John Macomber

Prof. Little

Math Across Time

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Our Forgotten Landmark

Tom Zetterstrom talked about the one thing that makes up our natural world, yet never fully seems to be acknowledged or talked about. Trees. In modern day society it seems that Facebook and television triumphs over going outdoors and enjoying nature’s beautiful trees. This speech instilled in me a rekindled love for the aesthetic beauty and significance of trees. It exemplified the important role that trees play as a symbol of life and hope in society.

During the notoriously hectic junior year of high school, my school went on a retreat to the Shenandoah Mountains. After just staying there for three days, I felt rejuvenated and was a completely different person when I came back. At a time when the SAT’s were the only thing on my mind, it was nice to go to nature and enjoy the fresh air supplied by the trees. I felt small when I stood next to a tree that was a hundred times my size and has been on this earth for two hundred years. It makes one put all those little day to day problems in perspective. Moreover, the tranquility of the trees created a calming effect that relieved much of my built up tension and stress.

After listening to Tom Zetterstrom’s speech, it affirmed my belief that trees have the power to give new life and hope. The mere presence of trees creates an atmosphere of beauty and peacefulness. They give us the air in which we breathe. Their aromas, such as a Knotty Pine in the winter, make us feel one with nature. That is why, as a society, we should cherish our trees and go to them as a refuge from our pains and troubles.