#### VOL. 4 ISSUE 6 JANUARY 2025





#### **Cheers to 30 Years: Let's Celebrate the Legacy of Eric and Angela** YOU ARE INVITED: MAKE YOUR PLANS TO JOIN US

On Saturday, March 15th at 3:00 PM, we're celebrating 30 years of Eric Anderson and Angela Santini running ABR!

Join us for an afternoon of food and fun as we commemorate this milestone. We'll be grilling up brats and burgers, enjoying a beer by the bonfire, sharing memories, and having some friendly competition with a few games.

Note: The games will begin earlier in the day, stay tuned to social media for additional game details but rumor has it that the famous "wife carry competition" the biathlon (without bullets) and the sprint races are being scheduled!

Please RSVP so we can ensure there's plenty of food and drinks for everyone. Plus, by RSVPing, you'll be automatically entered to win one of our exciting door prizes!

Eric and Angela can't wait to celebrate with you!

You're Invited:

- Location: ABR Trailhead
- Date and Time: Saturday, March 15th at 3:00 PM
- Games: Throughout the day, starting at 10 am
- Activities: Beer, brats, burgers, bonfire, games, shared memories
- Importance of RSVP: Food preparation and door prize entry





RSVP Here: https://abrtrails.com/blog/cheers-to-30-years-lets-celebrate-the-legacy-of-eric-and-angela/

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## For a Limited Time: Your Gift is Doubled!

SUPPORT THE ABR TRAILS FOUNDATION BY FEBRUARY 28TH AND A GENEROUS SPONSOR WILL MATCH EVERY DONATION DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR!

The Dr. Nathan and Holly Van Zeeland family have put out a generous offer to match all Founder's Circle donations up to \$20,000 if you donate to the ABR Trails Foundation by the end of February.

Your support will not only preserve the trails you love but also create a lasting impact. Have your name, an honoree, or memorial etched permanently on the Founder's Circle wall at the trailhead, a symbol of your commitment to the future of ABR and create your own Nordic Legacy.





#### **Double Your Impact Today**

Donate to the ABR Trails Foundation through February and a generous sponsor will DOUBLE your gift.

#### Join & Place Your Name on the Founder's Circle Wall

#### Join the Legacy of the **Founder's Circle**



\$5,000



ANGELA'S STORY





\$1,000





The Founder's Circle will help ensure the legacy of the ABR Trails Foundation for generations to come.



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## **Continuing Our Vision & Your Nordic Legacy**



# FOUNDER'S CIRCLE SUPPORTER



Yes, I want to become a Founder's Circle supporter and help us ensure Anderson Bluffs & River Trails Foundation's future legacy as the Midwest's premier Nordic ski destination.

Please call 906-262-0122 or email us at giving@abrtrails.com to discuss your giving.

Checks can be mailed to: ABR Trails Foundation E5299 West Pioneer Road, Ironwood, MI 49938

Plea	ase include the following information with your check:
	Please Select Your Donation Level:Bronze \$1,000Silver \$2,500Gold \$5,000
	First and Last Name(s):
	Street Address:
	City: Postal Code: State: Postal Code:
	Email Address:
	Telephone Number:
-	ow how you'd like your recognition written on the donor wall, please include the name(s) he
Optional	: Please tell us why you've decided to donate to the Founder's Circle:
•	: We would love to hear your favorite ABR Memory:

Thank you for your generous support of the ABR Nordic Legacy.

#### Happy Birthday to Eric on February 13th! AUTHOR: SCOTT ANDERSON

In February Eric celebrates another birthday. Another trip around the sun. As we age, those trips seem to take less time but are more worthy of recognition and celebration. Eric has impacted so many lives and I hope that you all will join me in wishing him the happiest of birthdays. If you see him on the ski trails or around Ironwood, please give him a warm birthday wish. Maybe send him a card to remind him that he is remembered and loved.

Eric and I were born two years apart and so were very close growing up in Ironwood. We shared a bedroom in the family farmhouse until I left to attend Michigan Tech. I have such great memories of good times!

As life separated us and we began our journeys to different engineering careers, time and space made it more difficult to stay in touch on a regular basis. We lived thousands of miles apart and were separated by five time zones. We saw each other about once a year and would share three or four phone calls. But distance never diminished the unspoken love and bonds we shared. Loving brothers always!

