



NO. 116 WINTER 2014

Published by the

VOYAGEUR TRAIL

ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 20040

150 Churchill Blvd.

Sault Ste. Marie, ON

P6A 6W3

1-877-393-4003

Visit our web site at:  
[www.voyageurtrail.ca](http://www.voyageurtrail.ca)

Email address:  
[info@voyageurtrail.ca](mailto: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.

#### Inside this issue:

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| 2013 Annual Meeting | 2 |
| 40th Anniversary    | 4 |
| Outing Schedules    | 5 |
| Guidebook Changes   | 6 |
| Spot Devices        | 7 |
| Fellow Hikers       | 8 |

# VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS



No. 116, Winter 2014

EDITORS: Fiona Ortiz & Paula Dunning

## Farewell!

After sixteen years as Newsletter Editor, I have decided to set aside my digital red pencil and let someone else take over the reins. It's been a fun, exhilarating ride and I can't believe it's been that long already, but I feel it's time for a change.

Many thanks go out to Fiona Ortiz, who has agreed to step up and fill the position with her expertise and fresh, innovative ideas. I wish you all the best in your new position, Fiona.



I also want to thank everyone who has been so supportive and helpful over the years, especially my husband, Mike, who has helped fold countless newsletters, stuff envelopes and deliver them to the post office. He has been an excellent Editor's Assistant! And, Gayle Phillips and Dawn Elmore, it was such a pleasure working with both of you as layout persons. I appreciate all the commitment, support and dedication you showed in making the newsletter a joy to read and a publication that is always interesting, informative and well-received. And, of course, I would be remiss in not expressing my gratitude to all of you, the members and executive, who have submitted articles, personal experiences and photos over the years to make the newsletter what it is.

As this is my last newsletter as Editor, any submissions from now on should be sent to Fiona at [dfortiz@sympatico.ca](mailto:dfortiz@sympatico.ca).

Even though this is farewell as Editor, I still hope to see many of you out on the trails.

Safe hiking!

*Cheryl Landmark*





## 2013 VTA Annual General Meeting *by Susan Graham*



October 26 was the date of this year's AGM, held at Bruce Bay Cottages and Lighthouse in Bruce Mines, and attended by 31 people. The Coordinating Council (CC) met in the morning, and then everyone joined us in the lounge for lunch, supplied by owner Pat Peterson and her helper. Pat had arranged for a cake decorated in the VTA colours of blue and yellow to celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary – nice touch! We arrived in the morning to a roaring blaze in the puddingstone fireplace, overlooking the lake. It was hard to buckle down to business instead of just kicking back and enjoying the room. But buckle down we did; here are some of the highlights from both meetings.

Our long-awaited Risk Management Plan has now been received, and Carole Blaquiére is revising it with input from the CC. Hike Ontario will hopefully receive the finished plan in December.

40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events are underway, with the Saulteaux and Coureurs de Bois clubs having held celebrations already, and the challenge hikes are underway, as is the photo contest.

President Susan Graham reported the Trans Canada Trail (TCT) has decided on a "blueway" (canoe/kayak) route between Sault Ste. Marie and the Manitoba border as the route of the TCT in order to meet their deadline of 2017 for connecting the trail along its length. In looking at the route east of Sault Ste. Marie, TCT was undecided as to whether to support the proposed cycling route between Sudbury and the Soo, or trying to link Spanish and Sudbury via land-based trail and "blueway". In light of the fact that there are long distances to maintain by so few volunteers, a motion was passed indicating the VTA would support the cycling route as the main route (or spine) of the TCT, and our trail, or sections of it, could be designated as secondary trails.

Clubs reported that overall, the trail is in decent shape, having had maintenance done on a wide area this year. The Nor'Wester club in Thunder Bay still supports the Kinghorn trail development, although new sources of funding would need to be found to proceed, as TCT will not be funding large projects like that one. The Pic River First Nation has made trail improvements from Pic River to Heron Bay, and recently held a grand opening.

