



VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS

No. 69 SPRING 1998

EDITOR: Cheryl Landmark

LAYOUT BY: Gayle Phillips

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VOYAGEUR TRAIL
ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 20040
150 Churchill Blvd.
Sault Ste. Marie Ontario
P6A 6W3

e-mail address:
voyageur.trail@sympatico.ca

INFORMATION LINE

705-253-5353 or
1-800-393-5353
(where available)

Select message No. 9999
on your touchtone phone

Visit our web site at:
<http://www3.sympatico.ca/voyageur.trail>



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MEMBERSHIP FEES AND INSURANCE

There appears to be some confusion regarding the membership fees for 1998. The fee for an individual is \$20.00, which includes liability insurance for that one person only.

The fee for a family or group membership is \$20.00 for one adult, plus an additional \$3.50 per person to insure other members of the family or group.

The \$3.50 is optional but, if it is not paid, that means your family/group members are not covered by insurance should they decide to hike the Voyageur Trail.

For example, if there are two adults in the family, the total cost of the membership fee would be \$23.50, if the second person wants to be insured as well. If there are two adults and a child and all three want to be insured, the total cost would be \$27.00, and so on.

The names of all members who are to be insured must be listed when registering.

We hope that this alleviates some of the misunderstanding.



DEAR LANDOWNER:

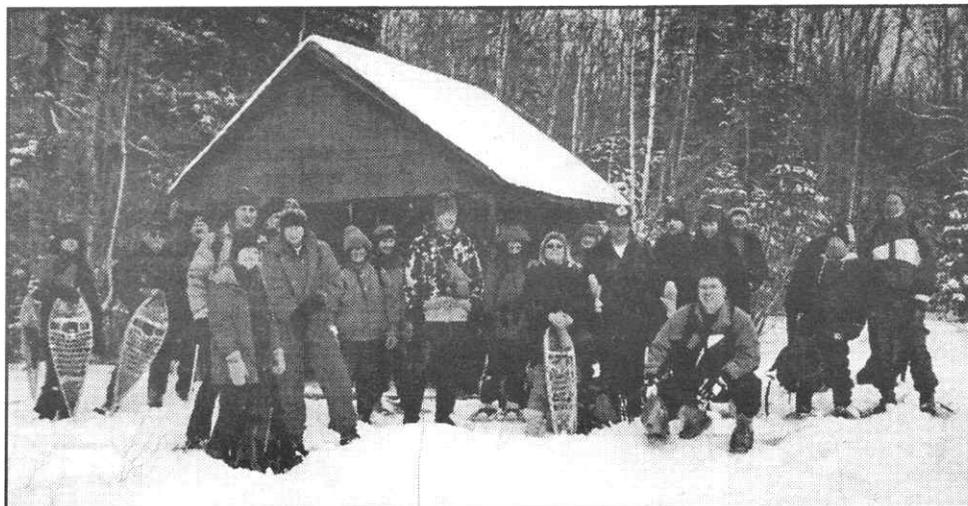
The Voyageur Trail Association would like to take this opportunity to extend our appreciation to you for your continued support and generosity in allowing us to have access to your property. Our members agree to abide by the following Trail Users' Code:

- 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 under control (leash if necessary) and follow your club's guidelines concerning dogs.
- 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.

Our motto is: BE A LOW-IMPACT HIKER!

We look forward to our continued partnership in the years to come and thank you again for being so public-spirited.

Voyageur Trail Association



Here's how it all started-- the very first Saulteaux Club Winter End-to-End! See page 2 for details.

WINTER 1998 END-TO-ENDERS *by Mike Landmark*

Here's how it all ended--with 14 happy wintertime end-to-enders completing the entire 40+ kilometres of Voyageur Trail in the Sauleteaux Section.



It started out as a tiny acorn and grew into a giant oak! Who would have believed that the idea of snowshoeing the Sauleteaux section end-to-end in the winter of 1998 would prove to be so popular? It was an idea conceived by myself last fall as an activity for my wife, Cheryl, and I and possibly one or two other people to participate in. We had already done the end-to-ends in the fall two years ago and wondered what it would be like to do the same thing in the winter. In discussing the idea with other members of the VTA, it was suggested that the outing become part of the VTA schedule for the winter of 1998. The die was cast and my brain child became a seven-part series in the calendar of events.

The turnouts for the outings were nothing short of incredible! We averaged 20 people per outing (with the highest being 30 and the lowest being 17) and had a remarkable number of new faces attend as well. A total of 50 people participated altogether. That's pretty darn impressive! I think the mild weather we had this winter was also a big contributing factor to the higher-than-average turnouts.

At the end of it all, 14 people (including five couples) and 2 dogs completed the whole section of trail, with yours truly doing all but two sections twice! The hardy end-to-enders include: Cheryl and Mike Landmark, Trina and Ron Fournier, Erika and Dieter Ropke, Gayle Phillips, Susan Graham, Pim Delfgou, Anne Prickett, Patrick Capper, Kaarina Kada, Larry Gringorten and Doris Welz. The dogs are Destiny and Max (who probably did the end-to-ends at least twice, if not more!)

It was debatable for awhile whether we would get to complete the last two sections. Our snow almost disappeared on us in late February, but we still had enough in the bush to provide us with a trail to walk on (even though most of us carried our snowshoes instead of wearing them!) and the mid-



March winter blast gave us more snow for the last outing to Mabel Lake.

