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ASSOCIATION

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A member of  
Hike Ontario,  
National Trail Association,  
Ontario Trails Council, and  
Trans Canada Trail.



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# VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS

EDITOR: Cheryl Landmark

LAYOUT BY: Gayle Phillips

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN by Mike Landmark

It seems there may be some questions and uncertainty about what exactly the Voyageur Trail Association is and what it does for its members.

First of all, the Voyageur Trail Association is a non-profit organization, which is composed of clubs and individual members at large, who help to build and maintain the Voyageur Trail and enjoy outings and social activities along the trail system. At the present time, the Association clubs range from Elliot Lake to Terrace Bay/Schreiber. Each club is responsible for maintaining and promoting the section of Voyageur Trail in its area.

The Coordinating Council of the Association is made up of members who have been nominated from the various clubs and duly elected to the Council. Each club is also allowed two representatives to attend and vote at all Coordinating Council meetings.

Each member club is independent to a large extent. In other words, the local executive determines when to hold meetings, what to discuss at the meetings, what outings and activities the club will promote in the area, what local fundraising activities to hold, etc. This does not mean that the Voyageur Trail Association and each member club are separate entities. All of the clubs and the individual members at large make up the VTA as a whole. Each member is expected to uphold the VTA mandate and the Constitution and bylaws.

So, what do you get for your membership fee? First of all, \$2.50 per member is returned to the club to which the individual or family group belongs. Secondly, every individual member or family group receives an excellent newsletter three times a year, which contains interesting articles and tidbits and outing schedules for any clubs who submit them. The Association also sends free newsletters to

the landowners, who have generously made their land accessible to the VTA for its trail systems. Part of your membership fee goes towards the printing of the newsletter and the postage and envelopes to mail it out. Another portion of the fee is used to pay for insurance and membership in Hike Ontario. In addition, the VTA provides brochures, colour posters, signs, aluminum nails, trail maintenance tools, reimbursement for certain expenses, etc. for any clubs requesting such materials. In the case of brochures, posters and tools, the Association is, in most cases, able to obtain discounts for bulk orders. Each individual club is not expected to pay for these items out of its own bank account. The money comes from the collective account of the whole Association.

I hope that this has clarified some of the uncertainties with regards to the Voyageur Trail Association. If anyone still has questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [cheryl.landmark@sympatico.ca](mailto:cheryl.landmark@sympatico.ca) or (705) 779-3409 or contact any other member of the Coordinating Council.



## REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

Yellow antifreeze and blue fabric softener containers make excellent blazes for our trail.

Anyone with some of these containers can drop them off at 167 Kohler Street, Sault Ste. Marie or at your club meetings. If you have a contact that does vinyl siding, give Mike a call for pick-up or more info (705-779-3409).

Local schools can recycle used printer ink cartridges and fax cartridges. They can be dropped off at 26 Primrose, Sault Ste. Marie or at your club meetings.

**STUDENT WANTED! ... SEE PAGE 9**

## HIKING THE SAMARIA GORGE *by Patrick Capper*

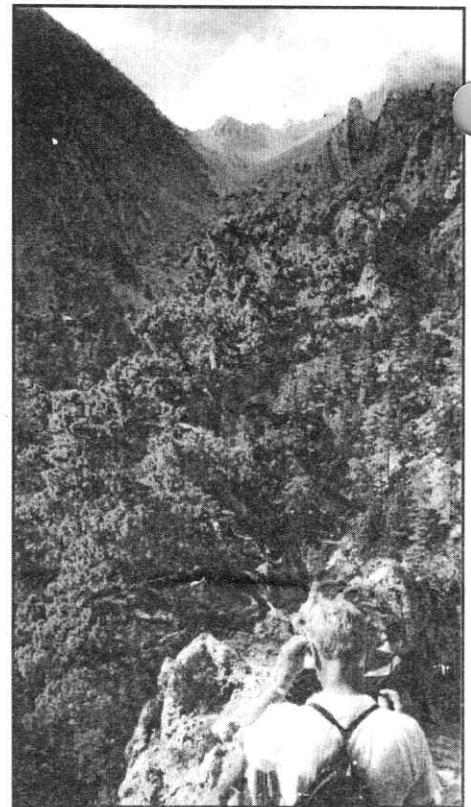
Have you ever felt lonely on the Voyageur Trail? Have you ever wondered if this hike will be one of those rare occasions when you actually meet some other person on the trail? Did you ever wonder what it would be like if 1000 people were hiking the trail? We managed to find out what it was like to be just one of about 750 hikers going down the Samaria gorge in Crete on a trip on September 25th. Samaria gorge is advertised as being the longest ravine in Europe and is reported as one of the prime attractions in Crete. The weather was comfortably warm with mixed sun and clouds forecast for the day. We started out before the crack of dawn at 05:20 when the coach picked us up from Chersonisos and then we seemed to stop at nearly every hotel along the next 20 miles. We traveled practically the whole length of Crete including over 40 hairpin bends before arriving at the height of land where our coach stopped to unload our 50 hikers at the top of Samaria gorge at 10:40. At the entrance there was a map of the path and the guide told us that we could contact any of the many guides from other groups if we needed help or, if needed, there was a first aid station half way down the trail. Anne was very relieved to know that there wasn't any hills to climb, the trail was pretty well downhill all the way.

At the start the path was quite steep with a lot of stairs. With so many people - about 15 coach loads altogether, it was nice to have the trail about 4 feet wide. Particularly at the start, many fast hikers were overtaking slower ones and we were overtaking the really slow ones, or the ones stopping to take photos of the scenic views. The top part had great vistas of the tree covered hills and about half way down we reached the deserted village of Samaria. The inhabitants had been forced to relocate when the gorge was made a national park in 1962. They had survived the German occupation in world War II as the gorge was so inaccessible the path down drops 1000 meters in the first 2km and, at the bottom, steep cliffs are only 3 meters apart and form the so-called *iron gate*. At the village we stopped to have lunch and admired the kri kri goats - a wild goat only found in the Samarai gorge and a few other places in Crete.

Further down, the path was much gentler but still very rocky and in one place hikers had erected thousands of miniature cairns - mostly with three stones. Most of these will undoubtedly be swept away the following spring when the creek turns into a torrent and due to safety concerns the trail is closed (from November 1st to April 10th). The past summer had been much drier than usual so there were very few flowers and few birds - some swallow-type birds and a few moni preveli at the top (these look quite similar to chickadees). The terrain was quite varied and as the buses had arrived at many different times, hiking on the same day as 800 people was not nearly as bad as you would think. We arrived at Agia

Roumeli after a 17km walk about 4pm so we had plenty of time to eat at one of the many restaurants before catching the 6 o'clock ferry to Seakia, the nearest place that is accessible by road. I even had time for a quick swim in the ever warm Mediterranean. At Seakia, the 700 passengers quickly disembarked and walked a short distance to the 15 waiting coaches to

take us back to our hotels - we arrived back about 11pm. We were impressed by the rest stop. The restaurant had food laid out on tables and there were about 15 single stall unisex toilets and a area with wash basins. Many passengers were fed in a very short time with the Greek version of fast food-typical breakfast options in the morning and a barbecue in the evening. The weather the whole day was excellent with some clouds and only two brief showers, one while in the bus and the other while on the ferry. There was no language problem as the guides all spoke excellent English as did most shop keepers and waiters and the menus were in Greek, English and German. The hikers, we think, were mostly German with some English and other nationalities but very few Canadians. There were crude toilets along the trail, and several fountains with drinking water, but there was nowhere to buy food except at the village at the end. All told, a very rewarding excursion, though I am sure it would not be quite as enjoyable in the height of the tourist season with hot weather and many more hikers.



