



# The Cannonball Courier

Summer 2013

## 5K Steel Run Nets NORTA over \$10,000

**\$20000 in donations divided between  
Wabash Cannonball Trail and The Great Lakes  
Collaborative on Autism.**

Two Northwest Ohio charities received checks for \$10,097 in ceremonies held at both groups' premises. The Northwest Ohio Rails to Trails Association, Inc. (NORTA) received their check from the Race Organizers at the NORTA savanna on County Road 10 near Delta.



**North Star representatives present NORTA board members with a check for the proceeds of the race.**

5K Race Director Brendan Brophy said both groups were chosen for their association with Northwest Ohio and the great work both groups do in their respective fields. In addition to the check for NORTA, Delta steel mill services company, Levy Incorporated, donated a half mile of gravel to top-dress the trail for the race. "The trail is a real asset for Northwest Ohio, it is great to use and has so much history. Built along the old Wabash Railroad, it dissects Northwest Ohio from Montpelier all the way into Maumee" said Brophy. NORTA administers and maintains the trail for horse-riding, bicycling and walking.

The 5K race was dubbed the Steel Run because employees of North Star BlueScope Steel of Delta and Worthington Steel Industries next door came up with the idea of a 5K race to be run in conjunction with the Village of Delta's 150th birthday celebrations. The group approached NORTA about running a course south of the Village of Delta using the Wabash Cannonball Trail as part of the race. This section of the race took runners over the scenic Fraker Mill covered bridge. NORTA President Jay Budde said "the race showcased the trail and Delta in a great way. The money received will be used to maintain the trail and further the mission of NORTA. The Steel Race group was incredibly motivated to raise money for these good causes."

The race organizers also toured the Great Lakes Collaborative on Autism (GLCA) facility located near Toledo Hospital. The tour showcased the fantastic educational work the organization does with children, from toddlers to young adults, affected by autism. GLCA Executive Director, Catina Harding, said the funds would be used to offer daycare scholarships at the GLCA.



**NORTA treasurer Patti Gehring (center) shares the excitement of having such a successful event.**

*"Northwestern Ohio Rails-to-Trails Association, Inc. (NORTA) is a private nonprofit volunteer organization, whose mission is to promote and steward the development and maintenance of the Wabash Cannonball Trail for public recreational use."*

WANTED/NEEDED

- Shop Vac for clean up at maintenance building
Gas leaf blower for clearing bridge decks of leaves and debris
Air compressor (10-30 gallon) for truck, tractor and trailer tires and cleaning tractor and mower etc.
Shop rags
Hand cleaner such as Go-Joe
Round Up herbicide (concentrate is best, and in five gallon is cheapest) for grass control around signs, fences, buildings, etc.
Cash donations - specify toward one of the above will be used for that purpose
New members and volunteers
Visit our website www.wabashcannonballtrail.org
Like us on Facebook



Officers and Board members

Below you will find contact information for various board members. You may also contact us via our website: www.wabashcannonballtrail.org. Phone: 419-822-4788 or 1-800-951-4788

- President: Jay Budde (jbudde0407@embarqmail.com)
Vice President: Ed Snyder
Secretary: Bonnie Markley (bonniejm@windstream.net)
Treasurer: Patti Gehring (pmgnorta@buckeye-express.com)
Newsletter: Lucille Smith (lucille.smith@rocketmail.com)
Maintenance: Tom Duvendack, Sandy Mason, Tom Striggow (tstriggow@yahoo.com)
Edith Trowbridge

It's just a long skinny park!

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

Name(s)
Home Phone Work Phone
Cell (Optional)
Address Apt.
City State Zip
E-mail Address

Membership Categories:
Senior/Student \$10 Individual \$15 Family \$25
Patron \$100 Business/Organization \$50 Other \$
Lifetime \$1,000 Donation

Contributions are tax deductible

# Fraker Mill Bridge Cleared and Marked



Maintenance Committee member Tom Striggow recently cleared overgrown fence rows at Fraker Mill bridge. Tom then proceeded west, clearing road crossing signs all the way to the Tiffin River. In the process, he found and repaired three signs that were vandalized. The photos shown here demonstrate the amount of effort put forth, and the resulting improvement that enhances the trail experience. Thanks to Tom for his continued efforts to make the trail accessible for all to enjoy.



Photos of the trail leading to Fraker Mill bridge during clean up (above) and after (right) show the great improvement that is possible. Volunteers who wish to aid NORTA in clearing trails can contact Tom Striggow via email at [tstriggow@yahoo.com](mailto:tstriggow@yahoo.com) or Tom Duvendack at [tomfortrails@windstream.net](mailto:tomfortrails@windstream.net).

**You are invited**  
To  
**NORTA's Annual Dinner!**

**Thurs., October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013**  
5:00 – 8:00 PM

Rotary Park Pavilion  
Wauseon, Ohio

**Mark your calendar**  
**\$15 per person**  
(includes dinner and program)  
Mail pre-paid  
Reservation below  
To join the fun



## NORTA Annual Dinner

Number of Reservations \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Email my confirmation     Mail my confirmation

**Enclose a check for \$15 per person,  
payable to NORTA.**

Mail to: NORTA Treasurer  
P.O. Box 234  
Delta, OH 43515

**Please RSVP by October 2, 2013.**

# The Oak Savanna



The Oak Savanna at the northwest corner of Fulton County roads F and 10, featuring wildflowers and grasses, is one of the many beautiful vistas that await travelers on the Wabash Cannonball Trail.

**Northwestern Ohio Rails-to-Trails Assoc. Inc.**

**P.O. Box 234**

**Delta, OH 43515**

**1-800-951-4788**

**[www.wabashcannonballtrail.org](http://www.wabashcannonballtrail.org)**