Some of the highlights include: the most participants (Cheryl Landmark with 30), the most skiers (Garry Koteles with 3), the sunniest and warmest weather (Susan Graham), media coverage from MCTV (Horst Wetzel), the most snowshoes used (Larry Gringorten), the best mug-up afterwards (the Mabel Lake outing), and the most outings led (Mike Landmark with 3). Many thanks to the Sauleteaux Club and its president, Susan Graham, for a great "End to the End-to-Ends Celebration"!

I must say that I never envisioned the tremendous response that these outings engendered, but it certainly is pleasing and, I hope, an indication of how future outings will be attended. It was especially gratifying to see so many new faces because this means that word is getting around that the VTA is a great place to come for exercise, fresh air and camaraderie. These end-to-end outings have been an impressive start to our Jubilee year. Let's keep the momentum going on into the rest of it and beyond!



This fall we are going north!

Not to Alaska, although I'm sure Wawa probably feels much like Alaska sometimes in the winter! The VTA Annual General Meeting for 1998 will be held in Wawa on Sat., October 24, 1998 at the Community Centre. The meeting begins at 2:00 p.m. Everyone's welcome. Refreshments will be served.

On Sun., October 25, 1998, the Michipicoten Club will be hiking the "fume kill" area, so plan on camping overnight and joining the club on this hike. For more information, contact Peter Stinnissen at (705) 856-4270.

I ALMOST MADE IT!

I nearly made the end-to-ends. I was all ready to go on the first outing, but it was just too cold. My feet bother me too much when it's cold, as I am getting along in years. It was the same problem with the second leg of the outings and then I was O.K. I really enjoyed the company and some of the lunches were really good, especially when Mike Landmark gave me some of his beef jerky. The trail was easy to find — all I had to do was follow the path made by the people in the front. However, trail maintenance could have been better as there were branches across the trail and in my face at times. The only time I had trouble was at the lookout on Garry Koteles's outing. I think it's called a lookout because you have to look out that you don't get lost! Mike tried to tell me I was going the wrong way, but I couldn't understand what he was saying. So, I went back the way I came in, but soon caught up with everyone else. I hear they may even name the lookout trail in my honour! Of all the hikes, the last leg was the toughest. It was very cold at the start and having to return along Connor Road made the hike the longest. However, my best friends, Max and Destiny, came along and I really enjoyed the day. I had a good supper when I got home and, after a long snooze, I felt as good as new the next day. Perhaps next winter, Patrick will take me on the first two sections.

That is, if I'm not too old for these long winter hikes then! I'll be eleven in May, so one never knows.



by 'Muffin' Capper (Pat Capper's little dog)



Special Announcement for 1998 Anniversary VTA Members Only!

As a special treat for Voyageur Trail Association members only in this our 25th Anniversary Year, the Association is holding five draws for two seats in Naturally Superior Adventures' 36-foot Voyageur Canoe for the 1999 May Victoria Day weekend May 22, 23 & 24. This guided trip is to a favourite Bill Mason remote location, Denison Falls on the Dog (University) River, 5 km. from Lake Superior near Wawa, Ontario.

Five lucky couples will canoe as the "voyageurs" did, under the watchful eye of Naturally Superior's professional guide for three days and two nights of history, breathtaking natural beauty, solitude, and great companionship.

If you are a VTA member in good standing in 1998, your name will automatically be entered in this draw. If for any reason, you do not want your name to be entered, please contact Membership Secretary, Virve Männiste Squire at (705) 942-2370.

Another good reason for joining the VTA!

Thank you to Naturally Superior Adventures for donating this terrific prize! Visit their web site at:
<http://www.naturallysuperior.com>

TRAIL RUNNING

by Mario Festival

In the last newsletter, I wrote about my intentions of running a long section of the Voyageur Trail. I was hoping at least one other person would be crazy enough to try it with me. I got my wish. Larry Tomie and I set out early on the morning of November 8th. Larry is a very accomplished local athlete and has competed at both the Hawaii and Penticton Ironman Triathlons. In other words, for Larry, there is no such thing as too long or too tough.

We started at Gros Cap and followed the trail all the way to where it crosses Highway 17 North at Glenview Cabins. From there, we followed the roads to my place on Fourth Line. The run/walk took a total of just over 7 hours. We had very good weather for that time of the year and the overall experience was very enjoyable.

The only mishap occurred at a creek crossing at the north end of Peoples Road. I slipped on a log and fell into a deep section of the creek up to my neck. Larry displayed very good restraint by not laughing until several hours later. Since the temperature was only around 7 degrees, this dunking really encouraged me to pick up the pace to keep warm.

I would like to thank my wife Kathy for providing food and drink at two spots along the trail. I am also grateful that Mike Landmark (and others?) coincidentally remarked a section of trail west of Creek Road just days before the run. The area was recently logged and, without the new trail blazes, we would have easily gotten lost.

Well, we had so much fun, I am planning another run this spring. It is tentatively scheduled for the last weekend of April. There will be no bugs and the blazes will be easy to see without the summer foliage.

The plan is to start where the Voyageur Trail crosses the Echo River and finish at Hiawatha Park or my place on Fourth Line. It is roughly the same distance as the first run and, therefore, I estimate it should take around the same amount of time. If anyone is interested, please let me know by calling (705) 949-9847, or e-mailing me at < kathy.mario@sympatico.ca >.



IF YOU CAN GIVE OF YOUR TIME OR TALENT...WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU!

