

Jordan Valley 45°

Newsletter Volume 2 Issue 2



Calendar

JV45° CHAPTER MEETING
Thursday, May 9, 2013
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Boyne Falls Fire Hall
Boyne Falls, MI
All Welcome

Directions:

East of US 131 in Boyne Falls (Fire Hall is visible from US 131 on East side)

Speaker: Doug Boulee
Topic: Hiking the Arrowhead Route in Minnesota

TRAIL ADOPTER TRAINING
May 19, 2013
Time: 9:30 am
(see article pg. 2)

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY
Saturday, June 1, 2013
Time: 11:00 am-5:00 pm
Petoskey, MI
(see article pg.1)

Notice Board

Send entries to
Amy Wilks at
amywilks47@hotmail.com

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April, 2013

National Trails Day ---- Saturday, June 1, 2013



PETOSKEY TRAIL TOWN CELEBRATION!

We are joining the American Hiking Society's annual observance of National Trails Day by holding a event celebrating the designation of Petoskey as a Trail Town of the North Country Trail.

You won't want to miss this!

First the good news: There will be a lot going on in the Petoskey Bear River Recreation Area from 11:00 to 5:00...we will have food, demos, prizes, hikes and information about the NCT. Several Petoskey-area businesses will be participating, and we expect a lot of people to drop by after seeing our media coverage.

Now the other news: This can't happen without your help. Please consider participating...you'll have a great time too. We have opportunities for you...help with food, activities, PR, etc. Even if you're just going to show up and pitch in, we need to know.

Already, Jen and Todd Winnell are handling working with local business, Jim Flick is organizing the hiking shuttle, and Margo Hodder will help where needed. Our National Park Service NCT Superintendent, Mark Weaver, hopes to attend.

Let me know what you can do!

Duane delawton@torchlake.com

BREAKING NEWS-BREAKING NEWS-BREAKING NEWS----JV45°'S GRANT REQUEST TO NATIONAL PARK SERVICE FOR 2013 PROJECT FUNDING HAS BEEN APPROVED!

TRAIL ADOPTER TRAINING SESSION Sunday, May 19, 9:30 am

Everyone is invited to come and help do a spring walkthrough of trail in the Sand Lake area. If you're not familiar with what's involved in being an adopter, or want to brush up (heh! heh!), this is for you.

We'll meet at 0930 hrs at the ORV Lot on Mancelona Rd.C38, (6 miles E of US131 in Mancelona) and receive directions from our organizing hosts Peg Jones and Andy Zeek. If you're coming, they would appreciate an rsvp (pjonesazeek@voyager.net), but it's not mandatory. We will work in the rain, but not thunderstorms.

Please bring water, a lunch, and gloves. If you can also bring pruners, loppers, folding or small bow saws, and trash bags that would be great. We will bring more tools from the tool trailer, so don't worry if you don't have any.

Please plan to cover about 4-5 flat to slightly hilly miles and be out for 4-5 hours. The only bathroom is the latrine at the ORV lot and there is no potable water on the sections we want to tackle.

We will rendezvous back at the ORV lot at the end of the day (approx. 2 p.m.) to fill out the official trail reports and prepare a plan of attack for spots that need more TLC, chain sawing, major brushing, tread repair etc.

We have three plans in mind, depending on turnout.

Group 1: Half the group parks on Starvation Lake Rd. and hikes North. The other half parks on the 2 track where the trail heads S from C38 about a half mile from the ORV lot and hikes S. They exchange car keys when they meet and eventually everybody gets back to the ORV lot. The trail gets pruned both ways by the divide and conquer plan. (4.2 mi one way on "Stella's" section)

Group 2: Park off Cinderhill and prune the Cinderhill to 5 Lake section, hiking up and back. Continue south from Cinderhill to Whispering Pines, pruning both directions. Return to the cars at Cinderhill. (1.6 mi. one way on Joanne's Section)

If turnout is outstanding we'll add a Group 3 to cover C38 to Whispering Pines (3.9 mi one way on the Peg and Andy Section). This can either be done as a down and back from the center point on Bocook, or by spotting cars on both ends and swapping keys, depending on whether Whispering Pines as been graded and is passable without 4WD yet.

You can zoom in on these sections by consulting the Jordan Valley 45* Chapter "Overview Map" at <http://northcountrytrail.org/trail/states/michigan/explore-by-section/jordanvalley45-chapter/>

NEW JV45 °CHAPTER BROCHURE

...is completed, and ready for printing. Meanwhile, you can view it on our website:

http://northcountrytrail.org/jv45/?page_id=57

The two sides are [TRAIL MAP](#) and [TRAIL INFO GUIDE](#)

Also, our new WEBSITE is undergoing continuing improvement—check it out!!

