



VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS

PUBLISHED BY THE VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION
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& select message #9999 on your touchtone phone

No. 62

EDITOR: Virve Männiste Squire

WINTER 1996

MESSAGE FROM THE INCOMING PRESIDENT

by Larry Gringorten

I am pleased to have this opportunity to introduce myself as your new president for 1995-96. During my 10 years as a member of the VTA and four years as general secretary, I was able to observe my three immediate predecessors, Pete Stinnissen, Steve Taylor and Steve Dominy, in the role of president and get a sense of the demands of the job. Their efforts and achievements are a formidable challenge to me to keep the momentum going. They brought an energy and commitment to the task that will be hard to match.

The VTA, as I learned at last fall's board meeting, has markedly boosted its public profile and continues to enjoy a strong membership (now at a 10-year high of 179 registered individuals and families). This year also saw a significant increase in participation in hiking activities. These statistics are gratifying indeed, and are eloquent testimony to the VTA's success as a hiking organization. The underpinning of this success has been the dedicated



The above photo is a tribute to all our public spirited landowners. Our hats are off to you for facilitating the many pleasures of hiking in the northern woods. We are grateful for your continued support and wish you a happy and prosperous 1996!

efforts of a relatively small number of persons who have given of their time to organizing and publicizing the VTA's numerous activities, and conducting its business affairs. My appeal to you now is a call for a higher level of volunteer input into the actual running of the VTA. We need a larger pool of volunteers to draw on for executive and committee positions to help run the VTA and implement its programs. Local clubs need more people to come out on work parties to help refurbish and

extend trails in their regions.

It is my hope that I and the executive, with help from the general membership, can formulate an agenda that will address these needs and bring us closer to achieving the ultimate goal of a continuous trail from Manitoulin Island to Thunder Bay. I look forward to working with this year's executive and interacting with VTA members during my term as president. With your support, we will enjoy a successful year. Happy hiking!



NIPIGON RIVER RECREATION TRAIL OFFICIALLY OPENED

On a bright, sunny Saturday morning (Sept. 23, 1995) in Nipigon, Economic Development Officer Bruce Pritchard emceed ceremonies marking the official opening of the Nipigon River Recreation Trail joining Nipigon and Red Rock. Local and regional politicians, reeves, business and government officials were given an opportunity to speak to the crowd of about 150 gathered at the Nipigon Marina. Steve Dominy and Gayle Phillips represented the Voyageur Trail Association, with Steve nailing up Voyageur Trail logos on the signs at each end of the trail and formally announcing the inclusion of the trail in our northern Ontario system. Gayle and Steve stayed for a barbeque lunch and a hike along the trail, and were later rewarded with a certificate of achievement for their efforts.

The eight km trail (plus side trails) has been constructed to the highest standards, using gravel, wood chips, bridges and even a causeway. It follows the scenic Nipigon River, and hikers are rewarded with beautiful views over the river and Nipigon Bay. A full colour brochure describing the trail is available from the VTA upon request. The trail will also be included in the 3rd edition of the guidebook to be published this winter. *(For your chance to see this trail, see "Let's Try Out the New Guidebook Week" notice on page 6.)*



THE EXCURSION TO CLIMB JACOB'S LADDER by Pim Delfgou

A dozen enthusiastic trekkers assembled outside the Red Lobster on a beautiful autumn Sunday and

headed north to Batchewana Mountain. We ventured off the highway past Chippewa Falls on a logging road. The road started innocently enough, but became rougher until we reached a point that we all had to pile into Gary Koteles' truck to reach the base of the hill. Bushwhacking was the order of the day for there were no established trails. Gary led us up the hill, but we were left wondering why we had to carry pressure treated 2x4s with us. We noticed he had this monster backpack on and wondered if he was going to build a house on the summit.

We ploughed through the thick underbrush, and an hour later reached the summit. At this point, Gary proceeded to unload his tools and more lumber and started to build a ladder while the rest of us showed more common sense and had lunch, soaking in the warm sunshine.

Once the ladder was complete, we all climbed to the top. We could see quite some distance to Lake Superior as well as Turkey Lake and the Batchewana River. We even caught a glimpse of the old Tribag Mine.

We took a roundabout way back down to the road when we followed the wrong flagging tape and wound up on a watershed study line. Nevertheless, we made it back safe and sound. We stopped on the road and took a look back at "Jacob's Ladder" standing out over the hill as a monument to our visit. We wondered what future visitors to the area will say when they see this strange thing on the hill.



NEW GUIDEBOOK ALMOST COMPLETE by Steve Dominy Chair, Guidebook Committee

By the time you read this, the new, greatly improved 3rd edition of the Voyageur Trail Guidebook will be

undergoing final proofing before going to the printer. A binder format has been chosen which will permit ease of updating as updates are produced. Also the individual, two-colour maps can be removed, placed in a plastic ziplock bag and put in your pocket for the day's outing. There is no need to carry the entire binder with you. Our intention is to make the guidebook available to non-members, at a premium price, through book stores and outdoor equipment suppliers.

Activities undertaken on this project in 1995 included: 1) conducting an audit of most trail access points to ensure that they are in good condition; 2) securing an agreement with Geomatics Canada to reproduce topographic maps; 3) hosting trail volunteers from southern Ontario and Britain who completed the Goulais River Section; 4) measuring several re-routes and the new Marathon Coastal Trail; 5) arranging to use the mapping software, computer and printer at the Clean North office in Sault Ste. Marie; 6) purchasing building materials, hand tools and a motorized brush saw for trail clearing; 7) constructing a boardwalk and steps using pressure-treated lumber. In early 1996, a full-colour brochure* will be produced to advertise the new trail guide and entice new members to join, and trail signs will be made.

Generous support for the production of the guidebook and related trail improvements has been received from the following sources: Mountain Equipment Co-op (\$5,000), Laidlaw Foundation (\$5,000), Shell Environmental Fund (\$5,000), Charles Ivy Foundation (through Hike Ontario) (\$750), and Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC) (\$5,895). Under the Section 25 program, the HRDC funds supported the hiring of two people

(cont'd. on page 3)



NEW GUIDEBOOK ALMOST COMPLETE

(cont'd. from page 2)

for seven weeks each to complete the mapping, writing, and related tasks associated with preparing the guidebook for the printer.

We encourage you to support our corporate sponsors, without whose financial assistance we would not have been able to complete this project. The mail order contact information for Mountain Equipment Co-op, it is: 1655 West 3rd Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V6J 1K1. Tel. (604) 732-1989. They also have retail outlets in Toronto and Ottawa.

ADVANCE ORDERS FOR GUIDEBOOK REQUESTED

To make our task of filling orders easier, we are requesting advance orders of the 3rd edition of Voyageur Trail Guidebook. The price to members will be \$15, with a maximum of two per member. The book will be available in mid-March.

(*Just a note from the Publicity Director: If you have any photographs depicting hikers enjoying the Voyageur Trail that we can use in our upcoming colour brochure, please give me a call at 705-942-1891.)



HIKE THE "WILD SHORE OF AN INLAND SEA"

Located 30 minutes east of Marathon, Ontario, Pukaskwa National Park offers hikers the opportunity to explore a spectacular landscape, revealed in vistas of Lake Superior, Canadian Shield and northern forest. The spirit of wildness envelopes those who choose to visit and explore this special place. Like all other national parks in Canada, Pukaskwa's purpose is to protect this area, with all the natural and

cultural features intact, forever.

