

Finger Lakes Trail NEWS

Spring 2017



Inside...

- * *The Most Fun Family End-to-Enders' Story!*
- * *Spring Weekend Program*
- * *Catskills County Hike Series*
- * *Spring Wildflower Rapture*

SPRING 2017

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

Volume 56 Number 1

Finger Lakes Trail Service Center
6111 Visitor Center Road
Mt. Morris, NY 14510
(585) 658-9320

Editor

Irene Szabo
6939 Creek Road,
Mt. Morris, NY 14510.
Phone (585) 658-4321
treeweenie@aol.com

Graphic Design

Jennifer Hopper

Proofreader

Jo Taylor

End-to-End Update

Jacqui Wensich

Walking through Time

Irene Szabo, Tim Wilbur

A Naturalist's View

Randy Weidner

A Walk on the Wordy Side

Marla Perkins

FLT Archives

Georgianne Vyverberg

Finger Lakes Trail News is the official publication of the Finger Lakes Trail Conference, Inc., and is published four times a year by the Finger Lakes Trail, 6111 Visitor Center Road, Mt. Morris, NY 14510. Comments and original contributions are welcome and may be submitted to the editor.

Send address changes to :
Finger Lakes Trail Service Center

Copyright © 2017 by Finger Lakes Trail Conference, Inc.

DEPARTMENTS

- 29 Bug Bites
- 41 FLT Named Hike Events
- 42 Name that Map! *Answers to the Fall Quiz*
- 43 Calendar

COLUMNS

- 3 President's Message
- 8 Executive Director Report
- 11 End-to-End Update
- 12 A Walk on the Wordy Side
- 14 A Naturalist's View
- 16 Trail Topics, *reports from the trail management directors*

CONTENTS

- 4 End-to-Enders - The Gravinis
- 5 News Release
- 6 "Marathon" Hike; July 1, 2012
- 13 Celebrating the Founders of the FTC
- 19 TCHC ASP Weekend
- 22 Rob's Trail
- 23 The A-100 Hiking Challenge
- 24 Hike 100 Challenge Returns for 2017
- 26 2017 Cross-County Hike Series
- 28 Help Wanted
- 30 2016 Hoxie Gorge Lean-to Alley Cat
- 31 Remembering Dorothy Beye
- 32 Invitation to the Annual Meeting
- 33 Proposed Bylaw Changes
- 34 FLTC 2017 Spring Weekend
- 42 Memorial Hiking Dog Shelter

COVER: Last August an Alley Cat crew built this handsome post-and-beam shelter in Hoxie Gorge State Forest, east of Interstate 81 on Map M20. Perfect site! Photo by Mike TenKate

THIS PAGE: From the observation platform within Huckleberry Bog on Map B3, northwest of Hammondsport, in early June we can see blooming iris, arum lily, mounds of sphagnum moss, high bush blueberry, and ferns. However, back in February when we were working on this issue, the Howard Beye hike walked through several inches of wet snow there. Picture by Jacqui Wensich

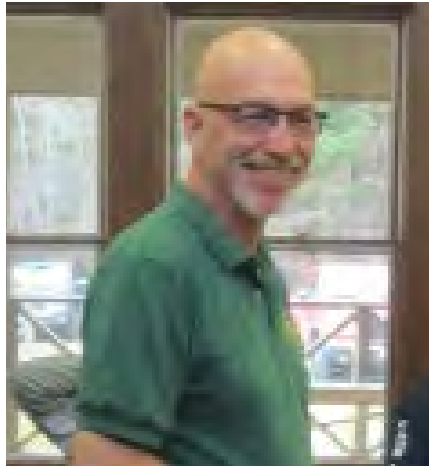
President's Message

Pat Monahan

All of us have our personal memories for winter as we have grown older. Growing up in Bath in Steuben County, it gave me great joy to leave the snow and sub zero temperatures behind in anticipation of warmer days to greet all of my spring outdoor activities. Now in 2017, either I am or the climate is more mellow than ever before. Regardless, spring is coming and I am glad to start another year with the FLT.

As promised in my Winter message to you, I will report in more detail about the Board retreat held in November 2016. Here is a summary of the weekend activities.

- Affirmed the job description of a full time executive director. (The Board hired Quinn Wright.)
- Established a 2017 budget that requires new revenue sources in order to fund a full time executive director position.
- Affirmed that this is a working board with the expectation that each Board member either lead or participate on various committees.
- Reviewed a current opportunity to protect the trail in Tompkins County.
- Started to review our strategic plan for membership and marketing. We will continue to study these areas in the coming year.



Laurie Ondrejka

As we continue to move forward, we are lacking some critical skillsets on the Board. Therefore it is difficult to make the kind of progress needed to grow the FLT rather than remain static as an organization. We need assistance with

- marketing,
- membership,
- information technology, and
- crews and construction.

You may be just the person for the whole job or perhaps the one to take on a specific task with a deadline and clear objectives to complete. If you or someone you know may have a question about how to help us,

please contact us at (585) 658-9320 or DebbieH@fingerlakestrail.org.

For more details on the jobs we need filled, please see Quinn's article "Help Wanted" on page 28. 🍁

"Go take a hike!!"

Searchable Archive of the *Finger Lakes Trail News*

A valuable and little-known resource is available to you on the FLTC website. Want to find that old article about measuring wheels or all the articles that mention you? In the Members>Library area on the website you

will find links to PDF copies of past issues of the *News* all the way back to 2004. You can search and download these issues.

<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Search"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Finger Lakes Trail News
File name		Size
FLTNews2015-4-R.pdf		5,513 kB
FLTNews2015-3-R.pdf		5,773 kB
FLTNews2015-2-R.pdf		7,033 kB
FLTNews2015-1-R.pdf		5,869 kB
FLTNews2014-4-R.pdf		4,416 kB
FLTNews2014-3-R.pdf		4,003 kB
FLTNews2014-2-R.pdf		7,453 kB

End-to-Enders - The Gravinos (#414 Ethan, #415 Christian, #416 Sarah)

Sarah Gravino

Some people make excuses; others make memories. This is not an end-to-end article about hills, sweat, rain, a bear, or pack of coyotes. This is for all of you young parents patiently waiting for the kids to grow up so you can “have fun again.” Did you know kids are fun? They’re hilarious actually. If you both put down your phones, turn off the television and spend some time together you might just learn a little more about the humans they are trying to become and the Finger Lakes Trail is the perfect place for magic like that to happen.

Bet you can think of so many reasons why you and your 5 year old can’t go backpacking or even hiking.

They’re too young. Says who? We started when my boys were 7 and 9. Did we start off with 18 mile days? Nope. Seven miles to the first lean-to in Allegany State Park was pushing it, but they made it. For the next year or two we never pushed more than 12 miles between camps or cars but on the FLT that works fine.

I’ve never done anything like that before. Well, guess what? Neither have your kids. You’ll learn together. And even if you screw up it’s the adventure that makes it fun. Remember the time we walked 3 miles in the wrong direction on our 20 mile day? Or when our boots froze overnight? Be prepared for the unexpected; it’s a great life lesson. Spend a winter learning how to throw a bear bag, how to pack a backpack and how to use a compass. The internet is wonderful... sometimes.



Vincent Gravino

7-17-14 Christian, Sarah, Ethan and Simmi

ate rice, mac and cheese and instant oatmeal. So what do you actually need?

- Good light weight tent, and remember, kids are small.
- A way to purify water
- A way to cook (light weight stove and pot)
- Patience



Sarah Gravino

8-20-11 Ethan, Christian, Jade, Mr. Hook and Jadin. Landowners on M2, Mr. and Mrs. Hook gave us popsicles. The kids still talk about this five years later.

As time went on the boys grew stronger and our gear improved.

It will be boring. What are the kids supposed to do? Walking quietly is not something that happens until adulthood so be prepared. This is the master list I wish someone had handed me five years ago.

- Alphabet listing game.
- I’m thinking of a number.
- Count small toads.
- Count red eft.
- Play “Would you rather...?”
- Play with road tar.
- Pick up road junk; kids love road junk.
- Make berry or mud face paint.
- Make jam; in your mouth is less messy.
- Ask “What would you like to have right now?”
- Sing. And if you’re my kid you’d sing the same song for two weeks straight.
- Pretend you are a giant.
- Limbo under maple lines.
- Have a belly button sing along. Get weird. It’s okay.
- Yahtzee- dice are lightweight.
- Have a conversation. Weird, I know. But talk to your kids. There’s a lot going on in those little heads.

It took us five years of hiking through nettle and briars, up and down mountains, in snow and blistering heat but those are not the things the boys talk about when I ask about our adventures. They remember hitting grandma in the head with an apple, belly button songs and the best ice cream they’ve ever had. Life is short and kids grow fast. Enjoy it. Stop making excuses and start making memories.



Sarah Gravino

Thank you Finger Lakes Trail for giving us an excuse to make time for each other, for giving my boys a reason to be proud (580 miles before the age of 13 is pretty cool) and the perfect place to make memories. If you want to read more about our adventures check out our blog at <http://shortstrides.blogspot.com/> and while I'm a bit sad we're done and I promised them no backpacking this year, I have a feeling it's in their blood and the branch trails are next. 🍁

8-16-16 Christian, Simmi and Ethan

NEWS RELEASE



Forest Service
Green Mountain National Forest
231 North Main Street
Rutland, Vermont 05701

Media Contact: Ethan M. Ready, Public Affairs Officer
Voice: (802) 747-6760
Cell: (802) 558-8176
eready@fs.fed.us

“GREEN” BAT HOUSES ARE ARRIVING ON THE FINGER LAKES AND GREEN MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FORESTS

HECTOR, NY (Jan. 23, 2017) – Forest Service officials on the Finger Lakes and Green Mountain National Forests are teaming up with General Motors (GM) to install three bat houses completely made out of repurposed automotive materials to provide a safe place for the animals to live.

“Bats need our support,” said Wildlife Biologist, Greg Flood with the Finger Lakes National Forest. “This project is an innovative and creative way to turn what would be scrap material into recycled homes for many important species of bats,” he added.

The Chevy Volt, a plug-in, hybrid compact car, is manufactured at the Detroit-Hamtramck Assembly Plant. Recognizing that the packing covers used on the Volt battery are difficult to recycle and normally end up as scrap materials, GM devised an ingenious plan – to create homes for bats. Through a unique partnership with the Organization for Bat Conservation and GM, the Forest Service has been able to help reduce the amount of waste going to landfills, create safe havens for bats on public lands, and provide stewardship opportunities for rural and urban audiences.

The outside of this unique bat house is made from the Volt's battery cover which is painted black. This allows the house to absorb the sun's heat, in turn providing a perfect environment for bats. All of the wood and screws used in the construction of these bat boxes are from pallets used in shipping Chevy Volt parts. While GM provided the materials, the Forest Service and the Organization for Bat Conservation provided the construction power. Each year, these “green” bat houses are built by volunteers during bat festivals hosted in both Detroit, MI and Milwaukee, WI. Once the houses are built, they are sent off to national forests around the country.

“Bats are found in every state in the U.S. and these amazing animals are vital to the health of our environment and economy” said Flood. “They eat tons of insects every night and are the most important natural predators of night-flying insects, consuming mosquitoes, moths, beetles, crickets and much more.” Many of these insects are serious agricultural or forests pests, and others spread disease to humans or livestock. Every year bats save us billions of dollars in pest control by simply eating insects. With declining habitats, bats need a safe, warm place to rest and to raise their young during the summer. Most bats in New York and Vermont only have one baby a year and having a safe home is vital to long-term survival. Each bat house can hold up to 150 little brown bats, one of the most common species found in North America. “Forest Service employees will monitor the houses each summer to see what kind, and how many, bats start using these new homes,” said Flood.

Bats are in decline nearly everywhere they are found. They face a multitude of threats including habitat loss, disturbance by humans, and much more. Worldwide, about one quarter of bats are considered critically endangered, endangered, or vulnerable. In the United States and Canada, bats have declined dramatically as a fungal disease, White-Nose Syndrome, has killed over six million bats in six years.

The Forest Service invites you to help bats on your property by installing a bat house of your own. Building a bat house is a great way to attract and accommodate bats on your property. There are a variety of designs of bat houses, and you can either make your own or purchase one. One thing is for sure; your bat-tenants will pay you back with some wonderful benefits.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

"Marathon" Hike - July 1, 2012

Story and Photos by Scott Geiger

1. Introduction:

After my first few hikes on the FLT I decided that I wanted to complete the entire trail. I knew it would take me years, so by the end of my second year of hiking I added some short-term goals. I wanted to do an overnight hike and I also wanted to hike a "marathon," 26.2 miles, in a single day.

During the beginning of 2012 I began planning my hike. I knew I needed to build up my endurance so I would need to increase my mileage with each hike. My first hike was my "warm-up" and was only 16.23 miles. The next hike in May I increased the mileage to 21.18 and then 24.38 in June.

2. The Hike:

My hike began at Bowman Lake State Park in the early morning, on Map M24 in Chenango County, west of Norwich. It was quiet and still. Dew had dampened the ground overnight. I parked in a lot above the lake, pulled on my boots and pack, and started up the park road toward the entrance.

The sun was beginning to peek above the horizon and I could see it glowing through the trees. I turned toward the entrance and continued out the gates. At the intersection with Bliven Sherman Road I turned right. The road turned from pavement to dirt and began to curve to the right. As I rounded the corner I lost sight of the park behind me and came to the trailhead. I left the road and entered the woods.

Soon after I came to Bowman Road, a seasonal dirt road. I turned and followed it down to cross N.Y. 220. The sun was already warming the air and there was the slight haze that comes with the mornings of hot summer days. The temperatures were predicted to rise into the mid-to-upper 80s; it was already 70.

I crossed 220 (*mile 2.1*) and saw a blaze on a power line pole. There was an opening ahead of me in a chain link fence around

a playground that also had a blaze. I turned through the fence and found the trail. It entered the woods on a narrow dirt road and climbed a small hill. After a short distance the trail turned off and began to follow another small dirt road. This road had been frequented by ATVs and dirt bikes and was very rutted with spots where water had pooled that I had to pick my way around.

I reached Short Cut Road, another small seasonal dirt road (*mile 3.3*). I crossed and hiked a short distance to Chestnut Road, yet another dirt road, although it was wider and looked more traveled (*mile 3.9*). After crossing Chestnut Road I had another short hike and came to Hoben Road, again another small dirt road (*mile 4.5*). As I crossed Hogen Road I looked to my left and saw bright sunshine where the tree cover opened.

I crossed back into the woods and after a longer walk I came to Ludlow Road, yet another dirt road! (*mile 6.1*) The trail turned onto the road and then came to the intersection of Tucker Road where it turned and descended quickly across a one-lane bridge over Ludlow Creek. Once across the bridge the trail left the road and crossed over a ditch on a pair of springy boards (*mile 6.2*). The route passed Ludlow Creek Lean-to.

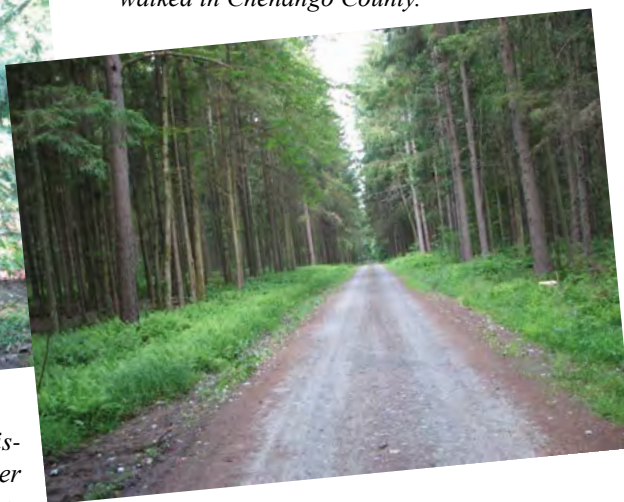
The trail followed a wide path over level terrain for over a mile before it turned and started an easy climb over a small hill. After leaving the hilltop behind it opened out into a field. I followed a hedgerow and crossed into another field. Ahead of me I saw a small barn and beyond it a house. The blazes continued along the edge of the yard and past the house. Even though the trail was marked I felt odd about walking through someone's yard.

I stepped out onto Stone Quarry Hill Road (*mile 8.1*); dirt, but oil and tar had been put down. I looked back and saw a handwritten sign on a tree, "FLT Parking on the Grass." The owner of the house clearly was a fan of the FLT. A short walk and I came to CR 3, for a change a paved road with a double-yellow line down the middle. I crossed and walked up the road to the intersection of Fred Wilcox Road (*mile 8.3*), also paved, but with no center line.

▼ *One of many quiet country roads Scott walked in Chenango County.*



▲ *The stile we cross, built according to the distinctive style of stile introduced by Tony Preus over twenty years ago.*



I turned onto Fred Wilcox Road and began a long road walk. It was getting hot with the sun beating down on me and I tried to walk in the shade where I could. Fields opened alongside the road periodically and a few houses looked out onto the road. The road seemed to go on and on. Some time later I saw a red barn in the distance. I stopped in the shade of a tree to get a break from the hot sun.

After passing the barn I reached a sharp turn and the road became French Road. I continued on around the corner and passed an intersection with Hattie Clark Road. Just beyond the intersection the trail left the road (*mile 9.5*). The road walk had been nearly 2.5 miles. I was ready for a break and sat in the shade to drink some water and eat a snack.

The trail climbed over a small hill and then descended quickly. Soon I came to an old overgrown field presenting a great view of the hills to the south. I crossed along the top of the field before heading back into the woods and soon arrived at the triangular intersection of Buckley Hollow and Williams Roads (*mile 11.3*).

In woods the trail turned to follow Bowman Creek. After an easy walk in shade above the beautiful creek below, I came to another old field and a path leading down to the creek. I thought it might be a nice place to stop for lunch on my way back. Just beyond the old field I came to a stile and climbed over. On the other side was a large field still in use. I followed around the edge, passing a drop-off to a road below. After passing the drop-off, the trail turned through some trees and opened out onto busy N.Y. 12 (*mile 13.0*).

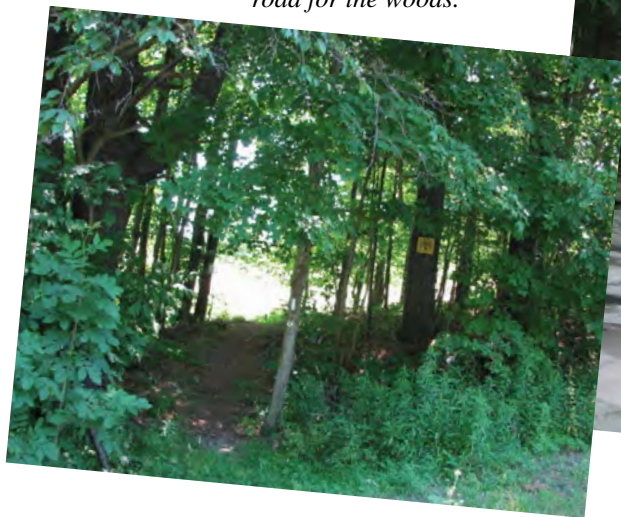
I turned and crossed N.Y. 12 heading for S. Oxford Bridge Road a short distance ahead, where it crossed the Chenango River. At the end of a field to my left I came to my turn-around point (*mile 13.2*). I paused for a moment to look around before heading back.

I made the short walk to the trailhead, climbed back up to the field and followed along past the drop-off and back to the stile. After climbing over I came back the path to the stream (*mile 13.7*). There were several large flat rocks in the stream that I could sit on. I dropped my pack, pulled off my boots and socks, and let my feet dangle in the cool water while I ate.

