



VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS

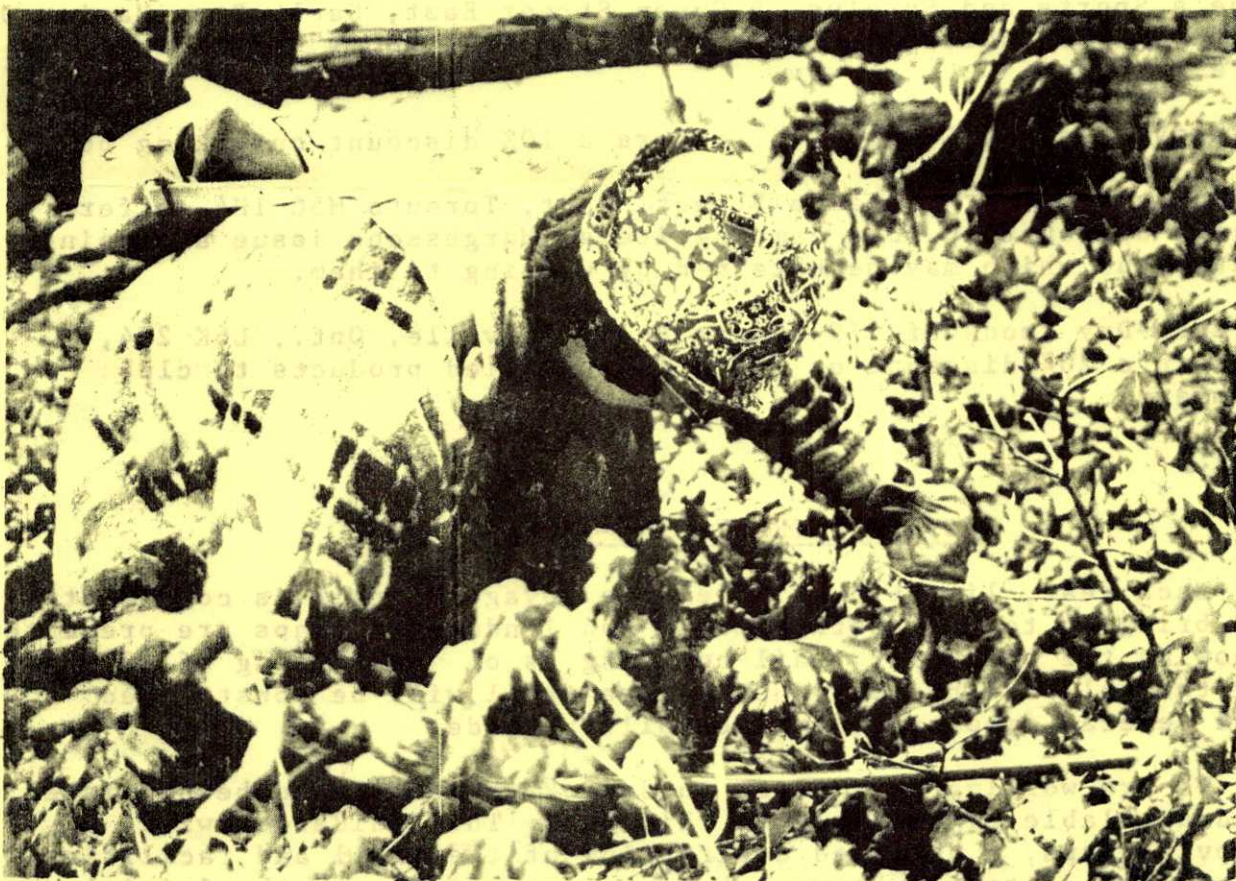
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BOX 66, SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO P6A 5L2

NUMBER 10

1978 04 15

BARB TRIPLETT



This is known as getting
close to your work.

EDITOR RETIRES

Dr. K.J. Griffiths, under whose guidance the Voyageur Trail News has grown over its first few years, has been forced to give up his duties as Editor. Our sincere thanks to you, Ken, for your fine efforts in our formative years.

