

# **VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS**

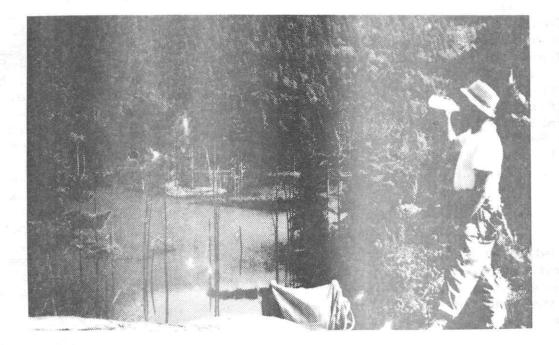
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NO. 42 EDITOR: GUY K.M. SMITH SPRING 1989



89



THIRSTY FOR HIKING THE VOYAGEUR TRAIL ON THIS ISSUE'S COVER: Remember last year's steamy summer? The sensible hiker (example, Paul Syme, this Issue's coverboy) is always prepared with a container of clear, pure water. Don't 'venture onto the trail without it!

#### \*\*\*\* VOLUNTEERS \*\*\*\* WE ALL NEED THEM

Think about your role in the Voyageur Trail Association. Don't let a small core of 'regulars' do all of the work. Your volunteer efforts are appreciated!

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#### UPCOMING TRIPS

\*\* NOTICE \*\*
ENVIRONMENT WEEK - JUNE 5-11
Blind River area area Hikers contact John Ashdown
at 356-9815 for a hike that
week.

#### Saulteaux Section

Saturday May 6 - Hike in conjunction with the Sault and Region Conservation Authority. A good short

family outing of about 3 km and 2 hours. meet at the Sugar Shack by Kinsman Park at 10:00 am. #NOTE# this trip was incorrectly dated May 7 in the Winter 1988/89 VTA News. Saturday May 13 - beat the bugs out to Randolph Lake area for a hike on this newly refurbished piece of trail. A good chance to see the spring wildflowers. About 10 km. Bring lunch and meet at Churchill Plaza by the gas bar at 9:00 am. Sunday May 14 - Mother's Day hike. Take mother into the woods. A short familyoriented outing of about 2 hours, with a couple of steep hills and a beaver dam to cross. Wiener roast for lunch afterwards. Meet at Market Mall at 10:00. Thurs. June 8 - Hike Crystal Creek area. Meet 6:30 pm at K-Mart Plaza with fly dope. - ENVIRONMENT WEEK HIKE 60-10-BLATES DAY - Sat. June 17 - Meet at Churchill Plaza at 9:00 am with lunch, boots and bug repellant. Return before supper. Get father in snape for his special day and get the trail in shape for summer hiking. Sat. June 24 - Hike Orphan Lake Trail - Trip is 11 k with some hills. Beautiful scenery. Lunch on Superior beach. Meet 8:00 a.m. at K-Mart Plaza. 2 hr drive to trailhead. Bring fluids and lunch. Back in town around 6:00 p.m. Wed. July 12 - Evening stroll in Nettleton Lake area. Meet Market Mall at 6:30 p.m. Sun. July 23 - Blueberry Hike - Thessalon Section. Some hiking on rocky, open areas. 8 k approx. Meet at

Churchill Plaza, 9:00 am, with lunch.

Wed. Aug. 2 - Evening sunset hike Gros Cap. About 3 k. Meet Market Mall 6:30 pm. Sat. Aug. 19 - Lazy summer hike at Naiomikong Pt. across Whitefish Bay in Michigan followed by picnic and swim. Meet at 9:00 am. at Tourist Info Centre, across from Bridge Plaza, Canada. Backpacking Casque Isles -Sept. 1-4. Drive to and meet at Neys on Fri. evening. begin hiking on Sat. morning. There will be two nights out and then return to the cars by early Mon. afternoon. Contact Steve Taylor (759-2480) or Virve Squire (942-2370) by Aug. 10. Enrollment limited to 12. Backpacking experience required.

Sat. Sept 23 - Fall colour spectacular in King Mountain area. About 15 km. Bring lunch and meet k-Mart plaza at 10:00 am. Sun Oct 1 - Ontario Hiking Day on the Echo Ridges Section. Meet 10:00 am. at Churchill Plaze with lunch. Wear bright colours. About 8 km.

#### Michipicoten Section

ENVIRONMENT WEEK HIKES <u>Wed. June 7</u> - Wildflower Hike on the Nakomis Trail. Meet at the Post Office in Wawa at 6:30 or at Old Woman Bay for 7:00 p.m. <u>Sat. June 10</u> - Hike and see birds and plants along Orphan Lake Trail. Meet 9:00 at trailhead or at Post Office in Wawa at 8:00 a.m. Contact P. Stinnissen for more info.

