

Finger Lakes Trail NEWS

Spring 2022



Inside...

- * Celebrating 60 Years
- * A Sidote Holiday Present
- * Annual Donations



FINGER LAKES TRAIL CONFERENCE

Mission Statement

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



STAFF

Deb Nero

Interim Executive Director
fltexecdir@fingerlakestrail.org

Christy Post

Director of Marketing and Communications
cpost@fingerlakestrail.org

Michaela Aney

Director of Trail Development
michaela.aney@fingerlakestrail.org

Debbie Hunt

Director of Operations
585/658-9320
officemanager@fingerlakestrail.org

Gary Buchanan

Office Clerk
585/658-9320
garyb@fingerlakestrail.org

Patty Owens

Data Clerk

OFFICERS

Pat Monahan

President
pmonahan@stny.rr.com

VACANT

Executive VP

Lisa Barrett

VP Finance
lisabarrett@fingerlakestrail.org

Lori Chiarilli

Secretary
lori.chiarilli@fingerlakestrail.org

Jon Bowen

VP Trail Maintenance
jkbowen@gmail.com

VACANT

VP Trail Quality

David Newman

VP Trail Preservation
danewman@rochester.rr.com

Steve Czajkowski

VP Membership and Marketing
steve_czajkowski@hotmail.com

Finger Lakes Trail Office

Phone: 585/658-9320

DIRECTORS

VACANT

Director of Crews and Construction

Willa Powell

Treasurer
flt.treasurer@fingerlakestrail.org

Jo Taylor

Director of Mapping
jhtaylor@frontiernet.net

BOARD OF MANAGERS

Terms Expiring 2022

Peg Fuller

peg379@gmail.com

Scott Geiger

scott.geiger@fingerlakestrail.org

Roger Hopkins

roger@naturalhighs.net

Tim Sweeney

timsweeney@fingerlakestrail.org

Peter Wybron

prwybron@rochester.rr.com

Terms Expiring 2023

Donna Flood

dmflood@roadrunner.com

Pete Hagmire

phagmire@gmail.com

Laurie Ondrejka

laurieondrejka@gmail.com

Willa Powell

flt.treasurer@fingerlakestrail.org

Sharon Ray

sharon.ray@sni.org

Terms Expiring 2024

Ann Bayley

annwbayley@aim.com

Christine DeGolyer

degolyerchris@gmail.com

Tim Holahan

timothyj14505@gmail.com

Terry Meacham

tjmeach150@yahoo.com

Lisette Smith

lisette.smith6@gmail.com

Spring 2022



SPECIAL FEATURES:

Ithaca Artist's Exhibit to Benefit Finger Lakes Trail	4
Celebrating 60 Years	6
Over a Year With The Finger Lakes Trail Conference ...	11
Outside Chronicles Makes \$42,000 Donation to FLTC. 12	
A Sidote Holiday Present	13
Annual Report of Donors and Members	18
Forever Society Members	22
Lifetime Members	23



HIKING:

Watkins Glen State Park Stairway	8
Mitchell Donation	8
Robert Chau End-to-End #513	9
Staying Safe on the FLT	10



TRAIL PROJECTS:

Trail Maintenance	14
FLT Maps	16
Alley Cat Projects 2022	17



TRAIL TOPICS:

End-to-End Update	25
A Naturalist's View	26



DEPARTMENTS:

President's Message	3
Executive Director Report	5
Name That Map!	24

FINGER LAKES TRAIL NEWS STAFF

Irene Szabo, Editor, 7639 Swamp Rd., Bergen, NY 14416, 585/494-0307, treeweenie@aol.com

Jennifer Epps, Graphic Design

Jo Taylor, Proofreader

Finger Lakes Trail News, Spring Issue, Volume 61, Issue Number 1, is the official publication of the Finger Lakes Trail Conference, Inc., a private not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, 6111 Visitor Center Road, Mt. Morris, NY 14510. The *Finger Lakes Trail News* is published four times a year for promotional and entertainment purposes, as well as a benefit for its members. Comments and original contributions are welcome and may be submitted to the editor. Copyright © 2022 by Finger Lakes Trail Conference, Inc.

About the Cover:

Sudden snow squall in Shindagin Hollow, south of Ithaca.

Photo by David Priester

President's Message

Pat Monahan



I can now put winter into my history book as done. It seemed longer and colder than normal in my neck of the woods. Corning has always been located in a sweet spot for missing most storms. We don't get weather from the Chautauqua Ridge nor the lake effect from the snow belt following the Thruway heading down through the Finger Lakes to Ithaca and Binghamton. But not this year. Finally, we can move on to enjoy the rebirth of the land around us. It is a perfect time to get out to explore the outdoors on the FLT as the forests begin to blossom with new growth.

I want to comment on the growth cycle of the FLTC. We are experiencing some changes in personnel which allows for new opportunities for staff and volunteers. Let me start with the retirement of Debbie Hunt, our long time Office Manager and more recently Director of Operations. Debbie has been with us for more than six years, and under her leadership in that time the office was transformed into a well-oiled machine. You may not have met Debbie but it was her friendly voice on the other end of the phone when you called the FLTC Office. We will miss Debbie and appreciate that she chose to spend the end of her career with the FLTC.

The Board also accepted with regrets the resignation of our Director of Crews and Construction, Mike Schlicht. Mike worked tirelessly to create Alley Cat projects that were safe and efficient utilizing many volunteers. He regularly would take personal time from his work to ensure that the projects were properly scoped out and finished to completion by the project managers and volunteers. We are so grateful to Mike for the time and talent he has shared with the FLTC over the years.

A less familiar name is Rick Wall, our Investment Committee Chairperson, who has worked closely with our investment firm to oversee the steady growth of our investment portfolio. Rick has retired from the Investment Committee and will be greatly missed. I sat in on the Investment Committee meetings over the years and was always impressed at Rick's willingness to ask the tough investment questions. His guidance has helped position the FLTC well to fund our mission.

Finally, you may not have even known that father and son Ian and Crosby Woods have been working with Roger Hopkins to learn the code that supports our interactive map functions. Crosby is a busy tenth grader, and Ian a busy dad, and their schedules are taking them away from the project. We appreciate the effort they put into learning this important piece of our trail management work.

We are working hard to evaluate the vacancies within the organization, and to determine how they will best be filled. Deb Nero's Executive Director Report summarizes where we are with the Office Manager search, and our Trail Management Team is assessing the various functions related to Director of Crews and



Tony Rodriguez

Construction and the vacancy left by Lynda Rummel as VP for Trail Quality last year. Now that we've added two full-time staff people – our Director of Marketing and Communications and our Director of Trail Development – responsibilities are shifting and each open position presents an opportunity to evaluate how we do things.

Would you like to know more about how you can be part of the FLTC? Visit the Employment and Volunteer pages of our website, or email volunteer@fingerlakestrail.org.

We are a volunteer nonprofit organization that continues to grow based on a financial strategic plan. We are moving forward based on the plan and continue to grow based on what we can afford. I encourage you to find an opportunity to help us reach our goals. In the meantime, find a friend, ask them to become a member and **“Go take a hike!!”** 🍁

Ithaca Artist's Exhibit to Benefit Finger Lakes Trail

Eva Capobianco



Sculptor and aspiring End-to-Ender **Eva M. Capobianco** will present “*Exploring the Trail*” at The Geisel Gallery in Rochester, N.Y., during the months of March and April 2022. The artist began hiking the 584 miles of the Finger Lakes Trail in 2017, doing so in day hikes averaging five or six miles. As a nature appreciator, she loves to use her iPhone to capture many beautiful and unique sights along the trail. Eva signed up for the Cross-County Hike Series in 2018, where she met Jacqui Wensich, the volunteer End-to-End coordinator. The two discovered that their hiking speed and style were very compatible, and they began filling in gaps in their End-to-End efforts – Eva’s first, Jacqui’s second.

Here is how the artist describes the genesis of this series. “During the FLT spring weekend of 2019, I spent three days with Jacqui and other friends hiking the western end of the Trail in Allegany State Park. After many days of rain, we were trekking through a lot of mud and across streams of various sizes. At one point we crossed a wooden bridge spanning about 30 feet. As we hikers know, the stream crossings can be anything from a couple of planks to substantial wood structures like this one. I snapped some photos of this bridge and continued hiking. As I walked, I started imagining a wall sculpture in my mind. I would use a photo of this bridge alongside a couple of wood boards to represent a simple crossing, right next to this elaborate span. As I pictured the piece in my mind, the idea grew into a whole series. I would find inspiration from the photos and make at least one piece for each of the thirty-four maps on the trail.”

With less than 140 miles on 11 maps to go, Eva hopes to finish hiking the trail this year. The Rochester exhibit will feature about 17 wall hung sculptures from this series along with some pedestal works that were also inspired by nature. The artist will donate 20% of all sales to the Finger Lakes Trail Conference.

Here are the exhibit details:
The Geisel Gallery

Legacy Tower, One Bausch + Lomb Place, 2nd floor
Rochester 14604

www.thegeisellgallery.com

Exhibit dates: March 1 – April 29, 2022

Opening reception: Thursday, March 10 from 5-7pm

Gallery hours: weekdays, 7am-7pm

Vaccinations and masks are required

(Please note dates and times are subject to change according to current Covid restrictions.)

For additional information and to see more of Ms. Capobianco’s work, please explore her website at www.evasculpture.com. *This project is made possible, in part, with funding from the Community Arts Partnership of Tompkins County.* 🍁

M1 - Stream Crossing



M19 - Looking Up - Trees and Tower



M23 - Forest for the Trees



Executive Director Report

Deb Nero



The year of 2021 was an exciting year for FLTC land acquisitions! The purchase of the Costello property on the border of Cortland and Chenango Counties (Map M22) will allow the FLTC to build new well-planned, sustainable footpath through forest and old farmland to remove about 4 miles of road walk.

Longtime members and trail maintainers Alex and Michelle Gonzalez donated 60 acres of land off Daisy Hollow Rd between Ithaca and Virgil (Map M19 and the Swedish Loop, Spanish Loop and English Loop maps – lots of trails built and maintained by the Gonzalez pair). This is the largest single land donation in the history of the FLTC and includes 3 parcels which are closed to hunting. The Alex and Michelle Gonzalez Hiking Sanctuary and Forest Preserve is a lovely area of hills, ravines, streams with waterfalls, an FLT/Wegmans Passport Hike (Central hike 12 Spanish Loop – Irvin Trail), and terrific views across the valley.

Harold Mitchell donated a small parcel off Bean Station Rd between Hammondsport and Prattsburg (Map B3). This property is between two others where the Bristol Hills Branch trail is protected by easements, so this donation creates a continuous stretch of protected trail.

I was happy to write a letter to NY Senators Gillibrand and Schumer on behalf of the FLTC Board of Managers and Officers in support of passage of Bill S.2964 National Scenic Trails Parity Act which is currently before the US Senate. Currently the various National Scenic Trails are funded and supported at different levels. The North Country National Scenic Trail is one of the trails with less funding and support. This bill seeks to equalize the funding and support among all the National Scenic Trails. Passage of this bill will help the North Country Trail Association by increasing support for the entire NCT, including the 430 miles of the NCT that are hosted by the FLTC.

I have attended meetings with the WNY Land Conservancy about protecting lands in western N.Y., especially in the rapidly growing Ellicottville area, and with the North Country Trail Association to explore ways to advocate for hiking trails in New York State. Attending the American Hiking Society's national Hike the Hill this year will deepen my understanding of issues facing trails across the country and help make contacts to strengthen support for hiking trails in N.Y.

At the end of November our Director of Operations Debbie Hunt notified us that she would be retiring effective January 31, 2022. A search committee was formed immediately, and an updated Director of Operations job description was created and posted. Interviews held in mid-December did not lead to a suitable candidate. The search was re-opened and a second round of interviews in early January also proved unsuccessful. The search committee re-worked the job description to create an Office Manager position. The first round of applicants for this position will be interviewed in mid-February.

In the interim, daily office tasks will be carried out by our trusty Office Clerk Gary Buchanan. The hours of the office in Mt Morris have been reduced to accommodate his schedule. Our Treasurer Willa Powell has agreed to help with financial matters until we can

hire a new person. She will become the Temporary Office Manager and take on the critical financial duties carried out by the Director of Operations.

I have worked with Debbie Hunt for the last six years. In my first interactions she helped Deb Nero, “newbie member of the Board of Managers,” figure out how things work in the FLTC. Debbie Hunt was the one who knew the answer to any odd or random FLTC-related question, or at least she knew whom to ask! When I became Interim Executive Director in June 2021 Debbie was invaluable in helping me navigate many ED tasks, especially with assembling the 2022 budget. Over the years Debbie and I also had many great conversations about gardening and plants – one of my volunteer tasks is helping plant and maintain the gardens outside the office in Mt. Morris. In January I inherited one of the beautiful ferns Debbie had in the office. Every time I look at that fern I remember Debbie. Speaking for myself, the Board of Managers, and staff: THANK YOU, DEBBIE, from the bottom of our hearts and we wish you well in your new endeavors!

The development phase of the new database is reaching completion. Tremendous thanks to database developer Chase Gregory and users/testers Dave Newman, Christy Post and Debbie Hunt for bringing the dream of an integrated, useful home for all the FLTC data to fruition!

Congratulations to Mark Valites, FLTC member and volunteer and stellar trail runner for completing the 580-odd miles of the main FLT in the Fastest Known Time (FKT) this summer. Mark ran this in 15 days, 12 hours and 10 minutes!

On a volunteer level the preparations for the Tompkins County Cross County Hike series are picking up pace! As County Hike Coordinator I'm pleased to announce that the hike plot is just about finalized, volunteers to help with sign-in and the Sag Wagon are in place and I'm in the market for volunteer hike leaders and sweeps. Please encourage all your friends to join you on these hikes and help us celebrate the 60th anniversary of the FLT and the FLTC! Registration for this fun-filled hiking event will have opened on the FLTC web page in mid-February. Please come out and join the hiking fun while supporting the FLTC.

