



VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS

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Editors: Steve Dominy & Pim Delfgou

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British Invasion Results In New Trail

Our energetic president, Steve Taylor, was interviewed for an article which appeared in the Sault Star on September 2. The occasion was the arrival of 11 British Conservation Volunteers at the Stokely Creek area, where they spent two weeks clearing 25 km of trail. Here's Steve's version of the story.

One of the most interesting projects this year was the construction of a hiking trail through the Stokely property. To accomplish this task, we received help from 11 hardy individuals from the British Trust for Conservation

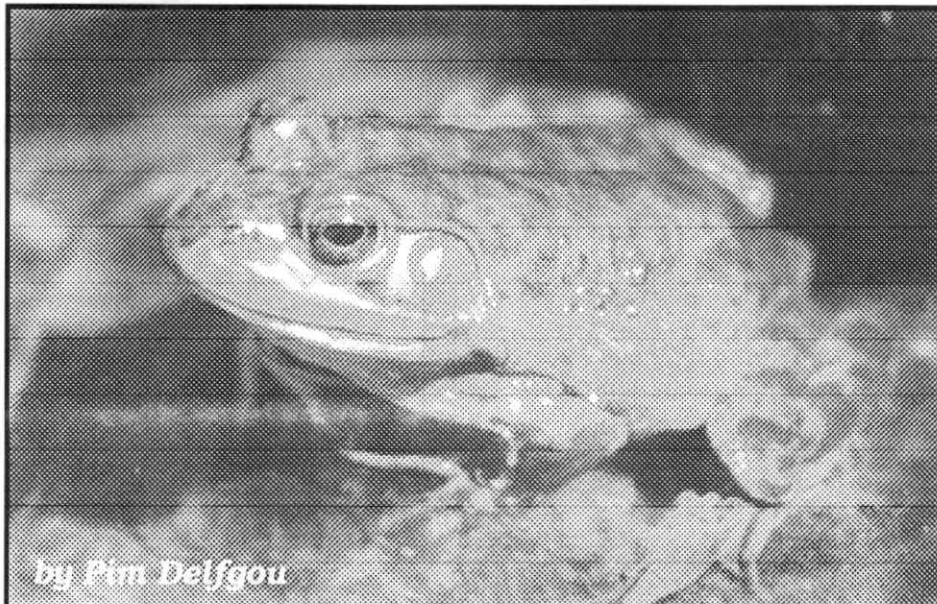
Volunteers (BTCV). I found out last year that several organizations, including this one, offer working vacations for members. With the help of Jill Leslie from Hike Ontario, and Chuck Peterson who owns Stokely, we were able to work out such a project. In most of these projects, the host club provides accommodation. In this case the accommodation was the Stokely facility itself. The task was to clear about 25 km of hiking trail.

Things were a bit hairy at first. We knew that the group was arriving in Sault Ste. Marie on

Saturday August 28 via a variety of means of transportation. The problem was that nobody in the Sault knew where the meeting place was and we didn't know if the group did. Fortunately two volunteers from southern Ontario, who were with the group, had attended to this matter. We knew that one of the people attending was Richard Knot, and we found out that someone called Richard Knot was arriving on a 4:00 pm flight. We tracked him to the Water Tower Inn when a second Richard Knot arrived by road from southern Ontario. Two Richard Knots arrived in the Sault on the same day!

Twenty-two VTA members contributed to a pot luck feast to welcome the group to Canada on the Sunday evening. This was an event that all seemed to enjoy. Following a great variety of food in the cosy surroundings of Stokely, I presented a brief talk on what our Association is all about and Angela, the trip leader from England, gave our members a fantastic slide show on what BTCV does.

Then the work started. The BTCV volunteers and the two volunteers from southern
See Invasion... page 5



by Pim Delfgou

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THE VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS is published three times per year. Your articles and submissions are always welcome! Send them to Editor, VTA, Box 20040, 150 Churchill Blvd. Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario P6A 6W3. **Submissions for the next issue should be received by January 10.**

President's Page

It was a busy summer along the trail. Besides the British Invasion (see front page article, this issue), construction also took place around Espanola (see next issue), and construction and maintenance occurred in the Casque Isles section.

In the upcoming months, I think that the new Trans Canada Trail organization will involve us heavily. We may be looking for a volunteer to act as a liaison between the VTA and this new organization. Along with this, I propose that we devote energy over the next several months to maintenance of existing trail (until the snow comes), and promotion.

The editor position has changed hands. Welcome back Steve Dominy, who has put together this issue, and I'm sure that subsequent issues will be in capable hands. Thanks to Peter Frederick for his job over the past several issues. No doubt, long time members noticed the change that took place in the format of the newsletter. A key assistant with the newsletter who rarely receives mention is Jack Dunning. Thanks Jack for an excellent typesetting and layout job.