Contact Gayle Phillips (705) 942-1891 or e-mail to:
< voyageur.trail@sympatico.ca > for more information on open positions in the Voyageur Trail Association and Clubs.



PADDLING PARTNERS

by Trina Michelle Fournier

There are a lot of us out there — paddlers, that is. You may have realized this while driving home from a weekend of paddling north or east of the city. In our family, we make a game of counting and identifying the canoes and kayaks that rocket past at 90 kilometres per hour. Short of stopping traffic, the odds of meeting these paddlers are slim at best. Many of us have resigned ourselves to a life of paddler's isolation. While some paddlers are of a solitary breed and prefer the isolation, many of us simply have not had an opportunity to make contact with each other.

If you are of the latter type and would like to network with other paddlers to share trips, tips or a leisurely evening paddle, you may want to consider joining us. Paddling Partners is an informal group of recreational canoeists and kayakers, who meet throughout the year, both on and off the water. We do not offer guided tours and all paddlers who participate are individually responsible. Please note that we welcome paddlers of all skill levels and paddling interests.

For more information, you are welcome to visit our web page at

< <http://www3.sympatico.ca/voyageur.trail/paddling.html> > ,

or contact Trina Fournier at (705) 246-0330,

e-mail < tfournier@sympatico.ca > ,

Gayle Phillips at (705) 942-1891,

e-mail < voyageur.trail@sympatico.ca > , or

Mike Landmark at (705) 779-3409,

e-mail < cheryl.landmark1@sympatico.ca > .

We will also have our outings listed on the hikers' hotline information service, courtesy of the Voyageur Trail Association, at (705) 253-5353 (or toll free, where available 1-800-393-5353) and select message #9999.



FOR SALE: Child's Ski Trailer

- room for one

- complete with ski harness and also hitch for conversion to bike trailer

- may not be flashy, but it's functional!

- \$70.00 or best offer

Call Greg at (705) 256-7041 (Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.)



HIKE ONTARIO BOARD

MEETING by Patrick Capper

The Hike Ontario Board Meeting was held on Saturday, February 21, 1998 in Guelph. During the meeting, Hike Ontario Week for 1998 was discussed. It will be held from Monday, September 28th to Sunday, October 4th. Hike Ontario would like ideas from club members on the following topics:

- | | |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| Monday | - Featuring Recreation |
| Tuesday | - Health |
| Wednesday | - Environment |
| Thursday | - Tourism and Recreation |
| Friday | - Agriculture |

Hike Ontario will no longer be keeping their 1-800 phone number since most of their inquiries come through their website.

The Annual General Meeting for 1998 will be held November 14, 1998 in Uxbridge.

The next Board meetings will be June 6/98 and September 12, 1998.



THE "TRAIL" OF LIFE @ 25

by Frank Brooks

Brother, Sister, can you spare a dime? Or, better still, how about an hour—or 25 (since it is our 25th anniversary)? Share our vision of connecting all the "dots" on our "Trail" of Life, from Manitoulin Island to Thunder Bay by the year 2000. What a dream! But as they say, a journey of a thousand miles starts with just one simple step. We are well on our way to realizing our dream, but we need dedicated volunteers to help us maintain and develop the trail. Care to join us?

If you are available on Wednesdays to participate in work parties, please let me know. You can contact me at (705) 949-9560.

If you are hiking the trail and notice problem areas or work that needs to be done on a section, please notify me by telephone, or through the Voyageur Trail Association e-mail < voyageur.trail@sympatico.ca > and I will see that a work party is organized to clean up the area.

Thank you to the founding members of the Association for giving us a vision to work towards. With everyone's help, we can keep the dream alive.



OUTING SCHEDULE

This schedule was put together early 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 No. 9999 to check if any details of the outing have been changed. This Information Hotline is updated regularly and will have the latest news on the next planned outing. The schedule is also on our web site. Visit: < <http://www3.sympatico.ca/voyageur.trail> >

Saulteaux Club

(Sault Ste. Marie and area—outings marked with an asterisk are outside Sault Ste. Marie)

For all outings, bring water, a lunch, fly repellent and dress appropriately.

Sat., April 18 - Annual Saulteaux Club Dinner

This year is our 25th Anniversary so we are having—25 door prizes! The dinner takes place at the Schnitzel Haus in Buttermilk Alpine Village. Architect, Chris Tossell will present "A Hike Through History—A Tour of Notable Buildings in Downtown Sault Ste. Marie." Tickets are \$22 each (includes a bus ride to and from Buttermilk Hill from the former K-Mart Plaza parking lot). For tickets, call Susan Graham at (705) 949-4105.

Sun., April 19 - Hike of Historic Buildings in Sault Ste. Marie (suitable for young children)

Walk the downtown area to view the buildings highlighted by Chris Tossell in his presentation. This will be a poker hike, with cards distributed along the route. Best hand at the end of the hike wins a prize. Meet at the Visitor Information parking lot at the Sault Canal at 1:30 p.m. Call Susan Graham at (705) 949-4105. Behaved pets are welcome, but by city by-law, bring your leash & pooper-scooper.

Wed., April 22 - Earth Day Clean-Up/Campfire (suitable for young children)

Our annual Earth Day clean-up will take place at Thayer's Acres near Hiawatha Park with a campfire to follow at dusk. Garbage bags will be supplied. Bring your own work gloves and campfire treats, and meet at the former K-Mart parking lot at 6:30 p.m. Call Susan Graham at (705) 949-4105. Behaved pets are welcome.

