



Volume 30 Issue 1

Rails to Trails of Central PA Inc.

Spring 2025

WELCOME TO 2025

First, I will apologize for the lack of newsletters last year. Due to life getting in the way of getting things done and shortage of volunteers, the newsletter got pushed to the side. For that, I apologize and will try to do better.

Now just because there was no newsletter that does not mean things were not accomplished. On the contrary, our maintenance volunteers, as always, did, and continue to do an outstanding job maintaining the trail. The board and officers have continued to work to expand the trail both east and west, as well as taking care of the day-to-day operations of the organization.

(Now some old business):

RAFFLE WINNERS:



Thank you to all who supported this year's raffle. The drawing for the raffle winners was held prior to the start of the June 11th Board meeting.

Winners were:

- 1st Prize: Spokes-n-Skis Gift Card
Sharon Heinbaugh, from Duncansville
- 2nd Prize: Hoss's Gift Card
Kim Pannabaker from Port Matilda
- 3rd Prize: Martins General Store Gift Card
Joseph Reffner from Williamsburg
- 4th Prize: Martins General Store Gift Card
Bruce Sheehe from Altoona
- 5th Prize: Martins General Store Gift Card
Monica Richers-Kelly from Altoona
- 6th Prize: Martins General Store Gift Card
Jan Bussard from Williamsburg
- 7th Prize: Martins General Store Gift Card
Iris Mittendorf from Tyrone
- 8th Prize: Martins General Store Gift Card
Darla Shawver from Lewistown

- 9th Prize: The Dream Gift Card
Kim Pannabaker from Port Matilda
- 10th Prize: Beech Tree Café Gift Card
David Goll from Huntingdon
- 11th Prize: Best Way Pizza Gift Card
Wyatt Musselman from James Creek
- 12th Prize: Belly Busters Gift Card
Denny Shaw from Hollidaysburg
- 13th Prize: Freedom Excursions Gift Card
Gary Stiffler from Williamsburg
- 14th Prize: Jimmy John's Gift Card
Mary Petrak from Hollidaysburg
- 15th Prize: Prime Sirloin Gift Card
Martin Scherden from Hollidaysburg
- 16th Prize: US Hotel Gift Card
Bob Richers from Altoona
- 17th Prize: US Hotel Gift Card
Cindy Baney from Hollidaysburg
- 18th Prize: US Hotel Gift Card
Ralph Zajac from Portage
- 19th Prize: ACE Hardware Gift Card
George Foster
- 20th Prize: Diner 22 Gift Card
Jeff Seamens from State College
- 21st Prize: Diner 22 Gift Card
Debbie Hoy from Tyrone
- 22nd Prize: Boro Coffee Gift Card
Elizabeth Wilt from Lilly
- 23rd Prize: The Dream Gift Card
Gary Patterson from Hollidaysburg
- 24th Prize: Beech Tree Café' Gift Card
Carl Granlund from Huntingdon
- 25th Prize: Best Way Pizza Gift Card
George Foster from Hollidaysburg
- 26th Prize: Biddles Brewery Gift Card
Tom Fisher from Williamsburg
- 27th Prize: Black Dog Café Gift Card
Iris Mittendorf from Huntingdon
- 28th Prize: Black Dog Café Gift Card
John Sysko from Pittsburgh

- 29th Prize: Hat & Mug from Biddles Brewery
Lorraine Hamilton from Neelyton
- 30th Prize: Best Way Gift Card
Rebecca Whitesell from Bellefonte
- 31st Prize: Best Way Gift Card
Denny Shaw from Hollidaysburg
- 32nd Prize: Best Way Gift Card
Robert Weidemer from State College
- 33rd Prize Boro Coffee Gift Card
Christine Gojmerac from Roaring Spring

We did have TWO top ticket sellers again this year. The same two as last year but they reversed first and second place. Tim Gildea was our top ticket salesperson, selling 320 tickets! Tom Fisher was our second place ticket salesperson, selling 210 tickets. Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!!!