#### \*\*\* PLEASE NOTE \*\*\*

All hike leaders are unpaid volunteers. Participants do so at their own risk. You should bring a change of clothing and spare socks for winter trips.

Car pools are formed at the meeting place. If you don't have a vehicle - don't worry, be happy - you can travel with someone else!

#### TRAILMIX

The Buttermilk Hill Schnitzel Haus served fine German fare to a hungry crowd of 54 at the Saulteaux Club Annual Dinner on April 13. Congratulations to Susan Graham, Nancy Jondreau' and Virve Squire, who were the deserving recipients of volunteer recognition awards. Keep up the good work all volunteers! To aid digestion and stimulate enthusiasm for the upcoming hiking season, Donna Weeks presented a colourful photoessay of panoramic mountain vistas from her unforgett-ble trip to the Colorado Rockies with Roddie Larsen.

Commercial logging activities in Lake Superior Provincial Park will be the subject of a review by the Ministry of Natural Resources. This review will determine whether or not it is feasible to continue timber harvesting activities in Lake Superior Provincial Park to a standard compatible with park values and the principles of sustainable development. The findings of this review will be made available to the public in the second phase of the park management plan review which begins with the release of a tabloid in May 1989. Members of the public will have full opportunity to comment on all aspects of park management planning, including the future of logging.

Feter Stinnissen. President of the Vovaceur Trail Association, sent a letter to the District Manager of Wawa MNR in November 1988, which commented on the timber management plans for the area. The letter states: "Our major concern is the maintenance of a coastline reserve in the Wawa and Lake Superior Provincial Park Crown Management Units to protect the proposed and existing coastline trail".

Did the tax man get you this year? Don't let it happen next year. The Voyageur Trail Association is shy on donations this year, and this source of money has always been important to allow the organization to continue to function.

#### TRAILS COUNCIL GOOD NEWS FOR HIMTRS

.With the ultimate goal of an integrated recreation trail network for the public, the Ontario Trails Council (OTC) was founded on November 23, 1988. The meeting was attended by 30 representatives of 18 user groups with diverse outdoor interests that included hiking, snowmobiling, horseback riding, cycling, motorcycling, cross-country skiing, portaging, dogsledding and jogging. Cooperation is the fundamental principle that unites members of the council, who plan to conduct their first annual general meeting this spring.

A major topic of interest to council members is the proposed use of abandoned railway rights-ofway. A committee composed of 12 provincial ministries is considering the fate of the abandoned railway lands, which the OTC would like to see developed for recreational trail use. The council needs to present a strong, unified voice before the committee to compete for the corridors with other proposed projects, such as municipal roads and provincial hydro corridors.

The abandoned rights-ofway could enhance trail networks in Ontario, thereby fulfilling some of the following goals of the council:

1. Increase awareness and appreciation of the value of trails and trail networks among governments, corporations, organizations and individuals. 2. Increase the number. length, variety and accessibility of trails in Ontario. 3. Preserve and enhance the quality of existing trails and trail networks, in harmony with the environment. 4. Unify trail interest

the States States The States groups in an effective and efficient manner.

Promote the safe and responsible use of trails.
 Reflect and promote a conservation ethic in all aspects of the Council s activity.

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ONTARIO HIKING CONFERENCE MAY 19-22, 1989 U. of WESTERN ONTARIO #Hike for the Health of It!#

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#### WANTED: CAMPING EQUIPMENT

Chris and Joe Budau have acquired a new family of eight children, 5 to 18 years of age. They are looking for reasonably priced camping equipment that your children may have outgrown. Life jackets (safety approved) and washable sleeping bags are priority items, and a sturdy cooler and Coleman lantern are also needed. Call Chris at 949-9461, Est. 2497 or Chris or Joe at 759-6904 if you can help.

#### A PUBLIC APPEAL FOR THE VTA

Dear Fellow Member:

At times, it is frustrating to plan outings and have no one show up. It is good to be able to share some of my thoughts with you. There is a growing number of people who may become members locally. However, it is difficult to advertise something which is not yet complete. It is also difficult to appeal to diverse groups. If you have any advice for publicity, please let me know.

When the trail is completed in this area, I will take it to Scouting and Youth groups as a "challenge" and training ground.

By the summer we hope to be ready for paint. The dedication is for Dec. 1989. I plan to work on the trail late April or early May. If anyone is interested in coming along, they would be most welcome. Day length, visibility, lack of insects and shallow swimming lake trout make this an ideal time of year.

