

Mid-Trail Property Owners Association (MTPOA)



Spring 2023 Newsletter

Mid-Trail Updates — John Craddock, MTPOA President

- Save the date for the MTPOA annual meeting on Saturday, July 8, from 10:00-Noon at the Schaap Community Center, in person and via Zoom. Agenda will include a one-hour business meeting with Mid-Trail Updates, Treasurer Report, Gunflint Trail Volunteer Fire Department (GTVFD) Fundraiser Update, and Officer Election. We are also inviting speakers from Cook County (Sheriff, our County Commissioner, and County Assessor) to present updates and have Q&A. After the meeting adjourns people are welcome to stay for a potluck. Please bring a dish to share, your own utensils/plates/cup, and visit with neighbors. Coffee will be provided.
- County engineer Robbie Haas reports the RAISE road improvement grant for the Gunflint Trail has been submitted with a funding decision in June, 2023. An update will be shared at annual meeting.



Treasurer Report

Barbara Bridgeman

Your annual association dues are very important in supporting the Mid-Trail community. Another member benefit is receiving the Mid-Trail Directory (updated every two years). Any contact information updates can be emailed to Bill Keller at billkeller50@gmail.com. Please send your 2023 annual dues of \$30 per “cabinhold” (multiple owners of one cabin pay membership of \$30) to Barb Bridgeman at this address and make check payable to MTPOA: Barb Bridgeman, 7991 Gunflint Trail, Grand Marais, MN 55604. You may also pay your dues through Venmo (Venmo to: Barbara-Bridgeman or Barbara.j.bridgeman@gmail.com or 612-590-1704. Please note what your Venmo payment is for: MTPOA Dues or Raffle Tickets or GTVFD Donation). Enclosed with the spring newsletter are two raffle tickets (\$10 each). If you purchase them, you can submit the ticket stubs with the payment and your dues as noted above. Thank you for your support!

Dining Options on the Trail

- **White Pine Lodge** (formerly Big Bear Lodge):
<https://www.whitepinelodgemn.com/restaurant>
- **Clearwater Lodge:**
<https://clearwaterhistoriclodge.com/food-retail/clearwater-bakery-menu/>
- **Gunflint Lodge:**
<https://gunflint.com/dining/>
- **Hungry Jack Lodge:**
<https://hungryjacklodge.com/dining/>
- **Loon Lake Lodge:**
<https://visitloonlake.com/restaurant/>
- **Loons Nest Coffee:**
Season opens in June. Updates available at www.loonsnest.coffee
- **Poplar Haus:**
<https://poplarhaus.com/restaurant/>
- **Trail Center:**
<https://www.facebook.com/Trail-Center-Lodge-174036197719/>

2023 Fundraising for the GTVFD — *Deb Meyer and Patsy Coleman, Vice Presidents*

The following fundraising activities help support the GTVFD which relies on private donations to cover needs beyond their annual budget. We will join efforts again with Gunflint Lake Property Owners Association, Seagull/Sag Property Owners Association, and others for several activities such as listed here. For 2023, the GTVFD would like support for the purchase of three battery run ice augers, three reciprocating saws, and sprinkler system kits for structure protection.

➤ **Purchase Raffle Tickets:** (\$10 each) for the Quilt Raffle and Kayak Raffle. The quilt (see photos and more information on the facing page) will be on display and tickets sold the first three weekends in July at Trail Center. The kayak will be on display and kayak and quilt raffle tickets sold at Poplar Haus in June/July. Tickets are also available from Deb Meyer, meyerdj@me.com or Jody Preus, jodykpody@gmail.com. This year the kayak AND the quilt raffle winners will be drawn at the Canoe Races on July 19, 2023.

➤ **Gunflint Trail Postcards:** Come and get your Gunflint Trail postcards, featuring 10 stunning photos by local photographers; postcards will be sold in



10-packs for \$10. They will be sold along with the quilt and kayak raffle tickets the first three weekends in July at Trail Center and at the Canoe Races.

➤ **GTVFD Baseball Caps:** New this year we will have “We Support Our GTVFD” baseball caps with their logo on the front of the cap. They will be sold along with the quilt and kayak raffle tickets the first three weekends in July at Trail Center and at the Canoe Races.

