



# VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS

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Editors: *Steve Dominy & Pim Delfgou*

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## **The Red Rock Survivors**

### **A VTA Winter Ski Trip**

Eleven hardy souls attended the ski outing in the Red Rock Road area on Sat., February 12, 1994. We skied the Voyageur Trail from the Red Rock Road to the big beaver dam (about 3 km). The trail in that area climbed every knoll and hill in sight and, I'll swear, detoured to take in hills even if they were not on the route. After much struggling we reached the dam, built a fire and had lunch.

Having satisfied our collective hunger, we left the trail and headed south to the Old Creek Road. We then proceeded east and picked up the Old Sixth Line. After trekking on it for a

bit, we circled around to our vehicles. Admittedly, we were all tired, but also filled with a sense of accomplishment. One of the ladies announced that she was going to have a T-shirt printed with "I survived the Red Rock area - twice". Apparently she had been involved in a rather vigorous work party in that area last year.

In any case, there were lots of laughs in the donut store afterwards. In retrospect, the hills we had trudged over a few hours earlier seemed not quite as high and the total distance (about 9 km) not quite as long.

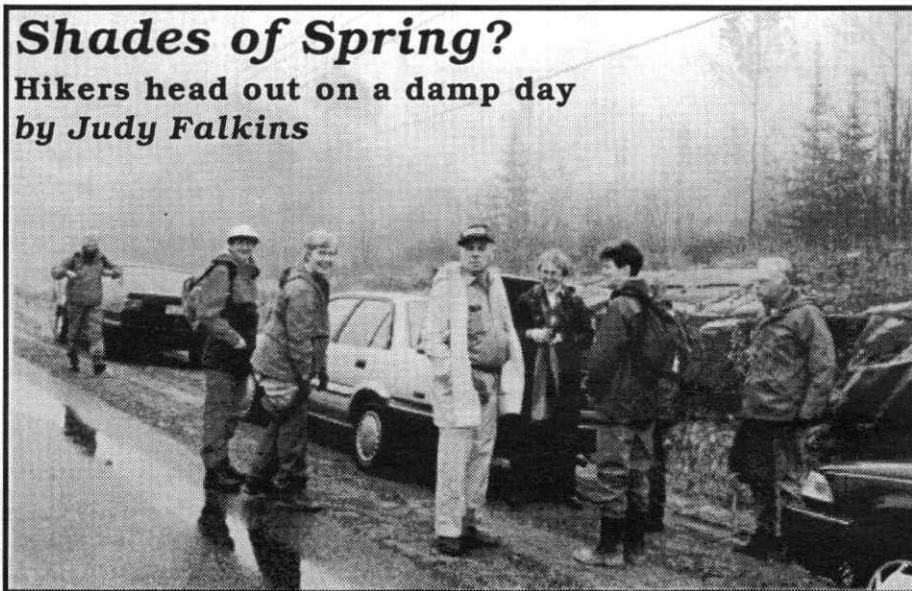
*Tom Allinson*

### **Guidebook Being Updated**

The third edition of the Voyageur Trail Guidebook is now in the planning stage. It will include over 100 km of new trail and be produced in an improved format. Meanwhile, should you know of any sections which are currently incorrectly described in the second edition, please let us know so we can make the third edition as accurate as possible. Although we endeavour to publish re-routes in the newsletter, not all make it. Volunteers for the guidebook committee are needed, particularly someone with mapping experience. If you can spare some time to help with any of the numerous tasks involved, or if you want to find out what these tasks are, please contact an executive member (see p. 2).

