserves to no less than \$7,000,000 so that we can protect New York's pre-eminent public trail known as the Finger Lakes Trail! Much work remains to accomplish that goal. Once again I encourage all of you to find and enlist new members and to find benefactors for the preservation of the Finger Lakes Trail.

Following are some bar charts and a spreadsheet to present our assets and where we stand at meeting the objective of having \$7,000,000 in cash (or invested) reserves. 🍁



GOT A HEAD FOR NUMBERS?

By Cate Concannon

Do people tell you you're great with numbers? Our Finance Committee is looking for some new members who love working with numbers and money.

The Finger Lakes Trail Conference is governed by an all-volunteer Board of Managers. Additionally, special committees handle specific tasks for the FLTC. One need not be a board member to serve on the committee; however, they do need people who are available on a regular basis.

The Finance Committee meets via tele-conference on the 3rd Tuesday of each month and the committee chair always emails the agenda and items for discussion or action well in advance. While an accounting background might seem a requirement, it is not a necessity! Good common sense or a business management background is just as important. Although you would be welcome to attend the scheduled Board of Managers meetings, this is not required to serve on the committee.

At budget time (September and October) there may be one extra meeting, and audit time might require one additional, short meeting to receive and review the preliminary audit results before the audit is prepared for delivery to the FLTC for its board meeting. This committee is very important in keeping the FLTC up on its financial toes.

If you're interested in learning more about the Finance Committee, please contact Treasurer Quinn Wright at wrightquinn@hotmail.com.

FINGER LAKES TRAIL WINS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT!

Peggy Coleman, VP Membership and Marketing

The Finger Lakes Trail Conference submitted a consolidated funding application to the state's Regional Economic Development Council for a grant to cross promote year-round use of the Finger Lakes Trail and the New York State Parks located along and near the length of the Trail. We are proud to announce that the project was accepted and we will receive a grant in the amount of \$82,710 from Market New York funds to complete the project. Project components include creation of a co-branded brochure, paid distribution to targeted outdoor outlets in NY and PA, a co-branded web landing page portal to the FLTC and NYS Parks, a strategic digital marketing/advertising campaign, and a contract employee to implement the digital/social media program. We are very excited to partner with NYS Parks to help drive more interest to NYS's premier footpath and to the parks, encouraging use all year, to drive awareness and economic development to all of the communities along the length of the Finger Lakes Trail system.

NEXT PASSPORT SERIES READY: EASTERN REGION

By Gene Bavis

The Central Passport Series of hikes has been in place since 2010, a dozen especially nice (and easy) hikes designed to introduce new people to our trail and hiking. 15,000 booklets describing the hikes and where they are were printed, thanks to Wegmans, EMS, Hickory Hill Family Camping Resort and Monro Muffler Brake, for the twelve hikes in a region from Interstate 81 west to Letchworth State Park.



The Passport hikes are ideal for introducing kids to hiking.

We hope to print another batch of the booklets for the central region next year, but in the meantime, a PDF of the Central Passport is available

on the FLT website. The eastern series with 12 more family-friendly hikes is now ready to be introduced to the public, sponsored by Wegmans, Excellus Blue Cross Blue Shield, and Monro Muffler Brake. Each hike features a post somewhere near the middle with a rubbing plaque on top that has a raised hike number. Hikers do a pencil rubbing on the map number, which stamps their passport that they have indeed hiked there. Four or more numbers of stamped hikes merit a coupon at Wegmans and an embroidered patch, so there is more incentive than "merely" a great walk outside. Details for claiming your patch and coupons are explained in the booklet.

The Eastern Passport series booklets are available at Wegmans in central NY or from the FLTC Service Center. There is also a PDF of the booklet available for downloading.



ADK-Onondaga members at an installation of one of their Passport Hike Posts, with plaque on top.

