

# Jordan Valley 45°

Newsletter Volume 3 Issue 6



## Calendar

### Annual Meeting

Saturday, Jan. 10, 2015

Gaylord, MI

Time: 11:00 a.m.

BJ's Restaurant

Old 27 North

Tel. #989-732-4010

Speaker: Andrea

Ketchmark

Awards, Door Prizes,

Lunch Buffet, \$10

(see pg. 2)

Hiawatha Shore-Shore  
Hike & Potluck

Sat. Dec. 13, 2014

Also:

National Winter Trails  
Day

Sat. Jan. 10, 2015

Contact: Kay Kujawa

[kay1940@lighthouse.net](mailto:kay1940@lighthouse.net)

989-350-2826

December, 2014



*Happy 80th Birthday,*

*Jerry Allen*

**December 30, 2014**

Please phone (989-345-2677) or  
send a card (5516 Bensch, Alger, MI.  
48610) or email

[hikershaven@m33access.com](mailto:hikershaven@m33access.com)



I think it would be wonderful to honor Jerry. He truly is a special person. He has a calm gentleness about him, but has the tenacity of a bulldog when it comes to pressing on to get through a hike. He organized our chapter of NCT in 1998 and was president for 3 terms or 6 years till Gary Johnson took the job. He also has a membership in the AT and hiked that trail in 1994, but near the end in Maine, he was injured. He went back and finished and climbed Mt Katadin in year 2003.

He also has been involved in Boy Scout leadership for at least 52 years. He is also a member of the American Legion and presently serves as a song leader at church.

He was raised in the town of Belleville, Michigan. After graduation he joined the Navy and served for 4 years on the ship "Macon". When he got out of the Navy, he went to college in Pasadena, California and got his BA degree. He came back to Michigan and received his Master's degree in forestry from Michigan State. He then worked in several positions in his chosen profession. He worked in Conn. and Lansing, Michigan. He worked the longest in the city of Flint, Michigan and retired from there.

He has lots of friends because he is a good friend and interesting and fun person to be around.

*Cora Allen*

# President's Report by Duane Lawton

## Commentary

### Welcome to our December chapter newsletter!

Here we are at the end of another year. Boy does the time fly. We had a good year on the trail...several projects, and some hiking. Personally, I added 122 new miles to my NCT total. I hope you got out as much as you could, too. The key projects were:

- Three new register boxes, with brochures, logbook and distance signs.
  - Deadman's Hill Junction, Jordan Valley
  - Southbound NCT Fork on NCMC Natural Area Loop
  - Krause Road Parking spur junction, Skyline Trail
- The beginnings of the Skyline Campsite, with access trails to the site and water source, signage, and start of erecting our donated yurt and fire circle.
- The O'Brien Pond fix, a beaver deceiver and 56 feet of puncheon/boardwalk to bypass the beaver damage.
- Our second annual Petoskey Trail Town Celebration on National Trails Day.
- Continuing work on laying out the Dobleski Road reroute.
- Trail mowing, clearing, maintenance and blazing by our amazing adopters and mowing crew.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our annual meeting next month.

...and **Happy New Year!**

## Jordan Valley 45<sup>o</sup> Chapter Annual Meeting

We will again have our annual meeting at BJ's in Gaylord. Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 11:00 am

- Annual Awards
- Door Prizes
- Food (We will break for their luncheon buffet ~\$10)
- Fellowship
- Featured Speaker Andrea Ketchmark, Director of Trail Development for the North Country Trail Association.

Her topic is "The Future of the NCT"—"We just finished a new strategic plan, our chapters are busier than ever and with new leadership at the NPS in place, I think I'd like to talk about what's in store for the future."

Andrea joined the NCTA team in 2009 after four years at the American Hiking Society running the Volunteer Vacations program. With a degree in Natural Resources Recreation and Tourism from Colorado State University, she supports the NCT community by providing guidance to chapters, members and volunteers.



Photos: Top: Jerry Allen informing at Jay's Backpacking Day  
Middle: Josh Berlo at new Register Box  
Bottom: Beaver's destruction at O'Brien pond before project made mess passable.



