

Finger Lakes Trail NEWS

Summer 2017



Inside...

- * Exciting trail preservation news inside.
- * Program for fall weekend at Chautauqua Lake
- * A new shelter in Bully Hill State Forest

SUMMER 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

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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

Georgeanne Vyverberg

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COVER: New routed destination sign at the northwest corner of our Cobb property, to replace the original oak which was rotting. Dave Potzler kindly made these this winter out of an incredibly hard Brazilian wood, and the new sponsor of Cobb's trails, Chris File, installed them. Would that everybody who has original destination signs cleaned and repainted them! They deserve the attention. Yes, that's a passport sign on the back of that post. Photo by Chris File

THIS PAGE: Emily Timbrook's gift to the hiking community. Photo by Tim Timbrook

President's Message

Pat Monahan

I don't know where time goes sometimes. I work part time at the Heritage Village of the Southern Finger Lakes and take great pleasure in organizing museum visits for thousands of children every year. I have been hiking on the FLT in my favorite spots, taking care of my less than a mile section on the Crystal Hills Trail and biking on some rail trails in the Corning area as well as a 40-mile bike ride through the 5 boroughs of New York City. I can't forget my quest to kayak the Susquehanna River one day trip at a time. If only there were a few more nice days in Upstate New York. Looking back, I guess I do know where the time goes. I am fortunate to have good health and time to get outside.

The FLT has been busy since our last issue. In our office, we have said goodbye to Joe Caputo who has left to enjoy more personal time. We welcome Erica Cole to the office. She will be assisting Debbie Hunt to take care of anyone who drops by or contacts the FLT. Erica will also be responsible for managing our database. Please welcome her when you drop by or call the office.

We have also worked closely with the Finger Lakes Land Trust in conserving a trail property in Tompkins County. (See "An FLT Gem for the Emerald Necklace" by Dave Newman.) The Board has recently been polled and concluded that as an organization, the FLT needs to be more than a maintenance club, so while we continue to build and maintain our trail very well, we are beginning to invest our resources in trail protection. We continue to ask for trail easements and land donations as the first steps to protect the trail forever. We have identified key parcels along the trail that are critical to keep the trail intact on the ground. The Board has identified other strategies to utilize to keep this as a top priority.

We also know that we must promote the trail. We have had limited success in this area because the task was just too large for any one person to manage. We are taking a fresh approach to break the task (membership and marketing) into smaller, more manageable pieces. Our Executive Director, Quinn Wright, will discuss this in more detail in his article.

The FLTC continues to grow and flourish. The Finance Committee and the Board have acted prudently on your behalf to be fiscally responsible. Now we must generate new and sustainable income to fund our mission with a full time executive director. This does not mean a 2018 dues increase.

I also would like to acknowledge outgoing Board members for their years of service. Thank you, Donna Flood, Mike Ogden, Deb Nero, Sigi Schwinge and Wendy Stevenson.

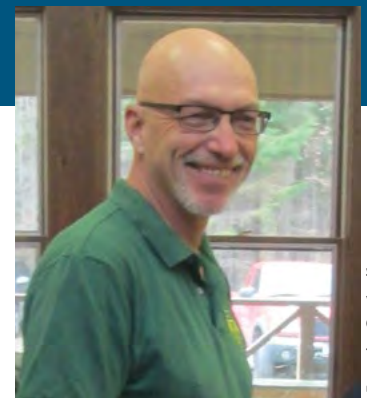
www.FingerLakesTrail.org

I appreciate your willingness to serve as leaders on the FLT Board. I also want to welcome our Class of 2020 with returning Board members, Donna Flood, Deb Nero, Mike Ogden and Wendy Stevenson, and new member Dave Newlun. Our Bylaws will be updated to remove the treasurer position as a Board officer. Our treasurer will continue to keep the books and write checks as has been done in the past.

Finally, we have maintained a positive relationship with our partner, North Country Trail Association (NCTA), for many years. For the last eight years as FLT President, I have worked closely with their Executive Director, Bruce Matthews, to deepen our partnership where the NCT shares the tread on the FLT. As Bruce retires from the NCTA, he will be missed. Everyone here at the FLT wishes him well in the future. We want to welcome Andrea Ketchmark, current NCTA Director of Trail Development, with a big New York shout out to her success as the new NCTA Executive Director starting at the end of July.

It is time for me to say it. Carve out some time.

"Go take a hike!!" 🍁



Laurie Ondrejka

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.)

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

Two Decades Later

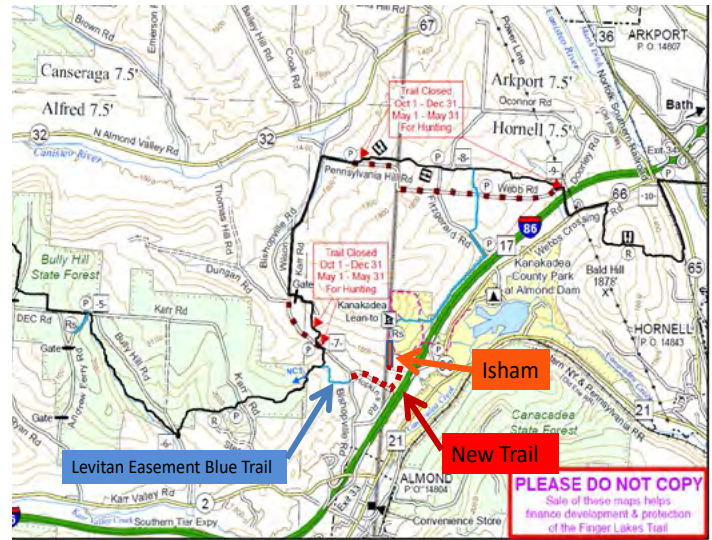
Story and Photos by Dave Newman

On May 13, 1997, Ron Navik, at the time Trails Chairman for the Genesee Valley Hiking Club, wrote Mrs. Lona McIntosh thanking her for permission to route the trail on her property near Steuben County's Kanakadea Park, while sharing the unfortunate news that the adjacent landowners had not allowed it. Ron wrote "I would therefore appreciate it if we could 'save' your permission..." for a future time. Mrs. McIntosh was probably a little surprised when I wrote her, 19 years later, enclosed a copy of Ron's old letter, and asked if we could still take her up on the permission. But she promptly said "yes."

So with new adjacent landowners, we tried again. And this time they not only said "yes" to the trail, but as was reported in the last *FLT News*, Mr. Lawrence Isham did more than just allow the trail, he actually donated the entire property to us.

This was great news indeed, one property we own, and one that we have permission to cross. The long sought "link" from Steuben County's Kanakadea Park south and west to connect toward Bully Hill State Forest was now in hand. But you'll note, it wasn't permanently protected. For that we needed an easement from Mrs. McIntosh. Plus, while the donated property from Mr. Isham certainly enabled the trail, it isn't the Board's policy to accumulate a collection of properties. In this case, we were able to turn it into a "win-WIN-WIN" for all parties. FLTC did a swap with Mrs. McIntosh. She got the 8.4 acre landlocked former Isham property, which is adjacent to hers, and FLTC got a permanent easement across that parcel and the McIntosh property,

guaranteeing pedestrian access from Kanakadea Park to McIntosh and Hopkins Road. Mr. Isham got rid of a parcel he no longer needed, supported a good cause (the trail), and can claim a tax deduction. The public gets a permanent connection to a County Park and the trail gets a new route.



The route from Kanakadea to McIntosh road, on the McIntosh property, crosses a pretty stream and then climbs an exceptionally steep slope. We could build a trail there, but it would take switchbacks and possibly even stairs. The easement provides for it, and that is an option we will have if needed. But the story gets even better. The other neighbor adjacent to Mrs. McIntosh, Mr. Reginald Sutfin, has given us permission to walk east along the stream on his property and cross to the McIntosh parcel at a point where the slope is much more moderate.

Once on McIntosh and Hopkins Roads, it is a short and lightly trafficked road walk to connect to the recently donated Levitan blue trail easement (*FLT News* Winter 2016) leading to Bully Hill State Forest. Regional Trail Coordinator Peter Wybron has scheduled an ADK-Genesee Valley work crew to construct the new trail across the McIntosh property, starting on June 3rd, National Trails Day. A new release of map M9 will be your clue that it is open for you to explore. It took only 20 some years! 🍁

► Lona McIntosh's father had a house at this corner, and he gave her the property where now we'll walk.

◄ The new trail will come from behind the photographer, travel the right side of the stream, and then climb up to the right toward the county property. We'll monitor the stream to see if a bridge will be needed.



Executive Director Report

Quinn Wright

The mission of the Finger Lakes Trail Conference is “to build, protect, enhance, and promote a continuous footpath across New York State. Forever!” The FLTC, thanks to its hundreds of volunteers, has built a world class hiking trail and annually works at upgrading and enhancing that system. We have maintained a consistent effort to protect the trail and have made steady progress over the years thanks to wonderful landowners who treasure the trail as much as the hikers who use it. However, as an organization the FLTC has not effectively lived up to the “promotion” part of the mission. We are starting to make progress, but much remains to be done.

I have spent many hours developing and presenting a Power Point regarding the economic impact of the FLT system on the New York State economy; a brief overview of that was presented in the last issue of the *FLT News*. I have presented the report to every affiliate club, several NYS Tourism boards and the NYS Trails Council in Albany. In every case the report has been very positively received. A new national study has just been released, so I will revise the Power Point as needed. The data is very useful as an advocacy tool and I will be using it repeatedly. I cannot encourage all of you enough to inform your friends and neighbors about the enormous benefit of the trails. This data is the single most important tool you have in the effort to promote the FLT as an asset to New York State and the communities through which the FLT passes. The next major component to making and keeping the FLT relevant is to promote the trail to potential trail users in order to increase our member and donor base.

Over the last decade, our membership has floated around 1200 to 1400 people. Historically the FLTC has focused on hikers only and annually holds a few celebratory hikes or weekends. ***There is a wide array of trail users which we have not courted to become active members and we simply MUST do so.*** There are nearly 3.5 million people who use unpaved trails in New York. The FLTC should be looking to promote itself to these users. We have had a vacancy for the VP of Marketing and Membership for many years and the function has had no real definition or structure. There have been a few people in the position, but the task is too immense without a detailed structure and focus. Therefore, I have developed a preliminary structure which is in the “Help Wanted” section on page 10. I believe most of these tasks will not impact anyone’s generous donation of time and energy too heavily. There are 58 support functions within this Membership and Marketing Organization Chart; 28 of those positions have been filled so far and I have put the names of the people who have stepped up to help in the chart. It is obvious that there is still a need for 30 more people to assist in the Membership and Marketing area. I am pleading to you to offer to help whether you have the desired expertise or are willing to learn on the job. ***ANY effort is better than NO effort.*** Please look at the tasks that have no person looking after them and offer to help.

Any organization withers without an influx of new members and a knowledgeable and appreciative public. We have begun

working on advocacy directed toward our elected officials, but before the FLTC focuses on that aspect of promotion, we must implement a membership and marketing effort aimed at ***increasing our membership to a minimum of 2000 members in the next 10 years.*** That can happen only by cultivating relationships with other trail users in addition to hikers. 🍁



Irene Szabo



Debbie Hunt

And while we're thanking volunteers, did you ever consider how all those pieces of paper get into your annual renewal envelope? A bunch of cheerful slaves gathers in the office to fold, stuff, collate, etc., all those pages that office staff had already printed out by the thousands beforehand. Ewww. Is that snow out the window?



