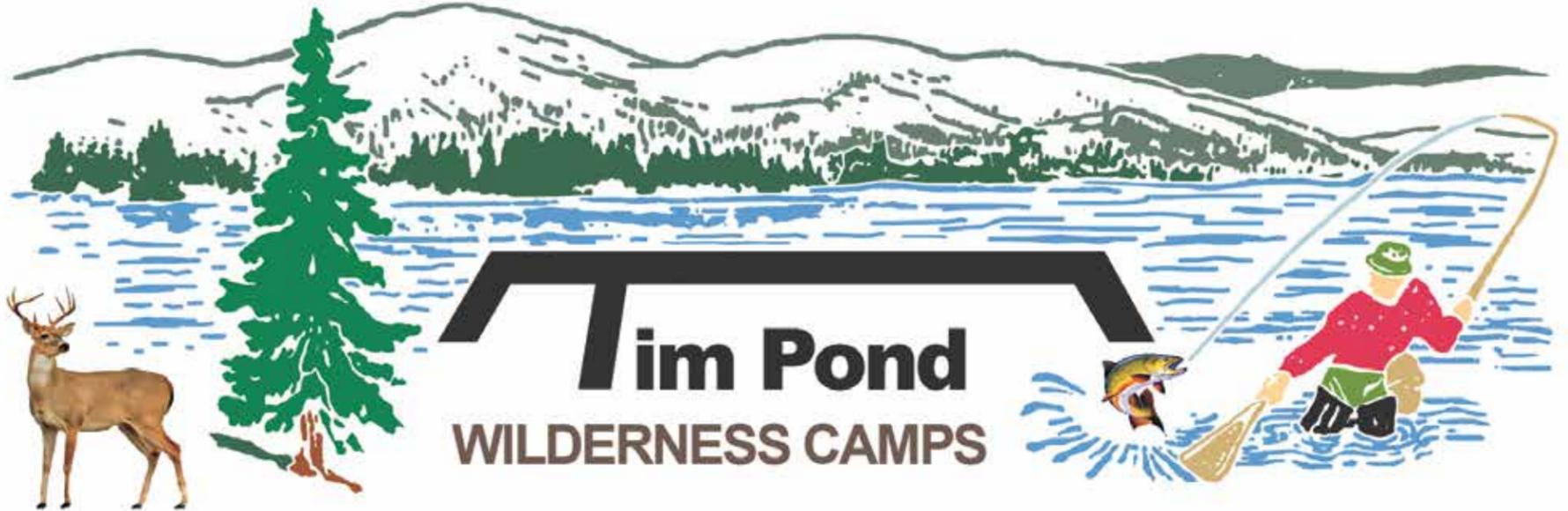


The place you've been looking for – but didn't know how to find!



NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2021

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2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

2020...where do I begin? There are so many words to describe this past year, some pleasant and some not appropriate to put in the newsletter. To those of you who did not know, we did open for the 2020 season, but not until August 16th. The decision to hold off on opening was difficult. Our debate began in late April.

There were so many unknowns—the state guidelines we were to follow were changing almost daily, the State of Maine reopening phases kept changing, the size of our dining room did not meet the CDC guidelines for seating, and we had no applicants from our help wanted ads. After much discussion and numerous guest cancellations, we decided to push our opening date. We called and/or emailed everyone who still had reservations in May, June, and July. We made a special exception to our non-refundable deposit policy; any 2020 deposits not used could be used in 2021. We did have an option to open to Maine residents only, but with all the restrictions to do it legally, in order to maintain our efficiency, and make our guests and staff safety our primary priority, opening was not feasible at that time.

With minimal staff, we had a lot

to do prior to opening. Thank goodness for the low interest rate loans that were available to small businesses. We had to figure out how we were going to have our tables in the dining room 6' apart. We had to locate and purchase PPE (Personal Protective Equipment; masks, gloves, face shields) for staff, hand sanitizer, signs, cleaning supplies (cleaners, sanitizers, disinfectants, laundry sanitizers) that were on the FDA approved list, the ever-so-scarce toilet paper, read and watch videos on COVID protocols and guidelines, and keep up on all current COVID info from the CDC, State of Maine, and FDA. Candy and I took a couple of online classes. They were not required, but we wanted to make sure we were doing everything in our power to be able to open safely for guests and staff.

Bill and I made our first trip to camp for the 2020 season on April 25th to check things out. Billy and the wardens had checked on them throughout the winter for us. On our visit, there was still snow and ice.



On our next visit on May 13th the ice was out and we did a walk around all the cabins, took measurements in the lodge and made to-do lists for what needed to be done before we opened.

