

2013

December 23, 2013

Take a Break

No work parties on Christmas or New Year's days. Begin again Jan 8th.

Best holiday wishes to all.

Rest well for what lies ahead.

Michael

December 18, 2013

In For A Treat!

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot. We'll start in on the next trail from intersection #9 [Green Trail] to #6 [Red Trail]

We'll begin at the Green Trail so that we'll be heading downhill when we hit the final slot to the Red Trail. The usual tools.

Michael

December 12, 2013

Rhodies Tomorrow!

11:45 tomorrow morning at the parking lot for any who are interested.

Ron Caron will be coming from PH with a dozen native rhodies to be planted in three places in the HG. He'll point, we'll dig.

They probably are quite small. I'll bring picks, shovels and the wheelbarrow. Feel free to bring your personal shovels [Lou, Ken] if you prefer.

I'll also need a hand hauling away some small cedars in the center of the parking lot once Ron tells me which ones need to go.

Michael

December 11, 2013

Make Way for the Rhodies

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot. We'll be cutting down some very small trees to create a clearing along Take It Easy, uphill from Sunny's bench.

I'll cut them into bite size pieces which can be thrown in the nearby borrow pits.

If we finish early, there's relocating intersection #31 if the

ground isn't frozen. I'll bring the post hole digger.

Michael

December 2, 2013

Thursday, not Wednesday

9 am Thursday at the parking lot.

I have to go to Vancouver on Wed for a doctor visit.

We will probably finish the current trail and any leftover time can be spent filling in the borrow pits or relocating intersection #31 due to a danger tree.

Michael

November 25, 2013

Gobble, Gobble

No work party this Wed.

I'll be in Seattle for american Thanksgiving.

If you are desperate for entertainment, both HC Trails could use raking with leaf rakes to prevent the build up of organic material on the surface.

Michael

November 19, 2013

Chilly with a side of frost

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.

Continue work on the latest trail.

Michael

November 13, 2013

Over Yonder

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.

More fun with rocks on the current trail.

Michael

November 6, 2013

Ever Onward

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.

Begin work on the northern extension of last week's trail.

Michael

October 29, 2013

Going Downhill

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.

Continue work on the latest trail connecting Monty's Way and the Pink Trail.

Michael

October 22/13

And so it begins again...

9 am at the parking lot. The usual tools.

The votes have been tallied and we'll begin with 32>39, followed by 6>7>9 and lastly, 7>37.

We may also link 39 to 37, since it's easy building in there.

Michael

October 17, 2013

Well done! 26 down, 3 to go.

Congratulations to all who worked on the final North-South link to the Red Trail.

Attached is a map of the three remaining trails to be built in the Hidden Grove. ([Web see this page](#))

Let me know which of the three [32>39, 6>9, or 7>37] you would like to start on next and we'll begin sussing out asap.

Michael

October 15, 2013

Long Haul

9 am tomorrow at the entrance off Inlet on the way to Tuwanek. We'll be continuing the final stretch of the current trail.

Lots of small roots so bring secateurs if ya got em.

Michael

October 9, 2013

Building Confidence

9 am tomorrow at the Inlet Rd entrance on the way to Tuwanek.

We'll be continuing work on the final link to the northern end of the Red Trail

I have a 9:30 doctor's appointment and will join you after 10, hopefully.

Michael

October 1, 2013

No show

I've come down with a cold, Ken can't make it and the weather's iffy.

Michael

September 24, 2013

'Stout Hearted Men'

9 am tomorrow at the Inlet Rd entrance trail on the way to Tuwanek.

We'll be continuing work on the final link to the northern end of the Red Trail.

Michael

September 17, 2013

Breaking Trail

9 am tomorrow at the main parking lot.

We'll finally be starting on the final leg of Mike's Lane, beginning at the Twister.

With a wheelbarrow full of tools it's easiest if we take the 1-4-11-12-22-Twister [21] route.

Michael

September 10, 2013

Fading Days of Summer

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.

Ken and I will bring cordless drill with wire brushes to rough up and paint flaking trail markers.

Otherwise, we'll continue with improvements to the Red Trail.

Michael

September 3/13

Seeing Red

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.