New President for Saulteaux Club

The Saulteaux Club, the largest and usually the most active section of the VTA, finally has an acting President in the person of Judith Falkins. Judy brings years of trail maintenance and outing experience to the task, along with her infectious enthusiasm. However, she does require as much support as she can muster, and contends that this is just a trial run to see if she will get the help she needs. Let's hope that the appointment of Judy will revitalize the Saulteaux Section.

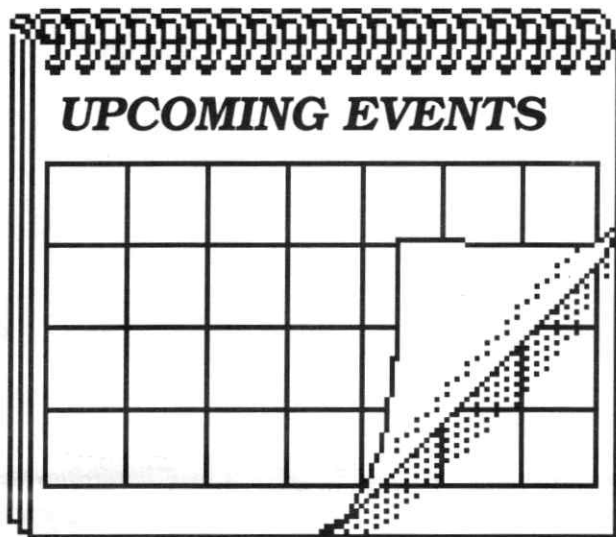
Past President Susan Graham reluctantly relinquished the post in order to devote more time to a first child, Ian. For over a year, the Club has survived as an assemblage of committees coordinated by Steve Taylor. Steve had found his head starting to droop under the weight of all those hats (or perhaps he is nodding off from lack of sleep). Association President is certainly the bowler of those hats.

WINTER CANOEING?

The Canadian Recreational Canoeing Association has a collection of videos for sale on a range of subjects, including Bill Mason instructional tapes. Winter may be the best time to work on your technique - who has time in the summer? Address: 5-1029 Hyde Park Rd., Hyde Park, Ont. NOM 1Z0. Tel: 519-473-2109.

NEW ADDRESS FOR VTA

Particularly observant members would have noticed that the VTA mailing address changed with the previous newsletter. The post office has been asked to forward mail from the previous address, so there shouldn't be a problem. Please use the new address, on the cover.



New Trails Along Highway 129

The Mississauga Valley Tourist Association (MVTA), a group of camp operators along Hwy. 129 between Thessalon and Aubrey Falls, has constructed several scenic trails. The most recent and best-marked is located about 150 m north of the Tunnel Lake Trading Post (Esso station). A sign with the silhouette of a hiker marks a logging road leaving to the east of Hwy. 129. The trail follows the road for a short distance and then swings north at another trail marker. About one half hour later you find yourself on a spectacular lookout over Cumming Lake.

You can see the lookout from the highway - a sheer rock face on the east side of Cumming Lake. Congratulations to the MVTA on a fine effort. They have constructed two other trails, but they are not easily described and no map exists. However, a stop at one of the camps should yield the required information. Mike Allen and Gillian Lloyd at Kegos Camp were particularly friendly and helpful when I stopped in for a chat.

If you drive up Hwy. 129 and wonder how to spot the Voyageur Trail crossing point, it is about one half kilometre north of Bill Phillips Camp, at a rock cut in a bend in the road. Look for the white blazes on the vertical rock on the west side of the highway.

-Steve Dominy

TRAIL CLOSURE NOTICE
The Voyageur Trail will be closed on Wednesday, February 2, 1994.

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCT. 23: Annual General Meeting. Wawa. See details on page 4.

SAULTEAUX SECTION

NOTE: In future, some Saulteaux Section work party dates will be included in this section. However, this list will not be all inclusive. For destination, duration, and meeting place details, contact the leader. For complete work party information, contact Al Comfort at 945-9496.

OCT. 23: Work party led by Tom Allinson (942-0768).

OCT. 30: Work party led by Pat Capper (253-4470).

NOV. 6: Work party led by Steve Dominy (946-2484).

NOV. 13: Work Party led by Paul Syme (942-9606)

NOV 20: SLIDE SHOW. Everyone invited. Bring pictures or slides of your outings of the

past year. Refreshments and donuts provided. Location: East Wing Lecture Theatre, Algoma University. No need to pack lunch, compass or extra clothing. Time: 7:30 p.m.

UNPAID MEMBERS NOTICE

If you haven't paid your dues for 1993, please do so immediately to avoid being cut off. This is the third and final 'complimentary' issue you will have received this year. Since it is almost the end of the year, you might consider sending in a two year renewal to save yourself time and postage. Paid-up members should also note that renewal time is December, so don't leave it until the last minute. With Christmas fast approaching, now is the time to think about gift memberships for family and friends.

If you're not sure if you paid for 1993, check the upper right corner of your mailing label (provided you didn't already throw out the envelope). If you see '92' there, you haven't paid for 1993. If you're not sure, contact Patrick Capper, the Membership Secretary (253-4470).