



No. 73 SUMMER 1999

Published by the
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A member of
Hike Ontario,
National Trail Association,
Ontario Trails Council, and
Trans Canada Trail
Foundation.



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VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS

EDITOR: Cheryl Landmark

LAYOUT BY: Gayle Phillips

WE HOPE YOU STAY AND PLAY! by Gayle Phillips

The Voyageur Trail Association and Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario are proud to be hosting the 1999 Hike Ontario Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 25, 1999. We are planning such a good time, the Ontario Trails Council decided to hold their meeting here too!

Hike Ontario is the coordinating body for hiking trails and hiking clubs in Ontario. Member organizations have more than 2500 kilometres of hiking trails in the province. Hike Ontario also has individual members who share its vision and mission: to encourage the development and maintenance of hiking trails and to promote hiking.

The Ontario Trails Council is a non-profit organization dedicated to the creation, development, preservation, management, and use of all kinds of recreational trails in Ontario. They are the official agents of the Trans Canada Trail Foundation in Ontario and work with local associations to develop the integrated trail network that will allow the public unprecedented opportunities for hiking, cycling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, and other recreational pursuits.

Here is a glimpse of events planned for the weekend of September 24 to 26:

Friday, September 24 - Welcoming Reception
7:00 - 9:00 p.m. No charge, courtesy of Experience North Adventures This reception will take place at the Superintendent's Residence at the Sault Canal. Between hellos, visitors may step outside and watch boats lock through the Canadian Locks system which lifts and lowers ships the approximately seventeen foot difference between Lakes Huron and Superior.

Saturday, September 25 - 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Hike Ontario Annual Meeting, Lunch
(approximately \$7 for lunch).

After lunch, Craig Zimmerman of Experience North Adventures will give us a *slide presentation* on Pukaskwa National Park (located near Marathon), and Lake Superior Provincial Park (located approximately one and one-half hour's drive north of Sault Ste. Marie). The rugged beauty of these two parks will leave a lasting impression. We guarantee it!

2:00 - 5:00 p.m. **Hike at the Gros Cap bluffs** overlooking St. Mary's River and Whitefish Bay (where the Edmund Fitzgerald went down)

6:00 p.m. - **fish fry dinner at Blue Water Inn** at Gros Cap (approximate cost - \$10 without refreshments)

Sunday, September 26 - Two hikes to choose from:

The first will be a morning jaunt up **King Mountain** with Patrick Capper, for those who would like to start the drive back on Sunday. Bring water and a snack. Hike involves significant climbing. We leave from Zellers parking lot at 8:01 a.m. promptly and expect to return at 12:15 p.m.

The second is an **all day hike in Lake Superior Provincial Park** with Gayle Phillips for those visitors who are planning on staying an extra night. Bring water, lunch, dress appropriately for rock-hopping and meet at 8:30 a.m. sharp at the Zellers parking lot. Bring \$7.50 for a day pass for your vehicle and have at least 1/2 tank of gas for the trip. Behaved pets are welcome but must be leashed in the Park. Bring extra money in case we decide to stop for dinner on the ride home. We should be back around dinner time.

As a special treat, Lou Pagnotta of **Experience North Adventures** has generously donated a **DOOR PRIZE!**

(Continued
on page 2)



WE HOPE YOU STAY AND PLAY!

(Continued from page 1)

Attendees of the Hike Ontario Meeting will have their names entered into a draw for **7 days of hiking in Pukaskwa National Park** (a \$975 value!) Anyone can attend this meeting but only members in good standing will be allowed to vote on issues arising. (There are no registration fees, but we would appreciate it if you would let us know you are planning to attend so we can have an idea of how many people to expect.)