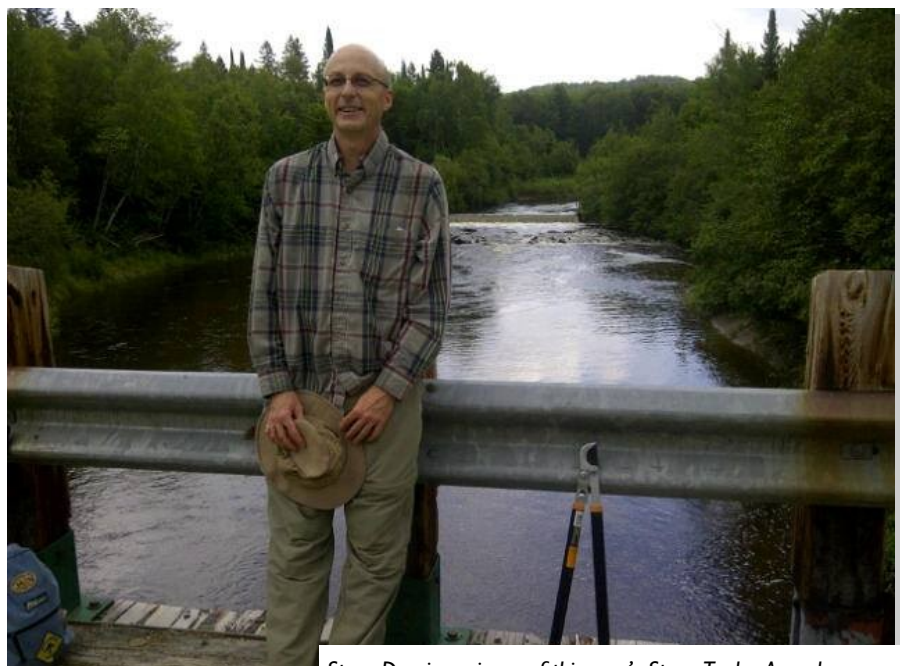
Election of Officers produced several new faces to positions. Carole Blaquiére is the new President, with Kirsten Spence as VP West, and Patricia Wynter as VP East. The newsletter has a couple of new faces on the team: Fiona Ortiz as Editor, with assistance from Paula Dunning. Dawn Elmore remains in her capacity of layout. The position of Re-

cording Secretary remains vacant, and it is important that it be filled. Susan thanked Cheryl Landmark in absence for her work as Editor. Susan was in turn thanked for her years on the CC, and she and her husband, Cliff, were wished well as they move on to some other things to start Cliff's retirement.

The Steve Taylor award was presented to Steve Dominy, for his efforts in heading up the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary team, and his organization of the trail maintenance blitz in particular. Steve reported that 76 km of trail saw improvement in the two periods (May and August).

Draws for free 1-year memberships were held, with the winners being Gerry Jean, Steve Dominy and Steve Bailey.

The meeting adjourned and most headed out for a walk. The wet weather made us abandon the original plan of going to the Rock Lake lookout, so we first tried the trails on the Bruce Bay property, but they were also too wet and slippery or too muddy. We ended up on Copper Bay Road, walking and chatting and having a fine time regardless! An overall successful day. Several of us decided not to go home that day, and stayed overnight in order to enjoy an Indian food buffet for supper, followed by Carole and Chris' pictures of their trip to Ireland in June, then join in the hike on Sunday in conjunction with the Sault Naturalists in the Shaw Dam area. Good food, social time and hiking all came together to make it a fine weekend! See you next year.



*Steve Dominy, winner of this year's Steve Taylor Award*





82 French Island Road  
Bruce Mines  
Tel: 705-785-3473

Cottages & Lighthouse

[www.brucebaycottages.com](http://www.brucebaycottages.com)

## Escape to Nature

*Escape to nature on two private islands  
Vacation in the lighthouse or a rustic cabin*

*Fish, bike, kayak, or just relax by the lake*

*Enjoy a nature vacation on Lake Huron  
Celebrate at the Lighthouse Lounge Facility*

A HUGE THANK YOU to our friends at Bruce Bay Cottages & Lighthouse for making the 2013 AGM one of the most successful ever!!

We encourage all VTA members to consider Bruce Bay as a "home base" for hiking along the VTA trails!!