This newsletter is presently without an Editor, so if there is anybody out there who could assist in this capacity, PLEASE write or phone (254-4791) and let us know. The work is really not that onerous.

DISCOUNTS TO HIKERS

On presentation of a current membership card, the following businesses offer a discount to V.T.A. members.

Joe's Sports and Surplus, 9 Queen Street East, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., offers a 10% discount. Sales items and all "Woods" brand articles are excluded.

Kinney Shoes of Canada Ltd. offers a 10% discount on hiking boots.

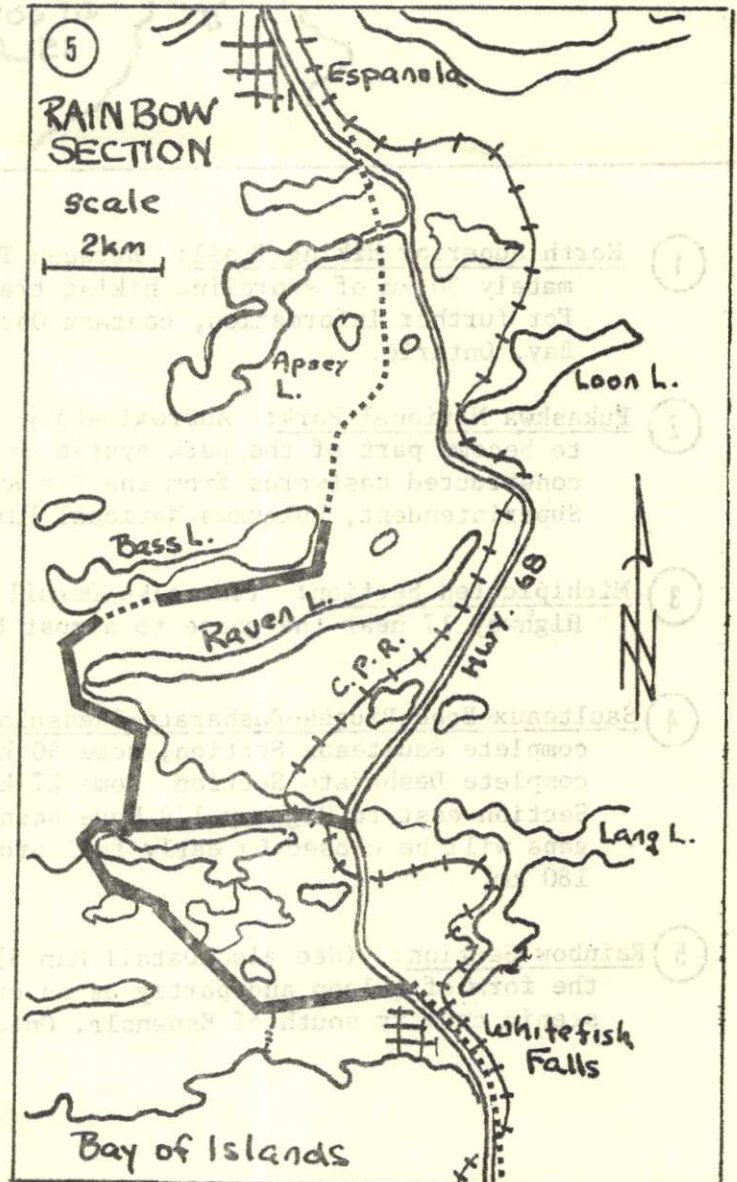
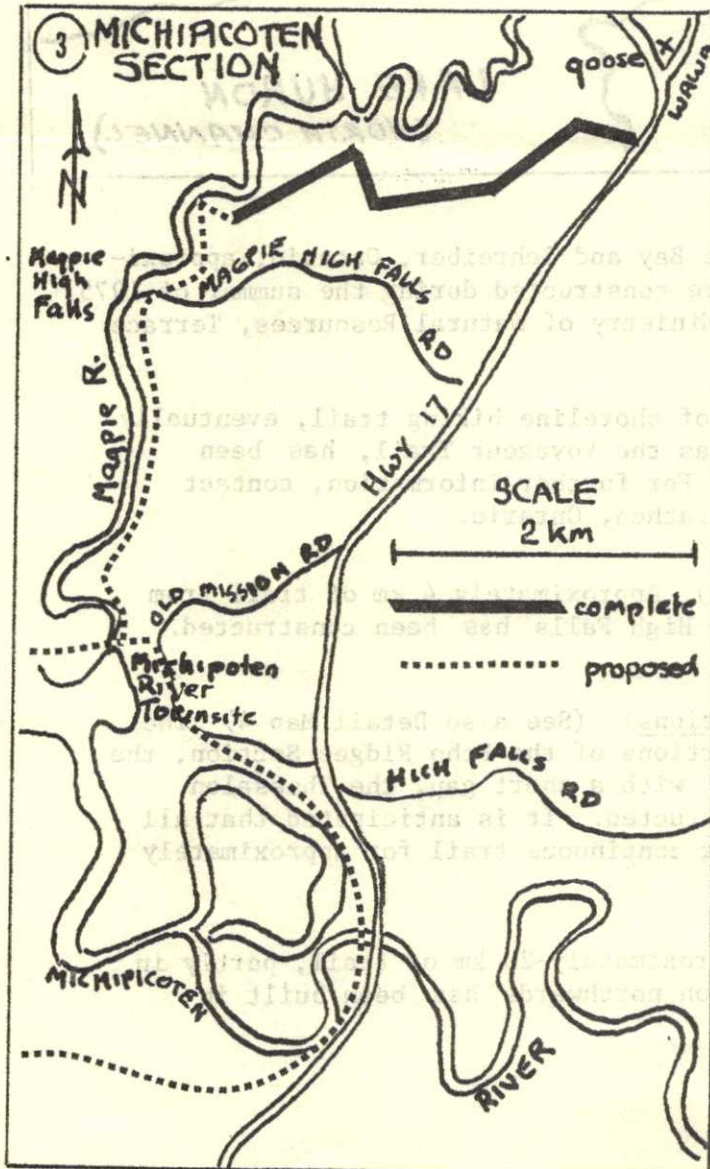
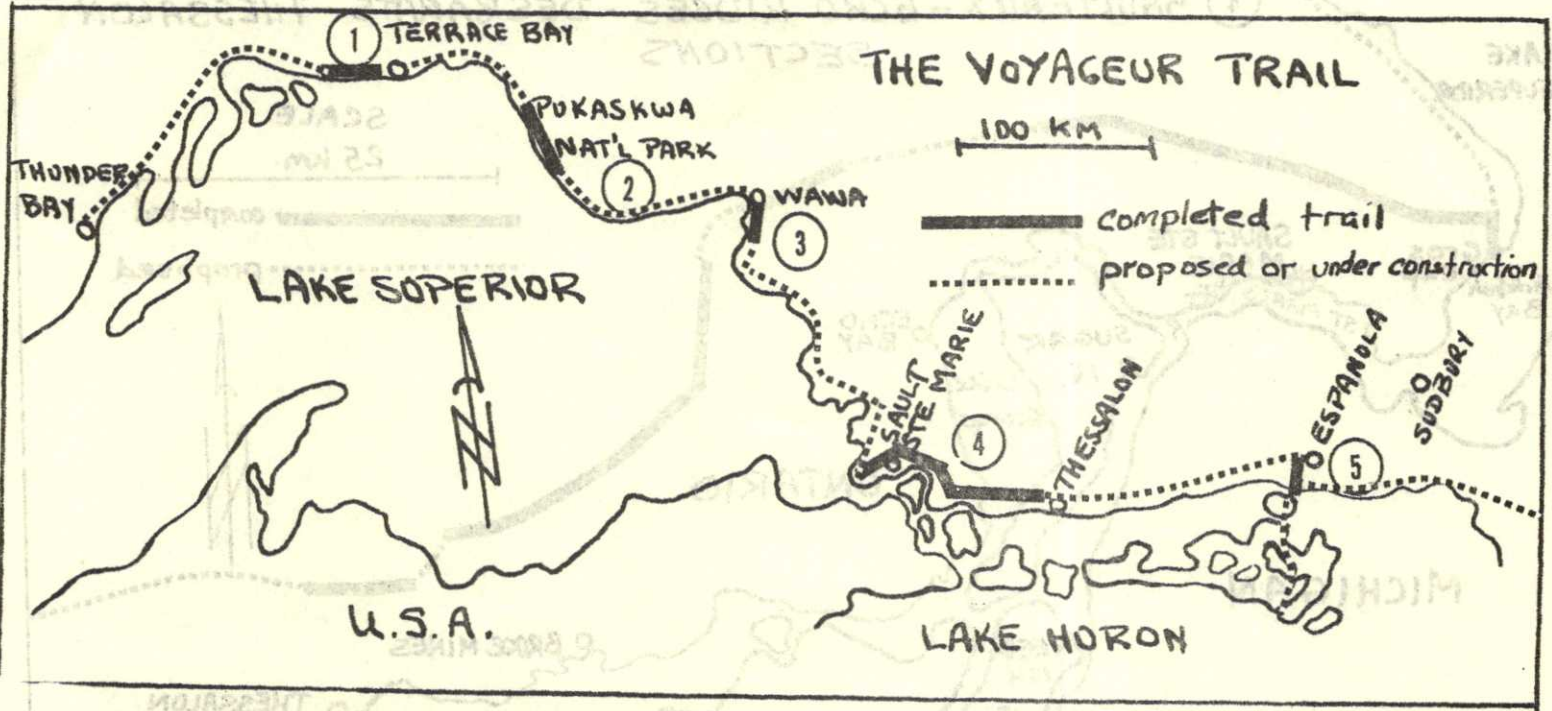
Margessons of 17 Adelaide Street East, Toronto M5C 1H4, offers a 10% discount on most camping items. Margessons issue a camping catalogue which may be obtained by writing to them.