PASSAGES

In Memory of Tom Noteware

By Lynda Rummel

“Tom....gone but never forgotten.” With these words and a lovely picture of a fresh spring trillium, Judy Erwin spread the sad news that Tom Noteware had passed away on March 28th after a brief stay at a hospice on Keuka Lake. Judy is a “member” of the informal hiking group – sometimes called the Nowhere Group – that Tom and his wife, Donna, gathered together every year to hike the Bristol Hills Branch (BHB), the 55 miles of trail that they co-coordinated for the past many years, and the central main FLT to the east and west of its junction with the BHB. On occasion, participation in this group swelled to over 40, all of whom became devoted friends and staunch supporters of the trail system and worked as trail maintainers, certified sawyers, or volunteers on projects that Tom and Donna organized, or who shared their professional or amateur expertise as geologists, botanists, and ornithologists on specially focused hikes.

With no organized hiking club in the area and the BHB ineligible for any funding from the National Park Service, Tom was especially proud of his ability to scrounge up building materials and persuade landowners, businesses, BOCES classes, and Scouts to help improve the BHB. Tom was so persistent and persuasive that he even convinced the late Howard Beye, the FLTC’s long-time Trail Manager, to let him use the National Park Service’s hefty Trimble GPS unit to do the first GPS-ing of the BHB. Since my region is just to the east of theirs, we often helped each other out. I can’t begin to tell you how grateful I have been for their advice and assistance.

Nowhere Group “member” Debbie Koop described Tom as an “elegant man.” This may sound incongruous for a guy who played and coached football, but his basic athleticism carried through his later years and allowed him to cross-country ski the trail to the end. Although sometimes crusty and a bit cranky, with a pointed but funny comment handy for just about everything, Tom was beloved by the students he coached at Penn Yan Academy and many of us involved in trail management. In 2012, he and Donna were co-recipients of the Wallace D. Wood Distinguished Service Award, the highest honor given annually by the Conference, in recognition of their dedication and years of service to the FLT System. Donna continues to serve as Regional Trail Coordinator for the BHB, lead the Tuesday morning hikes, and maintain the section of main FLT for which she and Tom were co-sponsors. Thank you, Donna...and thank you, Tom. Tom, I’m sure you’re not quiet up there;

in fact, I’m sure you’re chatting up the heavenly host for permission to improve all those contrails that angels leave across the sky when they carry souls like yours to heaven.



Donald K. McCabe 55, of Myrtle Beach, SC, passed on Sunday, February 9, 2014.

He had a love for all things outdoors. He especially liked taking his two golden retrievers for morning walks on the beach. As an experienced hiker, camper and fly fisherman, he was in the process of completing the Finger Lakes Trail, having hiked over 460 miles of the 565 mile trail that runs from the Catskill Forest Preserve in NY to Allegany State Park, hiking with a New Jersey character named Bigmully whose adventures have been excerpted in our magazine sporadically over years. Don had been a member since 2005. Donations were requested to the FLTC.

In Memory of:

Tom Noteware

from

Barbara Bailey

Gene & Liz Bavis

Scott, Leslie, Katie & Jason Burg
Campbell-Savona Elementary School
Center Street Sunshine Committee

Jeannine Clark

Bill & Mary Coffin

Beverly & George Coleman

Jim & Mary Duggan

Hammondsport Teachers' Association

Brent & Joyce Hill

Bill & Bonnie Hunt

Robert & Virginia Illi

Anne & John Keddy

Janet Langley

Richard Liebe

Lorraine Manelis

John & Rita Manley

Kay & Stan Martin

Noteware Family

Jim Pitt

Sally & Keith Prather

Kent & Anne Salisbury

Kirstjan Seago

Lew & Suzanne Smith

David & Peggy Soule

Joseph & Peg Striano

Randy & Kathy Weidner

Dutch Yowell

Patricia Zielinski

NCTA NEW VIDEO SERIES

I'm so happy to announce North Country Trail Association's new video series aimed at promoting the trail and spreading knowledge about valuable trail skills.