After lunch I relaxed for a while and walked along the rocks to take pictures. Finally I had to get moving again. I dried my feet off and pulled my socks and boots back on. To keep myself cooler I dunked a towel in the water and hung it over my neck. Then I headed back to the trail and turned toward Buckley Hollow Road.

I crossed Buckley Hollow and Williams Roads (*mile 15.3*) and began climbing back toward French Road. My shoulders were beginning to hurt from the weight of my pack. I stopped and placed a couple towels under the straps as padding. By the time I reached French Road (*mile 17.0*) the towel I had placed around my neck was warm and barely damp. I removed it and hung it on the back of my pack. I turned onto French Road and continued on up Fred Wilcox Road. It was hot on the pavement and I was getting tired, but I still had a long way to go.

▼ *An inviting trailhead, leaving the road for the woods.*



I finally arrived at CR 3 and crossed over before turning up Stone Quarry Hill Road (*mile 18.5*). I walked along the yard next to the house, still feeling odd about it, and then on through the fields. The trail wound along through state forest heading back to Tucker Road. I trudged slowly up the road; tired, hot, and aching.

After leaving Ludlow Road I continued on to Hoben Road (*mile 22.2*). The trail climbed gently past Hoben and then across Chestnut Road before cresting a hill near Short Cut Road. I crossed over Short Cut (*mile 23.4*) and turned back onto the dirt road that led to the intersection of N.Y. 220. I emerged from the woods in the playground. The sun was getting lower in the sky and the air was warm with the scents of a summer evening.

I crossed 220 (*mile 24.5*) and headed up Bowman Road. My feet hurt with every step and my shoulders and back ached. I continued until I reached the trailhead and then turned into the woods. A short walk later, seeming much longer than this morning, I was back on Bliven Sherman Road (*mile 26.2*) and heading toward the entrance of the park.

I passed through the gates and headed down the park road to my car. There were more people around now, couples walking and families picnicking. I was thankful that the last short walk to my car was a gentle downhill. If I had energy left I would have sprinted to my car, but it was all I could do to put one foot in front of the other.

I arrived at my car nearly 12 hours after I had started my hike, exhausted (*mile 26.88*). I tossed my pack into the car and traded my boots for sandals. The beach area was a good walk away and I was done walking. I drove around to the beach-side parking area, got out, and walked right into the water.

My marathon hike was complete. I later learned that the section I had chosen for the hike was perhaps the best one. It averaged less than 88 feet of climb per mile. In comparison, the ruggedest section was the one I chose for my first overnight hike (with a heavier pack); it had averaged 260 feet of climb per mile. 🍁

- Full story and photos: <https://scottgeiger.com>



Executive Director Report

Quinn Wright

Is the FLTC relevant to the NYS economy?

You bet it is! Don't believe any of the ballyhooing that we hear about the impact of almost every other recreational group being superior to hiking, backpacking, or running ("trail sports" on unpaved trails on the tables below). Based upon a national study commissioned in 2012 by the Outdoor Industry Association (OIA) which includes manufacturers and retailers of outdoor recreation equipment and supplies, trail sports on unpaved trails is the second most popular activity, trailing only bicycling which is combined to include on and off road bicycling. (See Chart 1, see Chart 2 for NY)

How much money is spent nationally for equipment, apparel, services and accessories? Motorized equipment costs include the vehicle, parts, maintenance, insurance, registration, apparel and storage. Because of the high expense of the equipment, it is obvious that the cost to participate in the activities of boating, off-roading, motorcycling, and snowmobiling are significantly higher than others. Activities such as hiking, trail running, snowshoeing, wildlife viewing have much lower equipment costs which may explain the higher participation numbers. (See Chart 3)

How much money (in billions) is spent nationally by the recreational participants for trip related expenses such as travel, food & drink, lodging, souvenirs, and miscellaneous items? This is the tourism spending that relates to the state and local economies and is not impacted by the cost of equipment. Because of the high number of participants, non-paved trail sports generate the third highest level of tourism dollars. (See Chart 4)

How much money (in billions) is spent by the recreational participants in **New York** for equipment and trip related expenses such as travel, food & drink, lodging, souvenirs, and miscellaneous items? Of the \$2,619,301,000 direct impact dollars from non-paved trail sports, \$2,273,404,207 is spent for travel related tourism spending that relates to the state and local economies. (Chart 5)

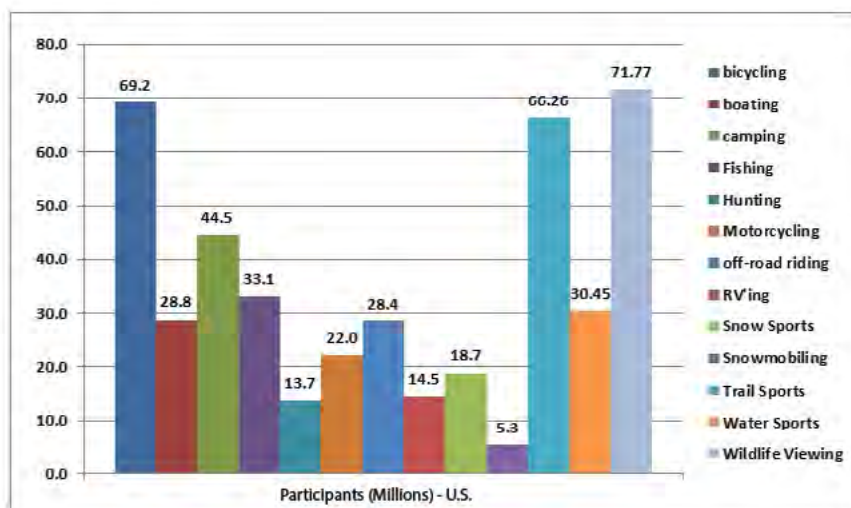
There are 9808.5 miles of unpaved sport trails in New York State which means that the economic impact of those non-paved sport trail participants is \$267,044 per mile of trail. Of that total, tourism dollars are \$231,779 per mile. The Finger Lakes Trail System comprises 1002.5 miles which means that ***the direct economic impact of the Finger Lakes Trail in New York is \$267,711,602 per year.*** In 2016 it cost the FLTC \$281,000 to administer the FLT trail system. ***The FLTC budget is so small because of your sweat equity (we don't use your personal money or public money to work on the trail)! Your financial contributions coupled with the minimal sales dollars in 2016 means that Finger Lakes Trail generated \$952.71 in the New York State economy for every dollar that the FLTC spent to administer this marvelous system that is free of charge to the public!***

That, in my estimation, is astonishing and truly amazing. Don't ever pass up the chance to inform people of the non-paved trail sports benefit to the economy, especially as it compares to other recreational activities that get much more positive press. This data is an **advocacy tool** that I hope many of you will use often. **Again I thank those of you who have contributed to our achievements and encourage you to promote the trail as often as possible. We need better recognition for the valuable asset to the State of New York that is the Finger Lakes Trail!**

Thank you to:

1. The **landowners** who allow this economic engine to be on their land
2. **The trail management team members** (hundreds of you) who donate more than 20,000 hours a year to build and maintain the Finger Lakes Trail system

Chart 1



Irene Szabo

Chart 2

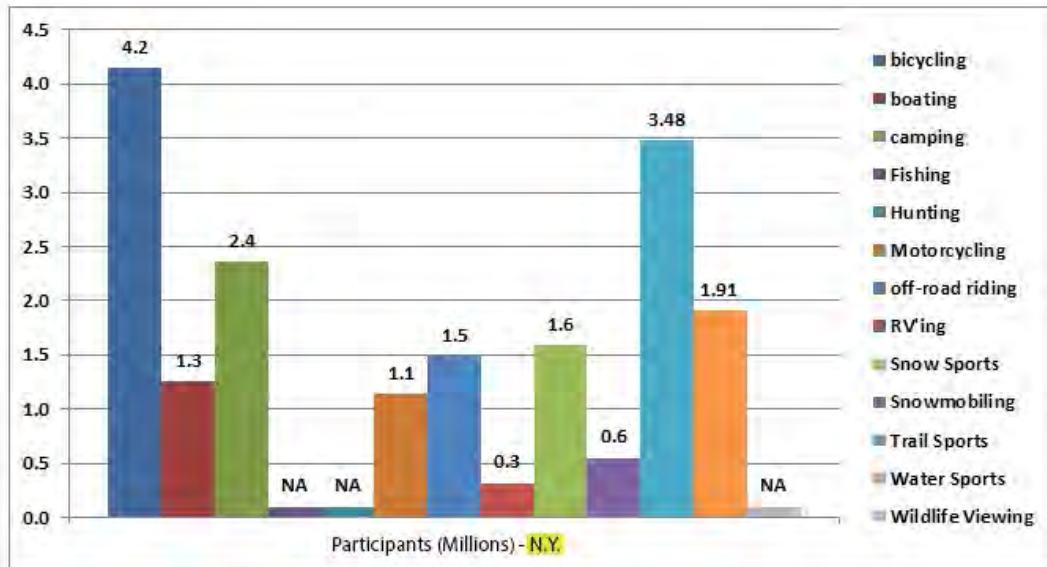


Chart 3

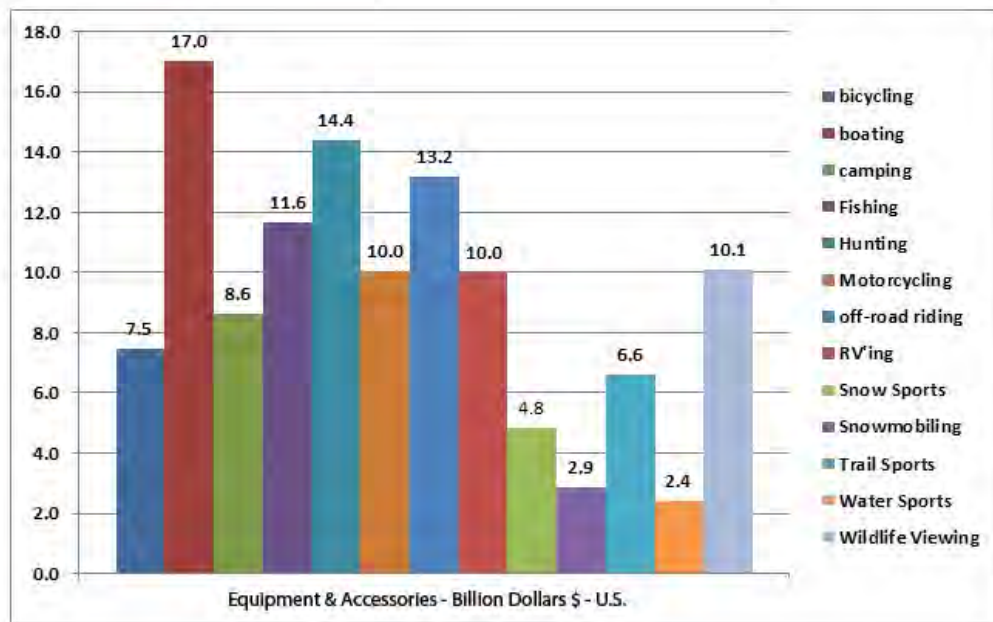


Chart 4

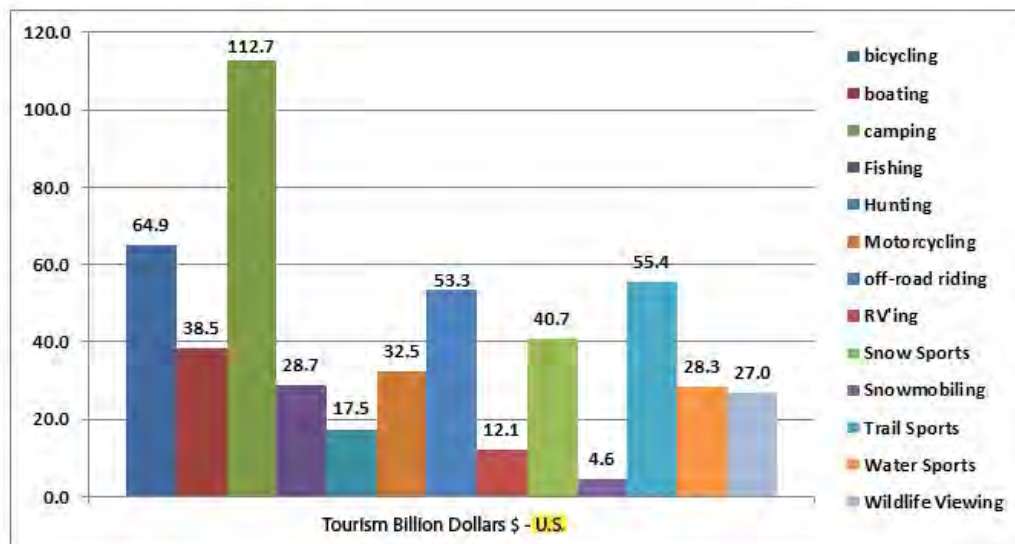
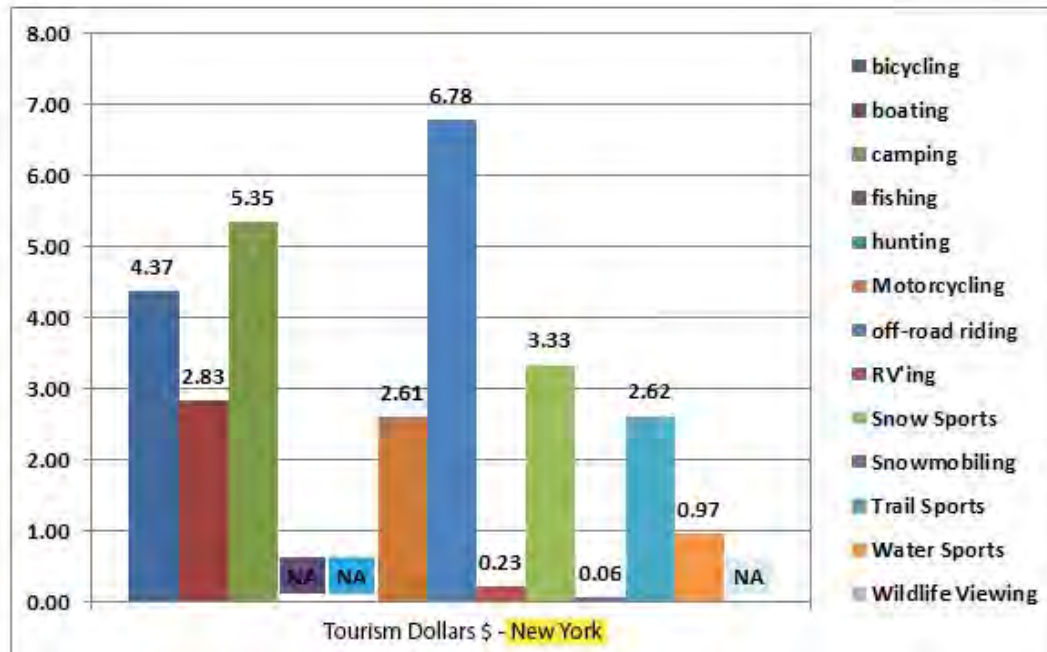


Chart 5



Notes:

1. The economic impact of snowmobiling as reported may be understated because the survey sample size was too small.
2. The economic benefit of off-road vehicles for tourism is overstated for New York because New York has almost no public trails and a minimal number of private trails. So, most of those dollars that show the spending of New Yorkers who off-road are spent out of state.
3. This analysis was done to identify the impact of non-paved trail sport trails. Because I do not have the trail mileage for other recreations such as mountain biking or snow sports, no direct comparison can be made.
4. Equestrian trails were not included in the OIA study, but will be in the study that is being conducted this year.
5. Bicycling includes both on and off road and the data is not available to separate the two.
6. Water sports includes both powered and non-powered activities and the data is not available to separate them. 🍁

Contact: Quinn Wright
 qwright@fingerlakestrail.org
 716-826-1939

Join the FLT Yahoo Groups E-Mail List

The Finger Lakes Trail Conference's e-mail list is a discussion group hosted by yahoo.com. Its purpose is to allow the subscribers (approximately 650 people) to communicate information to each other pertaining to FLT hikes and other FLT activities, and to also allow subscribers to post general hiking-camping-backpacking and/or FLT-related questions that can be answered by any of the other participants.

The co-moderators who will oversee the use of this electronic mailing list and offer help with questions are: Larry Blumberg (lblumberg@stny.rr.com), Jack VanDerzee (vanderze@ithaca.edu) and Roger Hopkins (roger@natural-highs.net)

To join the group, send a blank note to fingerlakestrail-subscribe@yahoo.com and follow the instructions for subscribing. If you have any problems or questions, contact one of the co-moderators.

End-to-End Update

Jacqui Wensich, End-to-End Coordinator

Main Trail:

#426 Richard J. Lightcap, Manlius

Comments: This makes a total of 28 Main Trail end-to-enders in 2016.

Dick Lightcap started in 1992. He used the *blue maps* (original handwritten map) and had to add this information to the modern recording application for end-to-end status. He MIGHT also be the oldest to complete the trail! Dick does a lot of work for the hiking community, FLTC, NCTA; see his article.

Branch Trails:

#99 Shirley Thomas (Main Trail #322) and #100 Jackson Thomas (Main #323) of Webster, November 8, 2016.

#101 Gary Brouse (#379,#402) of Horseheads and #102 Barbara Nussbaum (#388) of Ithaca, November 15, 2016

	BT	Main Trail	2nd +	Continuous
2010	3	14	3	2
2011	11	29	2	2
2012	7	21	3	1
2013	2	17	1	3
2014	2	9	1	2
2015	10	19	7	2
2016	9	28	3	4

Updates:

Dennis Fronheiser, Rochester, is going to start his main trail hike. John Grizzle Volt and Mark Dickerson plan to thru-hike the main trail. Both are experienced hikers and have completed the Appalachian Trail. They will be asking for help from the car spotters and egroup. Please take photos of them if you do meet up with them and send to me. Mark is serving in the military and John wants to hike the whole FLT system. Heather Houskeeper is the only person to hike both the main and branch trails as a thru-hike in 2015. John is thinking about adding the spur trails to the branches, too.

TIPS for aspiring end-to-enders:

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 new MAPS (remember FLT members receive a 20% discount for all purchases). Waypoints are also available.
4. Check trail conditions online frequently.
5. If you are not already a member, join the FLTC. **Membership supports this wonderful trail.**
6. Let me know about when you plan to complete the main/branch trails to receive the correct number.
7. Email captioned photos in full resolution as you hike and keep trail notes so you can write your E2E article.

HIKERS-PLEASE ASK FOR THE MOST RECENT CAR SPOTTER LIST TO AVOID PROBLEMS. (Just like our maps, things change). Let me know if phone numbers/emails are incorrect or no longer working. Do not ask spotters to take long trips. Ask other spotters according to the maps listed on the car spotter list. IF you need a longer ride, join the yahoo group to see if someone is willing, if you do not have a friend or family member available.

Car Spotters:

#403 Craig Summers has been assisting many hikers on Maps 1-3 of the Main Trail after completing his thru- hike. New hiker Michelle Johnson comments:

"I had the opportunity to meet up with Craig Summers. He is simply the best. We texted a few times and with the weather being cold and rainy he was excited to hear that I was still coming down to hike. It was great getting to meet a fellow hiker who was similar in age and with similar background. Craig was kind enough to bring his pack as well and offered me any supplies I may have forgotten. Thankfully I was already prepared."



Michelle Johnson

New car spotter Craig Summers.

New Car spotter, two time e2er Gary Brouse, for Crystal Hills Trail and more!!

While we always need car spotters, we are in MOST need for those who live near Maps 1-5 (the far west end) and 28-33 (the far east) and on the Crystal Hills Trail.

