



*“The purpose of the Friends of the Boyne River is to improve and conserve the environmental health and recreational quality of the Boyne River and its watershed.”*

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## Fall 2014 News Bulletin

### September 5 Kennedy Elected President



2014-2015 Executive Committee (l to r) Ed Strzelinski, Marie Sheets, Adam Kennedy, Nancy Cunningham, Bob Greene and out-going president Carl Wehner.

The Friends of the Boyne River Board of Directors elected officers for FY 2014-2015 during the September 5 meeting. Adam Kennedy, Boyne City, is the new president. Re-elected for executive terms are:

- Marie Sheets, Vice- President
- Bob Greene, Treasurer
- Nancy Cunningham, Secretary
- Ed Strzelinski, Executive Committee Member at large

At the FoBR annual membership meeting in July, Michael Ryan was elected to the Board. He joins current members Mark Contrucci, Mike Durbin, Candy Greene, Steve Sawyer, Jerry Swift and Carl Wehner.

Outgoing board president Carl Wehner said, *“I want to thank everyone on the board. You’ve shown nothing but support and encouragement for the past three years.”*

Out-going board members Darryl Parrish and Suzie Dickow were recognized for their hard work and collaboration on many fronts.

## Upcoming FoBR Events

### **October 4    New Oden State Fish Hatchery Tour and Potluck**

We are excited that the October general membership meeting is an outing to the new DNR State Fish Hatchery in Oden, Michigan. It is on Saturday, October 4, 11 a.m., in *lieu of the October 8 general meeting*.

The new Oden State Fish Hatchery complex is one of the most advanced fish culture facilities of its kind. It is a brown and rainbow trout brood stock station and is a major rearing facility.

We will tour production buildings, outdoor rearing facilities, and a state of the art effluent treatment system. *In order to maintain fish health, the Oden State Fish Hatchery is only accessible to the public through a scheduled guided tour.*

- ~ Car pool from Boyne City's Old City Park, leaving at 10 am.
- ~ Arrive for the 11 am guided tour.
- ~ Return to Carl and Char Wehner's Boyne City home (1021 E. Main St.) for a 1 pm potluck lunch.

Join the car pool from Old City Park or meet at the hatchery. No reservation necessary. The *Oden Interpretive Center* is just east of Conway where the railcar, old hatchery building and parking lot are visible from US 31.

However, our 45-minute tour is at the new Oden State Fish Hatchery (8258 South Ayr Road, Alanson). Directions from Petoskey:

Take US-31 north to North Conway Road (about 5 miles) and turn left (only way possible).  
Take North Conway Road to Powers Road (about 1 mile) and turn right.  
Take Powers Road for about 1.5 miles to S. Ayr Road and turn right (only way possible). Hatchery is about ½ mile down on the right side. Visitor parking is in front of the main hatchery building. There is a map on the Oden Fish Hatchery website.

For the 1 pm lunch, please bring a dish to pass and a beverage. Hotdogs, plates, utensils and napkins provided. Hope to see you!

### **Early October    Grand Opening Boyne Nature Area**

Watch for the grand opening of the Boyne Nature Area in early October once the new signs are finished! It is off Moll Drive in the Boyne City industrial park. A picnic table and a bike rack are visible from the road where the pathway to the river begins. Excavation on the parking area was done this week. Watch the website for details.

### **November 12    DNR Fisheries Guest Speaker**

DNR Fisheries Management Biologist Heather Hettinger is our guest speaker on Wed., Nov. 12, 7 pm, Community Room, Boyne District Library. *More details are on our boyneriver.org website.*

If you want to help with the refreshments, please call refreshments coordinator Chitra Singh.

### **December 12    FoBR Christmas Party**

The Annual FoBR Christmas Party potluck is at Suzie Dickow's home on Friday, December 12, 6 pm. Join the fun! Eat, sing, tell jokes and visit with our friendly membership. Suzie lives at 848 State St., Boyne City. Questions? Please give her a call at 231-582-0157.



## Recent FoBR Activities

**September 5, 2014**

### **Guest Speaker “Boyne River Photo Project”**

Local outdoor enthusiast **Gary Osterbeck** is undertaking the daunting task of creating four photographic slide shows, set to music, of the entire Boyne River. He shared the first two completed shows at the FoBR general membership meeting.

Starting at the smallest of headwaters, on through streams and floodings, the project has four phases: the North Branch, Moyer Creek (a tributary to the South Branch), the South Branch and the Boyne River at large.

The photos beautifully depict and describe the river and tributaries. Some sections are in nature preserves administered by the Little Traverse Conservancy and therefore accessible to the public.

The shows are posted on You Tube (links on the FoBR website).

Our sincere thanks to Gary for giving everyone the chance to experience our beautiful Boyne River from any place, at any time, and we look forward to his completion of the South Branch in the near future.



