



NO. 114 SPRING 2013

Published by the

VOYAGEUR TRAIL

ASSOCIATION

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Visit our web site at:
www.voyageurtrail.ca

Email address: info@voyageurtrail.ca

The Voyageur Trail Association is a non-profit, volunteer group dedicated to building and maintaining a public hiking trail along the northern shores of Lakes Superior and Huron, from Thunder Bay to Sudbury.

The VTA is a member of Hike Canada En Marche, Hike Ontario, Ontario Trails Council, and Trans Canada Trail.

If you would prefer us to email you a short message when the colour VTA newsletter is available on our website, just send an email to: info@voyageurtrail.ca

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Voyageur Trail News

No. 114, Spring 2013

EDITOR: Cheryl Landmark

You're Invited to our 40th Anniversary Parties

By Steve Dominy

The Voyageur Trail Association turns 40 this year, and we're having a party (actually a series of parties)! We've picked August 24, 2013 as the date to launch a 12-month celebration of this momentous occasion. Not only will we have plenty of special trail activities throughout the year, there will be a photo contest, trail challenges, trail cleaning blitz, and more. Read on!

Trail Maintenance Blitz:

May 11-21 (Thessalon/Iron Bridge) and August 2-11, 2013 (Echo Ridges)

Like any party, we need to make the place presentable before the guests arrive. Therefore, this spring and summer we'll need lots of help with a major trail cleaning blitz across the trail system. Local clubs are taking care of much of this work, but there is about 100 km east of Sault Ste. Marie that needs a lot of TLC. We're organizing two major 10-day blitzes to clean trail between Mabel Lake/Garden River and Iron Bridge.

Can you spare a day or two this spring and summer during the dates noted above? Your help leading or participating in one or more work parties is of course welcomed. Please come join your fellow hikers, including some from our sister clubs in southern Ontario. Yes, we've had offers of help from far and wide, but to spruce up 100 km of trail will require all the help we can muster! We're even lining up some rustic accommodations along the trail.

How else can you help with this activity?

We also need help with logistics related to the work parties. Even if you can't do trail work, perhaps you can prepare a hot meal or snacks for tired trail workers, pick up supplies, make phone calls, shuttle vehicles to trail heads, billet workers, etc. Or, you may know a local business willing to sponsor this effort with a cash or in-kind donation. All help is certainly welcomed and greatly appreciated.

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New VTA logo designed for 40th anniversary celebrations



Cont'd from page one

Also, in preparation for our trail cleaning blitzes, we're looking to borrow a couple of camper trailers for a few days.

Contact Steve Dominy (705-946-2484 or sdominy1203@gmail.com) for more details and to help out, or monitor the website and Facebook sites for updates on all activities.

All-Trail End-to-End Challenge

We are challenging hikers to collectively traverse the entire 700+ kilometres of trail over the 12-month period from August 24, 2013 to August 24, 2014. To keep track of this, trail users can submit their hikes, snowshoe outings, etc. to be added to the online trail registry, which will be updated regularly on the website. That way, you'll be able to see what portions haven't been hiked by anyone else and make plans to explore those trails with your friends.

40-kilometre Trail Challenge

Hikers who cover at least 40 kilometres of trail over the 12-month period (Aug. 24, 2013 to Aug. 24, 2014) will receive a special VTA commemorative prize in recognition of this accomplishment. This doesn't have to be 40 km of different trail, as long as you walked on the trail for at least 40 km. There will also be an additional prize for the person who hikes the most over that period. Watch on the website for a form you can print to help you track your hikes, or send us an email or call if you wish to have a hardcopy sent to you. Copies will also be available at club meetings and the fall 2013 Annual General Meeting. The forms will have to be submitted by Sept. 15, 2014 to be eligible for a prize. Winners will be announced at the fall 2014 Annual General Meeting.

Photo contest

Attention all photographers! We're holding a photo contest as part of our 40th year anniversary celebrations. Between now and August 24, 2014 (the end of our year-long celebrations), share your favourite pictures with fellow trail users and also help us promote the Voyageur Trail. Besides entering your name in the contest, we'll add your picture to one of the new online photo albums we're putting together. So, you'll be providing potential users with a chance to see parts of the trail online.

Guidelines:

There are no categories - you can submit landscapes, people,

trail sights, etc., and from any season. Photos can be taken at any time, even before the contest began. Go to <http://voyageurtrail.ca/photosubmission.html> for instructions on submitting your photos. There is also a link under the 'News' tab (40th Anniversary section).