**THANKS AGAIN!**



Hikers out on the trail after the 2013 AGM

## VTA 40th Anniversary Updates

*Members please note there were errors in the last newsletter regarding some of the 40th anniversary activities. Please use the information below as your reference for blazes, pencils, and trail challenge information. Thank you and our apologies for the errors!!*

### VTA Commemorative Blaze and Pencils

In recognition of the 40th anniversary of the Voyageur Trail Association, we've developed our first ever printed 2" x 6" blaze. It's printed on UV-resistant polyethylene with our new logo, the website and the message 'trail adopters welcomed' in blue on a white background. These are beginning to appear sporadically along the trail. If you do maintenance on the Voyageur Trail and would like a supply of these blazes, please contact Gail Jones at 705-942-0768 or [jonesgail@shaw.ca](mailto:jonesgail@shaw.ca).

We have also had some new VTA yellow wooden pencils produced. If you are planning a special event or doing some promotional activities and would like some pencils, Gail is again the person to contact.

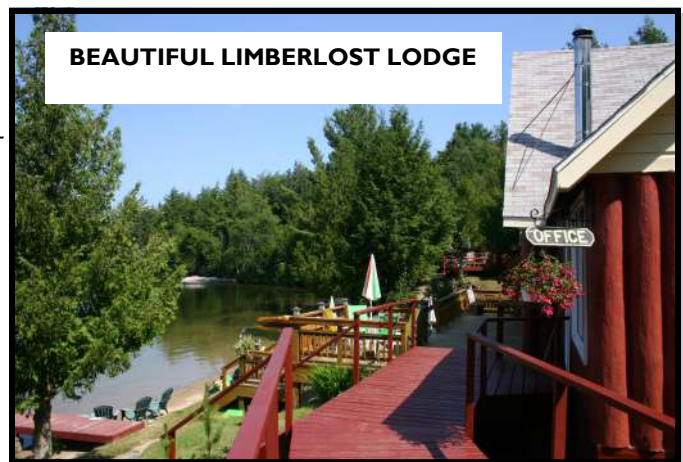
### VTA 40th Anniversary Trail Challenges

By now all members should have received in the mail a Hike Record Sheet and information about the 40 km and whole-trail challenges. If you didn't receive it or require another copy, please contact Gail Jones at 705-942-0768 or [jonesgail@shaw.ca](mailto:jonesgail@shaw.ca). New members will receive this with their membership card. This is your opportunity to get out and explore some of the 700+ km of trails you would not normally hike or snowshoe, and win some exciting prizes (we're keeping those a secret for now). In summary, the two challenges work like this:

1. Hike and document (on the Hike Record Sheet) at least 40 km of the Voyageur Trail between Aug 24, 2013 and Aug. 24 2014, and
2. Contribute to our end-to-end trail challenge, where we strive to have each of the 700+ km of our trail hiked by at least one person during the 12-month period.

Are you keeping up with Carole's  
40th Anniversary Challenge blog??  
Check out [http://  
caroleblaquiere.blogspot.ca/](http://caroleblaquiere.blogspot.ca/)

Thank you to Local 2724 of the  
United Steelworkers for a no-  
table \$500 donation towards  
the VTA's 40th Anniversary  
launch event in Sault Ste.  
Marie!!



Another thank you to Limberlost Lodge for their contribu-  
tion to the VTA's 40th Anniversary Celebrations!!

Check them out in Thessalon, Ontario.

705-841-2521

[www.limberlost.vianet.ca](http://www.limberlost.vianet.ca)

## WELCOME NEW COUREURS DE BOIS EXECUTIVE!!

VP Jim Maclean [jdsmaclan@eastlink.ca](mailto:jdsmaclan@eastlink.ca)  
VP George Hoo [ghoo@sympatico.ca](mailto:ghoo@sympatico.ca)  
Secretary Treasurer Donna Condon  
Trail Master John Burns  
Past President Emily Windle



## 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 Second Line side near Country Style Donuts); Wellington Square Mall, 625 Trunk Road (near the corner of Trunk Road and South Market Street). All outings are volunteer-led. If you participate, you do so at your own risk. Call the outing leader listed for more information about that specific outing.

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.

**Sat., Jan. 11** ~ Moonlight snowshoe/hike. Meet 6:00PM at Glenview Cottages (2611 Great Northern Road). Weather permitting, after the hike we will have a campfire. Call Don 705-946-9599 for more info.