Debbie Hunt

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

FLT / Boy Scouts of America "Outreach"

Larry Blumberg, FLT / Boy Scout "Outreach" coordinator

The FLT organization has a long-standing relationship with the Boy Scouts and other similar youth organizations.

Scouts are out hiking and backpacking on the trail, a few Scout Troops maintain sections of FLT across the state, and countless numbers of Eagle Scout Service Projects have been undertaken on the FLT, from building bridges and lean-tos to constructing trail improvements and relocations!

I've recently been asked by the FLT Board to take a look at ways to continue to strengthen our relationship with the Boy Scouts.

The Boy Scouts are divided up across the state into "Councils," nine of which the FLT network (main trail and branch trails) touches. At the end of this article you will find a list of these nine Councils, their office addresses, and websites.

We are looking to form a team of folks willing to serve as liaisons between the FLT organization and each of these Council Offices. Ideally those who live close to the Council Offices will be willing to volunteer, as it's important for the liaisons to make and stay in contact with their Council Office.

While each of the nine Council offices now receives this magazine, here are some additional activities we'd like for the liaisons to pursue with their Council office:

- Maintain a steady supply of promotional FLT "rack cards" and other such literature in each office. Arrangements will be made to keep you supplied with the "rack cards" and other FLT promotional literature; also they are easily obtained from the FLT office in Mt Morris, from FLT Board members, and at FLT weekend outings and other events.
- Provide information and articles about hiking / camping / backpacking on the FLT for posting in the Council's print and electronic publications.
- Offer to provide talks and presentations about the FLT at Scout leader meetings. Councils are sub-divided into smaller "Districts;" typically each District conducts monthly meetings for their Scout leaders. Presentations are available for you to draw upon.
- Promote the opportunity for FLT service projects by connecting Scout leaders with local trail maintainers.

So, if you are interested in volunteering and/or learning more about becoming an FLT / Boy Scout Council liaison, please contact me, I look forward to hearing from you! 🍁

Contact: Larry Blumberg
607/797-0912
LBlumberg@stny.rr.com



Bill Miller

Scouts from Troop 4 in Ithaca, winter camping at the Foxfire Lean-to on Map M19.

1) Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, & Allegany Counties, NY / McKean & Potter Counties, Pa:

Liaison - open

*Allegheny Highlands Council - <http://alleghenyhighlands.org/>
50 Hough Hill Rd, P.O. BOX 261
Falconer NY 14733-0261
Phone: (716) 665-2697*

2) Erie County and the western third of Niagara County:

Liaison - open

*Greater Niagara Frontier Council - <http://www.wnyscouting.org/>
2860 Genesee Street
Buffalo NY 14225
Phone: (716) 891-4073*

3) Eastern Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, Livingston, Wyoming Counties:

Liaison - open

*Iroquois Trails Council - <http://itcbsa.org/Joomla/>
201 East Main Street
Batavia NY 14020
Phone: (585) 343-0307*

4) Counties of Ontario, Wayne, Seneca, Yates, and Monroe and the City of Rochester:

Liaison - open

*Seneca Waterways Council - <https://www.senecawaterways.org/>
2320 Brighton-Henrietta Town Line Rd
Rochester NY 14623
Phone: (585) 244-4210*

5) Eastern Allegany, Chemung, southern Livingston, Schuyler, Steuben, and western Tioga counties in NY / Bradford, Lycoming, Sullivan, and Tioga counties in Pa:

Liaison - Paul Good

*Five Rivers Council - <http://www.fiverivers.org/>
3300 Chambers Road Suite 5190, Arnot Mall
Horseheads NY 14845
Phone: (607) 796-0699*

6) Broome, Chenango, Cortland, Tioga, Tompkins, and part of Seneca counties in NY / Susquehanna County in Pa:

Liaison - Larry Blumberg

*Baden-Powell Council - <http://bpcouncil.org/>
2150 NYS Rte 12
Binghamton NY 13901
Phone: (607) 648-7888*

7) Onondaga, Cayuga, St. Lawrence, Oswego, Jefferson, and Lewis Counties:

Liaison - Dave Grant

*Longhouse Council - <http://www.cnyscouts.org/>
2803 Brewerton Road
Syracuse NY 13211
Phone: (315) 463-0201*

8) Delaware, Herkimer, Madison, Oneida, Otsego and Schoharie Counties:

Liaison - open

*Leatherstocking Council-
<https://www.leatherstockingcouncil.org/>
1401 Genesee St
Utica NY 13501
Phone: (315) 735-4437*

*Satellite Office - 6134 State Rte 23
Oneonta NY 13820
Phone: (607) 432-6491*

9) Ulster and Greene Counties:

Liaison - open

*Rip Van Winkle Council - <https://www.rvwbsa.org/>
1300 Ulster Ave, Ste 107
Kingston NY 12401-4937
Phone: (845) 339-0846*



Bill Miller

Heading home from the Woodchuck Hollow Lean-to, FLT Map M20

Gift In Honor of

Irene Szabo

from

Anonymous

Gift In Memory of

Timber the dog

from

Kevin Armstrong

Gifts In Memory of

Margaret "Peg" Markham

from

*Dorothy Cullen
Calvin DeGolyer
Cynthia Engle
Ronald Fleury
Charles Hart
Eric Helsabeck
William B. Joint
Alan Klossner
Ron Klossner
John Lanphere
Linda Macklin
Barbara Miller
Donna Noteware
George Ruppel
Brian Sears
Rosemarie Weathers
The Chas. C. Hart Seed Co.*

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

End-to-End Update

Jacqui Wensich, End-to-End Coordinator

Main Trail:

#427 John "Grizzly" Volt, S. Weber, Utah, and #428 Paul Hulet, Ogden, Utah, have just finished in the beginning of May.

Updates:

The following hikers have declared their intention of hiking (or continuing to hike) the main trail:

Michelle Johnson, Scott Geiger, David DeLeon, Cristopher Luley of Naples, Carole Tota, Bevin Thousand of Syracuse with her dog, Thomi McIntyre of Groton with his son and dog, Kim Hrycik and Shannon Grimes, Tonawanda, Penna., and Steve Strosnider (Trail name: "Skunk"), Ohio.

(Tyler Reiser and dog Maverick, Sebastian Marra, Michael Mahoney, and Lindsey Klinge may have finished thru hiking the main trail.)

Comments:

Thanks to the hikers who have posted on Facebook, hiking journals and blogs with photos.

From Tom McGraw, Luke Lagoy and dog Jimmy:

"We hiked 23.6 miles on the Letchworth L1 & L2 trail. Trail conditions were surprisingly dry since it just rained hard the day before we left. There were a few wet areas but nothing major. Weather was dry with Saturday night lows to 34 degrees. Only saw one other backpacker with her dog and a couple of day hikers. A big thanks to Irene for car spotting us!"

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.

A Car Spotter Thank You from Angela Burt:

I started hiking the Conservation Trail back in November. I have met some very wonderful people along the way. I want you to know about them. I heard about your trail angel system through the grapevine ... hiking with a group of people a while back and someone had mentioned it. I live in Canada so I can't even begin to tell you how appreciated this system is. My first angel was

Shari. She is with Foothills Club. What a delight she is. Not only was she our first trail angel ... she was our trail angel for the first FOUR hikes!!! I couldn't believe her generosity. She helped us do the first four maps (actually we are doing the trail backward so she was our angel for Maps CT12, CT11, CT10 and CT9). She took such good care of us. We still try to get together with her for a cup of coffee before heading home.

At this point the distance was becoming too far to drive for only a day. We had to change our schedule to once a month weekend hikes. Our second trail angel was David Wittmann. He was leading a snowshoe hike so we joined in. David went out of his way to accommodate us. He knew we were trying to complete the map and took us just a bit further to a good parking area so we would have a good start point for the following hike. It was really nice to meet some fellow Conservation Hikers!!

When that hike ended that morning, two more unexpected angels stepped forward. You see, we were planning on hiking the other half of that map in the afternoon. Marty and Donna car tagged with us to the very spot David had earlier hiked us to. Unbelievable!!!

Dave Potlzer came through for us twice, on a Sunday and then again Tuesday. Ken Shaw was there for us on the Monday; he was an hour away but insisted that he was going to be in the neighborhood anyway and would be more than happy to help us out.

Jacqui, the kindness of these people is truly overwhelming. There is no way we would be able to do this trail without them. I really think they don't realize how much they did for us and how much it means to us. We have no way to repay their kindness. The only thing Shari asked was that we become a member of the Foothills

Trail Club, which I did. All I can hope to do is pay this kindness forward. If anyone is ever on this side of the border hiking the Bruce Trail and needs an angel ...



Dave Burt

Angela with spotter Dave Potlzer

Easter weekend hike: Dave Potlzer agreed to be our angel again for Friday. We met him Friday morning at 9 a.m. and hiked all of Map CT4. It was a great day for hiking and we actually had fun splashing through a stream near the end of the map. Saturday morning we met Dave Rothrock (I swear all male trail angels are named David!) to begin Map CT3 and immediately got lost. Don't tell Dave that. There was one small area (Access 7-8) with a very long reroute that was closed due to hunting ... just our luck that we were hiking the very first day of the closure...missed it by one day!! Sunday brought us another new trail angel. Joyce Ermer and her husband Mike were our miracle workers this time...She actually gave me her map! She said she had another one at home. Going by her map we saved 3.2 miles! (*Always check the trail conditions and the most current map before you hike! Jacqui*) Our next hike will be in May. Another Canadian long weekend. We weren't able to meet up with Shari this time, so I look forward to a visit with her in May and with any luck, meeting a couple more trail angels!

Car Spotter:

Car spotting is a great assistance for hikers, so accepting the offered gas money gives hikers a way to thank you back. Hikers, remember to take a photo of your car spotter and send it to me. We love to recognize our spotters.

Your assistance is vital to many hikers. *HIKERS-please join the Finger Lakes Trail Conference and if possible a local club. This is a definite way to support the trails that you hike.*

While we always need car spotters, we are in MOST need for who live near maps 1-5 and 28-33 and on the Crystal Hills Branch 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 below.)

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

Scott Geiger Accepts the Job of Webmaster

Longtime webmaster Roger Hopkins has wanted to retire, so we are happy that Scott has accepted this big job, especially as we are on the verge of presenting a newly designed website to the world. By way of introduction, Scott describes his involvement since discovering the trail.

I discovered the Finger Lakes Trail in 2010 and began hiking east on the trail. On September 14, 2014 I reached the eastern terminus of the FLT. I typically hike once per month. My hikes are "out-and-back" hikes of approximately 17 miles. In 2015 I began writing about my hikes and sharing the stories and photos with others on my own blog website. As of April 2017 I have hiked 70% of the main trail.

I work at Binghamton University in the IT department as a Team Leader and Senior Developer. My job involves integration of vendor applications with other systems as well as the creation

of web-based applications. I built my first website in 1995 and continue to design and host websites today as a small side project.

I began assisting the FLTC as part of the social media group in 2014. The group helps promote the FLT on the social media platforms of Facebook and Instagram. I took over leading the group the following year. 🍁



Tim Oselein

Join the FLT Yahoo Groups E-Mail List

The Finger Lakes Trail Conference's e-mail list is a discussion group hosted by yahoogroups.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@yahoogroups.com and follow the instructions for subscribing. If you have any problems or questions, contact one of the co-moderators.