This annual fundraiser would not have been possible without you, our members and the fantastic businesses that support Rails to Trails. Please remember to support these businesses throughout the year: **SPOKES N SKIS, MARTIN GENERAL STORE, HOSS'S, DINER 22, BELLY BUSTERS, THE DREAM RESTURANT, BEECH TREE CAFÉ, BESTWAY PIZZA, US HOTEL, FREEDOM EXCURSIONS, JIMMY JOHN'S, PRIME SIRLOIN, ACE FIX IT HARDWARE, BIDDLES BREWING, BLACK DOG CAFÉ and BORO COFFEE.**

RAFFLE 2025

I realize this is odd with just posting last year's winners and now starting this year's raffle information but we are playing a little catch-up. So, once again



You should have received your fifteen raffle tickets with this newsletter. If you did not, please let us know.

The raffle is our major fundraiser, providing a large percentage of our annual operating budget. It is also a way for you to renew your membership. By returning your ticket stubs and money, you extend your membership by one year. This applies to all memberships. For example, even if yours does not expire until January 2026, by selling the tickets, your expiration date would move to January 2027. If you do not wish to extend your membership, you may use the ticket sales to give a membership to someone else as a gift.

We understand that not all individuals feel comfortable participating in raffles, let alone fundraisers. If you do not wish to receive tickets, please let us know. If you did receive tickets and do not wish to participate, please accept our

apologies. You may either return the tickets or destroy them.

We are certainly grateful for every individual's support, either by renewing your membership as it expires, or by participating in this fundraiser. Tickets again this year are \$2.00 apiece. Ticket stubs and checks may be mailed to Rails-to-Trails, PO Box 592, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact Vickie Brua at vicbrua@atlanticbb.net or Jennifer Barefoot at 814-695-8521 or by e-mail at jbsunbrook@gmail.com. Thank you!

Drawing will take place Tuesday, **August 12th**, prior to the August monthly Board Meeting.

We are blessed to have such wonderful businesses that support Rails to Trails through their donation of prizes and/or gift certificates. It is our hope that you patronize these businesses throughout the year for they are graciously supporting Rails to Trails.

RAILS TO TRAILS THANKS....

The Central Pennsylvania community Foundation and Glenn O Hawbaker:



In the beginning of June 2024. Rails to Trails received a generous grant from The Central Pennsylvania Community Foundation, (CPCF) The CPCF oversees a number of trusts administering grants from these trusts. This year we were very fortunate to receive a grant from the

T. Dean Lower and Jane Young Lower Trust. We do our best to keep our equipment in good working order but age and use does eventually take its toll. As noted in the previous article, equipment and fuel costs have increased dramatically. With this grant, Rails to Trails was able to purchase a Kubota Zero-Turn Mower and a new shed replacing our equipment shed at the Grannas Station.



GLENN O HAWBAKER HELPS WITH A MAJOR TRAIL PROBLEM:

We would like to thank Glenn O Hawbaker for donating machine operator

Mark Hawn's time and this very handy piece of equipment. Many have noticed the trail starting to heave-up in places, caused by roots under the trail surface. It is not an easy fix without expensive equipment. Hawbakers realized our dilemma and came to the rescue. We cannot thank them enough for this generous donation.