The end of May brought heat, sun, bugs and even some snow. On May 29th, the first hummingbird was sighted.

June 12th began our dining room expansion to allow for a socially distanced dining experience. We took down the wall that separates the dining room and library.



We took out the two platforms in the library.



And we took out the woodstove (had to be careful with it, was a bit tender, it will need some work).



It was a bit chilly working in the mornings, as it was in the low 40s all weekend. Our friends Shawn and Sonja came to help us with this feat. Shawn's mother, Gloria, came with her sewing machine. She made all new bathroom curtains for all the cabins.



On June 13th, we pulled up all the flooring in the dining room.



We wanted to see what our options were — whether we would sand and revarnish the original floor to match the library, or if we would

need new flooring.



After much discussion, we decided a new floor was needed. On June 19th, the dock was put in place. It was really strange not having the dock or any boats in the water until then.

June 22nd, Alayna, our granddaughter, had her first visit to Tim Pond. She had a few firsts: her first overnight at the camps, first boat ride, first brook trout, and her first meal in the lodge. She loved taking her walker all through the newly expanded dining room. She even helped her Grampa and Great-Grampa look at flooring samples and pick out the new flooring for the room.



On June 23rd, the first brookie of the season was brought in by Billy Calden. Up until then there wasn't a boat or a fisherman on the pond.



At the end of June and into July, we had some big hatches — a couple of days when the pond was absolutely calm and glassy. There were so many bugs hatching and fish rising it looked like a boiling pot of water! It kind of gave us a lonely feeling, all those fish jumping and the empty boats sitting there...

On July 4th, we started the part

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of the lodge roof that is over the back room and office. We stripped and reshingled it. It took quite the beating through the winter, and there were shingles all over the yard. And of course, it was some of the most humid weather of the summer. It seems whenever Bill and I work on a roof, it is the hottest day of the summer, and it was probably the buggiest season since I started here in 2002.



Thank you to Cy and Elaine Linscott who helped make this roof project possible.

On July 9th, we began the floor in the dining room. We picked up plywood to be laid down as a sub-floor and the new flooring.



Shawn and Sonja again helped us with this. We were able to do the plywood in one day, and lay the flooring the next day.



That was a long two days...



For the first time, we did a mini family weekend at camp in the summer on July 11th and 12th. Even though the weather didn't agree with us, we all still had fun. We hung out in the lodge, ate, played games, got to go out in the boats, and just enjoyed being together.



Our daughter-in-law, Izzy, planned and organized everything. Everyone brought food, drinks, paper goods, and bedding. Alaynna got to enjoy time with her family and meet a few for the first time.



We got to take a generation photo, Alaynna, her Dad Billy, Grampa Bill, Great-Grampa Harvey, and Great-Great Gram Marcia Calden.



August had some crazy weather. Temps ranged from 47 degrees on the 20th (got to have a fire for the first time in the new wood stove in the lodge) to 87 on the 13th — on this day it was 57 at 6am and by 3pm was 87!



Opening day approached quickly, and the summer was flying by. We were all a little nervous about how things would go, ensuring our guests and staff were safe and comfortable.

We had to make sure we were up-to-date on the guidelines, contacting guests on what they would need to do prior to arriving, and verifying which states were on the no restrictions list and which ones were on the restricted list.

On August 16th, our first guests were Dan, Susan, and Grace Christy. That first week was interesting for everyone — lots of changes and adapting but everyone got into the new way of things quickly.



I never realized how many things people touch in the lodge until I stood in the doorway overlooking everyone... table tops, edges of the table, chairs, door knobs, coffee pumpers, window sills, coat racks, books in the library, etc. We had to clean and disinfect after each meal

as well as when someone came in for coffee or a cookie between meals. There was no hugging or handshakes when you arrived at camp. Hand sanitizer stations were set up by the office and ice machine. Only staff was allowed in the kitchen and back room area. When you came into the dining room, you were required to use the hand sanitizer station that we had setup at the doors. Staff wore masks and face shields while in the lodge, handling and serving food, and cleaning. The cookie jars were still out but the cookies were individually wrapped. At the tables, there was packaged salt and pepper, and jelly, syrup, ketchup, mustard, and butter were all in small pre-portioned cups. We did not do daily housekeeping in the cabins, but did pick up trash and dirty dishes from porches daily, and laundry bags were in the cabins for towel exchange. At first there was a 24-hour time period for the cabins between reservations, then when new guidelines came out I was waiting four hours before entering to start the cleaning between reservations. I ended up doing contactless checkouts due to the office being so small. At supper the night prior to departure, I would bring the bill out to the table in an envelope, payment was brought back in the morning at breakfast in the same envelope.

