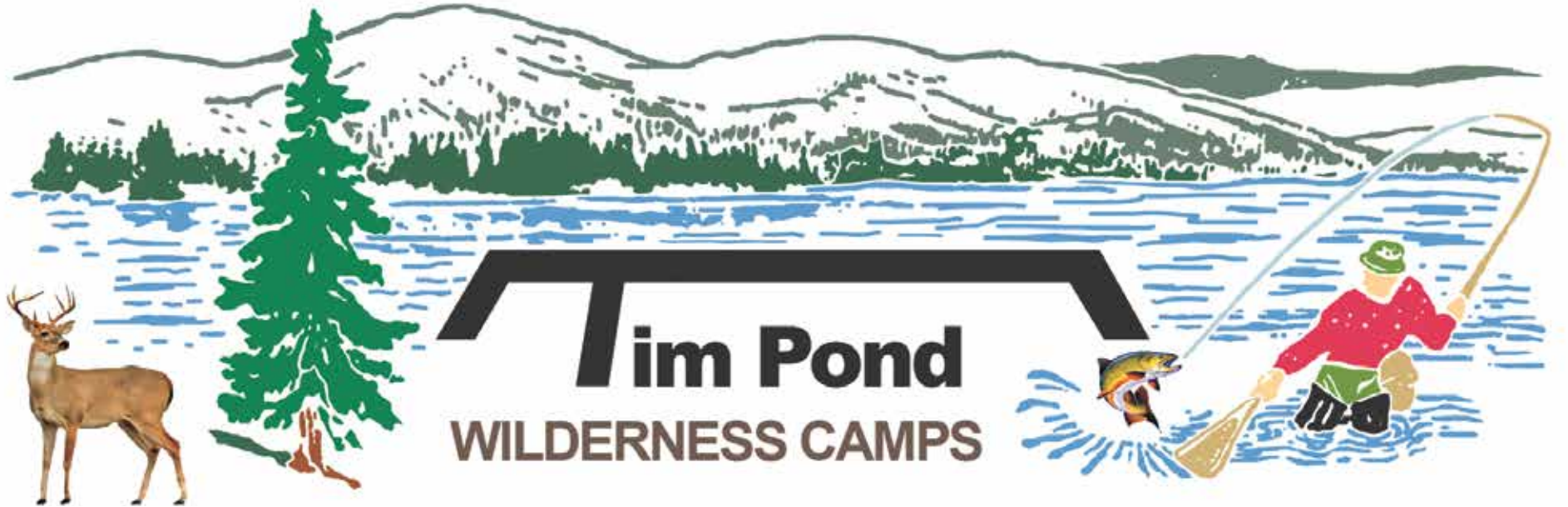


The place you've been looking for – but didn't know how to find!



NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2023

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Angler Cabin Update

Due to lack of staff yet again this past season, we were not able to get as much done on this cabin as we would have liked.

Prior to camp opening in May, local guide Matt Tinker helped us out with starting the work on the inside of the cabin and getting a front door built. In July, Shawn Gould and his friend Mike helped Bill get the roof finished.

During the summer, Bill was able to get the electrical run in the cabin. Off and on throughout the season, Harvey worked on the inside of the cabin, getting some of the bathroom set-up, varnished the walls, and started laying the flooring down.



Windows were installed after a little fiasco when we realized the wrong windows were sent, and we had to wait until the correct ones were delivered. The porch roof also took some extra time to be finished due to a design flaw, but it was



figured out.

The woodstove, shower, toilet, hot water tank, and beds have all been purchased. We will need to

build a woodbox for the firewood and kindling, and find and purchase a table and chairs, bureaus, and some cabin decor.



We are hoping to have the Angler Cabin ready for guests by mid-summer.

What makes Tim Pond such an extraordinary place? YOU DO!!

Thank you to everyone for making our 2022 season a success. Each and every one of you makes Tim Pond special.

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Harbor Cabin, aka Boat-House

Anyone who has been in or seen the boat-house the last few years, knows it was a wreck.



It gets the full brunt of the weather off of the pond. The walls were falling apart and leaning in the wrong directions, and when it rained, it rained more inside the building than outside. The boat-house not only stores all our things for the boats and dock, but used to be housing for the dock attendant. We decided that since the boats and dock are an important part of the camps, we should work on this building next. We applied and were awarded a matching funds grant through Franklin County for



businesses in unorganized territories to help with this project. We are calling it the Harbor Cabin.