Pukaskwa conducts and sponsors scientific research which increases the understanding of the park's ecosystem. Of special interest are the rare Woodland Caribou. At minimum the current population is 6, but in the past there have been as many as 31 caribou in the park.

One of the largest ongoing research projects is the Pukaskwa Predator Prey Process Project, called the P5. This project studies the interactions between moose, wolf and caribou, and how they use habitats in and around the park. Other research projects examine components of the ecosystem, such as lakes, forest fire patterns and archaeological features.

Hattie Cove is the centre for most park activities, and is located 25 km east of Marathon, on Highway 627 15 km from the Highway 17 turnoff. Here you will find a 67 site campground with hot showers, flush toilets and electrical sites. Near this campground, there are several beaches, and short scenic hiking trails along the Lake Superior shoreline, or leading to scenic viewpoints and inland lakes.

Experienced adventurers can travel into the backcountry and explore the 60 km Coastal Hiking Trail. The backcountry of Pukaskwa is a rugged wilderness and visitors must register with the park before departing into the backcountry. There are limits on the number of parties permitted in the backcountry, so hikers are advised to call ahead to purchase trail permits and reserve their trip.

Proposed fees for 1996 are:
PERSONAL USE (DAY USE): \$3.00/adult, \$1.50/student, \$2.25/senior citizen, free/children under 6.
HATTIE COVE: Campsite reservation: \$6.00/night, Electrical campsite: \$18.00/night, Regular campsite: \$15.00/night, Off-season: \$10.00/night

BACKCOUNTRY: Backcountry Registration: \$6.00/party, Developed campsite: \$5.00/person/night, Non-developed campsite: \$3.00/person/night

The park is open year-round, and services are available in the Hattie Cove campground May - September.

For more information contact:
Pukaskwa National Park
Heron Bay, ON P0T 1R0
(807) 229-0801

(For your chance to see Pukaskwa Park, see "Let's Try Out the New Guidebook Week" notice on page 6.)



THE WHIMPS

by Patrick Capper

Are you one of the elite WHIMPS, a couch potato, or a do-notter?

Imagine the surprise when a couple of ardent hikers who set out for the Desbarats section despite the torrential rain on October 1st (Ontario Hiking Day), were later called whims because they did not complete hike as planned. Afterwards it became clear the term WHIMPS must stand for "We Hike in Most Precipitation Situations."

A total of 12 hikers gathered at Churchill Plaza on October 1st despite the rather gloomy forecast and light rain. After car pooling we set off, but on arrival at the turn off at Echo Bay one car didn't show up. We waited and even went back half way to the Soo to see if the 4 missing people had had car trouble due to the torrential downpour, but there was no sign of them.

We then decided to accept Dieter and Erika's kind offer of hospitality at their cottage until it became clear what the weather would do.



(cont'd. on page 4)

THE WHIMPS

(cont'd. from page 3)

After a very pleasant chat and lunch at the Ropke's, the rain finally stopped. The remaining 8 hardy hikers went on a shorter hike than originally planned in the Gordon Lake area. We took off our hats to all our Landowners who so graciously allow our trail to be built on their property (see page 1). As always it was a pleasure to hike with Dieter and Erika where there is always good conversation and lessons to be learned about the natural environment.

We won't name the missing hikers (to protect the guilty), but we soon learned that they had high tailed it to the nearest donut shop rather than brave the elements. They obviously had not realized that we hardier souls are not too easily put off by the weather. We are not quite as hardy (or fool hardy) as some British hikers. Their philosophy is to hike as planned no matter what the weather because, as they said, if we wait for good weather in the Lake District, we might have to wait for years to go outside.

Interestingly enough a similar situation occurred two weeks later on October 14th when again a number of people who had planned on hiking decided to stay home rather than brave the elements. Again the original schedule was

changed from near Prince Lake to the Red Rock area where the trail would be dryer, and the rain held off from the time we left the vehicles to our return. One highlight was we created our own board walk - picking up planks from the shore to put on the trail on a particularly wet area. Therefore, the next time there is an outing when the weather is not the best, why not join the WHIMPS. Although we may not complete the hike as originally scheduled, we almost always do hike, ski or snowshoe and still have time to have a donut afterwards which we can eat without guilt.



ANNUAL REPORT - 1995 by Steve Dominy, Out-Going President

As outgoing president, I would like to summarize what has been a very busy and productive year for the Association. Significant progress was made in revitalizing and establishing clubs, namely in the Elliot Lake, Blind River, and Terrace Bay areas. Membership numbers are at one of their highest levels, and still rising, thanks in large part to the efforts of our energetic and creative Publicity Director. Over 5000 brochures were distributed throughout Ontario and Michigan in 1995, a Hikers' Hotline was established, and our display was set up in a variety of venues.

We hosted a group of eight trail

builders from southern Ontario and Britain, organized by Jill Leslie of Hike Ontario. Thanks to the advance efforts of Patrick Capper, Tom Allinson, Betty Nassoii, Gayle Phillips, Susan Graham and myself, the group completed the Goulais River Section. Two additional segments were added to our system through agreements with local groups, being the

Marathon Coastal Trail and the Nipigon River Recreation Trail. The Casque Isles Section was also expanded and improved this year, through efforts coordinated by the Terrace Bay Recreation Office. Regular trail maintenance was conducted on most, but unfortunately not all the trail. A mini tornado touched down on parts of the Echo Ridges Section, necessitating a major effort for the Saulteaux Club. The Thessalon Section west of Highway 129, badly in need of a major refurbishing, was not completed and will have to be a priority after spring thaw.

In addition to stepping in as president after Steve Taylor's untimely death, I also inherited the position of Guidebook Committee Chair. Securing funding for the new guidebook and related trail improvements and measuring became a priority, and the committee was successful in raising over \$21,000 for the project through grants from a variety of agencies. Volunteers have helped or will help measure and describe trail, make signs, map re-routes, and numerous other tasks.

A final task was to initiate a strategic planning exercise, with the intent of helping the VTA focus future efforts on areas of member priority. Gayle Phillips and I developed a questionnaire which was vetted by the VTA Executive. I will remain on the committee to develop a plan for the future of our Association.

I wish to thank all the Executive for their support and assistance throughout this busy year. To all our volunteers, I would like to personally thank you for your contributions in 1995. Together we accomplished a great deal, and I am sure that under the guidance of our new President Larry Gringorten we will continue to make a significant contribution to hiking in Ontario.



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OUTING SCHEDULE

This ambitious outing schedule was put together early in January and may have last-minute changes from time-to-time. Please call our Information Hotline at 705-253-5353 or 1-800-393-5353 (where available) and select message #9999 to check and see if any details of the outing have been changed. This Information Line is updated regularly and will have the latest news on the next planned outing.

For all outings bring a lunch and water, dress appropriately and in layers, bring fly dope and sunscreen in season, and call the outing leader if in doubt about anything.

Saulteaux V.T. Club

(Sault Ste. Marie area)

We are proud to announce that we have undertaken to do a Saulteaux Section End-to-End series of five hikes this year—three in the spring and two in the fall. If you have always wanted to see the entire length of trail (46.5 km) in the Sault area, we have broken it down into manageable chunks for you. Let's see how many more names we can add to the honourable list of "End-to-Enders" this year!

