

Thunder Bay Trails News

Volume 4, Issue 1

Newsletter of The Thunder Bay Trails Association

January 2000

Mission statement: The mission of the Thunder Bay Trails Association is to promote and protect non-motorized trail systems in Alpena county and adjoining areas and reflect their recreational significance for the enjoyment, education and adventure to area citizens.

- **Monthly Meeting,**
02/08/00 – 7:00 p.m.
Alpena Community College, Center Building, Room 106
- **Candlelight Ski –**
02/19/00 – 7:00 p.m.
Norway Ridge Pathway - Volunteers needed to place candles and serve refreshments
- **Monthly Meeting –**
03/14/00 – 7:00 p.m.
Alpena Community College, Center Building, Room 106
- **Monthly Meeting –**
04/11/00 – 7:00 p.m.
Alpena Community College, Center Building, Room 106

TBTA on the Web:

www.ossineke.com/tbta



Candlelight Ski at Norway Ridge

Despite the lack of snow, the 3rd annual Candlelight Ski at Norway Ridge Pathway was a success. While the minimal snow cover and cold weather might have kept away larger numbers of skiers, the people that did participate enjoyed the warm fire, hot cocoa and cookies, and candlelit ski trails.

Many people that came to the event skied the one mile lit loop several times, stopping several times to chat with other skiers and snack on the goodies.

TBTA member, Steve Brochu, provided his hot cocoa mixing talents and managed the snack table. Other TBTA members that volunteered for the event included Vince and Mary Call, Elise DeMerell, Rich Barber, Al Spafford, Dave and Jeff Blumenthal, Al Kurzenhauser, Robert Niedzwiecki, along with others that joined in to offer a helping hand. Thank you to all that helped make the event enjoyable for all.

The Candlelight Ski remains as one of the few fundraisers for the TBTA. We are planning another Candlelight Ski at Norway Ridge on Saturday, February 19 at 7:00 p.m. and need more volunteers to assist. If you can volunteer, please show up one hour before the event.

Annual Membership Drive

TBTA is operated as a non profit organization, funded completely by annual membership dues and donations. Without your membership, we would not have a newsletter, nor funding for such events as the Candlelight Ski. We would also be limited on

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TBTA in Christmas Parade

The annual Christmas parade in Alpena found TBTA showing off the Cross-Country Ski grooming equipment and promoting the non-motorized theme of our organization. Pruned pine tree limbs from the Hoppe hunting camp, mountain bikers, hikers, and a sea kayak were all a part of the TBTA float. Al Kurzenhauser donated a trailer from the Hillman Power company and his jeep to pull the float. The TBTA received \$50.00 for participating in the event, most of which went to purchase the banner used for the float. The float was left for the weekend at Summit Sports in order to promote TBTA with the community.



Vince Call and family promoting the TBTA and the X-C grooming equipment at the Alpena Christmas Parade.



TBTA Gets Grant

A resubmission of a Northeastern Michigan Community Foundation grant proposal to fund a trailer for transporting the cross-country ski grooming equipment was successful. Thanks to Monica Bushey and Dave Blumenthal for their assistance in writing the grant proposal. The Northeast Michigan Community Foundation grant, worth \$799.00, will help the TBTA purchase a trailer that can haul both the snow machine and the Tidd Tech groomer. Currently, the association is looking for a specialized 16 foot, single axle trailer that can be purchased with the grant and matching funds from the TBTA. If you have any suggestions, please let us know at our monthly meeting.

Ossineke Township Grant

An agreement between TBTA and the Ossineke Township board has been proposed. The agreement would result in \$500.00 going towards the development, maintenance, and grooming of the Chippewa Hills Pathway. This grant would be a benefit for all non-motorized trail users. We will keep you posted on the progress of this grant.

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our lobbying efforts for additional funding for non-motorized trail development and maintenance in N.E. Michigan. Please be certain to fill out the TBTA annual membership form and return it with your membership dues for 2000. Additional donations to assist with the cost of the ski grooming equipment would be appreciated. Thank you.

TBTA President—Vince Call

Fall Work A Success

Once again the association's trail work bee at Norway Ridge Pathway found good weather and a great turnout of member volunteers giving up part of their Saturday to make certain that the community has quality non-motorized trails. Over fifteen people showed up to spread the donated 30 yards of wood chips. The donation was received from Al Kurzenhauser and Hillman Power. Ron Anderson brought in his John Deere tractor with a front-end loader to speed up the process of loading up the trucks with wood chips. The front loop was given a shot of wood chips in some of the low-lying areas. Plans for next year include putting a topcoat of wood chips on the remainder of the front-end loop at Norway Ridge Pathway.

