

SummerFest @ Tilson Farmstead: June 5-10, 2013

From: Marcia Hudson Cope

This was a fantastic event which included a mixed bag of intermittent rain [to challenge us], sweat bees [to taunt us], and twittering birds that sent us scurrying for the binoculars and a bird book!

This multi-generational weekend featured all ages from Hope & Faith at 6 years old [entertainment ?] to John Jaskolka who made divine coffee in a mismatched-basket, stainless steel pot!

Saturday Night was in full swing at a local community center featuring pulled-pork Barbeque with slaw, chips, buns, dessert and drink for a donation; also available was twenty-games of Bingo for \$20.00 which included three cards for each game. Every PATH-mate won something and all were quite nice prizes; one included cash!

Both the USFS and ATC were represented over the extended weekend and good visits were had with them; 4 or 5 Gypsy Moths Control placements were accomplished; a Meadow Walk was enjoyed by many, both in the creation of and hiking of same; Jenkins Shelter was visited [not by bears!]; side-hilling kept dirt-diggers happy; between 40-50 hikers were greeted; most of these were treated to donated desserts from the Zion Methodist Church in Smyth County and an assortment of Juices from the PATH larder.

Eight thru-hikers spent Sunday Night on Tilson Farmstead and enjoyed a Baked-Beans Supper [also from Zion Church] with Butter-fried Hot-dogs added to the pot...plus Broccoli-Rice, Cole-slaw, two varieties of Potato Salad and an assortment of desserts and beverages from PATH members ...and all the while they were sharing their colorful stories. They dearly loved the Monday morning coffee and French-toast and asked to have their picture taken with us; watch the PATH gallery for Jim's photo.

Also of note: PATH-mate Emily Cassell graduated High School last week and will attend James Madison University this fall; Grace Shuping graduated Elementary School this AM and is looking forward to middle school in August. We celebrate the accomplishments of our youth and wish these two the very best.

Marcia

Nuts & Bolts of Summerfest 2013

From: Jim Houck.

My Summerfest started on Tuesday, June-4th with a hike to Knot Maul Shelter to replace the shelter register(done), check the privy(fine) & look at the small mud hole of a spring, below the shelter.

Lopping my way out & back.

Paul & Karl have this section in good shape.

Saw 3 black snakes & 1 timber rattler along the way & 25+ thru-hikers during the day.

Wednesday, Steve & I met Laura & Andy on Tilson Farmstead.

Several issues were discussed, but mostly, Chestnut Ridge & Tilson Farmstead.

Thursday was move-in & set-up day. The Port-A-Potties were delivered in the

afternoon.

Friday we scouted the Tilson loop & dodged the rain drops.

Saturday we changed plans in order to assist the USFS, by placing Gypsy Moth posters at various trailheads. We split up & went in several directions, hiking & lopping along the way.

Sunday we worked on the trail south of VA-42 in the morning & took a walk around the Tilson loop in the afternoon.

Monday was pack it up & pack it out day.

25 people came out during Summerfest, including Laura Belleville & Pete Irvine on Saturday.

Good folks, good food & good times.

See pictures at:

<http://www.path-at.org/gallery/index.php/PATH---2013?page=16>

Attendees:

Betsy Truscott - 2
Charlotte Lafon - 2
David Faucette - 6
Diana Billips - 1
Jim Houck - 6
John Jaskolka - 6
Kay Laffoon - 2
Marcia Cope - 4
Sam Mabe - 2
Steve Yonts - 1
Will Merritt - 1
John Shaffner - 3
Tom Dillon - 2
Margaret Wainwright - 2
Greg Weaver - 1
Karl Kunkel - 1
Valerie Cope - 3
Grace Shuping - 3
Hope Elmiligy - 3
Faith Elmiligy - 3
Laura Belleville - 1

Day visitors:

Pete Irvine
Emily Cassell
Kenny & Miranda Houck