Please note: for U.S. Outings, please remember to bring your identification to cross the international bridge and health care coverage.

Sat. Feb. 3

Volunteers needed to help out at the Bon Soo Children's Snowshoe Experience 1:00-4:00 pm at Bellevue Park. Call Judy Falkins at 705-942-3749 if you can help.

Sat., Feb. 10

Ski to the "canyon" behind Peoples Road. Meet at the K-Mart Plaza behind Red Lobster at 10:00 am sharp. Moderate difficulty. Leader: Horst Wetzl 705-759-7656.

Sat., Feb. 17

See the Pictographs in Lake Superior Provincial Park in a whole new light—on skis! If there isn't enough ice to ski (remember last year), we will move on to the Sand River trail.

Meet at the K-Mart Plaza behind Red Lobster at 8:30 am sharp to car pool. Moderate difficulty. Leader: Patrick Capper 705-253-4470.

Sat., Feb. 24

We join the Naturalists as they ski in the Clark Lake area (near Tahquamenon Falls). Meet at the U.S. Information Centre at 9:00 am sharp. Ungroomed trails. Leader: Chuck Bosley 906-248-3287.

Sun., Mar. 3

Easy family snowshoe in Wishart Park. Meet at the K-Mart Plaza behind Red Lobster at 10:30 am. Leader: Susan Graham 705-949-4105.

Sat., Mar. 9

Ski beyond the Peoples Road area. Meet at the Market Mall at 10:00 am sharp. Leader: Horst Wetzl 705-759-7656. Moderate difficulty.

Sat., Mar. 23

An easy snowshoe outing on the old Voyageur Trail along the Red Rock shoreline. Meet at the Market Mall at 10:00 am sharp. Leader: Gayle Phillips 705-942-1891.

Mon., Mar. 25

Saulteaux Club Bi-Monthly Meeting at 7:30 pm in the Great Lakes Forestry Research Centre on Queen Street East. This month's topic is "Hiking Trails within a Day's Drive". Call Gayle Phillips 705-942-1891 for more info.

Sat., Mar. 30

Ski the new Goulais River Section of the Voyageur Trail. Meet at the K-Mart parking lot behind Red Lobster at 10:00 am sharp. Moderate difficulty. Leader: Tom Allinson 705-942-0768.

Thurs., Apr. 18

Annual Saulteaux Voyageur Trail Club dinner. St. Mary's Ukrainian Church, 293 St. George's Avenue East. Tickets are \$16.50 per person (\$8.25 for children under 12). This year's guest speaker will be Bruce Lash of Superior Watersports who will show a slide presentation on "Poetry of the Paddle-Kayaking on Lake Superior". For tickets, call Susan Graham at 705-949-4105 or mail in the coupon located on the invitation sheet included with this newsletter along with your cheque.

Mon., Apr. 21-Sun., Apr. 28

Watch for the Voyageur Trail display in the Station Mall as part of Earth Week festivities.

Sat., Apr. 20

'Go to Blazes' Day—our annual trail cleaning excursion that kicks off our yearly efforts to get the trail in tip-top condition for the upcoming hiking season. Come and see how much fun trail cleaning can be! Tools will be provided. Contact: Alan Comfort 705-945-9496.

Sat., Apr. 27

Annual Earth Day clean-up family outing in the Gros Cap area. Meet at the Market Mall parking lot at 1:00 pm to car pool. Leader: Susan Graham 705-949-4105.

Sat., Apr. 27 END-TO-END #1

First instalment of the Saulteaux Section End-to-End from the Airport Road extension to Gros Cap (approx. 11.5 km). Meet at the Market Mall parking lot at 9:00 am sharp. Long, difficult hike. Leader: Larry Gringorten 705-949-7953.

(cont'd. on page 6)



OUTING SCHEDULE

(cont'd. from page 5)

Sun., Apr. 28

Trail maintenance outing. For details, call Alan Comfort 705-945-9496.

Sat., May 4 END-TO-END #2

The second instalment of the Saulteaux Section End-to-End from Airport Road extension to Goulais Avenue (approx. 15 km). Meet at the Market Mall parking lot at 9:00 am sharp to car pool. Long, difficult hike. Leader: Steve Dominy 705-946-2484.

Sun., May 5-Tues., May 7

Trail maintenance outing in Elliot Lake. We are curious to see if there is enough interest in doing small trips to the 'less-used' parts of the Voyageur Trail to help with trail maintenance. We offer a possibility (if there is enough interest shown) in spending a few days and nights in Elliot Lake helping to clean trail. If this appeals to you, call Gayle Phillips at 705-942-1891 to arrange.

Sat., May 11

Annual Conservation Day hike in conjunction with the Sault Ste. Marie Conservation Authority in the Hiawatha Park area. This is a family event, children are encouraged to attend. Bring a picnic lunch and plan on staying after the short hike to socialize. Meet at the Conservation Sugar Shack on Fifth Line at 11:00 am sharp. Leader: Virve Männiste Squire 705-942-2370.

Sat., May 11

Trail maintenance outing. For details, call Alan Comfort 705-945-9496.

Sun., May 12 END-TO-END #3

The ever popular annual Mother's Day hike! This year, the 3.5 km easy hike will also be considered the 3rd leg of the Saulteaux Section End-to-End series. (The last two hikes

completing the End-to-End will be held in the fall of 1996.) After the hike, we will enjoy hot dogs cooked over an open fire at the Wetzl home-stand. Meet at the Market Mall parking lot at 9:00 am sharp. Leader: Horst Wetzl 705-759-7656.

Mon., May 13

Bi-Monthly Saulteaux Club Meeting at 7:30 pm at the Great Lakes Forestry Centre on Queen Street East. This month's presentation is "Map and Compass Use". Call Gayle Phillips 705-942-1891 for more information.

Sat., May 18-Mon., May 20 (Victoria Day Long Weekend)

Easy hiking in Elliot Lake. Looking for something to do on the long weekend? Why not join us in Elliot Lake for a day hike (and/or overnight stay) on their section of the Voyageur Trail? Anyone interested can contact Gayle Phillips at 705-942-1891 for more details.

Fri., May 24 evening & Sat., May 25 all day

Come and visit the VTA display as part of the Ontario Federation of Naturalists' Convention at the Ramada Inn. If you can help 'man' the display for a while, please contact Gayle Phillips 705-942-1891.

Sun., May 26

Trail maintenance outing. For details, call Alan Comfort 705-945-9496.

Sat., June 1

Trail maintenance outing. For details, call Alan Comfort 705-945-9496.

1996 SUMMER OUTINGS

ADVANCE WARNING (so book your holidays around these!)

Sat., July 27 - Sun., Aug. 4

Canoe (and/or backpacking) Trip in Lake Superior Provincial Park. Hugh Carey (one of the people from Southern Ontario who helped build the Goulais River section last summer) is

interested in leading a week-long canoe outing (and/or backpacking trip) in Lake Superior Provincial Park. Anyone interested in possibly joining in, can contact Gayle Phillips at 705-942-1891.

