



Turtle Tracks

Official Newsletter of the Maah Daah Hey Trail Association



Volume 15, Issue 2

President's Message

Hey, **MAAH DAAH HEY** that is, welcome and on to another year of the MDHTA. We had the Annual Meeting in Watford City in April and we have some news from that event. First we want to congratulate the **Mayers** on their service to the MDHTA for the last 13 years, 10 as President for **Don**. Thanks **Don**, and to **Susan** for holding up the important end by keeping Don going in a straight line. I know you will still be around to help with jobs in the future to further the MDH management. Thanks again. I also want to thank **Bruce Bishop**, along with **Roger Ashley**, for helping get the info from the Forest Service (FS) and making the water cache system what it is today. Just two to go and we will have the MDH covered with eight stations. The real help came from the Roundup grants we received from the **Roughrider Electric Coop** over the last 2 years. Thank You REC. Last but not least we owe a **BIG THANK YOU** to **Nick Ybarra** and his workers for the all the maintenance on the MDH this past season, if it were not for him and his volunteers no maintenance would have occurred on the trail last year. More coordination will be done this season with the FS to help them get back on board as the primary maintainer of the trail on Forest Service managed

lands.

The National Park Service (NPS) reported they will be getting a new bridge on MDH in at the Knutson Creek crossing. Last year the site was flooded with a 5 inch rain and all materials and supplies were washed away, so the second time should be a charm. Also the NPS centennial is in 2016 so stay tuned on activities. The FS reported they have hired a trail Manager named **Greg Morel** so now a temporary crew may be a possibility in 2015. Congrats to Greg. The FS was successful in getting more RTP money from the State Park and Recreation, so things are still looking up there to surface more of the MDH south of Sully Creek and restore and surface some of the MDH north of Sully Creek.

News from the State Park and Rec was that the final easements for the trail connection to Sully Creek from Hellicksons should be in place in May. Then construction from Sully Creek to Bully Pulpit will be started this summer. This will connect the trail all the way to Burning Coal Vein, then that will only leave some 17 miles into Amidon as originally planned back in 2006.

We plan on a **National Trails Day**

(Continued on page 3)

Inside this issue:

<i>Trails Day—June</i>	2
<i>Water Cache Box Update</i>	2
<i>Membership Recognition</i>	3
<i>Website Update</i>	3
<i>MDHTA Membership & Renewal</i>	4
<i>MDH 100 Update</i>	5
<i>Dates to Remember</i>	6

Special points of interest:

- *Join us for Trails Day, June 6 near Medora.*
- *There are now 13 Life-Time Members of the MDHTA*

Celebrate National Trails Day on the Maah Daah Hey Trial – 9 am MST – Saturday, June 6

by Don Mayer



On Saturday, June 6, the Maah Daah Hey Trail Association (MDHTA) and the USDA Forest Service will be hosting a celebration of National Trails Day on the Maah Daah Hey Trail (MDHT) south of I-94 west of Medora. MDHTA President Curt Glasoe said, “This is a great way for dedicated volunteers, outdoor enthusiasts, trail lovers, and those new to the outdoors to give back to trails and pay it forward by introducing someone new to the outdoors.” Individuals and groups interested in participating in this year’s program should contact MDHTA President Curt Glasoe at (701) 260-9459 or email him at curtglasoe@ndsupernet.com. Curt Glasoe said, “This will help us plan to have enough food, drinks, tools, and trail prizes for all who attend.”



Individuals interested in participating should plan to meet where the Maah Daah Hey Trail crosses Pacific Avenue south of I-94 Exit 24. Participants traveling from the east can take Medora I-94 Exit 27. Travel through Medora, continue west across the Little Missouri bridge, and follow the signs. The program begins at 9:00 am MST and concludes by 2:30 pm MST. Participants will receive lunch, a T-shirt, and an opportunity to win trail merchandise provided by sponsors American Hiking Society, MDHTA, Adventure Medical Kits, Columbia, Hi-Tec, Therm-A-Rest, Eddie Bauer, Brooks Range Mountaineering, and Save the Redwoods League. This year’s project will be surfacing parts of the MDHT near the Andrews Creek Crossing.