Email jwensich@rochester.rr.com to apply or use the form directly from the website. This includes the Branch Trails. Thanks to all car spotters!! 🍁

(For a complete list call or email me.)

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

A Walk on the Wordy Side

Marla Perkins

Photos by Eva Perkins, 11 year old nature photographer

Last summer, I took my niece on her second backpacking trip, again on the Finger Lakes Trail. We did a section near the many side trips to various countries: Ireland, Lithuania, Spain, etc., but we didn't take the side trips, alas.

My niece continues to learn how to backpack, but there was much less to explain to her this year when she'd already had an excursion. Freed of the need to explain things, my silence relative to information about hiking acknowledged my niece's growing competence and independence.



We started our hike by spending some time in a field taking lots of pictures of a couple of monarch butterflies visiting some milkweed on their way back to Mexico. One of the great pleasures of hiking on the Finger Lakes Trail, and of exploring the world of language, is the many contexts available. The trail is not just a walk in the woods; the world is not just a political debate (for which I'm sure most of us are extremely grateful). We passed a farm on the way to the butterfly field and took our time trying to get the perfect shot, using our silence so as to minimize our chances of startling creatures who can easily fly away.

We then went into the woods and hiked up a hill, where we stopped for a snack. I tend to hike miles and miles without breaks or snacks, but my niece still prefers frequent breaks and frequent snacks. I'm not convinced that this is because she's relatively new at hiking; I think we have different approaches. I'm an explorer: if this is a beautiful field with monarch butterflies, and this is a top of a hill with a terrific view over the green farm lands, then there are more fields, perhaps even more beautiful and with more butterflies, and more hills, with perhaps more spectacular views, to be found if I keep moving. Her approach is to love the moment and the place where she is, and with so many wonderful places to appreciate, we made frequent stops. We did not discuss this contrast but used our time together to observe and learn without the mediation of words.

She has taken an interest in ornithology, so while we were having a snack, she identified some birds based on the glimpses we had of them through the leaves or based on their vocalizations. I appreciated not being the expert and having the opportunity to take in new ideas and new vocabulary. The world of birds is full of wonderful words. Her insistence on a snack and bird break allowed me to explore a topic with which I am not familiar, thanks to her growing expertise. Taking some time to be quiet gave the birds enough time to settle in around us and make their sounds.

After we had continued a while, we discovered that she had misplaced the spare battery for her camera. This was a huge disappointment to both of us, and I worried that perhaps she would want to quit the hike. We spent some time back-tracking and never found the battery, and she decided to keep going under non-ideal conditions. We were both fortunate that the battery she had lasted for the duration of the hike.

We camped near a creek in order to have water available for the evening and the next day (it was a very dry summer). Planning ahead is an executive function that is essential for speakers and hikers to develop because it is part of what allows people to carry on conversations that are more significant than formulaic small talk and part of what allows people to hike long distances in dry summers or on trails where water is not as consistently available as is usually the case on the Finger Lakes Trail. It also prevents a lot of unnecessary discussions about how to deal with disasters that could have been avoided with better planning.

It rained in the night, and for the rest of our time on the trail, we appreciated the animals, plants, and fungi that make themselves obvious only when there is plenty of



water. The red newts came out; we did not take pictures of all of the newts, but some of them, and we again counted their spots and compared our results to those we had documented the previous year—no major changes. Keeping track of information and including opportunities to update it is a crucial part of learning anything, language, hiking, or newt-markings, but we left the meta-analysis of the learning process undiscussed, in hopes that learning by doing can be at least as effective in some cases as having information stated directly.

We took a break along the trail in a forest of mushrooms. We saw fungi in every major color except blue: red, green, pink, gray, brown, black, lavender, yellow, orange, white. We could have discussed color theory in linguistics, but we instead decided to move on to a larger creek where we poked around under rocks to find crayfish and salamanders.



At one point, we found an enormous wing feather from a red-tailed hawk and managed to keep it in good condition until we were picked up from the trail. It was the find of the week, during a week of great finds. When asked how the hike had gone, my niece invariably pulled out the hawk feather, as if the feather explained everything. As much of a linguist as I am, I had to admit that her reliance on a feather instead of on a verbal explanation was probably more effective. The feather said it all.

As always, please feel free to contact me with comments or questions, and please note the new email address: dr.marla.perkins@gmail.com. Your feedback might become material for future articles. 🍁

Celebrating the Founders of the Foothills Trail Club

Sally Hardenburg

In January 1962, a small group of people organized the Foothills Trail Club. The purpose of the Club was to build a north-south trail for hiking in western New York and to promote conservation issues. The group had already started work on the trail (known as the Conservation Trail) in 1961. Members of this group were John and Lil Beverage, Marie Hayes, Walt and Tina Iggulden, Florence Mazur, Art and Olga Rosche, Fred and Beth Vanderbles, Joseph Shed, Mabel James, Elma Bowen, Evart and Ethyl Hittle, Ralph and Kit Mahler, Terry and Anita McDade, Sylvia Smith, G. John and Mabel Lehrer, and Helen Shed.

This year (55 years later), Foothills Trail Club plans to honor these Founding Members on National Trails Day, June 3, 2017. A sign with the Founding Members' names will be placed at Becker Pond where on May 5, 1962, a dedication was made for the opening of the first six miles of the Conservation Trail.

The Conservation Trail today runs about 175 miles from the Pennsylvania border in Allegany State Park up to the Rainbow Bridge in Niagara Falls. Hours of scouting routes, negotiating with landowners and actual trail building were provided by the Founding Members.

On June 3, 2017, three separate hikes will be held with two of the hikes reaching Becker Pond to dedicate the sign. Hike 3 will **not** go to Becker Pond. Following the hikes, a reception will be held around 2:30 pm at the Holland Community Center, 3 Legion Drive in Holland for hikers and other interested people. You do not have to participate on the hikes to attend the reception.

All three hikes will be on Map CT-6 and will be meeting at the Holland Willows, 177 Savage Road, Holland. Participants in the hikes should bring lunch, hiking poles, plenty of water and dress for the weather. Please carpool. **No dogs.**

Hike 1 is 9 plus miles through the Holland Ravines on Map CT-6 (Access 7 -- Carpenter Road to Access 4 -- Savage Road). Meet at the Holland Willows at 8:00 am. These 9 plus miles are very strenuous, going up and down 40 plus steep ravines and gullies. You must be an advanced/experienced hiker to tackle this hike. Pace on the hike will be medium-fast. Lunch will be on the trail reaching Becker Pond at 12:15 pm for the dedication.

Hike 2 is 6 plus miles in a shorter version of Holland Ravines Hike 1. The map is CT-6 (Access 4 - Savage Road to Becker Pond and back). Meet at Holland Willows at 10:15 am. This 6 plus mile hike will be up and down with at least 10 steep ravines and gullies. For the first half of the hike, it will basically be hiking uphill (up the Vermont Street hill) with several ravines. Pace on this hike will be medium. Lunch will be on the trail reaching Becker Pond at 12:15 for the dedication.

Hike 3 is a shorter hike of 3.2 miles. The map is CT-6 (Access 4 - Savage Road to Warner Gulf Road and back). Meet at the Holland Willows at 11:00 am. It is an in and out hike with a few long ups and downs. The hike goes through a wooded area and open fields. This hike will **not** be at the sign dedication at Becker Pond. Following this hike, participants are asked to help set up the Holland Community Center for the reception.

The reception will be held at the Holland Community Center around 2:30 pm. To reach the Holland Community Center from the Holland Willows, take a left out of the parking lot. Take another left onto Route 16. At the traffic light, turn right onto Vermont Street, then left onto Canada Street and then a left onto Legion Drive. The Center is at the end of Legion Drive.

Any questions should be emailed to FTC.founding@AOL.com 🍁

A Naturalist's View

Story and Photos by D. Randy Weidner

After months of winter dreariness, anyone who ventures outside and moves over the landscape looks for some sign of coming spring. Hikers of the Finger Lakes Trail are no exception. With eyes on the ground, to avoid exposed roots, rocks, or wet areas, one cannot help but notice the dull brown soil and dead vegetation from the previous growing season. The monotony of this view would be depressing were it not for the great anticipation of finding the first new growth, that first native wildflower of spring! What you hope your eye will catch is some color, some break in the brown background. Each patch of green growth offers hope. Then suddenly there is a blossom, a reaffirmation of renewal, lifting your spirits in anticipation of another year of wondrous things to be found along the Trail. Over the upland sections of the Finger Lakes Trail, this first flower is likely to be a rather small one. The three most likely possibilities are discussed below.

Hepatica (*Hepatica americana* or *acutiloba*) may well be the earliest upland spring flower. Usually less than an inch in diameter, you easily notice the flower before seeing its leaves. The six-petaled blossoms arise on separate stalks 4-6 inches above the leaf litter. The flower's color is variable, almost white to rose-pink to blue to nearly purple. Petals are supported by three green sepals, and the flower center is green with obvious white stamens. Lying on the ground, often partially hidden by leaf litter, are the leaves. There are 3-5 leaves, each with 3 lobes, green to coppery colored. The leaf lobes of *Hepatica americana* have rounded tips, while those of



Note the lobed leaves of hepatica.



H. acutiloba are decidedly more pointed. The rootstock of this perennial member of the Buttercup Family is erect, short, and brown.

Hepatica will usually bloom in April into May, but there have been rare sightings of blossoms in January or February! The flower is night frost hardy. *Hepaticas* are uncommon and they seem to be



Spring beauty

declining in number. When you encounter one *Hepatica*, look around and there should be others. They do not spread by vegetative sprouts, relying only on seed production for dispersal. The clusters of plants reflect an interesting natural interaction involving ants. Ants gather *Hepatica* seeds and carry them to their colonies. After eating the sparse seed coat, the ants then store the seed in their waste chambers. Thus there are often several seeds together, and when conditions are favorable, they all germinate.

The name *Hepatica*, you may realize, like the term hepatic, refers to the liver. A traditional way of naming plants for their utility, now discredited, relied on "The Doctrine of Signs." Under this "doctrine," plants that resemble certain organs were felt to be medicinal for that organ. The lobed appearance of *Hepatica* leaves, and the color of the back of the leaf, resemble liver. Hence the name. There is no actual medicinal effect for the liver from this plant, and in fact, it is considered to be toxic.

Another small, low growing wildflower that blooms early in spring is *Trailing Arbutus* (*Epigaea repens*). The flower of the



◀ **Trailing arbutus with low leathery leaves.**

Spring Beauty

Trailing Arbutus is about a half inch across, and has 5 petals fused at the base to produce a vase-like tubular bloom. These small blossoms are white to pink in color. Flowers rise from a hairy stem that spreads over the ground (hence the name 'epi-gaea'). The dark-green, thick, oval leaves lie flat and, like Hepatica, are often obscured by leaf litter. Botanically, the Trailing Arbutus plant is actually a tiny shrub. They are members of the Heath Family, related to rhododendrons, azaleas, and Mountain Laurel. Trailing Arbutus requires an acidic soil and prefers shade. Look for it along mossy sections where the Trail goes through a conifer stand.



Hepatica ▲ ▶

Trailing Arbutus is sometimes called Mayflower, and is the state flower of Massachusetts and the provincial flower of Nova Scotia. In New York State, Trailing Arbutus is protected and formally listed as "exploitably vulnerable." Resist any notion of transplanting them to your garden. They will not grow in soil inhabited by earthworms. Being a "Heath," these plants have an obligate mutualism with a very specific type of fungus in the soil that is mycorrhizal with its roots. If you know where some are, try to protect them. But there is something more that you should do if you happen upon a batch of blooming Trailing Arbutus. Stop, get down on your knees, bend forward and get your nostrils right up close to the tiny flower and sniff. You will be rewarded with one of the sweetest smells in Nature, reminiscent of honeysuckle. While you are down there, feel free to offer a prayer as well.

The final early spring wildflower to look for is the Spring Beauty (*Claytonia virginica*). Spring Beauty blossoms are ½ to ¾ inch across. They have 5 white to pale pink petals with strikingly darker pink veins. Five pink stamens rise prominently from the flower's center. Often several flowers sprout from a floral stem, 3-7 inches tall. Leaves are like blades of grass. Spring Beauty likes moist woods, and they are gregarious plants spread densely over an area of several square yards. The blossom as described above is somewhat dependent on weather. On cooler, cloudy

days, the petals close around each other and the flower droops down. But let the sun shine, and these pretty little flowers perk up and petals spread open wide.

Another name for Spring Beauty is the "Fairy Spud." If you dig into the soil at the base of the plant, you will recover a corm about the size of a hazelnut. Other plants like Crocus and Gladiolus also form corms. This structure stores energy during the plant's dormant period, utilized by the plant during its spring growth. The tiny corms are the "spuds" and are edible. I have never tried them, reluctant to destroy any patch of wildflowers, but they are said to taste like chestnuts.

So as you amble over your favorite section of the Finger Lakes Trail this spring, enjoy the vistas and unobstructed woodland views. But also keep an eye on the ground and see if you can find these earliest of spring wildflowers. Although small, they are well worth your attention. 🍁



Arbutus nestled in the moss, very close to the ground.

even if you miss the blossoms, those shiny low leathery leaves should give you a clue for another year. They cling to the ground, almost flat.

There are a few minor clusters of them on the Huckleberry Bog Nature Trail, Map B3, along trail edges on either side of the change from private property to state forest at the top of the climb from Bean Station Rd., another patch included in the guidebook available on site, and a wonderful large patch at Granma's Camp, further south on the same map. When you walk from the campfire area back to the fairly new toilet, watch where you step, because there are several large patches of Arbutus mixed among the mosses on the ground. After one snowy winter, I was distressed to see how much of the Trailing Arbutus had been eaten by mice who lived in the moss under the snow, but it has recovered pretty well. And because it is a protected plant, don't tell anybody this story. When I was 3 my mother had to move to New Mexico where Daddy was next stationed, so Grandpa, her father, must have realized from her letters that she missed the woods and plants of south Jersey now that she lived in the desert. So he mailed her a shoebox full of Arbutus wrapped in damp newspapers. Nice thought, but naughty. She was tickled, of course. Because of this longtime family story, I was eager for years to learn what the plant looked like, so was happy at last to find it here. Editor

Trail Topics: A Report on the Most Recent Trail Maintainers' Meeting

Paul Warrender, Vice President of Trail Maintenance

With snow on the ground across much of the Finger Lakes Trail System at the time of this writing, our trail maintainers' thoughts begin to turn toward spring trail clean-ups, taking care of dead-fallen trees and branches from winter's blast and snow-melt soggy trail spots, plus freshening blazes for the upcoming year. Certainly, we are all eager to get outside and get to work.

As we move closer to our most active time of the year for trail work it is also time to fill in a few of our trail maintainer openings. If you know anyone who is interested in taking over a section of trail, or you want to take one over yourself, please communicate those desires to your local trail club, your FLT Regional Trail Coordinator, or me. Right now, the following trail section is available for adoption:

- Peter Wybron, FLT Regional Trail Coordinator for Maps M-7 through M-11, needs a new trail maintainer to replace Tim Fuller. The section of trail is on Map M11 AP 5-8. Most of the trail is on road in Steuben County just outside of Bath. Most of the private property that the trail goes through is owned by Tim himself. And on that note I'd like to thank Tim for his service on that section, and to thank him for hosting the Finger Lakes Trail on his property. Contact Pete at prwybron@rochester.rr.com.

As we get closer to spring we tend to have a few more openings. Touch base with your local club, Regional Trail Coordinator, or me at 607hikingtrails@gmail.com if you are interested in adopting a trail section.

2017 Alley Cat Trail Projects

A new shelter will be built in Taylor Valley State Forest, Map M21, April 22-25, Saturday through Tuesday. Our new shelter design, involving no huge logs, will be used again; hence, the short work period. Mike Ogden is the construction manager and Mike TenKate will be the project manager, so contact the latter with questions: Mike_TenKate@yahoo.com.

Another new shelter will be built in Bucktooth State Forest on Map M2/CT2, 1500 "trail feet" **north** of West Branch Bucktooth Run Road at access point 4. Construction, slated to begin on May 19, will be led by Mike Granger, while Dave Potzler has volunteered to be project manager. This will be the only shelter between Allegany State Park and the Boyce Hill shelter 35 miles to the east. Sign up for an Alley Cat Crew on our website, and contact Dave Potzler with questions, DPotz73@gmail.com. A cabin will be rented at Allegany State Park for those who don't commute.

Another project will be the replacement of the Moss Hill Lean-to at South Bradford State Forest, Map M13. Construction Manager of this new lean-to will be Bill Meehan, retired DEC Forester from Region 8. Currently, the project is also in need of a Project Manager. If anyone is interested in this assignment and would like to know more about it, email me at 607hikingtrails@gmail.com.

The date of this demolition and build is not set yet, but will be posted to the FLTC website shortly. Meanwhile, as you can read elsewhere, we need a new director of Crews and Construction!

Attention Eagle Scout Candidates, Explorer Scout Candidates, and Girl Scout/Boy Scout Troops!

The Finger Lakes Trails system is one of the most actively used recreational resources in New York State for scouting trips. Furthermore, Scouts are often earning badges from their outings and experiences on the FLT. Girl Scouts earn Camping, Animal Habitats, Trailblazing, and Outdoors Adventure badges while using the FLT. Boy Scouts earn Backpacking, Bird Study, Camping, and Hiking badges among several others. We are proud not only of our Scout Troop partners across the state, several of whom have adopted trail sections to maintain, but also of the many hundreds of Scouts who have enjoyed the trails over the past 50 years.

The Finger Lakes Trail has hosted many projects over many years which have helped Scouts earn senior level designations. We have many opportunities that may well fit the achievement desires for Eagle Scouts and Girl Scout Ambassadors. The successful completion of a project not only serves as a requirement for community service at the senior level, but lives on as a legacy and testament to each Scout's commitment to an important public recreation resource in New York State.

To Scout troop leaders looking for an opportunity for community service badges, consider the Finger Lakes Trail as your ready-made resource for fulfilling day project requirements that could help several scouts earn badges. The Finger Lakes Trail system stretches nearly 1000 miles across New York, and there's always something that a small group of eager scouts can work on, and receive recognition for.

The Finger Lakes Trail Conference is eager to help our beautiful state's active Scouting community! Reach out to us at info@fingerlakestrail.org for more information, or call our FLTC Service Center and we'll direct you to someone on the Trail Management Team who can help direct your interest toward something where help is needed. We look forward to hearing from you!

2017 Trail Census

Finally, I want to thank everyone for getting their trail volunteer hours into the on-line census tool or to your club Trails Chairs. I am still adding hours from projects and other details and will have a final tally to report in our next issue. I also would like to thank Roger Hopkins for his incredible time consuming work in forging the census tool this year, a truly tough job this year with several bumps in the road, but still managed well. 🍁

Contact: Paul Warrender
607hikingtrails@gmail.com
401/439-8285

Trail Topics: Mapping Input

Greg Farnham, VP of Mapping

During 2016, your volunteer mapping team worked very hard at not only ensuring that our FLTC maps accurately reflect the FLT as it is blazed on the ground, we also completed a major overhaul of our map maintenance processes and architecture.

We published 31 updated map PDF files (a few multiple times) to reflect hunting closures, trail re-routes, map corrections, and sponsor changes. We published 26 updated GPX maps. Each of the updates was requested and reviewed by the responsible Regional Trail Coordinator (RTC) [see <http://www.fltcconference.org/trail/about-fltc1/organization/> for the complete list]. Each re-route was walked, some multiple times, with a GPS device to capture the new route, which was then emailed to the mapping team. We merged the new route with the previous track, and with the volunteers involved, updated the trail description on the back of the map. After sufficient review cycles to ensure the map was correct, we updated all the internet files that enable you to purchase and download the map, or allow the office to print and ship maps on waterproof Rite-In-The-Rain® polyester “paper.”