We'll be continuing the upgrading on the Red Trail, this time going downhill from the Mike's Lane intersection.

Anyone who's interested can join me in sussing out the final link in ML beginning at the Twister.

Rupert has checked out one route but we need to look at the alternate.

Michael

August 28/13

Mish Mash

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.

Assorted tasks:

Ken and I are bringing cordless drills with wire brush

attachments for 2 people to

rough up the red trail markers

that are flaking and then respray

them. Intersections
5,11,16,18,19, 23 and 24.
Anyone who's interested can
help suss out the last link of
Mike's Lane from the Twister to
the North end of the Red Trail. I'll
bring survey tape but if you have
any at home, please bring it.
Depending on who's left we can
do some remedial work on the
Red trail heading down the hill
from the unmarked intersection
with Mike's Lane. Lots of roots to
cut plus filling.
Michael

August 20/13

Ever Onward!

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.
Thanks to all who turned out in
my absence last week.
Mike Lane thinks we might be
able to finish the middle section
tomorrow.
I'll bring the chainsaw.
Michael

August 13, 2013

So Easily Called Away...

No work party this Wednesday.
I'll be in Seattle at a family get
together.
If any of you keeners really want
to continue work on Mike's Lane,
part II, feel free to send out a
feeler to your fellow
Trailbuilders using the reply
button.
Michael

August 6, 2013

**Turns out, there is a free
lunch...**

9 am at the parking lot
We'll be starting the middle
section of Mike's Lane. Tool up
accordingly.
We'll also be installing a couple
of intersection posts - I'll bring
the post hole digger.
Mike [Mineral Mike] has offered
to host beer and sandwiches at
his house afterwards in

celebration of the completion of Phase I.

Michael

July 25, 2013

Job Well Done!

The first [and most challenging] segment of Mike's Lane has now been completed.

Thanks to everyone for your hard work. We'll leave Ken's pits open until the fall rains come and solidify the steeper sections of the trail. I have a feeling they'll need a little touching up.

Mike is currently sussing out the exact route for the next section.

I'll be out of town next

Wednesday, so no work party until August 7th.

Michael

July 24, 2013

Tidying Up

We'll take a wheelbarrow with chainsaw and tools to the North end of Mike's Lane to open it up to the Red Trail and put in some steps there. While the step builders are practicing their art we will head South on the trail to buff up a few substandard spots, ending up at the beginning where we will finish the entrance area.

Michael

July 17, 2013

Home Stretch

9 am tomorrow at the newly paved parking lot.

We'll be having at Mike's Lane again.

Michael

July 9/13

It's All Downhill

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot. Continuing with the work on Mike's Lane.

Michael

July 1/13

THURSDAY, not Wednesday

Due to a scheduling conflict this week, I am selfishly moving the work party to 9 am Thursday morning instead of Wednesday. More work on Mike's Lane
Michael

June 25/13

Watch the Thorns

I know it's not as glamorous as trail building but we need to pull a few emerging blackberry vines in the sunnier parts of the parking lot. I've pulled most of the other weeds and this shouldn't take long before we head up to Mike's Lane.

Bring gloves!

Michael

June 19, 2013

Playing Catch up

We'll be continuing work on Mike's Lane.

Don't forget to reroute the trail to the right of the big tree we are approaching - going straight avoids some major filling and grading around large roots.

I have a Doctor's appointment at 9 but hope to join you at coffee time.

Michael

June 11, 2013

Back Into The Fray

9 am at the parking lot. If you get there early feel free to throw some crusher dust in the entry potholes - I told Bob we would do so every Wed until it's paved by DoS.

Otherwise it's back on Mike's Lane.

Michael

June 2, 2013

Carry On Regardless

I'll be in Toronto [first time!] this Wed.

You are welcome to carry on without me - just let each other know.

Unfortunately, you'll be on your own for coffee break.

Michael

May 28, 2013

Over The Top

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot
Continuing work on Mike's Lane
I'll try and remember the sledge
this time.

Michael

May 21/13

Scratching the Surface

9am tomorrow at the parking lot.
More work on Mike's Lane.
Perhaps the soil gods will favour
us this time.

Ken - don't forget your rock
stretcher.

