



# Grand Traverse Hiking Club

A Chapter of the North Country Trail Association

Volume No.15 Issue 2 May 2008

## Notes from the Board

*John Heiam 1-231-938-9655*

On May 15 we expect to receive final approval from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for our trail reroute along Hodenpyl Pond. This is a large undertaking, but one that is within the capabilities of our dedicated trail crew. The new section will likely become one of the most scenic portions of the entire NCT system. If you would like to be a part of constructing the trail, contact Dick Naperala at [napperri@yahoo.com](mailto:napperri@yahoo.com) or (231) 223-7903.

Our plan to connect the VASA Trail with the Sand Lakes Trail is on hold until the DNR gets the funds to review our proposal.

On Wednesday, May 14 Dick Naperala, Rick Halbert, and I will be presenting a program titled "Five Little Known Spectacular Day Hikes within 20 Miles of Traverse City" at Northwestern Michigan College's Kaleidoscope – Spring Campus Day at the campus of NMC on Cass Road. If you or anyone you know would enjoy this 75 minute presentation, you can get more information at: <http://www.nmc.edu/ees/lifeacademy/campusday.html> or call (231) 599-9410.



**Log on for the latest GTHC**

**Newsletter!!** Visit our GTHC Web Page@ <http://www.northcountrytrail.org/gtr>

## Programs & Meetings



**Wednesday, May 21, 2008 at 7 PM in Classrooms A & B at MCHC**  
**Hiking the Cornish Coast by Sue Makrianis**

Cornwall, which is in the southwestern corner of Great Britain, has a coastline that is characterized by dramatic cliffs, deep blue water, and inaccessible pocket beaches. Join Sue as she hikes along the tops of these cliffs.

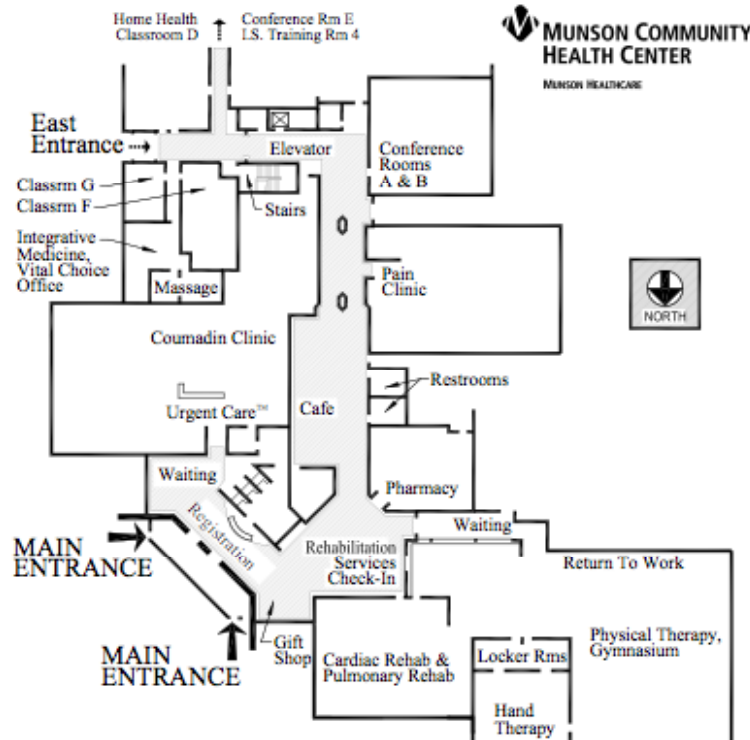
**Monthly programs continue with the September meeting and will be announced in the upcoming September newsletter. Have a great summer!!**

**WANTED: Speakers for monthly meetings**  
**REWARD: the eternal gratitude of club members**

We are always looking for people to present programs at the monthly meetings of the Grand Traverse Hiking Club. Usually our meetings occur on the third Tuesday of each month from September through May. We are fortunate that the present location at Munson Community Health Center offers us free use of every type of media. All presentations MUST be limited to forty-five minutes in length so that we do not overstay our welcome at this free facility. If

you have an idea for a monthly program or know of a good speaker, contact Jody Bennett at 1-231-932-9249, or contact one of the other club officers.

Programs are held in Conference Room A&B  
Munson Community Health Center



## Outings and Events

Note: You do not have to be a member of the Hiking Club to attend one of our outings. However, if you enjoy the trips and continue to participate in a number of our outings, we would hope that you would support the organization by becoming a member.

**Friday, May 2 – Monday, May 5**  
**Backpack the North Country Trail in the Upper Peninsula**  
**Leaders: Dick Naperala, Rick Halbert**

We are hiking the section of the North Country Trail from Tahquamenon Falls to Muskallonge

State Park on Lake Superior. We plan on hiking about 10 miles per day. Let me know if you are interested in joining us on this outing. Phone Dick Naperala at (231) 223-7903.