Help Wanted

Quinn Wright

Before I discuss what else is still needed, I want to thank the people who have stepped forward to fill management positions, one of whom is Scott Geiger as Webmaster. While we still have no overall Marketing and Membership Vice President, many have stepped up to handle a host of support jobs and they are shown on the Membership and Marketing Organization Chart which follows. We thank them! Finally, Paul Warrender has indicated that his employment situation requires much more of his time so he cannot honor the time commitment that the VP of Trail Maintenance requires. Here are the positions for which we need a volunteer with specific skills:

JOB OPENINGS

Secretary:

After nine years as Secretary, Roy Dando is retiring both from his teaching position and his position on the FLTC Board of Managers. He has indicated that after a couple of years he would be willing to return to the position if needed. That being said, we need a replacement for at least two years, but certainly for longer if you want to stay in the position. There are four Board meetings, March, May, June and September that occur around the state; in addition, there is a weekend Board of Managers' retreat in November that culminates with the fifth Board meeting on Sunday morning. Below are the position expectations.

1. Record the minutes of meetings of the Board and the annual business meeting, and present the written record of the minutes of the previous meeting for approval.
2. Keep a record of attendance of Board members at Board meetings and of FLTC members at annual meetings or other regular or special meetings of the FLTC, to determine if a quorum is present.

Director of Crews and Construction:

1. Coordinates Alley Cat projects, special work weekends, and other special construction or building projects.
2. Ensures arrangements for projects are complete.
3. Oversees new trail construction in coordination with others.
4. Provides or arranges for required training for projects, in coordination with Vice President of Trail Quality.
5. Responsible for ensuring financial needs for projects are met with grants, Challenge Cost Share applications, etc.
6. Provides quarterly information for *FLT News* article.

7. Reports to Vice president of Trail Maintenance.
8. Participates on the Trail Management Team.
9. Attends Board meetings, as necessary, as a non-voting member.
10. Does NOT have to participate in every project; just needs to be sure each is staffed and arranged.

Vice President of Trail Maintenance:

After many years Steve Catherman has stepped down from this critical position, and Paul Warrender had to step aside. There are four Board meetings, March, May, June, and September that occur around the state; in addition, there is a weekend Board of Managers' retreat in November that culminates with the fifth Board meeting on Sunday morning. Below are the position expectations.

1. Supervises all trail segment adoptions by sponsors, ensuring 100% coverage of the trail, including administration through Regional Trail Coordinators. Assures appropriate and adequate response to trail conditions by notifying Regional Coordinators first and providing assistance to them as needed.
2. Responsible for relationships with public agencies and partners.
3. Assures that trail management Regional Coordinators, directors and Vice Presidents are informed about trail changes.
4. Keeps FLTC Service Center up to date with trail sponsor and landowner changes.
5. Coordinates efforts to move trail off of roads.
6. Provides quarterly information for the *FLT News* trail article.
7. Recommend to the Board those members eligible for Class I membership on the basis of trail sponsorship.
8. Coordinates funding needs with Director of Crews and Construction.
9. Participates as a member of the Trail Management Team.
10. Attends Board meetings as a voting member.

We are also still looking for the following support people.

1. **Assistant to VP of Trail Maintenance** - communication and organization skills, along with trail maintenance experience.
2. **Assistant to VP of Trail Quality** – same skills as above, including trail building experience
3. **Assistant to Director of Crews and Construction**
 - A. Communication and organization skills
 - B. Facility and trail construction expertise
4. **Vice President - Membership and Marketing** (Board of Managers position) - This person's sole responsibility will be to oversee the work of the marketing and sales managers and the membership director.
 - A. Communication and organization skills
 - B. Marketing experience and skills
5. **Membership 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. This person will oversee the current program of named hikes, the Spring and Fall Conference weekends, the County Hike Series. In addition this person will oversee and develop all new fundraising events that revolve around hiking.
 - A. Communication and organization skills
 - B. Participation in hiking groups – optional, but preferred
6. **Membership 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
7. **Membership Director Assistants – Nature Appreciation** – Develop relationships and create events that address the following areas: **birding, flora, fauna, geology, photography, views.**
 - A. Communication and organization skills
 - B. Participation in the specific area groups – optional, but preferred
8. **Membership Director – Boy Scouts assistants** – Currently there are two assistants. We need more – see Larry Blumberg's article.
 - A. Communication and organization skills

9. **Membership Director – Girl Scouts and assistants**
– Currently there are three assistants. We need a leader for this Directorship who will work directly with the Director for Outdoor Programs of the NYPENN Pathways which covers all of New York.
 - A. Communication and organization skills
10. **Marketing Director** This person will oversee the following marketing functions: Community Outreach, the retail store, business partner relations, and E-commerce
 - A. Retail sales skills
 - B. Internet sales skills
 - C. Organization skills
 - D. Business plan development skills
11. **Store Manager** – This person will manage sales that are made at events and on the website
 - A. Retail sales skills
 - B. Organization skills
12. **Business Partners Manager** – This person will manage sales that are made at events and on the website
 - A. Communication and organization skills
13. **Communication Director** – This person will oversee all facets of the FLTC communications: website, Yahoo Group, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, FLTC News, Publicity and Affiliate Relations in order to ensure a uniform and consistent message regarding the FLTC and its mission is delivered through all communication media.
 - A. Communication and organization skills
14. **Communication assistant – Affiliate Relations** – 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.
 - A. Communication and organization skills
 - B. Participation in hiking groups – optional, but preferred
15. **Communication assistant – Publicity** – This person will be responsible for crafting and delivering all publicity to written, spoken, or visual communications regarding the FLTC.
 - A. Verbal public communication skills
 - B. Written communication skills

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

See chart on page 29...

New Bully Hill Shelter

Story and Photos by Tim Timbrook

It was way back in October of 1969 that the founding president of the FLTC, Wally Wood, met with DEC foresters to seek permission for a bivouac site in the Bully Hill State Forest. Eventually a remote site was approved east of access 4 on Map M9 in Allegany County. The location chosen was on a knoll overlooking the confluence of two deeply cut ravines with crystal clear creeks providing a reliable water source.

It wasn't until 1976 that Harry Clar, Trails Chairman of the Genesee Valley Hiking Club, initiated discussions for the construction of a lean-to. Approval was given to build an Adirondack style lean-to based on a standard DEC design. While the privy was finally constructed in late 1977, for reasons unknown the actual lean-to never came to fruition.

The story of the successful completion of this lean-to some 40 plus years later at this site is a bit circuitous, involving my family and an unfortunate tragic event that ultimately provided the motivation for this project. My wife Barb and our four children had many memorable family vacations camping and hiking. Favorite destinations included the Adirondacks as well as the local gems we have here in western N.Y. While our boys were busy in Scouts with FLT hikes and eventual Eagle projects on the trail, our daughter Emily's outdoor spirit came alive at summer camp at DEC Camp Rushford. The New York State Association of Transportation Engineers (NYSATE) sponsored Emily for her first year of camp. She returned each year proclaiming herself the head volunteer and her passion for the outdoors was leading her toward a career related to the environment.

Tragedy struck days after her 17th birthday when Emily succumbed to injuries from a horrific car accident. The journey through grieving the loss of a child is long and arduous. As an outlet to cope and heal, I decided to construct a lean-to on our own property with local trees and materials. (She had engrained recycle, reuse and reduce in all of us.) She loved the lean-to experience from our Adirondack high peak hikes and insisted that her older brother sleep perpendicular across the front to be used as bear bait.

Then Vice-President of Trail Maintenance Steve Catherman caught wind of my lean-to and asked if I would be willing to build another one at the Bully Hill site. My answer was yes, but not until I retire. Well retirement came and eventually I was harvesting spruce and fir logs from our woods to construct the lean-to in my side yard for eventual deconstruction and transport to Bully Hill. In the fall of 2016 we met at the site with forester Ron Abraham from the DEC. Trail Maintainer Dave Newman was able to dig up a copy of the 1977 DEC temporary revocable permit for this




Supplied by family

Emily Timbrook. The necklace is from DEC summer camp, with each bead representing various environmental tenets.

site and Ron agreed it was still valid and the project could move forward. Staying true to the original approval plan, I built the lean-to based on plans I obtained from the Adirondack Museum. The DEC plans were actually derived from a 1936 plan by the Civilian Conservation Corps!

With the assistance of fellow retired engineer Paul McAnany, the lean-to was ready for transport by early April. Thanks to those great engineers from NYSATE the logs made the precarious trip down the hill, across the ravine, and back up to the site in short order over a couple of weekends. (The black flies would not allow us to sit and take a break.) A special shout out to Lynda Rummel's specially designed log wheels that made transport so much easier! It took over 400 volunteer hours to see this lean-to through completion and every one of those 24,000 minutes was worth it.

Access to the completed lean-to can be made from either Bush Road to the west or Mike Dixon Road to the east and is shown as a bivouac site on the current Map M9. 



Brian Kelly on the left, Tom Markel on the right, lugging tagged logs in to the site.



◀ On the left is Paul McAnany, on the right is Doug Taggart. They are using Lynda's amazing log wheel set.

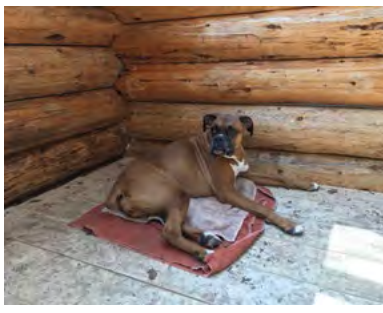


▶ Hey, that's a picture of me working on the flooring.

Paul McAnany

▶ This lean-to is Emily's gift to the hiking community.

▼ Chloe was the first to nap in the new lean-to. Chloe is not much help; in fact she hoards tools



◀ Midway progress. Note the color coded number tags on each log.

▶ My sons, Michael on the left, Andy on the right traveled in from Rochester and Albany respectively to help out.



A Naturalist's View

Story and Photos by D. Randy Weidner

The bedrock, over which runs most of our Finger Lakes Trail, was laid down very gradually over 300 million years ago, when the great Acadian Mountains, once higher than today's Himalayas, slowly eroded to the west. Also around that ancient time, a significant development arose among living things. Up until then, plant life outside the oceans must have been very restricted in size, rising no higher than a moss. Size was limited by the ability of water to reach all the plant tissues, moving only by osmosis from cell to cell. Then somewhere, a plant evolved a very special tubular cell called a tracheid. This allowed water to move up in a plant by capillary action, then ultimately by transpiration (evaporation out the top of a plant, pulling water up through its vascular tubules), the way water moves in all modern plants. This first group of "vascular plants" is called pteridophytes, the ferns and their allies. Physical conditions on earth were tougher for life in those times, average temperatures a bit warmer than today, but oxygen levels 5-6% lower. Nevertheless, these early ferns may have reached 5 feet in height.

Over the next 100 million years or so, physical conditions for plant growth improved, in no small part influenced by those earliest land plants photosynthesizing and cranking out oxygen. By 200 million years ago it had become much warmer with average global temperatures of 74 degrees F (64% warmer than the present), because carbon dioxide levels were 50 times those of today (think big time global warming). Oxygen levels increased to very near present levels. The pteridophytes flourished and differentiated into four major groups: horsetails, clubmosses, true ferns, and seed ferns. Some of these plants grew to 100 feet tall and 5 feet in diameter. As generations of these ancient ferns died, they accumulated and were compressed into earth's coal deposits and fossil fuels. While seed ferns have all gone extinct, you can still readily find surviving members of the other three major groups of pteridophytes along our Finger Lakes Trail.

