



VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS

PUBLISHED BY THE VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION

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Information Hotline: 705-253-5353 or 1-800-393-5353 (where available) & select # 9999

Special Edition

SUMMER 1996

THE BRITISH ARE COMING! THE BRITISH ARE COMING!

As previously reported in the last issue of the Voyageur Trail News, we are welcoming a group this summer from the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV). These people holiday in foreign countries and do conservation-type projects.

This year, the group will arrive the evening of Monday, August 19 and leave Friday, August 30.

At press time it was reported that there are seven visitors from Britain: a BCTV Leader (as yet unnamed), Melanie Dyer, Stephen Balchin, Mark Garlick, Gary Elderton, Ralph Spencer, Meriel Hughes and two confirmed from southern Ontario: Brian O'Sullivan and David Platt.

Members of the Voyageur Trail Association have volunteered to billet our visitors and entertain them every second evening with a pot luck get-together. These include Jack Donald, Tim Lynham and Kathy Brosemer, Dieter and Erika Ropke, Jack and Virve Squire, Donna Weeks and Linda Badowich.

Horst Wetzl & Lise Reid, Mike & Cheryl Landmark, and Steve & Karen Dominy have volunteered to host potluck dinners as well.

A "Meet and Greet" evening will be held on **Tuesday, August 20 at 8:30 pm** at Jack and Virve Squire's residence at 130 Florwin Drive. If you would like to meet our visitors, this is a perfect opportunity. Bring your own refreshments, your swim-

suit and if you can spare some munchies, even better!

Work projects this year will include:

- **Thessalon Section:** brush clearing, construction of a crossing at a creek near the Hwy. 129 access point and a boardwalk at km 24/25.
- **Goulais River Section:** the 32' boardwalk will be extended to 150'.
- **Stokely Section:** Robertson Lake Road or Robertson Cliff to Stokely: approximately 4.5 km of brush clearing.
- **Echo Ridges Section:** between Tower Lake and Coffee Creek: brush clearing and re-route trail around a beaver dam.

Friday afternoon, August 23 the group will enjoy an afternoon off canoeing the Thessalon River as guests of Dieter & Erika Ropke.

Monday, August 26 is the only full day off the group will have and they have requested to see some of Lake Superior Provincial Park.

Several members have volunteered to work with the group and be their VTA contact for the day but we could always use more! If you would like to come out for a day or two, the Voyageur Trail Hotline will be updated each evening with the location and schedule for the next day. Call 253-5353 or 1-800-393-5353 (where available) and select message number 9999 to hear where the group will be working and what time they plan to start out. If you do not have a touchtone phone, give Gayle Phillips a call at 705-942-1891 and she can let you know the group's plans on any

given day. Car pooling may not be available, so please have your own means of transport, just in case.

Mountain Equipment Co-op has graciously agreed to donate \$2000 to this expedition to help pay for materials and expenses. They have always been very supportive of our organization in the past and continue to help us out when we ask. We are most grateful to them and encourage our members to shop their toll-free catalogue line 1-800-663-2667 often!

Plan a day to meet and work with this group and be a part of their warm memories of Canada and the VTA!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN BLIND RIVER/ELLIOT LAKE AREA

On or shortly after August 25, two gentlemen from Sarnia will be arriving to help us clear and blaze the Coureurs de Bois Section. Delmar Ellis and George Krause will work at the Blind River and Elliot Lake ends, and in the remote central portion, which requires backpacking in. Anyone interested in joining these two gentlemen for any part of their stay can contact Steve Dominy (705-946-2484). Steve will notify you when their arrival/departure dates are confirmed.



more news on back ESP

MICHIPICOTEN CLUB (WAWA) ADDITIONS TO THE HIKE SCHEDULE

(Don't forget the backpacks planned in Lake Superior Provincial Park on August 17 and 24.)

Sunday, September 15 - Peat Mountain Trail (approximately 4 hours)
Call Peter at 856-2290 before Friday, September 13 if you plan to attend.

Ontario Hiking Day - Sunday,
October 6 - 2 hour hike from Wawa
Lake shoreline to Vallee Park.
Meet at the Wawa Post
Office at 2:00 pm.



