

# GRAMPA'S

## BROWNS CORNER

# BLAB

***5-16-21***  
***Frogs, Tadpoles,***  
***Crawdads, &***  
***Chain Saws***

Good morning, Campers.

If you actually read yesterday's BLAB you may have figured out that I was actually trying to show you what engineers do. That was just one of many pretty serious projects I worked on over the years. If you didn't actually read it, I don't blame you. I doubt that Nana actually read it all.

Today's story actually began in 2017 when Zoe brought some fun things to Browns Corner Camp including a butterfly net she had purchased at 5 Below with her own money. What happened was the butterfly net was repurposed as a frog net when the Campers found a lot of frogs in the stream.

Last fall, Lila was visiting and asked, "Grampa, do you think the frogs have hibernated?" I told her I wasn't sure and we went to check it out. Turns out the frogs were quite active even in late October or whenever it was. So Lila caught a bucket full with the old butterfly net.

I felt bad that Browns Corner Camp was so ill-equipped so I ordered three different telescoping minnow/butterfly/landing nets. On Columbus Day weekend 2020, Zoe, Ell, Tyler, and Lila were all at Browns Corner Camp and put those nets to serious use.



Three weeks ago Tyler and Lila came for the weekend and you've seen the video of Tractor Terror Tyler and the driveway resurfacing. While the boys were out driving heavy equipment, Lila was helping Nana with some baking. They baked some delicious bread and chocolate chip cookies.



But that was not enough distraction for Lila. She took her net out to the woods and caught a bucket of frogs, tadpoles and crawdads. When she came back to the house she was covered in mud. Nana remarked on how Lila was covered in mud and Lila said with a big smile, **“But it was so worth it!”**

Nana called me to carry Lila straight to the bathtub to clean her up without tracking mud through the house.

But then last weekend we had a grand gathering for Mothers’ Day and Lila and Elle were back in the woods catching frogs. This time they had rubber boots on so it was easier to keep the mud out of the house.





You are no doubt wondering “what does this have to do with chain saws?

This is a screen shot from a short video I shot by accident when I wanted to take a picture. In it you can see Lila's bucket right there on Theodore Bridge. About ten feet



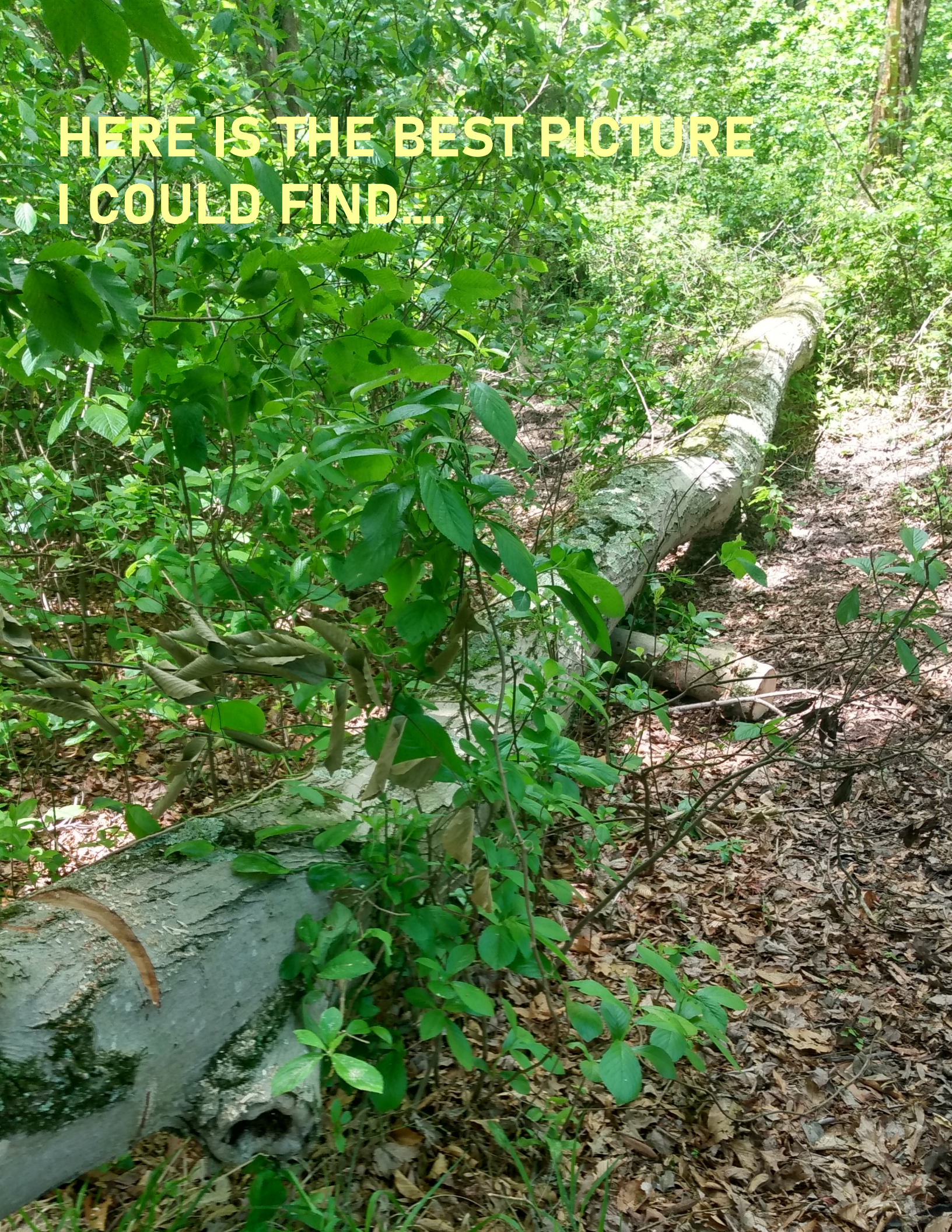
to the right of the bridge you can see Lila on the bank of The Black Lagoon. And if you look closely you will see Tyler way back beyond the bridge and a little to the right. But what you will not see, although you should, is The Lookout Tower.