- Yours truly, Jack Smit, Elliot Lake 848-9863

#### THE TRAIL TO ADVENTURE

The Voyageur Trail guarantees enough adventure for everyone. This is a tall order, as adventure ranges from climbing a backyard showpile for a four year old to climbing Mount Everest for someone else. The active members of the club include a four year old who has been camping overnight in October without a tent or sleeping bag as well as a 74 year old gentleman who has made many miles of well marked trails. With hundreds of kilometers of trail, there is lots of room for anyone in between.

Outings range from a two hour Eunday picnic hike to a week in the woods with a map and compass exploring new territory. For anyone beginning camping skills, or anyone dreaming of climbing Mount Everest or crossing the North Pole on skis, the Voyageur Trail can play a vital role. Before a major expedition, it is essential to test tents, sleeping bags, packs, etc. as well as building group spirit and stamina.

To go to the top of Mount Everest requires months of vacation, hundreds of thousands of dollars and a good possibility of not returning.

For those who prefer to stay alive, a family membership to the VTA is \$7 yearly and the trail to adventure is only 15 minutes away from Eiliot Lake.

The Voyageur Trail is a hiking trail stretching from Manitoulin Island to Sault Ste. Marie and beyond. It is half dream and half reality. The reality includes a continuous section of trail from Highway 108 to Sault Ste. Marie, parts well cleared and blazed and other sections only flagged with blue tape. The dream consists of areas yet unexplored.

While we can guarantee adventure, we cannot guarantee that the sun will always, shine, insects won't bite or that you won't slip on a wet rock. A map and a compass are essential to anyone exploring the trail by themselves. Better yet, enjoy nature with a group. For more information, please contact Jack Smit -848-9863

#### PUNS, NOT QUOTES

As we progress through life, it is important to realize that society and technology must proceed together. Because of technology, many new terms have been invented. Some of these terms apply to niking, and a glossary is presented below for you to become familiar with these new terms.

FORTRAN - An unpleasant hard lumpy mixture of grains and dried fruit consumed only by hikers and canceists (eq. I had a bowl of Fortran for breakfast this morning). HARD DRIVE - A term used to describe the trip along steep winding roads full of potholes to some of the more remote sections of trail. FLOPPY DISC - A back problem which prevents some hikers from reaching remote sections of trail (eq. he could not go for a hard drive because he had a floppy disc). IBM PC - A type of tent (eq. last night we slept in a four man IBM PC with a vestibule). MEGABYTES - What you get hiking in early June in Algoma. RANDOM ACCESS MEMORY - A state of mind that one acquires only from being on the board of directors of the Voyageur Trail Association. SPREADSHEET - A lightweight blanket for the floor of your tent. MODEM - A type of small furry animal with sharp teeth. DOT MATRIX - What happens to your skin after an encounter with poison ivy or megabytes. MONITOR - A type of lizard indigenous to Madagascar, but which often is seen staring at the VTA NEWS editor. MICROCHIPS - A food, rich in

carbohydrates, often eaten by hikers.

IF-THEN-ELSE STATEMENT - A form of statement often issued by hikers. It takes the form "IF we come out to the road THEN we're ok, ELSE we're lost. INTERFACING WITH A MAIN FRAME - Putting your pack on. TURBO FASCAL - A freeze dried pasta dish commonly eaten by backpackers and canoeists. FUKASKWA - A high speed computer language used by the VTA computer.

-Steve Taylor

#### ADVENTURES OF A ROCKY MOUNTAIN TRIP

We left Donna Weeks and Roddie Larsen on the shores of Geneva Lake eveing some stripped-down meditators through a telephoto lens. Don't cringe, the conclusion to this saga is suitable for children and is sure to get your feet itching for some summer backpacking. Saturday, August 27

When we awoke at 6:00 am the temperature in the tent was 44 degrees F, and outside it was 32 degrees! We took a short cut around the lakes and saved some time. That day we met two groups of people from the Outward Bound school.

Our destination was Snowmass Lake. We had to climb over Trail Rider Pass, which wasn't as difficult a climb as the day before, although it was mighty cold and I couldn't stop shivering. We had a great view of Snowmass Lake; it was nice to be able to see our destination. Sunday, August 28

We were awakened at 3:15

a.m. by a yelping dog - it had had a nasty encounter with a porcupine. The next day the owners of the dog (named "Frog") asked if we knew anything about removing procupine quills from a dog. We ended up holding the dog down while they pulled out the quills.

When we reached Willow Pass we could see Willow Lake, our destination for that day and our final night on the trail. As we decended into the valley we saw a flock of sheep grazing and then suddenly there were TWO BIG DOGS RUNNING AT US! Fortunately they were very friendly.