We held our 34th Annual Fly Fishing School, August 28-30. There were 11 students. Bonnie Holding was able to do it perfectly. With the large room, people sat at their own table and everyone had on masks while inside. The weather did not



cooperate at all, but Bonnie made the best out of the situation. In her words, "Rain, wind, and COVID tried to put their stamp on the weekend — we prevailed and had a great school! Felt very safe and protected!"



On September 3rd, the leaves started changing, making for some beautiful scenery. The weather in September was ever-changing. There was a high of 81 on the 10th, low of 28 on the 21st and 22nd!

I know it's hard to believe, but it was windy most of the month. On the 7th it was so windy that no one went out on the pond all day or in the evening. There was a frost on the 12th, then again on the 15th. Each morning from the 18th to the 22nd there was a frost.



The end of the month brought some beautiful sunsets and scenery with all the leaves changing colors.



Gary Bannister was the last person off the pond in 2020. The State of Maine had changed the law and allowed bird hunting the last week in September. This is the most perfect situation for those of you who like to fish and hunt. It's a great time of year when the trout are in their fall spawning colors, the grouse are out feeding on all the wild berries, and the leaves are at their peak... it doesn't get better than this!!

October brought us probably the best bird season in years! All the hunters were so pleased with the amount of flushes and number of birds.



It spit snow on the 8th. On the 10th, we had a crazy thunderstorm with lots of lightning. There was a thick frost on the morning of the 12th. On the 17th, it was raining at 6am, and by 6:30am it had changed to snow. It snowed all day, and we ended up with six inches.



Paul and Susan Fuller, producers of a TV show called *Big Dogs Afield*, stayed at Tim Pond in October for some bird hunting. They filmed and posted two videos on YouTube. The videos have over 3,000 views on one video and over 2,000 views on the other!

We closed on the 18th. In 2021 we will be open longer for bird season.

Maine had a very dry spring and summer, the pond was very low all season. The spawning brooks didn't have enough water in them for the fish to go up and spawn, therefore the fish were stacked up at the mouths of all the brooks and made for great fishing (sometimes too good). The fish were actually spawning in the shallow water on the shore. Harvey spoke with a biologist, and they said if we have another dry year like that, they would recommend no fishing within 50 feet of the shore, which would allow the trout to spawn and then return to deeper water.

We were open for one week of deer season November 8-15. We only had 11 hunters. No deer that week. It was warm compared to the last two seasons of cold weather, frozen water pipes, and too much snow to walk through the woods to hunt.



The coldest temp we had was 24, and most of the week the temps were in the 40s and 50s...not the best for hunting.

We have to give a huge **Thank You** to all of you that were able to visit camp this year. You followed the guidelines set forth by the State of Maine and the CDC by having a negative test result prior to arrival and/or quarantining. Not only for that, but also for your patience and

understanding for the new ways of doing things at camp. It was tough but we all got through it together.

Did we go above and beyond? Yes, I think so. I had Harvey questioning me on all the extra cleaning, from sanitizing every door handle and light switch to the boats. In the end, we kept Tim Pond COVID-free. Other camps may not have done as much as us, but I was holding us to a higher standard and wanted nothing but the safest possible place for people to enjoy.

We look forward to seeing everyone in 2021!



Who better to talk about our season than those who stayed with us?

2020 Cabin Book Entries

"We were worried about visiting Tim Pond during the COVID pandemic, but our fears were soon assuaged as we interacted with the wonderful camp staff. We had two days of decent fishing - a 12" trout on a Woolley Bugger and a 16" on a Doodle Bug. As always, the food was fantastic, and the peace and quiet will help us recharge as we return to the real world."

- Joan and John M.

"Hat's off to Tim Pond for making the season happen even with all the COVID challenges."

- John, Johny, Dave, Mark, and Eric

"Incredible bird population this year! Two dozen + (27 day one, 17 half day two) flushes! Per day."

- Al Y. & Charlie P.

"Labor Day weekend arrived Friday to bright gentle weather, took 5 that evening - Coolish breezy Saturday, 5 more that eve on a hornberg. Sunday AM nice enough to go out and catch 3 more on a Muddler one 13" to take home. Fished again before supper (3 more) and after supper (4 more). I have caught more fish but never enjoyed it more."

- Jeff K.

"This is my 3rd trip to Tim Pond & my husband's 25th. We got engaged here, came back expecting the following year & now we welcomed our baby Charlie. He's a 4th generation Tim Ponder."

