

CAIRN STONE TRAINING NEWSLETTER

TO: Utah Trekkers & Training Partners
FROM: Coach Ron Gunn
DATE: November 12, 2020

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CAIRN STONE HIKERS ENJOY BEAUTIFUL DEBUT!



POKAGON STATE PARK: Some 40 plus hikers exclaimed our new course at Pokagon State Park was a *keeper!* Everyone enjoyed a beautiful Indian summer day and gained valuable maintenance conditioning. A giant shout out goes to Jay and Kate Crouch and Larry Lies for their dedicated help on setting up the course and taking down the course markings. Not one person got lost on this sometimes tricky course!

SAUGATUCK ZIG ZAG: Our next training opportunity will be a bonus hike starting at the **Mt. Baldhead parking lot this Saturday, November 14.** This is also a wonderful new hike with several trails that have never been hiked before in our previous treks here. I feel that *mile for mile* it may be our most beautiful hike as it concludes with an amazing trail that features a dynamite view point – *The Crow's Nest*. The hike is only 6.1 miles but can be doubled or enhanced by an adjacent lakeshore hike of over 5.0 miles. The hikes will start at **9:00AM** and socially distanced starts will continue until **10:00AM**. This hike is 95% trails and has very little sand. I also suggest a trekking pole for some non technical step downs. The restrooms are closed at Mt. Baldhead and Oval Beach but for everyone coming from the south there is a great rest stop on I-196 just 12 miles from the trailhead. The weather forecast for Saturday is very good – cloudy and in the high 40's. Bring your own water and trail snacks but I will have bottled water and packaged Windmill cookies at the trailhead.

DIRECTIONS: Mt. Baldhead Park, 735 Park St, Saugatuck, MI

FUTURE TRIPS: I am setting a new policy for date of registration. I use registration dates as a seniority list when determining trip rosters and wait lists. Up to now we followed a loose policy of keeping the registration form submission date – this assumed the deposit would soon follow. Most have been timely about following up with a deposit but some have not. **The new policy is simply to use your deposit submission date as your date of registration.** This is straightforward and I think fair.

For Grand Canyon and Scotland I will allow any procrastinators to get their deposit in to keep the registration form submission date if we receive it **before December 1.** Knowing how many are seriously interested in a trip is essential to the deposits I must pay and preparations I must make in advance to plan and price each trip. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

[Contact Thom@CairnStoneTours.com if you have any trip status questions.]

“The hike to the Crow's Nest is fabulous!”

Kathy Flynn

