

# Jordan Valley 45°

Newsletter Volume1 Issue 5



## Calendar

### JV45° CHAPTER ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, Jan.12,2013

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Coyles Restaurant

Houghton Lake, Mi

All Welcome: Buffet

available, SEE Pg.2

#### Directions:

From Antrim/Emmet/  
Charlevoix, travel South on  
I-75, then US127 to exit 194,  
(M-55), head East to the  
light and turn left on Old  
US27..Coyles is shortly on  
the right.

**General Meeting, Boyne  
Falls  
March (tba)**

**Quiet Waters Symposium  
Sat., March 2, 2013  
Time: 9:00-5:30**

**December, 2012**

## " 2012 Accomplishments "by Duane Lawton

*President*

Here's a brief review of what we set out to do in 2012, and how we did:

### Projects

- Boardwalk/Puncheon in Jordan Valley—check
- Bear River Valley Kiosk—will be built by Eagle Scout, we need to supply sign
- Registration Boxes—nope
- 45<sup>th</sup> parallel monument—check
- Approvals and Permits for one reroute to do in 2013—Oden Reroute. Great progress, but not yet: A single uncooperative landowner is threatening the whole strategy

### Activities

- Regular Meetings (odd months)—check
- Regular Newsletter (even months)—check
- Monthly Events (Adopter leaders signup)—somewhat, need more

National Trails Day project—check (Boardwalk/Puncheon in Jordan Valley)

Increase Membership 20% (to 50)—well, would you believe 12.5%? December, 2011: 40 members; November 2012: 45 members. Maybe we'll scrape up a couple more in December.

### Active Board

- Communications Coordinator—check
- Trail Coordinator—check
- Meet bimonthly—almost

**Summary:** Perhaps an overly-aggressive set of goals is a good thing. We did get a lot done, and I congratulate you all on your effort and the results. ...and we had fun! On to 2013!

### TRAIL TOWN PETOSKEY

On December 6, 2012, the City of Petoskey became a Trail Town of the NCT with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Petoskey and the NCTA.



## Notice Board

Send entries to

Amy Wilks at

[amywilks47@hotmail.com](mailto:amywilks47@hotmail.com)

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This makes Petoskey the sixth Trail Town since the inception of the Trail Town program earlier this year. Other Trail Towns in Michigan are St. Ignace and Middleville.

Signs identifying Petoskey as a Trail Town will be posted at four highway entrances to the city.

Several local organizations and businesses who participate in programs associated with the NCT helped review the proposal:

- Petoskey Downtown
- North Central Michigan College
- Petoskey Area Visitors Bureau
- Little Traverse Conservancy
- Top of Michigan Trails Council
- Petoskey Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Latitude 45 Bicycles and Fitness
- Bearcub Outfitters



Photo: Signing the MOU, Duane Lawton, Dan Ralley, Petoskey City Manager, & Al Hansen

The primary contact for Petoskey will continue to be Al Hansen, Petoskey Parks and Recreation Director. Chapter members Jen and Todd Winnell, residents of the Petoskey area, have volunteered to be Trail Town Coordinators for J45°. Thank you Jen and Todd! Their role will include:

- Point of contact with Petoskey
- Response to local businesses with interest, questions, requests
- Coordinate JV45° chapter participation in Petoskey area events
- Ensure brochures are stocked at Petoskey area distribution points
- Collaborate with Communications Coordinator Amy Wilks on publicity and recruitment

It is my hope that this partnership with the Petoskey community will increase the benefit of the NCT to Petoskey's attractiveness and prosperity, and will reinforce our chapter as we develop and maintain the NCT.

## **Annual Meeting Jordan Valley 45° Chapter**

The Jordan Valley 45° Chapter Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 12, 2013, starting at 11:00 am at Coyles Restaurant in Houghton Lake. This has been our traditional annual meeting venue, which recognizes the contributions of our downstate founders by splitting the travel.

Coyles has a copious buffet for a reasonable price. The breakfast spread should still be there at 11:00, and the luncheon will be available before we are done. Bring your appetites!

Our guest of honor/featured speaker will be Mark Weaver, National Parks Service Superintendent of the North Country Trail. Mark is the NCT's first full-time NPS Superintendent, and was appointed earlier this year.

In addition we will have lots of fun with trail tales, door prizes and other recognition.

If you are interested in participating in—to be organized—car pools from the trail area, please let Amy Wilks (231-587-9843 ) know. She will try to match up folks based on location...

Directions:

Coyles is most easily reached from Antrim/Charlevoix/Emmet by travelling south on I-75, then US127 to exit 194 (M-55), head east to the light and turn left on Old US 27 Coyles is shortly on the right.

*See you there, Duane Lawton, [delawton@torchlake.com](mailto:delawton@torchlake.com) (231)547-5105*

*Minutes of JV45° Chapter Meeting by Sally Wagle, VP*  
General Meeting, November 8, 2012

Boyne Falls Fire Hall

Meeting called to order at 7pm

1. In attendance; Kim Philliben, Bob Bennett, Eugene Dawson, Ken Phillips, Amy Wilks, Peg Myers and Sally Wagle
2. Vote passed to cancel board meeting
3. Minutes approved from September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting
4. Communication report by Amy; 44 current members, \$2,360.30 in treasury.(treasurer absent)
5. Trail in review report by Peg M
  1. Gerry Allen wants to construct H2O bars on his section of the trail.
  2. Discussed need to find someone to maintain Eugene B's section of the trail.
  3. Bob volunteered to winterize the equipment in the tool trailer and store paint inside.
  4. Discussion on maintenance of brusher. Voted to have yearly spring maintenance funded by treasury. Bob will look into getting it done.
6. General discussion/Trail talk
  1. Dec 14<sup>th</sup> deadline for December newsletter input.
  2. Kim discussed her hiking in Yosemite Valley. She gave a lively, enthusiastic talk.
3. January meeting probably first Saturday in January (editor's note: Jan.12, 2012, 11:00 a.m. Coyle's Restaurant, Houghton Lake)
4. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm *Sally Wagle*, [sally.wagle@gmail.com](mailto:sally.wagle@gmail.com)