Sat., April 25 - Camp Stove Potluck

The Paddling Partners are kicking off the paddling season with a Camp Stove Potluck lunch at Red Rock cottage area starting at 11:00 a.m. (Watch for signs.) Bring your camp stove, dishes, ingredients, and recipe for your favourite camp dish. Food will be prepared and consumed on-site and a discussion about cook kits, camping groceries and recipe swapping will take place following. Call Trina Fournier at (705) 246-0330. Please leave your pets at home for this gathering.

***Sun., April 26 - Annual "Go to Blazes" Day**

This year we will be working on a portion of the Desbarats section with Dieter Ropke. Allan Beilhartz will be in attendance to give hands-on instruction on the proper use of a chain saw and brush saw. For those not interested in learning how to use this equipment, there is much blazing and clean-up work to be done on this section. Please call Mike Landmark to register for the chain saw course, as there may be a couple of hours of classroom instruction before we enter the bush. Call Mike at (705) 779-3409. We will meet at the Churchill Plaza parking lot at 9:00 a.m. to car pool. Please leave your pets at home.

***Sun., May 3 - Hike**

We will be hiking the Robertson Cliffs and re-routing our trail away from the cliffs where a couple of peregrine falcons are possibly nesting. Meet at 9:00 a.m. sharp at the former K-Mart plaza to car pool. We will re-group at Buttermilk Hill at 9:30 a.m. Please leave your pets at home for this outing. Call Gale Koteles (705) 949-1302 or Donna Weeks (705) 759-6819.

Sun., May 10 - Annual Mother's Day Hike (suitable for young children)

Horst Wetzl will again lead us from Goulais Avenue to his homestead at the end of Peoples Road where we will enjoy hotdogs cooked over an open fire. Meet at the Market Mall parking lot at 10:00 a.m. sharp to car pool. Behaved pets are welcome but must be leashed at 'hotdog' time. Call Susan Graham at (705) 949-4105.

Fri., May 15 - Sault Canal is open!

Help us celebrate the first day that boat traffic can pass through our Sault Canal by joining in the celebration. Meet at the Sault Canal Visitor Information Centre. Call Mike Landmark (705) 779-3409 for details.

Sat., May 23 - Canoe Day Trip with Don McGorman

We will spend a day canoeing on the Heyden Lake/Trout Lake water trail. This involves paddling five lakes connected by four portages (combined portage length is approx. one kilometre.) You must be part of a self-sufficient, properly equipped canoe party. Call Cynthia Suhay at (705) 949-3642.

Mon., June 15 - Saulteaux Club Meeting

The business meeting will start at 7:30

p.m. at the Great Lakes Forestry Centre on Queen Street East. Afterwards, we will be discussing plans for our October Family Day 25th Anniversary Celebration. Call Susan Graham at (705) 949-4105.

***Sat., June 20 & Sun., June 21 - End-to-End of the Desbarats Section**

Dieter and Erika Ropke will lead as we hike the whole section. Come for both days, or join us for one only. Saturday night's accommodations can be your tent or a rented cabin on Ottertail Lake. Behaved pets are welcome. Call Dieter and Erika at (705) 942-9636.

Sun., July 12 - Red Rock clean-up

Trina Fournier will lead us on a clean-up of the Red Rock shoreline both by canoe (waves permitting) and by hiking the Voyageur Trail in the area. This is part of the Canadian Canoe Route Environmental Clean-Up Project. Bring your work gloves (garbage bags will be supplied) and meet at the Market Mall parking lot at 9:00 a.m. sharp to car pool. Behaved pets are welcome. Call Trina at (705) 246-0330.

Tues., July 14 - Sault Canal re-opening

Mike Landmark will lead us on an evening hike around South St. Mary's Island to celebrate the official re-opening of the repaired Sault Canal. Meet at 7:00 p.m. at the Sault Canal Information Centre parking lot. Behaved pets are welcome. Call Mike at (705) 779-3409.

Wed., July 15 - Homecoming Evening Hike

Join us as we stroll around the Gros Cap loop trail at 7:00 p.m. with former residents of the Sault in town for Homecoming. For more info, call Susan Graham at (705) 949-4105.

***Sat., July 18 - Canoe/Kayak day trip on the Thessalon River**

You must be part of a self-sufficient, properly equipped canoe/kayak party. Meet at the Churchill Plaza parking lot at 8:30 a.m. sharp. Call Dieter and Erika Ropke at (705) 942-9636. Please leave your pets at home for this outing.

(Continued on page 6)



OUTING SCHEDULE

(Continued from page 5)

*Sun., July 19 - Hike the Harmony Trail with Neil Ray

Neil will lead us on a section of the new Harmony Trail. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Harmony Beach parking lot near the river. Behaved pets are welcome. You may wish to bring your swimsuit and towel for a dip afterwards. Call Neil at (705) 649-0874.

*Sat., August 8 - Trail Maintenance

Gayle Phillips will lead us on a section near Bruce Mines. Tools will be provided. Behaved pets are welcome. Meet at the Churchill Plaza parking lot at 9:00 a.m. sharp to car pool. We will re-group at Bobbers Restaurant in Bruce Mines at 10:00 a.m. Call Gayle at (705) 942-1891.