### Heather Scott

Registered Massage Therapist

**FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC**

898 Queen Street East, Sault Ste. Marie, ON

(Corner of Church & Queen Streets)

**942-CARE (2273)**



### ON THE VOYAGEUR TRAIL by Georgena MacDonald

The Casques Isles Hiking Trail connects the communities of Rosspoint, Schreiber and Terrace Bay and runs both along the shoreline and inland from Lake Superior. The trail will take you to lookouts, raised beaches and campsites, through Rainbow Falls Provincial Park, and past old gold mines, fossil deposits, trappers' cabins, and caves adorned with Indian pictographs.

John Bigsby's 1823 appraisal of Superior's north shore from the top of Pic Island explains the Trail's name. "As I turned towards the land, tall casque-shaped [helmet-shaped] islands were seen here and there, full of sinuosities and overlooked by pleasingly grouped hills of conical or waved outline from 600 to 800 feet high. I was well repaid for the trouble of the ascent."

The Casques Isles Trail is well marked and is maintained by members of the Casques Isles Hiking Club. There are 11 access points along its 52.4 km length and the trail is divided into 5 sections. From west to east they are: the McLean section, the Schreiber Channel section, the Schreiber Point section, the Death Valley section, and Bay Points section.

A variety of arctic plant species, lichens and mosses, trees and rock formations and layers of history make each section of this trail an interesting and challenging place to hike.

Good hiking companions are a must, as are sturdy hiking boots and a daypack with appropriate gear. A camera with lots of film and a walking stick are recommended.

#### The Death Valley Section of the Casques Isles Trail

Death Valley doesn't sound like a place you would intentionally seek out, but if I were pressed to choose the most scenic and enjoyable hike of last season, it would have to be the late September hike on the Death Valley section of the Casques Isles Trail.

Duncan McKay, Vice President of the Casques Isles Hiking Club, and also VP West of the Voyageur Trail Association, described the hike as a good day's trek.

I met my hiking buddies for the day at the appointed time. Breakfast talk was of trails to be and of hikes past and future. Well, it certainly was good conversation as well as good food.

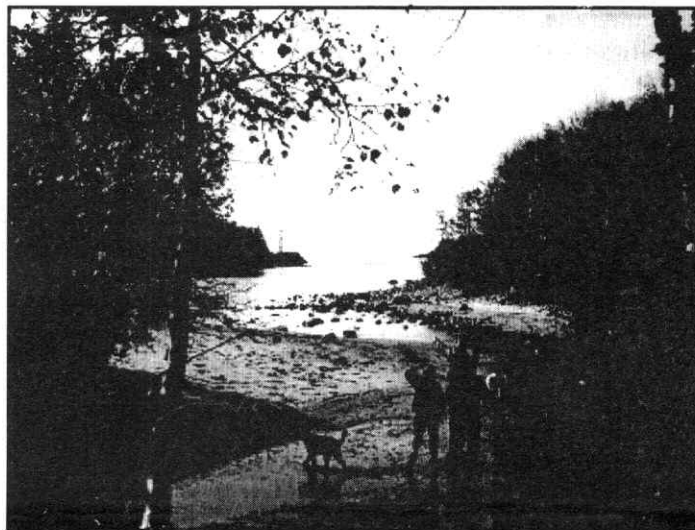
Four dogs were bounding with joy at the prospect of backroads and bush as we dropped a vehicle at the Schreiber access. We drove the few kilometres to the hike starting point and parked at a small sandy area near some cottages. Superior was calm, the sun warm, the trail dry; perfect hiking conditions.

VTA hiking trails are measured in kilometres. The other measure - time - is more appropriate for this trail. 10 km in 9 hours. No matter. We were to discover that this is not a trail to be rushed.

From the parking area the trail led us gradually uphill through a mixed wood. The terrain demanded attention to footing. Layers of moss concealed the (potentially ankle twisting) roots and loose rocks of the trail. One false move and a pleasurable hike can be turned into an ordeal.

The trail looped back to the shoreline. We descended to a sand bar at the confluence of two small creeks flowing into Kelly's Harbour. An immature eagle, startled from its morning vigil, hastily left the scene.

We paused to enjoy Superior's beauty as blue sky melded into blue water. Duncan explained that here, if one watched closely, and the wind and wave action was just right, you might witness the 'seiches' or reversing tides of



Kelly's Harbour, Death Valley Section, Casques Isles Trail

Superior near the mouth of the creek.

We walked carefully along the forest trail again and climbed through moss-carpeted forests, where old man's beard hung from tall thin spruce. Once again the trail dipped to a solid granite outcrop on the shore. A huge boulder-strewn 'tombolo' connected the mainland to an island just offshore. There was talk of canoes and kayaks. 'Just pick a day when the lake is calm' was the advice given. Looking to the south horizon, where lake meets sky, our eyes and minds grappled with the sheer size of the lake, and the spectre of wild storms.

Leaving the shore, we clambered over high and dry raised cobble beaches. The round rock beaches are remnants of an ancient Lake Superior, and we wished we knew more about the people who once lived here on these shores.

At Nonami Bay (Shown on topo maps as 'Noname' Bay) we stopped to rest on a beach of giant boulders, surrounded by huge driftwood logs thrown high by raging storms. Behind and above us were the ledges and caves of Death Valley. Carpe diem. We appreciated the fact that today, Superior was lapping gently at the shore.

As fatigue crept in, we carefully scrambled, pulled, and heaved ourselves across more rocks and valleys to the small rounded rocks of Petits Ecris. Duncan explained that this sheltered bay is as much favoured by sailors and kayakers as by hikers. We took a welcome lunch break on the rocks.

Leaving the shore once again, we squeezed through giant tilted rock crevasses and up and down and through narrow passages. We emerged once again from the forest trail to the shore, to cross a small stream. We stopped to watch as spawning salmon - pinks attempting to run the shallow stream, made tiny explosions in the water with their dorsal fins. Farther on, trail signs and a guest book invited investigation.

(Continued  
on page 4)





## 50 YEARS AGO ON THE MISSISSAGI by N. A. Black



In the summer of 1947, as a brash young 20-year old, I went to work on what is now known as the Rayner-Wells Generating Station, north of Thessalon. The area to be flooded was to be cleared and involved thousands of acres of bush land, the wood salvaged. During that summer, I spent considerable time in contact with the clearing contractors.

Transportation to the clearing areas was by canoe. Disdaining the freighter canoes with the balky outboard engines which always seemed to quit above Squaw Chutes, I purchased a slightly used Chestnut Prospector Canoe for the princely sum of \$90.00.

A trip down the Mississagi to Iron Bridge became a Sunday ritual. There was a minister at Iron Bridge who held a weekly service at the project, who hauled our canoe back for us to the camp. Sitting out an hour in his meeting was a small price to pay for the services rendered, and besides, it probably did us some good.

That section of the river, which was a good sample of wilderness canoeing, has now been spoiled by the influence of another dam at what was Red Rock Falls. Upper Slate Falls, Lower Slate Falls and Red Rock Falls all had to be portaged while we ran the Shino Rapids that had four-foot standing waves. They have since disappeared.