Sun., Aug. 11 - Sun., Aug. 18

Day hiking along Lake Superior entitled "Let's Try Out the New Guidebook" week. This week long camping trip will start with day hikes in Nipigon, Marathon, Pukaskwa Park and finally end up in Lake Superior Park. We will stay in campgrounds along the way and do day hikes only (unless someone volunteers to lead a backpacking excursion in conjunction). Come out and bring the family! Even if you don't wish to participate in the day hikes, you can lounge in the comfort of the campground in the heart of some of the most beautiful settings in the country and join the hikers around the campfire in the evening to hear all the day's tales! If you have a canoe or kayak and wish to spend your day on the lake, you can do that too! Anyone interested in more details can contact Gayle Phillips at 705-942-1891.

Wed., Aug. 21-Sun., Aug. 25

Trail maintenance outing in Marathon. The Marathon section of the VTA is interested in sponsoring an overnight trail maintenance outing on the beautiful coastline just north of Pukaskwa Park. There is a possibility we will be 'boated-in' to a campsite on the beach where we will do some maintenance during the day and enjoy VTA companionship around the campfire in the evenings. This will be a five day event (counting two full days of travel). Anyone interested can contact Gayle Phillips at 705-942-1891.



(cont'd. on page 7)

OUTING SCHEDULE

(cont'd. from page 6)

And, as if that isn't enough... a new VTA member is interested in leading weekend backpacking excursions on the Lake Superior Park trails. Watch for further announcements in the next newsletter or contact Gayle Phillips at 705-942-1891.

Michipicoten V. T. Club

(Wawa area):

The Michipicoten VT Club will be holding a meeting to determine this year's hiking schedule in **mid-April**. Anyone wishing to attend can contact President, Phil Egan at 705-856-2226 for more details.

The 'Go to Blazes' trail maintenance outing will be held in **May**. Call Phil (above) or Peter Stinnisen 705-856-4270 for further details.

Penewobikong V.T. Club

(Blind River area):

Sun., Apr. 28

'Go to Blazes' trail maintenance outing. Call Dan Wheeler for more details at 705-356-1195.

Sun., May 12

Easy Mother's Day hike. Call Dan Wheeler for more info at 705-356-1195.



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Marathon Voyageur Trail:

Early May

Trail maintenance outings are in the planning stages for early May in the Marathon area. If anyone is interested in helping out, call Al Dixon at 807-229-1612 for more information.

A NOTE TO ALL OUTING

PARTICIPANTS: All outing leaders are unpaid volunteers. You are invited to participate but do so at your own risk. You have to bear responsibility for judging your own level of fitness and endurance. If you have any doubts about the difficulty of the outing, please contact the outing leader(s). **THE OUTING LEADER HAS THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ANYONE NOT PROPERLY ATTIRED.**

A NOTE TO ALL OUTING

LEADERS: Please report back to the newsletter editor a brief summary of the day. Details might include the number of participants, age range, interesting anecdote, duration and/or follow-up social. And please report any part of the trail that is in poor condition to the Trail Master, Alan Comfort.



**For the latest updates on outings
call the Voyageur Trail Association**

INFORMATION LINE

705-253-5353

or 1-800-393-5353

**& select message #9999 with your
touchtone phone 24-hours-a-day,
365 days-a-year.**

To submit your Voyageur Trail section's meetings or outings, send them to Editor, VTA,
Box 20040,
150 Churchill Blvd.
Sault Ste. Marie,
Ontario P6A 6W3
before the next newsletter deadline
(May 1, 1996).

THE 'GALES OF NOVEMBER' HIKE LIVES UP TO ITS NAME-AGAIN!

by Gayle Phillips

As in the past, this year's "Gales of November" hike lived up to its name—not by how many 'Gails' showed up, but by the 'gale' that left us with a foot of snow the morning of the hike!

This was supposed to be the first hike that I ever led. When I pushed open the front door to leave the house and met a great deal of resistance, I knew that I was in trouble. It crossed my mind that if I had planned to lead my first hike LAST year, we wouldn't have had a green Christmas!

I made my way to the Market Mall Plaza thinking that no one would show up to hike with a foot of snow on the ground. But I would have taken bets that Tom and Gail Allinson would show up with skis on top of their car just to tease me a bit.

I was surprised to see five others show up with the same sort of 'glazed' look on their faces that I had.

Thank goodness Steve Dominy showed up to talk some sense into us about not doing the Red Rock trail that had been planned. As much as he thought we wouldn't have any trouble getting down the hill to Red Rock, without four-wheeled drive vehicles we probably wouldn't have been able to get out!

The location was changed to Glenview Cottages and since Steve knew those trails better than I did, I relinquished the lead to him. (This

(cont'd. on page 8)



Darcy Ortiz with Hilary on his shoulders, Fiona Ortiz with Liam in the Snuggli and Cliff Graham hoisting Ian head out in the rain of the Annual Mother's Day hike. (This year's Mother's Day hike will take place on Sunday, May 12. See page 6)



THE 'GALES OF NOVEMBER' HIKE LIVES UP TO ITS NAME-AGAIN!

(cont'd. from page 7)

also insured that the snow would stop, of course.)

The bush was breathtakingly spectacular with mounds of fresh white snow on all the trees. Everyone truly enjoyed the beauty of nature, especially when the sun peeked out from time to time.

Being now second in the procession making their way through the bush, every time Steve brushed against a tree, a mound of snow would land directly on my head to the delight of the other hikers.

They were amazed at my 'control' over nature, when at a rest stop I announced to the world that the tall tree branch holding an unusually heavy amount of snow located directly above my head "would NEVER drop the load on me." A few minutes later I noticed a look of amazement on someone's face,

looked up and saw the load heading right for me. I tried to hide my head but only managed to lose my hat instead, and the snow landed right on my unprotected head!

At the coffee shop after the hike, I melted and looked like a drowned rat!

To our delight, one of our group was from Blind River. She had been somewhat stranded by the weather and decided to join us. Two others were first-timers.

All in all, a good time was had by all (although I haven't seen any of the group return to hike again!) Maybe if I promised not to lead they would come back?!???



NEW YEAR'S DAY CELEBRATION by Patrick Capper

As has become tradition, the Saulteaux Club had a snowshoe outing at the start of the New Year.

We headed down to Red Rock, marvelling at the deep drifts at the side of the road. When we reached the shore at Red Rock, we were surprised to see the cottages having a few inches of snow on their roofs. This was quite a contrast to Sault Ste. Marie, where the latest craze had been shovelling snow - often over 3 feet deep - from roofs. This seemed to serve several purposes - keeping doctors busy mending broken bones from people falling off the roof (I met a dog at the vet that had broken two legs bones falling off a roof). Shovelling also gave some much needed employment to students and the unemployed and it presumably gave peace of mind to the building owner.

I had assumed that the trail would now be free of water and was surprised at how much was still visible along the trail despite the cold weather.

We found that although it was

(cont'd. on page 9)



NEW YEAR'S DAY CELEBRATION

(cont'd. from page 8)

possible to hike along the shore without snowshoes, it was rather slippery and cold there, so we spent most of the time on the trail. Leah Dominy surprised us all on her first snowshoe outing by managing to go as far as our lunch spot. Six of us then persevered a little further until we reached Prince Creek which was in full flow. It was interesting how the snow had bent a lot of small trees over so that at times it was difficult to find a way through without using clippers. There was a lot of open water still visible fairly close to shore, but what was first described as a large white boat turned out on closer inspection to be a small iceberg.

Again, as always, most of us were able to restore some of the lost calories at the donut shop after the hike.



