HISTORY CORNER "LOST IN THE WOODS"



Thomas Gourlay and Wesley Moore were members of Tramp and Trail in 1939 when they spent two unplanned nights in the wilderness northwest of Piseco Lake. They set out on a day hike with food for one day (which they made last over the two days), sleeping bags, a hatchet but no compass. Each relied on the other to have a compass with him. After walking all day on Saturday and realizing they were lost, they looked to the moon to get their bearings and referred to their topographical maps for guidance. Weary from walking all day, they crawled into their sleeping bags for a few hours of shut-eye. All day Sunday they followed a stream, which led to a lake. At the lake they spent the night in a deserted cabin and began walking again at daybreak. They followed the shore of the lake and came out of the woods in Nobleboro, a full 21 miles from their car, which was parked in Piseco. None the worse

for wear, they each learned a valuable lesson - always carry a compass and never rely on someone else to have one.

Submitted by Sharon Kaelin