Horsetails are tubular, upright stems divided by occasional fringed nodes, looking overall like little bamboo stems. Some have stringy branched structures growing out radially from their nodes. Both main stems and branches photosynthesize. There are similar perennial underground parts which are long-lived. Seldom do our horsetails reach over three feet high. Horsetails prefer loose, sandy, wet soils and are often found along creeks. Cutting across a stem may reveal an intricate arrangement of air chambers.



Horsetail fern

Crushing the horsetail tissue between your fingers generates a gritty feel, the result of silica particles in the tissue. This factor accounts for their other common name, Scouring Rush, because these abrasive stems can be used to clean a pot!

Clubmosses are usually shining green, delicately branching, and a delight to behold, looking all the world like a miniature pine or spruce tree. All have small, ovate, pointy leaves that come directly off their main stem and branches. Sometimes the leaves stand out, but more often they lie compressed against the stem, almost scale-like. Clubmosses are perennial evergreen plants that spread by emerging from their underground



Tree Clubmoss

roots, a mode of propagation termed "running" or sometimes "leaping." An alternative means of reproduction is by spores produced on special structures (the clubs), often tan-colored, arising from the vegetative tips. All of our clubmosses are in the genus *Lycopodium*, and commonly encountered ones are: Shining Clubmoss (*L. lucidulum*); Tree Clubmoss (*L. obscurum*); Ground Cedar or Ground Pine (*L. tristachium*); and Running Pine (*L. complanatum*), also known as Christmas Green because its evergreen, tangled, running growth lends itself to wreath making. Unfortunately, this practice is destructive to this increasingly rare plant, which is now protected in New York.

True Ferns are represented by many genera. Their diversity makes it relatively easy to recognize the common ones. In identifying ferns, most guides rely on the general growth form. Some have unique forms, like the spiraling



Polypody fern

stem (also called axis or rachis) of Maidenhair Fern (*Adiantum pedatum*). Maidenhair Ferns are always a fortunate find in damp, shaded, limey soils of deep woods and ravines. A few true ferns are termed "once-divided" because the leaflet (or pinna) comes right off the axis of the fern frond. Christmas Fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*) and Polypody Fern (*Polypodium vulgare*) are excellent examples of once-divided ferns. Look for Polypodys

around the base of shady conifers in rich slightly acidic soil. Another large group are the twice-divided ferns, characterized by leaflets off the main axis, that then have subleaflets (or pinnulets) coming off the leaflets.



This arrangement results in the typical lacy appearance associated with ferns. Examples of twice-divide ferns are found almost everywhere and include the Woodferns (*Dryopteris* sps.

Bracken Fern

and varieties), Ostrich Fern (*Matteucia struthiopteris*), the source of edible fiddleheads, New York Fern (*Thelypteris noveboracensis*) and Royal Fern (*Osmunda regalis*). Differentiating these requires notation of any scales on the axis, frond color, general form of the frond, and whether they are grouped or not. Some have very specific habitats, for example the Royal Fern, living in bogs like the Huckleberry Bog on the Bristol Branch of the Finger Lakes Trail. Lastly are thrice-divided ferns with a main ground stalk, off of which come three leaflets with their own array of subleaflets. The large, very common Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) is the classic thrice-divided fern, but also look for the smaller, delicate, rarer Oak Fern (*Gymnocarpium dryopteris*).

True ferns reproduce by spores that arise from structures called fruit dots (sori). Very often the brown sori are on the underside of mature leaflets, and can appear round, linear, crescent-shaped, or some other distinctive shape. In some species, like the twice-divided Cinnamon Fern (*Osmunda cinnomomea*), a separate stalk is formed that contains the spore-forming tissue. Uniquely in Interrupted Fern (*Osmunda claytoniana*), a few leaflets in the middle of a vegetative frond are dedicated to spore production. These sori are also quite useful in fern identification. Good field



Sori on the underside of polypody fern

Cinnamon Fern



Cinnamon Fern

guides are *Peterson Field Guides - Ferns* or the handy little booklet *Fern Finder*.

Present day pteridophytes are much diminished physically compared to the Paleocene era, except for a tree fern on Norfolk Island off New Zealand which reaches 60 feet tall. The tallest modern fern in North America might reach 5 feet. Present day ferns are also diminished in diversity as well. Conifers and angiosperms now dominate our vegetation, in no small way thanks to their mycorrhizal associations with fungi, which ferns lack. In fact, when you see a forest with lush, dense ferns covering the ground and no understory trees, you are looking at an impoverished forest ecosystem. Usually it is deer that eat all the understory, allowing ferns, which deer must find distasteful, to dominate the herbaceous layer. The dense ferns further block light prohibiting

any seed germination. These once dominant pteridophytes, masters of the Paleocene forest, are now sadly reduced to inhabiting woodland slums. Much of nearby Pennsylvania forests feature these unbroken carpets of fern. 🍁



◀ Royal Ferns

▶ Interrupted Fern



◀ Maidenhair Fern

Trail Topics: Blowdown Wrangling - FLT Chainsaw Certification Training

Lynda Rummel, Vice President of Trail Quality and VP-East, NCTA

It's odd to start talking about training by discussing *advanced* training, but I have a picture to share, so this is where I'm starting. The challenge to you is to *Find George!* In the group photo of sawyers who completed (re)certification training in the early spring, which one is George? I'm sure he thought I wouldn't publish this picture, so this is sweet revenge. If you think you've found him, shoot me an email at: ljrassoc@roadrunner.com.

As most of you know, I'm sure, the trail is occasionally, perhaps frequently, impacted by high winds, flooding, and ice storms, which lead to trees falling across the trail, often in intricately tangled messes. Volunteers using hand saws, axes, and machetes could take care of these problems, but often don't have the time or a partner who knows how to pull the other end of a cross cut saw. So, if you don't mind a little bit of noise and the extra weight of hauling in gas and your personal protective gear, a chainsaw is the answer. Ahhh, but you can't just go out and start using your chainsaw on the trail, even though you learned from your dad (as I did) and have used your saw for over 20 years. First, you have to get certified!

The Finger Lakes Trail Conference's Chainsaw Policy says that anyone and everyone who is going to use a chainsaw on any trail in the FLT System must be certified. This applies whether the chainsaw user is working on public land or private. Certification is required by our land management agencies and knowing that our chainsaw operators are well trained serves an important reassurance to private landowners, so it's an important part of

good landowner relations. It's also required by the National Park Service for working on that part of the FLT which is also North Country National Scenic Trail.

But finding good chainsaw certification training is not always easy, and it's usually pretty expensive. So for a number of years now, your FLTC has stepped up and provided chainsaw certification training (your unrestricted donation dollars at work!). Early on, this training and the trainees' personal protective gear was paid for through federal Challenge Cost Share grants from the NPS. More recently, the FLTC has paid the cost of the course and UL-approved chaps, while the NPS has supplied helmets occasionally. Over the past dozen years, we've sponsored two chainsaw certification courses each year, to which we've invited our agency partners and the NCTA's Central NY Chapter to send participants. (The Finger Lakes National Forest and Soil and Water Conservation districts also provide some training, but participants must cover their own expenses.) The FLTC usually also arranges for free housing, which, although often Spartan, is at least dry, with indoor plumbing.

We've been extremely fortunate to have Bill Lindloff as our trainer for all these years. A former logger who first learned how to chainsaw from his father, Bill was an early convert to adapting the US Forest Service curriculum to the situations we maintainers typically encounter. Bill teaches us how to fell trees, but more of the time is spent on techniques and best practices for clearing through the kinds of tangled messes we maintainers often face.



Lynda Rummel

Bill's version of Soren Erikksen's "Game of Logging" instruction has been given the stamp of approval by the National Park Service and is (obviously) accepted by our NYS DEC foresters. A few years ago, Bill volunteered to cut down about 100 larch in a Sugar Hill SF plantation that the NYS DEC asked us to harvest. The trees were towering, each well over 90' tall. Of course Bill cut them all down without damaging any, and after being transported to member Mahlon Hurst's mill near Branchport for processing, they were converted into "kits" that have since been used to make three log lean-to's!

Modern chainsaw training is entirely different from what you would have experienced had you taken it a couple of decades ago. Today, instruction is usually a two-day affair, just to get the sawyer through the basics of personal protective gear (PPE), chainsaw

Front row, L to R: Don Sutherland, David Priester, JC Sawyer, Kenny Fellers, Nick Szatkowski.
Back row, L to R: Charles Stackhouse, George Schmit, Don Bergman, Bill Lindloff, Mike Granger.

maintenance and operation, bucking, limbing, and felling. Included are topics such as how to cut spring-poles (branches, limbs, or trees bent over by the weight of something else and held under tension, such that they may spring up or snap back if not cut correctly). We learn to read tension in a trunk or limb so as to cut without pinching the saw, or read the multiple and sometimes competing tensions in a tangled mess of limbs so as to release the tensions correctly and in the proper sequence, how to drop a tree that is hung up in the branches of another, how to fell a live tree versus how to fell a dead one, how and when to do top locks and bottom locks or a tongue-and-groove, execute a bore cut, or notch-buck, and how to do all of this safely and as efficiently as possible. Sound daunting? Well, it is, a little, but brothers and sisters, it's one heck of a great education about a lot more than simply using a chainsaw. One learns a lot about wood and a bit about different kinds of trees, how to read the presence of wood pests and rot, and how to recognize poison ivy by its roots. We get to know different kinds of saw (chain) teeth, how to sharpen each, and the usefulness of each, whether Tim Horton's coffee beats Dunkin' Donuts, or vice versa, and how to work with and appreciate your fellow volunteers as team mates. And with the support of your fellow participants and Bill's expert instruction, you do get through it!

Marty Howden, the FLTC's Regional Trail Coordinator for the Western part of the state, has served as Trail Quality's Chainsaw Training Coordinator for a decade, making arrangements for the course, keeping up with changes in agency or NPS standards, keeping the official records, helping update the FLT's Safety Manual, and re-certifying as a sawyer himself. Either Marty or I or both of us attend every chainsaw training weekend. It's always a good refresher, and we always learn something new; we get to meet the sawyers, and we always know what they have been taught. In sum, we can testify to the high quality of our course. And so I say to you, if you haven't tried it, come on! (Your only obligation is that you agree to work outside your home territory when asked and if you can.) Although we've trained close to 100 sawyers, some have aged out, some have gone to warmer climes, and some have taken up the cross-cut saw instead; so we need new recruits. I can personally guarantee that you will emerge from the course a more skilled and competent woods-person with a heightened appreciation for your fellow volunteers who do trail work. 🍁



Lynda Rummel

Game of Logging instructor Bill Lindloff, covered in sawdust and sweat after felling about 100 larch for lean-tos in 2011.

Contact: Lynda Rummel
315/536-9484
315/679-2906 (Jan-Mar)
ljrassoc@roadrunner.com

Trail Topics: New Leader for Crews and Construction

Mike Schlicht from the Foothills Trail Club and the Buffalo corner of the state has agreed to manage the Crews and Construction job, effective immediately. Not only have we needed a manager since Mike Granger had to step down, many who know his work are thrilled that Mike Schlicht has stepped up. During such challenging projects as the Holland Ravines rebuild on the Conservation Trail, he gained a reputation for good skills at both construction and management.

Mike himself said, "I look forward to being a part of a great team of people who work hard to make the FLTC such a wonderful trail system and helping you accomplish the projects that make this a reality. I have been working on trail projects for a long time working with the Sierra Club from NYC to the Colorado Rockies and the American Hiking Society on projects

from South Carolina to Alaska and all points in between. The key to the success of the projects I had an opportunity to participate in are the people who volunteer to plan and construct structures and trail to make the hiking experience memorable.

