

# Thunder Bay Trails News

Volume 9, Issue 1

Newsletter of The Thunder Bay Trails Association

December 2005

**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.*

## REGIONAL EVENTS

- Jan. 28, 2006 - Noquemanon Ski Marathon, Marquette.
- Feb. 4, 2006 - White Pine Stampede Ski Marathon, Mancelona.
- Feb. 11, 2006 - N. American Vasa Ski Marathon, Traverse City.
- Feb. 25, 2006 - American Birkebeiner Ski Marathon, Hayward, WI.
- March 4, 2006 - National Subaru Women's Winter Tour, Garland Resort, Lewiston.
- March 18, 2006 - Wabos Loppet, Stokely Creek, Ontario.

[www.thunderbaytrails.org](http://www.thunderbaytrails.org) on the WEB

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## TBTA GAINS RECOGNITION FROM MDNR

Thunder Bay Trails Association was presented the MDNR Partners in Conservation award this past spring at the monthly Natural Resources Commission hearing in Petoskey. Randy Fairbanks received the award on behalf of the TBTA membership. The state director of the MDNR presented the award. She noted the excellent volunteer efforts by the association to promote and protect the valuable natural resources of the Mackinaw State Forest trails in the Thunder Bay region of northern Michigan. Please remember that it is your organization. It is your time and monies as annual members that allows TBTA to remain active and vital in the ongoing efforts to promote and protect the non-motorized trails that we all appreciate here in northeast Michigan.



## CHIPPEWA HILLS SPRING PROJECT



As part of the annual trails cleanup day, in cooperation with the MDNR and the Sanborn Township Board, TBTA volunteers removed loads of debris from the old dump site at the end of Hubbard Lake road, adjacent to the north end of the Chippewa Trails. The clean-up was a success and ridded the forest of numerous items.

## TRAIL PROJECTS CONTINUE

The fall Norway Ridge Trail projects continue as TBTA prepares for the coming ski season. Twelve pickup loads of MDOT donated wood chips were laid down on the front loops of the trail system. All of deck areas of the trail were brushed out in order to make the ski grooming operation successful. Over twenty members showed up on the traditional last Saturday of October to help out and share in the tail gate picnic grilled lunch. Wayne Christopher's tractor and members with pickup trucks helped to complete the job by noon. Earlier in the spring, a work bee at Chippewa Hills, volunteers cleaned up the old dump area to the north of the trail system. Loads of old tires and appliances were removed from the former dump site. It is this activity that has brought notice to the MDNR and recognition to the good work that TBTA has engaged in over the past eight years.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT RANDY FAIRBANKS (989)727-3702**  
**On the Web: [www.thunderbaytrails.org](http://www.thunderbaytrails.org)**

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## CHIPPEWA HILLS MOUNTAIN BIKE RACE A SUCCESS

Once again TBTA completed a season of activities at the local trails. The events highlight the diverse environment at the Mackinaw State Forest Trails within Alpena County. Chippewa Hills Mountain Bike Race is hosted at Chippewa Hills Pathway and is spearheaded by Randy Fairbanks annually. The event focus is the great mountain bike opportunities that the rolling hardwood forest that Chippewa Hills has to offer. The race is supported by Dominion Resources, the natural gas well drilling company. Local businesses, Summit Sports, Foster Bike Repair Shop, Tour America of Roger City and Northern Eye Optical provide numerous door prizes.



## SUBARU NATIONAL WOMEN'S TOUR

Strap on your boots and join the biggest winter party just for gals! Come celebrate on March 4, 2006, in Lewiston, MI, at the scenic and expansive Garland Resort.

The National Subaru Women's Winter Tour (WWT) is the largest, most unconventional women's winter event in the United States. There are eight events nationwide! It's so much fun one could dub it as "women's winter recess."

The unique cross country ski and snowshoe events compile some of the key aspects of a woman's life: fun, friends, food and chocolate, then throws them into one grand winter party. The event creates a day just for the gals to let loose, get sassy and forget about responsibility.

The WWT's goal is to increase awareness of and support local domestic abuse charities. At the Lewiston event, we're benefiting Shelter, Inc. of Alpena, MI, including \$5 of each registration fee. Please join the WWT for good times with good friends ~ all for a good cause!

Early Birds can save by registering at [www.womenswintertour.com](http://www.womenswintertour.com) by **December 24**. Also, for more information contact: Kaye Krapohl, Executive Director, (231) 929-7775, [kaye@womenswintertour.com](mailto:kaye@womenswintertour.com).



## NORWAY RIDGE TRAIL TROT



The annual Norway Ridge Trail Trot in its second year was once again hosted by TBTA and The Dork Brothers running group. Joe Gentry provided the expertise in the timing and organizational set up. **Huron Distributors** provided the sponsorship with hats, refreshments and other prizes. The event was held at the end of the summer on the Labor Day.



## *FAMILY FUN SKI DAY ALPENA GOLF COURSE*



TBTA hosted an open Family Fun Ski day at the local Alpena Golf Course in January of this past ski season. A first for TBTA and the Alpena Golf Course. Freshly groomed trails and bright sunny skies made for a perfect family ski day!! Brian Bailey of Summit Sports came through in great fashion with free rental skis for the afternoon. Ron Anderson and Randy Fairbanks made sure that the trails were in perfect condition for the event. Plans are in the making for a repeat for this event this ski season, which was highly attended. Some talk of a return of the highly popular candlelight ski event at Norway Ridge Pathway has been heard, stay tuned!!

## *NEW TRAIL GROOMING EQUIPMENT PURCHASED*

New trail grooming equipment has been purchased this season in order to replace the Bear Cat groomer which has provided members and the community with the super nordic trails at both Norway Ridge and Chippewa Hills since 1998. It is with your annual dues that TBTA is able to replace this expensive piece of equipment. With your continued support TBTA will be able to again rebuild its capital replacement fund.

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### TBTA 2006 Membership Application

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  
2703 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"/> Horseback Riding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Running | <input type="checkbox"/> Nature Viewing | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Trail Walks |   |

2006 Membership Dues:

Please check one category!

- Student \$5.00       Individual \$15.00

- 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.

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Thunder Bay Trails Association

2703 Beebe Blvd.  
Ossineke, MI 49766



## 2005 TBTA Contributing Members and Donors

Dawn and Brett Anderson  
Ron and Fran Anderson  
Charles Barbieri  
Sueilyn Bartz  
Don and Barbara Beem  
Kristin Benghauser  
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Jeff and Amy Blumenthal  
Lyle and Nancy Boyer  
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Fred Call  
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Paula and Geoffrey Thompson  
Steve and Amy Tongue  
David and Lynn VanderLinde  
Jon and Sarah Webb  
Jim and Sue Weeks  
Tom and Judy Woizeschke  
Marian Zamenski

*\*\* If your name is missing or you would like to donate to the TBTA, please contact Vince Call at the number listed below or go to the TBTA web site to get a membership form.*

*Special Thanks to Alpena  
Print Master!*

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