- An Introduction to the North Country National Scenic Trail is a 10 minute video that gives a little background and a lot of inspiration. You can show this one at events or just point people to it if they want to know what we are all about.
- Adopter Basics, with instructor Bill Menke, will cover the duties and responsibilities of a trail adopter; and
- Trail Design and Layout, with instructor Jeff McCusker, will show you the basic principles behind good trail placement on the landscape.

Watch them now on vimeo.com/northcountrytrail/videos. And then share them with volunteers, members, partners and the public. I've attached a press release if you would like to pass it on.

This is just the beginning as we plan to build our video resources to provide virtual training across the Trail. Let me know what skills you would like to see covered next. And don't forget that there are lots of other great resources out there to help you improve your trail skills. Consult our online Volunteer Resources Center for more information.

Andrea Ketchmark
North Country Trail Association
616-897-5987
aketchmark@northcountrytrail.org

NEW BOCK-HARVEY FOREST PRESERVE WINS AS AHS GRANT

The American Hiking Society through its National Trails Fund has awarded the Ithaca-area Cayuga Trails Club a \$3000 grant for improvements to the Bock-Harvey Forest Preserve. Roger Hopkins was instrumental in applying for the competitive grant. The Cayuga Trails Club has agreed to manage and maintain this property and plans to build a small parking lot, trailhead, kiosk and interpretive signage, a spur trail connecting to the main Finger Lakes Trail, and a bivouac or lean-to site for long distance hikers. LL Bean is a primary funder of this grant program.

STEUBEN CROSS-COUNTY HIKE SERIES

Jackson "Jet" Thomas

Hike #1 on April 26th involved 106 hikers organized into 10 groups by hiking speed. Busing is being provided by the Leland Harris Bus Line from south of Corning and required three trips by two buses to transport everyone to the trailhead on Pennsylvania Hill Road., northwest of Hornell. Departure times were delayed by opening remarks and introductions of the Hike Leaders and Hike Sweeps. Dick Hubbard, Executive Director of the FLTC, also shared his welcome with all of the hikers.

The last hikers reached the intersection of Tobes Hill Road and Upper Glen Avenue (and Laine Road) at 1619 hours. The weather was cool (mid-40's F. in the morning to mid-50's F. during the afternoon) and slightly windy, with some brief showers occasionally. Members of a couple of the hiking groups reported hail while crossing Bald Hill on their way into North Hornell from Pennsylvania Hill Road.

"Where's Waldo" was located at 5.0 miles into this hike of 10.1 miles just before the sag wagon on CR 66 (Webbs Crossing Road) and generated \$128.05. Thank you for your generosity to the FLTC's Trail Fund!

Shirley and I were especially grateful to Terry Meacham and Paul and Mary Lou Helberg, who staffed the first sag wagon on CR 66 with us, and also to Gene Binder and Larry Newman, who staffed the second sag wagon on CR 70A (Big Creek Road) with more help from Terry.



Hikers of all ages enjoyed the spring walk and hills with good views before leaf-out.



ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY FOUNDATION DONATION IN HONOR OF JARRET LOBB

Jarret Lobb's sister Kathleen and daughter Marye are heavily involved with the Entertainment Industry Foundation. The Foundation sent the Finger Lakes Trail a \$5000 donation to "support the work of the FLTC that meant so much to him. Kathleen told me how much he loved his work with your organization," said Lisa Paulsen, President and CEO.

TRAIL WORK DEDICATION AWARDS STILL AVAILABLE

Several years ago the FLTC instituted trail work awards based on hours of service, cumulative over the years. The embroidered patches, pictured here, continue to be available to all who want them, and all you have to do to get yours is ask the office. We trust your accounting of your hours! Clubs are encouraged to keep track of the accumulating hours of their stewards. FLT office, normally open 9 AM to 2 PM, all weekdays except Wednesday, with occasional exceptions. 585/6758-9320 at the Mt. Morris Dam in the white house.