Our father and mother instilled in us the value of family commitment. It was an Anderson priority and will always be so. As our lives moved in different directions, our contacts became more infrequent. Around 2015 we committed to more frequent communication. What a blessing that decision has been! We are very alike with our approach to engineering but remain uniquely different as individuals. We recognize our differences as opportunities to rely upon each other's strengths and differing perspectives. We share victories, failures, problems, and solutions regularly. Eric is a rock that I depend upon and is always available whenever I need him.

In 2022 our dad passed and we became even closer. Mom visits my family in Texas each year. I smile when I think of the times Mom and I would stop in mid-conversation as I interrupted to take a phone call from Eric. The glow of love and happiness on her face as she realized her boy's relationship was strong and lasting is something I will always treasure. Loving that her sons were "getting along."

After Eric's heart attack in 2018, he told me about he and Angela's wish to donate their life's work to a non-profit foundation, now known as the Anderson Bluffs & River Trails Foundation. I immediately offered to help and became the first Foundation volunteer. I remain intricately involved and treasure the opportunity to be closely involved with my brother's life. I am so proud of Eric's and Angela's gift of a lifetime!



#### SCOTT AND ERIC ANDERSON



SCOTT, DAVE, & ERIC ANDERSON

FOUNDATION

Happy birthday brother! I enjoy each day as your brother and love you!

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PICTURED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: SUE SCHROEDER, WILL ANDRESEN, GREG GREENE, ERIC ANDERSON, CLAY DIGGINS, RANDY AHNEN, MISSI KING, KRISTI REITZ, AND EMILY FITTING

## **Meet Our Board of Directors**

#### FOUNDATION LEADERS

We are a small team of talented professionals with a wide range of skills and experience. We love what we do, and we do it with passion. Our entire board of directors has enjoyed skiing and snowshoeing at ABR for several years and recognizes the profound value it holds for a wide community of people from Ironwood to the midwest, to across the country, and beyond!

Every board member is committed to working hard towards our vision to Sustain the ABR legacy as the Midwest's premier Nordic ski destination and to connect ABR trails to the larger community.

## Learn More About our Board Members

Board of Directors Biographies

## Join Our Nordic Community & Learn More About Our Mission, Vision, and Core Values:

Subscribe to our

Visit Our Website



Follow Us on Social Media







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# SUSTAINING OUR NORDIC COMMUNITY

## **Donate Today**

BE A PART FROM THE START

We've developed the following efforts to assist in the funding of continued top-level grooming, ski operations, and capital improvement/advancement projects.

- Founder's Circle
- Honor Your Trail
- Legacy Giving
- IRA Rollover Gift (QCD/ RMD)
- PistenBully Campaign
- In-Kind Donations
- Volunteering

## Learn More About How You Can Help



Get in touch: giving@abrtrails.com

#### Our Meaningful Vision

Sustain the ABR legacy as the Midwest's premier Nordic ski destination and connect ABR trails to the larger community.



FOUNDATION







# Register Now: Summer Solstice Bird Walks

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 20TH & SATURDAY, JUNE 21ST

Three bird hikes over two days will be led by Larry and Nancy Dolphin and Friends. These hikes will be a casual saunter on the ABR trails searching for birds establishing residence.

Both Friday and Saturday mornings at 6:30 am, we will meet at North Up, the Dolphin cabin on Hendrickson Rd. Also, on Friday evening beginning at 8:30 pm there will be a Summer Solstice Owl call meeting at the entrance of Norrie Park. The focus on all three hikes will be to identify birds by sight and sound. Leaves will be on the trees and shrubs, so sound birding will be the predominant identifier. Because of the diverse habitat, many species of warblers will likely be heard and seen. We will be walking mostly on ABR trails. Following the early morning hikes, there will be coffee and bakery available for your pleasure at the ABR Trails trailhead.



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN, SCAN THE QR CODE OR <u>CLICK HERE</u> TO REGISTER.



## Work Bee Volunteers Needed

FUTURE WORK BEES WILL BE ANNOUNCED SOON

Give back to the Foundation and enjoy the great outdoors! We have a variety of exciting volunteer opportunities coming up that will benefit everyone.

- Trail Work: Help maintain our beautiful trails by assisting with trail clearing and other tasks.
- Firewood Cutting, Splitting, & Stacking: Lend a hand in preparing for the colder months by helping to process firewood.
- Cabin Cleaning & Painting: Freshen up our cabins for future use by assisting with painting, general cleaning, and maintenance tasks.

Stay tuned for specific dates and times for these upcoming events!



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