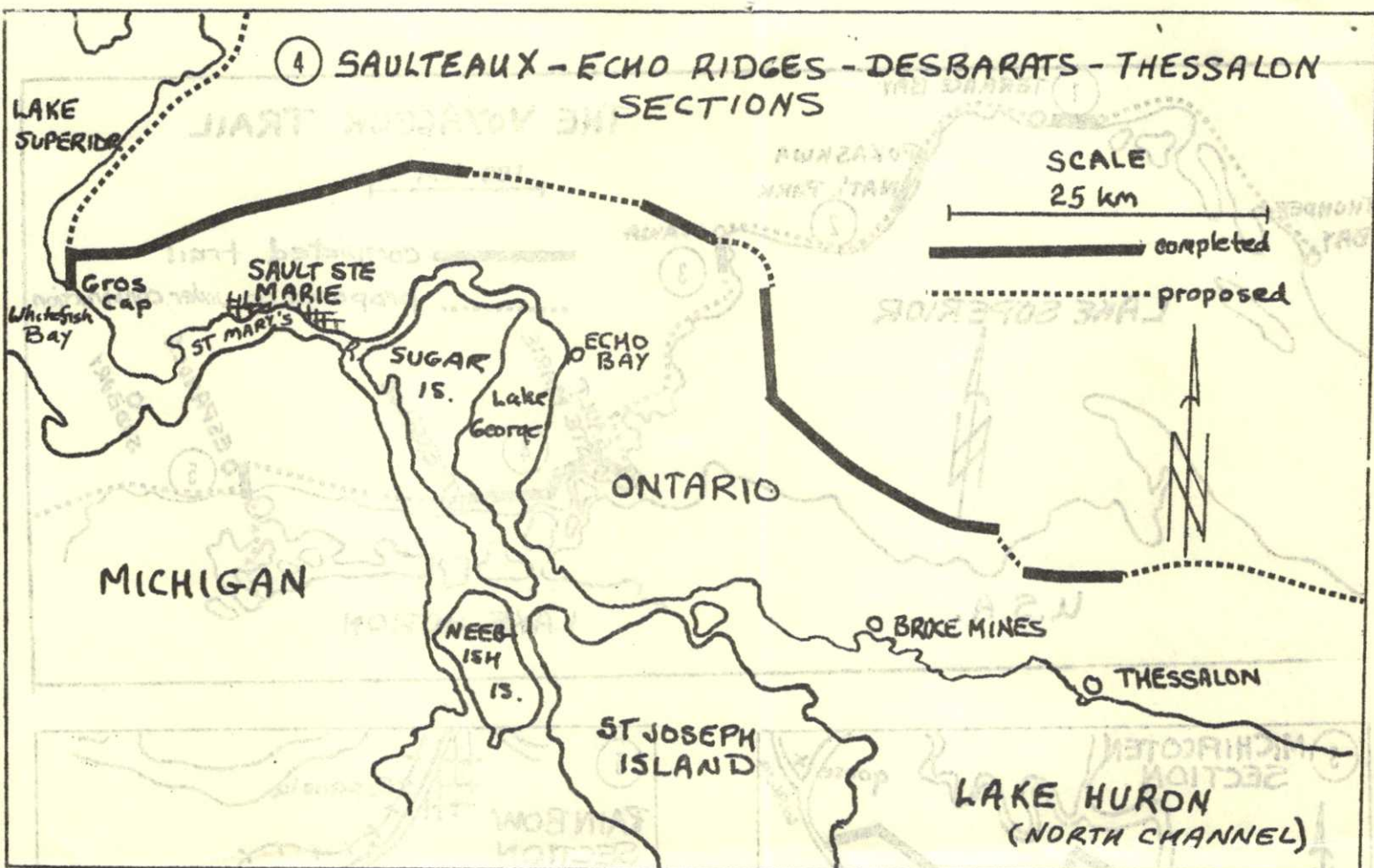
Freeze-Dry Foods of 579 Speers Road, Oakville, Ont., L6K 2G4, offers a 20% discount on their freeze-dried products to club members.