WE'VE MET THE ENEMY AND HE IS US

Because we assume that our members and even most other hikers who use our trail are pretty savvy about outdoor things, we are always astounded when we learn about insanely stupid and inconsiderate actions by trail users. In this latest example of public stupidity, some of those staying at the Evangeline shelter on map B3 of the Bristol Hills Trail, northern Steuben County, have cut down small nearby living hemlock trees to fuel their fires.

First of all, these people shouldn't be allowed out of suburbia without somebody holding their hands: LIVE trees don't burn! Why not just soak your socks in a stream and then try to light them for fire starters?

Furthermore, these live trees are on PRIVATE land! That is theft. Of course, it would be illegal if this were a state forest, too!

Need we say more?

T.O.M., The Old Maintainer

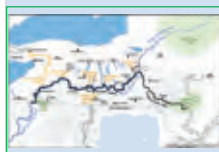
2013 NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Life Members

Frederick Carranti
Peggy Coleman
Kenny Fellers
Pamela McCarrick
Wade Oliver
Charlene Revette
Jewel Wright

Family Life Members

Sigrid & James Connors, Jr.
Theresa & Jay Evans
Jennifer Wilson & Joe Wertyschyn



Answer to the Spring "Name That Map!" Quiz

So, you hiked the FLT or parts of it. Let's see how observant you were! Send your guess to:

Jacqui at jwensich@rochester.rr.com

Previous Picture:



Map 3 Holimont Ski Area in Ellicottville, between Access points 5 and 6, coming down the hill before going into the woods.

Correct ID:
Scott Brooks,
Kirk Doyle
and Marty Ruszaj

New Picture:



Hint: Trail passes Liberty Pole Cemetery, not on the main trail.

Learning From the Master

Lynda Rummel, Vice President of Trail Quality

April 25th, sometime around 3 a.m., Lester Kenway drove to the airport in Bangor, Maine, and caught a plane to Buffalo. He had shipped his gear and tools ahead, by UPS, because, he explained, “he didn’t want to disturb the airport security guards,” so he rented a car and drove to Rock City State Forest near Ellicottville (FLTC map M 3/CT 3), where Dave Potzler was waiting for him. Because the gate on the road to the trail crossing was closed and locked, they went to the old Seneca CCC Camp and hiked up to the trail through the debris left from the tornado. After that experience, Lester decided there would be enough to do just at the CCC Camp, so that became the base of operations for two days of intense training in how to use rigging (wire rope and winches) and a special rigging tool called a GripHoist to move boulders and other large and heavy objects safely and efficiently in the backwoods, by hand.



Lynda Rummel

“Getting Ready to Deliver the Mail” Matt Branneman (R), Kenny Feller (C), and Lester Kenway prepare to fill two stacked boxes with a load of heavy shackles and tools and send it down a zip line. Lester holds the rope with which the speed of descent will be controlled.

Lester Kenway is the acknowledged master of the GripHoist, the smallest version of which can be checked out from the FLTC’s Mt. Morris office, along with most of the necessary related equipment including shackles, snatch blocks, and nylon lifting slings. A quiet guy with a Maine sense of humor that emerges carefully as he gets to know you, Lester majored in chemistry at Bates, but his real heart was outdoors. Lester began his trail work in 1971, in Baxter State Park, where he served as Trail Supervisor for 22 years. Creative and inventive, Lester improved equipment or found new ways to solve problems. When serving as Program Coordinator of the Maine Conservation Corps, he managed as many as eight trail crews a season. In 1991, he established his own business, Trail Services, LLC, which he runs halftime providing training and equipment to trail building groups all over the world, while spending the other half volunteering for the Appalachian Trail Conservancy and serving as President of the Maine Appalachian Trail Club.

Friday and Saturday evenings, Lester joined the trainees for delicious dinners prepared and served by Jacqui Wensich and Donna Flood, after which we went off to our rustic cabins on the Anderson Loop in Allegany State Park. Unfortunately, some were kept awake by very audible laughter and music coming from some of the other cabins, but, on the bright side, this was offset by the earlier visual pleasure of seeing loons on the lake and a bald eagle perched nearby.

