

A FOREST FAIRYTALE

Aleen Steinberg Center Dedication: July 1, 2013

Presented by: L.T. Ward

“Ms. Aleen, since you have educated so many children while tromping around in the forest for so many years, it seems only fitting that your story be told in as children’s story. I can imagine that in many, many years to come the Muddy Sneakers will be hearing a story that goes something like this...”

Long, long ago deep in the woods of DuPont State Forest there lived a cozy log cabin. She had strength and character but was not dressed fit for show.

Billy Goat Gruff Troll Brown, the keeper of the forest who lived under the bridge, wouldn’t let her have guests.

Year after year, she would be saddened by the many guests that came and went, but not to see her.

Oh, she had friends from the forest. They would come, tidy her up, and show her off a bit but Troll Brown kept guests away.

One of those friends, Fairy God Mother Aleen, wished and wished for someone to come along and dress her up so she could tell guests about the forest. That would make her happy.

One day, a stately Knight came from the East, riding on a big white horse. With him he had saddle bags stuffed full of golden nuggets that had been found, across the mountains, in the Tennessee Valley and given to him by his Friends in the Big House.

He listened to the Fairy God Mother and when he saw the sadness of the cabin, he said I can fix that! And he turned to his Sergeant of Arms, Bill and said “let it be so” and make it happen July 1st.

Then the Staff took the golden nuggets and gathered the villagers around to tell them the good news. Jim the Builder (like his friend “Bob the Builder”) called in the tools and trucks and all was done.



The wish of the Fairy God Mother had come true. The cabin now a show place for education is visited by many. And a portrait of the Fairy God Mother hangs gently on the wall watching over the guests as they come and go. And they all lived happily ever after.

“Commissioner Troxler what seemed to many a fairy tale, you made a reality! We thank you!”