



Camp project update

After sitting empty for 15 years, the **swimming pool** has been removed. Repair costs would have exceeded the cost for a new one, and it was an attractive nuisance for campers. A new pool may be built in the future, depending on group interest and availability of funds.

The **Hoover Lodge Amphitheater** is getting a facelift, thanks in part to a grant from the Stark-Tuscarawas-Wayne Joint Solid Waste Management District. The grant will fund more than 80 benches and plans also include shoring up risers, repairing steps and adding stone. Thanks to the Solid Waste Management District for their vital contribution. The pool and amphitheater restoration projects are being handled by C&L General Highway and Bridge.

Several **Eagle projects** are underway, including assembly of picnic tables, replacement of the Heritage Trail signs, and construction of a stone retaining wall in central camp. Details will follow as these projects are completed.

Timbering completed; special effort preserves camp atmosphere

by Ranger Dana Powers

In May, 675 marketable trees were removed from our 110 acres. Another 15 or so undesirable trees were removed and left down because they were close to buildings or tent sites. I watched as trees were carefully selected, roads were laid out, and a time was chosen for each tree to be surgically removed. The crew worked at a slower pace because this was "Tuscazoar", a place filled with history and memories. Each day the crew gained a better understanding of what we have and why it's important, from the mushroom searches to the questions about the buildings or trails and the camp honors ceremony and locations. More than once, downed trees were left in the woods for a couple of days because the roads were too wet to drag them out! This was more than just timbering; much effort was put into "doing it right". Early on, I saw two cutters walk up to a marked tree, start up their saw, get ready to cut and then pull back, shut off the saw and move on. Why? I was told the tree was left to stand till others were taken down to minimize the damage to the trees and surrounding forest. Usually, only roads with a certain grade or incline must be seeded when the job is finished. In our case, every foot of road was seeded, including straw at the loading areas and water bars and new culverts that were added to control water runs at various locations. Our local inhabitants seem not to have been affected. The deer are stomping up and down the new trails under the eyes of the pileated woodpeckers. The smaller birds including finches, woodpeckers, and humming birds remain and the local buzzards still roost here. You can hear the owls, see the turkey or their signs, and the occasional quail and the chattering of the raccoons can still be heard. I'm not an expert, but as an observer I'm pleased. A special "thank you" to the timbering crew, our security people and to those who were inconvenienced by the process. Thanks for your patience.

Join the Pig Gig round-up, Sept. 15-17

Hitch up the horses and head to camp in September, pardner! This year's Pig Gig round-up will include a barrel-racing contest, leatherworking, an obstacle course and a cooking contest at the O.K. Corral. Saturday's hearty dinner will include roast pork, green beans, baked potatoes, applesauce, rolls, a beverage and our famous pig cookies.

Buckeye Slim, who once worked with Roy Rogers will lead a cowboy sing Friday night. Saturday's camp-wide campfire program will feature Cowboy Len Zaleski and will include some fancy ropin' and a few other tricks.

Don't miss these fun events or the delicious food. We'll send the cooking contest instructions to those groups that register in advance. The \$6 per person fee include participation in all activities and the Pig Roast Dinner. Camping fees are additional. Call 859-2288 for reservations.



September 11-13

Third camp reunion/ open house Aug. 27

Camp Tuscazoar will host its third reunion/open house on Sunday, August 27 from 1 to 8 p.m. Come and visit old campsites, enjoy the view from Pioneer Point or Buzzard's Roost, tour the cabins or just swap stories. No program is planned, just a day of reflection. The event will include a wiener roast for a \$1 donation, and we hope to have a representative from the timbering company on hand to answer questions. Please pass the word to all Camp Tuscazoar alumni you know and invite them to attend.



Are you ready for the Pig Roast?

Hey, it's not too early to plan for an afternoon of fun and feasting September 19 at the annual Camp Tuscazoar Pig Roast fundraiser.

From 3 to 6:30 p.m. the community is invited to devour large portions of roast pork, barbecued chicken, green beans, applesauce, baked potatoes, rolls and butter, beverage, and homemade desserts in the dining hall.

Crossroads, a local band specializing in country and top 40 music will provide foot-stompin' entertainment.

Pig Roast

September 17

Encourage everyone you know to attend and help support Camp Tuscazoar for another year. The Pig Roast is our most important fund-raiser, with proceeds funding repairs, maintenance, utilities, equipment purchases, and other camp operating expenses. Advance tickets are \$10 for adults and \$4 for children, or \$12 and \$5 at the door. Transportation will be provided to and from the parking lot. For tickets, please call 330-493-1386 or 330-859-2288 or contact a member of the Camp Tuscazoar Foundation.