MARATHON COASTAL TRAIL JOINS VOYAGEUR TRAIL SYSTEM

About 6 km of trail built by the Marathon Harbour Marina and boat Club has become part of the Voyageur Trail. Through an agreement, the club will maintain the trail, which runs from Cummings Beach in Marathon north to Sturdee Cove.

This scenic trail features several spectacular vistas, a picnic table, boardwalks, bridges, steps and loop trails. The trail will appear in the new guidebook.

(This is another stop on our "Let's Try Out the New Guidebook" outing—see page 6! This is also where we plan to help with trail maintenance—see page 7!)



NEW CANADIAN AFFILIATE - "TREAD LIGHTLY! — ON LAND AND WATER"

A new organization, Tread Lightly! Canada, was formed recently, when U.S. based Tread Lightly! Inc., licensed a Canadian group to promote Tread Lightly! principles. Its mission is to protect public and private lands through education. It teaches low impact principles of land use that are equally applicable throughout North America and the world for that matter. They are not a lobby group or enforcement agency. Rather, Tread Lightly! promotes land and water use ethics and encourages low impact, cooperative land use to help preserve access to Canada's wonderful backcountry lands for future generations. Because of strong public interest in water sports and recreation, Tread Lightly! will also focus on preserving Canada's vast coastal and inland water ecosystems.

For more information on Tread Lightly! Canada and how you can join, write to Tread Lightly! Canada, P.O. Box 22049, Westmount Station, Waterloo, Ontario. N2L 6J7 (Tel: 1-519-886-4763)



TRAIL MIX...

→ A new safety device is now available. The "Safety Blaster" will produce up to 120 dbs of sound with only a light blow. This safety horn requires no batteries, floats if it falls into water, is easy to fix and can be heard over one mile on water. The "Safety Blaster" is available through Bill Bennett at (705) 949-1955.

→ Stokely Creek Lodge hosted a wilderness Thanksgiving experience during the American Thanksgiving. Guests were encouraged to "work up an appetite on Stokely's trails,

which now include a portion of Canada's new Voyageur Trail."

→ The Voyageur Trail Association is now an agency for selling topographical maps and with the added benefit of no G.S.T.! The more map orders the Association can put in, the better chance of obtaining a volume discount. Contact one of your executive members for further details as to how to put in your order.

→ VTA membership is on the rise. Our total membership for 1995 has reached the highest level since 1986. Special thanks go out to Steve Dominy and Gayle Phillips who drove around Northern Ontario last year, promoting our club. No doubt this extra effort helped our membership grow.

→ After the award presentations at the Annual General Meeting, it was decided by the membership to purchase a log book and record the past and present accomplishments of our members. We are asking members to come forward and let the Editor know which award they were presented with and when. Also, we wish to acknowledge all members who have completed end to end hikes in any given year. Please contact your Editor at 942-2370 with any information you have on accomplishments achieved in past years.

→ Hiking in China - Last year Anthony Pau led a group of hikers on an adventure in China. To retain a manageable group, he had to limit the number to 15 hikers, despite the fact that others had wished to join the group. This year, at the request of the ones who missed out, Anthony has agreed to lead the same adventure again and



(cont'd. on page 10)

TRAIL MIX

(cont'd. from page 9)

is extending the invitation to VTA members who may wish to join the group. Departure dates will be April 8, May 6 or June 3 for a period of 15 or 22 days (in whichever month he can find a large enough group of 15 hikers.) Anthony can be contacted at P.O. Box 5967, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1P4 Tel/FAX (416) 605-7479 anthony@decus.ca

→ Hiking in South Africa - Cheryl Cornish, a travel representative from Reach Out Tours writes that she is interested in offering hiking and outdoor adventure opportunities in South Africa to our members. Anyone interested can reach Cheryl at 905-428-0728 or write to 297 Lakeshore Road East, Suite 7, Oakville, Ontario L6J 1J3.

→ Nominations are now being accepted for executive positions for the Saulteaux Club. Elections will be held at the annual dinner. If you feel you have anything you can contribute to help our club thrive, please step forward. All positions are open.

→ Naturally Superior Adventures is offering a workshop series in outdoor activities in the Wawa area. Each workshop is 8 hours long, offered over a Friday night/Saturday period. Of special interest to VTA members are workshops in Basic Survival in the Northern Bush

and Outdoor Leadership 1 (our own Publicity Director has signed up for this one). The workshops are run by Peter Labor, a graduate of the Outdoor Recreation Program at Lakehead University who has taught outdoor skills and leadership for more than 10 years in Ontario and Nova Scotia. For more information on the workshop series, call Naturally Superior Adventures at (705) 856-2939.

→ David Platt of the Bruce Trail Association writes the following thoughts as he reflects on his work vacation this past summer.

"...Subsequently I spent a week just north of Sault Ste. Marie, this time a Hike Ontario sponsored work vacation where we cleared, blazed and measured a section of the main Voyageur Trail and a loop trail as well as building a section of boardwalk through a marshy area....Credit to the Voyageur Trail Association is the amazing amount of this trail that is developed - through some very rough terrain. Again a lot of work was done with a day of recreation in Lake Superior (Provincial) Park where people swam, hiked and canoed - and saw the Pictographs; a few canoed out on Lake Superior for an excellent view of the Pictographs on the rock face."

This was a very positive report on the idea of work vacations and wonderful feedback on our trail. We

hope to see you here again soon, David.



THE SAULT STE. MARIE REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

*A Proud Landowner
on the Voyageur Trail*

Come visit us at our Conservation
Centre of Excellence

1100 Fifth Line E., Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.
Ph. (705) 946-8530



**VOYAGEUR TRAIL
INFORMATION LINE**
705-253-5353 or
1-800-393-5353
(where available) and
select message #9999
on your touchtone
phone.

THE SHELL ENVIRONMENTAL FUND AND THE NIGERIA ISSUE

by Larry Gringorten

Since the recent executions of nine minority-rights activists in Nigeria by the military junta, Shell International has come under increased criticism for its perceived role in that country's problems and its continuing cooperation with a brutally repressive regime. The nine (including Nobel literature nominee, Ken Saro-Wiwa) were from Ogoniland, a small region in the fertile Niger delta of southeastern Nigeria, and had been campaigning against the government's appropriation of their land for oil production and the widespread environmental damage that Shell's operations were causing in the region. In hindsight, therefore, it was inevitable that objections would be raised by some of our members over new that the VTA had received a grant from Shell Canada's Environmental Fund (see the announcement in this newsletter) and, indeed, this has been the case with some who received advanced notice of the grant.

My purpose in addressing the issue here is to acknowledge these objections, to bring the matter to the attention of all members and to inform you of our present position vis-à-vis Shell and the grant. First, it goes without saying that acceptance of the money from Shell Canada should not be interpreted as a VTA endorsement of the parent company's activities in developing countries. The grant application was submitted long before the Nigerian problem became widely publicized and the award was

(cont'd. on page 11)



THE SHELL ENVIRONMENTAL FUND AND THE NIGERIA ISSUE

(cont'd. from page 10)

subsequently accepted without conscious knowledge of the parent company's activities in Ogoniland. From a practical standpoint, the grant had already been fully incorporated into the current year's budget and financial commitments made before a potential conflict of interest was suggested. Moreover, part of the money has already been spent. Short of a request to VTA members for contributions equivalent to the grant that could be given back to Shell, it is no longer possible to return it.