Our major system and process overhaul project was undertaken to simplify and streamline the map update process. Keeping our maps up to date and accurate is a very detailed process requiring intimate knowledge of some very geeky, hi-tech software, and wide knowledge of how thousands of files come together to make any one map correct.

One major part of our project was to simplify the storage of all these files, and reduce the storage space needed. We collapsed our storage needs dramatically, from 5,833 folders, 17,869 files and 21.8 gigabytes to 238 folders, 3,495 files and 9.2 gigabytes. This will allow the future mapping team to find things much more quickly.

The second major part of our project was to streamline and simplify the map maintenance process. We took out as many steps as we could, eliminated some unnecessary redundancy, while at the same time building in some archival mechanisms that will allow us always to be able to re-create a previous map if we need to. Why would we need to? We learned in 2015 that sometimes, for various reasons - permission loss, erosion, safety - we are required to revert the trail itself to a previous track. In those cases, we found that although we did have a paper copy of the previous map that showed that track, we didn't have the technical GPS data that drives our mapping system. From now on, we will always have an archival copy of every version of the “source data” that allows us to generate a published map.

In our process, we use 9 different software programs that run on personal computers, just to make a map. That does not include all the software required to “publish” a map so that you can buy one. Some of the software is fairly common and used by many people in today's society. And some of it is state-of-the-art technology that your mapping team volunteers are constantly studying to learn how to use better, and thus better serve you, the FLTC.

As an example, late last year, we learned, through various studying and consulting with other technologists, how to produce maps and tables that summarize interesting data about our trail. Did you know

that of the 1002.5 miles in the FLT system, 276.6 miles, or 28%, are road walk? See a table below, created after we learned how to use some of our mapping software features, which shows how our trail is apportioned over the 21 counties we traverse, and how it is made up of public, private and road miles.

Data like this can be used by our Executive Director and our office to pursue efforts like trail advocacy, public grant funding, and government support of our Finger Lakes Trail. It is also useful to Dave Newman, our VP of Trail Preservation, in his efforts to protect and preserve the trail, forever.

Recently our mapping system was featured in a blog article, “eSpatially New York - Perspectives on the Geospatial Community in the Empire State.” eSpatially New York is authored by Sam Wear who has managed and led development of the Westchester County, New York GIS [Geographical Information System] program since 1988. Sam was so impressed by our map offerings, he asked to publicize us on his blog. We were honored by his high regard for our use of mapping technology, and gladly welcomed the publicity, even though our beloved FLT doesn't have a single track point in Westchester County! You can read the article on the internet at <http://espatiallynewyork.com/>.

This isn't how FLTC mapping has always been done, as you may read in the next issue, when, “if the sugar spoon doesn't tickle the carving knife and make it dance on the bread board, the story will be” about how the very first FLTC maps were created ...

With apologies to Howard R. Garis, creator of Uncle Remus tales...🍁

County	Road Miles	Public Land Miles	Private Land Miles	Total Miles
Steuben	47.9	36.0	62.5	146.4
Cattaraugus	30.0	44.2	39.2	113.4
Cortland	19.1	55.0	22.6	96.7

Late breaking map news: The bivouac or tent site formerly shown on our M20 map, and the interactive map, at about mile 16.3, has been permanently removed. Our new shelter in Hoxie Gorge State Forest, east of Interstate 81, is nearby at the north end of the Forest.

Contact: Greg Farnham
FLTmapping@outlook.com



AC Deno, Greg's daughter

Greg, who is usually working on our maps from Arizona, is now in Romania visiting his daughter. He says, “Behind me is the Arcul de Triumf - Romanian version of the Arc de Triomphe in Paris. At one time, Bucharest was known as ‘Little Paris.’ It is used for military parades.”

Trail Topics: Trail Preservation

Dave Newman, Vice President of Trail Preservation

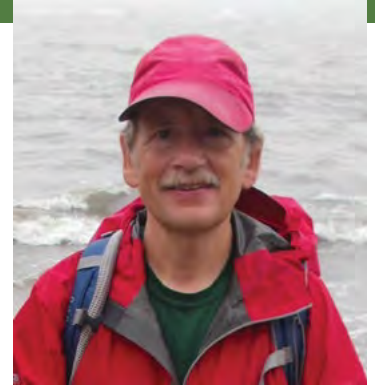
For over 20 years, FLT volunteers have worked for a better trail route on Map M9 between Bully Hill State Forest and Bald Hill, just west of Hornell. The trail once connected from Bully Hill across private land to Steuben County's Kanakadea Park on the northwest side of Interstate 86. From there it went onto Dan Stutzman's Christmas tree farm. Landowners changed and the trail from Bishopville Road to the west edge of Kanakadea Park was severed, leaving a blue side trail to access the park and its lean-to but from the east. Despite volunteers' diligent work, no alternative connections across multiple private parcels ever worked out and the trail now takes a 1.5 mile road walk on Wilson Karr Road, Bishopville Road and Pennsylvania Hill. In hunting season it is almost 3.5 miles of road walk.

Some of the properties have changed hands over the years, and I did one more check to see if we might identify an off road route. I contacted Lawrence Isham of Depew, New York, to ask if we could put 1,000 feet of trail along the edge of his property next to Kanakadea Park. I wasn't even asking for an easement (of course we would like one; any time the trail can stay permanently it is a wonderful thing). I just asked if the trail could cross his property. He did me one up – he gave us the landlocked 8.4 acre property that he was not using any more. The adjacent owner had already said OK. Once Regional Trail Coordinator Peter Wybron and his volunteers have a chance to do some new trail construction, we will eliminate the long road walk and pass through Kanakadea Park and by its lean-to again. Mr. Isham isn't even a hiker himself, so his generous contribution is all the more appreciated.

On Map B1 in Ontario County, the last private property we cross, where the trail coming down from the "Jump-off" at Ontario County's Gannet Hill Park comes out to County Road 33, West Hollow Road, is owned by Gladys Gifford and Al Schuster. They bought an 80 acre property more than a decade ago, for their own get-away place, in response to an article in the *FLT News* advertising the property for sale for the previous trail landowner, a service we have long offered to our landowners.

Gladys gave the FLTC an easement for the trail across that parcel in 2012. This "Trail Easement" provides that the trail may cross the property in a defined location, forever, even as the property is eventually sold to future owners. She has recently taken an additional step to protect the property by granting a "Conservation Easement" to be held by the Finger Lakes Land Trust. Such a Conservation Easement puts restriction on current and future owners' use of the whole property, typically limiting subdivision, the number and placement of structures on the property and often placing restrictions on how the property may be used for agricultural or forestry purposes. Each Conservation Easement is its own, custom deal. A property can have a Trail Easement, a Conservation Easement, or both. In this case what it means is that where our FLT comes south past the Beaver Pond lean-to and turns west toward CR33, the parcel will never become multiple road-front housing lots. Thank you, Gladys Gifford and the Finger Lakes Land Trust.

As always we are ready to talk to any landowner who may be interested in supporting the FLT with a Trail Easement and we can help identify contacts at Land Trusts if owners want to talk about a Conservation Easement. We're also happy to talk to any owner who does not need their property any more, and might like to donate it to FLTC, just like John Cobb did in 1998, and several others. We are a 501(c)3 tax exempt charitable organization so such donations are tax deductible. Mr. Isham is the 8th owner to do so. I'd be happy to field a call from #9. 🍁



Contact: Dave Newman
danewman@rochester.rr.com
585/582-2725

SUPPORT THE NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL AND GET A FREE MEMBERSHIP

For **first time supporters** of the North Country Trail we have a special program. Make a gift of \$20 or more to the North Country Trail Association and you will automatically receive full member benefits for one year. Benefits include a subscription to the full color *North Star* magazine, discounts in the NCTA Trail Shop, email updates about special events on the trail in your area and more. You can also join a local NCTA chapter if you wish and receive updates about their activities.



To make your donation, please complete this form and send it with a check for \$20 or more to:
North Country Trail Association
229 East Main Street
Lowell, MI 49331

You can also join online at: northcountrytrail.org

Name(s) of New Member(s)	_____
Address Line 1	_____
Address Line 2	_____
City/State/Zip	_____
Phone (____) _____	Email _____
Please Choose a Chapter Affiliation if You Wish (Check One)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chapter Name _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Assign Me to My Closest Chapter	
<input type="checkbox"/> Member-at-Large (Not Affiliated with a Chapter)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Make Me Paperless! Send Correspondence and Magazine to Email Address	
Comments _____	

The NCTA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and all donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by the law. **Thank You for Your Support.**

TCHC ASP Weekend

In late January the Triple Cities Hiking Club stayed at Allegany State Park for a weekend of hiking and fun. Due to the vagaries of lake effect snow, the park had a fair amount of snow, more at higher elevations, while two counties away there was none on the ground. However, fog was everywhere that Sunday!



Larry Blumberg

Cabin in Summit Loop, Allegany State Park.



Susan Blumberg

TCHC "Happy Hour" in the Art Roscoe Ski Area warming hut, Allegany State Park - Larry Blumberg (R), Ray Recchia, Karen Goodman, Scott Brooks, Jennifer Mott, Dan Langstaff, and Teresa Calufut, half cut off.



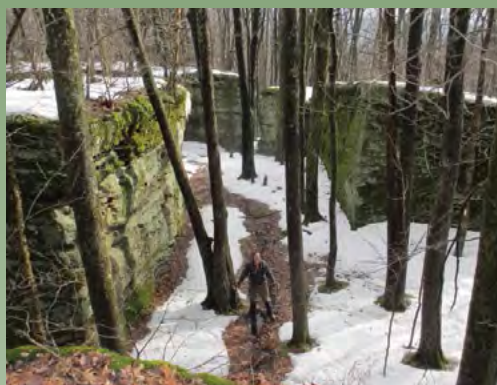
Jennifer Mott

TCHC hikers entering famous Little Rock City on Map M3 where the FLT wanders among house-sized boulders in state forest.

Over the years, not only moss and wonderful ferns carpet the boulders in Little Rock City, but whole trees have managed to grow on top. Here a mosaic of tree roots astounds.



Larry Blumberg



Ray Recchia

Larry Blumberg far below the photographer in Little Rock City.

On foggy Sunday, hikers approach the Map M3 passport station.



Jennifer Mott



Larry Blumberg

TCHC hike along the unplowed section of Hungry Hollow Rd. approaching the state forest above.

2016 Donors

The Finger Lakes Trail Conference gratefully acknowledges the support of all our members and donors, and especially wish to recognize the following individuals, businesses and organizations for their generous support during 2016. The amounts listed include contributions to any FLTC fund. We have done our best to be accurate in spelling names as well as making sure we got everyone in the right categories. We apologize if some mistakes have crept in; please let your editor know.

\$1000 and above

Bagnall, Roger S. & Whitney
Betty Lewis Environmental Charitable
Brooks, Helen D.
Coffin, William S. & Mary
DeGeorge, Sue
Hearst Business Media Admin
Lyman, Frances W
Newman, David
Rummel, Lynda
Shaum, Steve
Sullivan, Barbara J.
Wensich, Jacqui
Wright, Quinn & Jewell

\$500 - \$999

ADK Onondaga Chapter
Anonymous
Brooks, Scott
Cayuga Trails Club
Erickson, Judith
Gorczynski, David
Mary J B Work Fund
Lane, Thomas
Markham, Margaret
Meiler, Robert
Ruszaj, Martin
Schmitt, John G. & Margaret
Wickham, Penelope
Zwick, Daan

\$300 - \$499

Adirondack Mountain Club
Babcock, Tom
Brouse, Gary
Cruttenden, Linda L. & Barry
Lepak, Larry
Marsh, David S.
Morgan, Ken & Lindsay
Nero, Debra
Tuttle, David

\$200 - \$299

Benson Agency Real Estate LLC
Bennett, Judith M. & Jeffrey
Breiner, Kevin
Donovan, Joseph A.
Engst, Tonya
Finger Lakes Runners Club
Flood, Donna
Gearhart, Bud
Hemaspaandra, Lane & Edith
Hopkins, Roger & Ruth
Hurst, Mahlon & Eleanor

Ippoliti, Nicholas
Jones, William F.
Lee, David
Manley, Stewart
Moody, James
Nixon, Glenn M.
Pittsford Traffic and Radar LLC
Red Newt Racing
Razoo Foundation
Richardson, Rick
Thomas, Paul K.
Vieira, Joseph A.
Voss, Gretchen

\$100 - \$199

ADK Genesee Valley Chapter
Adrean, Mrs. Yolanda
Anderson, Theodore T
Andersson, John M.
Armstrong, Richard & Carolyn
Ashworth, Roger & Dawn
Baldino, Joseph
Bavis, Gene & Liz
Bender, Steven
Betzler, Robert
Bloch, Susan
Clar, Lonnie & Suzanne
Cook, Spencer
Culp, Charles
Dorrough, Ruth & Daniel
Douglass, Mike & Jan
Eisinger, Steven & Susan
Ellsworth, Gail & William
Feindt, Beverly
Finger Lakes Region Sports Car Club of
America

Foothills Trail Club
Freedhoff, Stephen
Gifford, Gladys
Gilbin Love, Katherine
Goodman, Karen
Green, Matthew
Gridley, Ross
Gwinn, MD, David M.
Hart, Carol L.
Hickam, James
Hickory Hill Family Camping Resort
Holmes, William C. & Mary Jane
Howk, Frederick
Jones, David
Jones, W. Keith
Kahabka, Michael
Keddy, Anne & John
Kersting, Jim
Kish, Josephine P.
Klepack, William A. & Carol F.
Koprowski, James

Lauffer, Scott E.
Lehman, Randy & Janet
Liberty, Lawrence
Liebe, Susan
Lundback, Lee
Mackenzie, Ian G.
Maines, William
Mallow, Gary M.
Martonosi, Stephen
Masters, Annette
Matteson, Raymond
McConnell, Terry
McCrimmon, Donald A. & Norene
Molldrem, Barney
Moon, Katherine
Morrison, Clyde
Myer, Sheila & John
Nelson, John V.
Noel, Steven
Noteware, Donna
Nye, Peter
Ogden, Michael
Parish, Colin
Pena, Carla Fuquene
Priester, David
Rosenthal, Michael
Russell, Timothy
Sachs, Neville W.
Schenck, Frances
Schlick, Jennifer & Robert
Schroeder, John
Schumaker, Joan
Schwing, Horst & Sigi
Shakun Solomons & Bray Dental
Shultis, Betsy
Smith, Arthur
Speakman, Daniel
Spittal, Stephanie
Stevenson, Wendy
Sussman, Mark
Tekavec, James & Janet
Testut, Skip
Thorne, Ross
Vukman, Dr. Jerry
Walker, Etta & Chuck
Ward, Doug & Cory
Weaver, Levi & Mildred
Welch, Karen
Wilbur, Timothy
Wilkerson, Scott
Wolcott, William
Yee, Susan
Yoder, Neil
Zaslaw, Ellen & Neal
Zettel, Martha

Up to \$99

Abbey, Corrine	Donowick, Jim	Jensen, Rita E.	Peek, Walter & Nancy	Wybron, Peter R.
Abbey, Mark	Dorschel, Nancy Jane	Jones, Douglas & MaryAnne	Pendelton, Nathan	Yelle, Raymond
Adams, Barbara	Duddy, Tom	Jones, Carol	Perkins, Marla	Young, David P.
Adams, Richard E.	Dudley, Chris & Michelle	Joyce, James	Petrella, Martin	Younger, Robert
Ahrens, Brett	Dunham, Alma R.	Kahabka, Daniel	Piebler, Kathleen	Zebley, Charlene M.
Aigen, Suzanne	Easton, Jr., Roger L.	Keller, Mary	Proulx, Chris	Zick, Michael
Allen, Lucinda	Edelstein, Marc A.	Kelley-Dimon, Marita	Record, Stephen	Zimmer, David
Allen, Rev. Dr. William A.	Egan, Richard	Kelly, Thomas F. & Carol R.	Reimers, Thomas	Zuk-Domanski, Mary
Amsden, Jeff, Connor & Ashlyn	Egan, David	Kerwin, Elizabeth	Renninger, Carol	
Anderson, Susan	Eisele, Kathleen L.	Kessler, Robert	Richer, Robert A.	
Ashley, Bill & Anne	Ermer, Joyce	Kidd, Al	Rickard, Michael A.	
Babcock, Jonathan	Evans, Doug	Kovarik, Maureen	Rockwell, Elizabeth	
Bahantka, Scott	Farnham, Sherman	Kuhn, James	Rudnick Waters, Selma	
Bailey, Barbara	Ferrante, Michael	Lakeland Rovers Outing Club	Sakowicz, Albert F.	
Ball, Juanita	Finley, Harold & Dolores	LaMantia, Robert	Salvante, Frederic A.	
Ballard, Sandy & Bill	Flannery, Kaitlin	Lane, Sarah	Sanger, Raymond & Barbara	
Banach, Kristen	Flannery, Amanda	Lane, Daniel	Schneider, Robert A.	
Barker, R Peter	Foote, Kathleen M.	Lane, Katherine	Schutt, Charles II	
Bates, Bruce	Fraley, George	Leak, Christopher	Schweizer, W. Stuart	
Bates, Larry & June	Fredericks, Paul	LePinnet, Lydia	Senefelder, Sharon	
Bayley, Ann	Fredricks, Helen	Leso, Laura	Senesi, Trudy	
Bayline, Thomas & Joan	Frio, Richard	Lightcap, Richard J.	Sessanna, Tammy	
Beckley, Marilyn	Gargas, Jane	Linares, Edith	Sexton, Jack	
Belasky, Thom R. & Mary Lou	Garrett, John	Linder, Robert	Shaw, William	
Berch, Bob	Garry, Elizabeth	Lindskoog, Edwin C.	Shepard, Tom	
Bergan, Timothy	Gertin, Eric	Linnenberg, Daniel	Siegard, Steven	
Bianchini, Janet	Gilbert, Thomas	Locke, Susan	Sirianni, John C.	
Binder, Georgiana & Eugene	Goldberg, Ruth	Lockwood, Elizabeth	Slacik, Lorraine & Ilka	
Blazey, Karen	Goodwin, Michael	Ludders, John & Kathy	Smarsh, Ronald & Linda	
Blenis, Teresa D.	Gordon, Peter & June	MacKenzie, Sasha	Snyder, Denise M.	
Blood, Debbie	Gottschall, Gwen	Macko, Diane	Spaker, Christine	
Bodow, Elana	Gram, Roger & Janet	Magruder, Denise	Speicher, Robert & Joyce	
Bowen, Jon	Grant, David	Mahlke, Ernest & Heide	Stacey, Toz	
Boyer, Greg	Greaney, Doug & Rosetta	Makarewicz, Joseph	Stackhouse, Sarah & Charles	
Bradshaw, Dan & Diane	Greene, Donna	Malmberg, Eric	Stiles, Wesley	
Brittain, David	Griffith, Richard E.	Manelis, Lorraine	Stork, Jim & Ellen	
Brown, Barbara	Guilbault, Frank & Carolie	Marchner, David J.	Strong, David B. & Grace	
Bryden, Tom & Michele	Guome, Diane	Markel, Steve	Szabo, Irene	
Burgess, Jr., Walter H. & Karen	Hackett, Barbara	Marshburn, Matthew	Taggart, Bonnie	
Button, Edward J.	Hagan, Chuck	Martin, Patricia	Terhune, Kenneth	
Cadiz, Amy	Hailey, Dr. Francis & Kathleen	Mason, Marc	Thomas, Jackson & Shirley	
Caldwell, Douglas & Jennifer	Hallenbeck, Joan	Maue, Michael	Toasperm, Keith & Annette	
Callaway, Paul	Harkenrider, Carol	McCarthy, Dee	Towner, Damon	
Caneau, Catherine	Hartley, David & Donna	McDonough, Kathleen	Townsend, Colleen	
Careaga, Tessa	Hatt, Norman S.	McNitt, David H.	Triple Cities Hiking Club	
Carrier, Katy	Heinsler, David W. & Christa M.	Merzbach, Ralph & Joan	Trudeau, William	
Chaney, Jack	Herman, H. Robert	Michiel, MD, Robert R.	Uttech, Charles	
Chapman, Russell	Herrick, Marcia	Minch, Nancy	Voelker, Frank & Cindy	
Choroser, Elizabeth	Higgins, John	Mishrell, Kirk	Volk, Bob & Sherry	
Clark, Jeannine M.	Hinkley, Sharon	Monteiro, Mary Lou	Vollmer Miller, Judith	
Collinge, Peter	Holland Family, William J & Nancy J	Morris, J Emory	Walker, Joseph	
Concannon, Cate	Hood, John	Morse, Jeff	Wallace, William H.	
Coppard, William	Hotchkiss, Chris	Mowry, Cindy	Warth, Gail	
Corbin, Richard M.	Houston, Jane	Mundie, David	Watkins, Angus & Anne	
Czajkowski, Helen	Howell, Randy	Murphy, Paul M.	Webb, Dale	
Dallara, Mark J.	Hughes, James & Carol	Natoli, Richard J.	Weidner, Randy	
Dankert, Phil	Hughes, Christine	Niemi, Mary	Weisenauer, Ruth Anne	
Darcangelo, Judy	Hunt, Mark S.	Northrup, Edna	Weismiller, Lisa	
Decker, Stephen & Jeanette	Huntington, Dr. Peter & Mrs. Mary	Nussbaum, Michael & Barbara	Wheat, Sharon R.	
DeMore, Anne	Hurley, Rigit	Occhiuto, Frank & Kathy	Whitbeck, Ernest C III	
Dewitz, Dorothy	Hyer, Edna	O'Mara, Patrick J.	Whittemore, Mary Anne	
DiDomenico, Joseph & Diane	Illi, Robert & Virginia	Ondrejka, Laurie	Wicks, Aaron	
Disque, Kathleen M.	Jehle, David E.	Parrinello, Paul, Sam & Vicky	Wiener, David & Linda	
	Jenks, Thomas	Pearson, Jennifer	Woodworth, Terrence & Barbara	