**Sunday afternoon, May 11 (Mother’s Day)**  
**Day Hike from Dollar Lake trailhead (RSVP – May 8 to 11)**

**Leaders: John Heiam and Lois Goldstein**

Celebrate Mom’s Day with Mother Nature! Anyone who has a mother is welcome. We will meet at the Dollar Lake trailhead and hike to the Boardman River. We may continue around to Muncie Lake, before returning to the cars. Well-behaved dogs on leashes are welcome. Sign up any time beginning May 8. We will take an unlimited number of people, and we hope to have an accurate weather forecast by then. E-mail [lgoldstein@charter.net](mailto:lgoldstein@charter.net) or call 231-938-9655 for details on meeting time and driving directions.

**Saturday May 17**  
**Hike the Jordan Valley Pathway (RSVP)**  
**Leader: Bert Courson**

Meet at my house in Eastport at 9:30 AM and carpool out to Pinney Bridge. We will hike a loop of about nine miles walking beside the river and through a hardwood forest, passing the fish hatchery along the way. The trilliums are sure to be out, and if we are lucky we may catch the first blooms of orchids. We will stop along the way to eat a snack/lunch in a scenic spot. If people are interested, we could have a potluck at my house after the hike. Call or e-mail to get directions to my house and to sign up for the hike. E-mail [bertcourson@hotmail.com](mailto:bertcourson@hotmail.com) or phone 231-599-9410.

**Sunday morning, May 18**  
**Hike the Lake Dubonnet DNR Trail (Lost Lake Pathway) (JSU)**  
**Leader: Marilyn Hoogstraten**

Meet at 10 AM at the parking lot off Wildwood Road. This hike will be an excellent way to

work up an appetite for buffalo burgers at the NMC Barbeque later that day.

Directions: From Interlochen Corners (intersection of US 31 and 137) go west about 1.5 miles on US 31, turn right on the first road past the golf course (Gonder/Wildwood Road), go straight north until the road curves (dirt road will continue straight but don't go there) - the parking lot will be on the left at that corner. Two lengths of walks are available if we want to divide up - about 3 miles and about 6 miles. If you have questions, contact Marilyn Hoogstraten at [hoogstraten@charter.net](mailto:hoogstraten@charter.net) or phone 231-276-0363

## **Saturday, June 7 National Trails Day.**

Members and friends of the GTHC and Mesick Village residents will work together building new trail along the beautiful Manistee River and the Hodenpyl Dam Pond. This new 11 mile reroute of the NCT may some day be the most scenic, gorgeous section of our 90 mile trail.

Bring your trail tools, a dish to pass, and your own table service on June 7th at 9:30 to Veteran's Park just 1 mile west of Mesick on M115. People living in TC may meet at Menard's parking lot (look for the GTHC flag) at 8:30 AM and carpool to Mesick.

We will work on the trail from 9:30 to 1:00 PM at which time we will have a pot luck lunch at Veteran's Park. Hot dogs will be provided by the GTHC. For those who do not care to work on the trail, hiking trails are nearby. See you all on June 7th!

## **Hiking Buddies** ***Lois Goldstein & John Heiam***

Picture this scenario: It's been cold and raining for a week, but the forecast is looking up. We just decided that we'd like to check out a new section of the North Country Trail, or do a clean up at Muncie Lakes. We're looking for

people who might be ready to drop everything and spend some time hiking (or snowshoeing or x-c skiing).

We maintain a list of "***hiking buddies***" in our e-mail address book, and we share it with everyone on the list. Periodically, people send out a note asking if anyone would like to join them on impromptu outings in this area. These non-club outings occur both on weekdays and weekends. Last season about thirty requests were sent out, and there were frequently groups of two to ten people on these outings. We have made a lot of friends on these unofficial trips, and are always happy to have new people come along.

If you would like to learn about these last minute plans, you can be added to our "hiking buddies" list. Let us know by email ([lgoldstein@charter.net](mailto:lgoldstein@charter.net)) if you would like to be included

## **Please Help Edit the GTHC Trail Guide *June Thaden***

Do you know a part of *our* 90 miles of the North Country Trail – as a maintainer, trail builder, or as a hiker? We need your help!

The GTHC Trail Guide Committee has been creating a data book describing the 90 mile section of the North Country Trail the GTHC maintains. We need fresh eyes to read our prose and add or suggest changes. The Trail Guide describes each section in a general way, then point to point with mileages, and noting details like water source, roads (with distance to any nearby town), established campgrounds, and other info important to a hiker.