Here's the description of the prize trip from Experience North's 1999 brochure:

"Do you enjoy wild and remote hiking but shy away from carrying backpacking gear? If so, this trip is for you. Leaving from the Hattie Cove Visitor Centre (Pukaskwa National Park) we board a fishing tug en route to the southern terminus of the Coastal Hiking Trail - the North Swallow River. Using a small skiff, we will transfer camping equipment and food to a new campsite each day while we hike north. Every day all you need to carry is a small daypack of personal items. The intent of this trip is to explore and learn about the landscape at a leisurely pace. A seasoned naturalist will be your guide pointing out and discussing unique flora, fauna, geology and history of Pukaskwa's back woods. This along with plenty of rest and relaxation is the only way to truly experience and hike the wildshore. The trip finishes at Oiseau Bay with a fishing tug pick up. On the way back to Hattie Cove, the captain will take us up the White River to marvel at the rushing torrents of Chigamiwinigum Falls."

September is a terrific time of the year in Sault Ste. Marie as the autumn leaves are just beginning to change, and the spectacular colours bring people here from all over the world. Since we are an eight-hour drive from Toronto or an hour-and-a-half flight, we're hoping meeting attendees book some holidays, bring the family, stay and play!

In addition to hiking on the Voyageur Hiking Trail--a true wilderness experience, attendees can visit Agawa Canyon on the world famous Train Tour, mountain bike at Searchmont, tour the Sault Ste. Marie Canal by foot or by boat, kayak and canoe on Lake Superior (the largest surface of fresh water in the world), visit the Bushplane Heritage Centre (bushplane museum) or the Ermatinger Old Stone House (one of the oldest stone residence west of Toronto). We also have a brand-new charity casino (for those who like indoor pursuits from time-to-time). In addition, there is a fabulous waterfront boardwalk, museums, art galleries, shopping, fine dining, and much, much more!



In the surrounding area, the two-and-a-half hour drive north towards Wawa follows the rugged, spectacular Lake Superior shoreline, as you pass through the pristine wilderness of Lake Superior Provincial Park with its many vistas overlooking the lake.

On top of it all, only two minutes away across the International Bridge is Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan and the United States! For those who love the nightlife, Kewadin Casino is located here with internationally known entertainment, and Los Vegas style gambling (if our own casino isn't enough for you.) At the American canal located downtown, you can watch the largest of the Great Lakes ships pass by so close you would swear you could reach out and touch them! A couple of hours drive south into Michigan is world famous Mackinac Island where vehicular traffic is not allowed. Along a highway hugging the southern shoreline of Lake Superior is the Whitefish Point Shipwreck Museum with a permanent artifact display dedicated to the Edmund Fitzgerald.

Have we enticed you yet? If you are interested to know more contact Gayle Phillips, President, Voyageur Trail Association (address on page one of this newsletter) or e-mail to: < voyageur.trail@sympatico.ca >.

On the Internet, pay our web site a visit at: < www3.sympatico.ca/voyageur.trail > and select the Hike Ontario Annual Meeting link.

Come play with us! We would love to have you!



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 - Cross-Country Skiing • Snowshoeing •
- in the most pristine and breathtaking wilderness areas in Canada--Northern Ontario!

**Visit our Wilderness Centre Outdoor Store
in downtown Sault Ste. Marie!**

Special Voyageur Trail Association Member discount:

10% OFF *the regular price of any item in our store (excluding boats) with a valid Voyageur Trail Association membership card!*

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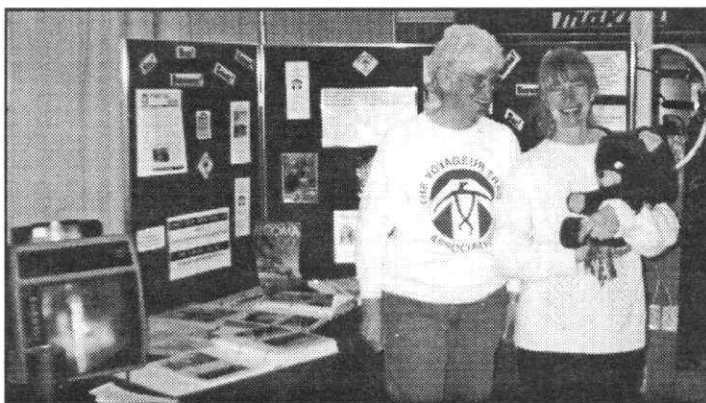
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WELCOME AGAIN! by Cheryl Landmark