On July 23rd the boat-house was torn down. On July 24th and 25th the groundwork began, and the first load of the new boathouse was delivered. After cleaning up the demo, the ground was leveled, and the footers were set.



July 27th, another truckload of building supplies arrived. July 28th the floor framing began.



Once that was done, we painted the floor hoping some paint would protect the floor from any rain we might have while getting the walls and roof on.

So much of the cabin got done in August. The first week in August, the walls started going up. I was able to help out with this part. It was a cool experience — it was like a giant Lincoln Log kit. Each log had a letter and a number so you knew where it had to go.



On August 16th, the last truckload of the building arrived. A crane came into camp on August 20th to get all the purlins up. Bill, Harvey, Wyatt, and

See **Harbor Cabin** on page 2

Harbor Cabin from page 1

Dan Christy got this part of the project done in an afternoon.



In September and October, the cabin had great strides in getting worked on. Lots got done on the weekends when Jody Hodgdon made his way up each and every weekend to help out. When we closed up camp for the season, the Harbor Cabin was



all buttoned up with plywood over the windows and doorways and the roof had plywood and ice and water shield on it to provide protection for the upcoming winter.

We are hoping to have the Harbor Cabin ready for storage usage and possibly some housing for staff late in the 2023 season.



How much did folks know about the Maine partridge (ruffed grouse) in 1902? Quite a lot, as it turns out.

This was a question that was asked in *The Maine Sportsman Magazine*, in its October 2021 issue. We thought it would be interesting to copy this article for people to read, seeing as all the information is pretty much the same. The section was called: "Snapshots in Time," and it was compiled by Bill Pierce.

This is the original article:

From "Maine Woods" October 3, 1902; "The Partridge ... His Food and His Ways"

We call the best game bird we have a partridge, writes W.H. Brownson in the *Portland Advertiser*, and in the rural districts it is commonly spoken of as "pa'tridge" meaning the ruffed grouse. Down Virginia way, they refer to it as a pheasant, which is not any more than it is a "pa'tridge". In the middle and southern states when they speak of a partridge, they mean a Bob White or quail.

There is no common bird which is so confused, both in its popular and scientific names. It will be something of a surprise to many to learn that there probably no true ruffed grouse in Maine, but instead a sub-species known as the Canadian ruffed grouse. This is not the Canada grouse or spruce partridge. The sub-species which lives in Maine differs only from the true ruffed grouse in the general color of the upper parts, which are gray instead of reddish and the more distinctly barred under parts.

Ora W. Knight, author of "A List

of the Birds of Maine" has made a very exhaustive investigation of this subject, and his decision is that "the presence of the typical ruffed grouse in this state is extremely doubtful" However, it makes little difference whether the bird which is almost everybody knows is *Bonasa umbellus* or as the authorities have decided *Bonasa umbellus togata*; the two are practically the same in all essential points, and their habits are identical.

The Canadian ruffed grouse is a permanent resident here, not knowing such an annual event as migration. In the summer, they find food in abundance, eating crickets, grasshoppers, all kinds of nuts whose burs are not too hard, berries of every variety, even to the fruit of the poisonous variety sumac, which does them no harm.

Such wholesome fare helps give the flesh the pleasant flavor that makes it so much of a delicacy for the table.

In the winter, the grouse keeps fat on food that would seem to be pretty meager. They eat heartily of poplar and birch, snapping off the ends of the twigs and swallowing a cupful of the frozen sticks for supper. They burrow under the snow no matter how deep it is and stay there for days, living on wintergreen, goldthread, clover, and strawberry leaves and bechnuts.

Some will tell you that the partridges are imprisoned under the icy covering after a rainy spell in the winter but it is not so. They easily travel from place to place under the crust, and peck holes in it if they desire to get out.

2022 Highlights

On May 9th, Bill, myself, and Rascal made our move into camp. The ice was completely out when we arrived. For the first time in 20 years, our move-in day was beautiful. It is usually snowing, raining, or windy.



Black flies and mosquitoes came out in full force on May 11th, and never let up until July.