**\*Sat. Jan. 18** ~ "Stomp in the Park" hike/snowshoe/ski in St. Ignace, Michigan. Come explore the North Country Trail and end the day with a hike and bonfire on the beach in Straits State Park. Call Dawn at 705-649-4936 for details. Travelers will meet at 8AM in the Walmart Station Mall parking lot.

**\*Sun. Jan. 19** ~ Snowshoe Connor Rd to Trout Lake with Mark (705-254-2356). Call for details.

**Mon., Jan. 20** ~ Saulteaux Voyageur Trail Club bi-monthly meeting at 7PM. Location TBA. Call 705-942-1891 for more info.

**\*Sat., Jan. 25** ~ Ski the Voyageur Trail Hwy 17 to Hwy 552. Contact Mark 254-2356 for details.

**\*Sun. Jan. 26** ~ Stokely Creek Snowshoe Festival from 10AM to 4PM. For more details, visit: [www.stokelycreek.com](http://www.stokelycreek.com)

**\*Sat., Feb. 1** ~ Snowshoe in the Hayden Lake area. Meet 10 AM in the Goodlife parking lot. Phone Garry 705-949-1302 for details.

**Sat., Feb. 8** ~ Snowshoe at Red Rock. Phone Garry 705-949-1302 for details.

**Sat., Feb. 8** ~ Moonlight snowshoe/hike. Meet 6:30PM at Glenview Cottages (2611 Great Northern Road). Weather permitting, after the hike we will have a campfire. Call Don 705-946-9599 for more info.

**Sat., Feb. 15** ~ Moonlight snowshoe/hike. Meet 6:30PM at Hiawatha Highlands (Landslide Road, north of Fifth Line). We'll enjoy some refreshments afterwards in the Hiawatha Highlands seating area. Snowshoe rentals available. Call Don 705-946-9599 for more info.

**Sun., Feb. 16** ~ Welcome back Gros Cap! snowshoe. Meet 10AM in the Market Mall to car pool. Behaved pets welcome. For more info, call Gayle at 705-942-1891.

**Sat., Feb. 22** ~ Hike Ontario Certified Hike Leaders course.

**\$75.00 8 hours Sault Ste. Marie** Conservation Authority building, 1100 5th line E. For more info and pre-requisites check the Hike Ontario web site or contact [info@voyageurtrail.ca](mailto:info@voyageurtrail.ca) or Mike @ 705-779-3409.

**Sun., Feb. 23** ~ Ski to the Canyon. Contact Mark at 705-254-2356 for details.

**Sat., Mar. 1** ~ Snowshoe at Red Rock with Dieter & Erika. Meet 10AM at Market Mall. Behaved pets welcome. Phone 705-942-9636 for info.

**\*Sat., Mar. 1** ~ Date of Wabos Loppet for skiers... For more details, visit: [www.stokelycreek.com](http://www.stokelycreek.com)

**\*Sat., Mar. 8** ~ Snowshoe the lakes north of the Sault--weather conditions a deciding factor. Bring lunch and dress for the weather. For further details call Ila 705-949-1097. This is a joint hike of Voyageurs and Soo Naturalists

**\*Sun., Mar. 9** ~ March 9 Ski the Link Trail...a challenging bushwack ski...not for the faint of heart Contact Mark 705-254-2356 for details.

**Sun., Mar. 9** ~ Family snowshoe at Hiawatha Highlands. Suitable for children. Meet 10AM at Hiawatha Clubhouse. Call Dawn for details at 705-649-4936.



### **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.voyageur.trail.club>**

**\*Sun., Mar. 16** ~ Snowshoe at Tower Lake with Gayle (705-942-1891). Meet 10AM in the Wellington Square Mall to car pool. Behaved pets welcome.

**Mon., Mar. 17** ~ Saulteaux Voyageur Trail Club bi-monthly meeting at 7PM. Location TBA. Call 705-942-1891 for more info.

## Saulteaux Club Outing Schedule *Cont'd*

### **Fri, Sat & Sun, Mar. 21, 22 & 23 ~**

Volunteers needed for booth at 2013 Spring Home & Outdoor Show (John Rhodes Centre). Call Don at 705-946-9599 for details.

**\*Sat., Mar. 22 ~** Snowshoe with Chris and Carole. Call 705-649-2235 for details.

**Sun., Mar. 30 ~** Surprise outing! (Surprise because it all depends on snow conditions.) Meet 10AM in the Goodlife parking lot to car pool. Behaved, leashed pets welcome. For more info, call Gayle at 705-942-1891.

