This picture, taken by Gary Osterbeck, is of the Boyne River in Boyne Falls, underneath the M-75 bridge.

To see all of Gary Osterbeck’s incredible photos go to the Friends of the Boyne River website and click on the photos/slide show at http://boyneriver.org/.
Students Experience Lake Charlevoix
An Annual Education Event on the Beaver Island Ferry

Friends of the Boyne River have participated in this annual program for the last eight years. Students in the 6th and 7th grades from schools in the Charlevoix area, learn about the water wonderland of Michigan.

Diane and Ed Strezlinski taught the children what a watershed is and how it works. Susie Dickow’s station was on Alien Invaders. Basically these are invasive species that are bad because they compete and kill our native growing plants, animals, insects and fish. Here’s a list of some of the worst invaders: Sea Lamprey, Zebra and Quagga Mussels, Eurasian Ruffe, Rusty Crayfish, Eurasian Watermelfoul, Phragmites, various carp, and of course Purple Loosestrife. We all need to be educated to recognize these invaders and eradicate them.

A note on helping: Going on the Beaver Islander for two days every May is a fun, educational experience. Volunteers are always needed to teach or help out in other ways. This event is sponsored by Tip of the Mitt and Lake Charlevoix Association.

Crowd Hydrology Gauges Installed on Boyne River
by Ed Strzelinski

In May, Friends of the Boyne installed five Crowd Hydrology water level monitoring gauges on your river. These gauges are a collaborative effort with the USGS Michigan Water Science Center, University of Buffalo and Boyne Outfitters. By using the "crowd sourcing " concept, we can gather information on Boyne River water levels from anyone willing to send a text message from the stream gauges.

For more info, see www.crowdhydrology.org

The locations of your Boyne River monitoring sites are as follows:
   Old City Park at East Street Bridge
   Boyne Nature Area at Boardwalk #1
   Dam Road downstream of the crossing
   Boyne Mountain Road downstream of the crossing
   Springbrook Road downstream of the crossing

Now it’s easy for you to be a Boyne River scientist! Visit any of the above river sites and follow the instructions on the Crowd gauge to enter your river level data.
Friends Return to Camp Daggett

Edible plants and wildflower folklore were the topics taught this year to the 6th graders from Boyne City Middle School this year.

FoBR’s Education Committee, or Susie Dickow and Candy Greene, made their annual visit to Camp Daggett. They spent several hours with small groups of 6th grade campers one afternoon in early June.

Susie introduced and showed samples of common edible plants. She also made some delicious mushroom soup to share with her student groups. Candy played “Wildflower Bingo” and spoke about the unique features and history of some our common wildflowers. The students were so polite, cooperative and eager to learn, but Susie and Candy were still glad they were retired!!

Annual Meeting and BBQ

The Annual Meeting (and barbecue picnic) of the Friends of the Boyne River will take place on Wednesday, August 13, 2014, at 5 PM in the Veteran’s Memorial Park pavilion (207 N. Lake Street in Boyne City, next to City Hall). Please bring a dish to pass. Chicken, ribs and beverages will be provided. There will be an election of directors, a short business meeting (which will include a financial report and several reports from board members) and the annual “paddle award” presentation. We hope to see you there. Note: As is the tradition, there will be no general membership meeting in July.
**Purple Loosestrife is Back on the River**

By Nancy Cunningham

If you happened to look last fall, there were a lot of the dreaded invasive Purple Loosestrife on the river around the millpond, especially on the side close to Riverside Park where there is shallow water. The beetles that were released six years ago to eat the plants, have died out. So when Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council ordered Loosestrife eating beetles this year, we agreed to order some for our area. We received approval from the City, picked up the dormant beetles and refrigerated them until Mark Contrucci, Marie Sheets and I released them in Riverside Park last week. Go Beetles!!

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**Adam's River Journal**

May 29, 2014  5:15 PM

Absolutely gorgeous weather for a river paddle. Rob Bergquist and I did a Thursday evening float. There were no bugs and only one other person on the river, a fisherman near Dam Road who chatted with us for a few minutes. We saw and heard several birds: plover, kingfisher, woodpecker, crow, swan and some mallards. Afterward we joined my wife Sheri, and friend, Marti, for a patio dinner at Cafe Sante, overlooking beautiful Lake Charlevoix. Life is good.

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**Scholarship News**  by  Nancy Cunningham

Every year the Scholarship Committee of the FoBR picks a deserving student who is going to make a career in an environmental field to receive the Marie Zoberski Friends of the Boyne River scholarship. The money we use for this comes from Marie, who donated the funds to the FoBR when she died. In the past we have supported students who were going to be conservation officers, water quality specialists, civil engineers and other environmental fields. So far, they are all employed in an environmentally related field and are doing well.

This year the Scholarship Committee made up of Marie Sheets, Mark Contrucci and Nancy Cunningham, picked Margaret Durbin. Margaret graduated from Boyne City High School and has just finished her first year in Lyman Briggs Honor College at Michigan State University. She has been studying the water quality of the Red Cedar River...Congratulations to Margaret Durbin and family.
Boyne River Nature Area  by Nancy Cunningham

The Boyne River Nature Area should be finished by the end of the summer. We have had delays in finishing the project due to storm water problems in the east end of the Industrial Park last summer, last fall and currently. These storm water problems have impacted the ravine going down to the wetland part of the Nature Area.

The bottom of the Nature Area that is by the river is finished. You can walk on the pathway, go down the stairs, walk on the boardwalks and enjoy the river views. The problem could be getting down the ravine. The City of Boyne City has been working to repair the damage from these water problems.

The next steps will be a parking area to be put in this summer, a sign identifying the area, a brochure about the area, landscaping the new parking area, and a dedication party in late August or September.

Meanwhile, please check out this area, with its beautiful trail along the river.... (Take Boyne Ave, turn left at 2nd Industrial Park entrance or Moll Dr, turn right at the intersection, the Nature Area will be on the left by the picnic table and bicycle rack.)
Mike Sheean Reports on Boyne Valley Trailway

Mike visited FoBR recently to update us on the non motorized bicycle trail between Boyne Falls and Boyne City. It will be built in phases. Phase 1 will extend from Dam Road into Boyne Mountain property. Phase 2 will extend from the east end of Main Street to Dam Road, and Phase 3 will run from the Boyne Falls School into Boyne Falls. Engineering has been completed and grants from the Federal Transportation Fund, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and National Safe Routes to School Fund, are being applied for. These grants could cover up to 94% of the cost of the trail. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2015 or 2016. Mike also discussed other trail networks in the area.

A special thank you goes out to Chitra Contrucci for being a great hostess and food provider for the general meetings. Her helpers also deserve a thank you, Ed Strzelinski and Marie Sheets.

Check out our website: www.boyneriver.org
Board of Directors   FoBR

Carl Wehner
Nancy Cunningham
Marie Sheets
Bob Greene
Adam Kennedy
Mike Durbin
Jerry Swift
Ed Strzelinski
Darryl Parish
Candy Greene
Steve Sawyer
Mark Contrucci

We are looking for a new board member, let us know if you are available.

Meeting Schedules

July – No meeting
August-13, Annual BBQ and Potluck, Election
September 10- Fisheries with Heather Hettinger
October-------- trip TBA
November 12- Gary Osterbeck and pictures of our river