A statement on the Tuscazoar selective timber harvest:

Several years ago, the Camp Tuscazoar Foundation (CTF) began a process that recently culminated in a selective harvest of timber at Camp Tuscazoar. This harvest was undertaken to solve several complicated problems faced by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees, with the support of the Foundation membership, sought the most feasible solutions and the best use of camp resources to maximize benefits for the continuation of Camp Tuscazoar and the Foundation charged with its care.

Our forest has not been healthy. Each large storm that passed through weakened or vulnerable trees, more than once costing the camp damages to buildings and property. Every forest suffers trees that become diseased or damaged, die and fall. This is not new. However, it is a more prominent problem in a forest as heavily traveled and occupied as ours. Dangerous trees had grown large near some of our camp buildings. These not only posed dangers during storms but blocked the sun and wind from drying the buildings and the surrounding forest floor after rains, promoting rot and maintenance problems.

Also, the forest canopy had grown dense. Larger trees shaded smaller trees forcing only tall growth to reach the open sunlight. Shorter, younger trees were shielded and the forest floor did not sustain the smaller trees well without the bright light of an open sky. Erosion and wet areas became constant opponents to camp operations. Thinning the canopy will allow more sun for the smaller trees and will also allow faster and fuller development of branches and root systems. Our smaller forest components will grow stronger and more healthy. The canopy provided deep shade for campers but it prevented the healthy growth of grass in our campsites. Now, we hope to improve campsite conditions by drying them faster and encouraging healthy ground cover.

Every not-for-profit foundation needs money and raises it at every opportunity. The CTF operates with minimal membership dues, low camping fees, donations and several annual event weekends to replenish our operating funds. We always need funds for ongoing maintenance and improvement projects. Our forest has created some of these problems, and we see this forest as a resource for its own benefit. To maintain the health of the forest and the Foundation the forest is able to give us what we need. This has been done in the past and may occur again in the future. By selling selected timber from our forest, the CTF has begun a maintenance program for its benefit while generating funds which we will use to improve camp facilities in ways we could not otherwise have hoped. With crossed fingers for the influx of funds, an aggressive project was completed last year overhauling the stressed camp water system. Other projects are planned. Some of the compensation received from the timber sale is being closely and carefully parceled out to accomplish them in the best of ways.

Our forest is better now than before. It will improve quickly and signs of the selective timbering will soon fade. The timbering crews assisted us with very specific requests and considerations, for which we are most grateful, including choosing each tree on its merits, removing dangerous trees at much extra effort and leaving majestic trees standing while taking trees perhaps less desirable. Camp drainage has never been better in areas we have rarely found dry. Road improvements and trail additions also are part of the benefit. And there will be no lack of firewood for next winter's campers to collect.

So, come to Camp Tuscazoar and see what we're doing. It is only for the benefit of this wonderful camp that all the dedicated volunteers work so hard. All of our projects are done for the groups and individuals who use Camp Tuscazoar as a retreat, a playground, a school and a chapel. It is all of this and we plan to keep it so. Support our efforts. Join the Camp Tuscazoar Foundation. As a member you can have increased input and lend your skills and experience to helping the camp's management. Visit us often and tell us what you see. What you like and what you enjoy are invaluable in our decisions.

"Keeping the Spirit Burning at Camp Tuscazoar"
Board of Trustees, Camp Tuscazoar Foundation, Inc.

"From ...the Ranger's Stump"

by Rangers Dana and Paula Powers

SALUTATIONS. On Father's Day, I stood in Hoover Amphitheater and watched a golden sunset glowing through branches filled with green leaves. As I walked the trail back, God sent a breeze to whisk away the mosquitoes while He released a scattering of lightning bugs. The birds slowly quieted as a single silhouetted bat stealthily flew above (go get 'em!). Only the distant hoot from our owls was absent. Yes, this picture exists even after our timbering. The biggest comment? "It's not as bad as I thought it would be!" We have more hiking trails and probably too much downed wood, but you can help us get rid of that. Sunlight is streaming into more sections of camp, drying out areas around tent sites and buildings. Many old majestic (seed) trees remain, and are especially noticeable at night as you look through them to see the stars. And yes, we now have money to pay for the water system upgrade, pool removal, dreams of new lodges, cleaner maintenance-free latrines, lodge renovations, road repairs, and more.

You've likely noticed my fixation with the mosquito. I have this unusual magnetism for them. Spraying costs \$2.10 a minute from the local health dept. and takes 30-45 minutes. We call, request spraying, and wait for our turn and favorable weather (usually 5-10 days). They can spray every week if needed, but we don't have that big a budget and, as I understand, the spray only kills the adult mosquitoes. So, what is killed this week may not affect the number next week. Things like wind direction and amount of vegetation also affect spraying results. We are trying to be more aggressive with their control, but please bring your own defenses.