The planning of the 2022 Hiking 101 hikes in the Eastern and Central Passport regions of the FLT is progressing. Donna Flood has planned a series of these hikes in the Western Passport region. In May, June and July I will be leading three of the Five Notable Hikes on the NCNST in the North Country Trail new hike series. Please sign up for some of these hikes on the FLTC web page! 🍁



Colin Parrish

Contact: Deb Nero
fltcexecdir@fingerlakestrail.org

Celebrating 60 Years

Christy Post



In the summer of 1961, Wallace D. “Wally” Wood hiked portions of the Appalachian and Long Trails in Vermont. While travelling back to his home in Rochester, Wally had the idea for a similar trail system in New York. He presented the idea to the Genesee Valley Hiking Club, and a committee was formed to explore the idea with other regional clubs. A year later the first annual meeting of the Finger Lakes Trail Conference was held at Keuka College in Penn Yan, and the Finger Lakes Trail – originally known as the Finger Lakes Trailway – was born.

Today, the Finger Lakes Trail System includes more than 1,000 total miles of trail, spanning west to east from the N.Y.-Pa. border in Allegany State Park to the top of Slide Mountain in the Catskills, with six branch trails running generally north and south. A 15-member volunteer Board of Managers governs the organization, with roughly 350 “boots on the ground” volunteers contributing more than 20,000 hours each year to support the organization and the trail.

Thanks to the generosity of the FLTC’s members and donors, the organization is in a strong financial position, with over \$1 million in available funds in the Sidote Stewardship Fund, which are specifically earmarked for trail preservation and protection, and nearly \$250,000 in annual donations for operating support.

Thank you to all who have played a part in the FLTC’s history, and to all who play a part in our future! We hope you will come celebrate with us at one or more of our signature events this year!



County Hike Series in Tompkins County

This year’s County Hike Series explores the beautiful and scenic Tompkins County! The series kicks off April 16, with subsequent hikes on May 21, June 18, July 16, August 20 and September 17. The series concludes during the FLTC’s 60th Anniversary Fall Weekend Festival in Ithaca. The weekend will include hikes all over the Ithaca area, and gatherings both Friday and Saturday nights at the newly renovated Grayhaven Motel in Ithaca.

There are two options for registration in the County Hike Series. You may register for the Group Hikes, taking advantage of bus service from the end to the starting point of each hike, and enjoying the Sag Wagon with snacks along the way, or you may choose to complete the hikes on your own with independent hikes. Registration for the Group Series closes April 1, 2022. You may register for Independent Hikes any time before Fall Weekend Celebration the weekend of September 16-18.

For more information visit: <https://fingerlakestrail.org/whats-happening/hiking-programs/cross-county-hike-series/>



Trails Day Celebration

Celebrate National Trails Day and the FLTC’s 60th Anniversary at our 2022 Trails Day Celebration on Saturday, June 4!

The Trails Day Celebration promotes outdoor recreation while showcasing the Finger Lakes Trail as one of our region’s most valuable recreational assets. The event features guided hikes and biking tours of the scenic Finger Lakes region in Steuben County, with family-friendly activities, local food, and live entertainment at one of the region’s premier farm breweries, Steuben Brewing Company. It is both a fundraiser for the FLTC and an event that showcases and celebrates all that Steuben County and the Finger Lakes Trail have to offer.

For more information and sponsorship opportunities visit: <https://fingerlakestrail.org/whats-happening/hikes-events/trailsday/>



Fall Weekend 2022

The Finger Lakes Trail Conference's Annual Fall Weekend Festival is a decades-old event that is both a reunion for old friends and an opportunity to welcome new members and friends of the Finger Lakes Trail.

The weekend features your choice of more than a dozen area hikes on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. We'll gather for a Friday night Happy Hour with trail-related entertainment followed by dinner with your best trail friends. In addition to hiking on Saturday, we'll hold our Annual Membership Meeting in the afternoon and an evening celebration of all things FLT, honoring individuals and groups who've made special contributions to the FLT, recognizing End-to-End finishers from the last few years, and celebrating with the finishers of our 2022 County Hike Series through Tompkins County.

The FLT's first Fall Campout was in Ithaca 60 years ago and we are excited to be back. Join us Friday, September 16 – Sunday, September 18 at the Grayhaven Motel in Ithaca for this exciting 60th Anniversary Celebration!



FLT60

Celebrate all year long while hiking the FLT with the FLT60 Challenge!

Our popular trail challenge FLT50 is back this year, but we've upped the ante to 60 miles for our 60th Anniversary Year. The challenge is **FREE**. All miles completed in calendar year 2022 will count – this includes branch trails, miles from your favorite hikes that you do over and over again, and all miles for out-and-backs.

Register online at the FLT60 page of our website, track and log your miles throughout the year (online mileage submission for 2022 will be available soon), and when you hit 60 miles you'll receive a sticker, a patch, and a certificate for your accomplishment. We'll also give you a shout out in *FLT News* and other places we shout out to our trail-loving friends. More than 1,000 people join the Challenge each year. Sign up today!

<https://fingerlakestrail.org/whats-happening/hiking-programs/flt60/> 🍁



Don't want to register online?

If you don't have access to a computer or the internet, or you just don't want to register online, please contact the office and ask for paper registration form: 585.658.9320 or email events@fingerlakestrail.org.

FLT MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

Make check payable to the Finger Lakes Trail Conference
 Mail to 6111 Visitor Center Rd., Mt. Morris, NY 14510 along with this form.
 Annual dues (Membership year runs from April 1 to March 31. Dues paid after Dec. 31 will be applied to the next membership year.)

Pathfinder Memberships:

Youth (under 17)	\$15
Student (under 24)	\$15
Limited Income	\$30
Adult	\$40
Family	\$60
Youth Organization	\$30

Sustaining Memberships:

Trail Blazer	\$100-\$249
Trail Builder	\$250-\$499
Trail Guide	\$500-\$999
Trail Patron	\$1000 +
Lifetime (Individual)	\$600
Lifetime (Family)	\$900

Watkins Glen State Park Stairway

Bill Meehan, Regional Coordinator for area Hammondsport to Watkins Glen



A staircase project on the main Finger Lakes Trail was completed in late October by a crew of volunteers in Watkins Glen State Park. Regional Trail Coordinator Bill Meehan was approached by Park Manager Ron Rooney regarding his concerns about our Finger Lakes Trail and the State Park's South Rim Trail ending on a busy state highway that placed hikers on the road for about 100 feet with minimal shoulder to walk on. With the increased use of the Park and the increase in vehicle traffic, he was very concerned about hiker safety. He asked if we would be willing to undertake a trail reroute that would require constructing 35 feet of stairs on a steep slope in order to provide for the safety of the hikers.

Thinking it sounded like an interesting project that could possibly be completed in 4 or 5 work days, Meehan agreed to assemble a group of area maintainers, headed up by Tracey and Amanda Guntow, the trail sponsors for the section of the Finger Lakes Trail in the State Park. The State Park provided the lumber and the staircase design; the FLT provided the tools and the construction crew.

Of course, the project always turns out to be bigger and more complicated than expected. Moving and cutting the 12 foot long pressure treated 6"x 6" timbers was a challenge for the crew, most of whom are retirees. Lots of dirt had to be moved, rebar had to be pounded in and 100 feet of new trail had to be built. The crew met one day every week to plug away at the project that was finally completed after eight weeks.

Many thanks to the Guntows, Jeff Gage, Sue Robertson, Matt Garrison and Dave Moyer for a job well done. It was also a pleasure to work with the State Park personnel. They made the project enjoyable. 🍁



Bill Meehan

Mitchell Donation

Dave Newman, VP of Trail Preservation



Longtime landowner Harold Mitchell, tired of paying property taxes on his landlocked 2.5 acre trail property north of Bean Station Road, Steuben County, Town of Urbana, has donated it to the Finger Lakes Trail Conference. This property is on the Bristol Hills Branch, on Map B3.

The property is located at the southeastern corner of a number of "muckland" farm fields lying between Bean Station Road and Elmboise Road. FLTC already holds permanent trail easements on the parcel to the north and the parcel to the south. This parcel, while small, creates an important link between those protected trail sections and a route around the muckland's drainage ditches. While our primary method for protecting the trail – forever – is via landowner donated easements, not via land ownership, the Board recognizes that there will be some highly strategic locations where a purchase of the trail property may be necessary. And, there will be a few places along the trail, like this one, where a landowner may find it advantageous to donate property to FLTC

rather than go through the hassle of trying to sell a small parcel. We appreciate the more than 110 landowners who have granted easements or donated property, and we send a special thank you to Harold Mitchell for being our most recent owner to join this group of trail supporters. 🍁

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

Robert Chau End-to-End #513

Story and Photos by Robert Chau



My FLT Main Trail End-to-End started in 2016, when Donna Ruszaj convinced me to go for “a few hikes.” I had hiked and backpacked in Asia, in California and in the West; in Michigan, in Florida, along the AT, and in Canada; but not in New York. Not in 28 years of living here. Turns out Donna and her husband Marty were coordinating the County Hike Series for Cattaraugus County that year. The County Series in Ulster County followed; then several County Series paired with a few informal county series with Barbara Nussbaum. And, finally, the pandemic years and informal hikes paired with the Cortland County series.

Awe-inspiring beauty, solitude, adventure, and a sense of wonder: This hike has it all. As a botanist, I loved the flora and floristic changes from the Catskill Mountains across the state into the Allegheny Plateau. Who can resist a stroll through first growth forest with sunbeams shining onto woodferns!

My End-to-End was a “grandfathered” 586 miles. My wonderful, tolerant wife reminds me that it would be way over 600 miles if one counts all the missed turns and backtracking, trying to find the right blazes. We all have memorable missed turns. Mine has to be a County Series hike in the snow. Our group was following the footprints in the snow of the groups ahead until we realized that there were plenty of footprints but no blazes on the trees. Some, but not all of the groups, turned around. When we came back to the turn in the trail we had missed, we found Bruce Coon and the Nature Appreciation group taking a trail break there.

The most memorable hike has to have been in some hills near Watkins Glen with Barbara Nussbaum and a group from the Cayuga Trails Club. It seemed like the whole hike was in heavy fog. At one point, I mentioned to Barbara that I thought I heard the distinctive sound of machine gun fire. Nah... Then, through the fog, we saw a large group of men. A group of around 60 men. They were wearing what looked like Wehrmacht uniforms and speaking “auf Deutsch!” Apparently, they were re-enacting a Second World War battle between Nazi and Soviet troops on the Russian Front. Armored vehicles and all! We were so freaked that we got out of there in a hurry, the sound of machine gun fire in the fog hastening us on our way! In retrospect, we should have realized that something was amiss at the very beginning. Their German was pretty bad, as lousy as mine. Barbara, a native speaker, would have realized that. Still, we would have totally freaked had we encountered Russian troops and Russian armor as well...

The pandemic years started rough. I came down with Lyme carditis, and had to have a pacemaker implanted in a hospital locked down for Covid19. Could hardly walk to the end of the street after the operation. But I was motivated because the Cortland County series was due to start that spring. My friends Howie, MAC, and Carol formed a Covid19 bubble and helped me regain my strength and hiking “legs.” The Cortland series was cancelled, but we bubblers continued hiking, including completing most of Allegany County.

The Cortland County series took place last year and, with the help of Jennifer Wilson and her husband Joe, and Eva Capobianco, I finished Steuben County as well.

So what did I learn in these past five years? I learned that New York state has vast natural beauty, wonderful forests and farmlands in hills which were once part of mountain chains taller than the Himalayas. Beautiful orchids, wonderful ferns, and immensely interesting fungi! One has to love the beer, bookended with Russian Imperial Stout near the eastern terminus and the Ellicott Brewing Company IPAs near the western terminus. And I was truly inspired by my great friends and hiking buddies. 🍁



◀ *Botrychium oneidense* (Gilbert) House- the blunt-lobed grapefern, a rare find .



▼ *Pekania pennanti* Erxleben- a fisher on the trail.

► *Monotropa uniflora* L.- the ghost plant, a special find.



▲ A blazed tree covered with turkey tail- *Trametes versicolor* (L.) Lloyd.

► A crevice at Little Rock City.



Staying Safe on the FLT

Tim Holahan, FLTC Board Member and Trail Safety Expert



Our outdoor adventures bring an element of risk and sometimes danger. We will kick off our Trail Safety column with two tools: **4 Outing Goals** and **Safety Bling**. This “bling” comes not as patches or medals but as foundation principles and practices.

4 Outing Goals

Reflection and discussion of the **4 Outing Goals** will improve the chances of a fulfilling outing. Individuals and groups can get into trouble when pushing for a singular achievement or when companions find their goals diverge enough that they have unplanned separations in the field. In other words, it can be dangerous if a group separates.

4 Outing Goals

1. Gain a **Wow** experience
2. Feel **Challenged**
3. Avoid **Injury**
4. Want to **Return**

“Wow” experiences may include views, distance milestones, pastoral scenes, snapshots, or wildlife encounters. For some, challenge comes with the exertion of distance and pace. For others, managing navigation, weather, or remoteness are the challenge. For group outings, I encourage each member to brainstorm potential Wows and Challenges so that all parties remain alert to those experiences.

Returning injury-free is a worthy goal so let’s call it out and give it added weight. Reducing pace in tricky spots saves a broken bone. Limiting increases in weekly mileage to 10% at most saves over-use strains. A winter hat kept always in the pack heads off hypothermia. Even summer rains can be bone-chilling. Calling it a day in the face of dangerous weather is smart: lightning is deadly and heat stroke is a true medical emergency.

A wise balance of goals helps ensure we are excited to come back for more. It’s been a good day when we find a wow, feel a challenge, avoid injury, and are excited to return. Celebrate a healthy balance of goals even when not achieving some part of the day’s plan.

The **Safety Bling** checklist rewards us with peace of mind and confidence. Let’s prepare for demanding situations, make a list, add check-mark when they happen, and call it **Safety Bling**. As a parent, Scout leader, and trek leader, it comforts me to know when someone has gained sufficient experiences to check many of these.