2025 Elections

The election for the Board of Directors and officers was not held in the January, the January meeting was canceled due to icy and subzero freezing conditions. Elections did take place in February. The board seats that expired this year were: Jennifer Barefoot, Adam Bergstein, Hazel Bilka Mary Emeigh, and Adam Grow. Mary Emeigh and Adam Grow had elected to not run again for another three years. Also Karl King whose term expires the end of 2025 elected to step down from his position on the board. All three of these individuals have been extreme assets to the organization from its foundation. All three have been moved to Emeritus status for they still have so much to offer and teach us. With that said, elections were held. Jennifer Barefoot, Adam Bergstein and Hazel Bilka were re-elected for a three-year term. Filling Mary Emeigh and Adam Grow's seats are Teddie Kreitz and Perry Smith. Filling Karl King's un-expired term is Steve McKnight. These are 3 fantastic individuals with so much to offer. Teddie is not new to the board. She served many years, she worked for Keller Engineers and when we had projects that Keller's oversaw, she stepped down so we would not have a conflict of interest. Teddie is now retired from Keller's and back with us. Many of you would recognize Perry if you saw him. He's always on the trail, and seems to have a sixth sense knowing the minute there is a problem on the trail, (trees down, sinkholes etc/). Perry not only volunteers on the trail but has been very instrumental in working to expand the trail eastward through Alexandria. Steve McKnight's name may be familiar for he is President of ABCD Corporation and is very instrumental in working to get a Trail Authority established in Blair County, which would help us in trying to expand the trail westward. We are very grateful that Mary, Adam and Karl have all agreed to continue to stay on in emeritus status for we still have so much to learn from them. We also welcome Teddie, Perry and Steve.

Following the elections to the board, elections were held for the 2025 officers. They are as follows: President: Adam Bergstein, Vice President: Mike Panek, Secretary: Tim Gildea, Treasurer: Sarah Gonsman, Assistant Secretary: Jennifer Barefoot and Assistant Treasurer: Joe Cleary.

PLANNING AN EVENT ON THE TRAIL???

Throughout the year, the trail is used for many 5K fundraising events for different organizations. We have never charged a fee for organizations hosting the events. All we ask is for the organizations to contact us. We need to get information from you as well as to go over rules and regulations we would like you to adhere to. We need to know the date, time and location you wish to hold the event, allowing us to post it on our Website (www.rttcpa.org)

under Calendar of Events and even link it to the event. That way trail users can check what is happening on the trail.

Here is the PROBLEM. Over the past two years, organizations have just held their events. never clearing the date with us. At some point, two groups are going to try holding a 5K event at the same time and trailhead. If this occurs, the organization that has cleared the date with us and is on our Calendar of Events will be the organization that will have that date.

Please, if your church, scouting group, or civic organization is planning to host an event on the trail, contact Rails to Trails of Central PA to clear the time, date and location with us.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (____) - _____

E-mail _____

_____ New Membership _____ Renewal

_____ Individual	\$15.00
_____ Family	\$20.00
_____ Supporting	\$50.00
_____ Group	\$75.00

I am interested in:

_____ Horses	_____ Hiking
_____ Heritage	_____ Bicycling
_____ Nature Study	_____ Jogging
_____ Other	

I would like to help by volunteering for:

Make checks payable to:

Rails-to-Trails of Central PA Inc.
PO Box 592,
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648
www.rttcpa.org





RAILS-TO-TRAILS, INC.
OF CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA
P.O. Box 592
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

Nonprofit Organization

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

Altoona, PA 16601

PERMIT NO. 66

Or Current Resident.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 13th 2025

May 14 thru 16

June 10h 2025

August 12th, 2025

Monthly Board Meeting, 7 PM at the Grannas Station

Hollidaysburg High School Community Days on the Trail

Monthly Board Meeting 7 PM at the Grannas Station

Raffle Drawing and Monthly Board Meeting, 7 PM at the Grannas Station

Please check our Calendar of Events page on our website (www.rttcpa.org) to keep up to date, for other events that may be taking place on the trail hosted by other organizations

KEEP YOUR ADDRESS CURRENT

This newsletter is mailed 3rd Class Bulk Mail. The Post Office will not forward 3rd Class Bulk Mail. If anything about your address changes, Route Number, Street Numbers, or Zip code, the Trail Trekker will not be forwarded to you. Please keep Rails-to-Trails informed of any address changes by using a post office change of address card or dropping us a note at the address below.

Remember, if your mailing address is Highlighted, your membership is about to expire. Please renew quickly and continue to support Rails-to-Trails. Thank You!

Rails-to-Trails of Central Pennsylvania, Inc.
Post Office Box 592
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648-0592
814-317-9728
www.rttcpa.org