### **Shades of Spring?**

**Hikers head out on a damp day**  
*by Judy Falkins*



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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 September 1.**

# Club News

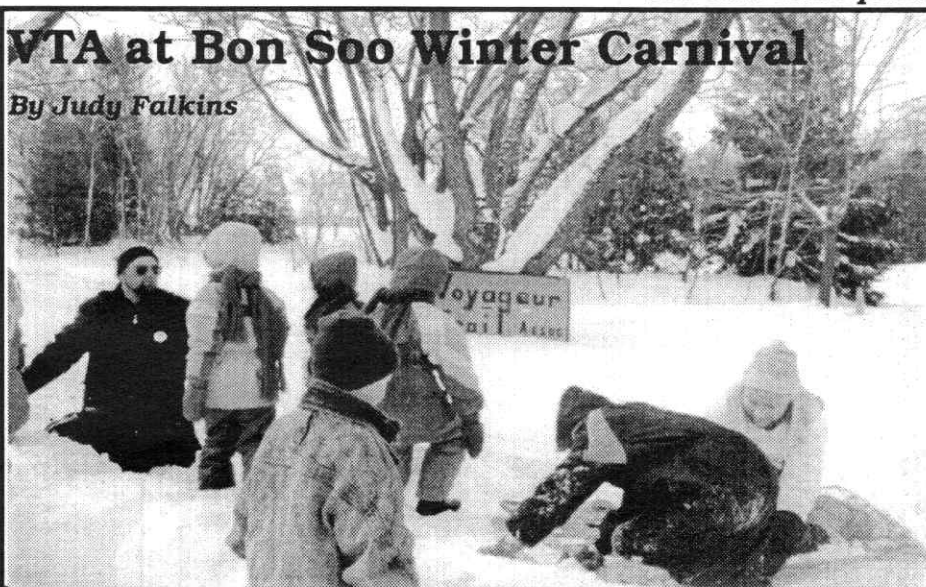
**Saulteaux Club News**

Saulteaux Club volunteers helped introduce area kids to the joys of two popular trail activities, snowshoeing and skiing, as part of the 1994 Bon Soo Winter Carnival (see photo). VTA members secured children in bindings and let them try out the boards and bear paws on a short, circular track. Many kids wanted to try out both forms of foot extensions, despite the chilly temperatures. This activity proved to be a great way to promote the club, with a minimum time commitment. In fact, the local weekly paper carried a photo of Susan Graham helping an eight-year-old girl with a pair of skis.

Also during the 1994 Bon Soo Carnival, a snow sculpture was built at 476 Wellington St. E. This sculpture (see photo), which was built singlehandedly by Pim Delfgou, depicted an enormous pair of hiking boots placed on a rock. Inscribed on the front of the rock was the message: "We need hikers to fill these boots. Voyageur Trail Association", complete with our logo. The purpose of the sculpture was to make people aware of the VTA and as a means to recruit new members with the message. This snow sculpture was floodlit at night so nobody could miss it. This could be the first annual snow sculpturing project for the VTA. If you are interested in getting a group together for a snow sculpture next year, phone Pim Delfgou at 759-1053 for ideas.

The Saulteaux Club maintains well over 120 km of trail, and as always will require plenty of help in maintaining the trail this year. If you are able to help by taking over maintenance on a portion of the trail, please call Alan Comfort (see p. 2), or consider joining one or two organized work parties when the telephone committee calls. Please

*See Club News p. 3...*



## ...Club News Continued

note that the remote portion of the Echo Ridges Section in the Jardun Mine Road-Wahbunose Lake area has not been visited by a work party in recent years, and due caution is advised when hiking this trail.

