



Grand Traverse Hiking Club

A Chapter of the North Country Trail Association

Volume No. 8 Issue 3 May 2001

The President's Trail Notes

Rick Halbert

Ah, May at last. Time to enjoy some warm weather for a change. This did seem like a long winter, probably because it was more "normal" than the past few have been and we have been getting used to short winters. The trade off, one well worth it, was a winter that offered great opportunities for xc-skiing.

The past couple of summers our hiking club has, under Arlen's guidance, concentrated on bridge building and trail re-routing, and we accomplished much. This year we are doing some necessary scouting and planning before the next round of trail building can begin. Under Dick Naperala's guidance this time, we are plotting a more interesting route where the trail leaves the old US 131 campground and heads north to join with the Michigan Shore To Shore Trail. The tentative route looks promising and much more scenic than the old. When all the leg work is completed and the proper approvals secured, we will again have our work cut out for us. Of course, our adopt a trail program continues. The last time I talked with Arlen we needed just one more volunteer to adopt a trail section. So if you don't have a section yet, call Arlen.

In the mean time let's do what a hiking club is supposed to do and go hike. We are teaming up with the Sierra Club on June 2, National Trails Day and hiking from Baxter Bridge toward the High Rollaways. Beginning at 9:00 A.M.. Hike as far as you wish, just be back for the potluck at 12:30 (see the details under Trails Day later in the newsletter).

At the suggestion of one of our members, and taking a cue from other outdoor clubs in our area, the program

committee has put us on a regular hiking schedule this summer. Beginning in June we will meet every second Thursday at 6:30 P.M. for a hike on a trail in the Traverse City area. These will vary in length depending on the trail and the energy of the participants. These hikes should really be fun. They will get us out doing what we love to do, give us a chance to meet new people, and to get better acquainted with those we already know.

One last note:

An opportunity has presented itself that we are going to take advantage of. The program about hiking Lake Superior coastal trails scheduled for May will be postponed. In its place will be the program, Walking off Weight and Stress presented by Rob Sweetgall. That is the program title, but I have a feeling the program will be much more. Rob has walked across America seven times, walked 11,208 miles in a single year (a record), authored eleven books, and appeared several times on national television. He gave up his career to do this, and now travels the country presenting motivational speeches and seminars. This is not our program, but is open to the public so we will be joining a larger group. His program will end at 8:00 P.M. after which we will meet together for a short announcement etc. session. You can check out Rob's web site at <http://www.creativewalking.com>



New Sierra Club Formed

A new local Sierra Club has formed in the Traverse City area.

For programs and outings newsletter and more information, contact Trina Ball, Programs Chair, at 231-326-2022 or email: Balltl@aol.com

☀ Programs, Meetings, Events and Activities

Sat., May 12, 2001 - 10:00AM

Wild Plant Walk

**Educational Reserve Trailhead
Cass Rd (Bus Garage) – TC**



Meet at the Educational Reserve Trailhead at the bus garage parking area on Cass Rd. You will see a drive just south of the bus garage that goes back to a pavilion. The walk will be guided by area naturalist Angie Willis.

For information call Dick Mallery 267-5074.

Thurs., May 17, 2001 -7:00PM

Rob Sweetgall

"Walking Off Weight and Stress"

Oleson Center - NMC Main Campus



Possibly one of the greatest testimonials for walking is Robert Sweetgall's 11,208 mile foot journey through all 50 states. Sweetgall walked the entire United States in one year, averaging 31 miles per day. Rob has walked across America seven times, authored eleven books, and appeared several times on national television. He gave up his career to do this, and now travels the country presenting motivational speeches and seminars. You won't want to miss this program!

\$\$\$\$\$ For Sale \$\$\$\$\$

GTHC members. Do you have outdoor equipment you'd like to sell? As a member of the NCTA and Grand Traverse Hiking Club, you are entitled to advertise free to our members via this newsletter. Submit your items (Less than 50 words per ad please) to Brian Cox at 929-9833 or via email at: <mailto:tcbrian@chartermi.net>

Sat., June 2, 2001 - 9:00AM **National Trails Day Hike and Potluck** **Baxter Bridge Boat Launch-Kingsley**

Meet at the Baxter Bridge Boat Launch, south of Kingsley, MI. This is a true potluck which means BYOE (Bring Your Own Everything). We will gather with the Sierra Club Members and hike to the High Rollaways. We plan to eat around 12:30 p.m. at the nearby Baxter Bridge Campground for those who cannot make it early for the hike.

For information call Dick Mallery 267-5074.



Thursdays - 6:30PM **GTHC Summer Hikes** **Various locations**

Our program committee has put us on a regular hiking schedule this summer. Beginning in June we will meet every other Thursday (exceptions noted below) at 6:30 P.M. for a hike on a trail in the Traverse City area. Each hike will vary in length and difficulty depending on the trail and the energy of the participants.