*Sun., August 16 - Hike at Griffon Lake

Ron Fournier (or Garry Koteles) will lead us out to the Turkey Lakes area for a hike to Griffon Lake. Meet at the former K-Mart parking lot at 9:00 a.m. sharp to car pool. Call Ron at (705) 246-0330 or Garry at (705) 949-1302. Behaved pets are welcome.

Sat., August 22 & Sun., August 23 - Overnight Backpack to Mabel Lake

Pim Delfgou will lead us on an overnight backpack from Thayer's Acres to Mabel Lake. This is suitable for beginners. You must be part of a self-sufficient, properly equipped party. We will meet at the former K-Mart plaza parking lot at 9:30 a.m. Behaved pets are welcome. Call Pim at (705) 759-1053.

*Sat., August 29 - Trail Maintenance

Frank Brooks will lead us to the Bruce Mines area. Tools will be provided. We will meet at the Churchill Plaza parking lot at 9:00 a.m. sharp to car pool. We will re-group at Bobbers Restaurant in Bruce Mines at 10:00 a.m. Call Frank at (705) 949-9560.

*Sun., September 6 - Hike the Harmony Trail with Neil Ray

Neil will lead us on a section of the new Harmony Trail. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Harmony Beach parking lot near the river. Behaved pets are welcome. You may wish to bring your swimsuit and towel for a dip afterwards. Call Neil at (705) 649-0874.

*Sat., September 12 - Hike in the Goulais River area

Jack Donald will lead us as we hike a section of the Goulais River loop trail. Meet at the former K-Mart parking lot at 9:00 a.m. sharp to car pool. Please leave your pets at home for this outing. Call Jack at (705) 942-1761.

*Sun., September 13 - Trail Maintenance

Frank Brooks will lead us as we clean a section in the Thessalon area from Highway 129 towards Long Lake. Tools will be provided. We will meet at the Churchill Plaza parking lot at 9:00 a.m. sharp to car pool. We will re-group at Bobbers Restaurant in Bruce Mines at 10:00 a.m. Call Frank at (705) 949-9560 for more info.

Sat., September 19 - Canoe Day Trip with Don McGorman

We will spend the day canoeing the water trail that joins Trout Lake and Crystal Creek. This trip involves paddling two lakes and five ponds, connected by six portages (combined length of portages is approx. one kilometre). You must be part of a self-sufficient, properly equipped canoe party. Call Cynthia Suhay at (705) 949-3642.

Mon., September 21 - Sauleaux Club Meeting

The business meeting will start at 7:30 p.m. at the Great Lakes Forestry Centre on Queen Street East. After the regular meeting, we will be discussing plans for our October Family Day 25th Anniversary Celebration. Call Susan Graham at (705) 949-4105.

*Sat., September 26 & Sun., September 27 - Pancake Bay weekend

Join us as we camp the weekend at Pancake Bay Provincial Park. For more information regarding Pancake Bay camping, call Donna Weeks at (705) 759-6819. On Sunday, Cynthia Suhay will lead us on the Pancake Bay Hiking Trail. For more information regarding the hike, call Cynthia at (705) 949-3642.

Sat., October 3 - 25th Anniversary Jubilee Family Day Celebration

Join us at the Kinsman Park for a day of food, refreshment, hiking and a celebration of 25 years of Voyageur Trail fun! Call Steve Dominy at (705) 946-2484.

*Sat., October 3 - Bicycle Trip

Join Dieter and Erika Ropke on a bicycle trip in the Rydal Bank area. Meet at the Churchill Plaza parking lot at 9:00 a.m. sharp to car pool. We will re-group at Bobber's Restaurant in Bruce Mines at 10:00 a.m. Call Dieter and Erika at (705) 942-9636 for more information. Please leave your pets at home for this outing.

Sun., October 4 - Ontario Hiking Day

Two outings to choose from!
For families with young children, Steve Dominy will lead us on a short hike on the Goulais River loop trail from Highway 552 to Witry Road. Please leave your pets at home for this outing. Meet at the former K-Mart Plaza parking lot at 10:00 a.m. to car pool. Call Steve at (705) 946-2484.

*For older folks...join us as we hike from Bass Lake Road, along Coffee Creek to the Echo River in the Echo Ridges section with Garry & Gale Koteles. Meet at the Churchill Plaza parking lot at 9:00 a.m. sharp to car pool. Call Garry/Gale at (705) 949-1302. Please leave your pets at home.

*Sun., October 18 - Trail Maintenance

Join us as we hike and do some trail maintenance from the Melwel Lodge Road to Iron Bridge. Meet at the Churchill Plaza parking lot at 9:00 a.m. sharp to car pool. We will re-group at Bobbers Restaurant at 10 a.m. Tools will be provided. Call Frank Brooks at (705) 949-9560. Behaved pets are welcome.

*Sat., October 24 & Sun., October 25 - Wawa weekend Annual General Meeting (see page 2)

*Sat., October 31 - Trail Maintenance

We will clean the Voyageur Trail from Long Lake towards the gravelled cottage road. Tools will be provided. Meet at the Churchill Plaza parking lot at 9:00 a.m. sharp to car pool. We will re-group at Bobbers Restaurant in Bruce Mines at 10:00 a.m. Call Frank Brooks at (705) 949-9560. Behaved pets are welcome.

Sun., November 1 - The Gales of November Hike

Join the "gales" as they lead us on a section of the Tom Allinson Spur Trail. Meet at the Market Mall parking lot at 9:00 a.m. sharp to car pool. Behaved pets are welcome. Call Gayle Phillips at (705) 942-1891.