It seems more welcomes are in order for this newsletter! The revitalization of VTA clubs is still continuing, much to the delight of the Association. The *Peniwobikong Club* in Blind River has started up again with 12 members to-date and a lot of enthusiasm and interest. The *Casque Isles Club* in the Schreiber/Terrace Bay area is also up and running once more with a full schedule of outings and an executive and membership that are proceeding full-steam ahead. It is wonderful to see that all the hard work and hours put forward by volunteers who are tirelessly promoting the VTA and all its benefits are paying off in increased interest and rejuvenation. Welcome back Peniwobikong and Casque Isles! We are very pleased to have you with us once more and look forward to participating in your outings and activities.



VTA volunteers Ila Aho (left) and Carol Gartshore staff a VTA information booth at the Great Outdoors Show in Sault Ste. Marie this spring.

CFS HELPS DEVELOP NEW LOOP TRAIL by Steve Dominy

The Canadian Forest Service, as part of their hundred year celebrations, are helping to clear and blaze a loop trail in the Havilland Bay area, along the access trail to both the Stokely and Harmony Sections. Hikers using this trail will soon notice some newly-added yellow blazes marking the loop trail, which links the side trail to the main trail, following an old logging road along the south side of Tier Lake. A new sign will be erected at the Highway 17 access in late August or early September. The loop itself is about a nine kilometre hike, and there is a scenic side trail to a lookout over Havilland Bay which adds another kilometre. You can experience this trail on a guided hike on October 30 (see page 6 for details).



HOWDY TO THESE NEW 1999 MEMBERS

(since November 1998 newsletter)

At-Large

Elaine Hardy, Etobicoke
Susan Howard, Toronto
Donald & Ruth King, Tweed
Paul Lowes, Etobicoke
Ian Nielsen-Jones, Irvine, CA
Michael Ugorowski, Flint, MI

Iron Bridge

Joanne Marck
Bartha Pinkse

Michipicoten (Wawa)

Anthony Sharp,
Montreal, PQ

Bruce Mines

Joyce & Raimo Repo

Penewobikong (Blind River)

Christine Clark
Marion Keith, Windsor
Andrena & Brenda Lediett

Casque Isles (Terrace Bay, Schreiber & Rosport)

Jessica & Ralph Falcioni,
Thunder Bay
Patricia McGrath,
Thunder Bay
Rob Stewart, Kashechewan

Saulteaux (Sault Ste. Marie)

Bruce Cave
Kathy Evoy, Bruce Mines
William Gardner
Jim & Sally Gibson
Peter Gollnick,

Coureurs de Bois (Elliot Lake)

Jocelyne Breive
Esther & Gordon Bruce
Terry Carr
Alcide Carriere
Cirelda & Robert Chalut
Gary Croteau
Joan Czech
Douglas Ellenor
Paul Fuller
John Kennedy
Georgena MacDonald,
Spragge
Naomi Maggs
Iris Maurice
Richard Meisner
Heather & Lee Miller,
Serpent River
Artem Molchanov
Inge & Zdenek Pechous
Joyce Williams
Carl & Jessie Yohnke

Sault Ste. Marie, MI

Jared, Jeremy, Lynda
& Tim Gregorini
Ken Hagerman
James Hooey
Helen Lindfors
Kathleen Luxton
Elaine Mallory
Jean Nugent
Ronald Rashleigh,
Cambridge
Andre, Anika
& Myka Riopel
Adam Robertson
Deborah Simpson
James Sloots
John Smith
Bob & Heddys Stevenson
Andrea Welz
Al Wright

Desbarats

Tara Lelieveld

Sudbury

Adrian Court
Lee Miles

Thunder Bay

Robert Farmer Jr.



Renew your membership for the year 2000 before December 31, 1999 and get in on our free membership incentive draw! Watch for more details in our next newsletter, December 1999! (Membership forms on pages 9 & 10 of this newsletter.)