At that time, Hydro was doing some surveying around Rocky Island Lake in preparation for the Aubrey Falls Dam. My partner and I made a few trips on the river below Aubrey Falls. We had little information on the river and half the time we were not sure what was around the next bend. It was no wonder that canoeing was considered a hazardous pastime not given to longevity of life.

During the two summers I spent on the project, I made many canoe trips on the Mississagi River watershed and other than some hydro personnel that were not there by choice, only once encountered another canoe. It was just above Upper Slate Falls, (now under water) and was being paddled by an older Indian and a boy of about 12 years old. They caught us just as we turned in at the Upper Slate Falls portage. We pulled in on River Right and took the Loggers portage around the falls.

The Indians pulled in on River Left and disappeared. It was rather late in the afternoon and we hurried around the portages on both the Upper Slate and Lower Slate Falls. When we reached Red Rock Falls, these two Indians were sitting at the lower end of the Portage boiling tea. When asked how they got ahead of us, the old man shrugged and grunted. Conversation over.

In those days, canoeing was not particularly popular and learning came from the school of hard knocks and sometimes our folly knew no bounds. At Aubrey Falls, there was a long open flume, which was used by McFadden Lumber to bypass the falls with the log run. The flume looked something like a modern day Olympic bobsled run. My buddy and I thought it would be great to run the flume in the canoe. The problem was that the flume terminated on the lower end about 12

feet above the water in order to allow for any changes in water levels. What we were unable

to figure out was how to negotiate this 12-foot drop. Fortunately after a couple of weekends of watching logs disappear in the water and not surfacing for what seemed an eternity, discretion became the better part of valor and we gave up the idea.

Although at that time we did not appreciate the fact, we were getting a small taste of the wonderful world of wilderness canoeing which was being overlooked by the recreation fraternity. Today, the river from Rocky Island Lake to Lake Huron is a disaster as far as canoeing is concerned. Low water combined with three powerhouses conserving water for the high peak electrical demand periods has, on most days, created a situation where you can walk across the river and hardly get your ankles wet. Gone are the days when the Lumber Companies on their river drives had water enough to run huge pointers down the river carrying portable camp facilities weighing tons.

(Note: This article is an extract condensed by the author from the story "50 Years of Paddling", which appeared in the 1995 summer issue of Kanawa Magazine, published by the Canadian Recreational Canoeing Association. The author now lives in Elliot Lake, is an active canoeist and a member of the VTA Coureurs des Bois Outdoors Club.)



## ON THE VOYAGEUR TRAIL

(Continued from page 3)

The last section of trail travels across boulders and massive undulations of shoreline granite and would take us to the west end of Worthington Bay. We felt as if we were crawling across a giant 3-D jigsaw puzzle. The end was within sight, but we had to meticulously pick a route that we could all manage. Gold and ochre have been mined in the area. The remnants of a 1930's mining camp are nearby. There are several pictographs in one small area.

The stretch from Worthington Bay to the vehicle seemed interminably long. Some of us were 'dog tired.' Yes, I was glad that Duncan knew the trail well, and had saved the boulders - and the pictographs - for the end of the hike. • As I think of the Death Valley trail now, the colours of sun and water and sky and forest and rock flood through my mind - the bright blue of sky and deep blue of lake, the light greens of moss and lichen, the deep gray-black and red of boulders and Shield.

I think too of my hiking buddies, how the trail brings us together, how each of us appreciates and dreams and grows richer in spirit with every adventure in nature. There is no doubt in my mind that the warmth of the autumn sun, the mystery of the ochre messages, and the companionship of good friends made the Death Valley hike one of the most memorable hikes of the season. (Plan to join us on this trail--see page 6!)



**TIP:** Search and Rescue Volunteer Association of Canada has a brochure called "Trip Plan for Outdoor Survival". Before a trip, you fill it out with crucial information and leave it with someone you trust in the event that you do not return as planned. This information can then be used by police or search and rescue organizations to assist them in finding you. Contact the VTA for copies of this brochure.




## 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 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 and dress appropriately. Be prepared to sign an Assumption of Risk Agreement.

Year 2001 End-to-end outings are marked in the schedule with .

**Sunday, April 22** - Earth Day family clean up hike in the Hiawatha Highlands area. Meet 1PM Zellers parking lot behind Pennington's. Bring work gloves. Pets OK. Call Gayle 942-1891.

### Saturday, April 28 - Annual Saulteaux Club dinner


6:30PM ~ Giovanni's Restaurant.


\$20 per person. Limited to 40.

Guest Speaker: Barry Lyons presents underwater slides from the Caribbean and Red Sea.

Contact Gayle at 942-1891 or mail coupon newsletter insert with cheque.


**Sun., April 29** - Join us for our annual kick-off to the upcoming trail maintenance season - *Go to Blazes Day!* This year we will be cleaning from Old Goulais Bay Road towards the Root River. Tools will be provided. Behaved pets are welcome. Meet at 10AM at the Zellers parking lot behind Pennington's to car pool. Call Gayle 942-1891 for more info.

 **Sat., May 5** - Hike the Creek Road to Airport Road Extension. Meet at 9:30AM at the Market Mall parking lot. Behaved pets are welcome. Contact Monica Hilton at 254-5029.

 **Sun., May 13** - Mother's Day Hike with Horst Wetzl (254-8504) from Goulais Avenue to Peoples Road (return if wanted). Enjoy hot dogs cooked over an open fire. Behaved pets are welcome but must be leashed


at lunch time. Meet at 10AM at the Market Mall parking lot.

**Sat., May 19** - Canoe the Crystal Creek with Don McGorman. Total length of all portages combined is about 1 km. Paddlers must come organized into their own groups complete with vessel, paddles and life jackets. Meet at 9:30AM sharp in the Zellers parking lot behind Pennington's. Behaved pets are welcome. Contact Don at 946-9599 (e-mail: [mcgormdca@yahoo.ca](mailto:mcgormdca@yahoo.ca)).

 **Sun., May 20** - Hike from Gros Cap to Prince Lake Road. Call Ila Aho at 949-1097. Meet at 9AM at the Market Mall. Behaved pets are welcome.

**Sun., May 27** - Trail Maintenance on Voyageur Trail at Prince Lake Road with Monica Hilton. Meet at 9:30AM at the Market Mall parking lot to car pool. Behaved pets are welcome. Tools will be provided. Call 254-5029.

**Mon., May 28** - Saulteaux Club Bi-Monthly Meeting, 7:30PM, Great Lakes Forestry Centre. Call 942-1891.

 **Sat., June 2** - Hike Hwy 17 to Mabel Lake. Meet at 9:30AM sharp in the Zellers parking lot behind Pennington's. Behaved pets are welcome. Contact Don at 946-9599 (e-mail: [mcgormdca@yahoo.ca](mailto:mcgormdca@yahoo.ca)).

**Wed., June 6** - Evening hike at the Sault Canal with Gayle Phillips. Meet at the Canal Visitor's Centre parking lot at 7PM. Behaved pets are welcome but must be leashed at canal. (Bring pooper-scooper.) Call 942-1891.

**\*Sun., June 10** - Trail maintenance east of the Sault. Meet at 9AM at the Churchill Plaza parking lot to car pool. Tools will be provided. Behaved pets welcome. Call Patrick 253-4470.

**Thurs., June 21** - Evening paddle with Gayle Phillips (942-1891). Participants must be part of a fully equipped, self-sufficient canoe/kayak party. Meet at 6PM at the Market Mall.

**\*Sun., June 24** - Hike in Lake Superior Provincial Park (LSPP) with Gayle Phillips. Meet at 9:30 AM at the Zellers parking lot to car pool. Behaved pets are welcome but must be leashed in the park. Call 942-1891.