General comments about the format and approach are also welcome. We want to make this as useful to hikers unfamiliar with northwest lower Michigan as possible.

Email June at [jthaden00@yahoo.com](mailto:jthaden00@yahoo.com) or phone me at 947-8476, telling me the part of the trail

that you can help edit, with your email. I will email you the draft as a Word document. With the electronic document you can add comments in red type, making it a fairly quick & easy job for both of us. If you would rather deal with paper, I can mail the specific part to you.

Our goal is to post the first edition of our Trail Guide in June – so let me hear from you soon!

## Volunteers needed for 2008 Cherry Festival

The National Cherry Festival has a Community Share Program whereby it pays non-profit organizations for the services of their volunteer members for work in the main Festival area. Our application is in to work one day during this year's Festival. Again this year we have requested the Ice Cream Pie Pavilion. The dates for 2008 are Saturday, July 5 through Saturday, July 12. In the past our chapter has been assigned **one day** during the Festival to supply volunteers to fill two to three shifts. Times for the shifts are 10AM-2PM, 2PM-6PM and if an evening shift is scheduled from 6PM to 11PM. For the past two years we have not been assigned an evening shift.

If our application is approved; this year will be the sixth consecutive year that the GT Hiking Club has been a part of the National Cherry Festival. Funds earned for our club go the help pay for costs of printing and mailing our club newsletter and other incidental expenses that come up during the year.

We will soon be advised which day we have been assigned and where we will work. If you think you can help please call or email **Barb Kennedy**. Home: 932-9733. Cell: 409-9733 and email: barb@TraverseBayProperties.com.



If you receive your GTHC newsletter via the web, and are no longer interested in receiving

this newsletter by mail, please contact June Thaden. Leave a message at 231-947-8476 or send an email to: [jthaden00@yahoo.com](mailto:jthaden00@yahoo.com) By doing this, you have helped save both a tree and money for our club. Thank you.

**\$\$\$ Classified \$\$\$**

### FOR SALE

Touring kayak for sale: Current Design Squamish - suited for windy conditions - 15'8" long - 23"wide - 58 pounds - apricot color. I'm asking \$700 (OBO). Call Becky (922-1076)

Send your ad to Rick Halbert at rhalbert1@mac.com

### WANTED

Wanted ads here.

**Join Us**

How this works: Actually you will join the North Country Trail Association (NCTA), the organization that supports the many clubs that do the work of building and maintaining the trail. At the same time that you join the NCTA you also become affiliated with the Grand Traverse Hiking Club. Our Sponsored Membership Program allows current members to sign up new members at an introductory rate of just \$23.00. To qualify, Sponsored Members must be new to NCTA, or not have been members for at least two years. The \$23 rate is good only for the first year of membership. The rate for continuing members is \$46.00.

1. Fill out the **New Member** form on the next page.
2. Mail it with a check to: **North Country Trail Association**, 229 E. Main St., Lowell MI 49331
3. Alternatively, join on line at <http://www.northcountrytrail.org/>

## 2007 Officers and Committees

**President:**

John Heiam Tel. (231) 938-9655  
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**Program Chairperson**

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**Secretary/Membership**

June Thaden Tel. (231) 947-8476  
Email: [jthaden00@yahoo.com](mailto:jthaden00@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer**

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Email: [darwarren@aol.com](mailto:darwarren@aol.com)

**Administrative Trails Coordinator:**

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**Field Trails Coordinator:**

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**Advisor:**

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Email: [chiefrat@charter.net](mailto:chiefrat@charter.net)

**Adopt-a-Trail Coordinator:**

Betsy Duede Tel. (231) 946-4524  
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**Tool Trailer Supervisor:**

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Barb Kennedy Tel. (231) 932-9733  
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**Hospitality:**

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**Newsletter**

Rick Halbert Tel. (231) 947-8485  
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**Web Page:**

Brian Cox Tel. (231) 883-3722  
Email: [tcbrian@chartermi.net](mailto:tcbrian@chartermi.net)

**Trail Guide**

June Thaden Tel. (231) 947-8476  
Email: [jthaden00@yahoo.com](mailto:jthaden00@yahoo.com)

**Promotional Brochure**

Barb Kennedy Tel. (231) 409-9733  
Email: [barb@netonecom.net](mailto:barb@netonecom.net)



**New Member Form:**

1. Fill out the form.
2. Mail it with a check to: **North Country Trail Association**, 229 E. Main St., Lowell MI

Sponsored by: John Heiam (NCTA #5951) – President Grand Traverse Hiking Club		
Name (please print)	Daytime phone (area code first):	
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Skills to Volunteer:	Email address:	



**Grand Traverse Hiking  
Club**  
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Stamp