➤ **Online Auction:** We will be having our online auction again this year starting on July 20 and running through July 30. Patsy Coleman is organizing and gathering auction items now so if you have higher priced quality items or experiences that you would like to donate, please contact Patsy at pbcoleman529@gmail.com.

➤ **Canoe Races:** Save the date of Wednesday, July 19, 4:00 PM at Gunflint Lodge for the 2023 Canoe Races! An organizing committee is hoping to involve people from up and down the Gunflint Trail for this fun event to celebrate our community, and to raise funds for the GTVFD. If you would like to volunteer for this event please contact Craig Kirchhoff, President of the Gunflint Lake Property Owners Association, at kirch010@umn.edu. There will be something for everyone:

- The on-line campaign for **T-Shirt purchases** will be active from Memorial Day (Monday, May 29) to June 30. A limited number of T-Shirts will also be available on-site at the Races, July 19.
- **Canoe Races** for multiple ages and abilities and plenty of space to cheer on your favorites from Trail resorts and outfitters. All are welcome to register onsite. Canoes and paddles provided. Bring your own life jacket.
- **The Trail Cup!** A little competition is a good thing at the Canoe Races. Teams sponsored by Outfitters and Resorts along the Trail will compete for the honor of displaying The Trail Cup Paddle for one year and, of course, “bragging rights.”
- A **Food Tent** with delicious, well-priced supper staples, prepared by the culinary team at Gunflint Lodge, will be available starting at 4:30 pm.
- **Raffle tickets** will be available and winners for the Kayak and the Gunflint Trail Stitches’ Quilt will be announced just after the last “fun-to-watch” Gunnell Pumping Canoe Race. Raffle tickets will be available at numerous resorts and outfitters, and from volunteers before the Races.
- The celebration of The Gunflint Trail continues at Poplar Haus who will host the second annual **Gunflint Trail After-Races Dance**. Join racers, friends and neighbors for a great way to end the evening on the glorious Gunflint Trail.

Information on how to participate with the above fundraisers will be posted on the Friends of the Gunflint Trail Fire Department Facebook page at www.facebook.com/groups/www.friendsofthegunflint-trailfiredept/ as well as on the GTVFD website: <https://www.gunflint911.org/>.



Of course, you can make a direct donation to the GTFD anytime to express your support. Send a check to: Gunflint Trail Fire Dept, ATTN: Barb Tuttle, 7401 Gunflint Trail, Grand Marais, MN 55604. Thank you for your support of our well-trained firefighters, EMR and EMT personnel serving our community through the GTFD!

Gunflint Trail Stitchers — Maggie Arko

The Stitchers group produced a 2023 raffle quilt to benefit the GTVFD called “Northern Connections”. The pictures on the front depict north woods icons and connections with our Gunflint Trail neighbors which made this quilt possible. The reverse side quilt pattern is called Contrary Husband and Ornerly Wife! It is queen size (94”x104”) and machine quilted by Carol Morgen. Enclosed with the spring newsletter are two raffle tickets (\$10 each) to purchase or sell. We also appreciate your promoting the sale of quilt raffle tickets (additional tickets to sell are available from Deb Meyer, meyerdj@me.com). *Please return the stubs and money to Barb Bridgeman, 7991 Gunflint Trail, Grand Marais, MN 55604. Make check payable to MTPOA.*

Come join a great group of people. All skill levels welcome. We will meet on Tuesdays at 1:00, beginning May 30, at the Schaap Community Center, Mid-Trail Fire Hall #1. If you have any questions, you may contact Maggie at tmarko502@gmail.com.



Fun Things to Do

The Schaap Community Center (next to Mid-Trail Fire Hall #1) is open (follow utilization guidelines posted). The Center’s calendar is at: http://www.gunflint911.org/comm_calendar.cfm. *Everyone* is always welcome to join in.