**Sat., June 30** - Hike Kinsmen Park and Glenview Cottages trails with Don McGorman. Meet at 9:30AM sharp in the Zellers parking lot behind Pennington's. Behaved pets are welcome. Contact Don at 946-9599 (e-mail: [mcgormdca@yahoo.ca](mailto:mcgormdca@yahoo.ca)).

**Thurs., July 5** - After dinner, easy family hike at 7PM with Trina Fournier. Call 253-3359 for more info.

**\*Sun., July 8** - Trail maintenance outing with Gayle Phillips. Meet at 9:30AM at the Churchill Plaza parking lot. Behaved pets OK. Tools will be provided. Call 942-1891 for more info.

**Sat., July 14 - Parks Day!** Join staff at LSPP on an Interpretive Hike. Call the Park at 856-2284 (or our information line 253-5353 ext. 9999 closer to the date) for meeting place and time. (LSPP invites you to make a weekend of it & stay for their "Superior Day" group campfire at Agawa Bay campground on Sunday, July 15.)

**Sat., July 21** - Hike the yellow loop trail to Mabel Lake and return with Don McGorman (946-9599). Meet at 9:30AM sharp in the Zellers parking lot. Behaved pets OK. (e-mail: [mcgormdca@yahoo.ca](mailto:mcgormdca@yahoo.ca)).

(Continued on page 6)



## OUTING SCHEDULE *(Continued from page 5)*

**\*Sat., July 28** - Hike the Pancake Bay hiking trail with a swim afterwards. Behaved pets are welcome. Call Susan at 949-4105 or our information line closer to the date for meeting place and time.

**Sat., August 4** - Moonwalk with Mike and Cheryl Landmark. Behaved pets are welcome. Call 779-3409 for meeting place and time.

**Sat., August 11** - Trail Cleaning with Trina. Call 253-3359 for details.

### **\*\* SPECIAL \*\* August 20 - 24**

Week of hiking with the *Casques Isles Club* in Terrace Bay/Schreiber/Rosspport area. Call Mike (705) 779-3409 or Duncan (807) 825-3338 for more details.

**Sun., August 26** - Join Jack Donald (942-1761) for a hike. Meet at 10AM at the Market Mall parking lot to car pool. Behaved pets are welcome.

**\*Sat., September 1** - Trail maintenance outing with Gayle Phillips (942-1891). Meet at 10AM at the Churchill Plaza parking lot to car pool. Tools will be provided. Pets OK.

**Sat., September 8** - Hike from Prince Lake Road to Airport Extension with Monica Hilton (254-5029) [final part of our end-to-end]. Meet at 9:30AM at the Market Mall parking lot to car pool. Behaved pets are welcome.

**\*Sun., September 9** - Hike around Tier Lake at Havilland Bay with Ila Aho (949-1097). Meet at 9AM at the Zellers parking lot behind Pennington's. Behaved pets are OK.

**Sat., September 15** - Hike Creek Road to Maki Road with Susan Graham. Behaved pets are welcome. Call 949-4105 for meeting place and time.

**Sat., September 22** - Canoe the Crystal Creek with Don McGorman (946-9599). Participants must be part of a fully equipped, self-sufficient canoe party. Total length of all portages combined is about 1 km. Meet at 9:30AM sharp in the Zellers parking lot behind Pennington's. Behaved pets are welcome. (e-mail: mcgormdca@yahoo.ca).



## SAULTEAUX TRAIL NOTICE

The Blue Water Park area of the Gros Cap trail is undergoing a change in ownership.

Contact our hot line 253-5353 ext. 9999 to find out the status of this trail BEFORE hiking this property.



Call the Voyageur Trail Info Line for key contact people, their telephone numbers and up-to-date news reports, including the latest word on scheduled outings. Dial (705) 253-5353 and select message #9999.

## OUTING SCHEDULES *(continues)*

### Penewobikong Club (Iron Bridge/Blind River)

**Sat., April 21** - Work Bee in Iron Bridge

**Sat., May 12** - Hike to Cataract Falls. Call Joanne at 843--2199 for more info.

### Coueurs de Bois Outdoors Club (Elliot Lake area)

**Please note:** Beginning in May, all outings will start at 9AM and meet at the Upper Plaza parking lot unless stated otherwise.

Tuesday hikes are meant as an introductory hike and will be from two to four hours in duration. Leader---Ray Cormier---848-7979.

Thursday hikes could be longer than Tuesday hikes and more vigorous with various leaders.

## NEW HIKE

We will start a new hike beginning in June. Every Wednesday evening at 6PM Jackie Hall will lead a short hike in and around the Elliot Lake area. Contact Jackie at 848-6134 for more information.

**BE PREPARED**---proper footwear, water, food. We recommend a walking stick and a proper fitting backpack.

<b>Sat., Apr. 14</b>	Fred Forsyth	848-2956	(Hike)
<b>Sat., Apr. 21</b>	Alan Day	848-8776	(Canoe)
<b>Sat., Apr. 28</b>	Nancy-Jo Wannan	848-2947	(Hike-Cobre L)
<b>Sat., May 19</b>	Victoria Mountain, be prepared for a steady climb, but you will be rewarded with a great view of the North Channel. Experienced hikers meet at parking lot at corner of Highways 108 and 17. Leader: Georgena MacDonald - 849-0082 or toll free 1-877-393-4003.		
<b>Sat., June 16</b>	West end of our section of trail (Blind River). Nice view from bluffs where you will see several lakes. Leader---Stan Pechous		
<b>Sat., July 7</b>	Bill Ralph	848-7445	(Canoe)
<b>Sun., July 8</b>	Wagoosh Lake to Christie Creek trail crossing. This will be around an 8-hour hike. Meet at the corner parking lot of Highways 108 and 17. Leader: Georgena MacDonald 849-0082 (or 1-877-393-4003).		
<b>Sat., July 14</b>	Allan Day	848-8776	(Hike)
<b>Sat., July 21</b>	Gordon Bruce	461-3724	(Hike)
<b>Sat., Aug. 4</b>	Bill Ralph	848-7445	(Hike Cobre L)
<b>Sat., Aug. 11</b>	Allan Day	848-8776	(Hike)
<b>Sat., Aug. 18</b>	Marg Barek	848-7607	(Hike)
<b>Sat., Aug. 25</b>	Gorden Bruce	461-3724	(Hike)

### Casques Isles Club (Schreiber/Terrace Bay/Rosspport area)

**Sun., May 13** - Mother's Day hike on Cavers with Jim McCullough. For those coming from Thunder Bay meet at the Nipigon Husky at 9AM.

**Aug. 20-24 Week** - Hikes with Saulteaux visitors.





## DOGGONE IT! WE MADE IT!

by *Destiny and Misty Landmark*

We were pooped pooches at the end, but we did it! Along with our nine human companions, we lived to tell the tale (oops, tale!) of how we conquered the trail between Maki Road and Gros Cap, a distance of 17.2 kilometres (or, for us, at least 25, since we had to run back and forth to keep track of everybody!)

On a snowy Saturday morning in March, fourteen people dragged themselves out of bed at a doggone early hour to meet at Market Mall and car pool to the beginning of the Tom Allinson Spur Trail on Maki Road. Twelve people donned their snowshoes and started off on the first dogleg of the trip, while Gayle Phillips and Trina Fournier drove our master's van to the cottages down at Red Rock. They then proceeded along the shoreline to a lunch spot where they built a great fire in preparation for our arrival.