STATUS OF THE TRAIL - SPRING, 1978

Each year, little by little, more Voyageur Trail is constructed. To bring up to date both members and landowners, maps are presented showing the status of trail-building as of the spring of 1978. By the fall of this year, even more trail will be constructed and several important linkages will be made.

We are working on a first guidebook, hopefully to be published and available by the fall of this year. This guidebook will provide maps, a detailed description of the trail and facilities, including distances between known points. Although the initial guidebook will be limited to only the completed sections, provisions will be made to provide owners of this first guidebook with additions as they become available.





- ① North Superior Hiking Trail: Between Terrace Bay and Schreiber, Ontario, approximately 30 km of shoreline hiking trail were constructed during the summer of 1975. For further information, contact Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Terrace Bay, Ontario.
- ② Pukaskwa National Park: Approximately 30 km of shoreline hiking trail, eventually to become part of the park system as well as the Voyageur Trail, has been constructed eastwards from the Pic River. For further information, contact Superintendent, Pukaskwa National Park, Marathon, Ontario.
- ③ Michipicoten Section: (See also Detail Map 3) Approximately 4 km of trail from Highway 17 near the goose to almost Magpie High Falls has been constructed.
- ④ Saulteaux-Echo Ridges-Desbarats-Thessalon Sections: (See also Detail Map 4) The complete Saulteaux Section, some 50 km, portions of the Echo Ridges Section, the complete Desbarats Section, some 27 km and with a short gap, the Thessalon Section east to Highway 129 have been constructed. It is anticipated that all gaps will be closed by early fall providing continuous trail for approximately 180 km.
- ⑤ Rainbow Section: (See also Detail Map 5) Approximately 20 km of trail, partly in the form of a loop and partly as an extension northwards has been built in scenic country south of Espanola, Ontario.