## *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](mailto:pmyers@freeway.net)

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



**November 10, 2012**

A weather forecast of 90% chance of rain did not deter 20 hikers from turning out for this year's "Last Chance Hike"! Mother Nature delivered with rain showers most of the morning, and a few scattered showers in the afternoon. Did this put a damper on the day? Not really....the Jordan Valley offered up spectacular vistas through the rain/mist/fog, urging hikers, on occasion, to just stand there in awe.....dripping.

### **Maintenance in the Jordan Valley by Duane Lawton (input from Peg Myers)**

Reporting out after the Last Chance Hike and another stroll a few days later, Peg Myers noted several things going on in the valley.

On November 27, Tom Copenhaver, Ken Phillips, Bob Bennett and I went into the valley to survey the situations. (Tom Copenhaver is the new DNR official in charge at Young State Park, and thus our new official liaison with the DNR.)

Photo: Duane Lawton, Tom Copenhaver, Ken Phillips and Bob Bennett



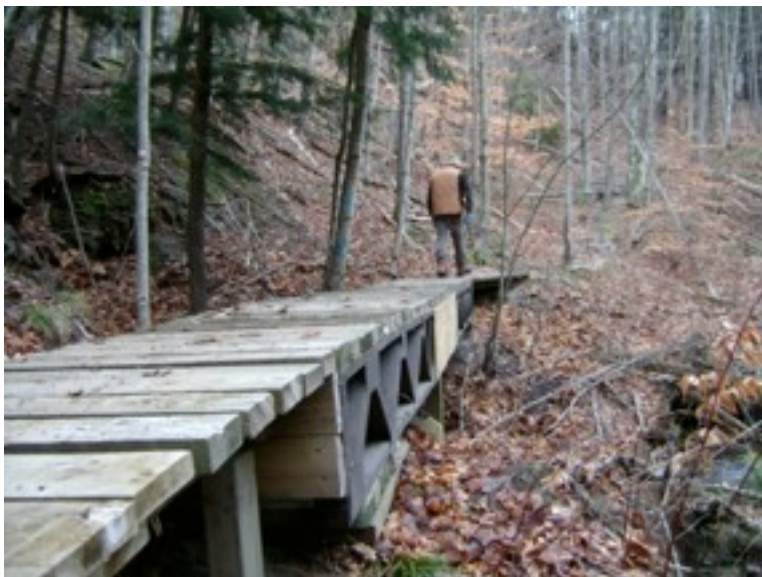


**O'Brien Pond.** The water level is down and the trail is passable (barely). Though this is promising news, the detour around the pond is still the preferred route. Peg noted she met a through-hiker, who didn't take the detour.

**Short Cut to the Beaver Ponds.** This is how we ferried in the lumber for the second work detail on puncheons at the end of June. Now it is GONE! The beavers have used the boards crossing the river as a foundation for a new dam. Unfortunate, but not an official trail anyway.

### **Boardwalk Paralleling Cascade Creek**

Just S of Cascade Road, the long truss span collapsed in the middle. Tom and Ken began plotting how to repair it. On December 6, they led an expedition to make a repair, involving precast concrete pads, new posts in the middle of the broken span, and screwing on all the truss connector plates that had come off. Thanks to Tom, Ken, Peg, Bob, Dan S., Allan Kelly, Dan J., Kayla J. Looking at the pictures, I think this fix is good for some time.



Photos:

Top: Cascade Boardwalk collapsed

Middle Left and Right: Repairing

Bottom Left: Completed Boardwalk

"Looking at the pictures, I think this fix is good for some time." *Duane Lawton*

## Washout

Washout is halfway between Cascade Road and Pinney Bridge. Seeing it Tom and Ken agreed it was a potential hazard to any skiers who might come by if filled with snow. Ken had a crew go back to erect snow fence around the hole. We think a permanent repair would be a narrow footbridge...a project for next year.



## *Communication Coordinator Report by Amy Wilks*

### Membership Report:

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

**WELCOME TO A NEW MEMBERS: JOLYON VINCENT and JOE HARTMANN**

HAVE I MISSED ANYONE?

### End-to-End Hikers:E2E

How far have you hiked on our section, Jordan Valley 45° in 2012? How about a hiking "End-To-End" resolution for 2013?

We would like to recognize hikers on our section of 79 miles. The NCTA also recognizes three opportunities; 1. Long- distance Hike/ trip, 2. End-To-End Trip E2E, and 3. End-To-End Hike.(see pg. 26 of "The North Star", April-June 2012)

Send me your mileage and I will publish it at the end of 2013.

### **2012 End-to-End (E2E):**

Doug Seaney-Across the Upper Peninsula

Duane Lawton 12/31/11--276.1 total miles

12/16/12--108.6 miles

Total so far--384.7 miles

Eugene Branigan-Continuing, Landslide to Mackinaw Bridge

### **Carpool** to Annual Meeting in Houghton Lake, Jan. 12, 2013

Call me is you want to carpool (231)587-9843, and I will arrange it.

*Happy New Year,*

*Amy Wilks* [amywilks47@hotmail.com](mailto:amywilks47@hotmail.com) (231)587-9843