Our Dad had a bit of bad luck trying to cross the creek at one point. His snowshoe got caught between two logs and cracked. He had to splint it so he could make it the rest of the way to the lunch spot at the lake. Personally, we think he just didn't want to break trail, so he used his broken snowshoe as an excuse!

Gayle and Trina had a wonderful fire going by the time we arrived at the shore for lunch, and we sure enjoyed the rest and the doggy treats! Before we knew it, we were off again on the second part of the trip. Nine people continued on to Gros Cap, while five headed on back to where our master's van was parked. Anne Capper very generously offered our Dad her snowshoes for the rest of the outing so he couldn't use his broken one as an excuse not to continue!

Our tongues were hanging out by the time we reached Gros Cap, but, after a good long snooze that evening, we were all rested up by Sunday, although our walks were much shorter that day (we think Mom and Dad needed a break!)



**Not sure if your VTA membership expires soon?**

*Check the date now printed on your VT NEWS envelope label!*

## SANDAL HIKING by *Mike Landmark*

A few years ago, I read an outdoor magazine and came across an article about lightweight backpacking and hiking. Being frugal with expending energy (lazy), I thought I would look into this.

The person who developed these ideas is Ray Jardine, who has written a couple of books among many other things. His background in hiking includes hiking the Pacific Crest Trail three times between 1987 and 1994, with the shortest time taking three months and four days, using his lightweight techniques. He has also hiked the Continental Divide and the Appalachian Trail.

The technique that intrigued me the most was hiking with lightweight footwear (sandals). With the Trans Canada Relay 2000 about to start, I thought I would test his idea. Mr. Jardine contends that boots and heavier hiking shoes reduce one's tactical awareness of the terrain underfoot. With lightweight footwear, you can feel what is beneath you and your body can automatically adapt to prevent an injury. Heavier footwear restricts the flexing of the joints in your foot, which makes walking more clumsy and difficult. Your ankles are designed by nature to sustain you over thousands of miles, carrying an everyday load, and, with a little bit of conditioning, it becomes an effortless task. Hiking with sandals can be challenging, particularly when sticks and stones abound, but, with some educated placing of your feet, these obstacles can easily be overcome. The extra ventilation is also an added bonus.

I tried this technique on the Relay, walking twenty to thirty kilometres a day, as well as scouting trail in heavily overgrown logged areas, and encountered minimal problems. This method of hiking may not be for everyone, but Mikey likes it! You may see me on some of the outings this summer with my sandals. Ray Jardine's books, *Beyond Backpacking* and *The Pacific Crest Trail Hiker's Handbook*, are available at many bookstores and contain countless other ideas on making backpacking and hiking more enjoyable and less tiring. Information on the Goliath system and equipment can also be found on their website, [www.golite.com](http://www.golite.com)



## TIDBIT

Mountain Equipment Co-op's web site < [www.mec.ca](http://www.mec.ca) > has a *Gear Swap Bulletin Board*! Pay it a visit!



# TRAILS OF THE HIAWATHA HIGHLANDS

by Don McGorman

Over the past two years several new VTA loop trails have been developed in the Hiawatha Highlands. Thanks go out to landowners Peter Courtemanche, Mike Caputo and the Sault Ste Marie Region Conservation Authority who granted us permission to build the trail across their properties.

These yellow blazed loop trails connect with the main trail at three locations: (west) just east of the Root river bridge where trail enters forest north of Sixth Line; (centre) at bend in trail just north of the Crystal Creek crossing, and (east) at Mabel Lake.

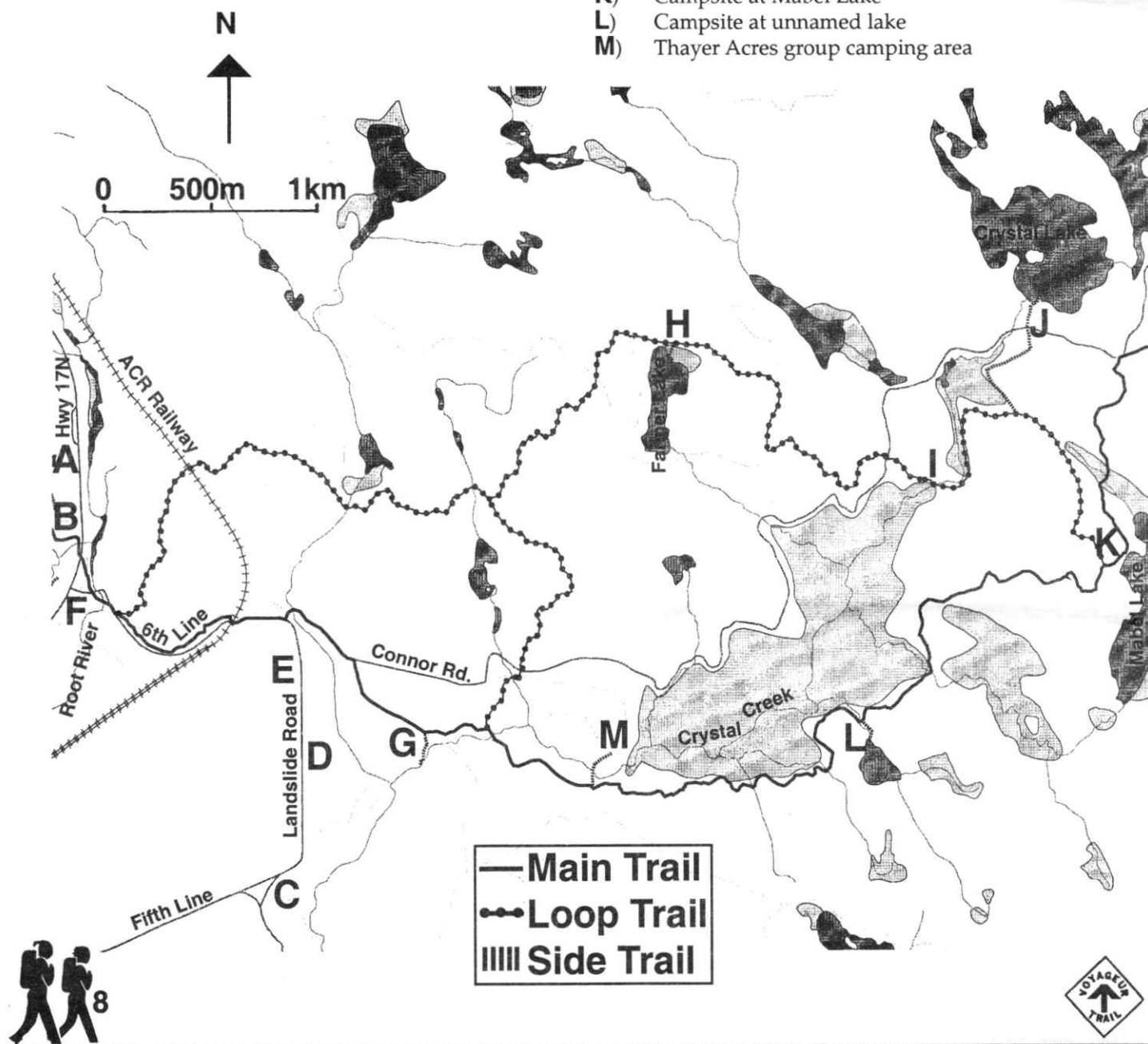
The map below is annotated with a number of Points of Interest:

## Local Services and Attractions:

- A) Gateway Restaurant: open at 7:00 a.m.
- B) Glenview Cottages: check out their trail to the Big White Pine
- C) Hiawatha Lodge: washrooms and restaurant open 10 to 10 daily
- D) Kinsmen Park: open dawn till dusk
- E) Mockingbird Hill Farm: wagon rides and petting farm; sweet corn in season

## Trail Features:

- F) Falls on Root River just south of Sixth Line
- G) Crystal Falls and VTA sign
- H) Campsite at Farmer Lake
- I) Campsite at rapids on Crystal Creek
- J) Campsite at Crystal Lake
- K) Campsite at Mabel Lake
- L) Campsite at unnamed lake
- M) Thayer Acres group camping area





## Voyageur Trail News - Spring 2001

The Voyageur Trail Association has applied for funding from HRDC to hire a college or university student for a period of 12 weeks this summer and from FedNor to hire a graduate student "Intern" for a period of one year. These positions will be of interest to students enrolled in or graduates of Sustainable Outdoor Resource Management, Outdoor Recreation Parks and Tourism, Adventure and Ecotourism Management, Forestry, Parks and Recreation, and similar college or university programs. Both positions involve extensive travel between the communities of Wawa, Batchewana, Elliot Lake and Spanish.

### Summer Student Employment - Hiking Trail Development Assistant

Eligible employees must be registered as full-time students as determined by the educational institution during the 2000-2001 academic year and intend to return to school, on a full time basis, in the 2001-2002 academic year. Students must also be up to and including 30 years of age. Courses or experience in hiking, camping, trail construction, map and compass, habitat assessment, plant identification, computing and technical writing will be an asset.

### Trail Development Intern

Unemployed or underemployed youth (under the age of 30) who have graduated with a diploma or degree from a postsecondary institution within the last three years are eligible to apply. The Trail Development Intern will provide assistance to the Trail Coordinator and represent the best interests of the Voyageur Trail Association in developing new public use wilderness hiking trails that are part of community recreational trail systems.

Please note for both positions, employment is conditional on funding approval.

For details & updates visit [www3.sympatico.ca/voyageur.trail](http://www3.sympatico.ca/voyageur.trail)  
Resumes to: c/o Hiring Committee The Voyageur Trail Association, P.O. Box 20040, 150 Churchill Blvd. Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 6W3, will be kept on file for a period of 3 months.

## I need to hear from you!!

**VTA MEMBERSHIP TRAINING SURVEY:** If you are interested in taking any of the following courses, please mail this survey to Georgena MacDonald, P.O. Box 20040, 150 Churchill Blvd., Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 6W3; e-mail to: [trail@onlink.net](mailto:trail@onlink.net) or telephone 1-877-393-4003 **before May 6<sup>th</sup>**. If you would like to *teach* any of these courses, please call me.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Map & Compass - Basic                        | <input type="checkbox"/> First Aid           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Map & Compass - Advance                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Wilderness Survival |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Hike Leadership Level 1            | <input type="checkbox"/> Canoeing            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Hike Leadership Level 2            | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hike Leadership Basic Skills (non-certified) | <input type="checkbox"/> GPS                 |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____        |

## 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: \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERSHIP FEES:

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

Family/Group (\$3.50 per additional member at the same address, to cover optional insurance coverage -please supply name[s]) = \_\_\_\_\_

Student.....\$10 = \_\_\_\_\_

Donations (tax receipt will be sent)..... = \_\_\_\_\_

Charitable Reg. # 119261923RR0001

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

☐ Crest \$3 x \_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

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

Sweatshirt \$20 x \_\_\_\_ (size \_\_\_\_)... = \_\_\_\_\_

Anniversary Sweatshirt \$45 x \_\_\_\_ (size \_\_\_\_)... = \_\_\_\_\_

For Topography Maps \$11.75 / Tyvek \$14.50 -

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, Experience North, Joe's Sports & Surplus, ACR Gift Shop & Airways General Store, Sault Ste. Marie; the Travel Information Centres in Wawa and Blind River; the Blind River Public Library; Red Top Inn, Iron Bridge; The Gift Rack, Bruce Mines; Forestland, Thessalon; Little Rapids General Store; Red's Little Hooker Bait & Tackle, Elliot Lake; Lake Superior Provincial Park Visitor's Centre; Pukaskwa National Park Visitor's Centre; Take a Hike store, Thunder Bay; Running Free, Markham; Mountain Equipment Co-op, Toronto.

(Continued on back ->)



## Voyageur Trail News - Spring 2001

### VTA CO-ORDINATING COUNCIL

#### PRESIDENT:

Mike Landmark (705) 779-3409

#### VICE-PRESIDENT - WEST:

Duncan MacKay (807) 825-3338

#### VICE-PRESIDENT - CENTRAL:

vacant (Please contact us for info on this position.)

#### VICE-PRESIDENT - EAST:

Ray Cormier (705) 848-7979

#### TREASURER:

Dieter Ropke (705) 942-9636

#### GENERAL SECRETARY:

Cheryl Landmark (705) 779-3409

#### MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:

Susan Graham (705) 949-4105

#### PUBLICITY DIRECTOR:

Gayle Phillips (705) 942-1891

#### TRAIL MASTER:

Patrick Capper (705) 253-4470

#### 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

### CLUB CONTACTS

#### CASQUES ISLES:

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Pete Burgoyne (705) 856-2290

#### GOULAIS RIVER / HARMONY BEACH:

Neil Ray (705) 649-0874

#### SAULTEAUX:

Gayle Phillips (705) 942-1891

#### BRUCE MINES:

Allan Beilhartz (705) 785-3889

#### PENEWOBKONG:

Joanne Marck (705) 843-2199

#### COUREURS DE BOIS:

Ray Cormier (705) 848-7979

The VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS is published three times a year. Your articles and photos are welcome!

**Deadline for the next issue is August 1, 2001.**

Mail to Cheryl Landmark, c/o Voyageur Trail Association, PO Box 20040, 150 Churchill Blvd., Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 6W3  
Tel: 705-779-3409 or E-mail to: <cheryl.landmark@sympatico.ca>

Articles in this newsletter may be copied if credit is given to the Voyageur Trail Association.



## Voyageur Hiking 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)

#### Section

- ☐ Thunder Bay
- ☐ Nipigon
- ☐ \*Schreiber/Terrace Bay
- ☐ Marathon
- ☐ Pukaskwa National Park
- ☐ \*Wawa
- ☐ Lake Superior Provincial Park
- ☐ Batchewana
- ☐ \*Harmony Beach/Havilland Bay
- ☐ Goulais
- ☐ \*Sault Ste. Marie
- ☐ Echo Bay

#### Club

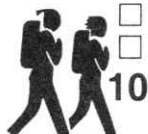
- Thunder Bay V.T.C.
- Casque Isles V.T.C.
- Michipicoten V.T.C.
- Saulteaux V.T.C.
- Echo Ridges V.T.C.

#### Section

- ☐ Desbarats
- ☐ Bruce Mines
- ☐ Thessalon
- ☐ \*Blind River/Iron Bridge
- ☐ \*Elliot Lake
- ☐ Spanish
- ☐ Massey
- ☐ Espanola
- ☐ Little Current
- ☐ Sheguiandah
- ☐ South Baymouth
- ☐ Sudbury

#### Club

- Desbarats V.T.C.
- Thessalon V.T.C.
- Penewobikong V.T.C.
- Coueurs de Bois V.T.C.
- Rainbow V.T.C.
- Sudbury V.T.C.



