



On November 11, FNRT remembered the late Peter Oren Crowell, an FNRT board member from New London, by riding the Northern Rail Trail from Potter Place north toward Danbury in the Second Annual Peter Crowell Ride. It was a blustery but sunny morning, one that Peter Crowell would have enjoyed with his grandchildren, two of whom are in the bike trailer in the photo. A combination of Crowell family members and FNRT volunteers commemorated Peter's indomitable spirit and his love of bicycling, the rail trail, and the outdoors. Pictured are Myra Mayman, Board secretary; Peter Crowell's son, Ben, with his son Corbin and nephew Hunter in the trailer; Ben's wife, Abby Crowell; FNRT volunteer Chris Norris of East Andover; and FNRT Board member Steve Darling of Andover. Caption and photo: Lindy Heim.

Friends of the Northern Rail Trail

November 16

Present: Alex Bernhard, Pecco Beaufays, Craig Heim, Lindy Heim, Charles Martin, Myra Mayman, Chris Norris, Steve Rayno, Peter Southworth, Nita Tomaszewski,

Marc Davis, and Carolyn Stoddard of the *Intertown Record*

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 18 (no December meeting)

Treasurer's Report: The estimate of total costs for the new section of trail is \$32,000 – under budget.

Old Business

Recreational Trails Program: Alex moved to authorize Nita to submit a proposal for building an additional two miles of trail with a "stretch goal" of three miles to the Gerrish Depot site on Route 3 in Boscawen if we can raise the additional funds.

Nita is ready to do the paperwork, and discussion centered on how much trail we can build if we receive the RTP grant. Nita noted building three miles of trail gets to the Merrimack County Nursing Home (the Gerrish Depot), which would be a good end point because it has parking and porta-potties. Craig felt we should only build as much trail as the grant allowed.

The motion was approved and passed. Chris noted that our grader operator, Eddie, may not be available. Nita commented that we need a bigger volunteer crew for building the next section.

Action Items: Steve is making progress on the bike raffle and will be selling raffle tickets at the Andover Snowmobile

Club. Steve requested that FNRT be a stronger presence at the club's Saturday, January 28 fund raiser as well as at the Snow Fest on Saturday, February 11.

Steve also updated us on the Frank-



FNRT volunteer Ed Hiller demonstrates the attention to detail that has been involved in his project of repainting the old Northern Railroad mileposts on the rail trail. 26 mileposts have been painstakingly restored using vintage fonts. Other rail trail volunteers, including Steve Robinson, Rickie Miller, and Steve Rayno, have cleared the areas around them in preparation. These markers "give a feeling of historical significance to the rail corridor, and also provide trail users with an idea of where they are and how far they have come," Ed says.

Caption and photo: Lindy Heim

lin clean-up as well as the repair of the train "turntable" and truck ruts north of Holy Cross Road from the last trail building.

See FNRT on page 17

NH Hunters Asked To "Hunt For The Hungry"

New Hampshire Fish & Game press release

Successful hunters who are willing to help the less fortunate can donate venison to the New Hampshire Food Bank through the "Hunt for the Hungry" program. For more information on how to donate, call the food bank at 669-9725 or visit NHFoodBank.org. If you're donating a whole deer, you can bring it to Lemay & Sons Beef in Goffstown (622-0022), and they will process it for the food bank at no charge.



Nature from page 14

as information in the author's clear and elegant prose and drawings.

Bushnell Backtrack Personal Locator. Frank Baker introduced me to this handy GPS device which allows you to mark your position when you begin a walk by hitting one button. Hours later, after wandering around in the woods, you hit another button, and the gadget shows the distance and direction back to your start. It works just as well for locating your car in a mall or airport parking lot!

Moultrie M80 Game Spy Camera. How about a motion detection camera you can mount on a post or a tree in the woods and capture wildlife in action? The camera has infrared capability allowing it to photograph at night, too. Ed and Becky Hiller's camera is mounted at a perfect spot along one of the trails in their woods, and they are enjoying the results.

Please remember to send me your observations, photographs, and nature tips at AndoverNaturally@gmail.com so I can include them in next month's column.



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