The dock was put in place, and the first hummingbird was spotted on May 12th. A week prior to opening, the porches on the Fox and Beaver Cabins were in extremely rough shape so they were torn off and new ones were put on.



Matt Tinker, who was at camp helping to get a jump start on the new Angler Cabin, caught the first brookie of the season on May 25th.

Opening day was May 27th, and Gene Feher and Alan LaBatte were the first guests into camp. This was the warmest May in the 20 years that I have been getting camp opened up. It actually hit 77 degrees on May 12th and 13th! It was nice to not be cleaning, repairing etc. in winter coats,

hats, mittens... but the warm weather brought the thickest bug season I had ever seen.

June was the coldest June we have had in years. The average temperature at breakfast was 52.7 degrees, and at supper the average temperature was 64.2 degrees. Fathers Day didn't get above 44 degrees! On June 20th, we had a thick frost.

July brought warmer weather. We had a BBQ lunch on July 3rd.

Our annual Fly Fishing School weekend was July 8th-10th. Eight students participated. This class had a more enjoyable weekend than those in 2021 weather-wise as they lucked out with sunny, clear days.

The Flagstaff ATV Club made their annual ride into camp for lunch on August 21st. There were a total of 18 wheelers and 31 people.

September brought us another beautiful fall. We had our first thick frost on Sept 17th.

The last guest off the pond for 2022 was Jamie Burgoyne.

This was the second October we were open for the entire month for bird hunting, and one week of deer hunting the first week in November.

We closed camp for the season on November 5th. For the first time in years, closing day was beautiful. It was a clear, sunny day with the temperature at 52 degrees! We finished up the cleaning and closing up all the buildings without water freezing or us wearing our winter clothes. These are pics of our move-in day in May and move-out day in November. We probably won't have this great weather for these days for another 20 years.



WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS



Eagle



Loon



Hawk



Lynx



Otter

From the Heart of a Young Lady Visiting Tim Pond

This young lady asked that if she wrote something, would I put it in our newsletter, and I thought it was a fantastic idea!

by Anna Kittredge (age 10)



Tim Pond is truly a one-of-a-kind experience. I have never been to any other place that is like Tim Pond. I love it there. You always have something to do and are very, very rarely bored.

In the morning, the kids usually wake up when the parents are getting back from fishing. We then go to the dining hall where we eat breakfast. My favorite thing to have for breakfast is the toast. They cook it perfectly and the jellies are all delicious. And to drink, I always have grapefruit juice, which is indeed delicious! Jody, who has been a guest at Tim Pond for many years, had heard I haven't caught a fish yet. During breakfast one morning, he gave me a special fly called the wood special. He

said that it was guaranteed to catch a brook trout. I fished with it later that day, and it didn't work as Jody told me it would, I still haven't caught a fish!

A little later, we went fishing as a family. I caught nothing on that trip out fishing, but I loved going because the lake was so peaceful that morning. When we got back, my dad had caught two fish. We turned them in so we could have them for breakfast tomorrow. We went back to the cabin and put all the fishing stuff away. I then grabbed my favorite book, Black Beauty and went to the hammock and started reading. After reading about three chapters of my book, I went to the cabin. In the cabin, I was usually doing puzzles or dominos.

About half an hour before lunch, I would get so hungry, so I would go up to the dining hall and grab a chocolate chip cookie. You can imagine how long the cookies lasted..not long at all. The cookies are delicious. We would then have lunch, my favorite lunch was the mac'n'cheese. It's just so creamy and scrumptious. To drink, I would have the fruit punch, which I stand by and declare is Wonderful!

After lunch, we would go fishing again, I still didn't catch anything. My dad caught two fish, but one was too

small to keep so we let him go. When we got back, I was upset because I hadn't caught anything, so my grandpa, Gary Bannister (Papa G) said "That's why it is called fishing and not catching." Next, he taught me how to tie a fly. I tied a fly that was orange and black. The fly Jody had given me gave me inspiration to make the body orange. It was the first fly I had ever tied!

In the afternoon, it was a quiet time when all the old people were taking naps and reading, and who knows what else. I always had too much energy, so I was playing with the dog, Gracie, that I had met. It was super fun, and we wore each other out.

After quiet time, we would go fishing again. I used the fly I had tied and caught my first fish on that trip! I was proud of that fish, but Papa G was even more proud! When we came back, we unpacked our fishing equipment and went to the dining hall for dinner. I can't say what my favorite meal was because they were all so good.