**Thurs., April 17 ~** ABSOLUTE FINAL DAY to purchase tickets to the Saulteaux Club Annual Dinner on April 26. NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AFTER TODAY (no matter how much you beg!)

**\*Sat., Apr. 26 ~** Saulteaux Club Annual Dinner at Bruce Bay Cottages and Lighthouse in Bruce Mines. We will enjoy a delicious pork tenderloin dinner and have the opportunity to stay overnight so no drive home afterwards! (Please request any special dietary limitations at the time of ticket purchase.) Watch our Facebook page and/or your email (so make sure we have your CURRENT email address) for all

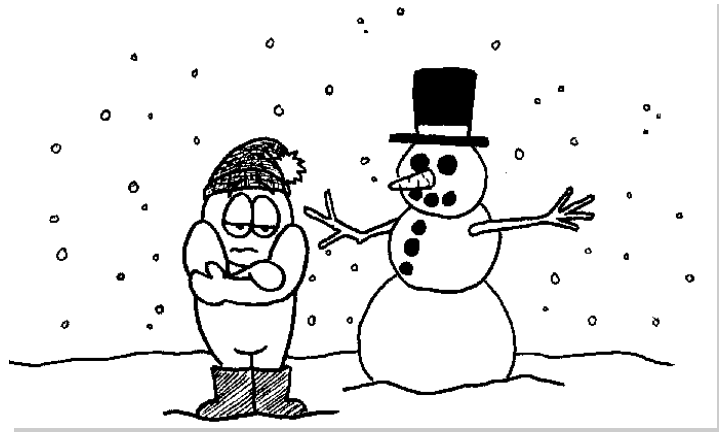
the final details about the after-dinner presentation. For more info, contact Gayle at 705-942-1891 or [gayle.p@shaw.ca](mailto:gayle.p@shaw.ca)

**\*Sun., May 4 ~** Hike Robertson Cliffs and look for spring wildflowers. Contact Mark 705-254-2356 for details.

**Sun., May 11 (Mother's Day) ~** Annual hike with Horst. We will enjoy hotdogs over a campfire afterwards. Meet 10AM on Goulais Avenue in front of Camp Korah.

**Mon., May 26 ~** Saulteaux Voyageur Trail Club bi-monthly meeting at 7PM. Location TBA. Call 705-942-1891 for more info.

**Let it Snow!**



## Thank You, Landowners!

Once again, the Voyageur Trail Association would like to express its thanks to the landowners who support the VTA and allow us to trek across their properties. With the help of their generosity and goodwill, VTA members and the general public are able to enjoy all kinds of outdoor adventures on a superb hiking trail that spans several hundred kilometres. Continued use of this trail is dependent upon the proper care of the lands entrusted to us by these landowners. Please be respectful of the landowner's wishes and property and adhere to the Trail Users' Code at all times whenever venturing out on the trail.

## Changes to Version 4.1 of the Voyageur Hiking Trail Guidebook

A revised version of the Guidebook is scheduled for release in spring 2014 (Version 4.0 came out 7 years ago). The maps have been updated to reflect current information, including new boundaries for conservation areas and First Nations, updated road conditions and corrected road names. Of particular interest to hikers are trail reroutes, closures, additions, etc. - following is a list of these principal changes. In addition, GPS coordinates (latitude and longitude) have been added for all trail access points.

Any member wishing to pre-order Version 4.1 of the Guidebook can do so at the price of \$25.00 (maximum 2 per member). Shipping and handling is an additional \$10, or you can save the postage by arranging to pick up your order from a member of the Coordinating Council (see back page of newsletter).

**Casque Isles Section:** Abyond Loop trail has been closed.

**Marathon Section:** New loop trail north of the Pic River, forming part of the new Kewis Canning Trail and Boardwalk system.

**Lake Superior Prov. Park:** Awaussee Trail added to map.

**Pancake Bay Provincial Park:** The two park trails – Nature Trail and Lookout Trail – have been added to the guidebook (map and brief description).

**Stokely Section:** 1) New loop trail near Robertson Cliffs.

2) Access point A3 has been moved to McGaughan Rd. (winter access is not permitted).