The training started with breakfast at Jacqui and Donna’s diner at 7:00 a.m. At 8 a.m., we drove to the CCC Camp. Day one, we trainees – Matt Branneman, Kenny Feller, Mike Granger, Marty Howden, Gary Mallow, Dave Potzler, Don Sutherland, Paul Warrender, Jim White, and me – huddled under the pavilion while it rained and Lester gave us the introduction and safety talk. Then to work, teaching our senses what wire

rope under high tension feels like and learning how to use basic mechanical physics and trigonometry to begin to figure out how much a boulder weighs, calculate whether it can be skidded or lifted off the ground using a certain cable and sling, determine which kind of strap around the boulder could be used in which kind of circumstance, and so forth. Day two, after complaining that the class should have been held inside the nearby Seneca Nation casino, we sharpened our skills in the outdoors and learned how to set up single, double, and triple line pulls, use a high line, and send a boulder down a zip line... and haul it back up the slope. The instruction was both theoretical and hands-on, and it was fantastic, opening our eyes to both greater possibilities for using the equipment and more safety concerns when



Jacqui Wensich

Matt getting a grip: Matt Branneman learning how to ratchet the cable in order to gain enough leverage to move rocks.

using it. There is no doubt in my mind that the FLTC's rigging gear will get used to build or improve shelters, bridges, and steps on the FLT/NCNST, and I'm sure Paul Warrender is figuring out how to get a GripHoist and related equipment for the Cayuga Trails Club at this very moment.

How did we get to Lester? After attending two half-day workshops on rigging at NCTA summer conferences with instructors who had been trained by Lester, and after the experience of struggling to move telephone poles for the interior (8th) bridge in the Bean Station Bridges project using the GripHoist (see the *Trail Tenders' News*, Autumn, 2010, at www.fingerlakestrail.org → Members → Volunteer Trail Workers → *Trail Tenders' News*), I became convinced that FLTC volunteers needed an intensive version of the "teaser" training I had gone through. Marty agreed to be Project Manager (making most of the arrangements), Lester agreed to fit us into his busy schedule and accommodate our budget limitations, and Marty and I secured a Field Grant from the NCTA to help offset the costs. Jacqui and Donna volunteered their time and labor. Other expenses, including food and housing, were paid for by the FLTC. Added benefits from the training: Lester will advise us regarding exactly what equipment we need to have in our Tool Crib, and he has seen the terrain in Rock City State Forest so can advise us regarding lifting or skidding rocks or timbers for the mile of new trail we have to build, September 6 to 10 (Alley Cat Crew #4; for more info, contact Marty at howser51@yahoo.com). Finally, attendees are expected to teach others in their trail clubs or on trail crews.

Lester's guiding mantra is "build things once, and build them to last." Like us, he believes that foot trails are good for people and good for the earth. His dream is to build a large \$2 million dollar training campus somewhere near the middle of the Appalachian Trail in his state, out of which he can run crews. Lester dreams big, but he is thoughtful, careful, thorough, and persistent, so I'm betting he achieves his dream. 🍁



▲ "On belay!" Lester Kenway, L, wearing blue Buffalo plaid, demonstrates the proper stance and hand positions for controlling the descent of a heavy load on a zip line to Dave Potzler (C) and Paul Warrender (R).



◀ "The Stick Game" The zip line needs to be attached to the tree by a strap secured high enough up the tree to keep the load off the ground. Here, from L to R, Matt Branneman, Lester Kenway, Kenny Fuller, and Paul Warrender use sticks to push the strap up the tree. A well-equipped crew might use a ladder instead....



▲ With the strap attached to the rock with a choker hold and the wire rope shackled to the strap, Lester Kenway waits for Dave Potzler (not pictured) to use the GripHoist to rotate and skid the smaller rock off the bigger one. Watching are Gary Mallow, foreground right, Kenny Feller, background left, and Jim White, background right.