As I got closer to Tyler, I saw a puzzled look on his face. He said, “Grampa, I can’t find The Lookout Tower”. I looked and sure enough, The Lookout Tower was nowhere to be seen. We walked a little further down Big Oak Road and realized it was totally blocked by the branches of a very large fallen tree. Nobody had stolen The Lookout Tower, it was just hidden.

We walked off-trail around to the other side and saw a maple tree about sixty feet tall and close to two feet in diameter at the base.

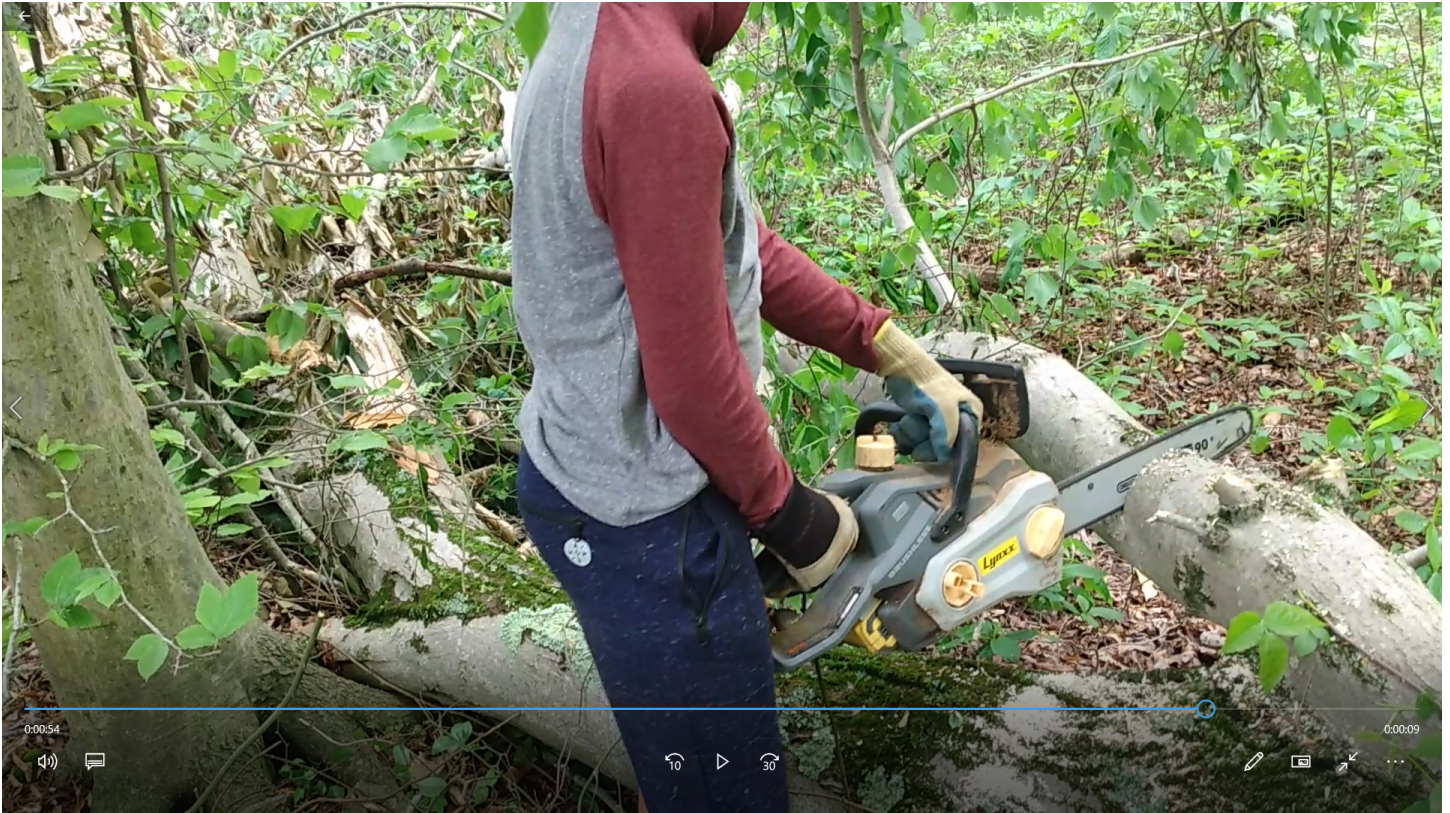


HERE IS THE BEST PICTURE  
I COULD FIND...





So we went back to the barn and got a cordless electric chainsaw and began to dismantle the treetop. Yes, Campers, that is our Tyler there cutting up the downed tree.



In the next BLAB I will present the Treehouse Design Competition. Until then, stay safe, y'all.

Love to all,

***Grampa***

Look for links to You Tube videos on forwarding email.