And “Like” us on FACEBOOK—

www.facebook.com/pages/North-Country-Trail-Association-Jordan-Valley-45/129820953759968



TRAIL PROJECTS UPDATE

What's going on on the trail in 2013 you might ask? Good question. The short answer, is “We don’t know yet.” The good news is there are a lot of opportunities in the works, but planning and approving and funding take time. Here are the three most promising initiatives for this year:

1. **Jordan Valley:** Two puncheon bridges, a washout (new culvert, refill), O’Brien Pond trail repairs (Beaver Deceiver). Ken Phillips is working within the DNR—and with the DEQ—on a permit application for these projects. We have possible funding for materials for the first two from the NPS. We should be able to hit the ground running as soon as Ken gets the go-ahead.
2. **Signs at road crossings.** Our DNR liaison, Tom Copenhaver, has ordered signs to be made for trail crossings at Mancelona Rd., M-32, and US-131. Again, we hope they get done soon, we’re ready to help install them. This signage will help direct people to nearby trailheads.
3. **Various trail repairs** (S of Welsch Rd., W of US-131, Chandler Hills area). We will be surveying these locations with the DNR in May. Hopefully we can get the go-ahead without too much fuss.



We will be letting you know as soon as work days are planned so you can pitch in!

We have several reroutes in various stages of planning, hopefully soon we will have too much work to handle. I’ll share more about that next issue... -Duane

VOLUNTEER SURVEY

To all chapter members and non-members: As we work to improve and enhance our beautiful section of the North Country Trail, we have a lot of opportunities pending and could use your participation supporting the trail. At this time we need an idea of how deep our team is so we can plan a successful schedule of activities. We want to know about your interests and abilities. Please respond to our VERY SIMPLE survey.

You have three options:

1. Print this out, mark your answers, mail it in.
To: Amy Wilks, 1947 Korr Rd. Mancelona, MI 49659
2. Copy the questionnaire into an email, fill in your answers, email it.
To: amywilks47@hotmail.com
3. Go to www.northcountrytrail.org/j45 where we will have a link to an online version of the survey.

THE SURVEY

NOTE: Any “YES” does not commit you to do anything. We will contact you when an opportunity of your choice(s) comes up.

1. Name(s):
2. I/we are generally/occasionally able to participate in chapter activities (“NO” would be due to limitations such as distance, physical constraints, just too busy, lack of interest, etc.) YES/NO/MAYBE
2. I/we would be interested in volunteering to lead an activity (schedule, organize, conduct). YES/NO/MAYBE
3. I/we would be interested in adopting a trail section (clear, maintain blazes on 2-3 miles of trail 2-3 times per year, alert others to special issues such as deadfall, erosion, mowing needs, etc.) YES/NO/MAYBE
4. I/we would be interested in participating in a trail project (a day on the trail doing repairs, construction, etc.). YES/NO/MAYBE
5. I/we would be interested in working at an event (e.g. Fair Booth, Picnic, etc.). YES/NO/MAYBE
6. I/we would be interested in participating in a group hike, just for fun! YES/NO/MAYBE
7. Do you know of any other group or organization that might be interested in participating with us in any of these activities? YES/NO
8. Preferred contact method: Circle--- email or phone (make sure we have contact info)

THANK YOU so very much for responding!

Trail Coordinator Report by Peg Myers

Jordan Valley 45° is looking to fill the following positions:

Tool Coordinator

Ridge Runner Coordinator

Hiking Coordinator

Please let us know if you are interested in volunteering. pmyers@freeway.net

Members' Report on Quiet Water Symposium by Gary Johnson

Quiet Water Symposium is the first Saturday in March at Michigan State University. It is for non-motorized outdoor recreation ie., hiking, biking, kayaking, with fly tying, making a canoe and other demonstrations along with presentations during the day. Their website, quietwatersymposium.org has more information. They are on Face Book, too. Also, there is a link to a four minute video that gives you an idea of the exhibits this year.

Bob Schrems and I got there early to set up the Chapter display. Duane joined us to talk to the many visitors about our Trail. NCTA presented a program on NCNST. Mark and Andrea were the speakers with introduction from NCTA president, Larry Hawkins. Bruce Matthews and his wife stopped by our booth. NCTA finally had a presence at QWS. There were 1,343 paid attendees with another 500 volunteers and exhibitors. Bob had visitors guess the weight of his back pack. Two people guessed exactly the same weight, which is the first time this has happened. He sends the winner a tee shirt. 109 people entered the drawing which was down from 157 last year. There are two other Chapters, (Chief Noonday & Hiawatha Shore to Shore) attending that could have cut down our entries. There were a number of people really interested in NCT. Hopefully they will join and send in their dues.