The problem and our future involvement with Shell will be tabled for discussion at the next executive meeting in February. By that time, I expect to have a response from the company to my request for answers to the accusations against Shell International on its environmental record, as well as a policy statement concerning its future intentions in Ogoniland. Needless to say, the VTA should have promotional ties only to reputable corporate citizens and make every attempt to avoid links to environmentally uncaring companies. Perhaps this is one situation that slipped through the cracks, but it may be prudent to withhold definitive judgement until Shell has had a chance to respond.

Meanwhile, I invite members to comment on this issue in the enclosed questionnaire. Your opinions on this and replies to other questions are vital to guiding the executive in policy decisions that accurately reflect the collective will of the membership.



FILL IN YOUR QUESTIONNAIRE TODAY & MAIL IN THE ENCLOSED POSTAGE PAID ENVELOPE.

1996 VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION MEMBERS LIST

** welcome to new members since last year's printing*

ASSOCIATION AT LARGE

Trudy Campbell, Mississauga
Kay Cartwright, Kingston
Terry Claydon, Scarborough*
L. M. Cornelis, Ottawa
Stephen Crouchman, Wasaga Beach*
Alan Dixon, Marathon*
David Fabricius & C. Rinealla, Hanover
Michael Falconi, Richmond Hill
Debby Gaines, Oakville*
Edith Garrette, Sheguiandah*
Grant Hall, Ingersoll
Steven Hanson, Toronto
Neil G. Isham, Albion, Mich.*
Rene & Lisa Jansen In De Wal, West Hill*
James Kelly, Waterford, Michigan
Peter Kloestra, Walkerton*
Sister Marie Kopin, Mt. Pleasant, Mich.
Land of the Nipigon Waterways*
L. L. Lemanski, Lansing, Michigan
John & Jill Leslie, Guelph*
Mary & Kenneth Lund, North York*
Marian MacLeod, North York*
Pierrette Martin, Levack*
Walter Muma, Brantford
Richard Needham, Rogers City, Mich.
Mike & Anne Olson, Toronto
J. L. Panagopoulos, Bellaire, Mich.*
Jean Smith, Loretto
Allan B. Strong, Waterloo*
Robert Szykowski, Toronto
Sue Thomson, Sioux Lookout*
Brian Tocheri, Marathon
Toronto Hiking & Cons. Club
Maryanne Webber & Richard Carter, Ottawa*
Renea Weesner, Riverside, Calif.*
Edna West & Keith Fullerton, Marathon*

SAULTEAUX CLUB:

(Sault Ste. Marie area)
Tom & Gail Allinson
John A. Anderson
Christopher Aslett*
K. Baldwin & M. L. Murphy
Angie Ballantyne
Greg Barrett*
Joan Belanger, SSM, Mich.
James Bethke, SSM, Mich.
Leonard Bethke, SSM, Mich.
Charles Bosley, SSM, Mich.
Ecki, Annette & David
Brockerhoff

Karen Brown & Randy Wilk*
Barbara & Brian Campbell*
Scot & Kim Capell
Patrick Capper
Arthur Charlebois, Hilton Beach
Robert & Joy Cohen
Alan Comfort
Ray Cormier
Louise, Mark, Andrea & Iain Crofts
Louisa Crossthwaite
Bob Currell
Pim Delfgou, London
Steve Dominy
Jack Donald
Naomi Donat, British Columbia
Jan Duggan*
John Dunning, Echo Bay
Antonio Estrada Garcia & family
David Euler & Gail Giulioni, Echo Bay
Judith L. Falkins
Gail Farewell*
Ferguson family
Mario Festival & Kathy Briscoe
Robert Fleming
H. W. Foster
Jack Freiburger & family*
Sandy Galloway*
Phyllis Gannon*
Denis Godin*
Dennis Gorsuch, SSM, Mich.*
Susan & Cliff Graham
John Granton, Paris*
Larry Gringorten
Rene Groulx
Linda Hadley Piscopo*
Sheila & R. Ian Hamilton
Barry & Carol Hansen, Echo Bay
Dr. George T. Harvey
Stephen & Jannick Harvey
Mark & Eileen Harvey
Dianne Hertz*
Oli Hohmann*

(cont'd. on page 12)



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1996 VTA MEMBERS LIST

(cont'd. from page 11)

SAULTEAUX CLUB: (continued)

Sylvie Horeck & Terry Reid*
 Beth Hronek, SSM, Mich.*
 Gary Huntley
 Helen Hutchinson
 Vicky, Janice & Fran Irving*
 Marybelle Jarvis
 Jin Ji-Zhong
 Jack Jones
 John & Donna Kelso, Echo Bay*
 Susan Kennedy*
 Paul Kniivala, Goulais River
 Ralph Koehler, Bruce Mines*
 Garry Koteles & family
 Gunnar Kristiansen*
 Jerry Kroetsch & S. Mantyla
 Dona Kyostia*
 Mike & Cheryl Landmark*
 Roddie Larsen, Menasha, Wisconsin
 Florence Lawrence, SSM, Mich.
 Darlene & Bob Leistner
 Dr. Ted & Suzanne Luck
 Tim Lynham & Kathy Brosemer
 Myra MacDonald, Echo Bay
 Don Marles
 Pat E. McCaw & William Duffy
 Donald A. McGorman
 Mary McKinnon, Desbarats
 Joy McPhee*
 James & Janice Miller*
 Jennifer Mishaw & S. Carpenter
 Dr. & Mrs. I. K. Morrison
 D. S. Mossa & E. G. Hudson
 Betty Nassoii, SSM, Mich.
 Vince Nealis & Liz Hansen
 Pete Onchulenko
 Darcy & Fiona Ortiz
 Art Osborne*
 Gayle Phillips
 Anne Prickett*
 Ernie Pringle
 Shawn Richards*
 Bill Robinson
 Mary Beth Russ*
 Victoria, Mark & Stormer Santana*
 Brenda Scott
 Verna & Bev Scott*
 Doreen Shaw & Brad Houle*
 Rick Sherman*
 Cassie Shirling*
 Evelyn Simon
 Robert W. Slack, Caledon East
 Guy Smith & Ellen McCarthy*
 Bob Snider, SSM, Mich.
 Virve Männiste & Jack Squire

Cynthia Suhay
 Superior Watersports
 Daniel & Loretta Sweezey, Goulais River*
 Dr. Paul D. Syme
 Nancy & Jim Tibbles
 Mr. & Mrs. V. Tonon
 Noreen Towers
 Anne Trudell
 Travis Turcotte
 Rupert Waas
 Jan Wainwright
 Sheila Walsh & John Johnson, Goulais River
 Donna Weeks
 Doris Welz*
 Elena Wentz, SSM, Mich.*
 Dr. Michael West*
 Horst Wetzl & Lise Reid
 Brian D. Williams, Lachine, Quebec
 Ralph P. Yanni & family
DESBARATS CLUB:
 Lex & Tita Bell
 Dieter & Erika Ropke
PENEWOBIKONG CLUB:
 (Blind River area)
 Mary E. J. Hallett
 Fred, Gladys & Herb Hinton*
 George & Marilyn Kerr
 Gil, Andrea Kidd & family*
 Barb Lawrence
 Vernon A. Lediett
 Norman K. Lediett
 Mary Lou Marshall
 Mississauga Prov. Park Staff
 Utter's Island Resort*
 A. & W. Van Roon*
 Dan Wheeler
ESPANOLA CLUB:
 Michael Murray
COUREURS DE BOIS CLUB:
 (Elliot Lake area)
 Mark Booker*
 Paul Fuller*
 Sabine Atteln & Oskar Mahlmann*