- Devin, Dori, & Charlie F.

"Great grouse hunting 15 to 20 birds a day."

- Jim K. (flushes/day)

"Palmer Lewis caught the biggest fish - 16"

- Palmer L. & Family

"We took two (10" + 13")... Woolly Bugger did the trick."

- Jen & Brad F.

"Couldn't say more about the care, planning, and responsibilities of the whole camp staff in light of COVID-19 precautions."

- Thom & Clara B.

"Had a great time as always. This is Lisa's first trip to Tim Pond. She caught her first trout on the second night out on a dry fly...We caught 5 all good sized (Drakes & Caddis.)"

- Eric & Lisa T.

Cast & Blast; Day one: "Caught one about 10". Day two: Caught two in AM & 4 in PM. Kept 1 - 13" & 1 - 11" for breakfast. Caught on Grouse and flushed six. Day three: caught 4 fishing AM. One small one in evening. Flushed a few grouse. Day four: went grouse hunting in PM - got one. Caught two - 12" - 10.5" & lost two. Had a great trip. Darcie and Co have the COVID prevention well

in hand. They had done a great job dealing w/ it."

- Gary, Ann, and Gilly

"First day out caught 4 grouse."

- Bill, Karyn, Jake T.

"Nancy signed up for the fly fishing school last February...The L.L. Bean instructor Bonnie did a great job and the three-day course is a must for anyone trying to get into the sport. SO here are the statistics for this weekend. 1st day: 5 trout - 1 - 12" released all. Caught on White Doodle Bugs. 2nd day: caught one fish a muddler minnow - 9". Nancy caught her first brook trout on a black doodlebug by herself 12" - saved for breakfast tomorrow. She caught two @ twelve and twelve 1/2. I got a 9". Day four packing up saying goodbye to staff. They really make you feel at home here. P.S. Please support The Tim Pond Foundation, a (501C3) that will ensure the future of this magnificent place."

- Bob and Nancy D.

"Darcie's protocols made for a safe environment for all guests so we could concentrate on the important things, things like fishing, exploring the pond, and surrounding area, and simply relaxing in the nature and beauty of Tim Pond. Bill caught some of the largest brookies he's brought into the boat."

- Carol & Bill K.

"A few changes, the wall between the dining room and library is gone, new floor and new wood stove - complete with window to watch the fire. Beautiful, spacious & comfortable. The crew wearing masks while cooking and serving & being very aware of personal distancing. Table items individually packaged. Cabins well stocked with a system for putting out used towels that will work well in times to come. Give the Calden's lemons and they will make lemon scented hand sanitizer!!! Most importantly, Tim Pond is still Tim Pond. TP crew still positive, personable, and great at what they do. They "have-this" with a great attitude. This place is still magic, still inspires me and balances me... Dan using a Doodle Bug in the flat water had good luck after supper each night."

- Susan, Dan C. & Grace "Aventure dog"

"As always, an incredible time here. What made this trip all the better was the staff's commitment to staying respectful of the current COVID situation. The staff all wore masks, had plenty of signage, offered hand sanitizer & contactless payment methods. We felt safe as could be! And of course last but certainly not least - the birds! Saw an average of 8-12 birds a day! Driving down the road would flush half a dozen. Can't wait to come back next year!"

- The McLachlan Family

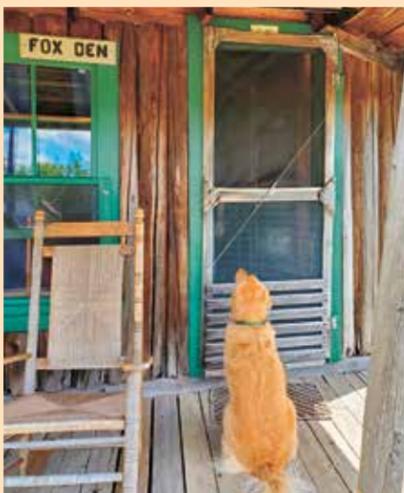
PHOTO GALLERY



This is a view of Bigalow Mountain, taken from the hiking trail Harvey, Jeff, and Bill have been reclaiming - goes from camp, up to the gorge, onto Mud Pond Ridge and then onto the top of Tim Mountain.



View from a canoe October 17, photo from Jeff Vickers.



Grace Christy wondering where the Linscotts are.



Charlie (4th generation) Foley checking out his first TPC prime rib dinner.



Nighttime sky photo taken by Bill Goode, Jr.



Some of the Labor Day weekend parking spots.



September 18 morning fishing.



Michelle Bourget made us our very own, one-of-a kind cornhole game!