TO MEMBERS OF THE FINGER LAKES TRAIL CONFERENCE: Pursuant to Section 726(d) of the New York State Not-for-Profit Corporation Law, the Finger Lakes Trail Conference, Inc., is required to mail to its members not later than the date of the annual meeting of members a statement specifying certain details with respect to the purchase or renewal of its insurance for the Society's indemnification of its directors and officers. Accordingly, please be advised as follows:

1. The name of the insurance carrier is Great American Insurance.
2. The cost of the insurance to be paid during February 2017 - February 2019 is \$1300.
3. The indemnification insurance contract covers any person who has been, now is, or shall become a duly elected director or trustee, a duly elected or appointed officer, an employee, committee member, whether or not they are salaried, any other person acting on behalf of the Conference or at the direction of an officer or board of managers of the Conference.

Rob's Trail

Ann Bayley

Of the eleven Finger Lakes, only two of them are returning to their previous wild state and are protected, Hemlock and Canadice Lakes. This is because they are the water supply for the City of Rochester, but they offer a wonderful opportunity for quiet sports. These lakes are surrounded by the new 7,000 acre Hamlock-Canadice State Forest and now are connected by the completed Rob's Trail.

Rob van der Stricht was the Chair of the Nature Conservancy's Central and Western New York Chapter Board of Trustees. His widow, Susan van der Stricht, has taken his seat and has been instrumental in guiding the completion of this trail in an area that her husband loved. He was an avid birder, canoeist, and fisherman. His family, The Nature Conservancy, and the NYS DEC cooperated in building this Lake-to-Lake trail. There were corporations and hundreds of volunteers who participated in the construction of the trail, as well. Notable among these was North American Breweries who supplied volunteers and beverages to the workers. The Western section of Rob's Trail from Rt. 15A down to the shore of Hemlock Lake was opened officially on September 24th, 2016. The entire project was begun in 2008.

There is hunting in this area from Oct. 1 to Dec. 20 in the northern part of the Hemlock-Canadice State Forest while the trail is in the southern part. It is strongly recommended that you wear orange if you decide to hike during the hunting season. The part of the trail that is near Route 15A (the top of the hill) is on Nature Conservancy land on which there is no hunting.



Ann Bayley

The eastern shore of Hemlock Lake.

The loop would be an approximately 14 mile hike. The hike from 15A heading east down to the shore of Canadice Lake is steep, slippery and minimally maintained.



Ann on a bridge she built with Jim; picture taken by a passing hiker.

The trail from Canadice to Hemlock Lake can be made into a loop by walking down remnants of old camp roads that run along the eastern shore of Hemlock

and the western

over Hemlock Lake from the parking lot of Rt. 15A. What a wonderful way to spend the day in our beautiful Finger Lakes region of New York State.

To reach the new extension of Rob's Trail from Rochester take Interstate 390 to Exit 11. Take Rt. 251 east to Rt. 15A. Turn south onto 15A past Lima and Hemlock. At the top of South Old Bald Hill Road (15A) look for a white picket fence on your right. The large, graveled parking lot is just past that. Take the time to read the information on the kiosk which is situated a little distance from the parking lot. There is a map, a history and information about local plants and animals. The most exciting is a resident Bald Eagle who lives at the southern end of Hemlock Lake.

Google "Rob's Trail Hemlock NY" to see a brochure and map of the preserve. The address on Rob's Trail preserve is 6038 – 6152 Bald Hill Rd., Springwater, NY 14560 in Livingston County.

The trail is open from dawn to dusk. Here is some mileage information about some pieces of the trails:

Hemlock Lake trail from Rt. 15A trailhead to shoreline – 1.5

Hemlock lakeside trail to northern boat launch – 3.3

Total length from trailhead to northern boat launch on Hemlock Lake - 4.8

There are places for good food in both the towns of Hemlock and Lima. 🍁

Opening day festivities.



Ann Bayley

The A-100 Hiking Challenge

Tina Toole, Allegheny National Forest Chapter of the North Country Trail Association

The Allegheny National Forest Chapter of the North Country Trail Association will hold the eighth annual Allegheny 100 Hiking Challenge (A-100) on June 9th - 11th, 2017. Come join us for this adventure through the beautiful scenery of the Allegheny National Forest.

The A-100 is an endurance challenge met through unsupported hiking. It is not a race, but an individual challenge of stamina, determination, and resilience. As an unsupported hike, there are no first aid or water stations. Hikers are responsible for supplying their own food, drinks and equipment. Participants must recognize that cell phone reception is very spotty along the length of the trail.

The adventure covers a 100-mile stretch of the North Country National Scenic Trail in the Allegheny National Forest. Hikers will climb over rolling hills and pass through many beautiful stream valleys. The A-100 challenges hikers to traverse 100 miles, 75 miles, 50 miles or 25 miles in a fifty hour time period. This challenge is for anyone, regardless of skill level, who wants to test him or herself against the trail. Everyone needs to “hike their own hike,” moving at their own pace and resting when necessary.

For the 2017 challenge, hikers will travel north to south, from the Rt 346 trailhead, near Willow Bay to the Rt 66 trailhead, between Marienville and Vowinckel. Those who pre-register will receive a membership in the North Country Trail Association, shuttle service to the start of the hike and a T-shirt. Pre-registration begins on Monday, March 6 and continues to May 12, or when 150 hikers have signed up. Cost is \$55 for non-members and \$32 for members.

In 2016, a record number of 100 milers, 25, completed their challenge. Perfect weather was a big factor. Four hikers completed 75 miles. Fifty-two hikers reached 50 miles, and



Early group of 100 mile completers. L to R: Chris Janovich, Ben Hrycik, Pete Burke, Eli Zabielski, Kimberly Hrycik (Photo taken by Bill Massa.) Yes, that's an FLT trailhead sign a mile south of the border into Pennsylvania, where our maintenance begins and the FLT really begins.

another 19 completed at least 25 miles. Many met their personal challenge and many more vowed to be back next year to attempt to achieve their goals after learning so much out on the trail. Everyone enjoyed the beauty of the Allegheny National Forest, the friendships formed on the trail and the hospitality of the area.

For more information or to register, visit the NCTA website at <https://northcountrytrail.org/get-involved/special-events/allegheny-100-hiking-challenge/>, the ANF Chapter Facebook page www.facebook.com/ANFChapterNCT/ or email anf@northcountrytrail.org. 🍁

Gifts In Memory of

David Warne

from

Judy & Mike Darcangelo

Gifts In Memory of

Michael Whelsky

from

Elizabeth Lockwood

Gifts In Memory of

Joel Mabie

from

*Janet Bianchini
Amy & Garth Cadiz*

*Elizabeth Choroser
Bill & Mary Coffin
Michael & Nancy Ferrante
David Pollastro
David & Rebecca Rasmussen
Tom & Ann Shepard*

Gifts In Memory of

Doug Turner

from

Quinn Wright

Gifts In Memory of

Bill Mitchell

from

*Susan Bloch
William Shaw*

Hike 100 Challenge Returns for 2017

Amelia Rhodes, Marketing/Communications Coordinator, NCTA

In 2016, the North Country Trail Association (NCTA) celebrated the National Park Service Centennial Anniversary with a 100-mile hiking challenge on the North Country National Scenic Trail (NCNST). Over 5,000 people attempted the challenge with nearly 1,800 individuals from 28 states completing it.

New York ranked third in all the states with 199 finishers. New Yorkers had great experiences on the FLT/NCNST in 2016 while completing the Challenge. Whether it was exploring new-to-them sections of trail, making memories with friends and family, or overcoming challenges, there is much to celebrate about the 2016 Hike 100 Challenge.

Beverly Feindt shared, “We seventy-something girlfriends have been chugging away at the Finger Lakes Trail since 2012 by joining the county series of the FLTC. This year, we completed the 96 miles of Cattaraugus Co., including the beautiful Allegany State Park. Our date of completion was September 17, 2016. To round out our 100 miles of NCT, we hiked 5.3 miles from Burdett to Watkins Glen along the Finger Lakes/NCT on September 23, 2016. I hiked with Elaine Scott, who has also submitted her record. Thank you for organizing such a promotion. I intend to enjoy much more of the trail system.”

Colin Pritchard and his wife Amanda gave their 9-year-old daughter a choice last spring. Soccer or hiking. “She chose hiking,” Colin shared. “We are doing the Finger Lakes Trail Hike Series and Cattaraugus County in New York State is what we are conquering this [2016] summer. We will have it completed by September 14th. We all love it.”



Courtney McLean

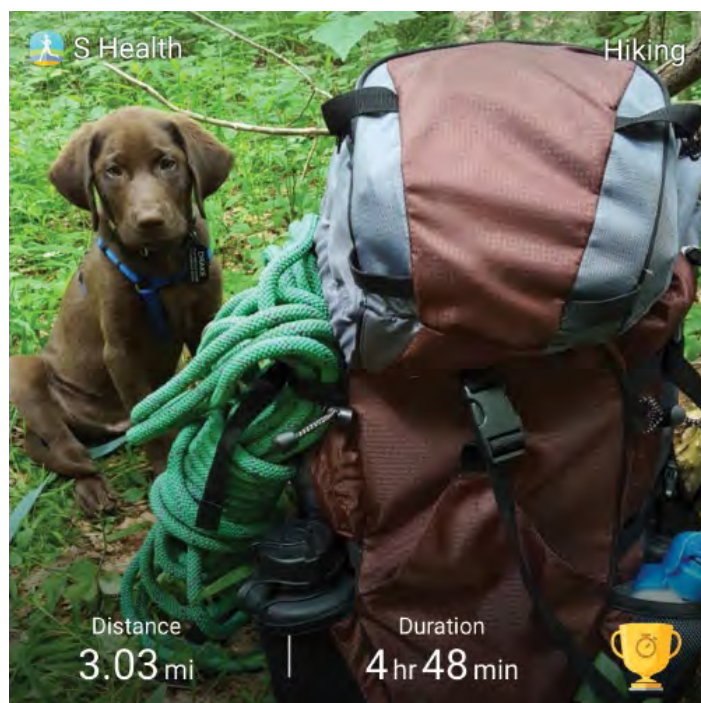
Courtney McLean's two children high-five each other during their Hike 100 Challenge.

Courtney McLean took on the challenge with her 4-year-old son and 8-year-old daughter. “We finally did it. At the beginning of the year it seemed like such an easy task, except for motivating our 4-year-old son. We carefully planned hikes so that everyone could participate. As time went on roles changed and our daughter was the one dragging, and our son couldn’t wait to hike. It was a great challenge

and a great experience. We truly enjoyed hiking with our kids and got to show them some new experiences and some wonderful scenery.”

Jeffrey McBeth shared, “A week after a painful lower leg injury, I struggled up the hill to the west of Spruce Lake after my family, tired, cold, and frustrated. As we traversed the summit to the hang glider launch point, the breeze and laughter of my family warmed my heart, and our brief rest stop renewed my love for what we were doing. Breathtaking vistas and family unity were my prize.”

Kevin and Sheri Edwards finished the Challenge in honor of their pup Ace who died unexpectedly not long after they started the Challenge. Kevin shared, “Ace had been a tried and true hiking and camping companion since he was 12 weeks old, so despite my heartbreak and grief I decided that my wife and I would do our best to finish what we had started in Ace’s honor. In fact it was Ace who was responsible for motivating my wife to try hiking despite her discomfort, and it turned out to be one of the best decisions she has ever made. In addition to my emotional challenges of losing my pup, I also had to make sure that most of our hikes were in small mileage amounts as my wife suffers from severe Rheumatoid Arthritis so she is not able to do long distance hikes. With the help of our new pup Drake we managed to finish.”



Kevin Edwards

Kevin Edwards' new pup Drake sits next to his pack. “The picture includes graphics from Samsung’s ‘S Health’ program that came with my Galaxy S6, what your editor called my ‘GPS thingie.’”

In 2017, the NCTA will again offer the Hike 100 Challenge with an extra Build It Challenge to celebrate the 4,600 mile National Scenic Trail and the stories of its thousands of volunteers and hikers.

“We’re blown away by the response to and the stories built by participants in the 2016 Hike 100 Challenge. So many people are getting turned on to the NCNST. I love how people are using the Trail to make their own adventures and create their own stories—and how Hike 100 is making a space for them to do that. We’re excited to continue with a 2017 version, and we can’t wait for more stories to start pouring in,” said NCTA executive director Bruce Matthews.

The NCTA is offering prizes and free resources for those who sign up for the challenge, and a special grand prize drawing for those who complete the Build It Challenge. In the Build



It Challenge, participants can complete two simple activities to help spread the word about the NCNST and get more people involved.

More information about the challenge and the opportunity sign up is available at www.northcountrytrail.org/hike100challenge.

The North Country National Scenic Trail’s National Park Service superintendent, Mark Weaver, said, “I committed myself to the ‘16 challenge, and I must say its benefits cannot be overstated. You’ll not only see some great scenery whether you’re out on the plains of North Dakota, the shores of Lake Superior or the Adirondack Mountains, you’ll also come back a little healthier, a little stronger and a little clearer of mind. I’m ready to hit the trail in ‘17 for my second 100 patch. I hope you’ll do the same. Maybe we’ll run into each other out there!” 🍁

#426 FLT End-to-End Report

Dick Lightcap

After my son and daughter departed for college and my wife became heavily involved in theater, I read an article in the local newspaper about this new trail that was about 15 miles from my home. In 1992 I hiked a section and then returned on the same route, thus covering twice the distance that was necessary. This was the way that I negotiated much of the trail. The only exceptions to this practice were one cross county hike series and parts of two other series. I also hiked with ADK and a few hikes at FLT campouts that I attended. Obviously I started out with the old blue hand-drawn paper maps.

When I wasn’t hiking on the FLT I was an officer in the ADK Onondaga Chapter, attending many hikes and trips (100 in one year) in other places. I also led many hikes (over 200) and helped extend the Onondaga Branch over forty miles to become part of the North Country National Scenic Trail. I also climbed all of the High Peaks and became a New York State Outdoor Guide.

When I returned to the FLT for serious hiking, I found that my body could not endure the speed of even the slow hiking group. My last hikes were slow and tedious (even with a new knee) and they were not with a group.

I would like to thank everyone who helped me complete the trail especially those who tolerated my lack of speed in recent years: Kate Maginnity, Hal Boyce, Theresa Evans, George Zacharek, Dick Skinner, Nancy Bergenstock, Jon and Kathy Bowen, Terry and Kim Meacham, Pat Monahan, Heidi, Theresa and Max

Blenis, Mary Dineen and all the FLT staff and hike leaders. I would like to thank the trail builders and maintainers as well as the landowners without whose permission the trail would not be possible.

I only wish that Ed Sidote was still here to share in my accomplishment and whose wisdom and enthusiasm were so important to me and many other FLT members. 🍁

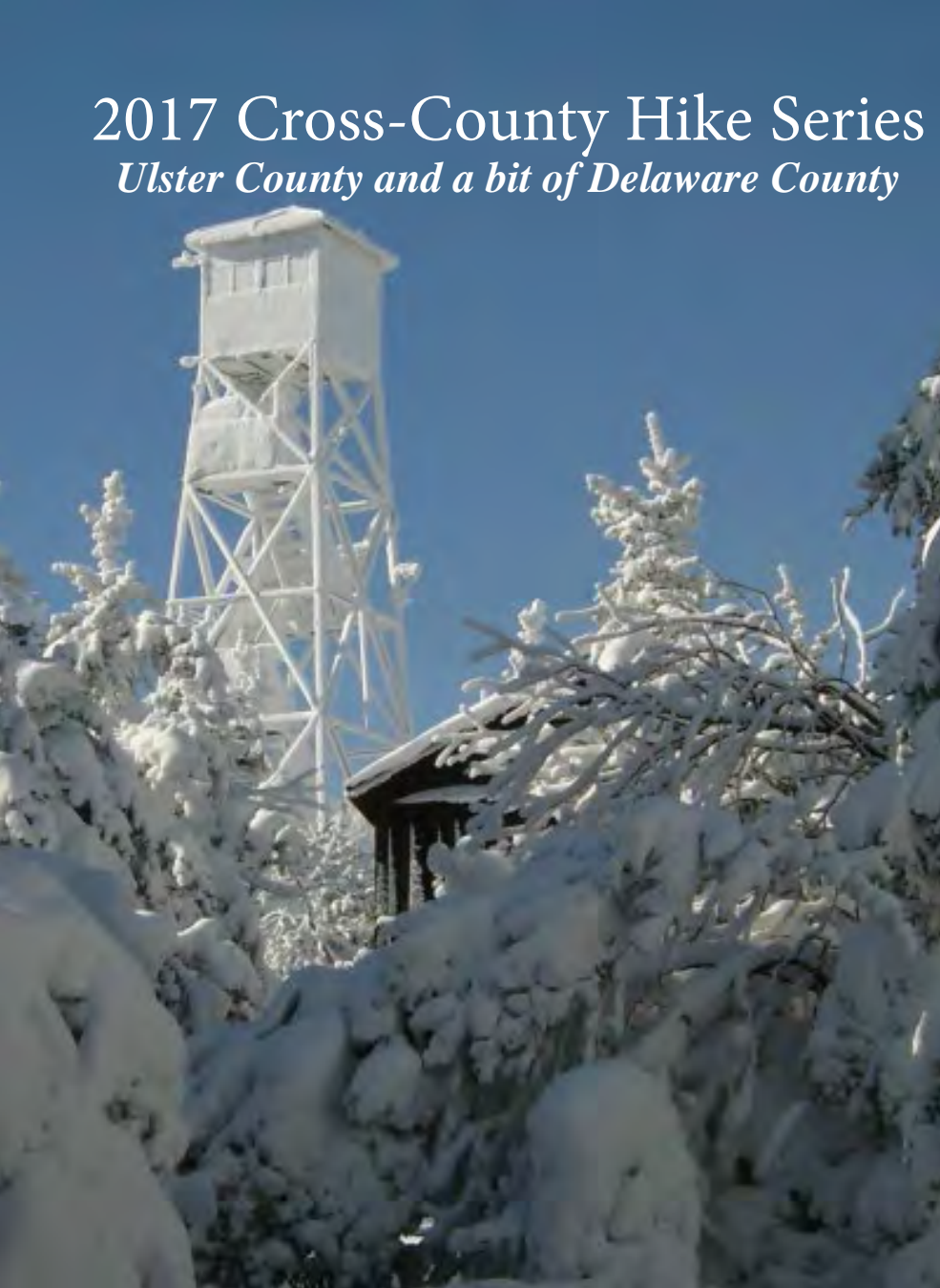
Notice that Dick still likes to offer easy walks to spectacular sites for many of our FLT weekends, just as he did in 2015 when we hosted the annual North Country Trail event.
Editor.



