



The Pinewoods Post

◆ SPRING 2013 ◆

Nemo hits hard; Pinewoods bounces back!



Cottey House

As many of you know, Pinewoods Camp took a serious hit from winter storm Nemo in February this year. Dozens of full-sized white pines were uprooted by the storm's forceful winds and heavy, wet snow. Three huge trees knocked Lads 2 off its foundation, smashed its roof, and set the entire building akimbo. A huge pine bisected Lads 4, smashing everything inside it and completely destroying the cabin. Lads 10 fared a bit better – it was hit by another large pine tree, but stayed on its foundation and only required roof repair. Mock Hobby-Horse, Newcastle, and Lads 12 (crew cabin) were less seriously damaged. The roof of C# Minor pavilion was punctured by a heavy tree limb. Cottey House miraculously escaped major damage because the impact of



Lads 4 Wipe-out

the tree landing on its roof was deflected by the chimney. Other trees were blown down, all over camp, and the grounds were carpeted with fallen pine branches.

Pinewoods Camp staff, Tony Baker and Judy Savage, quickly recognized that there was only a small window of time to act, to repair damage and still have camp ready for the upcoming season. They quickly decided to move Lads 7, now located too close to the newly expanded kitchen, over to the Lads 4 site, and to build a new crew cabin elsewhere, closer to other crew cabins. Doing this will solve two problems: where to put Lads 7 (away from the kitchen area) and how to locate crew closer to one another. Space vacated there also gives residents of all Lads cabins easy access to the small dock on Long Pond previously only available to Lads 7 occupants.

It took weeks before the fallen trees were cut up and removed. The work was challenging, even for our very experienced and professional arborists, Scag Tree. Many strong, healthy pines were downed in the storm, so it was decided to have them milled for lumber and to have them available for future building use at Pinewoods. The massive uprooted tree-stumps had to be either buried or removed by an excavator.



Lads 7 On the Move to Lads 4

Photos by Judy Savage

The same team of carpenters who had moved Lads 6 and built our new Dining Hall/kitchen was employed to move Lads 7. It was prepped for the move with both a cradle on which to attach the chains and structural boxes installed under the eaves to prevent the chains from crushing the roof. An excavator then carefully picked up the cabin using a heavy-duty swivel-hook borrowed from a local marina, expertly transported it between half a dozen trees, and carefully set it down on top of the original footings and posts that had previously held up Lads 4. The actual move took less than an hour.

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Lads 2 Akimbo

Photo by Judy Savage



New Cabin for Crew

Photo by Tony Baker

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The new crew cabin is located at the edge of the Highlands along the path that leads down to Back Lads, our designated crew area. It is next-door to Fool-on-the-Hill, the other crew cabin in the area, and there is now a lovely view of Long Pond through the trees. Mock Hobby-Horse, Newcastle, C# Minor pavilion, Lads 2, and Lads 10, all have been repaired by Tony Baker, and they look as good as new. Volunteers at the upcoming spring work weekends will help clean up what is left of the carpet of fallen branches. We will be more than ready in June for the arrival of our first group of campers.

We are very grateful that there were funds available to pay for these repairs. Since our regular insurance does not cover the

costs of removing downed trees nor the costs of repairing damage to our smaller cabins, we have a "self-insurance" reserve fund we can use, made possible by campers' donations and carefully managed by our Board of Directors. The fund will need to be replenished, soon, so that we can continue to be ready to respond quickly in case of additional catastrophes. We thank you, everyone who sent in recent donations to help us rebuild and repair, and we welcome any additional help. The staff and board of PCI express gratitude to all those campers who helped us build up our reserve fund over the years, enabling us to be so well-prepared to bounce back this time. As usual, we couldn't do it without you! ◆



Logs from Fallen Trees



Portable Sawmill at Work



Board Lumber for Future Use

Photos by Tony Baker

Survey Results

We're very pleased that 78 people took time to reply to the survey in the autumn edition of the Pinewoods Post. Thanks to those answers, we gathered the following information:

50% of the respondents indicated they were happy to receive the Pinewoods Post newsletter via e-mail; 50% of the respondents indicated their strong preference to receive printed copies of the Pinewoods Post via regular mail!

Not many people hazarded a guess about which cabin was pictured; two people guessed it was Newcastle. It does look like Newcastle or one of the other cabins there in the Highlands.

Several people pointed out the names of dancers in the C# dance photo; they identified the following dancers: Ed Mason, Jacqueline Schwab, Steve Howe, Tom Kruskal, Rebecca Shrigley, Ed Wilfert, Elgie Ginsburg. Did you see anyone else you knew? A couple of respondents questioned the year -- they weren't convinced the photo was taken in 1984. If you know further details about this picture, do share them with us! ◆



Tony with a Turtle

Photo by Judy Savage



Scottish Session visitor in Ampleforth last summer



In Memoriam: Helene Cornelius

Sad news arrived that longtime dancer, teacher and gentle presence at Pinewoods, Helene Cornelius, passed away on May 3rd, just before this issue of the Pinewoods Post was going to press. Helene was an inspiration to all; her words of encouragement, her wealth of knowledge, and her quiet example helped many a dancer attain greater freedom and joy. She will continue in our hearts and thoughts.