## Questions

Thanks to all of you who responded to my questions in the October newsletter! (Jen Winnell, Peg Myers, Sue Bouwense, Bob Haack, Mary Campbell, Anne Southworth, Karen Roth, Belinda Brewster, Judy Conrad)

Comments of note:

- Meeting on another weekday would work better for some folks
- Some members live too far away to make Boyne Falls on a week night
- Some folks are too busy now, but look forward to retirement
- Perhaps I'm too pushy seeking more participation
- Too busy on other volunteer opportunities, or member of other NCTA chapter
- Cases of the newsletter arriving in email as much as a month after it was sent (?)

## Signs—Quick Update

You'll recall we've been trying for several years to get authorization to post NCT signs along M-32, C-38 and US-131 at trail crossings. Our quest has meandered to the point where the NPS is now working with MDOT to "standardize" the emblem to be used on such signs. Apparently the NCT logo alone isn't sufficient for Michigan. I suspect that they're waiting to include reference to the "governor's signature trail", whose name will be revealed this month, and which will be the same trail. No forecast for when they will resolve this.

Meanwhile NCTA HQ is working on a NCT interpretive panel to be used in lower peninsula Trail Towns. I showed Andrea Ketchmark and a photographer around the Jordan Valley on October 16<sup>th</sup> as they took some hi-res pictures for use on the panels. Here is one of them... The panel will be great for use in the Bear River Recreation Area in Petoskey!

*Have a Happy New Year, Duane Lawton*  
[delawton@torchlake.com](mailto:delawton@torchlake.com)



## 2015 Elections

This year our annual election filled the following positions for a term of one year. We did this to get back in alignment with the staggered 2-year officer positions called for in our bylaws. These are the positions that we need to fill by an election at our January annual meeting.

Vice President – incumbent Eugene Branigan

Treasurer – incumbent Todd Winnell

Trail Coordinator – No incumbent (Duane Lawton, acting)

Board Member At Large (Website Maintenance) – incumbent Josh Berlo

We welcome all nominations of people that have agreed to serve if elected. While nominations can be made in person at the meeting, for candidates to be included in the absentee voting, they must be nominated no later than December 26<sup>th</sup>.

If you have a nominee for any of these positions, send me an email before December 26<sup>th</sup>. An absentee ballot will be sent out before January 1<sup>st</sup>, and all absentee ballots submitted before the annual meeting will be added to the votes cast at the meeting.

**Note:** We still do not have a Trail Coordinator. I have been unable to do an adequate job as “acting trail coordinator” in 2014...too much else I have to do. Please volunteer to take this responsibility.

### Chapter Officer/Leadership Committee Members' Roles and Responsibilities

#### Vice-President

The Vice-President shall assist the President conducting functions of the Chapter, and substitute for the President in the event of his/her absence.

#### Treasurer

1. Serve as liaison to the national office of the NCTA in all issues regarding Chapter finances.
2. Forward all Chapter revenues and related documentation to the national office of the NCTA for deposit to the Chapter's account.
3. Review, approve for payment where appropriate, and submit all bills and expenses to the national office of the NCTA for payment.
4. Submit a financial report at each meeting.
5. Prepare an annual financial summary report to be published in the December newsletter each year.

#### Trail Coordinator

1. Assign and keep track of trail adopters/maintainers
2. Collect and organize maintainer reports and trail needs, and disseminate them
3. Attend meetings with land managers/owners (e.g. DNR timber sales) to represent chapter



#### 4. Keep track of trail mileages and certified mileage

Leadership Committee Member -at-large (There isn't a formal definition of the following roles and responsibilities)

(Website Maintenance)1. Keeps the chapter website in good working order 2. Posts news items, the newsletter, etc. to the website

*Member's Input by Jen and Todd Winnell*

#### **"LAST CHANCE BEFORE DEER SEASON" HIKE**

Despite being a 30 degree wet and windy day, Todd and Jen Winnell were delighted to find nine human and two canine hikers waiting at the Krause Rd Trailhead to hike the Skyline Trail in Petoskey for our "Last Chance Before Deer Season" hike on November 8<sup>th</sup>. With the help of fellow NCT members John and Dove Day, they were pleased to introduce some new hikers to the Skyline Trail - Karla Sherman, Libby and Greg Hiser, Brenda and Mike Spires, and a couple from Indian River (didn't get their names written down!). John and Dove gave the group a tour of the new campsite built just before the observation deck spur. The damp, cloudy weather did not allow for a view of the bay from the observation deck but it did accommodate a group photo. You'll also see here a photo of John and Dove showing their NCT pride with a window sticker on their car, an NCT hat and their blue-blazed hiking sticks! Everyone agreed they are excited for snowshoe season so let's get another hike scheduled after Dec 1<sup>st</sup>!



