

# **FRIENDS OF THE BOYNE RIVER NEWS BULLETIN**

PO Box 186, Boyne City, MI 49712, Volume14, Number 2, October-December, 2012

Editor- Candy Greene

Please send articles or experiences for publishing to [cjgreene@mail.com](mailto:cjgreene@mail.com)

**Visit our new website: [www.boyneriver.org](http://www.boyneriver.org)**

## **President's Message** by Carl Wehner

This will likely be the most difficult President's letter I will write. I had planned to write about the new nature area project. But sadly, we lost one of our long time members and board members. Dick Cunningham's sudden passing has left a void in the Friends of the Boyne River family. Dick worked tirelessly to make his community a better place. Dick's vocation and for that matter avocation, was teaching. Professionally he taught art, but he taught much more than that, both to his students and to many of us. Dick was also a student, he always wanted to know more. For example, when he and Nancy wanted to build a home, he studied contracting. Dick worked diligently as a Friend of the Boyne River board member and to insure that our scholarship was awarded to a deserving student, he agreed to chair the scholarship committee. Most of all, I will remember Dick as a gentleman. He was a gentleman who would quietly, but firmly express his opinions. If he disagreed with you he would calmly state his position and never make it personal. Rest in peace Dick Cunningham, we are all a little better for having known you.

## **Ruth Sheets Awarded Paddle by Candy Greene**



Ruth Sheets has been recognized by the Friends of the Boyne River with the Paddle Award 2012, given to a member annually for outstanding service. Ruth's service began at the onset of the creation of the Friends over 11 years ago. Her son, Tom, together with Marie Zoberski, recognized the need for an organization to protect and oversee the Boyne River. Ruth insisted on having refreshments, that she supplied, at all the meetings. Ruth's hospitality began years before in a career with her husband Don. Together they brought the Hotel Dilworth into its lifetime peak of success. Later while living in Florida, her leadership in church organizations, and diverse involvement in her community reflected her warmth and friendly attitude. Continuing faithfully by her commitment to the membership of FBR, Ruth has linked with members from the past until now, and has been an inspiring model of intellect, curiosity, and concern for the environment. We thank her for the pleasure she's brought,

and enjoyment she has shared.

## **The Boyne River Nature Area** by Nancy Cunningham

We now have all of the funding for the Boyne River Nature Area. The Charlevoix County Community Foundation called to give us the good news of us receiving a grant. We can start as soon as the DEQ gives us a permit to begin work. Our carpenter is all set to begin building the boardwalks. He will probably get one built this fall and finish up in early spring. We will be able to put in benches, a deck near the end of the pathway, stabilize the ravine leading into the area, and at the entrance area, build a rain garden, install a bike rack, level a parking area, and put in signs telling everyone that is a nature area. We are so proud to be able to move ahead with this project.

## **Friends Go to Camp Daggett** by Candy Greene

Four enthusiastic members of the FBR board headed out to Camp Daggett in late May to share some activities with the Boyne City Middle School sixth graders.” The students were in the midst of a week long camping experience. Susie Dickow, Marie Sheets, Donna Swift, and Candy Greene split two activities. Susie and Marie taught 3 groups of students about “Edible Plants”, how to recognize them, how to use them and to sample the taste of some. Susie led the lively discussion by including the history of our area and how these plants were used in the olden days. Candy and Donna guided the students in an art activity. Donna helped the students select small leaves, petals, etc, and they made them into bookmarks. They added memories from their adventures at camp. Candy laminated the bookmarks, and they were taken home. It was an energizing time for all attending.

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### **Welcome New Members**

Jan and Sandra Turley  
Steve Sawyer and Denise Holmes  
Jan Adams  
Brian Kozminski  
Joe Walker

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## **Summer Annual Meeting Another Success**

Friends gathered in mid August at the pavilion in Veteran's Park for our BBQ and Pot Luck dinner. Dinner was followed by a brief meeting reviewing our accomplishments of this year: our budget, our new project: Boyne Nature Area, our new website and a paddle award for Ruth Sheets. We voted for renewal of board members and received new rosters too. A good time was had by all.

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Trivia.... Which duck quacks, the male or female??

The female quacks, while the males honk, coo, and grunt

## **Communicating with Our Membership** by Nancy Cunningham

Our new website : **[www.boyneriver.org](http://www.boyneriver.org)**

As secretary of the Friends, one of my jobs is to organize the communication with our members. Communicating with everyone is Very Important. We don't want to miss any of you. Most of you get e mails from me telling you when the next meeting will be and what it will be about. Others of you, get calls from our phone tree people, (Martha Kluklach, Van White, and Donna Moll) . This system works well except that the callers don't see many of these people at our meetings. If you are being called about the meetings, but you really aren't able to attend our meetings, would you please let me know ? (231-582-9373) I don't want to waste the phone tree people's energy on an unnecessary call. Also, if you are not getting e mails, but would like to, would you please let me know, also. (dncunningham3738@att.net) Why all the urgency about communications? We have a new website and we are hoping to do much of our communication with our membership through the website. This will save the costs of printing the bulletin, printing the labels, seals, and stamps. Using less paper is environmentally good. So we are looking at changing how we communicate with our members. We would like you to tell us what you would like us to do.

## **Lake Charlevoix Management Plan** by Darryl Parish

I attended the Lake Charlevoix Watershed Council Project Meeting on September 20. Items that were of particular interest to FoBR included:

- The Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council will include FoBR in discussion of plans to resolve groundwater issues in the area of Boyne Falls.
- Lake Charlevoix Association will share information on lakeshore owners' best practices for communication to our membership and application within our river system.
- The Lake Charlevoix Watershed Management Plan has now been approved and will be made available for online review at [www.watershedcouncil.org](http://www.watershedcouncil.org) . This document contains detailed implementation tasks and actions covering the next ten years. Each task and action supports one or more of the objectives listed in the plan. The FoBR board will review the plan to determine how our group can best support the initiatives applicable to our portion of the watershed.

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## **HELP WANTED**

FoBR are looking for people to take on the following tasks:

- Creating and mailing the newsletter 3-4 times a year
- Managing the web site

Call Nancy Cunningham 582-9373 if you can help out

## Upcoming Meetings

October 13, Ramble up Boyne Mountain via chair lift to observe fall colors. 11:30 AM  
Pot Luck lunch following at Carl Wehners.

November 14, Chris Bandy from Local Flavor Bookstore will be presenting some of his books about nature and the environment. The Boyne District Library will also have a display of their books about nature and the environment. You can bring your favorite environmental book to share and if you want, give a brief summary of why it's your favorite. Chris will be able to order any of the you want as presents.

December 7, Christmas Party at Susie Dickow's famous Victorian homestead, at 6PM.  
Please bring a dish to pass, and BYOB. Main course will be provided.

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We welcome Adam Kennedy to our board.

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### **Friends of the Boyne River**

### **Board of Directors**

Carl Wehner	President	989-906-0415
Marie Sheets	Vice President	231-675-3344
Nancy Cunningham	Secretary	231-582-9373
Bob Greene	Treasurer	231-582-2434
Susie Dickow	Education	231-582-0157
Candy Greene	Membership	231-582-2434
Ed Strzelinski	Director	231-582-5877
Mark Contrucci	Director	231-582-3984
Darryl Parish	Director	231-497-4410
John Connor	Director	248-231-6740
Adam Kennedy	Director	231-330-2923

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