Prizes:

We'll be awarding one prize for the best photo from each administrative section (West, Central and East). Winners will have their choice of photo printed on an 11"x14" gallery-wrapped canvas. In addition, there will be an overall grand prize, to be announced. Winners will be chosen by an independent panel.

Website

There is now a new section on the website under 'News', where you can read all about the latest 40th anniversary plans and activities. Also, we will be providing regular updates on our Facebook page (link on the left panel of the website).

Geocaches

A number of special VTA-only geocaches will be placed along the trail during the celebrations. These will contain commemorative VTA memorabilia for those who discover them. Monitor the website for information on GPS coordinates of the geocaches.

Theme hikes

Clubs will be hosting a variety of themed activities throughout the year, starting August 24. Monitor the online calendar of events and/or Facebook page, or contact your local club for details.

A Special Blaze

We're developing a blaze with an anniversary logo on it, and will put these up at selected locations along the trail to mark the celebrations.

We still need volunteers

If you can spare a few hours, we are still looking for help with some of these activities. Can you help coordinate the trail registry or photo contest? Organize a hike in your area? Put out some geocaches? Order prizes or commemorative items? Please contact Steve Dominy (705-946-2484 or sdominy1203@gmail.com) to discuss your interests.

Let's celebrate 40 years of hiking!!

Hike Ontario Certified Hike Leadership Course

Congratulations to the 15 graduates who participated in the Hike Ontario Certified Hike Leadership course held in Thunder Bay on March 23, 2013. The instructor was Mike Landmark. Many thanks go to Kelsey Johansen of the Nor'wester Voyageur Trail Club for all her work in organizing the course.

Elsa Desouza
Kelsey Johansen
Stephen Johnston
Matthew Hayward
Lindsay Brezer
Jeff Mcleod
Jackie Chan
Darrell Makin
Jordan Gangbar
Tara Holmes
Kristin Clarke
Claire DeLong
Dave Smith
Jim Bidnall
Devin Rynard



Photos courtesy of Kelsey Johansen



Sault Ste. Marie Conservation Authority and Healthy Hikes

The Sault Ste. Marie has asked the Voyageur Trail Association to partner to promote *Healthy Hikes*— an Ontario-wide campaign to encourage Ontarians to visit conservation areas to boost their physical and mental health while at the same time learning the connections between healthy people and healthy ecosystems. To see more about the program, visit www.healthyhikes.ca



Give your health a boost!



Take the Healthy Hikes Challenge:
May 1st to Oct. 31st 2013



The Benefits of Nature

Ontario's Conservation Areas
Contribute to Healthy People

THE CHALLENGES...

ADHD
affects
5-10%
of Canadian Children



82%
of Canadian Teenagers
are Not Active Enough



Only
7%
of Children meet Canadian
Physical Activity Guidelines

9 MILLION+
Canadians suffer from some form of
DIABETES

From www.healthyhikes.ca website

Saulteaux Club Outing Schedule (Sault Ste. Marie)

Typical meeting locations: Goodlife building, 589 Second Line East (Second Line side); Market Mall, 275 Second Line West (on Korah Road corner); Churchill Plaza, 150 Churchill Blvd (on Trunk Road between Lake & Wellington Streets) near Beer Store; Wellington Square Mall, 625 Trunk Road, near the restaurant.

To see the outing schedules for other clubs, check the VTA website or call the local contact in the community of interest.

Saulteaux Club

(Sault Ste. Marie and area—outings marked with an asterisk (*) are outside Sault Ste. Marie). For all outings, bring water, a lunch, dress appropriately, and be prepared to sign an assumption of risk agreement.

In April, depending on snow conditions, Susan is planning some trail maintenance Thursdays. Call 705-949-4105 for more details.

Sat., Apr. 27 ~ Saulteaux Club Annual Dinner at Stokely Creek Lodge. Afterwards we will enjoy a presentation by Doris Welz entitled "Hiking in the Alps". Call 705-942-1891 for ticket(s) at \$35/person.

Thursday work parties continue in May! Call Susan at 705-949-4105 for each Thursday in May to join a work party on the Voyageur Trail!

Sun., May 5 ~ Check out the spring wildflowers along the trail to Robertson Cliffs. Call Mark 705-254-2356 for details.