Valerie J. Nolan*
 Jack & Evelyn Smit
SUDBURY CLUB:
 Frank Reynolds
CASQUE ISLES CLUB:
 (Schreiber area)
 Lorne Bourke
MICHIPICOTEN CLUB:
 (Wawa area)
 Peter Burgoyne
 Carol Dersch
 Dorothy & Phil Egan
 Eddie Kontscheider
 Barb & Mark Leschishin
 Ralph H. Mills
 John & Kaileen Morrison
 Isobel Nelson
 Agnes Ostermeier
 Russ & Maria Reid
 Peter & Kristine Stinnissen
 Sister Dolores Turgeon
 David Wells



FROM THE DESK OF THE PUBLICITY DIRECTOR by Gayle Phillips

First of all, I would like to thank my nominators and everyone who voted to award me the Steve Taylor Memorial Award for volunteer of the year. It is *such* a great honour to be the first name installed on this plaque. Steve continues to be an inspiration to me. I'm very pleased that I have some talents and background that can be put to use in this truly wonderful organization.
 Thank you.



IS IT
TIME TO
RENEW
YOUR
MEMBER-
SHIP
?



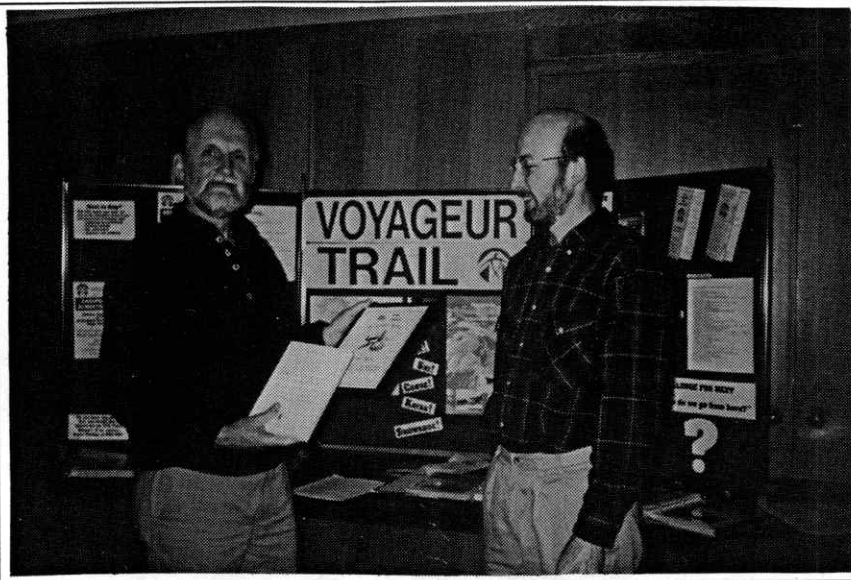
HIKE BRITAIN '96



Vistas of Britain Walking Holidays invites you to explore some of the most fascinating countryside in the U.K. June 28 - July 13: The nestled fishing villages and coastline of Cornwall and the sweeping shores of the Isle of Wight. September 13 - September 29: The wild moors and North Sea beaches of Northumbria and the legendary Lake District

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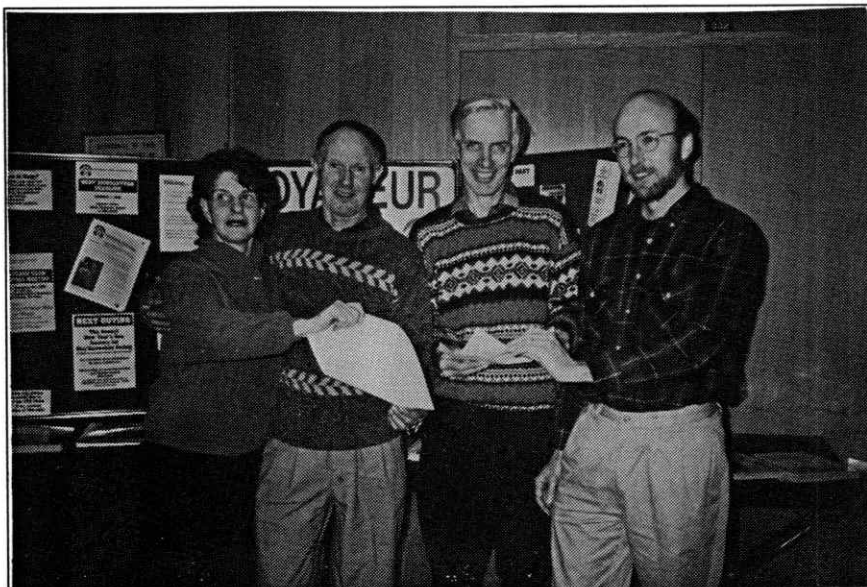
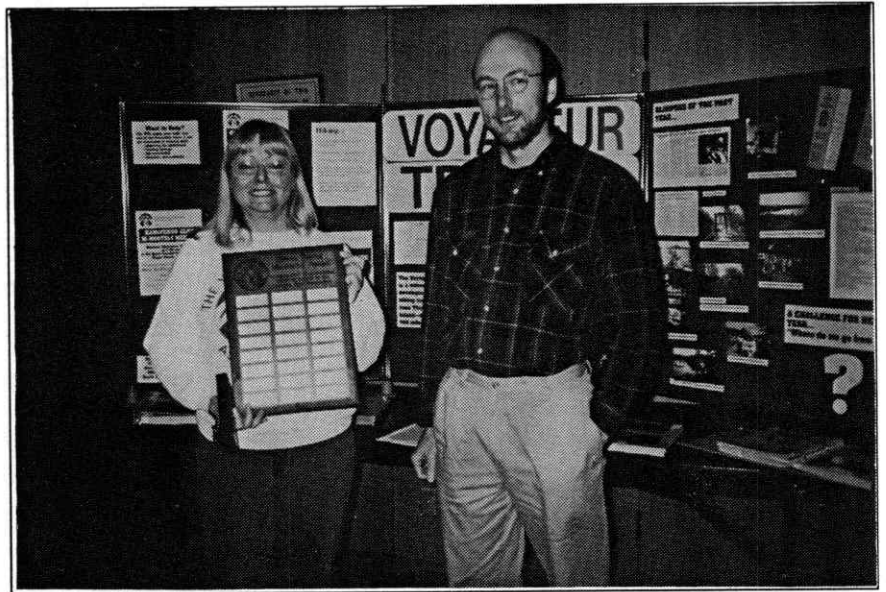
For interesting brochure: Robert Ross 1-800-233-0597 or (519) 579-5140