Tony Rodriguez

2017 Cross-County Hike Series

Ulster County and a bit of Delaware County



Warren Johnsen



Rick Roberts

Come hike the far eastern portion of the Finger Lakes Trail located in the Catskill Forest Preserve.

Find out why the Catskills are a favorite destination for many hikers. Hike through remote areas. Climb to the highest point on the Finger Lakes Trail. There will be an opportunity to visit Balsam Lake Mountain Fire Tower. Enjoy spectacular vistas. Walk past the stone ruins of a lakefront lodge.

Take on the challenge of mountains and hills and more mountains and hills and wonder why they call one a mountain and another a hill, for the mountains aren't always higher than the hills.

The 2017 county hike series will cover the FLT in Ulster County and part of Delaware County. The series will consist of five hikes covering fifty-one miles in the rugged Catskill Mountains. Heading east to west, four maps, M33 through M30, will be covered.

Be prepared for rugged terrain, significant elevation changes, and few bail out spots.

Dates are May 20th, June 17th, July 15th, August 19th, and September 16th.

The \$85 member registration fee covers transportation by bus that will shuttle hikers from their cars to the beginning of each hike. Please note the fee increase is directly related to a significant increase in the cost of transportation for remote and distant shuttles. The fee also includes a completion patch, certificate, and supplies for the sag wagons. The after hike celebration will be held at the Old School House Restaurant in Downsville.

You can **register online** any time and pay securely via PayPal using a PayPal account or a credit card. Alternatively, you can register by US mail printing the forms online, or request a copy of the form from the FLT office at 585/658-9320.

Registration must be received by April 30, 2017

If you have any questions, please contact hike coordinator, Donna Coon at coledonarn@yahoo.com

Top Picture: Balsam Lake Mountain fire tower. No, we will NOT visit when it looks like this!

Bottom Picture: Alder Lake



Rick Roberts

Sign at east end of the FLT.



Warren Johnsen

Tom Bryden napping on top of Cabot Mountain. Tom says, " I was merely trying to re-charge my battery and 'solar panel.' Those Catskills kicked my butt. Good times!"



Warren Johnsen

Cabot Mountain lookout

New and Returning Members

Marcia Austin
 Christine DeSocio Burns
 Carl Cuipyllo
 Mark Dickerson
 Bud & Nancy Gearhart
 Ellen Griffin
 Cindy Halpern
 Heather Helmes
 Rene Hoover
 Clay Johnson
 Scott & Debbie Meade
 Kyle Palmer
 Brian Porter
 Charles Schutt II
 Mark Valites
 John Volt
 Timothy Whelsky

Gifts In Honor of TERRY SAYE

from

Jennifer Schlick

Gifts In Honor of GLORIA MABIE

from

Bill and Mary Coffin

Gifts In Honor of DONNA NOTEWARE

from

Anne & John Keddy

Help Wanted

Quinn Wright

The Finger Lakes Trail Conference is an evolving organization and as such our administrative needs change. We are always looking for people with specific talents who are willing to offer some of their valuable time to help us meet the mission of the FLTC. Some of these positions require that a person be on the Board of Managers. Other functions may be filled by a board member, but the person need not serve on the Board. We do have two vacancies on the Board of Managers created by the resignation of two members who have decided that their skills do not match up with the needs of the FLTC and felt that they could not effectively benefit the FLTC management team.

In addition, here are other positions for which we need a volunteer with specific skills:

1. **Vice President - Director of Crews and Construction** (Board of Managers position) – Our current VP of Crews and Construction, Mike Granger, has accepted a fulltime employment opportunity and is unable to fulfill his commitment to this position. This job is critical to the on-going success of the FLT in that this person oversees the major trail construction projects such as building shelters and bridges. This job is primarily seasonal in its demands (April through October). However, there is planning involved during the other months.
Having done this job for four years I can tell you with confidence that it can be done with no more than an average of five hours a week (even less at times). The key to this job is organizing the projects and finding a project manager and a construction manager. This person's job is **not to plan and run** the projects. Most of this job will involve emails and phone calls in addition to the five board meetings and the annual retreat. The attributes required are:
A. Organization and communication skills
B. Construction skills – optional
2. **Webmaster**— Roger Hopkins, our current webmaster, has let us know that when our new website is launched (summer 2017), he will be stepping down from these duties. There are actually two skill sets required that permit this function to be split into two functions, technical programming skills and editorial skills. At most, according to Roger, this task averages about 5 hours per week. The attributes for the technical aspects required are:
A. Organization and communication skills
B. Basic Computer Programming skills
3. **Webmaster Support** – In addition to the technical aspects of the job, Roger has also been editing work submitted by others for inclusion on the website. This task is event or activity driven and is inconsistent with the work demand. Prior to board meetings reports have to be collected and developed into a complete document. Annual

events that have a registration like the county hike series and the two membership meetings require document preparation for inclusion on the website. The work may be intensive at these times and minimal throughout the year. The attributes required are:

- A. Microsoft Excel and Word skills
- B. Document editorial skills
- C. Communication and organization skills

4. **Vice President - Membership and Marketing** (Board of Managers position) - This person's sole responsibility will be to oversee the work of the following seven marketing and sales managers and the membership director.
5. **Marketing Director - Community Outreach** (Currently under Board Member Nero) – This person is responsible for developing and staffing a network of people to serve at community events that will inform and promote the public about the Finger Lakes Trail. .
A. Communication and organization skills
6. **Marketing Director – Hiking** – Establish relationships with the trail hiking groups that utilize the FLT. Historically, the FLTC has been populated exclusively with this community of people and they are the ones who populate our management team. We are looking for one person to coordinate with existing clubs and develop new clubs where there is a need. We have previously had a Club President's council that has been inconsistent in the past and part of this duty is to keep regular contact with the clubs. In addition, we are trying to develop an annual "one day hike" event as a major fund raising effort. This person would oversee this event.
A. Communication and organization skills
B. Participation in hiking groups – optional, but preferred
7. **Marketing Director –Trail Running** – Establish relationships with the trail running groups that utilize the FLT. There is a large community of trail runners who are very organized and use the FLT for events. The FLTC has almost no ongoing relationship with this group. We are looking for one person to coordinate with existing clubs and assist to develop new clubs where there is a need. In addition, we are trying to develop an annual fundraising event involving trail racing. This person would oversee this event.
A. Communication and organization skills
B. Participation in running groups – optional, but preferred
8. **Marketing Director – Nature Appreciation** – Establish relationships with wildlife and nature viewing groups that utilize the FLT. We are looking for one person to

coordinate with existing clubs and assist to develop new clubs where there is a need. In addition, there may be an opportunity to develop educational events as means of raising funds for the FLTC. This person would develop and oversee these events.

A. Communication and organization skills

C. Participation in wildlife and nature viewing groups – optional, but preferred

9. **Marketing Director –Geocaching** – Establish relationships with the geocaching groups that utilize the FLT. We are looking for one person to coordinate with existing clubs and develop new clubs where there is a need. In addition, there may be an opportunity to develop an annual fundraising event involving geocaching. This person would oversee this event.

A. Communication and organization skills

B. Participation in geocaching groups – optional, but preferred

10. **Marketing Director – Snowshoeing**– Establish relationships with snowshoeing groups that utilize the FLT. There are snowshoeing people from both the hiking and running groups. We are looking for one person to coordinate with existing clubs and assist to develop new clubs where there is a need. In addition, there may be an opportunity to develop an annual fundraising event involving snowshoe racing. This person would oversee this event.

A. Communication and organization skills

B. Participation in snowshoeing groups – optional, but preferred

11. **Store Manager** - This person will manage sales that are made at events and on the website

A. Retail sales skills

B. Organization skills

13. **Membership Director** – This person is responsible for increasing the membership of the Finger Lakes Trail across trail using groups and trail benefitting businesses.

A. Communication and organization skills

To ask questions or volunteer, contact Quinn Wright at qwright@fingerlakestrail.org or 716-826-1939 or Pat Monahan at pmonahan@fingerlakestrail.org 🍁

Gifts in Memory of RICHARD LIEBE

from

*Anne & John Keddy
Joseph & Joyce Makarewicz
Stephen & Barbara Record
Terrance & Barbara Woodworth*

Bug Bites

A Collection of News Items for Hikers

GPS HELPER NEEDED

We still don't have a volunteer to hike the trail with a GPS unit to measure trail length and location in the western third of the state, west of the Genesee River. We can even provide equipment if you have none, and training, but we need somebody to hike lots of places! To get yourself pointed in the right direction, to places where you are needed, start by contacting Dave Potzler at dpotz73@gmail.com.

FALL WEEKEND 2017

September 29, 30 and Oct. 1, 2017

At

Historic Chautauqua Institution-Bellinger Hall

Presented by

Foothills Trail Club

Hiking the Chautauqua Gorge, Allegany State Park, the newly made trails in the Elkdale State Forest, Little Rock City, the North Country Trail in Pennsylvania near the Allegheny Reservoir and more!



Chautauqua Institution

WINNERS OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY ORNAMENT DRAWING:

Donna Badalato

Claire Ders

Donna Noteware

Nancy Papish

Marla Perkins



Thank You

Landmax Data Systems, Inc.

5919 E. Henrietta Rd. Rush, NY 14543

585/533-9210

www.landmaxdata.com

LANDMAX

Donor of land boundary research and property information for the Finger Lakes Trail and the North Country National Scenic Trail

2016 Hoxie Gorge Lean-to Alley Cat

Stories and Photos by Mike TenKate

The Hoxie Gorge Lean-to project was completed by Alley Cat Crew #3, August 15th through the 17th. This important project helps close a 45 mile gap between the Woodchuck Hollow Lean-to in Tuller Hill State Forest and Paradise Garden Lean-to in Mariposa State Forest. This lean-to, when coupled with the Taylor Valley Lean-to in Taylor Valley State Forest (approved 2017 Alley Cat project), will fill in this area with shelters a day's walk apart.

This project was very nearly the project that wasn't! After about three years of planning, the landowners had a last-minute change of heart about permitting the lean-to on their land. I thought this was the end of the project. In a "Hail Mary" attempt to be allowed to continue the project, we contacted State Forester Henry Dedrick to see if we might get permission to put the lean-to on nearby State Forest. I didn't have much hope that anything could be approved in such a short time. However, Henry worked some magic for us! He was able to get the project approved by the DEC in one month's time, and he helped us locate a beautiful site for the lean-to. Forester Dedrick even came out for a day and helped us with construction. I am very grateful for his assistance in this project. He truly went above and beyond the call of duty in this project for the FLT. Forester Dedrick was recently promoted to Senior Forester, and I wish him luck in his new role working for the people of New York in the Potsdam area where he was transferred.



Post and beam pieces fit together nicely and then receive board and batten siding, all of this much lighter and safer for workers than handling big logs of the traditional style of shelter.

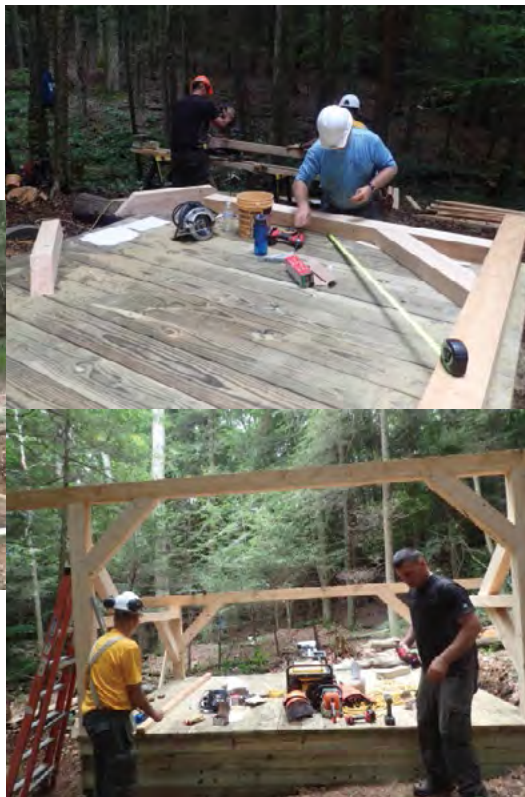
This project started early on a Monday morning with two very large trailer loads of lumber, and another trailer full of equipment and tools. Just transporting materials into the lean-to site seemed like an almost insurmountable task. But ATV operator Kenny Fellers assisted by Mike Granger got to work on it, and very slowly the piles began to shrink. Materials were deposited at a landing area where they were



Kenny Fellers, Mike Ogden, Mike TenKate, M.J. Uttech, Mike Granger, Tessa Careaga, Don Sutherland

hand carried the last 200 feet across the stream to the site. This consumed a large part of the crew Monday and Tuesday. While this was going on, construction manager Mike Ogden and crew worked the site to level the base and build the pressure-treated lumber foundation. As time went on, the piles of lumber began

to shrink and a lean-to began to take shape. As the post-and-beam frame of the lean-to was being completed, some of us split off to install the privy and the fire pit. Before we knew it, the roof was going on. Chuck Uttech added some really fantastic lean-to signs with arrows. This was a small crew, but they were a pleasure to work with. It seemed like we were all on the same page from the beginning, which really bolstered progress. When crew members saw things needing to be done, they went to work and got them done.



The crew thoroughly enjoyed cook M.J. Uttech's trail lunches and other meals. She really outdid herself! These lunches were definitely something to look forward to. The crew consisted of: Mike Ogden, Mike Granger, M.J.

Uttech, Nigel Dyson-Hudson, Tessa Careaga, Don Sutherland, Kenny Fellers, Henry Dedrick (and his intern), Colleen and Pete Townsend. Everybody commuted from home except that the Uttechs hosted Mike Granger overnight. Another three-Mike Alley-Cat! 🍁

Remembering Dorothy Beye

Irene Szabo

Dorothy Beye died at 78 in late January, the woman who was the other half of the FLT office before we even had one. She and husband Howard took care of all organization functions from their basement for 17 years, with intermittent help from a few ladies of the Genesee Valley Hiking Club. Not until she gave us three years to come up with a new administrative solution, probably in 2000, did we move out of their home to the Mt. Morris Dam about a year later when the previous dam superintendent's home happily became available. Since she didn't care a fig for hiking, why did she devote so much effort to the FLTC? She did say once that it was **something** she could do WITH her husband, since his monomaniacal devotion had already absconded with his time and attentions.

Dorothy filled map orders, answered the phone, even at 2 a.m. one time for a couple who couldn't find the trailhead (!!!), mailed out all bulk mailings which are NOT simple, from her dining room table, including renewals and quarterly newsletters. Before the internet, she copied copious documents for board meetings, and even attended many of them, along with our typical spring and fall weekends. Dorothy was cheerful, that often leavened with a wonderfully snotty sense of humor, and always perfectly dressed, made up, and coiffed. In truth, dumpy old Howard married a dish!

Warren Johnsen recalls Dorothy addressing the crowd at Seneca Lodge in Watkins Glen during one of our weekends, where she gave a humorous account of a squad of helpers moving all of the furniture, office machines, and file cabinets out of their house to Mt. Morris. Warren said, "She did a wonderful job and I remember

it being a hilarious presentation." The woman was funny! Once Howard died, however, she stopped attending our weekends, saying she no longer felt comfortable there without him.

Mary Zuk-Domanski, among others, recalls Dorothy always graciously greeting people at the registration table of our weekend events. "I remember how she was impeccably dressed and I was in my funky hiking clothes.

I will forever appreciate how she noticed how hard I was working for Foothills Trail Club. Today there are 8 people doing what I did alone years ago. For that she would call me 'Little Howard.' It was the best compliment I could ever have."

"Howard and Dorothy were the *de facto* volunteer executive directors for the FLTC with their basement dedicated to the trail as an FLTC 'office.' Dorothy retired from this 'job' a half-dozen years before Howard passed. She retired to 'pursue playing the cello.'" This recollection came from Mary and Bill Coffin, and Dorothy was indeed involved in a music group in her church, where she played several instruments.

The family requested memorials be made to benefit either Lollipop Farm near Rochester, a large animal shelter, or the Finger Lakes Trail. 🍁



Jacqui Wensich

Daughter Liz, left, and wife Dorothy on the Howard Beye Memorial Bench in High Tor Wildlife Management Area, Map B2, at its dedication.



Michael "Bodhr" Rogers

Anna Keeton on the same bench this winter.



Anna Keeton

Invitation to the Annual Meeting

All members of the FLT are invited to the Annual Business Meeting of the Finger Lakes Trail Conference, Inc., on Saturday, June 17th, at 4 p.m. at Tompkins Cortland Community College in Dryden. Members will vote on the nominees, listed below, for the Board of Managers. Other nominations may be made in accordance with our bylaws. A proxy form for those unable to attend will be mailed in March. Further information may be requested from the FLT Service Center at 585/658-9320.

Nominees for the Class of 2020 Board of Managers.

Donna Flood

Debra Nero

David Newlun

Michael Ogden

Wendy Stevens

DONNA FLOOD

Donna Flood is currently filling a term for a Board member and has been on the FLTC BOM for seven years. She serves on the Membership Committee and actively promotes membership through distribution of printed materials to outlets, speaks at events, and is the current president of Foothills Trail Club. She has completed the Conservation Trail three times, is nearing completion of the branch trails and has originated and led a half hike series for the Cattaraugus County Hikes. She served as the publicist for Foothills Trail Club and is a member of its Trail Council. She also cooks for Alley-Cats and has participated as a trail worker several times in work parties. She maintains a section of trail north of Darien Lakes State Park on the Conservation Trail.



James Flood

DEBBIE NERO

I have a PhD in Genetics and have taught Genetics at Cornell University for the past 20 years. As a result I'm good at organizing, explaining and convincing! I came across the FLT about 8 years ago while hiking the mountain bike trails in Shindagin Hollow State Forest outside of Ithaca with my Australian cattledog. Since then I've adopted two more cattledogs and acquired a like-minded hiking buddy, fellow Board member Laurie Ondrejka. We hike every weekend possible and so far we've completed the Finger Lakes Trail twice (E2E #346 and 347) and the branch trails. We are 60% done with our third main trail E2E!! I have become a big fan and staunch advocate of the

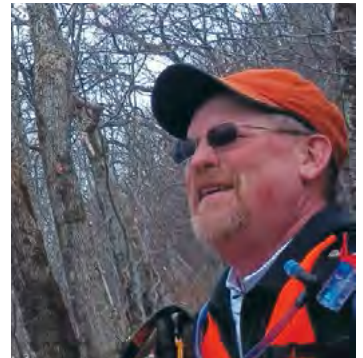


Colin Parrish

FLT; in my past almost three years on the Board of Managers I have figured out the organizational complexities and have taken on the role of Event Manager to further the goal of telling people about our amazing trail and getting our name out there! I continue to think the FLTC is doing a great job and I look forward to helping support and organize the trail for the future.