Water Cache Box Update

by Roger Ashley & Bruce Bishop

Earlier this spring it was reported that one of the water cache boxes had slipped off the concrete slab footing used to set the cache box on. Water cache boxes have been or will be staked down to keep them from sliding off the concrete slab footings. Locations of the six water cache boxes placed last August was reported in the Fall



2014 issue (Volume 14, Issue 3), page 6, of *Turtle Tracks*. If you misplaced that issue of *Turtle Tracks*, location information can be found on the MDHTA Facebook page, April 12, 2015, posting and when the new MDHTA website becomes available users will be able to find location information on it too. Signage has been

added to aid in finding the boxes out in the field. A sign with a blue water drop on the turtle’s back is posted on a trail marker nearest the water cache box and the trail head parking lot/road. Also, a reminder on how to cache water properly is affixed to each box. When you store water in the cache box be sure you write your name and date on the container. Some donated water may be available in the boxes. However trail users should not count on it and should either cache water ahead of their activity or make arrangements with a trail support service to be assured water is there when needed. Fuel should never be stored in water cache boxes. The Association has ordered two additional water cache boxes that will be placed at the end of May or beginning of June. When these boxes are placed, the locations will be updated on the MDHTA website as well as the Facebook page.



Membership Recognition—Thank You!

Life Members:

Ken Eberts
Curt & Carol Glasoe
Dale & Jennifer Heglund
Mark Liebig
Ron & Aileen Luethe
Don & Susan Mayer
Medora Convention and Visitors Bureau
Charles & Sandra Peterson
Brian Selland
Dwight & Loa Tober
Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation
Glennys Ulschak
Nick & Lindsey Ybarra

Trail Boss:

Stephen & Janet Wieser

Founding:

Curtis Alkire
Bruce & Roberta Bishop
Dickinson Convention & Visitors Center
Kelly Krohn
ND Department of Commerce/Tourism
Darcy Sandstrom
Kevin Stankiewicz
Robert C. Stein
Larry & Freida Tebelius

Website Update

If you have searched for the MDHTA website you may get a “The webpage cannot be found.” The website is being brought up to date and we hope will soon provide the information you are looking for. Until then you can find the MDHTA Facebook page. Bruce Bishop is monitoring the Facebook

page and is working to provide information requested by users. Notice of the new website will be sent out to members we have an email address for when the new site is available.

President's Message (Continued from page 1)

event in the Medora area after consultation with the FS. Don Mayer is the leader of this event so more about it in this Newsletter. The website is being updated as is the MDHTA brochure, so wait till later this summer to see those results.

The big event on the MDH this summer will be the **MDH100** race, already over 320 riders have signed up with a maximum of 400 allowed for this event. The race has four lengths to compete, and the record for the 100 mile bike time set last year is 8 hours 56 minutes and 22 seconds so start your training now. Volunteers can contact MDHTA or the website at MDH100 or Nick Ybarra to get on the roster. The new officer slate is Curt

Glasoe - President, Rod Mitzel - Vice President, Nick Ybarra - Second Vice President, Bruce Bishop - Secretary and Roger Ashley - Treasurer. Next Board meeting will be on Trails Day at lunch time.

Hope spring is treating you well and summer will be a great time to spend a few days/hours on the MDH system. It is there for your free use.

Happy Trails, Curtis W. Glasoe, President



Membership Application

Yes! I want to join the
Maah Daah Hey Trail Association

- \$25 Individual/Family Member
- \$70 Individual/Family Member for 3 years
- \$75 Founding Member Cap or Tshirt S M L XL
- \$200 Trail Boss Member - S M L XL
- \$500 Mile Marker Member
- \$750 Gatekeeper Member
- \$1000 Life Member

*Make checks payable to:
MDHTA, P. O., Box 156, Bismarck, ND 58502*

PLEASE PRINT

Date: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Membership and Renewal Options

Please check your mailing label for your membership level (I/F, F, T, M, G, Life) and expiration date. If your membership has expired or about to expire please complete the membership form and return it along with your check to MDHTA.

