



## CAIRN STONE 2025 NEWSLETTER



**TO:** SCOTLAND, UP NORTH & TRAINING PARTNERS  
**FROM:** COACH RON GUNN  
**DATE:** February 11, 2025  
574.215.4779

Ron@CairnStoneTours.com

### GREAT HUSTLE ON HIKE THE JACK!

**HIKE THE JACK:** We had a nice turnout trek the beautiful sculptures and mansions of Dowagiac. I appreciated everyone's attitude on this urban hike to beat the ice. Special thanks go to Jay and Kathy Crouch, Jeff Gunn, Thom Janssen and the Dowagiac Elks Lodge.

**BONUS HIKE: Morris Farms-**I love my Cairn Stone hikers and I am organizing a special Valentine Hike for this **Saturday, February 15** to Morris Farms. We will start the hikes in downtown Niles at the **Iron Shoe Distillery** at **10:00AM**. Hike distances will be 10.8, 8.7, 7.7 and 5.5 miles on the all road Morris Farms route. Morris Farms has been a very popular *early season* challenge for Cairn Stone hikers for several years. Jay and Kathy Crouch and their daughter Erin have been very helpful in setting up this bonus hike. Your hike will finish where it started at this wonderful restaurant.

**PARKING:** Please don't park in front of the Iron Shoe so we don't scare customers away. Park on the street or a nearby parking lot.

**DIRECTIONS:** The Iron Shoe (3 N. Third Street, Niles, MI) (Park on Broadway or 3<sup>rd</sup> or in the Hardings' lot)

**VALENTINE TREAT:** Valentine's Day is Friday and though a day late, I want everybody to be my valentine! I will award a *Caruso's* handmade chocolate covered strawberry to every finisher.



**2025 THISTLE TREKKERS:** Please let Thom know that you have completed your ETA. Also review all the notes on the **Travel Tips** page to help prepare for your stay in and travel to Scotland.