### **August 13 Annual Membership Meeting**

The 2014 Annual Meeting was held at Boyne City’s Veterans Memorial Park Pavilion. Members and friends shared barbecue chicken, ribs and a potluck meal.



35 attendees enjoyed a great meal

Following dinner and review of the annual financial report, the past year’s projects were highlighted. They include:

- ~ Hosting monthly speakers to discuss pertinent environmental topics
- ~ Maintaining Boyne City’s Old City Park river bank with native anti-erosion plant species
- ~ Taking nature programs to area students through classes at the Boyne District Library and Camp Daggett
- ~ Performing spring and fall insect species monitoring to determine the river’s ecosystem health
- ~ A “crowd hydrology” project that involves efficient volunteer monitoring of water depth at several key Boyne River locations throughout the year

The winner of the 2014 **FoBR Marie Zoberski Scholarship** is Margaret Durbin. She received \$1,000 towards studies at MSU’s Lyman Briggs Honor College where she studies chemical engineering with a concentration in bioenergy. She will use her knowledge to improve the environment.

Congratulations, Margaret!



Bob Greene explains FoBR financial health



Marie Sheets presents the "Paddle Award" to a surprised Ed Strzelinski

The annual **Paddle Award**, presented to someone who contributed significantly to the FoBR, was awarded to Ed Strzelinski for his work with the river quality monitoring program and his steadfast support of FoBR projects.

Results of the **Board of Directors election** were announced. Three incumbents were re-elected (Ed Strzelinski, Stephen Sawyer and Carl Wehner) as was new director Michael Ryan.



Scott Moody in action!

To close the program, Scott Moody sang the rousing Irish song he wrote about the river's colorful history called, "The Boyne, The Boyne, The Boyne."

### **August 23 Northern Michigan River Sweep**

This is the second year the FoBR joined other volunteers across Northern Michigan for a multi-river clean up. Participants walked the river banks and floated the rivers collecting trash along 100 river miles of the Boyne, Jordan, Maple, Bear, Pigeon and Sturgeon Rivers. This year the Boyne River Sweep was headed up by our new director Michael Ryan, and was assisted by Ed and Diane Strzelinski, Darryl Parish, Jerry Swift and Mary Johnson. (More info at [boyeriver.org](http://boyeriver.org))

### **September 27 Boyne River Monitoring**

If you happen past Boyne City's Old City Park or the river crossings on Dobleski Road, Dam Road and Thumb Lake Road, you may see FoBR volunteers capturing river insects in scoop nets for identification at a later date.

The FoBR does this twice a year in cooperation with Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council. Water temperature, depth and river conditions are also recorded. The data and insects are used to determine the river's ecosystem health. River monitoring occurs on several watershed rivers at the same time.



Captured river insects

### Adam's Boyne River Kayaking Journal: September 5, 2014 (1 pm – 2 pm)

My son-in-law, Justin, and I put in at Dam Road and ran into three Boyne City buddies also putting in there. Nice coincidence! We traveled together – high, fast, murky water from the recent rainfall. Because the water was high, we ran into tree branches that we normally float underneath. Some kingfishers flew overhead, a pileated woodpecker called, and a great blue heron flew up from the river about half-way to Boyne City. A couple salmon headed up stream, one splashing as it scooted past us. There was a little headwind so we took out at Kuhn's Bridge upriver from the millpond. *(Adam Kennedy's monthly journal entries are posted on the FoBR website boyneriver.org.)*



### 2014-2015 FoBR Board of Directors

Adam Kennedy, President	231-330-2923	
Marie Sheets, Vice President	231-675-3344	
Bob Greene, Treasurer	231-582-2434	
Nancy Cunningham, Secretary	231-582-9373	Stewardship Committee Chair
		Scholarship Committee Chair
Ed Strzelinski, Director	231-582-5877	Exec. Committee Mbr at Large
Candy Greene, Director	231-582-2434	Membership Committee Chair
		Education Committee Co-Chair
Mark Contrucci, Director	231-838-0569	
Mike Durbin, Director	231-675-9712	
Jerry Swift, Director	248-408-0365	Website Editor
Steve Sawyer, Director	231-582-3431	Website inquiries: boyneriverinc.@gmail.com
Michael Ryan, Director	231-675-1257	
Carl Wehner, Director	989-906-0415	
<b>Additional contacts</b>		
Susie Dickow	231-582-0157	Education Chair
Sheri Rhoads	231-330-2876	Bulletin Editor
Chitra Singh	231-838-1579	Refreshments Coordinator



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**[boyneriver.org](http://boyneriver.org)**

Learn about FoBR projects, activities, events, newsletters, links, information about the Boyne River and river wildlife, and more at the Friends of the Boyne River website!

We are fortunate to have volunteers who keep the FoBR engine running. The website gives us the means to keep our membership updated and the public aware of the positive environmental work being done to preserve and protect the Boyne River.

