



Portage County IAT Chapter Winter 2010 Newsletter

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Next Meeting January 26, 2010, Rm. 3, 6:30 p.m
Courthouse Annex located off Arlington Street

Portage County IAT Snowshoe Hike: Sat. Jan. 16, 10 a.m. **Nepeco Lake Park, Wisconsin Rapids, 4 or 6 mile option.**

From HWY 13 just south of Wisconsin Rapids, turn east for a half mile on HWY Z (Griffith Avenue) turn right at park sign. From Plover, drive about 10 miles west on HWY 54, then south on HWY W (go straight at stop sign where road becomes Highway U through Kellner) for about 5 miles, then west on HWY Z (Griffith Ave.) for about 4 miles, then left at park sign. Contact Tom Leslie (715-424-2047) or Ruth Sommers (715-344-5691) for details.

- 1) Your 4th quarter VIP hours are due from Oct. 1 – December 31.
- 2) Since our last meeting, we had Hike 09, which was a success; we thank Ruth Sommers for all the leg work and organization for our Portage County Chapter; see Hike 09 Report.
- 3) November 14, 2009, we organized a IATA regional meeting in Stevens Point with Brad Crary, regional staff coordinator. There were 18-19 participants representing Lodi, Lincoln, Taylor, Waushara, Waupaca, Marathon, Langlade, and Portage County IAT Chapters and 3 staff: Rebecca Hildebrandt, Brad Crary, and Randy Myren. The staff presented new a promotional booklet and maintenance that can be accomplished in the winter. Each chapter presented what they were doing within their chapter. Tammy Hunter and daughter Tori, Ruth Sommers and sister Ruby Jaesks, Bob and Sally set up the remaining items on Saturday morning with Tori doing the name tags. Bob Freckmann, Virginia Freire and Karsten Crouse helped set up the bulk on Friday evening with moving the tables and doing some decorations. Ruby Jaesks, Debbie Krogwold, Jennifer Vandiver, and Freckmanns put the room back to normal at the end of the meeting. Howard Harrington was also present for the meeting. Each chapter brought food which was delicious.
- 4) December 2, 2009, we had an Ex. Bd. meeting. Items included: the Hike 09 results, financial expenses, tools DR. Brush trimmer and power wagon, grant for ordering more tree trimmers, Marty Wacker participated in a state conference call for treasurers, Genz donated two Leopold benches, Chris Klessig will be nominating chair, awards for 2010, updating tool inventory, Wollmer's email, planning for 2010 to move the IAT forward, and updating our IAT segment maps.
The landowner committee meeting will tentatively meet again in January 2010.

- 5) Door prize winners from our 2009 IAT chapter booths: Cultural Festival-Todd Majerich (Wausau), Scott Woltenberg (Junction City); Rock and Gem Show – Doug Moore (Stevens Point); June Dairy Days – Mary Blavat (Stevens Point), Doris Nelson (Pittsville); Energy Fair – Jay Schweitz (Custer), Linda Hallas (Mosinee); Amherst Fair – Kathy Garski (Amherst Jct.); and Portage County Fair Al O’Neil (Rosholt).

Anyone wanting to volunteer for any of our booths in 2010 or wanting to chair the event including setting up and taking down table booths and displays, work on IAT maintenance, leading fieldtrips, being Hike Chair for Portage County, sending out chapter newsletters quarterly, let S. Freckmann know. Freckmann made 3 new displays in 2009; some of our displays with so much use need some maintenance and we’ll take care of these displays.

Maintenance VIPS during the winter months can order yellow paint from Marty Wacker and blaze your portion of trail going both directions and cut any lower branches on your segment portion.

Agenda for our next meeting: Tool Inventory, In the Mud Award Nominees, Update trail data for 2009, IATA forms, Maintenance for 2009, Supporters, Financial, Grant update for tree trimmers, movement for electronic mailing, fieldtrips for 2010 and leaders, Portage Co. Hike chair for 10; merchandise purchase, etc.