After we ate, we went back to our cabin and played board games. My grandparents came over and played with us for a little while. Then we went to bed, excited for what tomorrow might bring.

Newest Additions to the Calden Family

On June 13th, in a small, private ceremony in Rhode Island, our daughter, Rachel, married Lefty Ortega.



On October 15th, the newest addition to the Calden family, Lily Ortega, was born. She was 6 lbs, 14 oz. Rachel, Lefty, and Lily are all happy, healthy and living in Rhode Island. Lily is looking forward to her first trip to Tim Pond this summer.



A Biologist's Visit in September

by Forrest Bonney

When I worked as a fisheries biologist for the Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, one of my assignments as a brook trout specialist — made it possible by the development of computers — was to summarize decades of statewide brook trout data, including their growth rates, the age at maturity, longevity, and other information. It's important to know the age at maturity, for example, to set the length limit high enough so that they can spawn at least once before becoming susceptible to harvest.

For lakes and ponds, I divided this information into two categories: for those waters less than 500 acres, and those greater than 500 acres. The classification was somewhat arbitrary, but I felt that the smaller bodies of water exhibited the traits of "traditional" trout ponds, often having no or few other fish species present. In larger lakes, by comparison, brookies often share the habitat with

other species, both coldwater and warmwater, resulting in differences in abundance, diet, and growth rates.

Brook trout are actually char, an ancient group of fish that evolved in cold, clear water millennia ago, and their presence confirms pristine habitat. However, they do not compete well with more aggressive fish that evolved later in the scheme of things; it's best to keep them apart.

Tim Pond, at 320 acres in size, fits nicely into the trout pond category. It has no fish competition, and has abundant insect life, the brook trout's favorite food. It also has cold, well-oxygenated water and ample spawning and nursery habitat and has therefore never been stocked. Finally, due to limited harvest rules embraced by the camp owners, it has an unusually high proportion of older-age fish, up to five years old, which maintain a healthy genome.

I was pleased to learn that the camp owners are working toward creating a land trust to protect the

watershed from excessive timber harvest, thereby assuring that nutrient enrichment and siltation will never degrade the pond's water quality. It is particularly important to limit timber harvesting with the riparian strip along the tributary streams to prevent their degradation

Few anglers, including myself, give much thought to these parameters as they fly fish on this gorgeous body of water, surrounded by an undeveloped shoreline and low mountains that roll away into the distance. The guests

at Tim Pond Camps — many of them repeat visitors — speak of their love for the pond and the area, verbally and through the camp logs: "caught my first trout on a fly," "came within fifty feet of a moose," and "those stars!"

After a visit to Tim Pond Camps, my wife and I have to say that we agree.

Forrest Bonney is a retired fisheries biologist for the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and author of *SQUARETAILS, Biology and Management of Maine's Brook Trout*.

Preserving the Past for the Future

FRIENDS OF TIM POND NON-PROFIT UPDATE



During 2022, we were not able to put as much time into fundraising as we had hoped.

We are hoping 2023 will be better. We are in the process of coming up with an investment policy and guidelines for the non-profit to achieve.

This summer, we will be doing a calendar fundraiser. We will be asking for people to email their favorite photo of Tim Pond (landscapes, wildlife, sunrises, sunsets). We will pick 12 photos and those will be in the calendar,

along with the photographer's name. This great idea came from a young lady that visits Tim Pond every year with her family. She has volunteered to help me put it all together. I will be sending out more info on it this summer, and hope to have them for sale by the beginning of fall.

Here is where our fundraising efforts stand in 2022.

We had 64 contributors for a total of \$36,895 in donations.

Bronze (donations up to \$499): 50
Silver (donations \$500-\$1,999): 9
Gold (donations \$2,000-\$4,999): 2
Platinum (donations \$5,000 and up): 3

As of March 14, 2023, we are 14% of the way to our goal, and have raised a total of \$135,364. Thank you to everyone for their support. We hope you all continue to help us in our mission to preserve Tim Pond.

PHOTO GALLERY



Playing cards in the lodge.



Wing group.



Johnson group.



LaBossiere family.



Lovely, Ward, Robinson, Cannon, O'Brien group.