**Goulais Section:** Trail no longer starts at Witry Rd. – 3.5 km of main trail has been closed, and former access point A2 (Hwy. 552) is now the starting point.

**Saulteaux Section:** 1) New side trail (access) at W terminus of Hwy. 550 (turnaround) in Gros Cap.

2) New Walls Lake Loop Trail.

3) Main trail closed between Walls Lake and Creek Rd.

4) Trail rerouted from Old Goulais Bay Rd. north to reach McIntyre Lake – no longer crosses Root River. (work in progress)

5) New Hiawatha Loop Trail.

6) New Mabel Lake Loop Trail with side trail to Crystal Lake.

7) HUB Trail route has been updated.

**Echo Ridges Section:** Trail rerouted to now meet 1) the S end of Maud Lake (new side trail) and 2) a falls on Maud Creek.

**Thessalon Section:** 1) Trail rerouted west of Shaw Rd.

2) Side trail to Long Lake removed.

3) Trail between Clubhouse Rd. and eastern terminus on Melwel Rd. rerouted onto Melwel Rd.

**Penewobikong Section:** 1) Loop trail added at Fire Tower Mountain, replacing side trail.

2) Blue side trail overlooking Granary Lake now added to map.

## Voyageur Trail Association Acquires SPOT Devices

The VTA has purchased three SPOT Satellite GPS Messenger devices for use by outing leaders. The Coordinating Council recently agreed that outing leaders hiking in remote areas, particularly where this is no cellular phone coverage, should be given the option to carry a SPOT.

The SPOT is a one-way communication device that sends 4 types of messages (three of which can be pre-scripted by the user) along with the hiker's GPS coordinates. Messages can be sent to up to 10 recipients in the form of an email, text message, Facebook posting or Twitter feed. The recipient of the message would be able to produce a map showing the hiker's location by clicking on the URL provided in the message. In the event of a life-threatening or critical emergency, pressing the 'SOS' button would notify emergency services of your location and that help is needed.

Currently, the Coureurs de Bois, Penewobikong and Saulteaux clubs have a SPOT. Any active club is entitled to purchase a SPOT for use on their outings – the VTA will cover the purchase price and annual service fee.







## Fellow Hikers *by Carole Blaquiere*

I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself and to let you know what I would like to do as the incoming president of the Voyageur Trail Association. I grew up camping and travelling throughout Canada and always loved the outdoors. When my son was in Scouts, I helped out at the group level taking a turn at organizing events and bookkeeping. I have been an avid hiker and paddler throughout Ontario for numerous years. It began with the Grand Valley Trails (GVTA) in Kitchener Waterloo, where as a member I decided to hike the entire 275kms or so. Then my husband Chris and I decided to join a group and tackle the 800kms of the Bruce Trail. Once I had hiked these wonderful trails and paddled many beautiful rivers, I decided to give back and volunteer time both with the GVTA as newsletter layout and with the Waterloo Wellington Canoe Club in various positions including president.



*Carole Blaquiere*

In 2007, we had an opportunity to move to Sault Ste. Marie which we were thrilled about. Once we got here we immediately looked around for outdoor opportunities such as a hiking club and joined the VTA. This is an excellent way to get to know an area. Group hikes not only introduce you to local trails but they put you in touch with people with many of the same interests of whom many are enthusiastic to tell you about the neat things that can be found locally. You could never find all these little gems on your own.

After a year or so, I joined the coordinating council as secretary and as Hike Ontario representative. I was surprised at how many people had been on the coordinating council for many, many years. It was not something I had encountered in my other volunteer positions. People usually move on after 5 years or so. There were and still are many very dedicated people supporting the organization.

After a sum of money was bequeathed to the VTA, it was obvious that a plan was needed to use the funds wisely. We started a process for developing a strategic plan but they were put on hold. The reason was not a bad one, we realized it was the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the association and we needed to put our efforts towards that op-

portunity. I of course jumped in and am currently leading a series of challenge hikes to hike the entire trail from Elliot Lake to Sault Ste. Marie. You can read more about those in my blog if you are interested.

Somewhere around this time, I realized that if I continued to believe that we need a strategic plan than I had better step up to the plate and 'get her done'. Our wonderful past President Susan Graham had been clear that she would be stepping down as president this fall so here was the opportunity. No one else stepped up to be president (imagine that) and here I am, your new president.