Please feel free to let me know what you need from me to ensure the success of the projects being planned for 2018 and I'll be contacting those of you who are already in place for this year's activities to support you as well. I understand that I have to get a budget prepared before August for the 2018 projects so I'll be working with you on this too." 🍁

Contact: Mike Schlicht
pageazi@yahoo.com

Trail Topics: Mapping Input

Greg Farnham, VP of Mapping

The SwL, InL, SpL and M19 maps were recently updated to reflect the relocation of a register on the trail that shows up on all 4 maps. The trail didn't change.

April 15 M21 was revised only to show a reroute at the east end of M20 - the M21 trail was not changed.

On March 15 the L1, L2, M06 and M07 maps were updated to reflect some re-routing at the junction of the Main Trail and the Letchworth Branch.

Reviewing the evolution of technology as it has affected our ability to create and maintain the FLTC maps has been much on my mind lately. While I don't get to walk our trail much any more, I can sit in my air conditioned house in Chandler, Arizona, and update maps. Of course this requires one of our excellent GPS volunteers to walk the new section of trail and carry a handheld GPS unit. Chains and wheels are no longer necessary. The hand held GPS unit records very accurately where it has been carried. The data stored in the GPS unit is then transferred onto a computer when the GPS unit is plugged into it. The data can be e-mailed to me and Jo Taylor for use in updating the maps. From there, we use a number of sophisticated software programs on the computer to update a map.

*Earlier days of map making for the Finger Lakes Trail
Reprinted from the Summer 2010 Finger Lakes Trail News*

MEASURING WHEELS, GPS AND CHAINS by Georgeanne Vyverberg

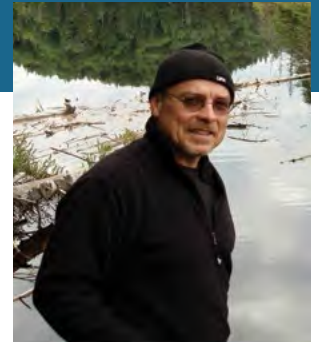
Heinz Altman was instrumental in building trail on the Bristol Hills Branch and in particular the section which goes through Camp Cutler near Naples. Recently he called me and asked if I wanted the measuring wheel that he built in order to measure that section and other trails on the Camp Cutler property. He wondered if there was any use that the FLT could have for it now with the advent of GPS measuring. While I was uncertain how to answer him I was certainly willing to take it. I had been aware of only one measuring wheel...the Erv Markert wheel which was in the possession of Irene Szabo.

Sometime back when I was trying to finish up my End to End in the late 1990s I was on one of those cross county series hikes and there was Irene pushing this funny wheel up and down hills for 10 miles or more with dogs in tow and carrying a backpack. Some of you may remember this as well. I should have taken photos. Several of us were part of what we liked to call "the nature

appreciative group" and acted as sweeps for the hikes. We were always the very last to get back to our vehicles but I do believe we had the most fun. Speed was never our priority and then there was the wheel. We sometimes took turns but if you know Irene she had rules about just how the wheel was managed and so did most of the measuring. Like me she was surprised to hear about Heinz and his wheel thinking she had the only one but of course now she has two.

So here is how the wheel works. There is a counter mounted on it which clicks for each revolution of the wheel. It counts backwards but that is okay since it's the number of revolutions that are counted. The person using it must take careful notes as to starting number, intermediate number at important trail places like the recording of a lookout or trail junction and ending number. Then the number of revolutions multiplied by the circumference of the wheel yields the number of feet which is then divided by 5280 feet resulting in the number of miles traversed. Remember in grade school when we were required to learn by heart things like feet per mile and wondered why in the world we would ever need to use such information?

Irene claims the one made by Erv Markert is more sophisticated mechanically but Heinz believes the one he made was easier to use on trails because the fat tire easily went over logs and rocks in the path. Still they both worked better than the ones used earlier that were made for measuring highways. Those wheels were always getting twigs and leaves in the spokes and would spin meaninglessly when bumping over trail obstacles. At any rate Irene the Luddite has always harbored the suspicion that the wheel is more accurate than the satellite GPS. For one thing GPS may not measure linear distance up the hill and then down it again since it "thinks" it's on a level path. It's true it may not be a significant difference but as Irene says "we Luddites love to whine."



Irene Szabo

Two of our original measuring wheels. The all metal orange one was built by Erv Markert and worked really well, except that it counted revolutions of a wheel 6'7" in circumference, so a lot of calculator work went into the post-hike work.

The one with a bicycle wheel and cane handle was made by Heinz Altman and was utilized to map the early versions of the Bristol Hills Trail.

A recent survey from our own Joe Dabes who compared the measuring wheel with his GPS equipment yielded some interesting results. Joe measured the same 8.4 mile loop of trail in the Withlacoochee Forest with both a measuring wheel and a GPS unit. He had expected that the wheel distance would be a bit longer than the GPS unit distance, but instead the opposite was true. These differences however were small and there was much discussion about why this was the case, but to me it simply shows how all this high tech and expensive equipment is really no more accurate than the simple wheel at least for measuring distance. I realize that there are many finer advantages to GPS data like the incredible maps that are produced, but it's also reassuring to know we have that old measuring wheel if we ever need it.

How were the FLT trails measured before we started using the wheel? When Jean Doren Rezelman was working with the Cayuga Trails Club building trail near Seneca Lake she and Peg Rumsey volunteered to measure the trail sections. They were

told to get a length of light chain and fasten it to two pieces of broom stick. The length of chain was 52.8 feet long which was one hundredth of a mile. By keeping track of chain lengths they measured laboriously some of the 72 miles the Cayuga Trail Club had volunteered to clear. You can imagine how thrilled they were when they finally got a measuring wheel. Jean figured that they had walked about 10 miles for every mile of trail cleared to explore for the best route. She said, "Walking and seeing is however what hiking is and the whole reason for the Finger Lakes Trail." I am certain we can all agree with that!

And in case we have ice cream pancakes for supper, next time we'll review another step in the evolution of mapping, GPS technology or some such. 🍁

Contact: Greg Farnham
FLTCmapping@outlook.com

Alley Cat Projects This Season: Updates

Bully Hill Lean-to: This new shelter is just finished! See article elsewhere in this issue about it. It's on Map M9 on what has been a bivouac site for decades.

FLT office: mid-May, remove existing ramp and build anew to a different entrance. This will be done before you read about it. Mike Goodwin managing.

Bucktooth Shelter: Dave Potzler and Mike Granger ran this project over May 18 through 21st, so this will be completed before this magazine even goes to the printer. Map M2/CT2, Access 4. Mahlon Hurst cut the wood for this one, too.

Moss Hill Lean-to: Moss Hill State Forest, town of Bradford, Steuben County the week of August 14 to 19. We are looking for volunteers! Accommodations will be in cabins at The Watson Homestead on Meads Creek Road in East Campbell. Bill Meehan (607-481-9228 bmeehan@frontiernet.net) will be construction manager. This project is located at the intersection of the FLT and the Great Eastern Trail/Crystal Hills Trail and is a mile hike in from the nearest road.

This is also the hiking dog memorial shelter. It is not too late to donate and have you and your dog's name on the shelter's dedication plaque. Contact the FLT office 585-658-9320 or jwensich@rochester.rr.com

Taylor Valley Shelter: This project has been moved from early spring to September 17-20 on Map M21, southeast of Syracuse. Project manager is Mike TenKate, with construction manager Mike Ogden. To learn more, contact Mike (that's funny, eh?) at Mike_TenKate@yahoo.com or to sign up, there is a form on the website under the Volunteers section.

The privately owned Hesse Shelter on Map M7 will be re-roofed this summer by Mike Granger and Hesse family members.

In 2018 we look forward to building a new shelter at Darien Lakes State Park on the Conservation Trail and rebuilding the Kimmie lean-to east of Ithaca.

News item: 19,432 volunteer hours were reported for 2016. At the rate the federal government assigns for valuing volunteer contributions, that's over \$430,000 contributed by our volunteers to the public last year! 🍁



Marnie Phillips and Alfred P. Dog

Scott Geiger

Trail Topics: An FLT Gem for the Emerald Necklace

Dave Newman, Vice President of Trail Preservation

The Finger Lakes Trail Conference has loaned \$181,000 of our Sidote Trail Preservation Fund to the Finger Lakes Land Trust to help them finance purchase of 144 wooded acres on Heisey Road, Town of Danby, Tompkins County on the seam between maps M17 and M18. About a mile of the trail crosses this property, which is shown on the map below. It is a key link between Danby and Shindagin Hollow State Forests. Had the land trust not purchased it, and a private buyer who wasn't trail friendly bought it instead, we'd be looking at the 5 mile hunting season road walk becoming the year-around trail.

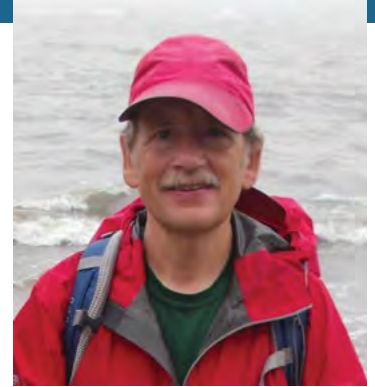
FLLT approached the FLTC Board over a year ago with an opportunity: they had identified a landowner of a 144 acre wooded property willing to sell. Even better, New York State DEC wants to acquire it to add to the adjacent Danby State Forest. But FLLT did not have available funds to purchase the property, and the State acquisition process can take several years. Would FLTC's Board facilitate the transaction by lending FLLT the money to purchase the property? It might be as much as \$250,000.

A deal like this would have been out of the question not that many years ago, but, the creation of the Sidote Trail Preservation Fund, memberships in the Forever Society, and a number of donations and bequests have raised the balance in the Sidote fund from \$242,000 at the start of 2013 to about \$640,000 now. This is not our endowment fund, the interest of which can be spent but the principal may not. The Sidote Fund is there to be spent on Trail Preservation (and not to be spent on current year operating costs, which need your support too!)

This is the first big transaction using the Sidote Fund. You'll note it is a loan; at some future date when the NYS budget allows purchase of the property from the Finger Lakes Land Trust, we'll get the funds back and can do another deal. Sweet, eh? To be sure, we could have left the funds in the investment account and hoped they would grow, but we're pretty sure Ed and the other donors had in mind that we'd preserve something with their donations, not bank them.