Safety Bling

Prepare a trusted contact	Render 1st Aid
Turnaround due to weather	Accompany to safety
React to pain or illness	Give a map
Train for difficulties	Refill water
Trust your instincts	Share food

The first half of the **Safety Bling** checklist focuses on you:

1. **Trusted Contact** - Always leave an itinerary that includes parking location, vehicle description, planned trails, and planned return time with a trusted and responsible person. Agree upon a set of actions should your return be delayed and establish a time by which they should hear from you before acting. Include any phone numbers that might be needed.
2. **Weather** - Preparing for conditions yet also smartly turning back due to weather dangers is a hallmark of savvy outdoor veterans. Call it a day if you have to and credit your Safety Bling account.
3. **Pain** - Listen to what your body tells you: ease up, heal up, and return again if you’re experiencing pain.
4. **Train for difficulties** - Build your skills to handle common challenges: trekking in darkness, avoiding exposure, and navigating unfamiliar areas.
5. **Trust your instincts** - React to your surroundings to keep yourself safe. If you need help and have service, call **911** or **1-833-NYS-RANGERS** (1-833-697-7264).

The second half of the **Safety Bling** checklist focuses on others:

6. **Render 1st Aid** - Give care to the extent of your training and to the best of your ability when needed. A two-part First Aid kit is helpful: one for life-threatening emergencies and one for minor issues and discomforts.
7. **Accompany to Safety** - Escort to safety or shelter-in-place with an injured, confused, or scared person in need of assistance.
8. **Give a map** - Buy and carry an extra printed map so that you may give it away to someone lost and in need, someone not in your group. Your generosity may avoid a lost-person crisis and will build some goodwill for our FLTC community.
9. **Refill water** - Support a thirsty hiker. Options include pouring water from your bottle, carrying an extra “give-away” bottle, or sharing use of your water filter.
10. **Share food** - Food ranks a distant third priority behind need for shelter and water, yet a few hundred snack calories may help a tired hiker to relax, focus, and avoid rash decisions. Carry a couple of extra bars of individually wrapped almonds or trail mix. You never know when you could provide just what another trail user needs!

I wish every day in the woods brings soft rays of sunshine, comfortable breezes, and easy celebrations. To be prepared for what may actually happen in the outdoors, I encourage you to put to good use the **4 Outing Goals** and **Safety Bling** – and share them with others! These tips are particularly helpful for those who are newer to the outdoors and those just learning to adventure on their own.



Tim Holahan

Nate (left) and Tim Holahan on the AT.

Safety Story

“Mom and Dad - why are those people still going up?” Shortly before this, our family emerged from treeline, 90% of the way to an Adirondack summit, and a pop-up thunderstorm appeared. It had been no small feat getting four young children clothed, fed, and on the trail. With the goal in sight what does one do?

Answer: turn around, descend, and avoid danger when lightning is imminent. It’s a firm principle. There was no vote and we certainly did not crowd-source an opinion as we passed many upward bound hikers. The kids did not accomplish their first High Peak summit that day yet gained a valuable lesson in outdoor judgment.

Each has gone on to life adventures, well-equipped with safety savvy. One did a solo through-hike of the Appalachian Trail, one has trekked about Europe, and the youngest two repeated that same climb in darkness to summit before sunrise.

Tim Holahan practices outdoor safety many ways:

- **Massasauga Search and Rescue Team**
- **Boy Scouts Leader & Eagle Scout**
- **Leave No Trace Trainer**
- **Rochester Orienteering Club**
- **Adirondack 46-R**
- **Trail marathoner & ultra-marathoner**
- **Backpacker** 🍁

Over a Year With The Finger Lakes Trail Conference



Michaela Aney - Director of Trail Development

And what a year it has been! One of my first times out on the trail last year, doing trail work as an employee of the FLTC, was on Map M5 with two sponsors. It had worked out that I would meet up with these folks and then stay in the area for a meeting with the Foothills Trail Club the next day. Lynda, one of the sponsors, asked if I wanted to come over for dinner at her house and offered me a place to stay if I needed one since I was coming from out of town. After a day of playing in the mud and doing some tread and drainage work, I joined her and her husband for a wonderful dinner.

I’m glad to say many of my experiences along the trail since then have been just as enjoyable. I am in constant awe of the folks who show up for this trail – whether to do work on it or to hike it. When talking to hikers and volunteers, I love hearing everyone’s reason for showing up. For some, it’s their escape and their sanctuary; for others, it’s their exercise. For many it’s their way to give back for all it’s given them. Whatever your reason is – thank you for being a part of this trail’s past,

present, and future. I look forward to sharing more laughs along the trail, more meals, and moving more dirt this year and hope to see you out there!

We have some fun opportunities coming to get folks more involved on the trail and if you’re already involved and want to kick it up a notch, get in touch with me. We need more folks to help as project managers and crew leaders! 🍁

My dog, Rebel, helping plan some work for this upcoming trail season. In the distant background is the Costello farm, an exciting plum of trail preservation news elsewhere in this issue!



Michaela Aney

Outside Chronicles Makes \$42,000 Donation to the FLTC



Christy Post

“See you outside.”

This tagline ends each email sent from Outside Chronicles founder Mike Radomski, and anyone who knows him knows that he makes good on this promise as often as he can.



FLT News readers – especially those in Western New York – are probably most familiar with Mike Radomski and Outside Chronicles through the wildly popular Western New York Hiking Challenge (#HikeWNY), which engages thousands of trail users each year.

The WNY Hiking Challenge was launched in 2019 as a way to motivate and inspire people to get outdoors. Mike pulled together a dozen or so area hikes, put together all the information people would need to complete the hikes – maps, parking instructions, even overlooks and other locations for pictures and selfies – and shared the information with Challenge participants. There was a \$25 registration fee, most of which would be donated to an area nonprofit. Mike and his wife, “Mrs. O.C.” supported and promoted the challenge online and through social media, where they shared pictures and finisher numbers for completers, who also received a certificate and a patch for their accomplishment. The first year, the challenge saw 246 participants, and raised \$3,000, which was donated to Friends of the Reinstein Woods - surely a welcome contribution from the community!

Just as Mike was gearing up for a second year of the Challenge, COVID-19 hit, which had the unexpected result of driving huge numbers of people to the trails for the first time. Virtual hiking and running challenges took off across the county, but the Western New York Hiking Challenge already had a framework – and a following – and so was far ahead of the game.

In his personal life, Mike is an avid outdoor enthusiast who enjoys hiking and climbing mountains, along with whitewater paddling, fly fishing, and mountain biking. He became an ADK 46er in 2020 and is a licensed NYS Guide/Whitewater Raft Guide through Zoar Valley, Letchworth State Park, and the Black River. Mike earned his Master’s Degree in Great Lakes Environmental Science and is trained in Wilderness First Aid, CPR/AED, and Swiftwater Rescue L4. Despite all of this, Mike doesn’t actually make his living in the outdoor industry. By day he is Assistant CIO at the SUNY Information Exchange Center (IETC), and the rest of the time he is helping others get outside by offering classes (both online and in person) to prepare people for backpacking trips or hiking the High Peaks, and leading hikes throughout Western New York and in the Adirondacks. He also *donates* a lot of time towards the WNY Hiking Challenge, which has become a major fundraising endeavor that has raised more than \$170,000 in the last handful of years for area nonprofits whose missions focus around environmental and conservation causes – including the Finger Lakes Trail Conference.



The Finger Lakes Trail Conference was the grateful recipient of a \$42,000 donation from Outside Chronicles in the fall of 2021 – the largest cash donation the FLTC has ever received from a living donor. And what’s even more astounding? The same day Mike delivered that very large check to the FLTC, he delivered an equally large

check to the Western New York Land Conservancy.

It’s not just the funds Mike donates that have positive impact on New York’s trail community. He is a powerful educator and advocate for shared and responsible trail use who promotes the principles of Leave No Trace and encourages everyone to leave the trail better than they found it.

Each year the Challenge has added a new twist – in 2020 A Winter Challenge was added, in 2021, in addition to supporting the Finger Lakes Trail Conference and Western New York Land Conservancy, Mike donated a portion of proceeds to Sadie’s Safe Harbor Canine Rescue in Buffalo in recognition of the many Challenge participants who hike with their pets. This year, we’re excited to be working with Mike to add a Trail Work component to the WNY Hiking Challenge. We’ll be promoting all the FLTC’s Local Trail Work Days to Challenge participants, and participants can earn a Trail Work pin for each Work Day they join in the Allegany, Central and Eastern regions, and on any of the Branch Trails.

We’re also excited to be working with Mike to help him launch a Finger Lakes Hiking Challenge with hike plots throughout the DEC’s Region 8, which includes many hikes on the Finger Lakes Trail in the central portion of the state. Mike has committed to donating the first year of proceeds for this new challenge to the Finger Lakes Trail Conference.

Outside Chronicles started as a blog to share outdoor adventures and has become a movement driven by Mike’s energy and enthusiasm. We are so grateful for Mike’s contributions to the Finger Lakes Trail Conference, and to the larger trail community. Visit the Outside Chronicles website to learn more about all they do: <https://outsidechronicles.com>. 🍁

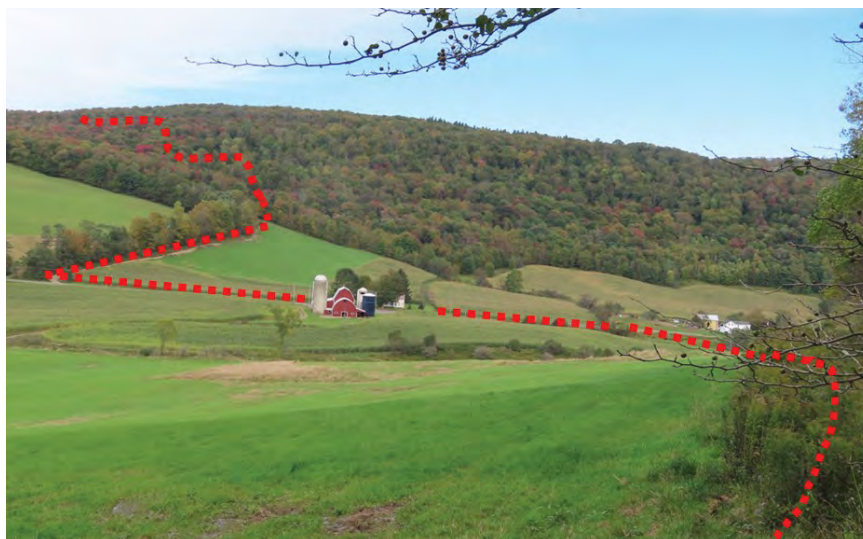


A Sidote Holiday Present

Dave Newman, VP of Trail Preservation



The Finger Lakes Trail Conference has purchased 140 acres containing the trail section through the woods and down the lane on the far side of this scenic valley on Route 19, Lincklaen in Chenango County. And we obtained a trail access easement for the trail shown coming up the near side along the fence line to this view point. This creates a connection from near the Paradise Garden Lean-to in Mariposa State Forest, on the far horizon, to the Chippewa Falls spur trail in the Cuyler Hill State Forest, located behind where the photographer was standing. When the trail is rerouted here in 2022 it will replace 4.4 miles of road walk on Lincklaen Road and Cuyler Hill Road.



Peg Schmidt-Fuller

SIDEBAR:

For those of you new to the Finger Lakes Trail, Ed Sidote, now dead for a decade and a half, was an unparalleled enthusiast for promoting the trail, luring in new members, and starting new programs to further those goals. He started our County Hike Series, made a big fuss over those first few who walked the whole trail, was #3 to do so himself, and started the Bullthistle Hiking Club. For his 90th birthday, celebrated at a spring FLT weekend just north of Bath, he declined presents except for donations to the FLT.

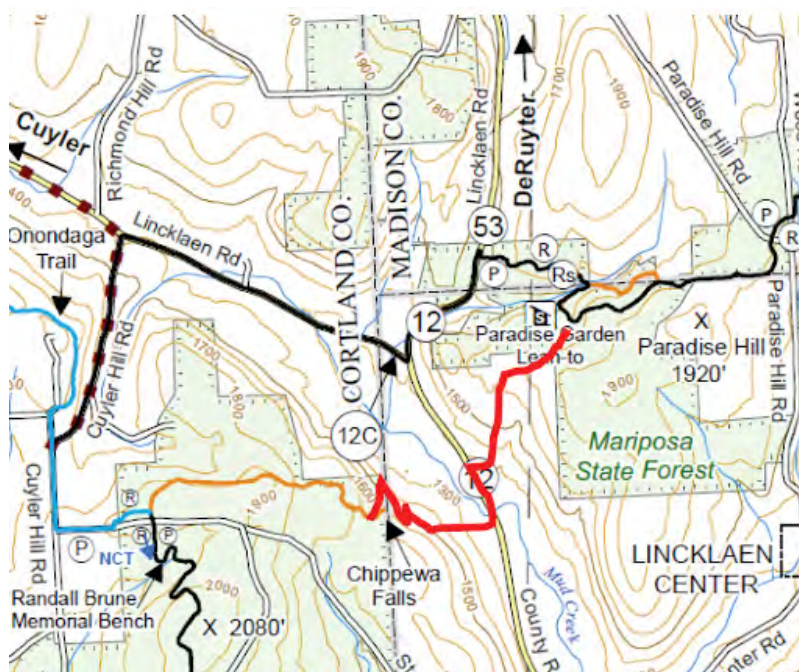
Thus began the Sidote Stewardship Fund, now valued at nearly a million dollars, minus a few major trail protection purchases, all of it begun with a modest stock donation by Ed himself, and improved frequently over the years by generous members and friends. This fund enables us to protect threatened parcels which host the trail, and has become Ed's greatest legacy.

This, the largest trail acquisition project FLTC has done to date, was made possible through the support of members of the FLTC Forever Society and the many donors to the Sidote Trail Preservation Fund. The long-term plan is to sell the property to NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for addition to Mariposa State Forest.

Please do not try a hike here yet! The route is not marked, and the adjacent lands are posted. Instead, please keep your eyes open for further announcements. FLTC's Director of Trail Development, Michaela Aney, will be working with the local DEC foresters and the Regional Trail Coordinators from ADK Onondaga Chapter and the Bullthistle Hiking Club to schedule volunteer trail construction work days in the spring.