Another project that was completed at the same time as the Saturday work bee, was a fifteen foot floating deck. A dangerous wet area at the bottom of a hill was in desperate need of either massive amounts of fill or a floating deck. Fortunately, materials were on hand from last years floating deck project and rail road ties were donated from Lafarge Corporation with the assistance of Jerry Keen. Robert Niedzwiecki was on hand to help engineer and manage the project. Thanks to Robert and all that volunteered

to fix a much needed repair on the Norway Ridge trail system. Also, thanks to all the volunteers that provided all their hard work and sweat to see that Norway Ridge remains a quality trail.



The TBTA is now on the WWW!

Please visit our web site to view all of the association's newsletters, meeting and event announcements, latest trail grooming conditions, trail maps, and more.

Visit us at:

www.ossineke.com/tbta



Banners Purchased

Two TBTA banners with a full color illustration of our association logo have been purchased. The Copy Shoppe, owned by Mick and Nancy Grochowski, completed the job in time for the Christmas Parade. The banners are vinyl and will be posted at the trailhead each time Norway Ridge and Chippewa Hills are groomed. They will also be used for promotional purposes at the association's various events.



Young TBTA members show off the new promotional banner for the Thunder Bay Trails Association at the Alpena Christmas Parade.

***Please be certain to pay your 2000 membership dues. Also, please assist us by offering an extra donation for the cross-country ski grooming equipment. Thank You!*

THUNDER BAY TRAILS ASSOCIATION

Please take the time to fill out the form completely. This information will help to better assist our individual members needs and assist with planning and grant writing for trail maintenance and improvement.



PLEASE PRINT!

Please send form to:
TBTA
2700 Beebe Blvd.
Ossineke, MI 49766

Name: _____ Names of Household Members: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone Number: _____ Work Phone Number: (Optional) _____

Occupation: _____ E-mail Address: (Optional) _____

What activities do you participate in? PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY!

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking | <input type="checkbox"/> X-C Skiing | <input type="checkbox"/> Mtn. Biking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Running | <input type="checkbox"/> Nature Viewing | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Trail Walks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Horseback Riding | | |

2000 Membership Dues:

Please check one category!

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student \$5.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$15.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Household \$20.00 |
|---|---|--|

Additional Donation: \$ _____

Groomer Donation: \$ _____

Thunder Bay Trails Association is a 501 (C)3 non-profit organization. Donations and membership dues are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.

Thank You!!

Thunder Bay Trails Association

2700 Beebe Blvd.

Ossineke, MI 49766



1999 TBTA Contributing Members and Donors

Gregory Adamus
Dawn and Brett Anderson
James Anderson
Ron and Fran Anderson
Richard and Marilyn Bachelor
Dave Baird
Richard Barber
Rick and Julie Barnard
David and Sandy Blumenthal
Jeff and Amy Blumenthal
Tom Brandt
Paul and Mary Bray
Tom Brindley
Steve and Gina Brochu
Michael Bryant
Robert and Pauline Buchner
Monica Bushey
Vince and Mary Call
Wayne and Chris Christopherson
Bruce Connon
Steve Conradson
Elise DeMerell
Mavis DesRocher
Todd Dewell
Rick Engstrom
Randy Fairbanks
Jim Fish

Ronald Fusina
Michael Garant
Joe Gentry
Jason Gribble
Tim and Vicki Gulden
Dave Hammerquist
Dennis Hansen
Matt Hiske
Rita and John Hoerberling
Gary Irving
Jerry and Beth Keen
Robert and Diana Kelly
Robert Kensa
Mike and Laurie Kicgore
Kent Kirkland
Joe Klemens
Jerry Kline
Al and Carla Kurzenhauser
Art & Sharon LaBrecque
Bernie Lamp
Robert and Patti Martinez
Chad McDonald
John and Katharine McVeety
Merl and Karen Melton
Mark and Deb Milostan
Robert L. Niedzwiecki
John and Beth Noffze

Scott and Mary Ouellette
Alpena High School Paul Bray
Robert Reuther
Margaret Ricker
Robert and Michele Roberge
Joy Shumacher
John and Jannine Singer
Al Spafford
Summit Sports
Stu and Gail Stuber
Joseph Swallow
Steve and Amy Tongue
Dr. James Van Wagnen
Jon and Sarah Webb
Jim Weeks
Tom and Judy Woizeschke
Debbie Wojda

*** If you feel your name is missing or you would like to donate to the TBTA, please contact Vince Call or Jeff Blumenthal at the number listed below.*

Thanks so much to all that donated and paid dues!!

