

# Thunder Bay Trails News

Volume 2, Issue 2

Newsletter of The Thunder Bay Trails Association

September 1998

**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,**

Every Second Monday of each month - ACC Center Building, Room 106

• **October 3,**

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Norway Ridge Trail Work Bee - Lunch provided

• **November -** Mem-

bership Drive



## Plans for X-C Ski Groomer

When the Thunder Bay Trails Association was founded in March of 1997, the initial concerns of the participants and members were dwindling maintenance of area non-motorized trails and reduced ski grooming efforts at Norway Ridge and Chippewa Hills trails. Since the inception of our trails group as a non-profit organization, we have worked actively to rally support for our area's non-motorized trails and have developed plans for trail improvement with the MDNR. Some of the plans include working with the MDNR to turn Norway Ridge into a year-round non-motorized trail and assisting with efforts to groom Norway Ridge and Chippewa Hills trails for cross-country skiing.

Last spring, officers of the TBTA met with officials of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to discuss implementing a voluntary assistance agreement. The agreement would allow our organization to assist the MDNR in grooming area cross-country ski trails managed by the MDNR.

Recently, Vince Call has worked toward finalizing the Volunteer Assistance Agreement with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources officials. At the same time the agreement between our organization and the MDNR was being initiated, TBTA officials started planning for the purchase of cross-country ski groomer.

At last, the time has arrived as the TBTA plans the purchase of grooming equipment this fall valued at \$9,000.00. Alpena General Hospital staff members along with other individuals in the community have supported our efforts through donations towards the purchase of a groomer. This year the TBTA will begin official fundraising efforts to pay off the difference on the equipment. We will keep you posted on this critical event.

## Fall Trail Work Bee Scheduled

On Saturday, October 3, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. the TBTA will be hosting, with assistance from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, a trail work bee at Norway Ridge Pathway.

This past summer, TBTA President, Vince Call, worked with MDNR officer Joe Soncrainte to identify areas of repair on Norway Ridge Pathway. Many areas of the trail that need work are flooded in the spring and early summer and need fill, culverts, and bridges to make the trail accessible year-round. According to Vince Call, limited funds are available through the MDNR for trail work. Therefore, please join the TBTA on October 3rd - lunch provided! Bring work gloves and dress appropriately for outdoor



*The TBTA anticipates the purchase of a cross-country ski groomer for the maintenance of area ski trails.*

Thunder Bay Trails Association

2700 Beebe Blvd.  
Ossineke, MI 49766

Postage

## 1998 TBTA Contributing Members and Donors

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Jeff and Amy Blumenthal  
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Tom Brindley  
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Mavis DesRocher

*\*\* 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 do-  
nated and paid dues!!*