Mailley family.



Stevens family.



Miceli family.



McLachlan family.

2023 RATES

FISHING RATES

\$260* per night per person.
Includes cabin, meals, boat, motor and gas.
If single occupancy, add 15%.
Children 12 and under, half price.
Children 5 and under, free.
Pets Welcome: \$20 per visit (no charge during hunting season).
10% Discount for 7 or more nights.
10% Discount in July & August.
10% Military Discount.



FLY FISHING SCHOOL

\$600* per weekend per person, July 7-9.
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

\$200*/night, double occupancy \$235*/night, single occupancy
\$1250*/week, double occupancy \$1550*/week, single occupancy

All rates include cabin & meals. Weekly rates are Sunday-Sunday.
Guides available upon request. \$300 per day, \$350 per day with dog

*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.

\$260 non-refundable deposit per person • No Saturday arrivals or departures • Check-in 12pm, check out 9am

NOTE: In 2022, the price of diesel fuel for the generator tripled and food costs skyrocketed, so we had to add a \$15/person/night unexpected energy cost fee to help cover these costs. We were hoping that 2023 would bring more stable prices of things, but it is not looking like that will be the case. So, we believe we will be forced to keep this fee for the upcoming season. Please bear in mind that we are not looking to profit from this, we are simply attempting to survive these insane times. If anything changes, we will drop the fee. Thank you all for your understanding.

Those We Lost in 2022

George Martinez January 5th
Ryan Telly January 11th
Chuck Gauger January 19th
Russell Meade February 13th
Dave Gosse February 22nd
Bernice Simpson February 26th
Jack Salivonchik August 28th
John Harrigan December 26th

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

Thank You!

We were short staffed at camp, yet again, but we were able to have a successful season with our small crew. Everyone went the extra mile, pitching in where needed. It was a pleasure working with all of them, and we appreciate all their hard work.

Our full-time staff in 2022: **Jeff** – his 4th season with us, but his 1st season running the kitchen. I would say he nailed it! Not only did Jeff run the kitchen, he helped with maintenance around camp, and planted, weeded,

and harvested a large garden, and did lots of canning. Everyone loved all the fresh veggies he served. Bill and myself had our 20th consecutive season running the camps.

2022 Crew: **Veronica** (6th season) worked every Sunday and Monday, and every other Tuesday after working full-time at the Maine State Prison as a corrections guard.

Brothers, **Wyatt and James** – you might remember Wyatt, he worked at camp a couple years ago. He came back this season and helped out wherever he was needed; the dock, dishes, cabins, and working on the new cabins. James

(1st season) – he has been applying to work at camp for 2 years and he was finally old enough this summer. He was on the dock, helped in cabins, and helped on the new cabins.

Gage (1st season) joined us late in the season, but he was extremely helpful, doing dishes, cabins, filling in on the dock, helping on the new cabins, and providing comic relief. Siblings, **Mackenzie** (1st season) and **Ethan** (1st season), who we had met in Florida, came all the way to Maine to help us out during our busiest part of the season. Mackenzie was with us in June and September in the dining room, kitchen,

and cabins. Ethan ran the dock in June. The new cabins would not be where they are if not for the following:

Jody Hodgdon spent every weekend helping Bill on the new cabins. He drove five hours roundtrip each time, and could also be seen in the dining room giving me a hard time.

Jason Hodgdon, Jody's son, made the trip a couple times to help out.

Carl and Joyce Badeau helped on the Harbor Cabin.

HUNTING



Gooden in October.



Paul Fuller, bird dogs afield.



Nease.



Steve M. moose hunt.



Tim G. and Shad R.



Barkey, Dudley, Piccolo group.



Billy & Alayna C.

FISHING



Jim L.



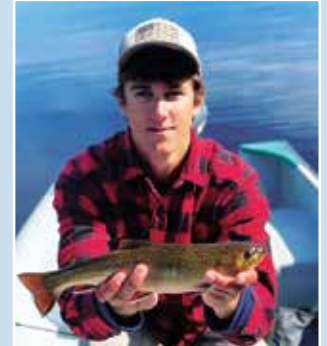
Sean R.



Ralph G.



Ralph



Giampetruzzi



Lyla R.



Trent R.



Betsy C.



Rosemarie J.



Libby P.