Mon., November 2 - Sauleaux Club meeting

After the regular business meeting, starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Great Lakes Forestry Centre, we will plan the winter outing schedule. This is our annual "end-of-the-hiking-season" pizza social. Pizza and refreshments will be available for a nominal fee. Bring your photos to share. Call Susan Graham at (705) 949-4105.

Tuesday, December 8 - The Voyageur Trail is closed for the day.

(To keep the trail from becoming a "public right-of-way" we protect our landowners by closing the trail for one day a year.)

ALWAYS...call the Information Line at (705) 253-5353 (or 1-800-393-5353 where available) and select message #9999 to check on the last-minute changes.



NOTE:

If you are available to go out mid-week to clean trail, call Frank Brooks at (705) 949-9560.



CASQUE ISLES CLUB

REPORT by Mike Scott

On March 25, thirteen people showed up to vote in our Executive Board. Here are the results:

President/Trail Master: Mike Scott
Treasurer/Secretary: Alice Scott
Newsletter/Publicity: Mary Deschatelets
Special Events Director: Maureen Tychoniak

After quickly reviewing the 1997 season in the business agenda, we discussed the tender (deadline is April 24) that we are placing for a contractor to clear the trail.

Linda Trapp and I are working on new and improved access signs for the trail.

We closed the meeting with a very spirited, passionate, and emotional debate on the pros and cons of the Lake Superior Marine Conservation Area Proposal. It looks like we've got a fun year ahead of us!

Casque Isles Club (Terrace Bay, Schreiber, Rossport area)

For all outings, bring water, a lunch, fly repellent and dress appropriately. Call Mike Scott at (807) 824-2052 for info.

Wed., May 20 - 7:00 p.m. General Meeting
Terrace Bay Rec. Center

Sat., May 23 - 10:00 a.m. "Go To Blazes" Hike
Rainbow Falls to Gunflint Island and return.

Sun., June 14 - 1:00 p.m. Short Hike
Hydro Bay to Overhanging Rock Cave and return.

Sun., June 28 - 1:00 p.m. 2nd Annual Lyda Bay Hike
for Terrace Bay July 1st celebrations. For children and less experienced hikers, one group will hike to Danny's Cove and return, other group will do complete trail.

Wed., July 15 - 3:00 p.m. General Meeting and Barbeque
at Clayton Gordon's camp at Selim. Meeting, games, barbeque, & maybe a short hike for club members, spouses, children & friends.

Wed., July 22 - 10:00 a.m. Guided Nature & Interpretive Hike
for children, Schreiber to Schreiber Beach, picnic lunch & return. Part of Schreiber Heritage Days Celebrations.

Sat., July 25 - 1:00 p.m. 2nd Annual Schreiber Heritage Days Hike from Schreiber to Mount Gwynn and return.

Sat. & Sun., August 15 & 16 - 10:00 a.m. Overnight Hike for club members only: Hydro Bay to Worthington Beach. Camp out overnight, with campfire. Next morning we go over Mount Gwynn to Schreiber.

Wed., August 26 - 6:00 p.m. Evening Hike at Rainbow Falls along Superior & Selim Lookout Trail, return to park for campfire.

Sat., Sept. 12 - 9:00 a.m. Hike from Nipigon to Red Rock with Nipigon-Red Rock Hiking Club.

Wed., Sept. 23 - 7:00 p.m. General Meeting
Terrace Bay Rec. Center

Sat., Oct. 3 - 10:00 a.m. Ontario Hiking Day Hike
Rainbow Falls to Rossport, with Nipigon-Red Rock Club members, and public.

***Sat., October 24 & Sun., October 25- Wawa weekend Annual General Meeting** (see page 2)

Wed., November 25 - 7:00 p.m. General Meeting
Terrace Bay Rec. Center



TRAIL TIDBITS

Photographs of the Voyageur Hiking Trail

The VTA Webmaster is looking for photographs of the Voyageur Hiking Trail (with or without people, in any season) to feature on our VTA web site. Entrants will receive their photograph back if you enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. You are asked to write on the back of the photo, where it was taken, when it was taken, who is in the picture and who took the photo. You should also include your e-mail address (if you have one) so you can be notified when your photo is on display. Please contact Gayle Phillips at (705) 942-1891, mail c/o 25 Pardee Avenue, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6B 1V9, or e-mail to: <voyageur.trail@sympatico.ca >.

Sault Canal Re-Opening

The Sault Canal will be re-opening in May 1998, with an official ceremony on July 14, 1998. Parks Canada has asked the VTA to participate in the opening with a static display and possibly an outing around Whitefish Island. If you would like to volunteer your time for this activity, please contact Mike Landmark at (705) 779-3409.

Chainsaw Safety Course

If anyone is interested in attending a Chainsaw Safety course, contact Mike Landmark at (705) 779-3409. If enough interest is shown, a course will be scheduled at the end of April. There will be no certificate issued from the course.

Membership Incentive Draw

The Membership Incentive Draw was held at the VTA Board and Executive Meeting on Saturday, February 21, 1998. Cathy Magill of Calumet City, Illinois was the lucky winner of the draw. She wins a beautiful pottery vase generously donated by Erika Ropke. *Congratulations, Cathy!*

Remembrance?