Thanks to those who contacted camp about service/Eagle projects. Several projects are in process or have been completed. We've had two Eagle award dinners and a wedding is being planned (which knot will they tie?). More groups are asking to rent the entire camp and requests for family and individual membership information have increased (It's only \$10-15 and it helps defray the cost of the *Breeze*, for example).

Oh yes, the slow sign at the entrance refers to all lots and roads in camp (10-15 mph under normal conditions) Remember, the kids here are looking for everything but a fast car in camp.

On the trail. Dana

Work begins on approaches to Zoarville Station Bridge

Greetings from Zoarville Station! Major progress is being made towards construction of the trail, or approaches, to and from the Zoarville Station Bridge. A local contractor, C&L General Highway and Bridge of Dover, recently began excavating a large irrigation pond for the



Trees and underbrush have been cleared away from the Zoarville Station Bridge.

Zoar Golf Course and wanted to know if we needed the fill dirt for our bridge project. Since we need approximately 16,000 cubic yards, we said yes. Consultations with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and our engineer, Civil Design Associates, determined that using this fill, which is ideal for trail construction and meets all of our specifications, will save the bridge project approximately \$40,000. The Camp Tuscazoar Foundation board of trustees approved hiring C&L as the contractor for the approaches and construction has commenced. The first phase, grubbing and clearing of vegetation, has been completed, and the area around the bridge looks very different than it used to.

Also, ODOT is now advertising for bids on the bridge and abutment disassembly, with that portion of the project expected to be completed by mid-September.

Finally, the Ohio Historical Society recently announced that the Zoarville Station Bridge has been awarded an Ohio Historical Marker, to be paid for jointly by the Longaberger Basket Company, the Ohio Bicentennial Commission and the Foundation's Zoarville Station Bridge fund. The marker will soon be manufactured and delivered.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

We can never properly thank all those that devote time, talent or dollars to support Camp Tuscazoar. But, when we get the opportunity, we want to recognize as many as possible.

Several people and organizations deserve praise for helped get 50 tons of limestone brought into central camp to minimize the effects of last fall's water line installation. Thanks to Doris Kimble and Kimble Limestone for the gravel, Ed's Trucking for the use of a semi-truck, and to Terry Vick for six hours spent loading, unloading and transporting the gravel. Also, thanks to the Hare family for replacing the steps on Troop 5 Cabin. And, Dan Gier deserves special recognition for the time he has devoted as campmaster, along with his maintenance and upkeep efforts, particularly in preparing the camp for Dover Dam Weekend. Thanks, Dan!

Space available in 2001 camp events calendar

Advertising in the Camp Tuscazoar events calendar is a great opportunity to support Camp Tuscazoar while reaching youth organizations with your message. Businesses can purchase blocks of display ad space. Youth groups can buy message space for \$5 per listing or \$10 for three listings groups to promote such events as camping trips, birthdays, anniversaries or memorials. Maximum size for youth promotions is three lines of text, with roughly 25 characters per line. The Foundation reserves the right to determine what is or is not appropriate. To participate, contact the camp at 330-859-2288 by Aug. 30.

Coming Events:

Aug. 27	Reunion/Open House
Sept. 9	Camp Workday
Sept. 10	CTF Board Meeting
Sept. 15-17	Pig Gig Campout
Sept. 17	Pig Roast Fundraiser
Oct. 1	CTF Annual Meeting
Oct. 7	Camp Workday
Nov. 5	CTF Board Meeting
Nov. 11	Camp Workday

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Annual Membership Drive Underway

If you want to help keep Camp Tuscazoar open and operating for youth camping and outdoor activities, then you, your organization, your family, or your business needs to join the Camp Tuscazoar Foundation (CTF). Memberships start at only \$10 per person, but are instrumental in supporting the Foundation financially. Members can also provide guidance on future projects and activities, help with workdays, serve on committees, elect members to the Board of Trustees and are eligible for special camping privileges. The CTF is an Ohio nonprofit corporation dedicated to preserving Camp Tuscazoar for future generations of youth.

Please become a member of the Foundation. Camp Tuscazoar needs your help!



We will keep the spirit burning at Camp Tuscazoar.

Membership Application

Please accept my gift of \$_____ to support Camp Tuscazoar.

Name Date

Street Address

City/State/Zip

Signature

Phone

Please make check payable to:
Camp Tuscazoar Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 308
Zoarville, OH 44656-0308

*The individual listed will be entitled to one (1) vote at the annual meeting.