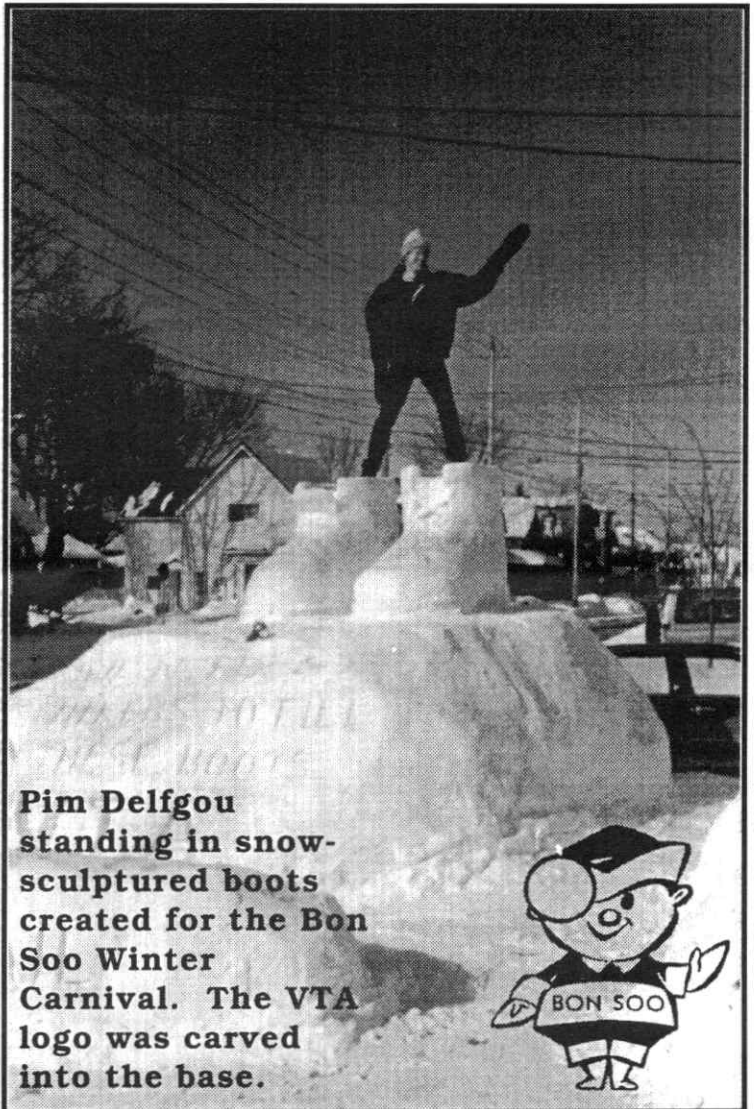
The Saulteaux Club held its Annual Dinner on April 16. After a delicious meal, guest speaker Ron Stier showed slides of his climbing adventures in the Andes Mountains of Peru. The audience appeared captivated by his vivid descriptions of happenings, and had dozens of questions during and after the show. A number of door prizes were awarded to lucky diners. Many thanks to Judy Falkins and Susan Graham for their efforts.

## Michipicoten Club News

Having survived one of Wawa's worst winters, the Michipicoten club is slowly coming out of hibernation. Although the cold weather put a damper on most of our winter activities, we were lucky enough to participate in the Audubon Christmas Bird Count before the really bad weather set in. We also took in the Annual Winter Carnival with a display promoting Wawa as "The Hiking Capital of Ontario".

At this time the summer schedule of activities is not yet set. A spring meeting is usually scheduled for the third week of April, at which time the Club members organize coming events. One annual event, the wildflower hike on the Lake Superior Park's Nokomis Trail, has already been set. This hike will be held on Wednesday June 15, 1994 and hikers will car pool from the Wawa Post Office at 6:30 P.M. A schedule of other events can be obtained from the Publicity Director, Dorothy Egan, by calling 705-856-2226.

This summer the Club hopes to recondition some parts of the trail. Hikers should be aware that the trail section from Bridget Lake south to Smokey Point is overgrown and any help to clear this section would be appreciated. Anyone interested in helping can call Club President Phil Egan (705-856-2226) or Peter Stinnissen (705-856-4270).



**Pim Delfgou standing in snow-sculptured boots created for the Bon Soo Winter Carnival. The VTA logo was carved into the base.**

## VTA Celebrates Twentieth Anniversary

It was on July 3, 1974 that a Provincial Charter was given, marking the official launch of the Voyageur Trail Association. The idea for a continuous hiking trail was actually spawned in March of 1973, and the VTA name was chosen in late 1973. The

Association has come a long way in terms of completed trail in those 20 years. In the next issue of the newsletter, some of the highlights of the VTA's history will be documented by Association founder Dr. Paul Syme. If anyone has any material (newspaper clippings,

anecdotes, etc.) which could be shared with the membership in our anniversary issue, please contact Steve Dominy. Also see the notice for a Photo Contest highlighting our history.