Thank you, Sidote Trail Preservation Fund donors! Happy New (Trail) Year!

FLTC Map M22, just east of where the Onondaga Trail branches north from the main east/west Finger Lakes Trail. "To be built" new trail shown in red. 🍁



Trail Projects: Trail Maintenance

Jon Bowen, VP of Trail Maintenance



Zoar Valley

A few years ago, FLTC agreed to maintain trails in this area. Zoar Valley, in southwestern N.Y., is not one of our trails, but we agreed to help DEC with this area. Since then, two volunteers have “retired” from doing maintenance in the area. We are currently looking for a new volunteer.

Peter Wybron M9, M10, M11

We are still looking for maintainers for Maps M9, M10, and M11 in the Bath-Hornell area. We are also looking for someone interested in using our DR Mower in the same area. The mower is on a trailer with a 2” ball hitch. There are 8 hours of mowing, three times a year. Contact Peter at 585/ 243-5351, 585/443-9982 or pwybron@rochester.rr.com

Rick Roberts Catskills M28

Rick (hikerrick2000@yahoo.com) has 3 sections on Map M28 that need filling with new trail adopters.

1. From Bear Spring Horse Camp east to Rt. 30 in Downsville. 6.5 miles. Relatively steep from Horse camp to top of Ridge (1.5 miles) then follows old unused road to Rt. 30. All portions are wooded.
2. From County Rt. 27 to Chamberlain Brook Rd. 3.5 miles. Relatively steep from Rt. 47 to top of ridge, follows an old logging road. Grassy area from Rte.27 to 47. Can be accessed from either end.
3. From Rt. 10 to intersection with Fire tower Trail. 1.5 miles. Rolling wooded terrain. Can be accessed from either end. Originally Bruce and Donna Coons’ section.

ADK-ON:

60 Years Maintaining the Finger Lakes Trail

NEW Regional Trail Coordinator

Harold Kyle is the new Regional Trail Coordinator for Chenango West 2, which includes the Onondaga Trail and parts of the M21 and M22 sections. If anyone is interested in helping to maintain these trails, please reach out to Harold via email: harold@cnyhikes.com. Harold is also the Trails Chair for ADK-Onondaga.

Just One Example of a Club Trail Program, ADK-ON

By Mary Coffin with consultation with past Trail Chairs, Bill Coffin and Tony Rodriguez

When asked to outline the ADK-Onondaga Chapter’s (ADK-ON) Finger Lakes Trail Program I needed to step back a bit to think about how the program evolved over time. ADK-ON first became an FLTC trail maintainer circa 1962-64 and at that time was responsible for nearly 90 miles of Main FLT from Odell Road on M19 to Bowman Lake on M24. The Onondaga Branch was yet to be built. By 1966 the first 20 miles of the Onondaga Branch was first flagged and completed in 1985 with a grand opening ceremony and ADK-ON was now responsible for 106 miles. The trail ended on Herlihy Road, north of Spruce Pond, with plans to extend it to Cazenovia someday. I first became a trail steward in 1982 as a newbie in the Chapter and obtained my first hand drawn blue map of M20. At that time the ADK-ON Trails Committee was responsible for obtaining landowner permissions (revokable on private land), DEC permits, construction, marking and signage, bridge and lean-to repair and annual maintenance with the support of FLTC.

By 1997 ADK-ON was asked to extend the Onondaga Branch another 22 miles as part of the North Country National Scenic Trail (NCT) and that section was completed in 2008. The trail mileage continued to grow and ADK needed to spin off a bit of mileage on both the west and east ends of their main trail responsibility.

Thanks go to the Bullthistle and Cortland groups who helped reduce ADK mileage on the FLT. This review brings us to where we are today

Contact:

Jon Bowen

325/638-8749

jkbowen@gmail.com



David Priester

FLT near Newtown Road on M15



Richard Frio

ADK-ON's two man saw always starts, never runs out of gas.

continued on next page...

...continued from page 14

at approximately 70 miles of FLT. And as an Adirondack Mountain Club Chapter, we maintain trails in Pigeon Lake Wilderness and several Adirondack NCT sections.

This bit of history puts our present trail program in perspective. Just how does a club manage the trail? First of all we have a dedicated crew of trail maintainers and trail stewards, crosscut saw team, blazing/marketing team, off road steward, parallel landowner liaison committee and steward coordinators supporting the Trails Chair, FLTC Volunteer Regional Trail Coordinator, and North Country Trail Team Leader. With the retirement of Tony Rodriguez after nearly 20 years, we have some new members volunteering to help and several veteran volunteers stepping up and others pitching in. Bottom line: the trail work is managed by a coordinated subset of trail teams.

For our 70 miles we have 44 off-road sections and 44 stewards. Some sections have a pair of stewards, and some stewards have two sections, and the average section length is 0.8-2 miles. Some sections are more or less difficult to maintain based on terrain, driving distance, vegetative growth (berry bushes) and dead treefall potential. ADK-ON stewards collectively volunteer several thousand hours of sweat equity annually. The system is not perfect. Some well-intended stewards don't make it out for the requested 3x/yr. inspection, mother nature plays tricks on the forests, we lose landowners, and much trail is not hospitable to hikers or maintenance during hunting season Oct 1- Dec 31.

In addition to routine steward maintenance, we schedule a minimum of three work trips per month, April – October, including any Wednesday when work is reported, but always the first Wednesday of the month, for work beyond the stewards' capacities. Cross cut saws (long two-handled saws)

sawyers are sitting in the wings waiting for a tree to fall across the trail so they can get out to cut it. A blazing team reblazes the trail and checks signage and register boxes in an annual rotation. A string trimming crew takes care of excessive vegetative growth. Bridge and leanto repair are scheduled as needed and usually bring out a good-sized volunteer group. The Landowner Liaison team visits local landowners annually as well as mailing all landowners a letter of appreciation and works to obtain new landowners to move trail off road, replace landowners, proposes Trail Access Easements and Rights of Way on private land and consults with DEC where appropriate. All these teams build a camaraderie as these folks enjoy working outdoors together. Finally, ADK like other trail maintaining groups and individuals seeks the help of Alley Cat Crews for bigger jobs. ADK trail sections are not perfect, but the teams work hard to provide the foot traveler with a clear, marked path in the woods. 🍁



Larry Blumberg

9/21/21 -- Bridge repair over the Cold Spring Brook on M27 that Matt Rose spearheaded...that's Matt Rose in the background, and David Arkin in the foreground.



Larry Blumberg

7-23-21 -- Puncheon build on M24...Chris Rounds in foreground, Roy Dando in the middle, Gary Clausing in the back.



Richard Frio

Skyline Trail Map 01 November 17, 2021. Sawyer crew ADK-ON from left to right Dick Harper, Bruce Holloway, Dave Grant, Harold Kyle.



David Priester

This one is a Cayuga Trails Club work day project on the Abbott Loop last October.

Trail Projects: FLT Maps

Jo Taylor, Mapping Committee



Personnel Changes

It has been months since my last column (Fall, 2021). In the interim, in November, we welcomed a new volunteer to the mapping team. Many of you are familiar with the name Mark Valites. He is an FLT celebrity, having completed an End-to-End run of the main FLT in fifteen and a half days last September, the FLT's Fastest Known Time (FKT) for a supported End-to-End run. You probably read his account of his adventures and misadventures on that run in the last issue of the *FLT News*. You may also know Mark from his participation in the Finger Lakes Trail Hikers & Friends Facebook page where he is an official "Group Expert."

Mark had been in touch with me prior to his run with questions about our maps and reports of inconsistencies. It was with extreme dismay that I read this in his account of his run:

The very end was unfortunately particularly gloomy. I closely watched the mileage drop on my watch as it followed the GPX file. 4 miles. 3 miles. I started to mentally prepare for the terminus. 2 miles. Not much left now. 1.5 miles. A couple minutes more and suddenly I saw the terminus. Wait. What? I was supposed to have over a mile to go. How did this happen? And then it hit me: while I'd pointed out multiple sources of confusion from the FLTC over the location of the western terminus earlier in the year and the interactive map was updated because of it, the corresponding GPX file never was. ... I'd noticed other issues, but not this one. I wasn't surprised it happened, but didn't welcome this surprise. Still a bit in shock, I stopped my watch and tried to process that I'd abruptly just finished.

Mark now will have the opportunity, over time, to help fix the issues he has discovered in our maps. Already his participation in our discussions is making a positive difference, and we await his ever-growing list of 70+ mapping issues eagerly but with some trepidation. His passion and attention to detail, as well as his technical skills and extensive on-the-ground experience with the FLT, make him a very welcome addition to the team.

We have, regrettably, also lost two members of our team. The father and son duo, Ian and Crosby Woods, have had to withdraw because of their other commitments—in tenth-grader Crosby's case, school and after-school activities, and, in Ian's case, his professional workload. We're sorry that we cannot currently draw on young Crosby's obvious talent and enthusiasm for maps and the FLT. Perhaps he will be able to lend a hand in summer. We particularly need to fill the slot vacated by Ian—understanding and helping maintain the code that is behind the interactive map and other website mapping functions. His willingness to dig into this was much appreciated. Roger Hopkins, who heads the

publishing side of our mapping team, will be advertising the position. We use a number of tools to create the interactive maps on the website and the digital download maps available in the website storefront. Close coordination with the full mapping team and some technical skills (Excel, VBA, HTML, GPX editor) are required. Contact roger.hopkins@fingerlakestrail.org

Recent Map Updates – Hunting Closures and more hunting closures

In fall, Mapping was nearly overwhelmed by changes to hunting closures—there were many changes due to the DEC's annual changes to season and sub-season dates and this year's addition of a holiday deer season, as well as many changes in landowner preferences. In some cases there was a considerable lag in updating the maps, and we had to rely solely on website Trail Condition Notices to get the word out.

Currently, closure information is entered manually in three places, often by different people:

- The trail condition notices visible on the website
- Hunting closure notices, trail location, and bypass routes, drawn on the PDF/Paper maps
- Closure waypoints, track extent outlines, and bypass routes (normally roadwalks), in GPX files sold in the store and used to generate the interactive maps.

This can result in conflicting and confusing information, and sometimes in errors. In addition, making these changes requires a time-consuming update/publish cycle. We plan to have a more streamlined system in place by next year's fall hunting season. You can expect to hear more on this in the coming months.

Contact: Jo Taylor
jhtaylor@frontiernet.net



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

Trail Projects: Alley Cat Projects 2022

Michaela Aney



While we are in the thick of planning many projects across the trail system, dates have been confirmed for the following projects:

Letchworth Branch Trail Improvements (Maps L1 & L2)

June 19-25 (Sunday, June 19 and Saturday June 25, will be travel days for folks joining from outside the region)

Some lodging may be available at the Letchworth Conference Center. This project is a part of the American Hiking Society's Volunteer Vacation program for the second year in a row. Please join us for the whole week or for however long your schedule allows as we continue improvements along the much beloved Letchworth Branch Trail. If you are interested in joining or have any questions, please email volunteer@fingerlakestrail.org!

Rattlesnake Hill Lean-to (Map M8)

August 21-24

Construction of a Rob Hughes timber frame design lean-to will take place on Map M9 near Swain! Housing will be available at the Swain Ski Resort with meals provided. Please reach out to the Project Manager, Peter Wybron (prwybron@rochester.rr.com) and Construction Manager, Mike Ogden (mogden317@gmail.com) if you are interested in helping or have any questions about the project!

Keep an eye on the Alley Cat page on our website for more work projects or email volunteer@fingerlakestrail.org if you'd like to receive updates on Alley Cats and other trail work projects! 🍁



Contact: Michaela Aney
michaela.aney@fingerlakestrail.org

Wonderful Property For Sale Along the Trail



Occasionally we help one of the trail's landowners sell his or her property in gratitude for their generosity in permitting the trail to travel there, and this has resulted a few times in the happy situation where an FLT member has bought their dream property this way, which also helps to preserve the happy chain of trail-friendly owners.

In this issue we are featuring the Costello property in Linklaen, Map M22, where a major purchase by the FLT, of land between two state forests, will solidify the trail route off-road, along a beautiful route. Mark Costello is also selling the rest of his property, including barn and house. See a full description of the offering at https://www.landandfarm.com/property/89_Acres_in_Chenango_County-15706689/

Here is one good picture of the place; find more at the website above. This could be some hiker's fantasy place, with fields and woods, and a pair of state forests, all of which will be tied together with the Finger Lakes Trail once the new trail section, off road, is built this coming season. 🍁



Mark Costello

Annual Report of Donors and Members

We are deeply grateful to the many individuals, families, businesses, clubs, and foundations who support the Finger Lakes Trail Conference through donations and membership dues. Your contributions provide critical funding for trail work and construction projects, for our trail maps and member communications, and for the small staff who work to promote and enhance the FLTC. Your gifts help to strengthen our growing trail community, and to strengthen the trail itself.

The following lists include your combined donations and membership dues. Thank you for your support of the Finger Lakes Trail Conference!