Michael

May 14/13

Hi Ho, Hi Ho...

9 am at the parking lot.
We'll be continuing work on
Mike's Lane.

Perhaps Ken can bring an extra
pinch bar for his pit[s].

Michael

May 7/13

A Higher Purpose

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.
We'll be tackling Mike's Lane
which begins at Sonny's Bench.
The usual tools along with
several buckets [not a
'wheelbarrow friendly' situation
for moving soil]

Michael

May 1, 2013

It's the Pits

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.
We'll be tidying up the borrow
pits along Lou's Loop. Ken and I
will bring chainsaws to cut up
logs for fill. We'll also be
transplanting a few ferns and
wheelbarrowing in some of the
crusher dust for the beginning of
the Trail.

Michael

April 24, 2013

On the Home Stretch

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.
We'll be continuing work on
'Lou's Loop'
I have to leave early for a dental
appt. [after coffee of course!]
Michael

April 17, 2013

Making up for lost time...

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.
We'll be continuing work on
Lou's Loop.
Michael

April 10, 2013

Abort the Mission!

By consent of the others today's
workparty is cancelled.(RAIN)
Michael

April 9, 2013

Up, Up and Away

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot
We'll be building on the solid
effort so far on Lou's Loop.

Thanks to all of you who helped
at Sunday's event –
Michael

April 2, 2013

In The Loop

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.
We'll continue work on Lou's
Loop. We could use Ken's rock
'stretcher' and pinch bar in
addition to the usual tools.
There will be an additional
workparty, 9 am Saturday, in
anticipation of Sunday's opening.
Tasks include filling the entrance
pot holes with road base, raking
Monty's Way, sweeping the
Kiosk roof and raking the
branches from the old parking
stalls.
I will send email notification later
in the week.
Michael

March 26/13

Back in the Saddle

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.

Back to the work we were born to do - putting in new trails!

[Lou's Loop]

Tool up appropriately.

Michael

March 20/13

Make Up Day

No work party today [Wed] due to the rain.

We'll try again tomorrow morning at 9 am. Same agenda.

Michael

March 19/13

To Each His Own

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.

We'll be digging in the PT landscape ties in the newly created pairs of parking spaces.

We'll also be moving one of the 'No Parking' posts and relocating it to the bus parking area.

If we finish early we can start in on 'Lou's Loop' to the Lonely Giant.

Michael

March 12/13

Spreading The Wealth

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.

I have another length of culvert for Monty's Way

We will also be ferrying loads of crusher dust to the 2 newly installed benches [Sunny's plus one at the far end of Monty's Way].

Please bring shovels.

Michael

March 6/13

This and That

9 am at the parking lot

We'll be fixing a couple of drainage issues:

Teal Trail just below Monty's Way needs a culvert in a flooded low spot.

The far end of Monty's Way needs the uphill ditch dug deeper, as revealed by recent rains.

In addition we need to make a flat area for the soon to be installed bench at the far end of the loop.

If time permits, Ken and I will chainsaw the rest of the trees on 'Mike's Lane'

Michael

February 26/13

Posts and Ferns

9 am at the parking lot.

One intersection post to dig up and four to plant. A few more ferns on Monty's Way and perhaps the barest areas of Take It Easy.

Swanson's will be delivering 2 concrete benches to the parking lot about 9:30, one of which we'll install at the start of Take It Easy.

Perhaps Ken could bring his chainsaw and axe head bar.

Michael

February 20/13

'Can You Dig It' or 'Singin' in the Rain'

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.

Installing 4 sign posts, relocating 1. The rest of us will be transplanting ferns along Monty's Way.

Arm yourselves appropriately and could you bring the post hole digger, Roop?

Michael

February 12, 2013

Covering Our Tracks

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.

For many visitors their only view of the Hidden Grove will be what they see from the Handicap trails. With that in mind, we'll begin restoring the trail margins to a more natural state.

Filling in the borrow pits is the most obvious task but also important is softening the cuts in the banks where we have taken material and replanting ferns in

the more broadly disturbed areas.

Ken or I will bring a chainsaw to cut small log pieces to fill the pits. Otherwise it's shovels, steel rakes and pruners.

Michael

February 10/13

Atta Boys!