- ◆ \$25 Individual/Family Member ANNUAL
- ◆ \$70 Individual/Family Member 3 YRS
- ◆ \$75 Founding Membership ANNUAL
(choose a cap or T shirt)
- ◆ \$200 Trail Boss Membership ANNUAL
(denim shirt with MDHTA Trail Boss imprint)

- ◆ \$500 Mile Marker Membership ANNUAL
(Plaque with your name on a trail mile marker post)
- ◆ \$750 Gatekeeper Membership ANNUAL
(Plaque with your name on a trail gate)
- ◆ \$1000 Life Member LIFETIME
(Mile marker and gate plaques)

In addition all Memberships from Trail Boss through Life Members will receive special acknowledgment in every newsletter and on the MDHT website.

MDH 100 Update

by Nick Ybarra

On August 1st, Legendary Adventures New Discoveries (LAND), will host their 4th Annual Maah Daah Hey 100 mountain bike race, under a special use permit with the USFS. Racers will travel thousands of miles to come and experience the Maah Daah Hey trail. When company is coming over for a visit, everyone wants their house to be looking at its best. LAND takes a lot of pride in North Dakota's very own world famous single track trail. Over the past few years LAND has coordinated with the USFS and Dakota Cyclery to organize hundreds and hundreds of volunteer hours maintaining our prized trail. As always hard work pays off. Last year LAND helped improve the trail from "unfindable" because of landslides, thick overgrown vegetation, and underuse to findable, rideable, and enjoyable for all trail users.

We truly believe that we host "The RADDEST race, in the BADDEST place." As of the 1st of May we have over 320 participants signed up and registered to participate in one of the four races that make up the MDH100. Our goal is to help as many people as possible experience the trail in a positive way. Our MDH100 race has evolved into four distances that cater to a broad range of mountain bike enthusiasts. Riders can choose to ride & race 25, 50, 75, or 100 miles of the Maah Daah Hey. All of the races finish in the historic town of Medora ND.

The race absolutely could not happen without lots of volunteers! We have had a lot of help over the past few years. As the MDH100 continues to grow so will our need for volunteers. If you have helped in the past, we would love to have you back! If you are interested in helping out for the first time we can assure you it is a lot of fun. Our biggest need on race day is

people out on the Maah Daah Hey where it intersects with the backcountry roads. So if you have your own vehicle, you know how to pack enough food for an all day picnic, and you like to spend time outside in the badlands you could be a Maah Daah Hey 100 volunteer at one of our road crossing checkpoints. We always enjoy having people with medical experience at our three major Aid Stations and Finish line. If you have any medical training and are interested in helping we would be honored to have your service at our event. We have not had any serious injuries at our races yet and hope to continue that record forever, but accidents do hap-



pen. If you have any military or wilderness training and would like to be on standby to assist EMT's with any emergency trail rescues our racers would appreciate having you around on race day. If you are a professional or recreational photographer we believe the more photo's the bet-

ter! There are lots of places with breath-taking views on the trail that photographers could volunteer to take pictures of racers. If you have horses and would like to be involved in the race, we have a few good places on the trail where it's nice to have you pointing the way to racers, like on the Little Missouri River Crossing.

If you would like to be involved in the Maah Daah Hey 100 Race Series in anyway, please go to our website, experienceLAND.org, and fill out the volunteer form. It is going to be a great year for using the Maah Daah Hey, LAND hopes to make experiencing the trail easier and more enjoyable for all trail users.

**Maah Daah Hey Trail
Association**

PO Box 156
Bismarck, ND 58502

E-mail: info@mdhta.com

We're on the Web!
mdhta.com



**MAAH DAAH HEY TRAIL ASSOCIATION
Officers and Board of Directors**

President—Curt Glasoe
Vice President—Rod Mitzel
Second Vice President—Nick Ybarra
Secretary—Bruce Bishop
Treasurer—Roger Ashley

Dates to Remember

May 24	Badlands Gravel Battle (experienceland.org)
June 6	National Trails Day
August 1	Maah Daah Hey 100 (experienceland.org)
August 8	Badlands 50/50

The Maah Daah Hey Trail Association is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing and maintaining a linear, non-motorized, sustainable, recreational trail system in southwest North Dakota, through voluntary and public involvement, and in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service.