DAVID NEWLUN

Dave Newlun was born in Ohio but grew up and resides in Big Flats, NY. He graduated from Wilmington College of Ohio in 1988 with a B.A. in Business. After college he served in the Peace Corps (2 yrs) as a Volunteer in which he served as a business advisor to an industrial limestone co-op to encourage better business practices and environmental stewardship through projects (U.S. Agency for International Development) that lessened deforestation in the processing of limestone. After his Peace Corps service David returned to work in the banking industry at Marine Midland/HSBC and then cared for his ailing father until his passing. In 2006 he read an article in the newspaper about a cross county hike series in Steuben County, signed up and was hooked for life. Dave has walked the Main Trail twice and may work on a third and has also completed the Branch Trails. Dave also is a maintainer with a section of trail on Map 13 access 5 Sexton Hollow Rd. to access 6 Switzer Hill Rd. The FLT has granted him lifelong friendships, brilliant moments when least expected, and respite from the everyday stress.



Kim Meacham

MIKE OGDEN

I am recently retired and an active hiker living in Central New York. When I'm not on the Finger Lakes Trail trying to complete my first end to end hike, you'll find me in the Adirondacks or Catskills or some other northeastern high peak. Wherever I hike, when I encounter fellow hikers and begin a conversation I usually try to work in a word or two about the FLT. I'm proud of the fact we have such a great trail though some of the best countryside in the state so I try to make others aware of this beautiful trail too.



Gail Tremblay

I'm a member of the Adirondack Mountain Club in which I'm Chapter Chair of the Onondaga Chapter. I lead hikes for ADK - Onondaga in all seasons. I sometimes lead hikes for my group at the FLT County hikes too. Other memberships include the North Country Trail Association, the Catskill 3500 Club and the

Appalachian Mountain Club. I maintain a small section the FLT as a trail steward. I've worked on several Alley-Cat projects with some great people building lean-tos. I really love and take pride in that work. That's just my construction background talking, because I like to work with my hands.

I'm proud to have been a Board member for the FLT for my first three year term. This is where I get to work with my head. It's a nice change. I feel I've made some contributions, however small they may be, to make the FLT Conference grow. Hopefully you'll let me serve another three year term so I can continue to contribute to this great organization.

WENDY STEVENSON

A longtime supporter and member of the FLTC, I've participated in spring meetings, fall campouts, trail projects across the state, and through county hike series completed my FLT End to End (#328) in 2011. This has given me a great appreciation for our trail, our many volunteers, and for how important the trail is to

so many people. I live in the Town of Springwater in southern Livingston County and am retired from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, having worked in the Division of Environmental Remediation in Avon. I am a member of the county Environmental Management Council and with my local hiking club, Springwater

Trails, help maintain a section of the Bristol Hills Trail. I currently am a member of the FLTC Board of Managers, and serve on the Nominating and Human Resources Committees. I am seeking a second term.



Finger Lakes Trail Conference

Proposed Bylaws change for membership approval

2017 Annual meeting (June 10, 2017 at Tompkins Cortland Community College)

The Finger Lakes Trail Conference membership in good standing is asked to consider the following changes to the Finger Lakes Trail Conference Bylaws:

Current:

Article VII – OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers:

The officers of the FLTC shall be President, Vice President of Finance, Vice President of Membership and Marketing, Vice President of Trail Maintenance, Vice President of Trail Quality, Vice President of Trail Preservation, Vice President of Mapping, Vice President of Crews and Construction, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Proposal 1:

The officers of the FLTC shall be President, Executive Vice President, Vice President of Finance, Vice President of Membership and Marketing, Vice President of Trail Maintenance, Vice President of Trail Quality, Vice President of Trail Preservation, Vice President of Mapping, Vice President of Crews and Construction, and Secretary.

Rationale: The Board of Managers has studied the makeup of the Board over the last two years. Last year, the Board recommended and the membership approved adding an Executive Vice President who would act in the absence of the president or replace the president until a new president could be elected by the Board. This year, The Board has reviewed the role of the treasurer in our organization. While the position and function of the treasurer is vital to the daily operations of the organization., the treasurer is involved in strategic planning only during the annual budget process. Financial planning is currently the responsibility of the Vice President of Finance. This will eliminate a redundancy in the organization.

The Board of Managers recommends the membership approve Proposal 1 to remove the treasurer as an officer.

Current:

Article VII – OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers:

The officers of the FLTC shall be President, Vice President of Finance, Vice President of Membership and Marketing, Vice President of Trail Maintenance, Vice President of Trail Quality, Vice President of Trail Preservation, Vice President of Mapping, Vice President of Crews and Construction, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Proposal 2:

The officers of the FLTC shall be President, Executive Vice President, Vice President of Finance, Vice President of Membership and Marketing, Vice President of Trail Maintenance, Vice President of Trail Quality, Vice President of Trail Preservation, Vice President of Mapping, and Secretary.

Rationale: Upon Howard Beye's sudden death in 2008, the Board divided his all-encompassing trail responsibilities into several smaller and more manageable assignments for several volunteers. All assignments were approved by the general membership at the vice president level in the FLTC. The depth and breadth of the Vice President of Crews and Construction responsibilities do not compare to other vice presidents' work in order to execute their positions on behalf of the FLTC. While the Board recognizes the importance of leading the crews and construction effort on behalf of the FLTC, in order to better align all vice president positions, the crews and construction position will be at the director level when there is a vacancy in the position.

The Board of Managers recommends the membership approve Proposal 2 to eliminate the Vice President of Crews and Construction position as a Board officer.

FLTC Spring 2017 Annual Meeting Registration Form
June 9 - June 11, 2017 Tompkins-Cortland Community College, Dryden
Registration Deadline May 20, 2017
Host: Adirondack Mountain Club, Onondaga Chapter

PLEASE JOIN US AT DRYDEN'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE HEART OF UPSTATE NEW YORK, AND IN THE MIDDLE OF THE MAIN FINGER LAKES TRAIL FOR OUR ANNUAL SPRING MEETING.

Lodging and food details follow, along with a detailed schedule of hikes and even paddles.

Daily Schedule:

Friday: 11:00 Registration Table open, check in
 9:30-2:00 Hikes begin departing, see schedule
 6:00-7:30 Dinner
 7:30 Program—Vote for Pete (music group)

Saturday: 6:00 Yoga, with Daniel Kaiya (bring a mat)
 7:30-8:30 Breakfast (make your own trail lunch)
 8:00 Registration Table open
 8:45-10:00 Hikes depart, see schedule
 4:00 Annual Meeting
 6:00-7:00 Dinner
 7:00 Awards and Presentations
 7:30 Program – Ruth and Dan Dorrough:

*FLT E2E Leads to 4800 Mile NCT Walk:
We Just Kept Walking*

Sunday: 6:00 Yoga, with Daniel Kaiya (bring a mat)
 7:30-8:30 Breakfast (make your own trail lunch)

Check out of rooms before leaving for hikes.

9:00-12:00 Board of Managers meeting
9:00-10:00 Hikes depart, see schedule

Younger members: To encourage younger members, no registration fee for children under age 14.

Main Campus, Dryden

Tompkins Cortland Community College
170 North St, P.O. Box 139
Dryden, NY 13053
1.888.567.8211 – (607) 844-8211

The main campus is located between Ithaca and Cortland on Route 13 just north of the Village of Dryden.

For more information: (planning committee)

General—Jon Bowen, jkbowen@gmail.com, (315) 638-8749

Outings—Mary Coffin

Registration—Sigi Schwinge, Kathy Bowen, Kathy Eisele, Gail Swinburne

Signage—Mike Ogden



Jet Thomas

A walk through Hoxie gorge.

MEALS:

Breakfast \$6

The Breakfast Special includes the continental choices (Coffee or juice with a pastry, fruit or yogurt) plus the special of that day. Saturday waffle bar; Sunday scrambled eggs with meat

Lunch \$8

Make your own sandwich or salad both days with snacks and whole fruit.

Dinner \$15

Friday---Herb roasted chicken with seasonal sautéed vegetable, pasta station, salad station, dessert station, beverage station

Saturday--Summer BBQ, smoked pork loin, coleslaw, baked beans, summer salad, shortcake bar beverage station

If you have special dietary needs (allergies, gluten, etc) list them on the registration form. This is a college and the kitchen is able to accommodate special dietary requests.



Jet Thomas

LODGING:

On campus dorm. Each apartment has 4 SMALL bedrooms with a single bed, dresser, desk. Common area has a kitchenette (stove, oven, refrig, no microwave, cabinets), bathroom (toilet, sink, shower/tub), closet, small lounge area. Dorm floor has a larger lounge. Bring your own linens. No pets. Internet on campus is fairly good through wifi. Alcohol in dorms is OK, but no alcohol in main bldg. Lost key=\$200 each. No AC in dorms.

Self contained RVs are permitted in a parking lot on campus.

There are several campgrounds nearby, a few of which are:

Robert H Treman State Park, 105 Enfield Falls Rd, Ithaca, NY 14850, (607) 272-1460

Yellow Lantern Kamp Grounds, 1770 State Route 13, Cortland, NY 13045, (607) 756-2959

Taughannock Falls State Park, 2221 Taughannock Park Rd, Trumansburg, NY 14886, (607) 387-6739

Country Music Park & Campground, 1824 State Route 13, Cortland, NY 13045, (607) 753-0377

Country Hills Campground, 1165 Muckey Rd, Marathon, NY 13803, (607) 849-3300

Buttermilk Falls State Park, 112 Buttermilk Falls Rd E, Ithaca, NY 14850, (607) 273-3440

There are numerous motels nearby, especially in Cortland and Ithaca. A few are listed:

Best Western, 3175 Finger Lakes Drive East, Cortland, NY 13045 888-690-5281 (6 miles northeast of Dryden)

Country Inn & Suites, 3707 Route 281, Cortland, NY 13045, (800) 230-4134 (8 miles northeast of Dryden)

Hope Lake Lodge & Indoor Waterpark, 2177 Clute Rd., Cortland, NY 13045, (800) 997-5148 (8 miles east of Dryden)

Econo Lodge, 2303 North Triphammer Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850 (800) 906-2871 (9.4 miles from Dryden)

Ramada Hotel & Conference Center, 2 River St., Cortland, NY 13045, (888) 305-3366 (10.4 miles northeast of Dryden)

Hampton Inn, 26 River St., Cortland, NY 13045, (800) 997-5149 (10.5 miles northeast of Dryden)

PLEASE PRINT

NAME(s): _____
Address: _____ Cell Phone () _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Home phone () _____
Email: _____ Age if under 18: _____

Confirmations by email unless USPS requested by checking here []

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____
Address: _____

FEES: Registration Deadline May 20, 2017. Sorry no refund after May 20, 2017 Costs are per person

[] **FLTC member** Registration \$12 X _____ number registering \$ _____
[] **Non FLTC Member** Registration \$17 X _____ number registering \$ _____
(no fee for children under age 14, # of children under 14 _____)

[] Staying in campus dormitory apartment [] male [] female
Friday night \$38.00 X _____ Number Registering \$ _____
Saturday night \$38.00 X _____ Number Registering \$ _____

[] List apartment mates _____
(If none listed, apartment mates will be assigned)

[] Self contained RVs in parking lot \$10/ night [] Friday night + [] Saturday night \$ _____
(No building access provided)

[] Meals Friday Dinner (\$15) _____ Saturday Breakfast (\$6) _____ Saturday Lunch (\$8) _____
Saturday Dinner (\$15) _____ Sunday Breakfast (\$6) _____ Sunday Lunch (\$8) _____
(Total for all meals is \$58) TOTAL FOR MEALS \$ _____

Please indicate any food allergies, special needs or any concerns: _____

Please make check payable to FLTC Merchandise Total: \$ _____ Total Enclosed: \$ _____

TRIPS: Select trips by number and alternate choice if 1st choice is full or cancelled; (list letter and number)

Friday - choice _____ Saturday - choice _____ Sunday - choice _____

FLTC RELEASE OF LIABILITY - FOR ENTIRE WEEKEND

By signing below, I acknowledge that all activities sponsored or conducted by the Finger Lakes Trail Conference (FLTC) may be hazardous, and may result in loss, damage, injury or death; With full knowledge of these dangers, I hereby agree for myself, all of my family and heirs, to RELEASE FLTC and any of its employees, members, trip leaders, chapters, groups, clubs, sponsors, representatives or agents from liability, claims, demands or any causes of action, and NOT TO USE OR OTHERWISE MAKE ANY CLAIM against the FLTC or any of their chapters, groups, representatives or agents whatsoever which may arise during my participation in any activities of FLTC. I intend this RELEASE OF LIABILITY to be effective whether or not any loss, damage, injury or death RESULTS FROM NEGLIGENCE of the FLTC or any of its agents, leaders, instructors, guides, officers, directors, or representatives. I understand that negligence means a failure to do an act that a reasonable careful person would do, or the doing of an act that a reasonable careful person would not do, under the same or similar circumstances, to protect himself/herself or others from loss, damage, injury or death. I assume full responsibility for any personal injuries, including injuries resulting in death, which might occur as the result of the negligence or lack of care of FLTC, its employees, members, chapters, trip leaders, groups, representatives or agents. I agree to be solely responsible for my own safety and to take every precaution to provide for my own safety and well-being while participating in activities of the FLTC. I accept full responsibility for the well being of any person under 18 years of age) when acting in the capacity of parent or guardian of that person.

Signature _____ **Print name** _____ **Date** _____

Signature _____ **Print name** _____ **Date** _____

If under 18, parent or guardian must sign here: _____

Signature

Printed name

Send this form and check payable to **FLTC with notation for FLTC Spring 2017 Annual Meeting to:**
FLTC Office, 6111 Visitor Center Road, Mt. Morris, NY 14510

For general questions contact Jon Bowen, Spring Outing Chair, Jkbowen@gmail.com, 315-638-8749

2017 Spring Annual Meeting Merchandise Pre-Order Form

Tax included in prices

Light Blue Polo Shirt:

Front has FLT Logo. The back – 2017 FLT Annual Spring Meeting (100% Polyester)

Small ladies (\$26) ____ Small men (\$26) ____ Medium ladies (\$26) ____ Medium men (\$26) ____
Large ladies (\$26) ____ Large men (\$26) ____ XL ladies (\$26) ____ XL men (\$26) ____

Total \$ _____

Pint Glass ____ set of 2; Wine Glass ____ set of 2 @ \$9.50 per set

Total \$ _____

Map Set – (M17, M18, M19, M20, M21) 5 Maps @ \$10.80 per set

Total \$ _____



Total Order \$ _____

THANKS TO OUR TRAIL LANDOWNERS

Please accept the appreciation of the Board of Managers of the Finger Lakes Trail Conference and hundreds of hikers for your continuing permission to route the path through your property. Even if your trail's caretaker didn't say so directly yet this year, know that we all are grateful for the privilege of enjoying your back woods, streams, and fields. On behalf of all hikers and FLT members, we acknowledge that, without your generosity, we would simply never have a continuous trail across upstate New York.

If you would like a copy of our trail map in your property's neighborhood, please ask the FLT Service Center: FLTinfo@fingerlakestrail.org or 585/658-9320.

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 31. Dues paid after Dec. 31 will be applied to the next membership year.)

Youth (under 17)	\$15	Sustaining:	
Student (under 24)	\$15	Pathfinder (Bronze)	\$100
Limited Income	\$30	Trail Blazer (Silver)	\$250
Adult	\$40	Trail Builder (Gold)	\$251-\$500
Family	\$60	Trail Guide (Diamond)	\$501-\$1000
Youth Organization	\$30	Trail Patron (Platinum)	over \$1000
Lifetime (Individual)	\$600	Lifetime (Family)	\$900
Business/Corporate:			
Bronze	\$100	Diamond	\$1000
Silver	\$250	Platinum	\$2500
Gold	\$500		

Trips for FLTC 2017 Spring Weekend June 9-11
HQ in Dryden @ TC3

Registration: Kathy Eisele, Kathy Bowen, Sigi Schwinge, Gail Swinburne, Mary Coffin, Trip coordination
Opens 11:am- Early hikers(A1&A2) can check in after the hike.

All trips meet and return to TCC. Look for leader holding a trip number sign

Features:

Catch a few miles toward your 2017 NCT 100 Challenge.
Complete M20 (A1 & C1) or M19 (A2, B7, C3) without the road walks.
Note paddle trip options Friday and Sunday.
Look for family friendly trips and children's activities.
Consider exposing children and grandchildren to the outdoors.
25 trip options.

FRI 6/9 /17 TRIPS A1-A9

A 1. Hoxie Gorge NCT/FLT M20, moderate, 7.4 miles, **Mary Niemi & Pat Urban:** Join us for a hike in Hoxie Gorge State Forest heading north from Steve Russell Rd. to Stone Rd. There will be three gorge crossings and we will stop by the new lean-to built in the summer of 2016. Continuous with hike C1 to complete M20 during weekend. 20 minute drive. **9:30 am**

A 2. Virgil Mt West, Purvis Rd.-Bleck Rd. NCT/FLT M19, Strenuous, 10.9 miles, **Dick Frio & John Lang:** Hike the west end of M19 over hill and dale with great views from elevations to high point of 2030' with max elevation change of 810 ft. Kennedy State Forest. Continuous with hikes # B7 & C3 to complete M19 during weekend. 15 minute drive. **10:00 am.**

A 3. Shindagin Hollow State Forest NCT/FLT M18, Moderate, 4.9 miles, **Mike Ogden:** This hike will be from Old 76 Rd. to Bradley Hill Rd. A hike in Shindagin Hollow will be on the hilly side with an elevation change of about 560'. We will be passing by the Shindagin Lean-to on this hike. 30 minute drive **11:00 am.**

A 4. Caravan to Waterfalls near Ithaca. Easy, 1/2-1 mile, **Dick Lightcap:** Car caravan to Buttermilk Falls, Lucifer Falls (Robert Treman State Park), Ithaca Falls, Taughannock Falls and Salmon River Falls. Short walks are on mostly level ground. Vehicle fee except for those over 62. **11:00 am**

A 5. Robinson Hollow Rd. to Level Green Rd. NCT/FLT M18, moderate, 4.3 miles, **Larry Blumberg:** This half-day hike features a two mile long 560 foot climb near the start and ends with a traverse of Potato Hill State forest. Minimal road walking. 20 min from campus. **12:00 pm**

A 6. Dabes Diversion Loop. FLT M19/part NCT, moderate, 4.3 miles, **Joe Dabes:** Join the originator of this loop trail, Java Joe, on a hilly ramble in Kennedy State Forest including a stop at the Foxfire

Lean-to. Java Joe will provide interpretation along the trail as you hike. There is one steep uphill, but there is no rush and the trail is in excellent shape. 15 minute drive. **1:00 pm.**

A 7. Paddle Little York Lake, easy, 2- 2.5 hrs, **Lisa Druke:** Enjoy a quiet paddle around Upper Little York Lake and Goodale Lake if conditions favorable. We will be on the water about 2 - 2.5 hours. You need to provide your own canoe/kayak, paddles and PFD and the PFDs must be worn on the water. 25 minute drive. **1:00 pm**

A 8. Jim Schug Trail Family Walk. easy 2-4 miles, **MJ Uttech with Chuck Uttech:** This is a family paced trip on flat terrain on a rails-to-trails walkway that crosses several streams and goes next to a lake and a wetland. Wildlife sightings common. 5 minute drive. **1:30 pm.**

A 9. Friday evening children's activity: TBA **MJ Uttech**



Tom Reimers

One of the ponds crossed by the old Lehigh Valley Railroad bed we walk outside Dryden on the Jim Schug Trail.