Job well done men! Thanks to Lou for bringing Adam who gave us that little extra to get us over the top in record time.

A Wed work party to tidy up our messes along the trail is possible but iffy, given the reliability of recent forecasts.

Otherwise take a well deserved rest.

Michael

February 9, 2013

End in Sight [almost]

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot. After this morning's effort we are two sessions away from completion.

Chance of showers on Monday with rain on Tuesday. It would be nice to wrap it up by then, but forecast is for clear weather at the end of next week, so no pressure.

Michael

February 8, 2013

Continue down the path we're on

9 am at the parking lot.

Lou and Ken made a lot of progress this afternoon, giving us a headstart in the morning.

Michael

February 7, 2013

Long and Winding Road

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.

Should be enough dry days ahead to finish the trail. I'll bring a compactor to tamp the work Ken and Lou did last time and then it's off to the races.

Michael

February 5, 2013

Rain Rules

No work party tomorrow but current forecast suggests clearer weather beginning Friday.

About 3 good days would probably finish the trail at the rate you guys work.

Michael

February 2/13

Not So Fast

The weather forecast has been upgraded to a rain free Sunday, at least until late afternoon. I've kept the compactor for the time being, so...

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot with no afternoon session unless there is overwhelming demand.

Michael

February 1/13

Nearly halfway !

9 am and 1 pm tomorrow for those interested and able.

The forecast is for 5 days of rain and showers beginning Sunday, so this may be it for a while till the weather improves.

Michael

January 31, 2013

Dry Run?

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot. Weather didn't cooperate this morning or early afternoon.

Tomorrow is only 30% chance of 'drizzle' and Saturday looks dry.

If it's dry enough, we'll have an afternoon session starting at 1 pm for the keeners and those who couldn't make the morning one.

It would be nice to take advantage of the dry weather on Saturday, as well, but we'll have to take it one day at a time at this point.

Michael

NOTE; IT RAINED SO NO GO.

January 30/13

Back At It

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot for more on Monty's Way.

Excellent job today - we're more than 20% done in only 3 hours! Forecast it a bit iffy - if it gets too wet for the compactor we'll knock off.

Someone stopped me while I was compacting the new parking areas to say how much he appreciated all the work you guys have done.

He walks his dog every day after work and loves to 'decompress' in the Groves. I told him to think about joining the fun once he retires!

Michael

January 29/13

Let The Games Begin!

9 am Wed at the parking lot. We'll be finally starting in on Monty's Way. Shovels and steel rakes. I'll bring the old form boards, rebar pins, 5' spacer sticks and small sledge. Perhaps Ken can bring his new form boards and an additional sledge. If I've forgotten to list any tools, let me know.

Forecast is for rain tonight but only showers tomorrow.

Michael

January 23/13

Fine Tuning

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot. We'll be slightly modifying the recently created parking spaces [by DoS]. I'll bring wheelbarrows and picks.

Tasks involve digging up some of the forest to alter the layout and then shifting road base from one area to another.

Flat and round point shovels, loppers, secateurs, axe, etc.

Michael

January 18/13

The Bobcat is Coming! The Bobcat is Coming!

It will arrive Saturday, time TBD. I could use some help tomorrow afternoon, raking twigs, branches and large

accumulations of leaves off of Monty's Way.

1:30 at the parking lot for those interested.

Michael

January 16/13

More Culverrts

Sorry for the late notice - I just back from Seattle.

9am at the parking lot [watch out for the DoS machines working]

We'll be installing 3 more culverts like the 2 we did last time. Picks, pruners, clippers, shovels and Ken's 'pole axe'.

Michael

January 9/13

"Diggin' in The Rain"

9 am tomorrow at the parking lot.

Thanks to investigation by Mineral Mike, we now know that Monty's Way has additional drainage issues. For tomorrow that means lots of ditching to divert runoff to the 2 culverts we've already installed.

Depending on our success with that approach we'll still need at least one additional culvert which I don't have yet.

Picks, shovels, pruners, clippers etc.

Michael

January 2/13

The Holidays Live On

No work party tomorrow. Some of us [me] are still in Holiday mode. Rest assured, we'll make up for it later.

Michael