That day we had hiked about 7 miles and crossed two passes, both over 12,400'. The temperature started dropping quite rapidly and I crawled in my sleeping bag at about 8:00 p.m., watched the sunset from the open tent flap, and got some nice pictures. Monday, August 29

Woke up at 5:45 am. It was rather chilly in the tent. Roddie poked at the walls to see if there was snow on the tent. There was no snow, but it was stiff with frost. The temperature outside was 22 degrees F (my new sleeping bag was rated for 20 degrees) and the tent was covered with frost.

The climb back up to Willow Pass wasn t as bad as we expected. We had 6 1/2 miles to go to reach Maroon Lake and the truck, but it was downhill all the way.

We met a lot of people day hiking between Crater Lake and Maroon Lake who were quite impressed with what we had been doing. Everyone was very friendly and wanted to talk so we were longer getting back to the truck than we had expected.

Total mileage for the trip was 37.5 miles over 6 days. The trip wasn't as tough as I had expected, but was by no means easy. We were tired and glad to be back, satisfied with our accomplishment. I wouldn't recommend this trip for beginners, but a trip worth taking for the experienced backpacker.

 We hope to do something similar next year, right Roddie?

-Donna Weeks

#### PRE-PACKAGED FOODS FOR BACKPACKERS

Work ran late, and once again you're in a hurry as you pack for your weekend outing. No time to prepare the delectable meals you like to take - don't fear. The art of producing good pre-packaged foods has taken leaps in recent years, and there are now some firstrate products on the market. A couple are mentioned here.

Harvest Foodworks Couscous with Mushroom Sauce is very tasty. filling. nutritious and a bit different. The staple ingredient is semplina, a hard wheat product with North African origins. It is a bit difficult to make because it takes three oots, but the final product is worth the effort. It costs in the \$6 range and can be obtained from Trailhead or Mountain Equipment Co-op in Toronto.

Some of the Liptons

products are tasty, and they can be purchased at your local A&P for about \$2 - \$ A favourite of mine is Creamy Garlic Raffaella, and I'm anxious to go camping so I can try the new Gnocchi Pasta in Clam Sauce. Come to think of it, I might not wait to go camping. - Steve Taylor

SUPERIOR WATERSPORTS offers a wide selection of canoes, GREY OWL paddles. EUREKA! tents and CAMP TRAILS packs as well as TREKK sleeping bags and SILVA compasses, canoeing accessories carrying yokes. DULUTH packs) and various other outdoor equipment. Call Tom anytime for information, brochures and prices at 759-2757!

THE VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS 15 published three times per year. Your articles and submissions are always welcome! Guy Smith will resign as Edutor after the Spring 1989 Issue. The new editorial team of Virve and Jack Sourre will be at the helm for the Fall Issue. Submissions for the Fall Issue should be given to the Editors by September 20, 1989. Send to Editor, VTA , Box 66, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, P6A 5L2.

j.

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17051 942-9564

DONALD A. MCGORMAN

GAVIN MCKIGGAN

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| uma demunde                                       |                  | and the second | CAROLINE NEWMAN   |          |          |
|   | 6191             | 833-2041   | COREEN O NEILL  | (70,5)   | 856-4595 |
| STEPEN FROOD                                      |                  | 974-8020   | LOREEN O NEILL<br>Leda & Nick Onchulenko  | (705)    | 856-4529 |
| J. NEDGERS  | A de de de l     | Contract Theory and Anna and Anna  | FETE ONCHULENKD   | (705)    | 856-2826 |
|   | rdfai            | 949-5921   | MAX and AGNES OSTERMEIER  | (705)    | 856-4473 |
|   |                  | 495-6680   | INGA & ALAUS ROMER  |          | 856-2203 |
| JUHN STEWART                                      |                  | 739-0109   | INGA & ALAUS ROMER<br>Edith Smith   | (705)    | 856-4303 |
|   |                  |  | PETER and KEISTINE STINNISSEN   | (705)    | 856-4276 |
| ALLAN B. STRUNG<br>Jamehed Tryadia                | 2422             | 744-00-00  | ADAM and ANITA SZYJEWICZ  | (705)    | 856-26   |
|   |                  |  | CORTNE THOMAS   | 177. C \ | 05+      |
| TORONTO HIVING AND CONS. CLUB<br>Reymond A. WATTS |                  |  | WAYNE & KATHY THOMPSON  | (705)    | 856-2375 |
|   | 00.71            | 244-9917   | SISTER DOLORES TURGEON  | (705)    | 856-4258 |
|   |                  | 386-5519   | MRS. BETTY VALDIS   | (705)    | 889-2162 |
| ENTE WOUDT  |                  |  | F. VAN DER HDEVEN   | (705)    | 856-4419 |
| ALLAN WAIGH                                       | 1 1021           | 858-201a   | F. VAN DER HOEVEN<br>Stan Weinsheimer<br>Rue and Cindy Wilson   | (705)    | 856-2906 |
|   |                  |  | SUP AND CINDY WILSON  | (705)    | 856-2372 |
|   |                  |  | CONTRACTOR OF ALL THE CONTRACTOR  | 1        |          |