During the end-to-end outings on the Saulteaux Section this winter, a curious object was spotted on one of the outings. Along the section that runs from Creek Road to Maki Road, someone has hung a remembrance wreath on one of the lookouts. Susan Graham has adopted this section and is wondering if this is perhaps a memorial, or a site that is particularly special to someone for some reason. If anyone has any information on the wreath, she would love to hear from them. She can be reached at (705) 949-4105.

Hiking and Ecotouring on the North Coast of BC

Oona River Getaways is a small business that caters to different types of adventures such as kayaking trips, hiking, ecotouring, and sportfishing. It caters to both high-end travelers and budget travelers. This year, a small hostel is being built so that people on fixed budgets can experience the area. Oona River Getaways is located on the North

(Continued on page 8)



LANDS FOR LIFE UPDATE

by Deanna Maki and Gayle Phillips

Last spring, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) launched a land use planning process called "Lands for Life" which will, in a year determine land uses on public lands into perpetuity. This fast-track process is the current government's response to decades of conflict over activities on crown land. While a comprehensive land-use process has been long called for, this program risks conflict between interest groups, rather than resolving long standing land use issues.

Lands for Life has three main tracks: "Nature's Best" - to complete the network of protected areas and conservation reserves; Resource-Based Tourism Policy, which is intended to "identify resources for use by the tourism industry"; and Forest Management, which the MNR publication claims "will ensure that forests are managed sustainably".

For this exercise, the province has been divided into three regions, in which Roundtables were established: Boreal East, Boreal West and Great Lakes - St. Lawrence. The Great Lakes - St. Lawrence region, into which Algoma falls covers an area from Wawa on the east coast of Lake Superior to Cornwall on the St. Lawrence River, a good distance east of Lake Ontario.

In response to "Lands for Life", many partnerships have been formed including the Wildlands League, the World Wildlife Fund and the Federation of Ontario Naturalists who joined in the *Partnership for Public Lands*. The Partnership has issued a position paper which many conservation groups have endorsed. The paper calls for among other things, a designation and protection of not less than 15 to 20% of the public lands in each ecological district for remote wilderness, old growth forests, wetlands, parks or protected areas and for wilderness-based recreation and employment opportunities.

As you read this, the Lands for Life process will be well underway in Phase 2 of their agenda. After listening to public input on land use concerns throughout the province last fall in Phase 1, the Lands for Life Committee has returned to the province with four scenarios on how the province should be divided into various land use areas. These scenarios range from maintaining the status quo resource extraction and industrial uses (scenario #1) to protecting 15 to 20% (scenario #4) of the land base as called for in the Partnership's public response. Copies of the scenarios are available through the MNR. Our job is to study each scenario and present our views on which best fits our own concerns.

During Phase 1, the Voyageur Hiking Trail was represented by presentations in Sault Ste. Marie, Wawa, Nipigon and Thunder Bay by the various local hiking clubs. Our views were heard about protecting our trail route, as scenarios two, three and four all have addressed the protection of the shoreline of Lakes Superior and Huron for the extension of our trail route and as prime tourism locations.

On April 7 and 8, the roundtable returned to the Sault to hear public responses to these four scenarios. After this round of public consultation, the Roundtable will present a draft "preferred land use option", which will eventually be presented to the Minister of Natural Resources for approval. The Roundtable will also be returning to Sault Ste. Marie in late May/early June to gather public input on the preferred land use option.

The Partnership for Public Lands has sponsored a local coordinator in each community, along with a regional coordinator in each ecological district to facilitate public awareness, outreach and encourage participation in the Lands for Life process. Contact Deanna Maki at 945-1573 for a copy of the Partnership's position paper or if you would like to become involved in the decisions that will determine the fate of Ontario's public lands.



TRAIL TIDBITS (Continued from page 7)

Coast of British Columbia just south of Alaska. If you want more information, check out their web page:
< <http://www.marlintravel.com/oona.htm> >.

Building Hiking Trails in China

The Representative Office of China AnHui Provincial Ministry of Tourism in North America is in the process of introducing to the people of China:

1. HIKING as a healthy sport for fitness.
2. VOLUNTEERISM in building and maintaining Hiking Trails for public usage.

The office would like to invite any of our members to join them in this project of "Building Hiking Trails in China".

Visit their web-site at
< <http://www.china-hiking.com> >
for more information.



Volunteerism Pays Off!

A young man from Sault Ste. Marie has certainly reaped the rewards of being a volunteer and becoming involved in his community. In October of 1997, Douglas Patterson, 18, a student at St. Mary's College, was honoured with the Duke of Edinburgh Award. The Duke of Edinburgh Award is an individual achievement program tailored to help young people between the ages of 14 and 25 develop a sense of responsibility to themselves and their community. Participants achieve the award by attaining personally established goals in the areas of community service, skills development, physical fitness and expeditions. In the summer of 1997, Douglas Patterson performed many hours of volunteer work cleaning, improving and maintaining the Voyageur Hiking Trail near Haviland Bay.

Congratulations to Douglas on his prestigious achievement!



Go Big!
Go Superior.

visit us on the www!
naturallysuperior.com

Voyageur Canoe tours & trips
Canoe and Kayak day-trips & excursions
Outfitting, rentals and instruction

Naturally Superior Adventures
RR#1, Lake Superior, Wawa, Ontario P0S 1K0
Tel/fax: (705)856-2939; naturallysuperior.com



or call toll-free 1-800-203-9092

The Saulteaux Club in Sault Ste. Marie would like to thank the following businesses/individuals who generously donated prizes for the 25th Anniversary Annual Dinner: Clean North, Pim Delfgou, Duke of Windsor, Group Health Centre, Guillevin International, JB Environmental Cleaning, Johnvince Foods, Lamon's Printing, Mike & Cheryl Landmark, Naturally Superior Adventures, Northern Credit Union, The Old Ski House, Ontario Clean Water Agency, Ontario Lottery Corporation, Dieter Ropke, Sault Scuba, Soo Promo, The Wine Barrel and the Voyageur Trail Association.