2009 PORTAGE COUNTY MAINTENANCE REPORT

If you have more VIP hours, please let us know

- 1) *Windfeldt Ln. to end of the Park Property: Tom Leslie 02 June 9 hours; 09 August 4 ½ hours; 02 November 4 ½ hours for a total of 18 hours.*
- 2) *End of Park property to Emmons Creek Rd.: Mark Balhorn/Julie Schneider 09 June 2 hours; 12 June working with Mobile Skills 12 hours; 11 June 8 hours; 26 June 2 hours; 01 July 3 hours; 30 August 2 hours for a total of 29 hours*
- 3) *Emmons Creek Rd. to Stratton Lake Rd.; Ron Harris (H) & Hughes (H&H)4/07 8hours; 6/1 8 hours; 22 June 8 hours; 5/17 5 hours; 6/01 8 hours; 6/19 10 hours;8/17 8 hours; 8/31 8 hours; 9/24 8 hours (website work 8 hours & helping Sally with the computer 2 hours) plus 4th quarter 4 hours trail check;4 hours board meeting; 2 hours installing signs; 2 hours for website. 39 hrs. 2nd; + 32 hrs. 3rd; + 24 hours 4th quarter-total 95 hrs.*
- 4) *Stratton Lake Rd. to Far-a-way Valley Loop: Bob Jack/Kathleen Taft 21 May 7 hours; 4 June 30 hours (storm damage); 21 June 10 hours; 29 July 6 hours; for a total 53 hrs.*
- 5) *Far-a-way Valley Loop on the north and to South 2nd Ave. John & Elizabeth Vollrath 19 May 6 hours; 22 June 3 hours; 22 Aug 2 ½ hours; 26 Oct. 3 hours for a total 14 1/2 hrs.*
- 6) *Second Ave. to Murray Creek and back: Dan/Pat Kohler and Virginia Feire/Karsten Crouse Dan/Pat Kohler: 20 May 2 1/2hours; 11 June 5 hours; 13 June 4 hours for 11 ½ hours. Karsten Crouse/Virginia Feire: 1July 4.5 hours; 29 August4 hrs. for a total of 9.5 hours.*

New Hope IAT and the Ski Hill: Bob Ellingson 15 hrs; son Mark 2 hrs.; 1 ½ hrs. Inter.; 2 Hours Adm.

- 2) *Mowing from CTY “Z” to the Brooks Woods: Gary Weir/Tammy Hunter 7 Tori 2 May 3 hrs.; 18 May 3hrs.; 2 June 2 hrs.; 7/7 2 hrs.; 7/18 2 hrs.; 7/25 2 hrs.; total 14 hrs.*
- 3) *CTY “T” to Krogwold Rd: Howard Harrington & Dan Kohler & George Guyant 11 April 3.5 hours; 6 June 5 hours ;4th quarter 12 hours; 2.5 hrs. adm. 3hours inter. Dan Kohler & George Guyant: 31 July 7.5 hrs.; 25 Sept. 7 hrs.; 24 Sept. 2 hours; T16.5 hrs.*
- 4) *CTY “T” to the Iola Ski Hill property: Paul Klein 1 ½ hr. + 4 hrs. for a total of 5 ½ hrs.*
- 5) *Iola Ski Hill Property: Phil Johnsrud: 4 hours*

ICE AGE ANNUAL HIKE IN 2009

This year the HIKE 09 started at the Iola Winter Sports Club to Sunset Lake Road. Two items of interest this year was the wooden chair with a "stick hiker" along the trail and Darrell Ruechel proposed to JoAnn Krueger on the IAT above Severson Lake.

Marty Wacker had the HIKE brochures and posters done by March of 2009; he reported that he made 1500 brochures and posters at a cost of \$108.50. Fewer brochures were duplicated this year for Waupaca County requested 300 brochures and Audubon (700+) designed a registration page in their newsletter and our P.C. IAT Chapter reduced the Hike brochure for our (500) newsletters.

Ruth Sommers was the P.C. Hike Chair while Debbie Krogwold was the W.C. Hike Chair. Sommers is a natural marketer; she had brochures at our Central Wisconsin events plus the cranberry festival and other hikes, walks in Stevens Point and surrounding counties she hiked on. Public and Parochial school systems were contacted as well as local businesses. About 20 volunteers helped her distribute brochures and posters. Sommers did a superb job getting the door prizes, gifts for the youngest and oldest hiker, and donations for the survival party. Sommers also made attractive labels for the door prizes; she was a super Portage County hike chair. The weather forecast did not help our attendance; however, those attending had a great time.

Preparations before Hike Day include monitor station items and the apples; pledge packets; \$50.00 donation gifts, VIPs for Hike Day, registration items were put together by Sommers and Freckmann. The Freckmanns set up the Iola Winter Sports Club the day before Hike Day. Sally Freckmann purchased the VIP gifts, registration gifts and helped Sommers with some of her marketing ideas.

Darrell Ruechel, Ruth Sommers, and others checked the hiking segment before Hike Day. Ruechel proposed to JoAnn Krueger on the IAT above Severson Lake on Hike Day and Fran McKinnley and Pat Sullivan met at one of our first annual hikes and are now married 18 years and attend our hike each year. Others who make our hike a tradition besides Ruechel, McKinnley, and Sullivan include Bob & Jen Glepf, Dale & Penny Schaber, Gary Weier, Bob & Sally Freckmann, Mike Kirk, Meryl & Stu Nelson, Kristy Harris, and Hooker-Moenda Family. If there are others, please let us know.