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F.O.H.T.A. FEST: 1980

The Federation of Ontario Hiking Trail Associations (F.O.H.T.A.) is planning to hold a gala convention for Ontario hikers in May or June of 1980. This will be a weekend affair, probably running from Friday evening to Sunday evening, and will be held at a centre (as yet unselected) which combines meeting and eating facilities for 600 to 700 people, convenient nearby campgrounds, dormitory facilities and proximity to good hiking trails.

The primary objectives of this convention are political, informational and social. Firstly, we want to make the hiking fraternity visible so that our image is that of a significant portion of Society and so that attention may be focussed on our needs and aspirations. Secondly, a convention like this gives a tremendous opportunity for each of us to share the knowledge and expertise of others, and to increase our awareness of Ontario's excellent hiking trails. Thirdly, we want to get to know one another a bit better. Hikers are a friendly lot, particularly with others who share our interest, and the enjoyment of social activities together will undoubtedly help to cement new friendships.

To attract such a number, we recognize that the programme must appeal to all ages. Besides a nationally or internationally known keynote speaker, workshops on "how to do it", trail tours via slide shows, interesting hikes, and fun social evenings will be part of the agenda.

At the moment, our need is for volunteers, from right across the Province, to form the necessary organizational committees. If you would be interested in helping to plan the first-ever F.O.H.T.A. Convention, please write or telephone the Convention Director, Douglas Knapp, at 32 Gretna Green, Kingston, Ont., K7M 3J2 (1-613-542-2039) to indicate the committees with which you would be interested in working. After collecting names of all volunteers, Doug. will assign each to one of the committees stipulated, according to geographical proximity with fellow committee members.

The committees needed are as follows:

- (a) Programme: Chairman, Ralph Wood, lives in Toronto area and will need many volunteers (12-20) from this region to help.
- (b) Locations: Chairman, Robert Fanning, lives in the Guelph area. Only two or three additional committee members will be needed.
- (c) Publicity: A fairly large committee (8-12). Please volunteer.
- (d) Finance: A small committee (3-5). Please volunteer.
- (e) Accommodations: Medium-sized committee (5-8 people). Please volunteer.
- (f) Displays: Medium size also. Please volunteer.
- (g) Registration: Medium size also. Please volunteer.

If you have any specific ideas or recommendations that might help the work of any of these committees and thus help ensure the success of this convention, please communicate these with your Association's F.O.H.T.A. delegate (Paul Syme or Ralph Wood) or with Doug. Knapp.

If you are interested in serving on the "Programme" or "Locations" Committee, please contact the respective chairmen directly:

Programme Committee Chairman: Ralph Wood, (1-416-741-3399)
21 Waltham Drive,
Thistletown, Ontario, M9V 1S6

Locations Committee Chairman: Robert Fanning, (1-519-824-9826)
37 North Street,
Guelph, Ontario, N1H 5J6.

HELP WANTED

The Voyageur Trail Association is forming a Publicity Committee. If you feel that you would like to contribute to this committee, or if you are interested, please call or write Paul Syme, 254-4791.

REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

The committee planned a series of hikes for the spring and summer season of 1977 and then later for the fall and winter months. A total of 11 hikes were arranged along different parts of the trail from Wawa to Sudbury. Some variety was attempted in length, mode of travel (i.e. feet, skis or snowshoes), time of day and whether lunch was taken or not.

The Ontario Hiking Day at Gros Cap on Oct. 2, a beautiful bright warm day, was very well attended and several new members were signed up. Distinctive arm bands worn by the 'hike marshalls' were a helpful innovation. Strangers to the trail could tell at a glance from whom to seek directions.

The New Year's Day walk was another great success in great weather. An abundance of snow made skis or snowshoes a necessity, and Bert Dearing had made and re-made an excellent ski trail.