- **Chair Yoga:** Contact Barbara Platnick (bplatnick@gmail.com). Check the Gunflint Trail Fire Department website calendar for updated schedule.
- **Gunflint Trail Stitchers:** Tuesdays from 1:00-4:00, beginning May 30, 2023. Contact Maggie Arko (tmarko502@gmail.com)
- **Mah-Jongg:** Thursday afternoons 1:00-4:00, June 1 through August. Contact Krin Rauen (krinrauen@gmail.com)

- **Fiber Group** meets monthly. To add your name to the notification list, contact Cherlyn Morrison (redpinemorrison@gmail.com)
- **Book Group** meets monthly. Read any books you like. Contact Cherlyn Morrison as noted above.
- **Family History Group:** To add your name to the notification list, contact Patsy Coleman (pbcoleman529@gmail.com)



- **Chik-Wauk Museum and Nature Center** (Bonnie Schudy)
Opening day is May 27. The temporary exhibit this year is “Recognizing the Gifts of the Forest”, which is to focus on common plants of the region whose gifts have nourished, sheltered, and clothed human inhabitants for millennia. Presentations, Events, and Classes are being added to the website at <https://gunflinthistory.org/calendar/> and will be updated throughout the summer. The Gunflint Trail Historical Society spring newsletter should be in folk’s mailboxes around the middle of May. We are pleased to have the full staff back from last year, Mark, Bonnie, Kathy, Emma, and Jaymie with the addition of an Intern.

CCCoLA Update

Kathy Bogen, CCCoLA Chair and Patti Craddock

The Cook County Coalition of Lake Associations met on March 3, 2023. The Steering Committee will organize the priorities suggested by the membership (listed below) to be addressed at the April Zoom meeting and four in-person summer meetings. The dates and locations of the in-person meetings are as follows (all meetings begin at 9:00am CDT):

- June 2nd – Schaap Community Center
- July 7th – Cook County Community Center
- August 4th – Schaap Community Center
- September 8th – Cook County Community Center

We will attempt to have the meetings available via Zoom but as of this date we do not have the details worked out.

CCCoLA 2023 Priorities:

1. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)
2. “Get the Lead Out” campaign to change out lead containing tackle

3. **Wake Boards.** Note: ordinance passed a month ago. There was a follow-up meeting on March 14th. The DNR has 120 days to consider the ordinance.

4. **Lake Zoning**

5. **0 Waste Committee** (Denny Fitzpatrick)

6. **Involvement in Earth Day 2024**

7. **Variance Requests**

8. **Publicity/Outreach**

More CCCoLA information is at <http://cookcountycola.mnlakesanddrivers.org/home/current-news>

Please feel free to contact Kathy Bogen with any questions you may have about the upcoming CCCoLA meetings or general information about CCCoLA: (218) 940-1593 or kathybogen@msn.com



Firewise News

Firewise information is found at <http://cookcountyfirewise.org/>

If you have questions, please contact: firewise@co.cook.mn.us or 218-370-8966.

Remembering Our Neighbors

Mary Alice Blewett Kloek, 76, died on March 1, 2023, after seven years of cancer treatment. Mary was a gardener, crafter, bicyclist and dear friend to many people. She and her husband of 57 years, Kenneth, have a cabin on Poplar Lake. Mary is survived by her husband Kenneth, her three daughters Krispen, April and Jennifer and their families. A celebration of Mary's life was held in May.

Tom Hendrickson, 88, passed away on April 3 at the VA Hospital following 10 days of treatment for pneumonia. His wife and daughters were with him for several hours before he passed. His children and grandchildren visited as well. He had great and sympathetic care from his medical staff at the VA. Linda and Tom own the property on Hungry Jack Lake that includes the original Swanson's Lodge and outbuildings.

2023 MTPOA OFFICERS CONTACTS

President: John Craddock, craddock.irnp@gmail.com
Co-Vice President: Deb Meyer, meyerdj@me.com
Co-Vice President: Patsy Coleman, pbcoleman529@gmail.com
Past President: Carol Berg, carolyberg@gmail.com
Treasurer: Barbara Bridgeman, barbara.j.bridgeman@gmail.com
Recording Secretary: Maggie Arko, tmarko502@gmail.com
Communications Secretary: Bill Keller, billkeller50@gmail.com

We want to acknowledge in our newsletters the passing of any Mid-Trail neighbors during the year, so please send information to Lee Zopff at lzopff@gmail.com