Guessing there will be snow!



## NEW JV45 °CHAPTER BROCHURE

...is completed, and printed. You can also view it on our website:

[http://northcountrytrail.org/j45/?page\\_id=57](http://northcountrytrail.org/j45/?page_id=57)

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

And "Like" us on NEW FACEBOOK address

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/North-Country-Trail-Association-Jordan-Valley-45/636045479799699>

We've had over 30 "likes" since the last newsletter and we are always looking to share photos of our members hiking here and aboard.

*Communications Report by Amy Wilks*

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS** Andrew Bielaczyc, John Genord, Libby & Greg Hiser, Greg Hazle, Harold & Karen Slater, James DeKett, Michael Atchison, John Roe, Jeffery Williams, Caroline Dill, and Bob Courtois (?)

### **We now have 69 members**

Apology to those receiving "late" newsletter in October. Our modem was zapped due to storm surge and I think some emails got hung up! Amy

Willing to lead a hike? Let me know and I'll send out the email with time and place.

Willing to become a chapter member? **INTRODUCTORY RATE FOR FIRST TIME MEMBERS**-\$23 FOR AN INDIVIDUAL & \$30 FOR A HOUSEHOLD-email me & I will send you a coupon in the mail.

**NOTE:** New map updates by Matt Rowbotham, NCTA's GIS Coordinator. See website:[northcountrytrail.org/trail/maps](http://northcountrytrail.org/trail/maps)

**Check out:** New Videos on Volunteer Resources, Adopters Training, etc. on website <http://northcountrytrail.org>

*Amy Wilks*

**NOTE:** New [Email---ameliawilks1@gmail.com](mailto:ameliawilks1@gmail.com)

"Our vision for the North Country National Scenic Trail is that of the premier footpath of national significance....." NCT

### **Hiawatha Shore to Shore Chapter Hike and National Winter Trails Day Events**

(The Winter Trails Day event partly conflicts with our annual meeting, but perhaps you're interested in driving the few additional miles to St. Ignace after our meeting for their festivities that continue into the evening!!)

"Greetings JV45°, Hiawatha Shore to Shore and Trail Town St. Ignace invites you, your chapter, and your friends, all to hike Dec. 13 & to celebrate National Winter Trails Day, Saturday, January 10, 2015 with us." (see next page)

# **Hello HSS Friends and E Members , East Lake Road Hike and optional Potluck Dinner**

**Saturday, December 13th, 2014--Meet at the south NCT crossing East Lake Road at 10:00 AM.**

**This crossing is on East Lake Rd. just south of USFS 3114 (North Gamble Rd.)**

**Arrive earlier if you are dropping a dish to pass at the Kujawa Cabin on East Lake Court.**

**Bring water, a camera, snowshoes or cross country skis**

**Dress in layers for winter weather**

**Invite a friend to come along! Enjoy the outdoors and get some exercise.**

**Optional Potluck dinner at the Kujawa cabin to follow the hike--  
Pulled Pork Sandwiches and coffee provided--bring a dish to pass or a dessert.**

**For more information and/or a map contact Stan or Kay at  
[989-350-2826](tel:989-350-2826) or [kay1940@lighthouse.net](mailto:kay1940@lighthouse.net)**

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**National Winter Trails Day Celebration--January 10th, 2015**

**An all day celebration--snowshoe or ski on the North Country Trail or the USFS Gros Cap Trail**

**Down hill ski, tube, or snowboard at Doc Holle Silver Mountain  
Stomp the Park after dark--See the Big Mac Bridge from the beach at night**

**Bonfire with s'mores and hot chocolate and lantern lit trail back to your vehicle!**

**Plan for dinner in town after the Stomp in the Park!**

**Come spend part or the whole day playing in our 450,000 acre Hiawatha National Forest "Playground"**

**The Driftwood Restaurant, Motel, and Sports Bar is a NCTA Business Member. Be sure to let them know you are in town to snowshoe or ski the NCT.**

**Winter Adventures on the North Country National Scenic Trail, Gros Cap Trail, Sand Dunes Trail, Doc Holle Silver Mountain, & Straits State Park  
Kay Kujawa, pres. & communications coor.**

**989-350-2826**

**[kay1940@lighthouse.net](mailto:kay1940@lighthouse.net)**