Trail Patron \$1000+

ADK Onondaga Chapter
Anonymous
Roger S. & Whitney Bagnall
Betty Lewis Environmental Charitable
Robert Betzler
Larry & Susan Blumberg
Jon & Kathy Bowen
Gary & Ann Brouse
Mary Callaway
William S. & Mary Coffin
Sue DeGeorge
Ruth & Daniel Dorrough
Eric and Sheila Eagan
Finger Lakes Runners Club
Ethyl Hittle
Roger & Ruth Hopkins
John Kiczek & Christine Seuffert
Bruce Levine
Scott Magee
Pat & Mary Ellen Monahan
Ken & Lindsay Morgan
David & Laurel Newman
New York Parks Trails
Outside Chronicles
Red Newt Racing
Lynda Rummel & Rolf Zerges
Sigi Schwinge
Steve Shaum & Nancy Kleinrock
Edward Sheats
Steuben Brewing Company
Stephen Stirling
Colleen Townsend & Harold Stapleton
Penelope Wickham and Tom Kather
Amy Yunis

Trail Guide \$500 - \$999

Catharine Ackerson & Susan Illes
Richard Allen
Kevin Armstrong
Barbara Bailey
Stephen Bakke
Joseph Baldino
Herbert Barber
Carl (Skip) Battaglia & Virginia Bachelor
Kevin Breiner
Lori Brewer
Cayuga Trails Club
CFCU Credit Union
Willson Cummer & Michelle Breidenbach
Joseph Donovan
Gail & William Ellsworth
Donna Flood
Rich & Sue Freeman
David Gohn
Paul & Kathy Good
Chris & Colleen Gyr
Mark & Emily Holiday Fund
William C. & Mary Jane Holmes
Frank Hughto-Delzer
Edna Hyer
Robert James
Barbara Lobb
Susan McAnany
Clyde Morrison
John V. Nelson

Network for Good
David Newlun
Daniel O'Shea
John Orsini
Nancy Papish
Martha Pattullo
Paypal Charitable Giving Fund
Chris Rubeck
Mary Schmelzer
Myra Shulman
Timothy Snedeker
William Thompson
Theresa Tonozzi
Kathryn Tsoukatos
Jacqui Wensich
Mary J B Work Fund
Yellow Jacket Racing
Dan Young
Yunis Realty, Inc. Charitable Fund

Trail Builder \$250 - \$499

42 North Brewing
Brett Ahrens
Amazon Smile
American Hiking Society
Scott Andrus
Paul Babbitt
Tom Babcock
Roger Bagnall
Gene & Liz Bavis
Benevity Community Impact Fund
Judith Bennett
Judith M. & Jeffrey Bennett
Blue Blaze Coffee
Dave & Joanna Bock
John & Margo Brown
Craig & Kathleen Byrum
Karlen Chase
Linda L. & Barry Cruttenden
& Susan Eisinger
Bud & Nancy Gearhart
Karen Goodman
Sally Hardenburg
Russell Harris
Sheila Hess
Amber Inglis
Katharine James
Jim Jurista
Timothy Kasser
Keith & Bonnie Krabill
Barbara Kreiley
Robert Kremens
David & Marjory Lee
Thomas & Kathy Markel
Tom Markel
David and Linda Marsh
Corinne McDaniels
Kim & Terry Meacham
Ralph & Joan Merzbach
Ken Morgan
Morgan Stanley GIFT
Debra Nero and Colin Parrish
Frank Rees
RunSignUp
David & Susan Ruppert
John G. & Margaret Schmitt
Ellen Shaw-Maceko

Charlie Strohm
Paul Thomas
Samuel Vrooman
Dr. Gerald & Mrs. Susan Vukman
Owen Zacharias

Trail Blazer \$100 - \$249

42 North Event
Mark Abbey
Yolanda Adrean
Suzanne Aigen
Lynn Andersen
John M. & Luanne Andersson
Richard Armstrong
Roger & Dawn Ashworth
Gwendolyn Baker
Michael Baker
Sandy & Bill Ballard
John Barnett
Lisa Barrett
Larry & June Bates
Bath Veterinary Hospital
Marilyn Beckley
Karen Beckman
Andrew Beckmann
Thomas R. & Mary Lou Belasky
Brian Bell
Bradley & Courtney Benjamin
Lisa Bertolasio
Teresa D. & Maxwell E. Blenis
Andy Boehm and Connie O'Brien
David Bogosian
Greg Boyer
Dan & Diane Bradshaw
Brendan & Mary Brady
Nancy Brink-O'Connor
Dave & Carol Burnett
Campbell-Savona ACE Health Class
Catherine Caneau
Sharon & David Canfield
Amy Carlo
MaryJane Carpenter
Robert Chau
Lonnie & Suzanne Clar
Guy Clark
Guy and Pat Clark
Melissa Cohen
Peter Collinge & Carol Thiel
William Coppard
Henry Crans
Mike Cunningham
Samuel & Christeen Curlew
Carl Daiker
Mark Dallara
Peggy Davis
Keith Day
William Day
William & Terri Dempksi
Steve Desmond
James DeWan
Candy & Bob Dietrich
Mike & Jan Douglass
Jeremy & Amy Downs
Forrest & Sara Earl
Roger Easton
Eric Elder
Marjorie and Stephen Elder

Margaret Engasser
Joyce and Mike Ermer
Wes Ernsberger
Robert Fallon
David Fergusson
Elizabeth Fisher-York
Celeste Flick
FLT Bullthistle Hikers Club
Foothills Trail Club
Stephen Freedhoff
Richard Frio
William Fry
Peg & Michael Fuller
Karyn Giese
Gladys Gifford
Ruth Goldberg
Fran & George Gotsik
Gwen Gottschall
Jennifer A. Grant
Ellen Griffin
David M. Gwinn & Gina Nania
Helen & Chris Haller
Robert Halpin
Carole Hansen
Jennifer Hargrave
Joseph & Karen Hart
Cheryl Hazlitt
Michael Heckathorn
Richard Heinrich
David Hessler
Patrick Hewlett
Timothy Holahan
J. Perry & Dorothy Howland
Greg Hoyt
Debbie Hunt
Mark Hunt
Cricket & David Hunter
Dr. Peter & Mrs. Mary Huntington
IBM Matching Grants Program
Virginia Illi
Terence Isaac
Casey Janke
Rita Jensen
Deb Johnson
Douglas & MaryAnne Jones
Keith Jones
William Jones
Marcia Keavney
Gunther & Geraldine Keil
Mary Keller
William A. & Carol F. Klepack
Daniel Knopp
Russell & Vicki Kopylcak
Cheryl Kreindler
George Krueger
Robert LaBelle
Lakeland Rovers Outing Club
Robert LaMantia
Anders Larson
Jarius Lawrence
George Lee Jr
Randy & Janet Lehman
Laura Leso
David & Cynthia Lewis
Lawrence Liberty
Richard Lightcap
Curtis Lindahl
Daniel Linnenberg
Roger & Rose Linscott
Patricia Longstaff
Gregory & Angela Longwell
James Loomis
Kathleen Lynn
Ralph Lynn
Mary MacDonald
Lorraine Manelis
Jeffrey & Theresa Marshall
Stephen Martonosi
Sharon Mattsson

Maureen McAnany
C. Thomas & Emily M. McCall
Pamela McCarrick
Terry McConnell
Janet McCue
Benjamin Mcmillen
Mary Lou McPhail
Aaron Mehlenbacher
Ryan Meissner
Erin Meskill
Alan Midura
Julia Miller
Susan Miller
Todd Miner
Barney Molldrem
Jennifer Morris
Paul Morss
Jane Mt.Pleasant
Sheila & John Myer
David Nadeau
Ronald W. & Barbara Navik
Eric & Jill Nelson
Network For Good
Kim Newland
Glenn Nixon
Donna Noteware
Peter Nye
Thomas & Barbara O'Brien
Ellie O'Connor
Patrick O'Mara
Mark O'Neil
Richard & Pat Ortlepp
Kenneth Osika
Nicole Pane
Bob Pattullo
Walter & Nancy Peek
Cheryl Peluso
Maxim Perelstein & Anindita Banerjee
Garret Piech
Garrett Piech & Julie Fromer Piech
Michael Pinnisi
Jeffrey Poulin
Shawn & Colette Pound
David Priestner
Chris Proulx & Varya Siegel
Tracy Quattrociocchi
Karen Rebis
James & Marji Robinson
Roger Roch
Richard & Deborah Rogler
Carol Romeo
Dr. Stephen & Elise Rosenfeld
Neville W. Sachs & Carol Adamec
Jennifer & Robert Schlick
Susan Schmalfuss
John Schroeder
Joan Schumaker
Dr. Danny W. & Kristin Scott
Terry Searles
Jack Sexton
Anne Sibley
Steve & Leslie Siegard
John Sirianni
Ronald & Linda Smarsh
Carol O. Smith
Jason Smith
Lowell Smith
Denise Snyder
Sarah Spengler
Sara Stebbins
Zakery Steele
Greg Stefl
Mare Steiniger
David Strong
Steven Stycos
Gabriel Sudduth
Mark & Ellen Sussman
Donald & Beatrice Sutherland

David Swaciak
Richard Swank
Richard & Kathryn Swank
Owen Taylor
Janet L. Thigpen
Jackson 'Jet' & Shirley Thomas
Robert Thomas
Barbara Timbrook
James & Jane Trondsen
Ruthlynn Trouslet & Gary Andrews
Kathryn Tunkel
Paul Verklan
Bob & Sherry Volk
Gretchen Voss
Nancy & Mark Wadopian
Edward Walsh
Cory Ward
Angus & Anne Watkins
Virginia Watson
Dennis Weaver
Marc Weinberg
Tatiana Werbizky & Brad Edmondson
Todd Wetherill
Sharon Wheat
Chelsea Wheeler
Scott Wilkerson
Terrence & Barbara Woodworth
Raymond & Sandra Yelle
Josie Yunis
Bill & Valerie Yust
Ellen & Neal Zaslau
Richard Zmuda
Mary Zuk-Domanski

Pathfinder Up to \$100

Lisa Abell
Jay Abercrombie
Ron Abraham
James Abrams
Susan Acker
Michael Ackroyd
Bryant Adams
Richard Adams
Robb Adams
Frank Adomshick
Doug Ahlsen
Lance Alexander
Bill A. & Kristen Allen
Erwin Allmann
Karen Alongi
Karen Alpha
Marie Altenau
Beth Altmann
Anne Altshuler
Donald Ames
Charine Andersen
Eileen Anderson
Karen Anderson
Margaret Anderson
Sharon Anderson
Susan Anderson
Joe Andrews
Tori Andruczyk
Richard Andruslis
Justin Ansell
Paul Antonowicz
Judith Appleton
David Arkin
Sophia Armstead
Brian Armstrong
Jim Armstrong
Steven Armstrong
Philip Arnold
Samuel Arnold
Arnold Aronson
Christopher Asbury
David Auer
Marcia Austin
Jeff Babbitt
Jonathan Babcock
Donna Badolato
Michelle Baker
Robert Baker

Taryn & Mike Bakowski
Sharleen Ball
Ellen Banks
Patrick Barczys
Natalie Baris
Jerrianne Barnes
Sarah Barnes
Rusty Bartels
Robert and Shirley Barton
Amy Bateman
Carl Battaglia
Beth Baumgartner
Thomas & Joan Bayline
James Beardsley & Ellen Gibson
Jennifer Becker
Lyman Beecher
James Bellanca
Robert & Carolyn Belle
Michael Benden
Steven Bender
Alan Benedict
Anne Benedict
Kevin Benedict
Stephen Benedict
Carol Benner
Bob Berch & Christine DeGolyer
David M. Berg
Donald Bergman
Ed Bergman
Mike Bernhard
Allan R. & Jean M. Berry
Brian Berthelot
Colleen Betrus
Todd Beverly
Kristin Bezek
Big Sky Enterprises Inc
Thane Bilodeau
Georgiana & Eugene Binder
Clay Birkett
Sarah Bjornland
David Black
Stacey Black
Bruce Blackman
Christopher Blades
Mary Blazey
Robert & Susan Bliven
Eric Bloomquist
Derek & Margaret Blount
Melissa Boglioli
Pam Bolger
Rick Bonney
Marjorie Boone
Lora Bouton
Mark Bouton
Audrey Bowe
Dick Bower
Polly Bowers
David Bowman
Kelly Bowman
Maria Brady
Robert Brashear
Erin Breiner
Matthew Brennan
Richard Breslin
Ralph Bressler
Richard Breusch
James Brigden
Eva Briggs
Mark Brizzi
Margaret & David Brongo
Nancy Bronstein
Stephen Brooks
Jim Brophy
Amanda Brown
Barbara Brown
Molly Brown
Tom & Michele Bryden
Annette Brzezicki
Jackie Bubnell
Bonnie Buelow
Joyce Bufano
Laura Buisch
Georgine Burke
Peter and Janette Burnett

Jeanne Burns
Tina Burns
Dan Bushnell
Tom Byers
Sheila Byrne
Jennifer Caci
Pamela Cady
Christine & Timothy Camann
Cindy Campanella
Karen Campbell
Patrice Campbell
Shawn Campbell
Eva Capobianco
Tessa Careaga
John Carey
Aaron Carlson
Kenneth Carlson
Christopher Carlton
Douglas & Melody Carrier
John Carter
Stacey Case
Timothy Cassano
Tracy Cassidy
Veronica Caward
Jan Chadwick
Todd Chadwick
Bryan Chambala
Geri Chapman
David Chapus
Denise Charpentier
Liz Chatterton
Paul & Teresa Chester
Lori Chiarilli
Rosemary Childs
Lynda Chudy
Penny Ciccone
John Clancy
Erica Clark
Kim Clark
Shannon Clarke
Gary Clausing
Thomas Cleland
Sharon Coates
Kenneth Cohen
Suzanne Cohen
Shea Coleman
Vincent & Judith Colombo
Cate Concannon
Jamie Condon
Tammy Congelli
David Conklin
Debra Connell
Patrick Connolly
Patrick Connors
David Conti
Andrew Converse
Bill Cooke
Jean Cooley
John Cooley
Rita Coon
Maria Cooper
Sue Corey
Russell Cornwell
Stephen Corrigan
Patrick Cosmano
Caleb Cotter
Marieanne Coursen
Ralph Coy
Michael Coyle
Ian Cropp
David Crosby
Mary Lee Crosby
Dale Crumb
Linda Cruttenden
Catherine Cruz
Carl Cuiplylo
Charles Culp
Danielle Cummings
Sean Cunningham
Suzanne Curran
Doreen Curtin
Nancy Cusumano
Karen & Nancy Czajka
Lisa D'Angelo