2020 was George Berry's (center) 50th consecutive TPC visit! Sewall Pingree (left) and Bill Wolfe (right) were with him for this milestone.



The Goode Group 2020 visit.

2021 RATES

FISHING RATES

\$245* per night per person.
Includes cabin, meals, boat, motor and gas.
Children 12 and under, half price.
Children 5 and under, free.
10% Discount for 7 or more nights.
Pets Welcome: \$15 per visit.
10% Discount in July & August.

FLY FISHING SCHOOL

\$550* per weekend per person.
Beginner & intermediate fishing skills.
Casting, knots, equipment, ecology.
Includes cabin, meals, boat, motor and gas.

REMINDER: We do NOT sell fishing or hunting licenses at camp.
Please purchase them online prior to arriving at mefishwildlife.com.



HUNTING RATES

UPLAND GAME \$170* per night per person.
Or \$900* per week per person double occupancy,
\$995* per week per person single occupancy.
Sunday-Sunday. Includes cabin & meals.
Guides available upon request.
Guides: \$250 per day, With bird dog \$300 per day.

*Subject to current Maine meals and lodging tax. Service fees are traditional and usually range from 15-20% of the daily rate, and are not included in the above rates.



To show our appreciation for our military, we now offer a 10% military discount to Active Duty Members, Reservists, National Guard Members, Retirees and Veterans. You must show a valid military ID or other proof of service.

\$245 Deposit per person. Visa & Master Card accepted for deposits only. • **No Saturday arrivals or departures.**

GARDENING



Jeff planted and tended a garden this past season. We had plenty of green beans, peas, lettuce, cabbage, turnips, radishes, corn, zucchini, and cauliflower — which was a surprise, Harvey thought he bought broccoli!

MAINTENANCE



In June, July, and August, there was lots of maintenance happening. Jeff painted shelves in the kitchen, made new window screens for the cabins, painted all the cabin window and door trim, painted six of the cabin floors, and made a new set of dining room steps out front. Shawn took out the window to nowhere in the dining room and made it match the wall. You can't even tell a window was there!

HUNTING & FISHING



Great pic of brookie from Bill Goode, Jr.



Lee Bures Feldman was our youngest October bird hunter.



Peabody brothers.



October birds, photo courtesy of Al Yoon.



Brian and Joe Stiles, September moose hunt.



George Martinez enjoying some fishing, photo by Stu Martinez.



John Munro, photo courtesy of B. Goode, Jr.

A HUGE Thank You

to Candy, Jeff, Brandon, Veronica, Shawn, and Sonja.

Shawn and Sonja, you two are some great friends. You gave up numerous weekends and your vacation time to come up to camp and help us with our projects.

Veronica, you would work your full-time job, then drive 6 hours (roundtrip) to camp to help me out. As usual, I was short-staffed and you would come up and give me 100%. You made it possible for me to attend our grand-daughter's first birthday party. I am grateful and appreciate and cherish our friendship.

Candy, Jeff, and Brandon... our pandemic staff, you were all amazing this season. We would not have had such a successful season if it wasn't for you. You all went above and beyond in all that you did, and never once complained. There wasn't just one job title, you all wore many hats, and I am beyond grateful for all your help and positive attitudes.

2020 was Candy's 20th consecutive year at Tim Pond!! Due to all the craziness this past year, we did not celebrate and recognize this milestone as we would have.

I first met Candy in late 2000 when Bill and I started dating. She was working out of Harvey and Betty's house in Jay that winter. She was always pleasant and friendly and over the next two summers when Bill and I would make trips to camp, Candy was always warm and welcoming. In 2002, my first season working at Tim Pond, I really got to know Candy and our friendship has grown from there. It's more than a friendship, I consider her part of our family.

It is more than just cookies and pies that Candy is famous for. When you pull into the yard, 9 out of 10 times it's Candy that greets and welcomes you to camp. Candy's passion and love of people is felt in every recipe she makes, every smile she gives and every word she speaks... Candy truly "Welcomes you home" every time you return to Tim Pond and the lodge.

Candy, we will celebrate your 20+ consecutive years at Tim Pond in 2021 in a special way... Thank you for all you have contributed over the years to help make Tim Pond the wonderful place it is!

Those We Lost in 2020

Patricia Forsyth Dec. 23, 2019
Dottie Barnes Jan. 24, 2020
Al Wehrle April 14, 2020
Linda Miceli Aug. 22, 2020
Dave Hodgdon Sept. 21, 2020
Naida Woodcock Nov. 29, 2020

They may be gone, but they will forever be with us...