SAT 6/10/17 TRIPS B1-B12

B 1. Danby State Forest to Shindagin Hollow State Forest. NCT/FLT M17 & 18, strenuous, 11.9 miles, **Debbie Nero & Laurie Ondrejka:** Hike from South Danby Rd. to South Rd. up and over several steep hills with scenic overlooks passing Tamarack and Shindagin Hollow Lean-tos. Dogs welcome on leash. 45 minute drive. **8:45am.**



Tom Reimers

B 2. Abbott Loop. FLT M17, strenuous, 8.4 miles, **Barbara Nussbaum:** We will hike clockwise at a moderately fast pace starting on the FLT/NCT for 1.7 mi., heading southeast from the north crossing of the FLT on Michigan Hollow Road close to Diane's Crossing, and save the highest point of the trail, Thatcher's Pinnacles (1700 ft.), for the last quarter of the hike. Thatcher's Pinnacles provide a scenic overlook over West Danby, the Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Preserve and the forested hills beyond and make a perfect spot for our lunch break. Expect some rugged climbs, steep descents, brook crossings and probably some wet spots. Poles are a good idea. Plan at least 5 hours of hiking. Return prior to 4pm meeting. Danby SF. 40 minute drive. **8:45am**

B 3. Taylor Valley State Forest. NCT/FLT M21, moderate- strenuous, 7.8 miles, **Mike Ogden:** This hike will be from Telephone Rd. to Chenango Solon Pond Rd. The elevation change on this hike will be about 600' through another beautiful state forest. 45 minute drive. **9:00 am.**

B 4. Buttermilk Falls Spur Trail. M17, strenuous, 8 miles round trip, **Jerry Smith:** Hike from Town Line Road on the FLT/ NCT then the orange spur into Buttermilk Falls State Park with lunch at the falls. 35 minute drive. **9:00am**

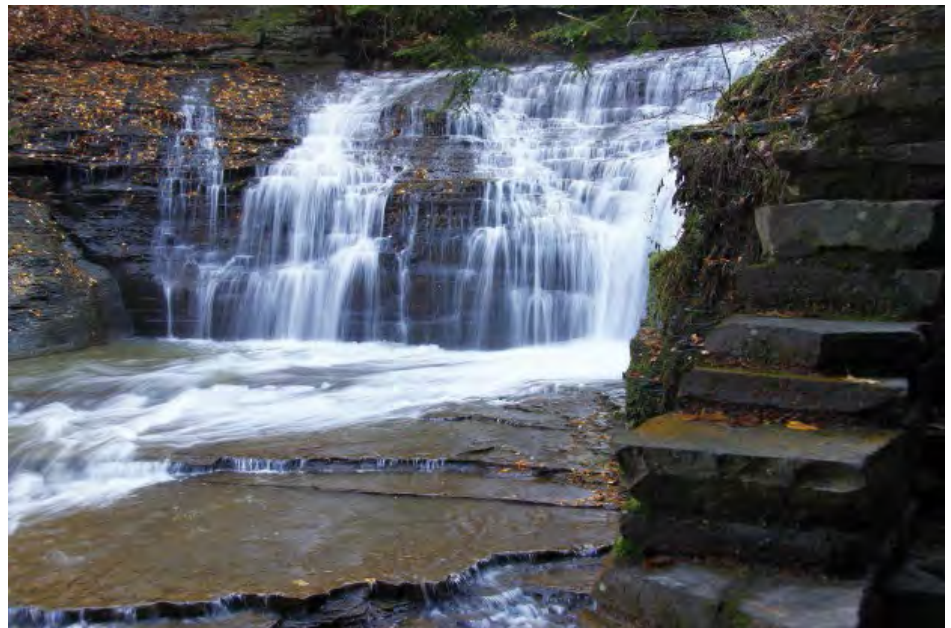
B 5. Hammond Hill State Forest. NCT/ FLT M18, strenuous, 7.8 mi., **Larry Blumberg:** Hike from Rt. 38 to NY 79. via Kimmie Leanto over steep hill at 2014' with max elevation change 724 ft. 20 minute drive. **9:15am**

B 6. International Loop. FLT M19 part NCT, moderate, 7.2 miles, **Alex and Michele Gonzalez:** Join the designers and maintainers of these loops. This trip combines the Swedish and Spanish Loops. Elevation change 310 ft. Kennedy St. Forest and private land. 20 minute drive. **9:15am**

B 7. Virgil Mt. Bleck Rd. East to Tone Rd. NCT/FLT M 19, moderate, 5.4 miles, **Peg Whaley:** Climb about 500 ft. to the summit of Virgil Mt., elevation 2132 ft. (aka Greek Peak) with great views of the valley below and drop 900 ft past the old boiler to Gridley Creek. Kennedy SF. Continuous with hikes # A2 & C3 to complete M19 during weekend. 20 minute drive. **9:30am.**

B 8. Roy H. Park Nature Preserve, easy, 4 miles, **Tom Reimers:** This is a short, easy meander for nature-appreciative hikers. The Finger Lakes Land Trust protects almost 19,000 acres including more than 30 nature preserves. This one of the best! We will first stop at the north entrance to see the handicapped accessible boardwalk overlooking a huge complex of beaver dams and ponds and take a short walk in adjacent Hammond Hill State Forest. We will then drive to the south entrance where a two-mile system of hiking trails will take us to a lean-to shelter at Six-Mile Creek and the beautiful confluence of Six Mile and Dusenberry Creeks. This preserve is a hot spot for spring birding. Tom knows this preserve very well and will have some interesting things to share. 20 minute drive. **9:45am**

B 9. Secret Nature Places. easy, 2- 3 miles, **Dick Lightcap:** Car caravan to natural sites that are owned by the Finger Lakes Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy and Cornell University, walking on mostly level ground to experience each. **9:45am.**



Tom Reimers

Buttermilk Falls south of Ithaca



Roy Park Preserve beaver have been very accessible for photographer Tom Reimers.

B 10. Sapsucker Woods and Cornell Ornithology Lab. easy, 2-3 miles, **Kathy Bowen & Mary Dineen:** Enjoy a pleasant walk on the trails of Sapsucker Woods, Cornell University Ornithology Lab in Ithaca and add to your bird list. We will walk on trails which are flat and sometimes on boardwalks. We can also visit the very interesting Visitor Center displays, bird viewing areas and a gift shop. Binoculars are suggested but also some are available there. Around noon there will be a behind the scenes tour of the Ornithology Research Lab. 20 minute drive. **10:00 am**

B 11. Children's Morning Hike, Jose Trail, easy, 1.25 miles: **MJ Uttech** Adults welcome. This walk includes a creek with small waterfalls and learning how to build a small campfire. 9 mile drive. **9:00 am**

B 12. Children's Afternoon Activity, Flat Rock, Virgil. Easy: **MJ Uttech,** Adults welcome. Children will be playing in a beautiful creek with adult supervision. Who knows what critters they will find. 11 mile drive. **2:00 pm**

B 13 evening. Children's activity TBA **MJ Uttech. 7:00 pm**

SUN 6/11 TRIPS C1-C7

C 1. Stone Road to Rt.41. NCT/FLT M20, moderate, 7 miles, **Tony Rodriguez & Scott Bowen:** Join Tony and Scott to explore these newly opened trail sections. Enjoy great views both on private and state lands. Baker Schoolhouse State Forest. Prepare for a couple of wet stream crossings. Continuous with hike A1 to complete M20. 25 minute drive. **9:00 am**

C 2. Michigan Hollow Rd /96B to S.Danby Rd. NCT/FLT M17, moderate, 6.3 miles, **Theresa & Jay Evans:** Hike includes main FLT, part of the Abbott Loop and Tamarack Leanto in Danby State Forest south of Ithaca. Elevation change only 200'. 35 minute drive. **9:00 am.**

C 3. Carson Rd to West River Rd. M19/20 NCT/FLT, moderate, 5.4 miles, **Larry Blumberg:** This hike starts with a series of ups and downs and passes the Woodchuck Hollow Leanto in Tuller Hill State Forest. Use this trip to complete all but a short road walk on M19; it is continuous with hikes A2 & B3 to complete M19. 20 minute drive. **9:15 am**

C 4. Spanish Loop. FLT M19 part NCT, moderate, 6.1 miles, **Alex and Michele Gonzalez:** Hike from Daisy Hollow Rd. and enjoy lunch under hemlocks by the Roland Creek in Kennedy State Forest with trail designers and maintainers of this loop. Elevation change less than 300'. 15 minute drive. **9:30 am**

C 5 Lime Hollow Nature Center. Easy, 1-3.5 mile options **MJ Uttech:** This is a family friendly stroll around the trails at this educational nature center. This will be flexible according to the ages of participating children. The one mile hike includes a bog and a glacial esker. The additional 2.5 miles include an "Art Trail" with multiple sculptures and a lovely walk that includes streams and eskers. Adults are also welcome. 20 minute/8 mile drive. **9:30 am**

C 6. Wildflower Identification along the Jim Shug Trail, easy 2-4 miles, **Mary Dineen & Bill Coffin** Hike on this flat railtrail and see how many wildflowers you can identify. 10 minute drive. **10:00 am.**

C 7. Paddle Dryden Lake. easy, 2-3 hours on water. **Dick Frio:** Dick will lead the group on a short paddle around the lake from the put in at Dryden Lake Park. You need to provide your own canoe/kayak, paddles and PFD and the PFDs must be worn on the water. 10 minute drive. **9:30 am.**



Tom Reimers

FLT NAMED HIKE EVENT

Saturday, April 29, 2016

2017 Wally Wood Hike

International Loop, Map M19

Wally Wood was the founding President of the Finger Lakes Trail Conference. He was a long distance hiker living in Rochester when he organized existing hiking clubs in 1962 at Keuka College, forming the Finger Lakes Trail organization. The Annual Wally Wood Hike honors his memory.

Hike Leaders:

Debra Nero, dn13@cornell.edu, (607) 227-7957

Laurie Ondrejka, laurie.ondrejka@ellucian.com, (585) 727-6495

Hike Description:

There will be two versions of the hike, a longer 10.2 mile hike and a shorter 7.1 mile hike. Both hikes will meet together for instructions at 9:30 am.

Those doing the shorter hike (7.1 miles) will complete the International Loop on FLT Map M19 rev 7/16. This is also shown in more detail on the FLT International Loop Map rev 7/12. Hikers will begin and end this hike at the small DEC parking lot on Daisy Hollow Rd at mile 5.5 on M19. From the parking area you will follow the main FLT east for 0.95 miles and bear left on the blue blazed Swedish Loop Trail. Follow this across Owego Hill Rd and then take a right onto Bell-Hilsinger Rd until the Swedish Loop Trail meets the white blazed main FLT. At the main trail go right (west). When you cross Owego Hill Road again turn left and follow the orange blazed Spanish Loop Trail. Make a right on Adams Road and then a right off the road. When you reach the paved Daisy Hollow Road turn right and in 0.5 mile you will be back at the DEC parking area and your car!

The longer hike (10.2 miles) will carpool over to the parking area at mile 1.4 on FLT Map M19 where the main FLT leaves the Jim Shug Trail and turns right onto Lake Rd. We will hike along Lake Rd for 0.3 miles and then follow the main FLT 3.3 more miles to Daisy Hollow Rd. At this point we will jog slightly right across Daisy Hollow Rd to the orange blazed Spanish Loop Trail and do the International Loop in the reverse direction of those doing the short hike, ending at the DEC parking area on Daisy Hollow Rd where drivers will be shuttled back to the starting point to pick up their cars.

Trail maps will be available at the beginning of the hike.

Meeting Location:

ALL interested hikers will meet at 9:30am at the small DEC parking area on the east side of Daisy Hollow Rd near the intersection with Carpenter Hill Rd. There is space for only 3 or 4 cars in the DEC parking area, so please park on the grassy shoulder of Daisy Hollow Rd around the intersection with Carpenter Hill Rd. Please do not park in front of any of the houses.

At 9:30am there will be a short organizational meeting in the DEC parking lot. At 9:45am those interested in the short hike will leave from the DEC parking area and complete the 7.1 mile International Loop as described above. Hike leader is Laurie Ondrejka. Those who are doing the longer hike will carpool to the parking area on Lake Rd. at the Jim Shug Trail crossing. Hike leader is Debbie Nero.

Directions to Meeting Location:

From Dryden take NYS Route 38 south 5.9 miles to Daisy Hollow Rd. which intersects just before the hamlet of Harford. From Richford take NYS Route 38 north 6.2 miles to Daisy Hollow Rd.

From the intersection with NYS Route 38, follow Daisy Hollow Rd 3.2 miles to the DEC parking area / FLT crossing very near the intersection with Carpenter Hill Rd.

FLT NAMED HIKE EVENT

Saturday, July 29, 2017

2017 Ed Sidote Hike

Pharsalia Woods, FLT Map M23 Rev. 5/16

Hike Leaders:

Peg Fuller: peg379@gmail.com 315-653-7345 (long hike)

Art & Sharron Sandberg (short hike).

Contact Peg for details

Hike Description:

The long hike will be approximately 8 miles and the short hike approximately 4 miles. The long hike will include the blue trail, small portions of road walk and the FLT. Both hikes will end at the Pharsalia Lean-to where we will enjoy a cookout. This is also the location of the Ed Sidote bench. Hikers are encouraged to bring food and drink for the cookout. Some hot-dogs and rolls will be provided.

Chenango County is known for its hills. The hike is up and the hike is down, but the trails are maintained well, so hiking will be enjoyable.

Start time 9:00 AM

We will be starting off on Fred Stewart Rd., Pharsalia, at Nine Mile DEC Truck Trail intersection.

Directions to Meeting Place:

From Howard Johnson Hotel – Norwich 75 N. Broad St., Norwich 13815

Head south on N. Broad St. toward Mechanic St. 0.1 mi; Turn right onto W. Main St. 0.4 mi.

Continue onto County Rd. 10A 5.1 mi.; continue onto County Rd. 10 4.3 mi; turn right onto Fred Stewart Rd. Proceed to first intersection (Hoag Childes Rd); continue straight staying on Fred Stewart Rd., pass the left turn, and proceed to next intersection. This is the four-corner intersection of Fred Stewart Rd. and Nine Mile DEC truck trail. Park here.

FLT NAMED HIKE EVENT

Saturday, October 14, 2017

2017 Erv Markert Fall Hike

FLT Map M9

Map M9, northwest of Hornell, through the several nearly continuous state forests there, with both long and shorter hikes offered. Led by Scott Brooks, details in our next issue. ScottBrooks18@msn.com Should be great fall colors in an area noted for several great views, a couple attractive ponds and streams, and lots of rocks.



Answers to the Winter 2016 “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:



Jacqui Wensich

Akron Falls, Murder Creek, on Map CT9

New Picture:



Scott Geiger

Rock barrier in a popular hiking area.

Correct answers:

*Martin Ruzsaj Kirk Doyle
Whitney Ramsey*

Memorial Hiking Dog Shelter

Jacqui Wensich

We finally may have a site for the “doggie” shelter. Anyone wishing to remember or honor their hiking dogs may do so by contacting the FLT office. I will be personally contacting each of the current donors for specific information regarding their hiking doggie buddies. Donation is \$100.00. Your name and your dog’s name will be on a plaque inside the shelter. A bulletin board will be installed inside to post your photos when you visit. A dedication will be scheduled. 🍁

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

FLT Office: debbieh@fingerlakestrail.org,
585-658-9320

Who, me? Nope, I didn't go in the goldfish pond! (Mt. Morris Dam Visitor Center)

End-to-end hike almost completed, Christian Gravino and Simmi take a well deserved nap.



Jacqui Wensich



Sarah Gravino

Finger Lakes Trail 2017 Calendar of Events

April 1	Annual Trail Management Meeting, Canandaigua
April 29	Wally Wood Hike (pg. 41)
May 1	Deadline, <i>FLT News</i>
May 13	Board of Mangers Meeting, Heritage Village, Corning
June 3	National Trails Day Foothills' Founders Hike (pg. 13)
June 9-11	FLT Spring Weekend, Triple Cities Community College, Dryden
June 24	"Many on the Genny" 40-mile ultramarathon running both sides of Letchworth gorge
July 29.....	Sidote Hike, (pg. 41)
August 1	Deadline, <i>FLT News</i>
Sept. 1 - Oct. 1	Fall Weekend, Chautaugua
October 14.....	Erv Markert Hike (pg. 41)
November 1.....	Deadline, <i>FLT News</i>

FINGER LAKES TRAIL CONFERENCE

STAFF

Quinn Wright, Executive Director

• Buffalo • 716/826-1939 • qwright@fingerlakestrail.org

Debbie Hunt

• 585/658-9320 • debbieh@fingerlakestrail.org

Joe Caputo

• 585/658-9320 • joecaputo@fingerlakestrail.org

OFFICERS

Pat Monahan, President

• Corning • 607/936-8312 • pmonahan@stny.rr.com

Linda Hopkins, Treasurer

• Mt. Morris • 585/278-7456 • lhop1959@yahoo.com

David Newman, VP Trail Preservation

• Honeoye Falls • 585/582-2725 • danewman@rochester.rr.com

Paul Warrender, VP Trail Maintenance

• 401/439-8285 • 607hikingtrails@gmail.com

Lynda Rummel, VP Trail Quality

• Keuka Park • ljrassoc@roadrunner.com

Mike Granger, VP Crews and Construction

• mikegra@gmail.com

Charles Schutt II, VP Finance

• cmschutt@buffalo.edu

Greg Farnham, VP of Mapping

• FLTCmapping@outlook.com

Roy Dando, Secretary

• Endwell • 607/785-3141 • rdando@frontier.com

BOARD OF MANAGERS

Terms Expiring 2017

Donna Flood • Clarence

• 716/759-6442 • dmflood@roadrunner.com

Michael Ogden • Baldwinsville

• 315/418-0083 • mogden1@twcny.rr.com

Debra Nero • Ithaca

• 607/227-7957 • dn13@cornell.edu

Sigi Schwinge • East Syracuse

• 315/437-6906 • sigischwinge@aol.com

Wendy Stevenson • Springwater

• 585/669-9953 • wsteven@frontiernet.net

Terms Expiring 2018

Scott Brooks • Rochester

• 585/571-4141 • scottbrooks18@msn.com

Anna Keeton • Ithaca

• 607/351-3466 • annak@twcny.rr.com

Bob Kremens • Pittsford

• 585/248-5834 • kremens@cis.rit.edu

Terry Meacham • Hornell

• 607/324-0374 • tjmeach150@yahoo.com

Laurie Ondrejka • Avon

• 585/727-6495 • laurie.ondrejka@sungardhe.com

Terms Expiring 2019

Kirk Doyle • Hamburg

• 716/627-4199 • kirkdoyle84@yahoo.com

Roger Hopkins • Lansing

• 607/257-9778 • roger@naturalhighs.net

David Tuttle • Pittsford

• david_tuttle@pittsfordtrafficandradar.biz



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

Finger Lakes Trail Conference, Inc.
6111 Visitor Center Road
Mt. Morris, NY 14510

Tom Reimers has caught many pictures of the active beaver at the Roy Park Preserve,
a Finger Lakes Land Trust property near Dryden.