Echo Ridges Ski Trip: A mix-up in times resulted in a cancelled trip. Our apologies to anyone who might have been left waiting.

Carpin Beach Road Trip: Barb Triplett had a good turnout and some excellent skiing.

Thessalon Ski Hike: Don Fulton led a small group of enthusiastic skiers on a trip in the west end of the Thessalon Section.

Desbarats Snowshoe Hike: Dieter Ropke reported a small turnout of interested snowshoers who enjoyed themselves thoroughly on the Desbarats Section.

Your committee is grateful to the leaders who gave their time and effort to make the trips possible and successful. Input from the members on ideas and preferences for hikes or other activities has been welcomed. We are sure the new committee will receive the same support and co-operation and will be anxious to hear any suggestions for future activities.

- Eve Kersey.

VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION SUMMER ACTIVITIES 1978

May 7,
Sunday
1.30 P.M. Conservation Week Public Hike. Because of easy access and good parking, we will meet at Camp Korah (Nettleton Lake) which is at the head of Goulais Ave. north of Second Line. (Sault Ste. Marie).

Spring flowers should be in full bloom by then and hikers are asked not to pick any of them. Leave them for the people coming after you to see and enjoy.

Wear walking shoes or boots.

Coffee will be served at the Camp Korah site after the walk.

Cars will not be shuttled so you may walk as far along the trail as you wish and then return.

May 27
Saturday
9 A.M. Echo Ridges Trail. South of Weyerhaeuser Road. A newly finished part of the Voyageur Trail - very beautiful, wild, rough and isolated.

Meet: At Hiawatha Lodge Parking Lot.

Bring Lunch.

Leader: Tom Allinson. Phone 256-8742

Distance of hike: 4.5 km.

June 10
Saturday
8.30 A.M. Desbarats Trail -relocated along the heights.

Meet: Churchill plaza near Suny Gas Bar at 8.30.

We will have a second meeting at 9.30 A.M. at junction of Gordon Lake road and Hwy. 638 (Sylvan Valley).

Bring lunch and bug dope.

Leader: Bill Gunn.

Distance of hike: 10km.

July 11
Tuesday
6 P.M. An evening hike. After the heat of the day is over, the long evening gives us plenty of time for a good walk.

Meet: On the Carpin Beach Road at the Second Line.

Leader: Bert Dearing. Phone 256-7796

Bring insect repellent.

Distance of hike: 4.5 km. There will be a car shuttle.

Aug. 15
Tuesday
6 P.M. Evening hike.

Meet: At Old Goulais Bay Road and 4th Line. We will be walking east. A car will be at the Schultz Road to return drivers to their cars.

Leaders: Horst Wetzl. Phone 254-4618. Ernie Pringle. Phone 253-6988.

Distance of hike: 4.3 km.

Sept. 16
Saturday
8.30 A.M. Kirkwood Forest Hike through a pine plantation.

Meet: Churchill Plaza, Suny Gas Bar. Thence to Rydal Bank for 9.30 A.M.

Leaders: Don Fulton, Father Megan.

Bring lunch and insect repellent.

Distance: By car, return, 160 km (100 miles).

Two walks, 3.2 km and 8 km.

Oct. 1
Sunday
2 P.M. Ontario Hiking Day, 1978. Saulteaux Section - probably at Gros Cap. More information on this and perhaps on other sections in the next newsletter.

THE TRAIL USERS' CODE - IN DEPTH (2)

"Build fires only in the places provided, or better still, carry a lightweight hiker's stove."