If you've done your math you've already calculated that some \$460,000 remains in the Sidote Fund. Obviously, property is expensive and we can't go "buy" the whole trail corridor. That's why the voluntary donation of easements (over 92 to date) and properties (8 so far) is so helpful. But, there will be other opportunities where those mechanisms don't work for the landowner and we may have to put up cash. This, our first endeavor of the sort, is a loan, but we can see the potential

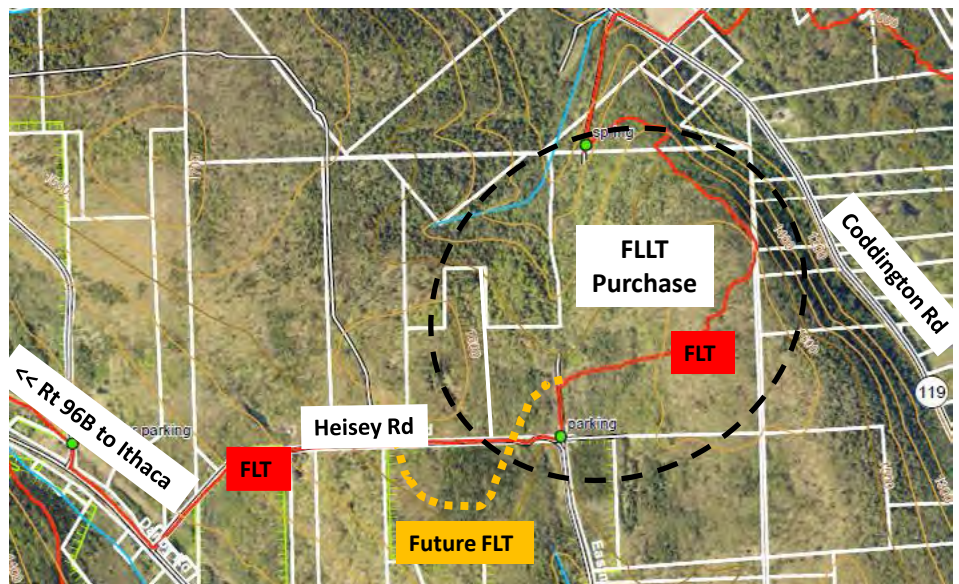
that we might need to buy a parcel, put our easement on it, and hold it until we can resell it. So think of the Sidote Fund as sort of a revolving loan fund to facilitate such transactions. We hope trail lovers will continue to support the Sidote Fund with donations and bequests so we will be prepared to do more of these kinds of deals. 🍁



From the press release of the Finger Lakes Land Trust about the new property:

The property is situated within the Emerald Necklace, a proposed greenbelt linking 50,000 acres of existing conservation land in an arc around Ithaca, from the Finger Lakes National Forest in the west to the Hammond Hill State Forest in the east. Protection of the property will ensure wildlife habitat linkage areas identified as a priority by both the Tompkins County 2007 Countywide Conservation Plan and the New York State Strategic Forest Management Plan.

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



Shelter Fund Program

Quinn Wright

The lean-to fund has been a marvelous success. In 2011 we began asking for people to "buy a log" or even "a half log." A lean-to has 35 logs and an average cost to build a lean-to has been \$3500, so \$100 per log. We merely hoped to have some success, but we have been so wildly successful that by the end of 2017 we will have built 10 new shelters and replaced 3 others out of that fund! As promised we will put plaques in each lean-to to acknowledge the contributors to that particular lean-to.

So this fund is helping us achieve our goal to shorten the distance between shelters so that through hikers have a better chance to rest in a shelter. But we haven't shortened the distance enough. We have at least ten more new shelters to build and I am aware of five that should be replaced in the next five years. So more log purchases are welcome!

Thanks should be given to the very generous sponsors of the following lean-tos:

- **Boyce Hill (new):** Joe Baldino, Gene Bavis, Ann Bayley, Bob Berch, Allan & Jean Berry, Barbara & Richard Blass, Deb & Joe Borer, Chuck Brugger, Jeanine Clark, Doug Cunningham, Christine DeGolyer, Greg Farnham, Donna Flood, Colleen Gyr, Pat Haynes, David Marchner, Ben Petryszak, David & Gloria Potzler, Quinn & Jewell Wright, Susan Yee
- **Bucktooth (new):** Anonymous to honor Irene Szabo
- **Bully Hill (new):** Anonymous to honor Emily Timbrook
- **Chestnut (replacement):** Robin Carlisle-Peck, North Country Trail Association
- **Finger Lakes Museum (new):** Jacqui Wensich
- **Getter Hill (new):** Roy & Laurie Dando, Sue DeGeorge, Mike & Jan Douglass, Karen Goodman, Gail Merian, The A. Lindsay and Olive B. O'Connor Foundation, Inc.
- **Hickory Hill (new):** Harold Boyce, Greg Boyer, Christine & Timothy Camann, Steve Catherman, John & Nancy Crowley, David & Nancy Jo Drum, J.T. & Molly Drum, National Park Service for an NCT Challenge Cost Share
- **Hoxie Gorge (new):** Tom Babcock, Scott Bahanka, Judith & Jeffrey Bennett, Teresa Blenis, Jon & Kathy Bowen, Bill Fair, Karl Jones, North Country Trail Association, Gregory Wells, Quinn & Jewell Wright, Phyllis Younghans, Jay Zitter, Mary Zuk-Domanski
- **Locust (new):** Matt & Angela Branneman, Corey Caugherty, Phil Dankert, Candy & Bob Dietrich, Joseph Donovan, Dennis Dooley, David & Gail Ellsworth, Tom Farrell, Randy Gessler, Frank Guilbault, William & Mary Jane Holmes, Roger Hopkins, Lois Judd, Marita Kelley-Dimon, Joe Kessler, Michael Landry, David Lee, Barry & Christine Leifheit, Annette Masters, Jan Miner, James Moody, Brad Nickerson, Jan Reagan, Kathleen Revekant, Marjory Rinaldo-Lee, Stephanie Spittal, Lori

& Donald Stearns, Constance Thomas, Mr. & Mrs. K. Timko, Gretchen Voss, Levi Weaver, Jacqui Wensich, Susan Yee

- **McCarthy Hill (new)(wheelchair accessible):** Margaret Coleman, Corning Community Foundation, Michael & Jean Loftus, Ian Mackenzie, Rita & Ken Martina, Stephen Martonosi, Dave Matthews, Pamela McCarrick, Pat Monahan, Ken & Lindsay Morgan, Ron & Barb Navik, Denise Snyder, Dave Tuttle
- **Moss Hill (replacement)(to honor our four legged hiking partners):** 12 people have already contributed to this lean-to in order to memorialize their dogs. In the future, people who contribute to the lean-to fund to honor their dogs will have their names added to the list of donors. A specific article about this lean-to will appear in a future edition of the *FLT News*.
- **Outback Inn (replacement):** in memory of Dorothy Beye, Beverly Clark, Cate Concannon, Dave & Adele Cook, in memory of Violet Davis, Amanda & Kaitlin Flannery, Lois Justice, Michael & Kaura Kahabka, Bob Kremens, Christopher Leak, in memory of Ken Loan, in memory of Margaret Markham, in memory of Willis Mitchell, Dave, Peter & Laurel Newman, Mary Niemi, Donna Noteware, in memory of Tom Noteware, Wilfred & Maria Oliver, Mark O'Neill, Richard Ortlepp, Ken & Margaret Reek, Joan Schumaker, in memory of David Warne, Aaron Wicks
- **Pharsalia (replacement):** Larry Blumberg, Sigrid & James Connors, Bruce & Donna Coon, Kathy Cronin, Charles Rockwell, Michael Rosenthal, Horst & Sigi Schwinge, Ed Sidote, RWW & Jo Taylor, Triple Cities Hiking Club, Jacqui Wensich, Peter Wybron, Susan Yee 🍁



Our crew in the new shelter at the Finger Lakes Museum.

Natalie Payne, Director of the Museum

Finger Lakes Trail Conference – 2017 Fall Weekend
September 29, 30, and October 1
Bellinger Hall at Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, NY 14722
Hosted by the Foothills Trail Club

Schedule of Events

Friday, September 29

11:00 am	Registration opens
11:30 – 2:00 pm	Hikes depart, see schedule
5:00 pm	FLT store opens
5:00 pm	Social hour – <i>you may bring alcoholic beverages and snacks.</i>
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Buffet Dinner
7:30 pm	<u>Evening presentation</u> – Paul Johnson , “Highlights of Chautauqua Lake History”

Saturday, September 30

7:00 – 8:00 am	Buffet Breakfast Pick up trail lunches
7:45 – 9:30 am	Hikes depart, see schedule
5:00 pm	FLT store opens
5:00 pm	Social Hour- <i>you may bring alcoholic beverages and snacks.</i>
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Buffet Dinner and Awards
7:30 pm	<u>Evening Presentation</u> –Twan Leenders, President of Roger Tory Peterson Institute

Sunday, October 1

7:00 – 8:00 am	Buffet Breakfast Pick up trail lunches Check out and leave key card in room
7:40 – 9:00 am	Hikes depart, see schedule
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	FLTC Board of Managers Meeting

Directions:

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

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

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

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

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

Questions?

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



The Fall Weekend of 2017 takes place September 29, 30, and October 1 at the Chautauqua Institution, established in 1874 as a training center for Sunday school teachers, which has become a home of the arts, lectures, plays, opera, and symphony concerts. It has picturesque Victorian homes, many historic buildings, art galleries, museums and theaters. All are contained on a walking campus surrounding Bellinger Hall where the event is centered. Though the summer season will have concluded, many hikes are scheduled for FLT members and guests. Bellinger Hall, a modern conference center, has single, double and triple rooms, shared baths and a large dining room. Hikes are arranged for the Chautauqua Rails to Trails, Eastside Overland Trail, Westside Overland Trail and the Finger Lakes Trail and are from easy to moderately strenuous, led by experienced hikers. The Chautauqua County trails travel through picturesque countryside, farmland, woods and on railtrails.

Other hikes are scheduled on the Finger Lakes Trail which starts in Allegany State Park and extends north and east of the Pennsylvania State Line for over 574 miles. The FLT is dedicated to the trail's maintenance and preservation. The Conservation Trail, built and maintained by Foothills Trail Club, extends from the Pennsylvania State Line north to Canada over 180 miles of public and private lands and runs concurrently with the Finger Lakes Trail through Allegany State Park. Several miles north and east the main east-west FLT and the Conservation Trail separate. The North Country Trail National Scenic Trail also runs concurrently with the FLT to where the NCT separates east of Syracuse to aim toward the Adirondacks.. Join us in discovery this fall and celebrate our joint 55th anniversaries.

Donna Flood



A view of ponds along one of the railtrails.

Donna Flood

Friday September 29th

A1 - Conservation Trail, 5.8 miles. Moderate. Meet at 11:30 AM at Bay State Road.

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

Hike leaders: Jon & Kathy Bowen

A2 - Westside Overland Trail (L to Q), 4.5 miles. Moderate. Meet at 1:00 PM, drive time to parking is 20 minutes.

Hike has gentle scattered inclines through state forestland with pines and spruce trees, brooks and creeks with bridges for easy crossing. There is a lean-to and a fresh water pump.

Hike Leaders: Kathy Boni & Claudia Lawler.

A3 - Eastside Overland Trail (A to E & return), 4.5 miles. Moderate. Meet at 1:00 PM, drive time to start is 35 minutes.

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

Hike Leaders: Dee McCarthy & Carolyn Pratt.

A4 - Long Point Park Hike, 4 miles. Easy. Meet at 1:15 AM, drive time to start is 20 minutes.

Long Point State Park, located in Bemus Point, juts peninsula-like into Lake Chautauqua. Hike the nature paths inside the park and along Long Point peninsula for beautiful views of Lake Chautauqua.

Hike Leaders: Carolyn Celeste & Merridy Knips.

A5 - Audubon Center and Sanctuary, 3 miles or more. Easy. Meet at 1:15 PM, drive time to start is 35 minutes.

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

Hike leaders: Carol Kobrin

A6-Chautauqua Grounds. Easy. Meet at 2:00 PM. Leisurely walk around the Institution grounds.

Hike leader: Barb Morrissey.

Saturday Sept 30, 2017

B1-Conservation Trail 10.9 miles strenuous. Meet 7:45 AM at Bellinger Hall. Drive to Little Rock City or Meet 9 AM at Little Rock City Parking lot. Maps M or CT2-CT3. We'll start hiking at W. Branch Bucktooth Run Road and continue to Little Rock City. The amazing rocks are a finale through Elkdale forest and the Pat McGee Trail. Directions from Bellinger Hall to Little Rock City will be provided to those signing up for the hike. Drive time to parking is 1 hour plus.