▲ Marty Howden, left, and Mike Granger on the porch of the group's cabin at Allegany State Park, caught with their mouths full. Donna Flood and Jacqui Wensich fed the group but had to schlep the dishes down to the bathhouse for running water.

Dedicated to the Dogs Who Hike with Us

Jacqui Wensich



Heidi Belenger

Jacqui and Mina

It started out as a way to honor my hiking dog, Mina, who passed away in February. She loved to hike, making many hiking and car spotter friends along the way. She attended several Alley Cat Crew cooking projects, guarding the facilities against intruding squirrels and birds.

After emailing several fellow dog lovers, like Irene Szabo, we decided to start a subscription for a specific new shelter on the FLT. Matt Branneman, VP of Construction, will determine where it will be located for the 2015 or 2016 construction season.

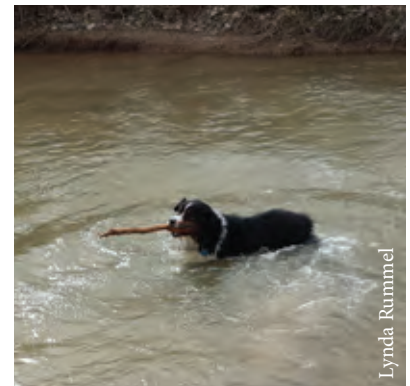
The cost will be \$100.00 per owner(s) and name and pet, plus \$10.00 per each additional dog. A plaque engraved with the owner/pet information will be mounted in the shelter. There will be a bulletin board for photos, placed there by pet owners.

The cost for a shelter is about \$3800. The plaque and board will cost about \$200.00. This fund will begin with a \$1000.00 donation. Donate to this fund directly to the FLTC by completing this form which will be also offered on-line or use my email. All checks will be made out to FLTC, and mailed to 6111 Visitor Center Rd., Mt. Morris 14510. 🍁



Irene Szabo

Maggie Szabo's pack from her long miles backpacking. Bob McKinney, FLT membership chair in the early 90's and GVHC member, let Maggie have a 5-year member rocker.



Lynda Rummel

Ajax

◀ Patience -- Sandy and Pearl Szabo
"Oh, no, my dogs never go in the Mt. Morris Dam Visitor Center fish pond!"



Irene Szabo

Diesel Anne, queen of the universe at 10" high, at Lake David on map B3.

Jacqui Wensich
585-385-2265

jwensich@rochester.rr.com

(email me directly for the form)



Chris Snow

Chris Snow's Esther and Millie



Jacqui Wensich

Name of owner(s): _____

Date: _____

Name(s) of dog(s): _____

\$100.00 per order, \$10.00 additional dog:

Amount: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

(If printing, be very clear. You will be contacted for final approval before engraving.)

Finger Lakes Trail

2014 Calendar of Events

June 29.....First hike of Hiking 101 series (followed by July 20,
August 17, and Sept. 14)
August 1Deadline for Fall Issue of the *FLT News*
August 2Ed Sidote Hike, Chenango County (pg. 25)
August 21-23North Country Trail Hiking Celebration, Duluth, Minnesota
Sept. 19-21.....Fall Weekend, Chautauqua
September 21Board of Managers meeting, Chautauqua
September 27North Country Trail National Scenic Trails Day Hikes,
Little Rock City and Highland Forest (pg. 6)
October 11Erv Markert Hike, Cortland County (pg. 25)
Oct. 30 - Nov. 1.....Board Retreat at Letchworth State Park
November 8Regional Trail Workers' Meeting, Virgil
November 15Regional Trail Workers' Meeting, Bainbridge

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A flock of cedar waxwings spent over a week in Vinnie Collins' southern tier yard, eating the shriveled remains of last year's crab apples and filling the air with their soft airy *peents* and *whews*. Your editor has sat at Lake David on Map B3 and listened to them in the treetops there, too.



Vinnie Collins