Sun., May 5 ~ Volunteers needed for booth at 2013 Passport To Unity event (Essar Centre). Call Don at 705-946-9599 for final details.

***Sat., May 11-21** ~ Can you spare a day or two this summer? Come help spruce up the trail in preparation for our 40th anniversary celebrations. (Location east of Sault, TBD). Contact Steve Dominy 705-946-2484 or sdominy1203@gmail.com for details or monitor the website and Facebook sites for updates.

Sat., May 11 ~ Canadian Wildlife Federation "Walk for Wildlife" at Glenview Cottages with the Big Brothers/Big Sisters! VTA volunteers appreciated. For more info, contact Mike at 705-779-3409.

Sun., May 12 ~ Annual Mother's Day Hike from Goulais Avenue to Horst's place on People's Road extension. Meet at the top end of Goulais Avenue across from Camp Korah at 10AM. Call Horst at 705-971-4812 or Gayle at 705-942-1891.

Mon., May 20 (Victoria Day) ~ Family hike along Lake Superior at Red Rock with Jan 705-253-7536. Meet 10AM at Goodlife.

Mon., May 27 ~ Saulteaux Club bi-monthly meeting at 7PM. Location TBA.

Sun., June 2 ~ Healthy Hike in the Fort Creek Conservation area on the HUB Trail. Meet 10AM in the Fort Creek parking lot. Behaved, leashed pets welcome. For more info, call Gayle at 705-942-1891.

Sat., June 22 ~ Hike at Hia-watha with Jan 705-253-7536. Meet 10AM at Goodlife.

***Sat., June 29** ~ Hike a section of the Coastal Trail in Lake Superior Park with Doris. Meet 9AM at Goodlife. Call 705-942-9466.

Mon., July 1 ~ Annual HUB Trail Challenge between 10AM and 3PM. Watch local media for further announcements.

***Sat., July 6** ~ Hike a section of the LSPP coastal trail—bring swimming gear. Meet Goodlife @ 9:30AM. No dogs for this trip please. Call Garry 705-049-1302.

***Sun., July 7** ~ Cycle loop tour on St. Joe Island to Hilton Beach and back. Meet at 10:30AM in the car pool area on Hwy 548, just off Hwy 17. Bike helmet is mandatory. Bring water, snack, & (if necessary) rain gear. Bring your own lunch or dine at one of the eateries before returning. Total return distance about 35 km. Easy to moderate pace on paved roads. Register in advance with Larry at 705-541-5674, 705-949-7953 or lgringo@nrca.gc.ca. Contact Larry or check the Saulteaux Club events page for July at <http://www.voyageurtrail.ca/eventssaulteaux.html> for updates.

***Sun., July 21** ~ Hike in the Tower Lake area with a swim afterwards. Meet 10AM in the Wellington Square Mall parking lot. Call Gayle at 705-942-1891 for more info.

July 31st Deadline to plan the September to January 2014 Saulteaux Club outing schedule. (No Saulteaux Club meeting planned for July.)

Aug. 2-11 ~ Can you spare a day or two this summer? Come help spruce up the trail in preparation for our 40th anniversary celebrations. (location east of Sault, TBD). Contact Steve Dominy 705-946-2484 or sdominy1203@gmail.com for details or monitor the website



VTA IN THUNDER BAY!!

The VTA is so excited about having a new club in Thunder Bay!!

Check out the Nor'wester Club Facebook page for their event schedule at <http://www.facebook.com/norwester.voyageurtrail.club>

and Facebook sites for updates.

Sat., Aug. 10 ~ Hike in the Desbarats area followed by a potluck with Dieter & Erika 705-942-9636. Meet 10AM in the Wellington Square Mall. No pets please.

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Saulteaux Club Outing Schedule *Cont'd*

Sat., Aug. 17 ~ Bike ride with Larry. Route and other details will be posted on the Saulteaux Club events page for August <<http://www.voyageurtrail.ca/events/saulteaux.html>>. Contact Larry at 705-541-5674, 705-949-7953 or lgringo@nrca.gc.ca

Sat., Aug. 24 ~ Launch of the VTA's 40th Anniversary Year celebrations!

Sun., Aug. 25 ~ Family hike with Gayle 705-942-1891 at the Sault Canal. Meet 1PM in the parking lot of the Sault Canal Visitor's Centre.