# Saulteaux Voyageur Trail Club News

BY GAYLE PHILLIPS, PRESIDENT, SAULTEAUX CLUB

JULY 2001

**NOTE: Saulteaux Club Meeting Monday, July 16, 2001 7:30PM at the Great Lakes Forestry Centre. After the general meeting we will plan our fall hiking schedule. Please come and bring a friend!**

Visit our brand new **Saulteaux Club web page** on the much-improved Voyageur Trail Association web site [[www3.sympatico.ca/voyageur.trail](http://www3.sympatico.ca/voyageur.trail)]! I am looking for any and all suggestions, links, photos or anything that you think will grace our new page! Email [voyageur.trail@sympatico.ca](mailto:voyageur.trail@sympatico.ca) with your ideas!

## Schedule Updates:

Our week (August 20-24) hiking the Casques Isles trail is shaping up to be quite a time! On the way back home on Friday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, we are planning a badly needed work party on the Marathon trail. On Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup> we are paddling Naturally Superior Adventure's 36-foot Voyageur canoe for the day. Seats (very limited) are for sale for \$29 per person with special rates for children. See the updated schedule on the back of this page.

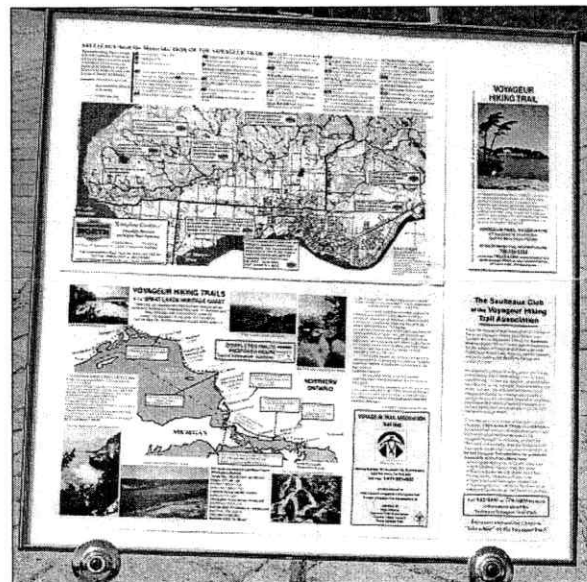
## New Map Available!

For some time now, the Voyageur Trail Association Executive have been discussing a new fundraising venture aimed at those who don't particularly wish to buy an entire guidebook, but would like to take a hike on the Voyageur Trail. They may be visitors to the area and only wish to do a short hike on a local trail, but the price of a complete guidebook may be stopping them from accomplishing their goal.

The Saulteaux Club has become the "test ground" for a new map, one that includes an overview of the entire Voyageur Trail system in the Sault Ste. Marie area with instructions on how to get to the various access points. The information provided on the other side of the map would be appropriate to all the clubs of the Voyageur Trail system.

The map is sponsored by Experience North Adventures [[www.exnorth.com](http://www.exnorth.com)] and the new "Explorer's Club" of Algoma's Water Tower Inn [[www.watertowerinn.com](http://www.watertowerinn.com)]. (In addition, if anyone booking accommodations at the Water Tower Inn mention the Voyageur Trail Association when booking, the VTA receives a small donation for each booking.)

Many Sault Ste. Marie businesses will be



approached to sell the maps and we expect the retail price to consumers will be in the neighbourhood of \$6.50 per map. Out of these funds, approximately \$3.00 will come back to the Voyageur Trail Association to build and maintain trails.

The map project was launched in conjunction with a May ceremony held to introduce the new Trans Canada Trail signage system. Our map now hangs prominently in the entranceway to the Ontario Tourist Centre on Huron Street along with the Trans Canada Trail signage.

## Do you have email?

Future Saulteaux Club news and updates could be easily sent over the Internet, if I had your email. Please send me an email with your full name to: [voyageur.trail@sympatico.ca](mailto:voyageur.trail@sympatico.ca)

(The next time the city releases a new/revised "Trail Plan", I can easily contact you and let you know where and when to see it...not to mention postage on these "between newsletter" newsletters!)

I promise that your email will not be used for any other purpose or shared with anyone else.

## Something for everyone!

In talking with new and prospective members, we somehow have developed an image of a "tough" hiking club where one has to be "in good shape" to participate. This couldn't be further from the truth! We have tried very hard to provide outings of every persuasion for our members to choose from: long treks, "rock-hopping", easy family hikes, after dinner strolls, cycling and even paddling! The trick is to know your own limits. If you walk 5 kms every evening, but it is on city streets, don't equate that with 5kms on the Voyageur Trail! The terrain in Northern Ontario is rugged.

If you have doubt about what the trail is like, call the leader--that's why we publish their telephone numbers. They can tell you about the terrain and the time it will take to do the outing, among other things. Above all, join in--we would love to see you!



## Done any trail maintenance lately?

Please contact me so I can update our web page with areas that have been cleaned (942-1891 or [voyageur.trail@sympatico.ca](mailto:voyageur.trail@sympatico.ca)).

If you haven't done any lately...*why not?* Have you forgotten how much fun a work party can be? More time to talk with others? Shorter distances? The satisfied feeling of a job well done! Consult the schedule (*on right*) and pick your opportunity. **We need YOU!**

**Better yet, why not adopt your own section?** That way, you can select your own opportune time to clean your trail. If you need help, contact us and we can schedule a work party to give you a hand. (Don't forget to submit how many times you worked on your section for our end-of-the-year free membership draws! Call Patrick at 253-4470.)

## Saulteaux Club Trails and their adopters:

### Tom Allinson Spur Trail:

Maki Road to Red Rock Beach (at stream) - Gail Andrew

Red Rock (at stream) to Jackson Island Road - Mike/Cheryl Landmark

Gros Cap Loop Trail: Mike/Cheryl Landmark

### Main Trail:

Gros Cap to Prince Lake Road: Mike/Cheryl Landmark

Prince Lake Road to Airport Extension: Monica Hilton

Airport Extension to Creek Road: Frank Brooks

Creek Road to Aubin Road: Susan, Cliff & Ian Graham

Aubin Road to Camp Korah: *available*

Goulais Avenue to Old Goulais Bay Road: Horst Wetzl

Old Goulais Bay Road to west branch of the Root River: Alan Comfort

West Branch of Root River to Glenview Cottages: *available*

Glenview Cottages to Connor Road: Don McGorman

Connor Road to Mabel Lake: Don McGorman

**Hiawatha Loop Trail and Glenview Cottages trails:** Don McGorman

**Old Goulais Bay Road to Highway 17 North:** Patrick Capper

*(If I have made any omissions or errors, I am sorry. Please contact me at 942-1891 to correct my information. Also, do likewise if you are interested in adopting a section!)*

## DATES TO REMEMBER

NEW!

**Sat., July 14** - Contrary to what we were told before the last newsletter, there is NO hike in LSPP today. (*There is one scheduled for the 21st.*) Sorry for any inconvenience.

NEW!

**Sun., July 15** - First organized hike on the brand new Carp Lake Trail! Meet at 10:00 AM sharp at the Batchewana Bay Park Tourist Information Centre. Behaved pets are welcome but bring a leash (*cliff edges nearby*). Georgena at Clean North office 945-1573 (*message service available here as she will likely be out on the trails*), or at 1-877-393-4003.

NEW!