Peter Dady
Danyell Dahn
John Dailey
Elaine Dalrymple
Michael Daly
Thomas Daly
Paul and Mary Dangler
Jeff & Deana Darling
Thomas Dasson
Danielle Davignon & Adam Peruta
Margaret Davidson
Marie Davis
Tonya Davis
Steven Day
Kathie De Wolfe
Stephen & Jeanette Decker
Laura DeKruiger
John & Jo Ellen Del Campo
David DeLeon
Frank DelSignore
Christopher Demong
Jane DeRensis
Thomas Detrie
Mark Deuble
James Devona
Peter Diebold
Augusto Diemecke
Samuel DiFranco
Donna & Tom Dinse
Kathleen Disque
Sharon Dittman
Christine Dixon
Frederick & Cynthia Dlugos
Kelly Dodd
Patrick Domaratz
Dormann Public Library
Lee Douglas
Linda Downes
Karen Downey
Amy Downs
Kristina Doyle
D.C. Dragone
Richard DuBois
Tom Duddy
Michelle Dudley
Michelle Dudley
Erik Durka
Anne Dwyer
Carlton Dykes
Al Eaton
David Eaton
R Douglas Eaton
John Eberl
Fritz Ebner
David Eddy
Marc A. Edelstein
James Edwards
Julia Edwards
Nancy Edwards
Peter A. & Denise Egan
Jeffrey Ehlinger
Marne Einarson and Ted Caldwell
Kathleen Eisele
Katy Elder
Rachel Elder
Sarah Elder
Michael Elio
William Elliott
Kathleen Elliott-Birdsall
Steve & Karen Ellsworth
David Elwyn
Robert Emerson
Adam & Tonya Engst
Barry Erickson
Peter Erickson
Dan Ermer
Beth Erviti
Judy Erwin
Denise Eshenaur
Cecelia Fabrizio
Joanne Facci
Theresa Fadden
Sarah Fairbanks
Diane Farnham

F. Gregory Farnham
Matthew Farrell
William & Barbara Ferguson
Dennis Ferlito
David Fernandez
Sheila Ferrari
Suzanne Fillippi
Robbie Finch
Dolores Finley
Debra Finn
Ryan Finnigan
Nicholas and Jennifer Fischietto
Arnie Fisher
John Fitzsimmons
Emily Flagg
Lisa Fleet
Jody Fleischer
Peter Fleszar
Agnieszka Flor
Kathleen Foote
John Ford
Cheryl Forell-Tomasulo
Thomas Formanek
Stacy Fox
Adam Frank
Donna Frantz
Stephanie Frasca
Kristine Fredrick
Elizabeth Freeland
Urs Frei
L.J. Freitag
Patricia Fries
Peg Fuller
Ann Furze
Deborah Gagnon
Katherine Gailey
Bridget Gaines
Joseph Gallo
Sheryl Galutia
David Galvin
Cee Garcia
Paul Gardner
Christine Garfield
Nick Garigliano
Elizabeth Garry
Lydia Garvey
Patricia Gatto-Chinery
Douglas Gausman
Scott Geiger
Carl Gelderloos
Julie Gemerek
Jerome Gentry
Jacqueline Gerding
Nancy Giardina
Joseph Giarrizzo
Jennifer Gilbert
Thomas Gilbert
Thomas Gillies
Girl Scout Troop 30755
Bradley & Jennifer Gleason
Monica Gleason Potter
Matthew Glenn
Lisa and Todd Goho
Ronnie & Morton Goldberg
Jeff Goldman
Nicholas Good
Michael & Susan Goodwin
Richard Goodwin
MaryAnn Gorman
Sarah Gottschalk
Peter Gradoni
Patrick Graham
Jennifer Grande
David Grant
Charles Greene
Christine Gregoire
Chase Gregory
Gretchen & Caleb Gretskey
Gary Grinnell
Margaret Griswold
Rick Grossman
Peter Grunder
Frank & Carolie Guilbault
John Gundrum Jr.

David Guy	Eric Huppert	Claudia Lawler	Alida Merrill	Marissa Pace
Lyndsie Guy	Mahlon & Eleanor Hurst	Pauline Lawless	Angie Merrow	Michael C., Martina & Michael II Page
Barbara Hackett	Robert Husband	Diane Lebo Wallace	Ellie Metzger	Wendy Parisi
MaryAnn Haefner	Tamara Huyge	David Lee	June Meyer	Fred & Dionne Parker
Pete Hagmire	Betsy Hyer	Joan Lentini	Stephen Meyer	Michelle Parker
Diane Hainsworth	Marie Inglee	Kimery Levering	Jim Miller	Jack (John) Parrett
James Halling	Jackie Jablonski	Ryan Levering	John & Susan Miller	Paul, Sam & Vicky Parrinello
Yvonne Hallstead	Michelle Jackson	Kenneth Lewaine	Julie Miller	Patty Parshall
Lisa Halstead	Peggy Jacobs	Kim Lewis	Lee & Cheryl Miller	Phillip Passmore
Sean Halt	Robert Jacobs	Marnee Lewis	Louise Miller	Rhonda Pasto
Ronald Hand	Christopher Jacobus	Edwin Lindskoog	Sharon Miller	Carrie Patterson
Robert Handley	Ronald Jamerson	Elaine Liu	Mark Mingos	Deborah Patterson
Lindsey Hanes	Ronald Jamerson	Joanna Minney	Welles Lobb	Sidney & Carol Paxson
Anthony Hanson	Mary Janiszewski	Todd Lockwood	Christina & Lisa Mitchell	John Peltier
Carl Harder Boy Scout Troop 363	David Jehle	Tim Logue	Harold Mitchell	Jason Pelton
David Harde	Will Jenney	Eileen Loh-Fontier	Laluce Mitchell	Teresa Pelton
Linda Harding	C J Jensen	Ray Long	Mark Mitchell	Penn Yan Academy Outdoor Adventure Club
Jennifer Hargrave	Douglas Jensen	Dan and Amy Lopata	Sarah Mogil	David & Erin Peppel
Kip Hargrave	Warren Johnsen	Nancy Lorr	Jeanne Moog	Alan Percy
Kip & Terri Hargrave	Karl Jones	Paula Loskamp	Mark Moon	William Perckett
Paul Harnik	Lois Justice	Serge Lossa	Christopher Mooney	James Perkins
Richard Harper	Christina Kager	Eugene Lovelace	David Mooney	Dennis Permoda
Richard Harper & Mary Maroney	Jennifer Kalbfell	Alice Loveys	Edward Moore	Ryan Perry
Yusuf Harper	Jon A. Kapecki	Lois Lovgren	Kathryn Moore	William & Phyllis Peterson
Sarahjane Harrigan	Alfred Karney	Donald Lowe	Jean-Pierre Moreau	Dennis Petraske
Donald Harris	Yossi Katz	Heidi Lowenstein	Jean & Joseph Morreal	Gerald (Gus) Phillips
David Harrison	Dwight Kauppi	Chris Luley	Emory Morris	Amanda Piechota
David & Sylvia Harrison	Kerry Kautzman	Brenda Lunham	Kelly Morris	Jamey Pierson
Patricia Hart	Aaron Keller	Lisa & Edward Lyke	Lisa Morris	Amanda Piha
David & Donna Hartley	Sandy Kelley	Gwyneth Lymberis	Barbara Morrissey	Stephanie Platania
Steven Hartman	Kathy Kellogg	Beverly Lyon	Kevin Morrissey	Norma Platt
David & Donna Hartney	Paul Kendziarski	Peter Lyons and Adria Moffatt	Patricia Morrow	Joseph Platzer
Tom Harvey	James Kennedy	Darlene MacDonnell	Jeff Morse	Naomi Pless and James Burdick
Roger Haskins	Lisa Kenney	Brandon Macie	Jeffrey & Terry Morse	James Pomeroy
Michelle Hatch	Jake Kern	Malcolm MacKenzie	Kim Morse	Bruce Popper
Tyler Hathaway	Jessica Kerns	Scott MacPhail	Bruce Moseley	Christy Post
Norman Hatt	Al Kidd	Richard Maggi	Lori Motak	Sarah Post
Donna Hawkes	Jean Kiefer Wood	Kate Maginnity	Barbara Mucher	Erin Potter
Kelley Hawksley	Amanda King	Edward Mahoney	Peter Muehlbauer	Eileen Powell
Shelby Haynes	Marsha King	Carol Mallison	Teresa & Gregory Mueller	Will Powell
Nancy Hayward	Brian Kirk	Gary Mallow	David & Janet Muir	Vincent Preston
Eileen Healy	Josephine Kish	Matthew Maloney	Melissa Muldrew	Amanda Pritchard
Randy Heard	Karen Klemmer	Sandra Manca	Jim & Helen Mullen	Pamela & William Pruitt
Charles Heckler	Renee Klinshaw	Stacie Mann	David Mundie	Peter Pullano
William Heckman	Brian Klotz	Ann Manzano	Paul Murphy	Ryan Pyhtila
Althea Heider	Keith Klug	Vincent Manzione	Anthony Muscarella	Steve Pyle & Sherrie Himes
Mary Heiermann	Peter Knauerhase	David Marchner	Krista Muscarella	Joanne Pyszczyk
David W. & Christa M. Heinsler	Lynne Knaze	Michael Margolin	Alfred Muss	Randi Quackenbush
Laura Heisey	Stephen Knodell	Steve Markel	Carlie Myers	Andrew Quagliata
James Heliotis	Deb Koen	Zachary Markel	Richard Myers	Allen Quirk
Lawrence Hellwitz	Yayoi Koizumi	Brian Markham	Davies Nagel	Rose Rafferty
Chris Helmes	Grigory Kolesov	Kathy Marks	Eleanor Nasser	Joan Ragland
Alan Herdzik	Irene Komor	Heather Marquis	Richard Natoli	Mark & Sally Ramsden
Robert Herman	Denise Konieczko	John Marren	Karen Navagh	Brad Rauch
Marcia Herrick	David Koop	Dianna Marsh	Frederick Neebe	Lisle Raught
Anne Hersh	Matt Korosi & Clare Flanagan	Todd Marsh	Brent Neeley	Robert Reeves
James Herzog	David Kotok	Jennifer Marthia	Jeremy Neiman	Lindsey Reider
Michael Hess	Thomas & Shirley Kowalik	Jim Martin	Sharon Nelson	John Reighn
Aaron Hicks	Jon Kreckman	Megan Martinez	John Nesbitt	Carol Renninger
Michael Hilburger	Sally Krueger	Cora Mason	Paul Ness	Elizabeth Renzetti
Kathryn Hilfiker	Mary Krywe	Marc Mason	Carissa Neubert	Tracy Rericha
Joyce Hill	Norma Kurtz	Cat Massa	Elizabeth Newell	Christine Reynolds
Mark Hogan	Joseph LaBarca	Michael Maue	Larry Newman	Nancy Reynolds
John Hollopeter	David & Janet Lafayette	Jennifer May	Jamie Nichols	Dorothy Rice
Elizabeth Holmes	Timothy Lagarry	Amy McCabe	Jill Nichols	Stacey Rice
Leah Hooper	James LaJeunesse	Lucy McCabe	Mary Nichols	Kenneth Rich
Angela Hoover	Andrea Lajoie	Merry McCall	Mary Niemi	Ray Richard
Alan Hopenwasser	Beth Lalonde	Dee McCarthy	Mary Ann Nissley	Robert Richer
Mark Hopkins	Margaret Lamark	Garry McCheyne	Joanne Noack	Mark Richmond
Seth Hopkins	Hilary Lambert	Polley McClure	Sue Nogaret	Michael Rieppel
Laurie Hopkins-Halbert	Jacqueline Lancaster	Jill McConnell	Virginia Nolan	Cynthia Ripple
Heather Horth	Karen Landon	Michael McCue	Richard & Marcia Northrup	Gerald Rising
Chris Hotchkiss	Sarah Lane-Ayers	Tim McDaniel	Kim Norton	Marc & Margaret Rixford
Kirk House	John Lang	Mike McGlone	Michael & Barbara Nussbaum	Anne Roberts
Kirk & Joyce House	Alice Langelier	Mark McGovern	Jennifer O'Shaughnessy	Randall Roberts
Gregory Housel	Jeffrey Lapennas	Sarah McGowen	Roxie Oberg	Wendy Robertson
Kevin Housel	Jill Lapham	Tom McGraw	Michael O'Brien	John Robortella
Heather Houskeeper	Bruce LaPlant	John McGregor	Michael Ofsowitz	James Rolfe
Jason Howard	James & Pamela Larnard	Mary McKinley	Michael Ogden	Michael J. & Kelley Romano
Laura Howard	Filippo LaRosa	Synn McLaughlin	Jeffrey Oliveri	Bob Rosati
Mary Howard	Dave Lattuca	David McMillan	Laurie Ondrejka	Matt Rose
Jane Huffman	Mary Lauppe	Mychelle McNeil-Wedvik	John Ortnier	Marty Rosensweig
James Hughes	Deanna Laurentz	Philip & Mary Lu McPherson	Glenn & Patti Owens	Heidi Rothfuss
Rob Hughes	Christina Lawes	Mary Meeker	Diana Ozolins	Margaret Rourke