Hike leader is Mike Schlicht 716-316-4388 pageazi@yahoo.com.

B2 - Chautauqua Gorge Hike, approximately 8 miles. Strenuous. Meet at 8:00 AM, drive time to parking is 20 minutes.

Highly recommend wearing old sneakers and socks for good traction and to help keep out stones. Sandals or water shoes are more troublesome. This gorge hike has a very steep descent to the water and a very steep climb back up. We will be creek walking most of the time and the rocks underneath will be very slippery. This hike

passes Skinny Dip Falls which is 7' high. The mile surrounding Skinny Dip falls is a nudist area, so be prepared. We will pass First Falls/Dark Falls with a 30' fall, small cascades and some stunning views of the gorge. There are normally eagles all along the route. Hike is limited to 15 hikers.

Hike Leaders: Claudia Lawler & Bob Ensminger.

B3 - Conservation Trail, 7.1 miles. Moderate. Meet at 8:00 AM, drive to parking is 1 hr. 10 minutes.

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

Hike Leaders: Donna Flood & Lois Justice.

B4 - Westside Overland Trail (A to G), 7.6 miles. Moderate. Meet at 8:45 AM, drive time to parking is 20 minutes.

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

Hike Leaders: Marty and Donna Ruszaj.

B5 - Bike around Chautauqua Lake. Meet 8:45 AM. We will meet at the Chautauqua Institution for a 42 mile ride around Chautauqua Lake. This is a beautiful ride on county lakeside roads with some mild hills. Lunch-time will be at scenic Bemus Point. We will either eat our self-provided bag lunch or get something from one of the establishments there. Bring a bike in good working order, a tool kit, water, bike helmet and a camera. Bike leader: Richard Schraven.

B6 -Eastside Overland Trail (I to L), 6.5 miles. Moderate. Meet at 8:15 AM, drive time to start is 50 minutes. This will be an in-and-out hike.

The terrain is gently rolling and mostly forested through Boutwell Hill State Forest with many streams and brooks and with footbridges for easy crossing.

Hike Leaders: Dee McCarthy & Ellen Banks.

B7 - Westside Overland Trail (Q to S), 5.0 miles. Moderate. Meet at 8:30 AM, drive time to parking is 30 minutes .

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

Hike Leader: Debbie Harden & Don Bergman.

B8 - Rails to Trails, 7 miles. Easy. Meet at 8:30 AM, drive time to parking is 30 minutes. This hike starts on the right-of-way of the Niagara Mohawk Corporation and passes through woodlands with a shady canopy of trees while gently climbing the Lake Erie Escarpment offering views of Lake Erie.

Hike Leaders: Roy Tocha



Chautauqua Lake in autumn.

Donna Flood

B9 - Rails to Trails, 6 miles. Easy. Meet at 9:00 AM, drive time to start is 10 minutes.

Hike starts at the old train depot, now a museum, in the village of Mayville on Lake Chautauqua. We'll see the Chautauqua Belle steam boat before continuing on the wooded trail offering views of farmland. Turn around and hike back.

Hike Leaders: Jane McKale & Kathy Clerkin.

B10- Rails to Trails, 4 miles. Easy. Meet at 9:00 AM, drive time to parking is 20 minutes.

Hike passes through woodlands and wetlands

which offer habitat suitable for beavers and migrating waterfowl. Hike Leaders: Carol Mallon & Gail Syty.

Sunday October 1

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

Informative stroll around the grounds of the Chautauqua Institution and back in time to start another hike!

Hike Leader: Sigi Schwinge

C2 - Johnnycake Loop Trail - 9.5 miles. Moderate . Meet at 7:45 AM at Bellinger Hall. Drive to Tracy Ridge Camp Trail Head, start time 9:00 AM. Views of hemlock can be found in small groves along streams and some magnificent old white pines can be seen at scattered locations. Directions to the trailhead will be provided to those who sign up for the hike.

Hike Leader: Nick Scarano

C3 - Conservation Trail, 8.6 miles. Moderate. Meet at 8:00 AM, drive to parking is 1 hr. 10 minutes.

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

Hike Leader: Gus Phillips.

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

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

Hike Leader: Dee McCarthy & Don Bergman.

C5 - The College Lodge in Brocton, NY, 4 miles. Moderate. Meet 9:00 AM, drive time to start is 30 minutes.

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

Hike Leader: Claudia Lawler

C6 - Portage Trail, 4 miles. Easy. Meet at 9:00 AM, drive time to parking is 20 minutes.

This hike is in the woods and passes a pond. This trail was used by Native Americans to carry their canoes from Lake Erie to Lake Chautauqua.

Hike Leaders: Tara Welty & Leslie Shiner.

C7 - Luensman Overview Park, 1 mile. Easy. Meet at 9:00 AM, drive time to start is 30 minutes.

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

Hike Leader: Merridy Knips

Private Campgrounds

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

Other Activities for Hikers and Non-Hikers

- | | |
|--|--|
| • The Lucille Ball Desi Arnez Museum - 212 Pine Street, Jamestown, N.Y.
(716) 484-0800. Memorabilia, replica studio sets, gift shop | |
| • Roger Tory Peterson Institute - 311 Curtis Street, Jamestown, N.Y.
27 acre wooded setting with trails. | (716) 665-2473. Nature art and photography exhibits. |
| • Audubon Nature Center - 1600 Riverside Road, Jamestown, N.Y.
gardens and 5 miles of trails | (716) 569-2345. Interactive exhibits, wildflower |
| • Grape Discover Center - 8305 West Main Rd., Westfield N.Y. | (716) 326-2003. The story of the Concord grape. |

Additional information available at check in.



Donna Flood

▲ Some of the pleasing old buildings on the Chautauqua Institute's campus.

▼ Miller Bell Tower on the Institute Campus.



Donna Flood

Menu for FLTC/Foothills Fall Weekend

Friday September 29, 2017

Dinner-Garden Salad, stuffed shells with roast vegetable marinara, lemon baked haddock, dessert, coffee, teas and soda.

Saturday, September 30, 2017

Breakfast buffet-hot oatmeal with brown sugar, baked quiche, bacon, assorted toasts, French toast, plus beverages and toppings.

Lunch-bagged lunch-turkey & cheddar wrap or beef & provolone wrap, or grilled vegetable wrap, cookie, pasta salad, water and condiments.

Dinner buffet-garden salad, eggplant parmesan, Yankee pot roast, ice cream bar, and beverages.

Sunday, October 1, 2017

Breakfast buffet-Oatmeal, scrambled eggs, sausage, bagels, pancakes, toppings and beverages

Lunch-bagged lunch-turkey & cheddar wrap or beef & provolone wrap, or grilled vegetable wrap, cookie, pasta salad, water, and condiments.



Donna Flood



Donna Flood

A picture taken from the lake boat ride.



Chautauqua Institution

FLTC Fall Weekend-Registration Form

September 29-30, 2017 and October 1, 2017 - Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, NY
On-line registration form and payment available on line at <http://foothillstrailclub.org>

PLEASE PRINT

Name(s):
Address:
City, State Zip:
Cell Phone: Home Phone:
Email: Local Hiking Club:

Confirmations by email unless USPS requested by checking here ☐

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY:

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

	Registration	Cost	Total
Registration Deadline is August 29, 2017	<input type="checkbox"/> FLTC Member Registration	\$10.00	\$
Sorry, no refunds after August 29, 2017	<input type="checkbox"/> Non FLTC Member Registration	\$15.00	\$
No Children, No Pets	<input type="checkbox"/> Hike Leader	\$0.00	\$

Bellinger Hall - Dormitory Style Rooms: includes linens, pillow, pillowcase, blanket, towel, and washcloth

Room	Friday	Cost	Saturday	Cost	Total
Single w/ Private Bath:	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$75.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$75.00	\$
Double w/ Shared Bath:	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$32.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$32.50	\$
Double w/ Private Bath:	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$37.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$37.50	\$
Triple w/ Shared Bath:	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$32.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$32.50	\$

Roommates (If none listed, roommates will be assigned):

Meals			Total
<input type="checkbox"/> Friday Dinner: \$21.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Breakfast: \$11.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Lunch: \$11.00	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Dinner: \$21.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Breakfast: \$11.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Lunch: \$11.00	\$

Please indicate any food allergies or special needs:

Lunch Selections: Saturday Sunday

Hike Selections: Friday Saturday Sunday

Mail checks payable to:	Total
Foothills Trail Club	
5010 Salt Road	
Clarence, NY 14031	\$

Please read and sign the following:

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

Signature:

Print Name:

Date:

A Walk on the Wordy Side

Marla Perkins

I was listening to a northern cardinal, out on the trail, of course, thinking about the various attempts to define language. One of the more famous attempts, by Charles Hockett in the 1960s, is a list of design criteria, attempting to demonstrate that only humans have language, as opposed to including animals, but he ended up eliminating sign languages from consideration as well. Nevertheless, Hockett's criteria remain a starting point for defining language. What I'd like to suggest here is that many animals, including birds, come pretty darn close to having language, and they might even have superior languages. Let's turn a northern cardinal loose with Hockett's criteria and see what happens.

There are ways to transmit language—voice, sign, etc. The northern cardinal's syrinx is capable of producing a variety of tones, sometimes more than one at a time. By contrast, very few humans can "throat sing," in which the false vocal folds are used to make more than one tone, in combination with the tones made by the true vocal folds.

There is a transmission and reception of language. Usually, when female cardinals let the males know that it's time to bring food to the nest, the males get busy and comply. In humans, the male frequently forgets to bring home a few things from the grocery store, which suggests that this culturally recognized phenomenon of a memory glitch interferes with language reception.

Language is temporary (spoken/sung); once the message is delivered, it is gone. Once the song is out, it can't be taken back. Once the words are out, they can't be taken back, even by clever press secretaries. Cardinals appear to work with this aspect of language better than humans.



Vinnie Collins

Sending and receiving are interchangeable; in theory, anything that one can hear, one can say. Cardinals can ask for food and understand that message. People pass along gossip—what they hear, they say.

Honey, Please bring me some sunflower seeds with a small safflower side.

hear their own message and change it; in people, this results in false starts, changing utterances while changing minds. In cardinals, this could result in interesting combinations of comments on food, flocking, and responses to various threats.

Producers of language can

Language is intentional; people speak deliberately, even if they don't always say what they mean or mean what they say. Cardinals sing and call intentionally. They have incredibly fine control of their vocal anatomy, with even more options for control than highly trained opera singers.

Language has semanticity—messages have meanings. When a cardinal calls about location or food, the location or the food are exactly what is meant. People don't always say what they mean.

Languages are arbitrary, meaning that there is nothing about the idea of the animal cat and the word "cat" that necessitates a link, as evidenced by the fact that other languages have other words for the same general idea. Likewise, there is nothing in particular about a cardinal's call to warn of a predator that is necessarily linked to predation; other birds and other animals, and in fact other dialects of Cardinalese, have different ways to communicate the same semantic content.

Languages are built from discrete units; we can chop words into their component parts, as in part (noun) and -s (plural marker) and into things like nouns and verbs and clauses and phrases and sentences and paragraphs. Cardinals have syllables and phrases.

