



The Cannonball Courier

Summer 2012



As I sit down to write it is the first day of summer, the longest day of the year, and a great day to be on the trail! This issue of the newsletter is going to be more like a photographic journal. So many beautiful photos have been submitted to the Courier that I find it hard to not try to fit in as many as possible. By doing so I hope you are compelled to get out on the trail and to the Savanna to see the beauty that is there first hand. Lucille Smith, editor



Photos on this page and on page 4 next to the address label were taken by Patti Gehring.

(from Bonnie Markley via email). This 'recipe' was composed by my sister Linda on the occasion of my husband Gene's 50th birthday .

NORTA TRAIL MIX**

**An incomparable blend of special ingredients go into the making of this unique trail mix.

Assorted, just-plain-nuts (even beer nuts) who would risk personal injury, poison ivy, mosquitoes, irate adjacent landowners, motorized vehicles, and yes, pesky woodchucks; Various sun-dried fruits who've labored tirelessly for innumerable hours, and with much less pay, in the blistering, summer sun of northwest Ohio; Generous amounts of peanuts: all of those younger trail participants.

DIRECTIONS:

Season the above with salt from the sweat and sometime-tears of the countless concerned. Mix together and intersperse, wherever possible, with plenty of laughter. Stir, as needed, with a sense of humor, until the mix becomes one in mind and purpose. Stored in a cool-headed container, this mix will keep indefinitely. Serve with your favorite beverage, or, for a taste of what it's all been about, try it with a scoop of "It's Been a Rocky Road" ice cream.

A LONG SKINNY PARK

Bluebird Houses Enrich the Savanna

Eagle Scout project of Troop 66 from Arlington School in Toledo Benefits NORTA



Danny Bondy with one of the 8 bluebird houses installed at the savanna. Lowe's generously donated materials for the project



Danny Bondy, Jacob Neubert, Bobby May and Aaron Beach in foreground, Glenn Zielinski in the background Photos courtesy of Tom Duvendack



Scout Jacob Neubert and his father, Bob Neubert

NORTA has had a wonderful symbiotic relationship with the Boy Scouts. We have many projects that need to be done. They need to have projects to earn their advancements. The bluebird houses are the most recent contribution by a Scout troop. We have handicap access to our headquarters thanks to an Eagle Scout project and a project that is in the works will supply benches along the trail for people who need to take a breather from time to time.

Anyone who is looking for a Scout project can contact NORTA. (See contact information on page 3.)

On June 18, Jack Stoner, Bob Abger and Tom Striggow treated the deck of the Tiffin River Bridge. It took 35 gallons to treat it as this is the first time in the 12 years since it was decked that it was treated. In addition to the Tiffin River Bridge, in the past month the bridges over Beaver Creek, at County Road 15, Bates Run and Stoner's Crossing have all been treated. All this with no cost to NORTA but a lot of elbow grease and time on the part of those who have volunteered. There are always opportunities for volunteering on the trail. Check the contact information on page 3 if you want to get involved.

Officers and Board members

President: Ed Snyder
Vice President: Jay Budde
(e-mail: jbudde0407@embarqmail.com)
Secretary: Bonnie Markley
(e-mail: bonniejm@windstream.net)
(Phone: 419-822-4788 or 1-800-951-4788)
Treasurer: Patti Gehring
(e-mail: pmgnorta@buckeye-express.com)
Newsletter: Lucille Smith
(e-mail: lucille.smith@rocketmail.com)
Maintenance: Tom Duvendack
Sandy Mason
Tom Striggow
(e-mail: tstriggow@yahoo.com)
Edith Trowbridge
(Cell Phone: 419-633-4441)

Included above you will find contact information for various board members or you may contact us via our website: www.wabashcannonballtrail.org.



Tom Duvendack has found that losing 40lbs makes climbing up and down a ladder to work on the kiosk a non-fattening piece of cake. Figuring the angles needed on each plank of wood that goes up is another matter all together. photo by: Lucille Smith

A special "Thank you" to everyone who renewed their membership after the last newsletter.