Mon., Sept. 2 (Labour Day) ~ Hike the Gros Cap Loop with Gayle 705-942-1891. Meet 1PM in the Market Mall parking lot to car pool. Behaved pets welcome.

Mon., Sept. 23 ~ Saulteaux Club meeting at 7PM. Location TBA.

Sat., Sept. 28 ~ (rain date: Sun., Sept.29) Saulteaux VT Club's 40th Anniversary celebration at Kinsmen Park at 1:00 PM. Displays ~ Hikes ~ Demonstrations ~ Food! Call 705-942-1891.

New VTA Store

The VTA web store has gone through a major transformation. It is now much easier and faster to renew your membership, buy a GPS map, make a donation, order a gift certificate, and more. Purchases are just as secure as always, using funds from your PayPal account or paying by credit card. The site has the same look as the main site, giving it a much more integrated feel than previously. A big thank you goes to Jack Dunning for his great work in designing the new store. Check it out next time you visit the VTA website.

Ever thought of hosting a hiking-themed birthday party??? The pictures below are taken from www.lynleespetitecakes.com/2012/05/take-hike. Check out the website for some really neat ideas on how to incorporate a hiking theme into your next celebration!!



Welcome New Members

Diane Acton	Lise Finley	Aleks Makse	Dianne Sharpe
Gord Acton	Marilyn Fraser	Skippy Makse	Pedro Soria
Shawn Beaulieu	Ranny Fraser	Kimmo Makse	Donna St Jules
Tania Beaulieu	Jack Freiburger	Shelly Makse	Michael Supernault
Louis Berube	Jennifer Freiburger	Tristan Makse	John Suter
Den Boychuk	Stepan Gambati	Virve Manniste	June Tellier
Rosemary Boychuk	Robin Gould	Rick Marion	Ron Tellier
Michael Boychuk	Ken Gower	Patrica McGrath	Carol Trainor
Chelsea Boychuk	Paul Gregory	Becky McLean	Jonathan Turik
Debbie Burmaster	John Hadley	Jane Michie	Jonathon Waddell
Christine Burt	Sheldon Henderson	Joe O'Blenis	James Whitelaw
Abigail Clowes	Diane Hogan	Nichole Patoine	Rick Wytsma
Jeffrey Clowes	George Hoo	Ali Pearson	Brenda Wytsma
Sarah Clowes	Sheila Hoo	Lizzie Pearson	Julia Wytsma
Victoria Clowes	Steve Johnston	Heather Pearson	Sarah Wytsma
Henry Conrad	Christine Johnston	Emma Pearson	Ali Wytsma
Linda Cook	Patrick Johnston	Hoss Pelletier	
Gordon Cook	James Johnston	PIC River F. N.	
Jennifer Cruickshank	Molly Kuszniar	Loralei Premo	
Brian Cruickshank	Claudette Lagrandeur	Birdie Rafn	
Paige Cruickshank	Raija Lappalainen	Barbara Ramsey	
Lucas Cruickshank	Ioana Lerchs	Alice Ridout	
Shirley DePrez	Mary Teresa MacLeod	Laurie Russell	
Marco Durepos	Dorie Mactino	Lindsay Russell	
Pam Elliott	Mark Makse	Josh Russell	
Terry Elliott	Ann Waddell Makse	Jennifer Russell	
Ralph Falcioni	Kyle Makse	Bob Sahli	
Jessica Falcioni	Brittany Makse	Constance San Cartier	
Hal Finley	Dana Makse	Caron Senese	



VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION REGISTRATION & STORE (please print legibly) 04/13

(For more details and to purchase products and memberships visit our secure on-line store at www.voyageurtrail.ca)

Name: _____ Phone (home): _____ (work/cell): _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Prov./State: _____ Postal/Zip Code: _____ Please check one: New Member Renewal

MEMBERSHIP FEES: Prices subject to change without notification.

Individual: yearly @ \$25 or three-years @ \$70 = _____

Family or Group: yearly @ \$30 or three-years @ \$85 = _____

Full-time Student @ \$10 yearly = _____

Donations Charitable Reg. #119261923RR0001 (tax receipt will be sent) = _____

____ Crest @ \$3 each = _____

____ Guidebook (limit 2) @ members \$25 / non-members \$35 = _____

Shipping/Handling for ALL MAILED Guidebooks..... = \$ 8.00

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED (Cdn. funds).....= \$ _____

____ If this is a gift please provide name & address for the mailed acknowledgement.

For: GPS maps (Garmin units only) & PDF Hiking trail guide individual sections } visit our on-line Store.