LADIES DAY OUT at the newly opened Cabela's Outpost in Saginaw

Ladies Day Out was at the newly opened Cabela's Outpost in Saginaw on April 6th. They had 60 women preregister. They received a nice Cabela's cap. There were several booths set up such as fly tying, geocaching, NCT and others. We had a six foot table with our usual NCT info. Jerry Allen was prepared to give PPT presentation, but the only space we had was next to our table. Jerry did convince a couple of ladies to listen to his talk. Cabela's gave us a couple of gifts to hand out to interested participants. Jerry & Connie Allen, Stella & George Thelen, Cora & Vern Killinger and Gary Johnson helped answer questions as people passed by. It was great to see the original Chapter members. Cabela's plans to have another Ladies Day Out in October. We had to sign in and they gave us a vendor's tag. With the vendor tag, we could get 25% discount on certain items. \$40 was saved on a purchase of new tent. We didn't visit with a lot of people, but it is always great to talk about hiking especially NCNST.

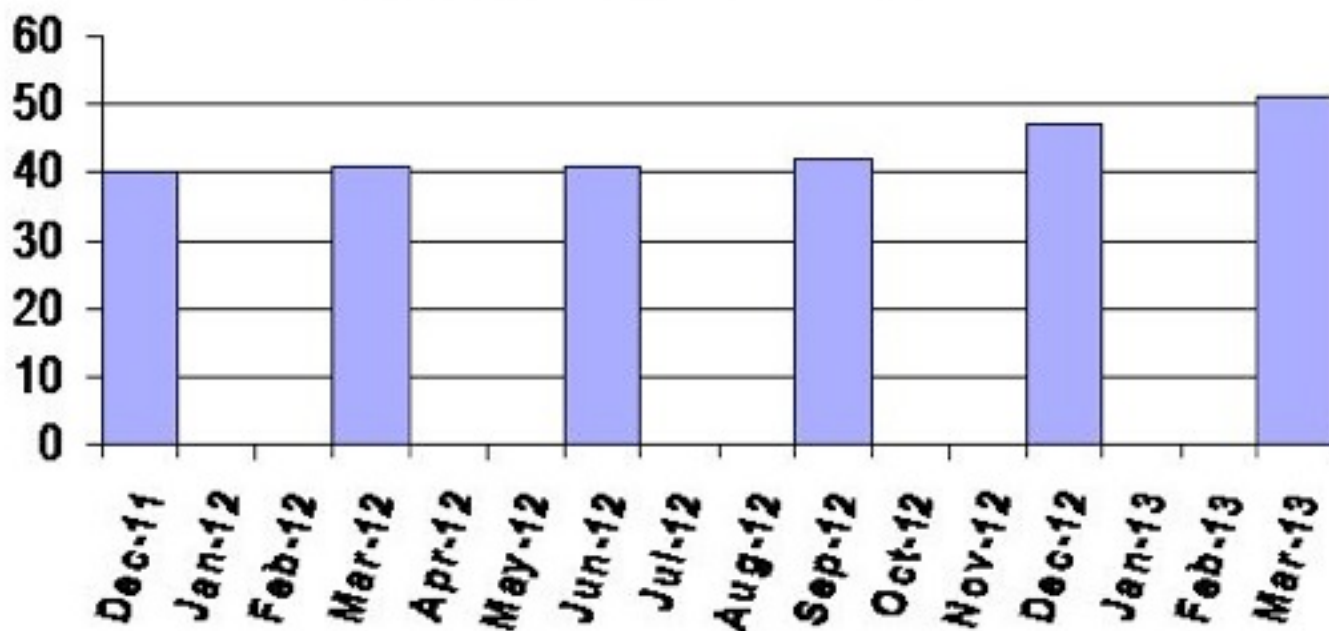
Communication Coordinator Report by Amy Wilks

Membership Report:

At present, Jordan Valley 45° Chapter has 51 members.

WELCOME TO A NEW MEMBERS: Margo Hodder, Yvonne Rolandson, Chris Morrow, Karen & Tim Roth, Ken Phillips, David Blackburn BSA Troop#604, Cameron Bruner-Koch, Darrell Taunt, and Kurt Dingman Did I miss anyone?

J45 MEMBERSHIP



CHAPTER MEMBER MOVING NORTH(WEST)

University of Minnesota Duluth announced that Josh Berlo will assume the role of UMD's director of intercollegiate athletics. He has spent the past 12 years at the University of Notre Dame as senior assistant

He and his wife, Meg, will be relocating to Duluth. They enjoy outdoor recreation, especially skiing, **hiking**, canoeing and mountain biking. They look forward to exploring the north woods. Berlo will begin his new position on May 1.

Josh is a JV45° Board Member at large, and keeper of our website. He vacations in the Petoskey area. Congratulations, Josh!



Vounteer Hours due by April 30,2013---Please report on northcountrytrail.org

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