Notes from the Director

The glory of spring has finally arrived at Pinewoods. A hermit thrush in Back Lads welcomes the morning. Mayflowers are in bloom. Evenings are filled with a lively chorus of peepers and wood frogs. Forsythia dots the woods with brilliant yellow against a backdrop of pale green. A huge 14" snapping turtle was seen crossing Cornish Field Road recently – it caused a standstill in what little traffic we have at this time of year.

Many crew-members will be returning to work at camp this summer, so you will see lots of familiar faces. Corey Walters returns as Head Cook; Laura Keeler, Ruth Howe, and Sonya Kaufman will work as Assistant Cooks; Meghan Murray, Tasha Carter-Gordon, and Craig Chamberlain will join them as Kitchen Aides; Rose Axelrod-Adams will be our Grounds Chief, and Jane Youngberg will again work on Grounds; Ed Patterson returns as our Dishwasher; Lizzie MacLachlan returns as our Office Manager. We welcome newcomers Greg Skidmore on Grounds Crew and Benjamin Roberts as this season's Pot-washer.

Sophie enjoyed the off-season, but found it rather lonely. Every workman arriving at camp this winter received an overly-enthusiastic greeting. She is taking her role as camp security officer a bit more seriously, and has been known to growl on occasion (when safely shielded behind her owner). She finds her daily swim in Long Pond very refreshing, and wonders why I'm not yet joining her. And, most of all, she wonders where you all have gone. She will be very happy to welcome you, her campers, back to Pinewoods!

In case you have wondered whether we pay attention to your comments on the evaluation forms you complete every summer, we would like you to know about some of the recent changes at camp – all requested by campers:

- we doubled the size of the hot-water heater in the Camp-house, to help with dishwashing after evening parties;
- we added hot water to the sinks in the Longborough bathrooms;
- we added a spigot for filling water-bottles close to C# pavilion;
- we added railing to the steps going down to Round Pond at Hunsdon House and at Kendal Ghyll;
- we made a bigger "Pinewoods Camp" sign for the turn onto Cornish Field Road;
- we surfaced the steps leading from the Camp-house to Long Pond, using anti-slip paint, and we added a railing, for additional safety;
- we provided tea-drinkers with a self-serve/select option in the Dining Hall.

And, of course, there are those other, larger, recent improvements, such as the new Changing Room, the new serving area and new bathrooms in the Dining Hall, and the new Ampleforth pavilion.

Keep those comments coming. We *are* listening! ◆

Judy Savage

Program Providers

(formerly referred to as User Groups)

Boston Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

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10 Franklin St., Stoneham, MA 02180-1862
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Country Dance Society, Boston Centre

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Check Our Website

For additional information, photos and past issues of the Post, log onto www.pinewoods.org.

The 2013 season schedule is listed at:
www.pinewoods.org/schedule2013.shtml

New Website Coming Soon:

Work is underway to build a new website. Some time this summer, Pinewoods will have a new and improved website.

Note:

This spring edition of the Pinewoods Post is being sent out via e-mail to most of our readers, although paper copies will be sent via regular (USPS) mail to those who have no e-mail address and/or who requested paper when they replied to our recent survey. Our autumn edition will be sent out via regular mail.



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Planned Giving

Are you one of those people who describe Pinewoods as your favorite place on earth? Have you considered naming Pinewoods Camp as a beneficiary in your will or estate plans? The importance of Pinewoods goes far beyond its rich and honored history. The magic of Pinewoods lies in its beauty, the community it fosters, and the commitment of the people who work to preserve it so that others can experience the joy of it in the future. For more information about how you can be an important part of that future, go to:

<http://www.pinewoods.org/supPlanned.shtml> ◆



Spring Work Weekends

Two Spring Work Weekends are scheduled: Memorial Day Weekend, May 24-27, and the following weekend, May 31-June 2. Spend time with old friends and make new friends while working and contributing your loving labor to prepare Pinewoods for the new season. Folks new to camp are welcomed. Day-time activities include opening the Camp-house, cabins, and kitchen, raking the grounds, painting, and making sure camp is ready to welcome campers in June. Evening activities are dependent on the talent and initiative of volunteers attending each weekend; they may include dancing, jamming, games, schmoozing. The Memorial Day Weekend is already full, but we still have room for volunteers at the second Work Weekend. Sign up now, by going to our website: www.pinewoods.org or by calling 508-224-4858. ◆