Here is the current schedule to date:

June 12th- The Educational Reserve Trailhead where the Boardman River crosses Keystone Rd. Meet @ 6:30 p.m. *Questions call Rick Halbert @ 947-8485.*

June 21st- The Muncie Lake Trailhead at Ranch Rudolf. Meet @ 6:30 p.m. *Questions call Betsy Duede @ 946-4524.*

July 19th- The VASA Trailhead off Bartlett Rd. in Acme. Meet @ 6:30 p.m. *Questions call Dick Naperala @ 223-7903.*

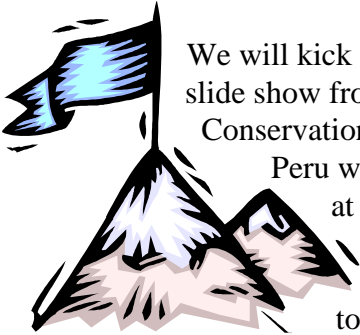
August 2nd- The first Brown Bridge Trailhead east of Hobbs Hwy. Meet @ 6:30 p.m. *Questions call Mike Schaeffer @ 947-9379.*

August 16th- The Sand Lakes Quiet Area Trailhead on Broomhead Rd. in Williamsburg. Meet @ 6:30 p.m. *Questions call Joe Meredith @ 938-0157.*

Sept. 6th- Skegemog Pathway south of Rapid City. Meet @ trailhead. *Questions call Dick Mallery@267-5074.*

☀ Programs, Meetings, Events and Activities (continued)

Thurs., Sept. 20, 2001 -7:00PM Climbing for Conservation Group "Climbing Alpamayo " Oleson Center - NMC Main Campus



We will kick off the fall program with a slide show from the local Climbing for Conservation group. Their expedition in Peru will begin from moraine camp at 16,500 ft. and climb to the summit of Alpamayo at 19,510 ft. Their mission is to raise awareness of local

conservation efforts among young people in the Traverse City Area, and to give them outlets for becoming proactive in local environmental concerns. The Team consists of: Tim Jenema, Tim Barrons, Keith Tampa and Joe Oesterling. You can get more information about their climb at:

[http://climbingforconservation.com./](http://climbingforconservation.com/)

Tool Trailer Grant

Thanks to the National Park Service, we have received a CCSP grant in the amount of \$3,684 towards the purchase of a tool trailer, additional tools, and the customizing of the inside. Our logo will appear on the outside.



Delivery is expected around National Trails Day. Hopefully we'll have it on site on that day. This is cause for a great celebration.

Trail Updates

Arlen Matson



Adopt-a-Trail Sign-up

Only one sector remains of the 15 we maintain on the NCT. Four of the DNR Trails in Grand Traverse County have been adopted. These include Lake Ann Pathway, Lost Lake Pathway, Muncie Lakes Pathway and Sand Lakes Quiet Area.

The remaining section available for adoption is located about 3 miles west of Mesick. It begins at the roadside park on M-115 and proceeds north to No. 8 Road. We need someone to maintain this section in May and August. **Contact Arlen Matson at Tel. 941-4152 Email:**

as319@tcnet.org

2001 Officers

President: Rick Halbert - Tel. 947-8485
Email: homes5@chartermi.net

Vice President: Dick Mallery - Tel. 267-5074
Email: wingit@dickebird.com

Secretary: Betsy Duede - Tel. 946-4524
Email:
pedalpushers272@cs.com

**Treasurer
& Membership:** Joe Meredith - Tel. 938-0157

Advisor: Mike Schaeffer - Tel. 947-9379

Log on for the latest GTHC updates !!



GTHC Web Page @

<http://www.northcountrytrail.org/gtr>

2001 Committees

**Programs & Social
Committee:** Dick Mallery - 267-5074
Sue Makrianis - 929-9010
Kay Zimmer - 929-1703

Trail Building: Arlen Matson - Tel. 941-4152
Email: as319@tcnet.org
Dick Naperala - Tel. 223-7903
Email: napper@aliens.com

National Trails *VOLUNTEERS NEEDED*
Day: **Contact Rick Halbert - 947-8485**

Publicity: Barb Kennedy - Tel. 932-9733
Email: barb@netonecom.net

Hospitality: ***VOLUNTEERS NEEDED***
Contact Donna Dodd – 941-7450

NCT Map/Brochure: Dick Mallery 267-5074
Mike Schaeffer 947-9379
Mona Liska 947-4159
Brian Cox 929-9833

Librarian/Nametags: Mona Liska 947-4159

**Newsletter
& Web Page:** Brian Cox - Tel. 929-9833
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Stamp