



ROCK TRAIL COALITION

Newsletter **20 YEARS OF ROCK TRAIL ADVOCACY** October 2013

Next Meeting – Thursday, October 17

6:30 pm - Jobs Center, 1900 Center Ave, Janesville

Topic: Hiking Hawaii – Neil and Kay Deupree spent 3 months working in Hawaii last year. They also spent a lot of time in the great outdoors.

Some 2013 - 2014 Events

- October 4th – 6th Harvest Fest in Afton can we get 100 bikes in Afton on Saturday the 5th?

It's an easy ride on the Peace Trail and into town. Lots of activities. See flier in this newsletter.

- **November 14** Camino de Santiago Trail in Spain 6:00 pm Beloit College President, Scott Bierman, will discuss his experiences hiking on this historic trail in Spain.

This will be our first Rock Trail Coalition meeting in Beloit. The meeting will be at Moore Lounge in Pearson Hall on the Beloit College Campus. Details about parking will be in the next newsletter. In 2014 two meetings will be held in Beloit on April 24 and December 4.

- **November 17** Mocha Moment – Rock Trail Membership Appreciation Day
- **December 5** Hiking New Zealand 6:30 pm Dave Bendlin at the Rock County Jobs Center.
- February 20 Speaker Meeting in Janesville
- April 24 Speaker Meeting in Beloit
- October 6 Speaker Meeting in Janesville
- December 4 Speaker Meeting in Beloit

Trail Updates

Morris Segment – Bjoin Limestone is donating 300 tons of crushed gravel to firm up the surface. The city of Janesville will have the trail graded and rolled to improve it for all types of bicycles. Work should be completed by mid-October.

Beloit Township Segment – September 21 Rock Trail Coalition volunteers mowed the entire 1.75 miles of trail and cleared brush and small 'tripper' stumps from the unimproved trail. Rock County Parks is working on drafting the easements for this and the Hendricks segment.

Big Hill Park Bridge – thanks to the Leadership Development Team the funds have been raised to install the new bike bridge at Goose Creek on the north side of the park. The bridge will be constructed and installed by Custom Manufacturing in Clinton. The schedule for installation has not been set.

South Beloit Bridge Grant – The city of South Beloit received word earlier this year that they are approved for a grant for their bike path bridge.

From the Beloit Daily News:

South Beloit has a bicycle/recreation path that runs through City Park and runs south down Dorr Road to connect with the Roscoe recreation path.

There are existing recreation trails in Wisconsin and Illinois that would be linked if the South Beloit bike path were to be extended only 1.5 miles to hook up with the Beloit bike path.

“This is going to give us tremendous possibilities that we didn’t have before,” said South Beloit Mayor Michael Duffy.

He said the bike path plans fit in with what the city has been doing in cooperation with Beloit 2020 and the City Center Plan for development and improvements in Beloit and South Beloit.

The preliminary plan calls for the South Beloit and Beloit bike paths to connect at the state line at the Wheeler Avenue Bridge. The bridge, which crosses Turtle Creek off Colby Street, has been closed since 1995 because of structural concerns. The city will have to decide if it wants to demolish the old bridge and build a new bridge for bike and pedestrian traffic or keep the old bridge.

The bike path will go south on Wheeler Avenue, cross Gardner Street and then follow on-street paths until it connects with the path at City Park.

RTC: This is good news for the Janesville – Beloit Bike Trail planners as it will open up connections to the northern Illinois trail system. The Janesville – Beloit Bike Trail is a key link connecting trails throughout the northern Illinois/southern Wisconsin region with important impacts for transportation, tourism and recreation.

Election of Officers

December 5 is our annual meeting which means it is time for election of officers.

The following slate of officers is presented for your consideration:

President -- Dean Paynter

Vice-president -- Carolyn Brandeen

Secretary -- Clara Marr

Treasurer -- Mike Guisleman

Anyone wishing to nominate others or volunteer for an office is welcome to email VP Carolyn at volunteerRTC@charter.net.

Directors at Large are appointed positions. Current directors are: Rick Barder, Bob Schlegel, Jerry Stankus and Pablo Toral.



Big Hill Park bridge site on Goose Creek.

all



Also on the December agenda action on proposed revision of bylaws per VP Carolyn:

Proposed revision to Rock Trail Coalition Bylaws of 2011

To ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP Section 3 Dues

Delete the sentence that spells out the amount of dues. This will conform to our present dues structure. The manner dues are determined is already spelled out in ARTICLE IV FINANCES Section 3.

The revised Section 3 of ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP would now refer to the membership year only and read:

Section 3. Dues

~~Dues shall be twelve (12) dollars per year for individuals or families.~~ The membership year will commence with the month dues are paid and shall expire the end of this fiscal year.

And most importantly – Dave Bendlin will give a presentation about his travels in New Zealand.



Trail work crew September 21 working on the Beloit Township segment

Photo by Nancy Chappell

AFTON HARVEST FEST

OCTOBER 4TH, 5TH & 6TH

**CRAFT FAIR • FOOD • CAR SHOW • MUSIC • BAKE SALE • FLEA MARKET
MUSIC • STREET ROD SHOW • TRACTOR SHOW • ANTIQUE TRACTOR PULL**

FRIDAY NIGHT - OCTOBER 4TH

SKIP'S FRIENDLY VILLAGE

STREET DANCE

Music from 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm (*The Tip Up Band*)

5:00 - 10:00 - *Fish Fry*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5TH

AFTON PUB & PARK

CLASSIC CAR & MOTORCYCLE SHOW - ALL CARS WELCOME

8:00 am - 11:00 am - Registration - \$10.00 Entry

Car Show 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Breakfast 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Elvis (*Shawn Sharp*) 12-4

Music all day!

SKIP'S FRIENDLY VILLAGE

ANTIQUE TRACTOR DISPLAY SHOW

Any Tractor's Welcome, Bring them down

Starts at 11:00 am - *until milking time*

BASS CREEK CAFE

Vendor's 8:00 - 4:00

Music - Soft Shoe Shuffler's 9:00 - 1:00

Mike Jones & The Sugar River Band 1:00 - 4:00

"LOTS OF FOOD"

AFTON MARKET

Sidewalk Bake Sale • Sidewalk Thrift Shop

AFTON COMMUNITY CHURCH

Flee Market

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6TH

AFTON PUB & PARK

Community Antique Tractor Pullers

(C.A.T.P. Tractor Pull)

Starts at 11:00 am

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL:

AFTON PUB & PARK - 365-2891

SKIP'S FRIENDLY VILLAGE - 362-9732



Can we get 100 bicycles in Afton on October 5th?

The Rock Trail Coalition board set

one goal

for 2014

SECURE AND ESTABLISH
THE TRAIL CORRIDOR
FROM
AFTON TO
BIG HILL PARK

We welcome your help and the help of all of our trail partners in achieving this goal.

Do you want future newsletters by **email**? Do we have your **email address**? Send it to VP Carolyn at volunteerRTC@charter.net



Visit our Friends and Supporters

Michaels Cycles, Mocha Moment, Bass Creek Espresso, Skip's Friendly Village, Afton Pub, and Afton Family Market.

Check the mailing label for membership status and renew for 2014

Dues for 2014

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Mail to: Rock Trail Coalition, P.O. Box 8101 Janesville, WI 53547-8101

_____ Basic individual \$15

_____ Family \$25/no t-shirt or _____ \$30 w/t-shirt

_____ Trail Builder \$50 _____ Trail Blazer \$75

_____ Golden Trekker \$100 _____ Lifetime \$500

**Rock Trail Coalition
PO Box 8101
Janesville, WI 53547-8101**