TVOntario's "Patti and Joe" makes one little boy's day!



In February, TVOntario's Patti and Joe visited the volunteers of the Voyageur Trail Association as we helped children with their first snowshoe experience at Sault Ste. Marie's Winter Carnival - Bon Soo. They filmed a segment for their show with Ian Graham, and wowed the children with their antics. Starting from left at back, clockwise: Cheryl Landmark, Mike Landmark, Gayle Phillips, Susan Graham, "Patti", Ian Graham, and "Joe".



----- (clip and mail) -----

VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM (please print)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov./State: _____ Postal/Zip Code: _____

Please check one: New Member Renewal Phone (home): _____ (work): _____

E-mail address: _____ OK to put on VTA website? yes no

MEMBERSHIP FEES: (January 1st to December 31st—fees paid after October 31st will be applied to the next membership year)

Individual (includes liability insurance for one person only)..\$20 = _____

Family/Group (\$3.50 per additional member at the same address, to cover optional liability insurance coverage for outings—please supply name(s)) = _____

Student.....\$10 = _____

Donations (tax receipt will be sent)..... = _____

Guidebook (member) \$15 x ____ (non-member) \$25 x ____ = _____

Crest \$3 x ____ Pin \$3 x ____ = _____

T-Shirts: sleeves -short \$12 x ____ -long \$15 (size ____).. = _____

Sweatshirt \$20 x ____ (size _____)..... = _____

For Topography Maps \$9.50 / Tyvek \$11 -

Call Steve (705) 946-2484

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Make cheques payable and mail to:
VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION,
P. O. Box 20040, 150 Churchill Blvd.,
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada P6A 6W3

For non-members, the Guidebook is now available from Pickwick Bookstore, Clean North, Dunn's Authors, The Trading Post and Jan's Place in Sault Ste. Marie, the Travel Information Centres in Wawa and Blind River, the Blind River Public Library, Lake Superior Provincial Park office, Pukaskwa National Park Visitor's Centre, Take a Hike in Thunder Bay, and Mountain Equipment Co-op in Toronto.

(Continued on back -) 9



VTA EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT:

(position available)

VICE-PRESIDENT - WEST:

Peter Stinnissen (705) 856-4270

VICE-PRESIDENT - CENTRAL:

Mike Landmark (705) 779-3409

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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: Cheryl Landmark

(705) 779-3409

Layout by: Gayle Phillips

(705) 942-1891



The VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS is published two or three times per year. Your articles and photos are always welcome!

Send them to Cheryl Landmark, c/o Voyageur Trail Association, PO Box 20040, 150 Churchill Blvd., Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 6W3 or phone (705) 779-3409 e-mail to: <cheryl.landmark1@sympatico.ca>

Deadline for the next issue is November 1, 1998.

Trail Users' 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 under control (leash if necessary) and follow your club's guidelines concerning dogs.
- 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!**

-----✂-----✂-----✂----- (clip and mail) -----✂-----✂-----✂-----

DECLARATION: I understand that the Voyageur Trail is a wilderness trail and some remote or little-used sections may be in poor condition due to fallen trees or regrowth of vegetation. I understand I hike it at my own risk. I have read and will abide by the Trail Users' Code. (signature) _____

I WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trail development | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter, guidebook, photography |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hike leader | <input type="checkbox"/> Landowner liaison, records, maps | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organization—executive, directors | <input type="checkbox"/> Special events; conferences, dinners | |

Please consider me a member-at-large or a member of (check one below): (*denotes active sections)

<u>Section</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Club</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Thunder Bay	Thunder Bay V.T.C.	<input type="checkbox"/> Desbarats	Desbarats V.T.C.
<input type="checkbox"/> Nipigon		<input type="checkbox"/> Thessalon	Thessalon V.T.C.
<input type="checkbox"/> *Schreiber	Casque Isles V.T.C.	<input type="checkbox"/> Iron Bridge	
<input type="checkbox"/> Marathon		<input type="checkbox"/> Blind River	Penewobikong V.T.C.
<input type="checkbox"/> Pukaskwa National Park		<input type="checkbox"/> Elliot Lake	Coueurs de Bois V.T.C.
<input type="checkbox"/> *Wawa	Michipicoten V.T.C.	<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish	
<input type="checkbox"/> Lake Superior Provincial Park		<input type="checkbox"/> Massey	
<input type="checkbox"/> Batchewana		<input type="checkbox"/> Espanola	Rainbow V.T.C.
<input type="checkbox"/> *Harmony Beach/Havilland Bay		<input type="checkbox"/> Little Current	
<input type="checkbox"/> Goulais		<input type="checkbox"/> Sheguiandah	
<input type="checkbox"/> *Sault Ste. Marie	Saulteaux V.T.C.	<input type="checkbox"/> South Baymouth	
<input type="checkbox"/> Echo Bay	Echo Ridges V.T.C.	<input type="checkbox"/> Sudbury	Sudbury V.T.C.