Portage County Hike Volunteers in 2009 besides Sommers and Freckmann include George Rogers, Betty Trainer, Marty Wacker, Joan Cantlin (she also played her guitar to the young children), Lora Hagen, Marge Graetz, Maureen Brocken, Jill Quinn, Bonnie Waack, Pat Kohler, Dennis Palmini, Bob Ellingson, Janie Miller, and Carol Kropidowski. Groomers included Bob & Mark Ellingson, Marty Wacker, Gary Weier & Tammy Hunter, Howard Harrington, Paul Klein, Phil Johnsrud, Dan Kohler, and George Guyant. Waupaca County had Butch Siegel get most of their door prizes and had five VIPs on Hike Day.

Groups attending the HIKE this year were UWSP Environmental Council (6); Gary Weiers class (5); Schierl Companies (2); and Iola Boy Scout Troop 631 (8). The youngest hikers were Shelby Morwich (4) from Waupaca and Cassandra Riehle (5) from Athens and the oldest hiker was Roland Genz (71) from Nekoosa and Bob Freckmann (70) from Stevens Point. Bob Freckmann and 3 UWSP Environmental Council members hiked the 12 miles while 12 other hikers hiked the 10 miles. Dale Schaber was our top pledge raiser this year \$685.00 and two couples donated \$50.00 Roland & Carol Moore and Kent & Sue Hall (Stevens Point).

Our hikers came from many places: Stevens Point, Waupaca, Janesville, Wausau, Bowler, Appleton, Ogdensburg, Nekoosa, Iola, Grand Chute, Bancroft, Milwaukee, Amherst, Rothschild, Blue Mounds, Fremont, Scandinavia, Plover, Rosholt, and Chicago and Willmette, Illinois and Rochester, Minnesota.

The hikers: 16 or 18 pre-registers and about 75-86 walk-ons for an estimated total of 87-91.

Portage County assumed the 7 hikers entering from CTY Z did not register, so we added them as hikers. We hope the forecast will be sun again in 2010 so we can have over 100 hikers on the first Saturday of October-October 2 with start point at Hartman Creek State Park shelter.

Check websites www.icagetrail.org or www.portagecoiat.org.



B., Trainer, D. Krogwold, R., Sommers
Photo by L. Hagen



Iola Boy Scout Troop #631



Monitor Station 1, M. Graetz, M. Brocken



Monitor Sta @Cty T, B. Waack, P. Kohler



Oldest Hiker Roland Genz, Nekoosa (L)



B. Glepf, Janesville-- regular annual hiker



Monitor Station, Krogwold Rd, J. Quinn

Photos by Patti Leiskow



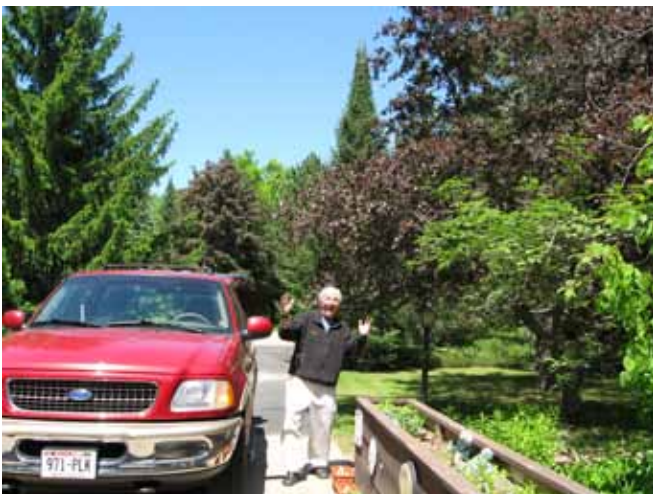
Monitor Station Cty Z, B. Ellingson, 3 UWSP Environmental Council hikers, J. Miller



Marty Wacker and Loretta Klingenberg working on new bicycle route



Portage County Cultural Festival Jo Seiser and Vicky Billings



David Pray and the library display



Dennis Palmi and his son, Andrew, bring back materials from Energy Fair at CWES

**Ice Age Trail Alliance, Inc.
(previously IAP&T Fdn.)
Portage County Chapter
871 W Oak Ridge Lane
Stevens Point, WI 54481**

**Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 56
Stevens Point, WI 54481**

Stop! Not interested
in receiving future
newsletters. Don't
just throw away.
Please call or write.
Thanks.

**ICE AGE TRAIL
By Patrick Perzynski**

**Away from the pastel
Horizon**

**Beyond the gate
Of the fallen cedar**

**Mother Nature lifts you
As you climb
The Glacial ridge**

**Wild tracks cross your path
To the court where Red Fox dance**

**Blackcap Chickadee
Wind chime melodies**

**Oak and Maple
Whisker to the wind**

**Juneberry ripe
Cranberry blossoms white**

**Oak leaves cross my toes
Like the riverbed below**

**Granite boulders revealed
Mammoths are forsaken**

**Mother Nature lifts you
As you continue
Along the glacial ridge**