Please send my VTA newsletter via: __ Postal delivery to above address.

__ Reminder to download PDF from VTA web site

My email is: _____

Make cheques payable and mail to: _____

VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION, P. O. Box 20040,
150 Churchill Blvd., Sault Ste. Marie, ON, Canada P6A 6W3

(over)

The Voyageur Trail News is published three times per year. Your articles and photos are welcome!

Deadline for the next issue is August 1, 2013.

Mail to Cheryl Landmark, c/o Voyageur Trail Association, PO Box 20040, 150 Churchill Blvd., Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 6W3

Tel. 705-779-3409 or e-mail to cheryl.landmark@sympatico.ca

Articles in this newsletter can be copied if credit is given to the Voyageur Trail Association.

We're on the Web!
www.voyageurtrail.ca

Contacts:

Nor'wester: Steve Johnston
807-620-6446

Casques Isles: Doug Stefurak
807-824-2724

Marathon: Volunteer contact needed

Michipicoten: Andy Stevens
705-856-2884

Saulteaux: Gayle Philips
705-942-1891

Bruce Mines/Thessalon:
Volunteer contact needed

Penewobikong: Joanne Marck
705-843-2199

Coureurs de Bois: Emily Windle
705-848-5980



VTA CO-ORDINATING COUNCIL

President -

Susan Graham 705-949-4105

Vice-President West - vacant

Vice-President Central -

Carole Blaquiére
705-649-2235

Vice-President East - vacant

Treasurer/Tools Inventory -

Lil Sinclair 705-946-3126

General Secretary - vacant

Membership/Landowners -

Mike Landmark 705-779-3409

Publicity Director/Social

Media Coordinator -

Kelsey Johansen
kelseyjmjohansen@gmail.com

Hike Ontario

Representative -
Carole Blaquiére 705-649-2235
Alternate (vacant)

Insurance Coordinator -

Larry Gringorten 705-949-7953

Guidebook Committee -

Steve Dominy 705-946-2484

Data Management -

Bob Sinclair 705-946-3126

Director(s) -at-Large (2) -

Dawn Elmore 705-649-4936
1 vacant

Newsletter Committee -

Editor:

Cheryl Landmark 705-779-3409

Layout by:

Dawn Elmore 705-649-4936

For information on any of these positions (especially the vacant ones), please contact us at our toll-free number 1-877-393-4003.

Voyageur Hiking Trail Users' Code

- Hike only along marked routes. Do not take short cuts.
- Do not climb fences.
- 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. (or better still carry a lightweight hiker's stove)
- Leave flowers and plants for others to enjoy.
- Do not damage live trees or strip off bark.
- Protect and do not disturb wildlife.
- Keep dogs under control (leash if necessary) and follow your club's guidelines concerning dogs.
- Respect the privacy of people living off the trail. Walk around the edges of fields, not across them.
- Leave only your thanks and take nothing but photographs. BE A LOW-IMPACT HIKER!!

I WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH:

- Trail maintenance Trail development Hike leader Organization—executive, directors
- Newsletter, guidebook, photography Landowner records, maps Publicity committee Special events
- Sorry, not at this time. Contact me with information on what's needed, and I'll decide then.

Please add my membership to the membership list of the club closest to my home, OR consider me a member-at-large, OR

consider me as a member of the following club _____.

Voyageur Hiking Trail Users' Code

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- Do not climb fences.
- Carry out all garbage (if you carry it in, you can carry it out).
- Light cooking fires at official campsites only. Drench fires after use. (or better still, carry a lightweight hiker's stove)
- Leave flowers and plants for others to enjoy.
- Do not damage live trees or strip off bark.
- Protect and do not disturb wildlife.
- Keep dogs under control (leash if necessary) and follow your club's guidelines concerning dogs.
- Respect the privacy of people living along the trail. Walk around the edges of fields, not across them.
- Leave only your thanks and take nothing but photographs. BE A LOW-IMPACT HIKER!

DECLARATION: I understand that the Voyageur Trail is a wilderness trail and some remote or little-used sections may be in poor condition due to fallen trees or regrowth of vegetation. I understand I hike it at my own risk.

I have read and will abide by the Trail Users' Code (above).

(signature): _____