I am a goal oriented person and therefore I have set a few goals for my time as president. My main goal will be to develop a strategic plan for the association and to begin the implementation of that plan. I expect that this process will force us to take a hard look at the VTA vision and what we want to accomplish as an association. There have been many changes to our society since 1973. The Internet and social media are definitely changing the way we enjoy our trails and is affecting our association. This project will be hard work as most of us prefer to be out there on the trail, myself included. I suspect that



*Past-President, Susan Graham and President, Carole Blaquiere*

this will take more than two years to complete.

If you are interested in helping us develop this plan, please get in touch, we need your input. BTW – we are still looking for a secretary, in the two years since I have stepped down from that position, no one has volunteered.



## Voyageur Trail Association and Sault College Get Some Positive Press on Sootoday.com!!

### Voyageur Trail helps students be global citizens (8 photos)

Tuesday, December 03, 2013 by: Sootoday.com Staff



NEWS RELEASE

SAULT COLLEGE

To read the full December 3, 2013, article, click on <http://www.sootoday.com/Content/News/details.asp?c=65112>

You can also view the full photo gallery for the story (a few snippets are pasted below...)



## VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION REGISTRATION & STORE (please print legibly) 01/14

(For more details and to purchase products and memberships visit our secure on-line store at [www.voyageurtrail.ca](http://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 April 1, 2014.**

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

Tel. 705-942-5709 or e-mail to  
dfortiz@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](http://www.voyageurtrail.ca)

**Contacts:**

**Nor'wester:** Steve Johnston  
807-620-6446

**Casques Isles:** Doug Stefurak  
807-824-2724

**Marathon:** Chris Whaley

**Michipicoten:** Andy Stevens  
705-856-2884

**Saulteaux:** Gayle Philips  
705-942-1891

**Bruce Mines/Thessalon:**  
Volunteer contact needed

**Penewobikong:** Joanne Marck  
705-842-2659

**Coueurs de Bois:** Emily  
Windle 705-848-5980

**Voyageur Trail News—Winter 2014**



**VTa CO-ORDINATING COUNCIL**

**President -**

Carole Blaquiere 705-649-2235

**Membership/Landowners -**

Mike Landmark 705-779-3409

**Data Management -**

Bob Sinclair 705-946-3126

**Vice-President West -** Kirstin

Spence

**Publicity Director/Social**

**Media Coordinator -**

Kelsey Johansen

kelseymjohansen@gmail.com

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

Dawn Elmore 705-649-4936

1 vacant

**Vice-President Central -**

Carole Blaquiere

705-649-2235

**Hike Ontario**

**Representative -**

Carole Blaquiere 705-649-2235

Alternate (vacant)

**Newsletter Editors:**

Fiona Ortiz and Paula Dunning

**Vice-President East -** Patricia

Wynter

**Newsletter Layout by:**

Dawn Elmore 705-649-4936

**Treasurer/Tools Inventory -**

Lil Sinclair 705-946-3126

**Insurance Coordinator -**

Larry Gringorten 705-949-7953

**General Secretary -** vacant

**Guidebook Committee -**

Steve Dominy 705-946-2484

*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:**

- |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trail maintenance   | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail development       | <input type="checkbox"/> Hike leader         | <input type="checkbox"/> Organization—executive, directors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter, guidebook, photography  | <input type="checkbox"/> Landowner records, maps | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Special events                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sorry, not at this time. <input type="checkbox"/> 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**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hike only along marked routes. Do not take short cuts.</li><li>• Do not climb fences.</li><li>• Carry out all garbage (if you carry it in, you can carry it out).</li><li>• Light cooking fires at official campsites only. Drench fires after use. (or better still, carry a lightweight hiker's stove)</li><li>• Leave flowers and plants for others to enjoy.</li><li>• Do not damage live trees or strip off bark.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Protect and do not disturb wildlife.</li><li>• Keep dogs under control (leash if necessary) and follow your club's guidelines concerning dogs.</li><li>• Respect the privacy of people living along the trail. Walk around the edges of fields, not across them.</li><li>• Leave only your thanks and take nothing but photographs. BE A LOW-IMPACT HIKER!</li></ul> |
|--|--|

**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): \_\_\_\_\_