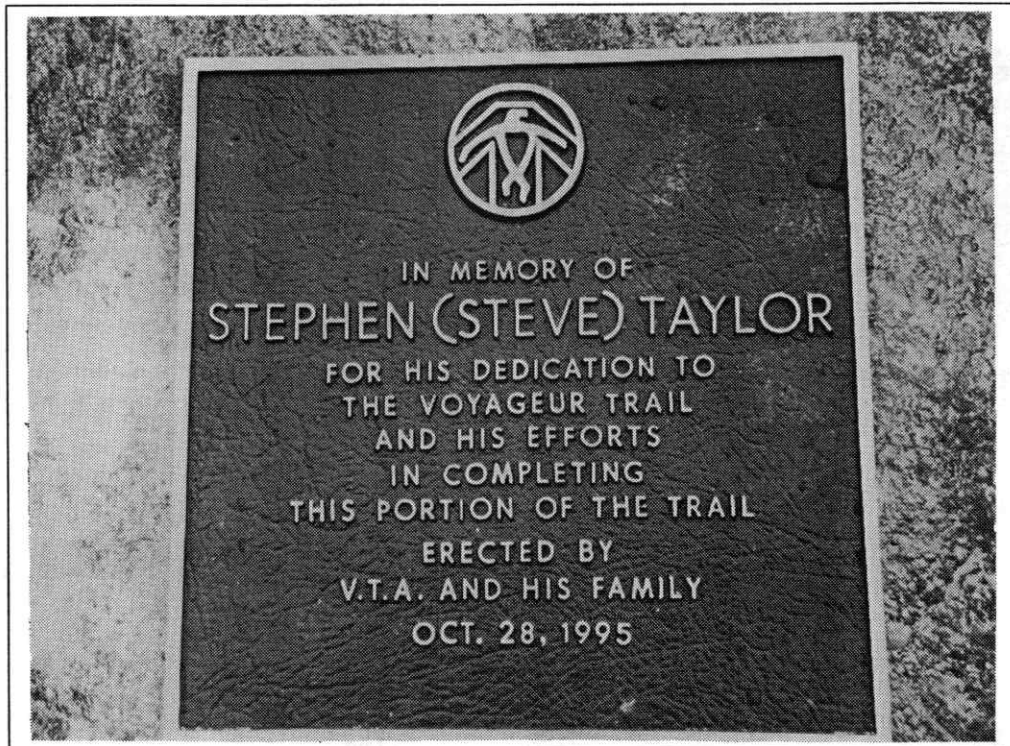
Awards given out at the Annual General Meeting.

Past President Steve Dominy presents Dieter Ropke with the Hike Ontario! award for years of dedicated work with the Voyageur Trail Association.

Gayle Phillips receives the first presentation of the Steve Taylor Memorial Award, given to our volunteer of the year as nominated by our membership.



Horst Wetzl and Patrick Capper receive from Saulteaux Club President, Judy Falkins and Steve Dominy, certificates recognizing their completion of the Saulteaux Section End-to-End hikes in 1994.



On October 28, 1995, the 1st anniversary of his death, a brass plaque in honour of Voyageur Trail Association past-president, Steve Taylor, was unveiled on King Mountain.

Thirty four people assembled on the mountain in two groups for a small ceremony, held at the end of the side trail on the Steve Taylor Trail of the Stokely Section north of Sault Ste. Marie.

One group was treated to several bagpipe pieces by budding piper, Mark Crofts, and later witnessed a lone bald eagle circling overhead. The second group saw a flock of Canada geese fly past in their trademark 'V' formation. Many felt Steve's spirit was present that day on the mountain.

Steve's mother flew in from Scarborough for the occasion, and although Lillian could not make the climb, she greeted all hikers at Stokely Lodge.

Many thanks to Dieter Ropke and Steve Dominy for installing the plaque in the granite, and to Chuck Peterson for permission to mount the plaque on his property.

VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS

VTA ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER THE PAST YEAR (Nov. 1994-1995):

- moved and purged VTA files
- published enlarged 20th Anniversary issue of VT News
- Stokely Section finished, mapped, described for new guidebook
- Steve Taylor memorial hike
- dedication of Stokely Trail to Steve Taylor (arranging plaque, etc.)
- make-up of Executive fine tuned to share more of the load (East, West, Central Vice-Presidents) and regional boundaries set
- 2-year limit placed on Presidency
- participation on Citizens' Committee, Hike Ontario, & 4 Seasons Shared Trail Committee
- recognition of the 'Tom Allinson' trail
- brochure re-design (6,000 printed in last year and 5,000 distributed)
- obtained grant for brochure printing
- brochure numbering system for tracking started
- poster designed and distributed throughout city and surrounding district (3 times a year)
- VTA answering machine investigated & new telephone line introduced at no cost
- Station Mall display in April
- Tourist Information display in September
- 2 CBC interviews promoting Trail
- Cable 10 investigated to possibly create 1/2 hour show
- active newsletter promotion to obtain ads
- trail audit grant obtained through Hike Ontario (audits done in Marathon, Elliot Lake)
- working on Anishinabe/Espanola trail possibly joining the VTA
- investigating an end-to-end recognition
- travelling slide shows to establish/revitalize clubs to Blind River, Elliot Lake, Nipigon, Terrace Bay
- Southern Ontario and BCTV group potluck & trail building at Goulais River
- Goulais River Section map & description done for new guidebook
- insurance releases investigated and liability insurance purchased
- new guidebook (landowner updating work, re-design, GPS partnering, investigations into computerization, investigate costs)
- Ontario Hiking Day promotions & involvement in Terrace Bay, Wawa, Blind River & Sault Ste. Marie
- Ontario Hiking Day story in Sault Star
- French CBC Northern Ontario offers to start advertising outings
- new publicity initiatives for trail cleaning outings
- keeping track of volunteer hours spent on VTA for possible future grants
- hike leadership workshop investigated
- new trail cleaning brochure developed
- letters of welcome from Executive developed
- established a volunteer appreciation award
- appointed member to Recreation Committee of the Algoma Highlands Conservancy
- VTA Photo Album begun
- established agreement with Marathon Boat Club to maintain trail to Sturdee Cove
- measured and described new Marathon trail for inclusion in guidebook
- attended official opening of Nipigon trail, and were interviewed for article in Thunder Bay Chronicle-Journal
- secured grant from Mountain Equipment Co-op to fund trail improvements and guidebook
- received grant to print colour brochure
- applied for grant to hire person to complete guidebook
- developed long-range planning survey questionnaire of membership & landowners
- descriptions of VTA
- Executive positions completed
- a 10-year high membership



VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS

VTA EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT

Larry Gringorten (705) 949-7953

VICE-PRESIDENT - WEST

Peter Stinnissen (705) 856-4270

VICE-PRESIDENT - CENTRAL

Susan Graham (705) 949-4105

VICE-PRESIDENT - EAST

Dan Wheeler (705) 356-1195

TREASURER

Dieter Ropke (705) 942-9636

GENERAL SECRETARY

Ian Morrison

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Patrick Capper (705) 253-4470

PUBLICITY DIRECTOR

Gayle Phillips (705) 942-1891

TRAILMASTER

Alan Comfort (705) 945-9496

LANDOWNER LIAISON:

Jack Donald (705) 942-1761

HIKE ONTARIO REPRESENTATIVE:

Patrick Capper (705) 253-4470

GUIDEBOOK COMMITTEE

Steve Dominy (705) 946-2484

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Editor: Virve Männiste Squire
(705) 942-2370

Layout: Gayle Phillips
(705) 942-1891



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 May 1, 1996.

The Trail User's Code

- **Hike only along marked routes. Do not take short cuts.**
- **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 on a leash, especially on or near farmland and in parks.**
- **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!**