How to renew, join, make a contribution and/or offer to volunteer:

Complete and send the form below by postal mail with your check (payable to **NORTA**) to: Northwestern Ohio Rails-to-Trails Association, Inc. (NORTA, Inc.) P.O. Box 234 - Delta, Ohio 43515

NORTHWESTERN OHIO RAILS-TO-TRAILS ASSOCIATION, INC. (NORTA) Membership Form

Name(s) _____

Home Tel. _____ Work Tel.: _____

Cell (Optional) _____

Address _____ Apt. _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail Address _____

Membership Categories:

____ Senior/Student \$10 ____ Individual \$15 ____ Family \$25 ____ Patron \$100

____ Business/Organization \$50 ____ Lifetime \$1,000 Donation _____

Contributions are tax deductible

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON, ON THE TRAIL AND AT OUR MEETINGS.

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TRAIL DISTANCES

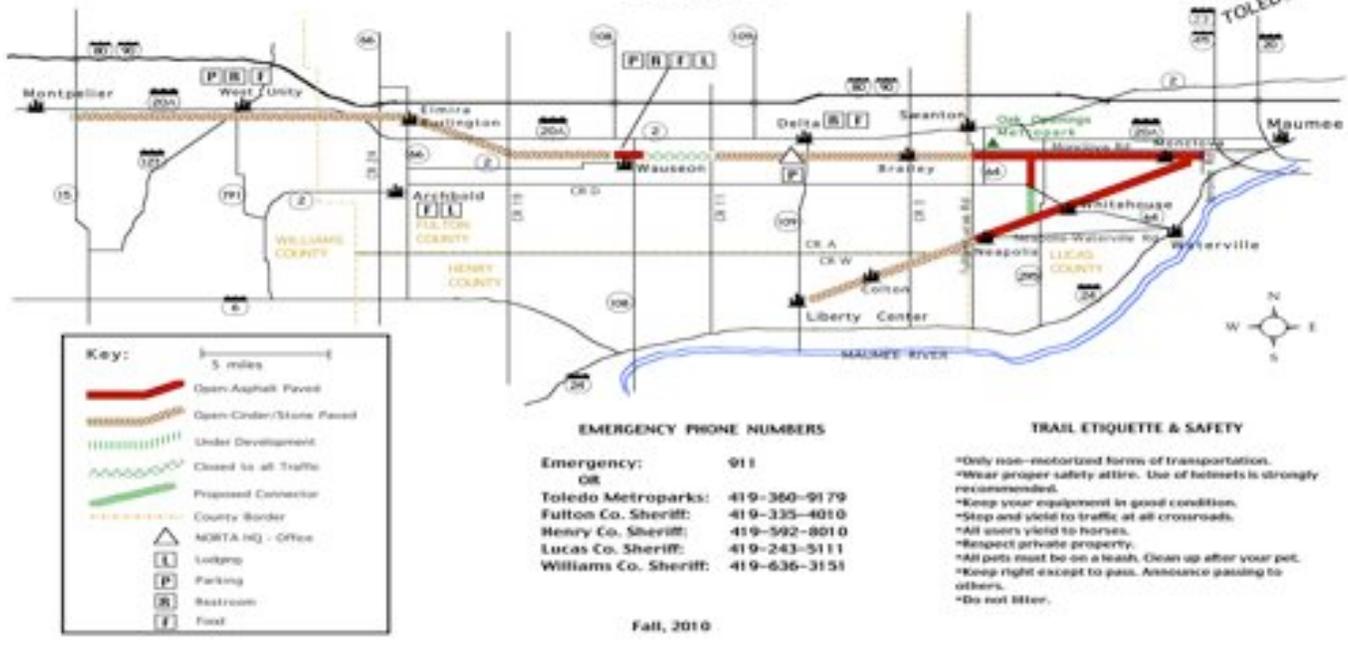
South Fork

Jerome Rd. to Fulton-Lucas Rd. - 10 miles
 Fulton-Lucas Rd. to Colton - 4 miles
 Colton to Liberty Center - 3 miles

WABASH CANNONBALL TRAIL

North Fork

Jerome Rd. to St. Rt. 64 - 10 miles
 St. Rt. 64 to NORTA HQ - 7 miles
 NORTA HQ to Wauseon - 5 miles
 Wauseon to West Unity - 13 miles
 West Unity to Montpelier - 9 miles



An interactive map can be found at: www.wabashcannonballtrail.org

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Northwestern Ohio Rails-to-Trails Assoc., Inc.
 P.O. Box 234
 Delta, Ohio 43515
 1-800-951-4788
www.wabashcannonballtrail.org