#### PENEWOBIKONG CLUB

| SUE AND JOHN ASHDOWN          | (705) | 356-9815 |
|-------------------------------|-------|----------|
| WILLIAM AND TERRY BUCKLEY     | (705) | 461-1264 |
| MR. and MRS. STEPHEN FALCONER |       |          |
| EDWARD GRAINGER               | (416) | 447-3187 |
| NORMAN K. LEDIETT             | (705) | 356-7808 |
| VERNON A. LEDIETT             | (519) | 821-0784 |
| VERNON LEDIETT                | (705) | 356-7730 |
| MARY LOUISE MARSHALL          | (705) | 356-1596 |
| KAYE MENARD                   | (705) | 356-7198 |
| MRS. M. D. MERSETH            | (705) | 356-7669 |
| MISSISSAUGI PROV. PARK STAFF  | (705) | 848-2806 |
| SHELDA & NORM PATENAUDE       | (705) | 865-2671 |
| ANDY PENIKETT and FAMILY      | (705) | 355-7696 |
| HAROLD and MARY PHILLIPS      | (705) | 256-7640 |
| HENRY G. PROVENCHER           | (705) | 356-7816 |
| RANDAL SELLERS                |       |          |

#### OTHER CLUBS

| DONALD R. ACKERSON  | (914) 359-1882 |
|---|----------------|
| LEX & TITA BELL   | (705) 782-6618 |
| DAN HINGAMAN  | (705) 368-3176 |
| LORNE BOURKE  |                |
| LORNE BOURKE<br>DAVID CRAWFORD<br>PAUL AND BRENDA DAVIS<br>JOHN DUNNING | (807) 887-3105 |
| PAUL AND BRENDA DAVIS   | (705) 461-3110 |
| JOHN DUNNING  | (705) 248-2321 |
| BOB FANNING   | (416) 298-7250 |
| ARLENE HAMEL  | (705) 824-2074 |
| BARRY HANSEN  | (705) 248~2897 |
| BRYAN LAPIER  | (705)246-2839  |
| JUDITH PETCH  | (807) 344-1012 |
| PUKASKWA NATIONAL PARK  |                |
| MR. & MRS. B.W. REHKOPH   | (807) 344-6118 |
| DIETER ROPKE  | (705) 942-9636 |
| ROB SCOTT   | (705)842-6283  |
| JACK and EVELYNE SMIT   | (705) 848-9863 |
| MIKE WITTMANN   | (705) 848-217  |
| GENE A.& RALPH WOOD   | (705)487-2561  |
| PETER ZALAN   | (705) 522-1983 |
|   |                |



### **VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION**

Box 66, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, P6A 5L2.

#### 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.

The membership year of the Association runs from January 1st to December 31st. Dues paid after November 1st will be applied to the name membership year.

Fee includes membership in one Voyageur Trail Club. To join additional V.T. Clubs, add an extra \$2.00 (\$1.00 for student) for each Club.

#### MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME

POSTAL COUR

ADDRESS

NEW [ ] or RENEWAL [ ] (Please check.)

Sections (please check)

| 6.4 |                     |
|-----|---------------------|
| []  | Saulteaux V.T.C.    |
|     | Echo Ridges V.T.C.  |
| []  | Desbarats V.T.C.    |
| []  | Thessalon V.T.C.    |
|     | Iron Bridge         |
| []  | Penewobikong V.T.C. |
|     | Elliot Lake         |
| []  | Spanish             |
| []  | Massey              |
|     | Bainbow V.T.C.      |
| []  | Little Current      |
| []  | Sheguiandah         |
| []  | South Baymouth      |
| []  | Sudbury V.T.C.      |
| []  | Thunder Bay V.T.C.  |
| []  | Nipigon             |
| []  | Casque-Isles V.T.C. |
| []  | Marathon            |
|     | Pukaskwa Park       |
| []  | Michipicoten V.T.C. |
|     | Lake Superior Park  |
|     | Batchawana          |
| []  | Goulais             |
|     |                     |

DECLERATION I have read and will abide by the TRAIL USERS' CODE

SIGH UP A FRIEND