Languages can refer to displaced information, the not-here and the not-now. I mentioned hearing a cardinal early today. By the time this article goes to press, that incident will be long past. Sadly, I do not speak Cardinalese (yet!), so I don't really know if cardinals have displacement, but if cardinals can describe the location of a predator, that would qualify for the not-here. It would be intellectually irresponsible to claim that cardinals do not have displacement when there is simply no recognized evidence against it and when the semantic material for displacement is available.

Languages are productive; new messages can be created and understood from the known components. Once the discrete units are understood, they can be recombined to form new messages, such as this article. Again, because I do not yet speak Cardinalese, it is impossible to say whether cardinals are or are not doing this.

As soon as that pig of a squirrel gets off the pile...

Languages are learned socially. Both people and cardinals can recognize individuals by their voices. Both humans and cardinals develop



Vinnie Collins

dialects when communities are separated from one another for sufficient time.

Languages are learnable, not instinctive. Infants who are not given typical interactions during childhood do not develop typical, adequate language. Birds who do not stay with their parents are likewise impaired.

Languages can be used to lie. People do this constantly; I wasn't listening to a cardinal earlier today—it was a mourning dove. Whether cardinals lie remains to be established, but including the possibility for lying in the definition of language seems a particularly human project.

Languages can be used self-referentially; for example, we can use language to write about language. The cardinals might not need to discuss Cardinalese; or they might.

In short, if the cardinals were defining language, they could make a good argument that humans are not capable of language, at least not a language as brilliant as Cardinalese much as humans have argued that animals are not capable of language.

As always, please feel free to contact me: dr.marla.perkins@gmail.com. Your feedback might become material for future articles. 🍁

Help Wanted

...continued from page 11.						
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TINY REROUTE, AGONY TO MAP

Irene Szabo

As you've read elsewhere in this issue, poor Ron Navik, Trail Chair of the Genesee Valley Hiking Club back when they tended both the Letchworth Trail and a long section of Main Trail from the Genesee River east to Hornell, had several problem areas where he never got his way, despite decades' worth of efforts. Pennsylvania Hill just northwest of Hornell was one, and as Dave Newman reports for us, is almost solved now, but another thorn was the challenging climb up to Whiskey Bridge in order to cross the Genesee River.

Until now, our trail coming from the south on the Genesee Valley Greenway then walked dirt River Road until a spot under the road bridge above, followed by a truly horrendous climb up to bridge level, until, that is, an Eagle Scout installed heavy boards in a switchback pattern so that people could do the climb by bracing their feet against the boards. That solution has worked well for 12 or 15 years by now, but is still challenging.

Ron tried to clear a short patch of the Greenway between where we left it, up toward the bridge and close to NY 19A, but it had just grown up too badly into trees and brush. However, in the last few years, now that the Greenway is a state park with maintenance staff, that last little bit has been cleared, and permission was obtained this winter for us to move the main trail onto the new 0.4 mile of Greenway. It stays at an elevation much closer to the bridge level, so gives us only a brief scramble up about one-quarter of the climb of before.

So on an oddly warm day last February, new white blazes were painted on the Greenway, and our route on River Road below was repainted yellow, since it's an easy way to continue northward onto the Letchworth Trail for those not crossing Whiskey Bridge eastward over the Genesee River. The two routes are so close together that it's a hellish spot to print on a map at our scale, but Jo Taylor came out to GPS it for revisions to Maps L2, M6, and M7. All you have to do is live forever, Ron.



Jo Taylor

ROSA WOLFER BEQUEST 1919 – 2016

Rosa was an active hiker with the Genesee Valley Hiking Club until fairly recent years who died last November and left the Finger Lakes Trail \$20,000. She was short, tough, amazingly strong, and could still hike at a blistering rate at the age of eighty. One of ten children from Germany, her mother died and her father was failing, so she kept the farm going until 1953 when a brother took over, so she moved to the United States. She cleaned houses and churches until she finally got a job packing Xray film in the dark at Kodak. Hiking and dancing were her funtime activities.

As one of her biographers said, "Being diplomatic wasn't Rosa's way." One time she handed deodorant to another dancer! We are so touched that she bequeathed us some of her money. Guess we're doing some things right since she didn't send deodorant.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL ASSOCIATION

The baton at our NCTA partners' headquarters is going to be passed along this summer at the end of July, when ten-year executive director Bruce Matthews retires. His job is being taken over by Andrea Ketchmark, currently



Amanda Schrauben

Director of Trail Development. One of the nicer qualities of the staff at NCTA is their longevity in their jobs, rare among not-for-profits, so it's especially noteworthy that the search committee, who interviewed a host of candidates all winter, ended up choosing from among current staff. NCTA members from all seven states echo approval of the decision, each of them expressing high satisfaction with the choice, and these are people who have worked with Andrea on projects.

So the annual NCTA Celebration this year at the end of July, to be held in Marquette, Michigan, on the shore of Lake Superior, will be your last chance to attend an event with Bruce and your first to see more of Andrea. The program and registration material are online on the NCTA website and in the *North Star* magazine.

MEET ERICA AT THE FLT OFFICE

Irene Szabo

Erica Cole joined our office recently after Joe Caputo decided it was time for him to retire for real. So our office is now staffed five days a week, 9 to 2, by Erica and office manager Debbie Hunt, who has been there a year and three quarters.

Erica came to Mt. Morris after growing up in southern California to help her husband's family, so provided endless mirth this winter when she complained about the cold. Despite everyone assuring her that this winter was a dud, she continues to be horrified by our weather. Nonetheless, she likes being here in Mt. Morris, working only part-time, since she left a 70-hour-per-week job in California and felt like she barely ever saw her two children. Needless to say, her kids love it here: they see their mother much more, there are as many children in their whole grade as used to be in each classroom in California, and her son gets to disappear into the adjacent Sonyea State Forest each day after school, with a puppy tagging along, biting holes on the right side of his pantseats.

Already president of the local Parent Teacher Student Association after only two years in the area, Erica is now in charge of our database and fills map orders. When we were talking about fun things to do around here, she made a p.u. face when I suggested hiking. But obviously she likes my new editorial assistant, Scout Finch.



Irene Szabo

LONGTIME NCTA MEMBERS FROM THE FLT

As reported in the annual report of the North Country Trail Association, quite a few of our FLT members are also longtime members of the the NCTA, too. In the 30-year "club" are our own Kalista Lehrer, Helen and Chris Haller, and Tom Reimers. In the 20-year member club are FLT members Marie Altenau, Dawn Bennett, Mary and Bill Coffin, Kathy Disque, Kathy Eisele, Foot-hills Trail Club, Al Larmann and Mary Kunzler-Larmann, Irene Szabo, Peg and Pat Whaley, Pete Wybron, and Mary Zuk Doman-ski. The 10 year members are too numerous to list, good news!



Tim Wilbur wore his special tie to the annual Trail Management Meeting in Canandaigua in April.

Jacqui Wensich

MIKE OGDEN RECIEVES HIS SHIRT

Jacqui says, my last delivery of the Alley Cat Shirts and hats for 2016 was to Mike Odgen, Baldwinsville. Rob Hughes (of post and beam fame) requested the latest colors.

Mike has been working as construction manager and crew member on many Alley Cats, projects such as shelters, bridges, trail building. His upbeat, organized manner is a boon to any crew. He has almost completed his Adirondack 46 High Peaks while leading and assisting other aspiring 46'ers. Mike will also be at the County Hike Series, probably with his efficient "tear drop" trailer that he continually remodels.



Jacqui Wensich

ALWAYS ASSUME THERE IS A TRAIN

On Map M25, Chenango County, the trail crosses the Chenango River on the S. Oxford bridge, then immediately crosses a railroad. While that line has been silent since 2006 when violent rainstorms washed out sections of the railroad, don't relax your caution when crossing tracks! The line has been fixed up and is now carrying trains. Stop, look, and listen!

Wally Wood Hike

Laurie Ondrejka

Photos by Scott Brooks

On April 29th we had 26 people, seven of us on the longer hike. We had a great time! While the skies were gray and rain threatened all day, everyone finished just before the misty rain started at 2:30! We walked beautiful sections on the International Trail which consists of the Spanish Loop, Swedish Loop and the main FLT. These perfectly manicured loops were created by the amazing trail-building and maintaining duo of Michele and Alex Gonzalez, who even provided lawn chairs for hikers' comfort next to a scenic spot.



Myrtle spreads from patches transplanted to pioneer homes, so pops up at surprising spots in today's woods.



Dorel Homentovschi enjoys a momentary view.



◀ *Trillium was out early this spring, like everything!*



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

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 hotdogs 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

Bully Hill, Klipnocky Gas Springs & Slader Creek State Forest's, Map M9

Hike Leaders:

Long Hike: Scott Brooks scottbrooks18@msn.com Phone: (585) 571-4141

Short Hike: Clay Johnson cjohnso5@rochester.rr.com Phone: (585) 750-6796

Hike Description:

The long version of this hike will be approximately 11.4 miles long, and the short version approximately 4.8 miles.

Both hikes will start in Bully Hill State Forest where the trail crosses Karr Rd between access points 5 and 6. The trail will descend a rocky hillside with great views of the fall foliage to the valley below. The trail passes streams, pine plantations and passes through gullies. The short hike ends back at the meeting place. The long hike continues down Bush Rd. with many scenic views of the surrounding hills and then enters Klipnocky State Forest. Here the trail passes through an old rock quarry and passes two scenic ponds before continuing through Gas Springs and Slader Creek State Forests. The hike ends with a stroll through a meadow with beautiful views of the surrounding hills.

Meet at 9 AM on Map M9 at Access 4 (Bush Rd) – Arkport

Directions to Meeting Place:

From Arkport– intersection of 961F and NY 36 (NY 36 can be accessed from the north by Interstate 390 exit 4 or from the south by Interstate 86 exit 34)

- Head west on West Ave. toward Davenport St. -0.3 mi
- Turn left onto Bishopville Rd. - 2.9 mi
- Continue onto N. Almond Valley Rd. - 4.2 mi
- Turn left onto Bush Rd.

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

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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.



Answers to the Spring 2017 “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:



Scott Geiger

Last issue's picture was identified by no one.

It was taken on M15 near Rogers Hill shelter by Scott Geiger.

New Picture:



Warren Johnsen

Where is it?

New Members

Janet Bernecky
Matthew Burnett
Penny Ciccone
Daniel Cogan
Debra Connell
Patricia Dorland
Lara Dunn
Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways
Skye Humphries
Zarin Kinsella
Lindsey Klinge
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Finger Lakes Trail

2017 Calendar of Events

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. 33)
 August 1 Deadline, *FLT News*
 Sept. 29 - Oct. 1 Fall Weekend, Chautaugua
 October 14 Erv Markert Hike (pg. 33)
 November 1 Deadline, *FLT News*
 November 17 - 19 Board Retreat at Watson Homestead

FINGER LAKES TRAIL CONFERENCE

STAFF

Quinn Wright, Executive Director

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

Debbie Hunt

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

Erica Cole

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

OFFICERS

Pat Monahan, President

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

Linda Hopkins, Treasurer

• Mt. Morris • 585/278-7456 • lhopskins@fingerlakestrail.org

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 Schlicht, Interim VP Crews and Construction

• pageazi@yahoo.com

Charles Schutt II, VP Finance

• charles.schutt@freedmaxick.com

Greg Farnham, VP of Mapping

• FLTCmapping@outlook.com

Roy Dando, Secretary

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

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• david_tuttle@pittsfordtrafficandradar.biz

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

Bear Brook in Chenango County. Photo by Warren Johnsen