FIRE - it is one of the greatest concerns of our landowners, including our biggest landowner, the Province of Ontario. And rightly so! People are a major cause of forest fires in Ontario according to the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Day hikers really have little cause to have a fire. Admittedly, on a cold day, a bit of hot soup, tea or coffee sits well, but a small hiker's stove is much quicker - and safer. Quicker yet is a thermos flask. A wood fire is nice to watch, but extremely dangerous if not properly made and put out. Even if properly extinguished, the charcoal left on or beside the trail, besides being unsightly, is an invitation to someone else to follow suit - and they might not be so careful! Remember too, that fire can burn underground if the soil is highly organic or if there are dead roots nearby. One often sees signs of fires in crevices in rocks, but that is also often where roots of trees are, in areas of sparse soil. Embers falling into a deep crevice from the bottom of a fire may land on roots at the bottom, unbeknown to the people watching the fire. It may be very difficult to know that you have extinguished all the embers when you cannot even see them.

Overnight hikers, of course, will often want a fire for warmth and cooking. Again, a lightweight stove is faster and safer, although with little charm. In an authorized campsite, designated in the pending guidebook, there will be suitable areas to build an open fire. But even here, keep the fire small and don't cut living trees or shrubs for fuel. Also, always keep some water handy near a camp-fire.

Always build your fires according to the instructions on the sheet enclosed with this newsletter and never build an open fire on the trail.

Remember, it is fire season in the forest from April 1 to October 31 and careless use of fire is an offense - and offensive.

Be a responsible hiker.

P.D. Syme

SPECIALISED SERVICES

Sport Sewing Shop of 1659 Bayview Ave., Suite 201, Toronto, Ont., M4G 3C1, Telephone 1-416-486-9666, specializes in repairs to down-filled items, back-packs, tents, harness, etc. They also can supply specialized fabrics, zippers for sleeping bags, etc, webbing and fasteners. Free sewing advice is also offered.



VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION

THE TRAIL USERS CODE

- Hike only along marked routes. -Do not climb fences, use the stiles.
- Carry out all garbage (if you can carry it in, you can carry it out).
- Light cooking fires at official campsites only - drench fires after use (better still, carry lightweight hiker's stove).
- Leave flowers and plants for others to enjoy.
- Never strip bark from trees. -Protect and do not disturb wildlife.
- Keep dogs on the leash on or near farmland.
- Walk around the edges of fields, not across them.
- Leave only your thanks and take nothing but photographs.

VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER ROSTER

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Bridge-building | 8. Map-making | 14. Editorial Work |
| 2. Carpentry | 9. Publicity | 15. Typing |
| 3. Stone Masonry | 10. Display Designing | 16. Legal Advice |
| 4. Trail Maintenance | 11. Photos and Slides | 17. Correspondence |
| 5. Trail Building | Clearing House | 18. Envelope Stuffing |
| 6. Contacting | 12. Fund-raising | 19. Serve on Board of |
| Landowners | 13. Publications | own club or V.T.A. |
| 7. Leading Hikes | | 20. Other |

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Sections (please check)

- ☐ Association-at-large
- ☐ Saulteaux V.T.C.
- ☐ Echo Ridges V.T.C.
- ☐ Desbarats V.T.C.
- ☐ Thessalon V.T.C.
- ☐ Iron Bridge
- ☐ Penewobikong V.T.C.
- ☐ Spanish
- ☐ Massey
- ☐ Rainbow V.T.C.
- ☐ Sudbury
- ☐ Little Current
- ☐ Sheguiandah
- ☐ South Baymouth

- ☐ Thunder Bay
- ☐ Nipigon
- ☐ Terrace Bay
- ☐ Marathon
- ☐ Pukaskwa Park
- ☐ Wawa V.T.C.
- ☐ Lake Superior Park
- ☐ Batchawana
- ☐ Goulais

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTAL CODE _____

PHONE (home) _____

(business) _____

DECLARATION

I have read and will abide by the TRAIL USERS CODE

(signature) _____

(date) _____

FEES

- ☐ Individual \$ 5.00
- ☐ Family \$ 5.00
- ☐ Student \$ 2.00
- ☐ Crests \$ _____ (\$ 1.00 each)
- ☐ Donations \$ _____ (receipt for income tax purposes will be sent)

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

SIGN UP A FRIEND