Candace Rozansky	Darrell Sigas	Brian & Sharon Sullivan	Juli Van Woert & Tom Muka	Don Whitney
John Rozbicki	David Silbert	Sean Sullivan	Carol/Erik/Martha VanBork	Greg Whitney
Debra Ruski	Patti Singer	Craig Summers	John Vandenberg	Bill Whyland
Justin Russell	Diana Sinton	Dennis Swartwout	Jana VanHouten	Jessica Wickenheiser
Timothy Russell	Benjamin Siuda	Stephen Swensen	Vera Versteeg	Wallace Wiegert
Martin & Donna Ruszaj	Loraine & Ilka Slacik	Michael Tafler	Ann & Larry Vetter	Linda Wieselquist
Lindsay Ruth	Deborah Smith	Diane Taft	Gregory Vinal	Aaron Wightman
Sara Sabatine	Donald Smith	Jacob Tallman	Teresa Vincent	Kristie Wikane
Lisa Saether	Kirk Smith	Katie Tallman	Donna Viscosi	Geoffrey Wilk
Ryan Sajdak	Arthur Smolinski	Ken Tanner	Katherine Voegtler	Susan Wilkins
Leslie Salathe	Connie Snow	Mary Jean Taylor	Frank & Cindy Voelker	Jonathan Willard
Kathy Same & Sarah Fitzpatrick	Keith Snyder	Victoria Taylor	Scott Vonderheide	David Williamson
Pamela Sander	David Sonnenfeld	Thomas Tefft	Donna Vozenilek	Channan Willner
Eric Sandsted	Mary Soto	Larry Telle	William Wade	Jennifer Wilson & Joe Werty-schyn
Terry & Lisa Sanford	Allan Sowinski	Kenneth Terhune	Daniella Wagstaff	Jill Wilson
Lindsay Sardina	Robert & Joyce Speicher	Justin Thaine	Richard Wall	Jodie Wilson
Robin Savard	Caroline Spellman	Travis Thaine	Maxwell Wallace	Marguerite Wilson
Victoria Savka	Dave & Jenn Spencer	William Thayer	William Wallace	Maria Wilson
Renee & Brian Sawka	Tammy Spencer	Julie Thompson	John Wallenhorst	Marilyn Wilson
John Sawyko	Joseph Speranza	Julie Thompson	Mary Walsh	Greg Wilt
Linda Saxton	Jeff & Jeannette Spicer	Rosemary Thompson	Adam Walters	Donald Windsor
Nicholas Scarano	Vicki Spurr	Christina Thornton	Barbara Walzer	Elizabeth Windstein
Nora Schapira	Sheila Squier	Paul Thurm	Belinda Wandel	Dustin Winters
Steve Scheidweiler	Darlene Squires	Annette Tiberi	Blaine & Kitty Warner	Hailey Wise
Corey Schimpf	Sarah & Charles Stackhouse	Keith & Annette Toasperm	Paul Warrender	Stephen Witherow
Mike Schlicht	Kristen Stanley	Roy Tocha	Samuel Waters	Desiree Wlodarek
Robert Schneider	Sandy Stanton	Suzanne Tomkins	Sarah Waters	William Wolcott
Raymond Schrader	Cindy Starbird-Salak	Adrianne Traub	Anne Watkins	Lisa Wolf
Jack Schroeder	Kristine Statt	James Traver	Michael Watrous	Mark & Karen Wood
Stephanie Schubmehl	Viktor Stcherbak	Lisa Treichler	Amy Watson	Ian Woods
Wanda Schubmehl	Jennifer Steacy	Gail Tremblay	Carol Watts	Regina Wotasek
Stuart Schweizer	Robert Stear	Triple Cities Hiking Club	Gay Weaver	Hilary Woznica
Karl Schwesinger	Richard Stedman	William Trondsen	John Weber	Peter Wybron
John Scollan	Jonathan Stefaniak	Arnold T. Tschanz	Donald Webster	Jennifer Yates
Elaine Scott	Donna Stefano	Lynn & Cynthia Tucker	Leah Wechsler	Eric Yetter
Terri Seager	Royal Stellrecht	Tyson Turner	Susan Weida	Amanda Yoder
Kirstjan Seago	Wendy Stevenson	Susan & Rick Turnquist	Randy Weidner	Michael Yoder
Erik & Michelle Seeger	Laura Steves	David & Ruth Tyler	David Weinstein	Neil Yoder
Jessica Seem	David Stickney	Stephen Tyler	Lisa Weismiller	Sheila Yoensky
Scott Sellers	Leslie Stidham	Matthew Ulrich	Jenna Lou Weitzel	David Young
Sharon Senefelder	Peter Stiles	Matthew Underwood	Dan & Chris Wensel	Robert Younger
Shaun Sensiba	Michael & Susan Stinson	David Unetich	Ted Wenskus	Robert Yousey
Tammy Sessanna	Ronald Stover and Cecilia	Patricia Urban	Cynthia Westerman	Bruce Zaretsky & Sharon Coates
Rachael Shapiro	Fabrizio	Christina Utter	Terry Westley	Charlene Zebley
Scott Shawley	Steven & Susan Stork	Mark Valites	Melanie Weston	Steve Zelazny
Emma Lou Sheikh	Martin Stratton	Luanne Vallese	John Weyand	Martha Zettel
Paul Sheils	Kristine Strong	Amy Vallone	Peggy Whaley	Nell Ziegler
Ellie Sherman	Donna Stuckey	Linda Van Buskirk	Elizabeth Wheeler	Mary Zielinski
Brenda Shields	Heidi Stulpin	Ann Van Dusen	Maggie White	Justin Ziobrowski
Laurie Shoulter Karall	Hui Su	Kathleen Van Schaick	Shana White	Steve & Karen Zywiak
Charles Sieving	Ann Marie Sullivan	Randy Van Vranken	Matthew Whitman	

Ways to Give

Annual Fund

Unrestricted gifts to the Annual Fund provide necessary flexible funding for the organization. Gifts to the Annual Fund support all aspects of the FLTC's operations—trail work, group hikes, training for volunteers, special programs and communications. When you make a gift to the Annual Fund, you are supporting the work we are doing right now to fulfill our mission to build, protect, enhance and promote the Finger Lakes Trail.

Gifts to Restricted Funds

The Finger Lakes Trail has several restricted funds that support specific needs within the organization. The **Sidote Stewardship Fund** is restricted for the use of trail protection and preservation projects; the **Endowment Fund** ensures the long-term viability of the organization, with earnings used for general operating costs; the **Lean-To Fund** helps us meet our goal of having a lean-to every 10-15 miles along the trail; and the **Capital Equipment Fund** is used for large equipment purchases. You can make a gift to a restricted fund using the enclosed envelope or by visiting our website.

Gifts of Stock and Planned Gifts

For information about making a gift of stock or including the Finger Lakes Trail Conference in your estate planning, please contact Christy Post: cpost@fingerlakestrail.org.

Membership

Your membership with the Finger Lakes Trail Conference is a powerful way to support the organization. Membership demonstrates your commitment to protecting and enhancing the trail, helping to ensure it remains accessible and available for future generations. We offer Membership at many levels, including Individual and Family (\$40/\$60), and Sustaining Memberships: Trail Blazer (\$100), Trail Builder (\$250), Trail Guide (\$500) and Trail Patron (\$1,000). You can join or renew your membership online anytime, or make a one-time gift of \$600 for an Individual or \$900 for a Family Lifetime Membership.

Forever Society Members

The FLT's Forever Society was founded with a gift of \$1,250 from Ed Sidote on the occasion of his 90th Birthday. Ed challenged other leaders and members of the FLTC to match his contribution as a birthday gift to him, thus establishing the Sidote Stewardship Fund and the Forever Society. A group of 32 founding members accepted his challenge, and since then more than 50 individuals and organizations have joined their ranks. To date, the Sidote Stewardship Fund is valued over \$1 million, which is designated for trail preservation and protection.

Membership in the Forever Society and contributions to the Sidote Stewardship Fund represent the strongest possible support of our mission to "build, protect, enhance, and promote a continuous footpath across New York State for the enjoyment and health of residents and visitors. **Forever!**" The Forever Society includes some of our most devoted supporters, and the Sidote Fund ensures that the trail will be preserved and protected in perpetuity.

ADK Genesee Valley Chapter

Lance Alexander
John M. & Luanne Andersson
Tom Babcock
Roger S. & Whitney Bagnall
Gene & Liz Bavis
Donald Beattie
Stanley Benedict
Dorothy & Howard Beye
Sally Bialy
Georgiana & Eugene Binder
Robert & Susan Bliven
Harold Boyce
Joe Dabes and Kathy Brennan
Richard Breslin
Helen Brooks
Cayuga Trails Club
John Joseph Cobb
William S. & Mary Coffin
Susan Collier
Sigrid & James Connors, Jr.
Donna J. Coon
Joe Dabes
Joe Daley
Phil Dankert
Gail & William Ellsworth
Theresa & Jay Evans
F. Gregory Farnham

Finger Lakes Runners Club

Donna Flood
FLT Bullthistle Hikers Club
Paul L. & Theresa V Gaeta
James Gagnon
Roger & Ruth Hopkins
Chris Hotchkiss
Dick Hubbard
Dick & Mary Jo Hubbard
Lois Justice
Steve Shaum & Nancy Kleinrock
Ruth Kuhfahl
Kalista Lehrner
Betty Lewis Environmental Charitable
Barbara Lobb
Jarret Lobb
Nancy Luger
Margaret Markham
David and Linda Marsh
Kim & Terry Meacham
Phillip & Tamira Metzger
Pat & Mary Ellen Monahan
David M. Gwinn & Gina Nania
Ronald W. & Barbara Navik
Debra Nero
Debra Nero and Colin Parrish
David Newlun
David & Laurel Newman

Membership in the Forever Society is open to anyone who pledges \$1,250 or more and agrees to pay that pledge within a five-year period. All funds are deposited into the Sidote Stewardship Fund. Members of the Forever Society are recognized at our annual Fall Weekend event and in FLT News.

To become a member, contact Christy Post: cpost@fingerlakestrail.org. You can make a gift of any size to the Sidote Stewardship Fund using the enclosed envelope or by visiting our website: <https://fingerlakestrail.org/product/make-a-donation/>

North Country Trail Assoc.

Nancy Papish
Marjorie Pierpont
Anna Keeton & Michael "Bodhi" Rogers
John G. & Margaret Schmitt
Paul Hoffman & Jane Schryver
Sigi Schwinge
Kenneth Shaw
Edward Sidote
Stephanie Spittal
Harmon Strong
Irene Szabo
Peter Collinge & Carol Thiel
Colleen Townsend & Harold Stapleton
Triple Cities Hiking Club
Mary Tuthill
Sidney Tuthill
Charles & Mary Jane Uttech
Jacqueline VandenBerg
Jacqui Wensich
Timothy & Nancey Wilbur
Estate of Rosa Wolfer
Larry Lepak & Jennifer Woltjen
Quinn & Jewell Wright
Peter Wybron
Lynda Rummel & Rolf Zerges
Mary Zuk-Domanski

Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy of our donor and member lists. We are still in a years-long process of developing a new, custom donor/member database and while we have worked hard to ensure that all donor and member information is correct, errors and omissions do occasionally occur. We extend apologies in advance if your membership or donation was omitted or listed incorrectly. Please bring any errors you may find to our attention so that we can correct our records. Thank you for your understanding. Donor and member lists include member status and contributions made between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021.

Lifetime Members

Lifetime memberships demonstrate strong support for the Finger Lakes Trail, and we extend special thanks to the individuals and families who have made this commitment. Lifetime members have made a one-time gift of \$600 for individuals or \$900 for families.

John Abbott	Bill Fair	Richard Lightcap	Betsy Sacks
Dianne & Olin Anderson	Gregory Farnham	Edwin Lindskoog	David Sadler
John M. & Luanne Andersson	Beverly Feindt	Barbara Lobb	Betty Schaeffer
Michael Baker	Kenny Fellers	Michael TenKate & Caroline Madeline	Annette Schaff
Joseph Baldino	Merwyn & Frances Fenner	Ernest & Heide Mahlke	John G. & Margaret Schmitt
Juanita Ball	Sheila Ferrari	Patricia Mangarelli	Paul Schnipelsky
Bill Bancroft	John & Patricia Fey	Peter Marks	John Schroeder
Mark Banker	Adam & Janet Finley	David and Linda Marsh	Paul Hoffman & Jane Schryver
Gene & Liz Bavis	Dolores Finley	Kenneth & Donna Mathis	Joan Schumaker
Donald Beattie	Donna Flood	Michele McCall	David Schwartz
Lyman Beecher	Norman Foley	Pamela McCarrick	David Seese
Joe & Diane Bell	Virginia Ford	Charles McLellan	Wanda Shirk
Dawn Bennett	Paul L & Theresa V Gaeta	Chris McLellan	Mark Sleeper
Judith M. & Jeffrey Bennett	James Gagnon	David McNitt	Carol O. Smith
Thomas Berryman	Sharon L. & William A. Galbraith	Kim & Terry Meacham	Mark Spezzano
Georgiana & Eugene Binder	Lewis & Kathleen Gersh	Robert Meiler	Stephanie Spittal
Susan Black	Teresa Giarrosso	Gail Merian	Eugene Staiger
Joanna Bock	Gladys Gifford	Phillip & Tamira Metzger	Phillip Stanton
Jon & Kathy Bowen	Mark Goldfield	Robert Michiel	Colleen Townsend
Kevin Breiner	Jennifer A. Grant	April Miller	& Harold Stapleton
Joe Dabes and Kathy Brennan	David Grotke	John A-X. & Carol Morris	David Sundean
Jeffrey Brisky	Herbert Haake	Steve M. Morris	Robert Suss
Gary Bustos	Helen & Chris Haller	August Mueller	Irene Szabo
Frederick Carranti	Richard Harrington	Joshua Naylor	Patti Taggart
Stephen & Tammy Catherman	Thomas Hawkins	Donald Nelson	Illya Tarasenko
Jack Chaney	Lane & Edith Hemaspandra	Debra Nero	Michael TenKate
John Joseph Cobb	Ruth Herzog	David Newlun	Constance Thomas
William S. & Mary Coffin	David Hiebeler	Susan Newman	David Thurber
Margaret Coleman	Mark & Susan Hittle	Glenn Nixon	Timothy Timbrook
Susan Collier	William J & Nancy J Holland	Donna Noteware	Carole Tota
Jeffrey G. & Betty Lou Constable	Don Holman	Jill O'Hara	John Townsend
David & Adele Cook	Roger & Ruth Hopkins	Patrick O'Mara	Lisa Uke
Louise Cook	Chris Hotchkiss	Melanie Okoniewski	Jerry Valdez
John Cooley	Theodore Hullar	Wade Oliver	Jack VanDerzee
John C. & Nancy P. Crowley	Catharine Ackerson & Susan Illes	Wilfred D. & Maria E. Oliver	Joseph A. & Lucille Vieira
Carolyn Crump	Robert Jeuck	Mark O'Neil	David Waterman
Charles Culp	JEK Revocable trust	Mary Margaret Ong	Margaret & David Waterman
Mike Cunningham	Bradley Jones	Linda Parlato	James P. & Holly S. Watson
Steven & Beth Czajkowski	Linda & Bradley Jones	Ernie Patrikis	William Weikert
Joe Dabes	Milton Jones	Henry & Leigh Peck	Scott Weitzel
Sue DeGeorge	Sigrid & James Connors, Jr.	Pamela & PJ Peterman	Jacqui Wensich
Jeff DeMeritt	Lois Judd	Rhonda Peterson	Jennifer Wilson
Jane DeRensis	Penelope Wickham and Tom Kather	Paul R. & Dolly Raymond	& Joe Wertyschyn
Anthony & Marilyn Destefano	Colleen Liggett & John Kerr	Margaret & Ken Reek	Timothy & Nancey Wilbur
James DeWan	Jim & Sara Kersting	Thomas Reimers	Carrie Williams
Joseph Donovan	Mark Kerxhalli	Mark J. Reist	Jennifer Wilson
Alexander Dorman	Jean Kirsch	Paul Richards	John R. & Judy Wint
Caralea Dougherty	Steve Shaum & Nancy Kleinrock	Thomas Rienholtz	Larry Lepak & Jennifer Woltjen
Mike & Jan Douglass	Robert Kremens	Rev. David & Patricia Robinson	Quinn & Jewell Wright
David, Nancy & J.T. Drum	Ray Kuzia	John Robortella	Nancy Yates
Mark Dye	Harold Kyle	Anna Keeton	Susan Yee
Thomas & Clarice Dziekonski	Scott Lauffer	& Michael "Bodhi" Rogers	Ann Young
Jeffrey Ehlinger	Mary Leary	Laurie Root	Joan Young
Marjorie Elder	Jeremy Lefort	Fred Rose	Cynthia Zacharek
Herb Engman	Kalista Lehrer	David Rossiter	Lynda Rummel & Rolf Zerges
Charlene Ette	Luise Levine	Larry Ryan	Mary Zuk-Domanski
Theresa & Jay Evans	Colleen Liggett	Theo Rynders	Daan Zwick