"LET'S TRY OUT THE NEW GUIDEBOOK" WEEK by Gayle Phillips

The "Let's Try Out the New Guidebook" day-hiking trip to Nipigon, Marathon and Wawa was announced in the last edition of the VT News. Here are more details of the planned trip.

You are responsible for your own reservations (except the two nights in Wawa where a group campsite has been booked already), transportation, food, accommodations and sundry expenses.

You are welcome to join in but, as in all Voyageur Trail outings, you do so at your own risk.

(I am going to leave sometime Saturday, August 10 and drive the 5 hours to Marathon to stay one night at Neys Provincial Park. You are welcome to meet me there or drive all day Sunday (7 hours) and meet at Stillwater Park in Nipigon on Sunday evening.)

Sunday, August 11 ~ 7 hour drive to Nipigon

We will be staying at Stillwater Park (R.R.#1, Nipigon, P0T 2J0 Tel.: 807-887-3701) which is centrally located between Nipigon and Red Rock on Highway 17 North. Reservations are advisable with MasterCard or Visa. Prices are \$14 for 2 persons (children under 10 free), \$16 for site with electricity and \$17 for a site with full services (sewer or dump). Stillwater Park has washrooms, showers, laundry facilities, playground, campfire music and entertainment, a 1 km. hiking trail. Stillwater Creek is home to speckled trout and swimming/canoeing is available in nearby Lofquist Lake.

Monday, August 12 ~ We will do a day hike from Red Rock to Nipigon (trail is 8.2 km or 2.5 hours—3.5 hours including lookouts). There is a possibility of a boat ride from Nipigon back to Red Rock to pick up our cars for a fee which is yet to be determined. For those who do not wish to do the day hike, in addition to amenities the Park offers, there is a golf course nearby and it is a short drive to scenic Ouimet Canyon.

Tuesday, August 13 ~ We will be packing up early and moving back towards Marathon to Pukaskwa National Park (approximately a 2 hour drive). Pukaskwa Park has washrooms, showers, daily nature programs, a gift shop run by Friends of Pukaskwa and hiking trails. Rates are \$15 per night or \$18 for a site with electricity. Reservations are only necessary if you plan on staying a Friday or Saturday night. Call 807-229-0801 for more park information.

In the late afternoon/evening we will take a hike along the Southern Headland Trail or the Halfway Lake Trail in the Park (both are approximately 1 hour long).

Wednesday, August 14 ~ day hike along the Marathon section of the

Voyageur Trail.

Thursday, August 15 ~ We will be packing up and moving back towards Wawa (approximately 2-1/2 hour drive) to Wawa R.V. Resort & Campground, (PO Box 204, Wawa, ON P0S 1K0 Tel.: 705-856-4368) located on Highway 17 North just one mile north of the turnoff to Wawa. We have reserved a group campsite with covered picnic tables for two evenings here at a reduced rate. Park services include showers, washrooms, laundry, store, heated pool, sauna, playground, wagon rides, mini-putt golf course, movies, canoes and boats for rent, basketball, horseshoes and hiking trails. Plenty to do for those who do not wish to do the day hiking!

Thursday evening, there is a possibility of visiting Naturally Superior Adventures for a ride in their Voyageur Canoe and a campfire on the beach of the Michipicoten River. Prices are \$15/person or \$40/family.

Friday, August 16 ~ day hike on the Michipicoten Section of the Voyageur Trail.

The evening will be spent saying goodbye around the campfire at Wawa R.V. Resort & Campground.

Saturday, August 17 ~ you are free to a) head back to the Sault (2-1/2 hour drive), b) do day hikes in Lake Superior Provincial Park, c) stay and enjoy the Wawa R.V. Resort & Campground for the weekend, d) move to campgrounds in LSPP, e) join Beth Hronek in her overnight backpacking trip to Warp Bay in Lake Superior Provincial Park (Beth can be reached at 906-635-9313)—whatever is your pleasure.

If you would definitely like to join me on this week-long excursion, give me a call (Gayle Phillips) at 705-942-1891 evenings and weekends, so I can get an idea of how many people to expect.