Answers to the Winter 2021 “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 Location:



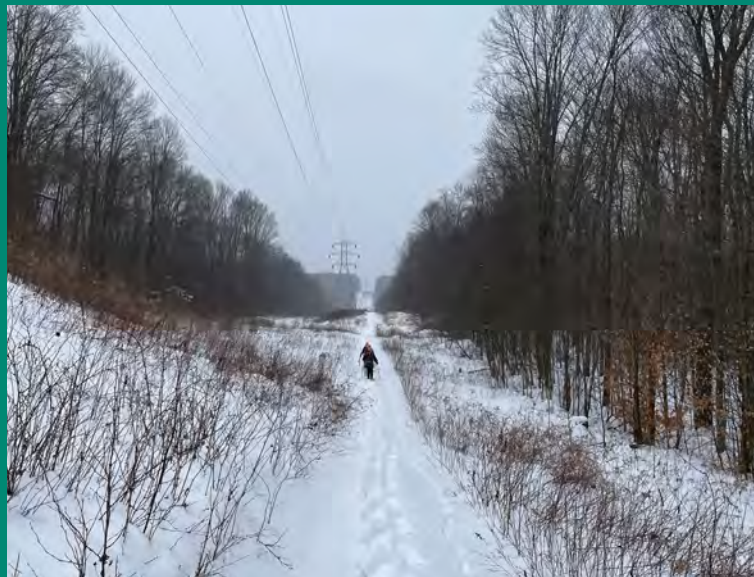
Varya Siegal

Railroad bridge over the Watkins Glen State Park Gorge

Correctly Identified:

John & Heather Cooley Varya Siegal and Scooby
Terri and Bill Dempsey Irene Szabo
Warren Johnsen Jill Wilson
David Rossiter

New Picture:



Colin Parrish

This trail is a great place to snowshoe or xc ski.

SUPPORT THE NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL AND GET A FREE MEMBERSHIP

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



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

You can also join online at: northcountrytrail.org

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

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

Join the FLT Googlegroup E-Mail List

The Finger Lakes Trail Conference's e-mail list is a discussion group hosted by Googlegroups.com. Its purpose is to allow the subscribers (approximately 850 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 oversee the use of this electronic mailing list and offer help with questions are:
Larry Blumberg (lblumberg@stny.rr.com) and Scott Geiger, (scott.geiger@gmail.com).

To join the group, send a note to lblumberg@stny.rr.com requesting that you be added to the FLT HIKING Googlegroup. If you have any problems or questions, contact one of the co-moderators.

End-to-End Update

Jacqui Wensich, End-to-End Coordinator



Main

#513 Robert Chau

Branch

#133 Joyce Ermer 2nd (BT#93) , (#396 main)

#134 Lynn Andersen (#448, #510)

Updates:

Experienced hiker Denise Eshenaur plans to hike the main trail. Jill Wilson of Scipio Center is also working on her e2e. Christine Dixon is working on the branch trails. Experienced hikers Denise and Jerry Williamson of Novelty, Ohio, are planning to hike the main trail and Joshua Hamelin has inquired about trail running. (You can run, day hike, backpack...just keep notes.) Loren Travels, Bethany Cloninger have also inquired about thru hiking.

Comments:

In 2021 there was a high number of main trail End-to-End hikers. 24! One 4 time and 4 four 2nd timers.

From the first and only End-to-End hiker in 1974 (Robert Fordon), through the present, the average number is 14.6 per year. The highest number is 29 in 2016. Joe Dabes has hiked the trail 10 times. Robert Chau was interested in how many hiked the trail taking out the multiple timers. So, he counted them out. There were 61 repeats so he modifies his own accomplishment, noting he was the 452nd person to hike the trail (but #510).

End-to-End Badges:

Besides the certificate, card, labels and patches, several new main trail End-to-Enders were surprised to receive a badge commemorating their achievement. Here is the origin:

J. Robert Muller, the fifth End-to-End on the FLT, made a memento (designed and funded by him) for the first fifty hikers on the main FLT. The plan was that each hiker would be presented with a custom-made "walnut" Formica name badge with an enamel FLT logo affixed including the hikers' name, mileage, date of completion, and sequence number. (First eleven badges were awarded during the 1992 Fall Campout.)

The funding continued until around 2006 when Sue Yee added to the original amount. We changed the backer (pin) to a magnet for ease of shipping/badge security. The Fall campout is the usual distribution place; however, many are mailed directly by J Wensich. Once a second E2E has been completed, the FLT logo will no longer fit as each hike is listed. Joe Dabes has a chest plate with ten main trail hikes. Some "bling" is added for those who desire it...just pop off if not.

Car Spotters:

"In late December 2021, I finished the challenge of hiking from Niagara Falls to the Penna. border along the Conservation Trail and Finger Lakes Trail. It took me 18 days of section hiking/backpacking between April and December of 2021, and

I accomplished the hike by flip-flopping from Pembroke to Pennsylvania, then from Pembroke to the Rainbow Bridge in Niagara Falls. Car Spotters Joanne and Jack Ratajczak assisted me twice. " Kate Killion

When contacting a car spotter, have your map on hand when you call to make arrangements. Offer to pay for gas after your ride. Take the spotters' photo so we can recognize them in the news.

We need more car spotters for the Branch Trails and **M1-5, M27-34**. Please consider signing on as a car spotter. Just email at jwensich@rochester.rr.com for the application. You are a vital part of hiking our trails.

TIPS for aspiring End-to-Enders:

1. Review the End-to-End Hiking section on the FLT website.
2. Join the FLT egrou, hiking@fingerlakestrail.org (often find more spotters and 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 high resolution as you hike and keep trail notes, so you can write your End-to-End article.
8. Car spotters "spot" for designated areas. It is not a shuttle. Longer rides must be arranged on your own.

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 discussion group to see if someone is willing, if you do not have a friend or family member available. 🍁



David Marsh

Ed Sidote, showing his #3 end-to-end badge in 2007, during a fall weekend in the Catskills with Jacqui Wensich.

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

A Naturalist's View

D. Randy Weidner



If you are like me, you will find something delightful in each of the four seasons along our Finger Lakes Trail. The multitude of varied land forms, dense woods, vistas, and other natural features should be experienced in all seasons to be fully appreciated. That said, I suspect for most of us, the special delights of Spring may be the favorite. As Winter and the mud season that follows it fade away, we take to the Trail with renewed vigor, anxious to immerse ourselves in the wonders that return each Spring.

Usually, this column selects a topic or a particular lifeform of the season and explores it in some depth. The vast number of possible subjects in Spring is overwhelming. In this edition, I will break from that pattern and do something I usually avoid. I want to focus on one section of the Finger Lakes Trail, found on M-11 of the trail maps, between Harris Hill Road and McChesney Road, west of Bath in Steuben County. This unique section of trail, around the middle of May, offers the hiker an amazing variety of flora and fauna that is quintessentially Spring in a Northeastern wood.

Travelling east from the pull-off on Harris Hill Road, you enter a low brushy section of trail. Even before stepping in, stop a while and scan the overgrown pasture across the road and the scrubby brush. Expect to hear the songs of several migratory birds. Baltimore Orioles (*Icterus galbula*), Song Sparrows (*Melospiza melodia*), Chipping Sparrows (*Spizella passerina*), and American Robins (*Turdus migratorius*) are common there. Starting into the trail you usually find Yellow Warblers (*Dendroica petechia*) and Chestnut-sided Warblers (*Dendroica pennsylvanica*) in the brush. On your left you soon pass by some swampy ground, often full of bright yellow Marsh Marigolds (*Caltha palustris*) and noisy Red-winged Blackbirds (*Agelaius phoeniceus*).

Shortly you cross some off-road trails and start to gain a little in altitude. Before long, every few yards farther along presents new wildflowers. It becomes nearly impossible not to step on the Wild Leeks (*Allium tricoccum*) which release their pungent onion-y odor if damaged. Uniquely colored Blue Cohosh (*Caulophyllum thalictroides*) soon appears with its branching, delicate yellowish blooms. As the patches of Wild Leek grow denser, you soon spot the first White Trillium (*Trillium grandiflorum*). Solitary Trillium blossoms soon appear in patches, and then near the high point of this section, densely blanket much of the ground.

At this high point of the trail stop and look closely at the herbaceous growth all around. If you are sharp-eyed, close to the ground you may spot the blue-petaled Hepatica (*Hepatica* sp.). Look for both the Blunt-leaved (*H. americana*) and the Sharp-leaved (*H. acutiloba*) varieties. Also close to the ground, are strips of Wild Ginger (*Asarum canadense*) with its flared, brownish

flower resting right on the ground, coming off the underground rhizome. And growing just a bit taller is the Long-spurred Violet (*Viola rostrata*), a much rarer violet than those other varieties.



Hepatica

D. Randy Weidner

Still on the ridge notice among the taller herbaceous growth the feathery-lobed leaves and odd white flowers of Squirrel Corn (*Dicentra canadensis*). Taller yet are the Foamflowers (*Tiarella cordifolia*) with spikes



Long-spurred Violet

D. Randy Weidner

of fine, white-petaled flowers. And if you look especially carefully, you should find a real treat, appearing as a tiny whisp of white on a stalk which is enclosed by two joined leaves, the true Miterwort (*Mitella diphylla*). You really must get down very close to the tiny blossoms, and ideally looking through a hand lens, view this miniature flower with its ornately fringed petals.

While looking for all the fantastic flowers on the ridge, keep your ears and eyes open for more birds. Those repetitive slurred simple songs are the Blue-headed Vireo (*Vireo solitarius*). A clearly whistled "wheet-a-wheet-a-wheeto" is a Hooded Warbler (*Wilsonia citrina*); and the scratchy "robin with a sore throat" song is the Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*).

Continuing eastward, coming down off the ridge, is an



Marsh Marigolds

Anne Keddy



Foam Flower

D. Randy Weidner

extensive stand of Waterleaf (*Hydrophyllum* sp.) which covers the forest floor, but its blooms will not appear until June. Here and there in the dense Waterleaf are a few Red Trillium (*Trillium erectum*). Just before crossing Co. Rte. 69, in the hemlocks, listen for the Black-throated Green Warbler (*Dendroica virens*) or even a Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*). If you are lucky, this is also a place to find a Nashville Warbler (*Vermivora ruficapilla*).

Crossing Co. Rte. 69 you will climb up through pretty woods with fewer but similar flowers scattered here and there. Listen for Rose-breasted Grosbeaks (*Phoebastria ludovicianus*) and Wood Thrushes (*Hylocichla mustelina*) while in the wooded sections. Near the top, the Trail skirts a wetland where you may flush a Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*), or find more orioles. Just past the wetland, along a dirt road, you will be treated to one of the most extensive stands of White Trillium, nearly the size of a football field. Look closely in the near end of the Trillium stand for taller, five-petaled flowers of Blue Phlox (*Phlox divaricata*). Following the fencerow to McChesney Road you will see more White Trillium, and you may well see White-crowned Sparrows (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*).

If you are wondering why it is that such a terrific assemblage of spring wildflowers exists along this relatively short section of the Trail, you will have to look quite a way back in time. The initial ridge described here is a glacial remnant, an esker. Eskers are winding ridges of stratified soil that were once stream beds on the continental glacier. As the ice melted, the deposits were dropped atop the surrounding land. Notice how rocky any plowed land is along this section of the Trail. The esker is even rockier, and thus was never put to the

plow. Never disturbed, the native flora there has survived. The entire surrounding woodland was probably much like the esker before humans altered it. When you view how beautiful is the huge stand of White Trillium along this stretch of Trail, imagine how it must have been over the entire forest!

Before ending, I must give special thanks to Donna Noteware, who leads weekly hikes, mostly along local parts of the Finger Lakes Trail. The particular section referred to in this article runs over private property, the owners of which graciously grant us access. I joined Donna's group several years ago. She shows us this remarkable section of the Trail each May, which we refer to as the "Trillium Hike." That is one hike not to be missed! 🍁



Squirrel Corn

D. Randy Weidner



Blue Cohosh

D. Randy Weidner



Miterwort

D. Randy Weidner



White Trillium

D. Randy Weidner



Blue Phlox

D. Randy Weidner

THANKS TO OUR TRAIL LANDOWNERS

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

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

Also, the trail is CLOSED on private land on the first Monday in February, just to reassure you that we do not establish a permanent right-of-way on your land by walking there every single day of the year.

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

Michaela's dog Rebel on Map M22, looking down on part of the great view over our new Costello property. See page 13. Photo by Michaela Aney.