**Mon., July 16** - Saulteaux Club Meeting @ 7:30PM, GLFC, Gayle 942-1891 (*planning next outing schedule*)

**Sat., July 21** - Hike to Mabel Lake. Zellers @ 9:30AM. Pets OK. Don 946-9599

NEW!

**Sun., July 22** - Cycle from Leeburn to Bruce Mines and return (*both ways is approximately 60kms and involves some highway riding*) with **Sault Cycling Club**. Meet at Tim Horton's (*across from water tower*) @ 9AM. Jim Miller 254-7494.

NEW!

**Wed., July 25** - Second organized hike on the brand new Carp Lake Trail! Meet at 10:00 AM sharp at the Batchewana Bay Park Tourist Information Centre. Behaved pets are welcome but bring a leash (*cliff edges nearby*). Call Georgena at Clean North office 945-1573 (*message service available*), or at 1-877-393-4003.

**Sat., July 28** - Hike at Pancake Bay. Agawa Indian Crafts @ 10AM. Pets OK. Susan 949-4105.

**Wed., August 1** - VTA NEWSLETTER DEADLINE! Cheryl 779-3409.

**Sat., August 4** - Moonlight Hike. Memory Lane (former Cocomo Joe's) @ 8:30PM. Pets OK. Mike/Cheryl 779-3409.

**Sat., August 11** - Work Party in Echo Ridges. Churchill Plaza @ 9:30AM. Trina 253-3359.

**Week of August 20 to 24** - Week of hiking/backpacking with the Casques Isles Club. **See next page.** Mike 779-3409 or Gayle 942-1891.

**Sun., August 26** - Hike in city's west end. Pets OK. Market Mall @10AM. Jack 942-1761.

**Sat., September 1** - Work Party. Churchill Plaza @ 10AM. Pets OK. Gayle 942-1891.

**Sat., September 8** - Hike Prince Lake Road to Airport Road extension (*final end-to-end*). Market Mall @9:30AM. Pets OK. Monica 254-5029.

**Sun., September 9** - Hike around Tier Lake. Zellers @ 9AM. Pets OK. Ila 949-1097.

**Sat., September 15** - Easy, family hike Creek to Maki Roads. Market Mall @ 10AM. Pets OK. Susan 949-4105.

**Sat., September 22** - Crystal Creek Canoe. Zellers @ 9:30AM. Pets. OK. Don 946-9599.

## Trail Updates

### **YES, Access A5 at the Bluewater Inn**

**parking lot is now closed,** however, access to the Gros Cap Loop Trail (*with three lookouts over Lake Superior*), the main Voyageur Trail and the Tom Allinson Spur Trail can still be found at A4, down Marshall Drive and Jackson Island Road!

Detailed directions follow.

If approaching from Sault Ste. Marie, turn right on Marshall Drive, and you will find these measurements...

- at .4 kms the pavement ends
- at 2.3 kms make a left turn (*on to Jackson Island Road*)  
(*the road narrows to a single vehicle width*)
- at 2.6 kms make a right turn (*gated private property ahead*)
- at 3.0 kms you will pass by a tower on your left
- at 3.3 kms you will find where the yellow loop trail begins to follow Jackson Island Road
- at 3.45 kms you will notice the main trail (*white blazes*) and the Tom Allinson Spur Trail (*blue blazes*) on your right
- at 4.0 kms the yellow loop trail leaves Jackson Island Road to the left and parallels the bluffs easily accessing 3 Lake Superior overlooks (*blue blazed*).

[**Do not** turn at any gated side drives (*private land*).]

Please remember when parking your vehicle to go for a hike, leave plenty of room for vehicles (*especially large logging trucks*) to easily get by. Jackson Island Road is a cottage road and an access route for several private loggers.

Don't forget to investigate the new trails built in the Hiawatha Highlands and in the Batchewana area.

**Still lots to do and plenty of hiking trail available to do it on!**

### **Preliminary Plans for our Visit to the Casques Isles Club area on the Week of August 20 to 24** (*Week of hiking/backpacking with the Casques Isles Club in Terrace Bay/Schreiber/Rosspoint area.*)

Participants intending to backpack the entire trail, would start out Sunday morning (August 19<sup>th</sup>) in Terrace Bay. Participants intending on doing day hikes from our individual campsites at Rainbow Falls Provincial Park, can plan on including a day hike to the White River suspension bridge beginning early Sunday morning in Pukaskwa National Park, near Marathon— or— be ready for our first day hike on the Casques Isles trail on Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup>. To make reservations at Rainbow Falls Provincial Park, call 807-824-2298 (*let them know that you are with the Voyageur Trail group and they will try to put campsites together in the same area of the park*).

Park fees: electrical site \$21.50 • Non-electrical site \$17.50 • Extra vehicle (1 allowed per site) \$7. For more information, call Mike at 779-3409 or Gayle at 942-1891.

## Welcome!

A big Saulteaux Club welcome to Kealy Sweet, a summer career placement student who is working with Voyageur Trail Coordinator, Georgena MacDonald this summer!

Kealy is from the Sault and is entering her third year in Graphic Design at Fanshawe College this fall.

Kealy started work on June 4<sup>th</sup>, and will be doing both trail development and hiking promotion work until the end of August. She will collect information about any new trails as they are developed (*for maps and publications*), and develop VTA promotional displays for tourist information centres across Northern Ontario. Her work area is from Spanish to Wawa.

When not exploring new trails, or doing trail maintenance, Kealy may be found at the Clean North office, 736 Queen Street East. To contact her by phone, call 945-1573, fax to 945-0595, or email her at: [ksweet@cleannorth.org](mailto:ksweet@cleannorth.org)

Georgena reports, "Having just spent several days in the bush north of the Sault with Kealy and Howie Chaboyer from Nipigon, I can say that Kealy is both a competent 'bushwhacker' and an able hiker. Thanks to Howie and Kealy, we now have most of the Carp Lake trail completed. There are 8 fabulous scenic lookouts along this trail! We will be putting trail signs up and will have a map available shortly."



She adds, "During the month of July, we will be spending a lot of time north of the Sault. The next potential trail areas are the lookout on the new Harmony trail, along Chippewa Falls, and at the ponds on Mile 38 Road. **Anyone interested in joining us to explore the area, or help with trail development/maintenance, please email or call us.** We are **ALWAYS** looking for volunteers, *especially those who can go out with us during the weekdays!*"

Georgena and Kealy have offered to guide us through the brand new Carp Lake Trail (*with 8 lookouts—that's got to be a record!*)

**On Sunday, July 15<sup>th</sup>,** bring lunch, water, fly repellent, dress appropriately, be prepared to sign an Assumption of Risk Agreement and meet at 10:00 AM sharp at the Batchewana Bay Park Tourist Information Centre. Behaved pets are welcome but bring a leash (*cliff edges nearby*).

A second hike will take place on Wednesday, July 25<sup>th</sup>. All the same arrangements as above for meeting place and time. For more information about these hikes or the trail in general, contact Georgena at Clean North office 945-1573 (*message service available here as she will likely be out on the trails*), or at 1-877-393-4003.

## The saga continues...

In April, a Sault Star photographer happened to take a picture of our bear carving at the Ontario Tourism Centre on Huron Street. This photo led to a letter to the editor saying that the bear should have a name. Shortly thereafter, I wrote a letter to the editor which was published explaining the name of the bear.

GRIN AND 'BEAR' IT

APR. 17, 2001

Sault Star



THIS CARVED WOODEN BEAR standing outside the Tourist Information Centre near the International Bridge braves the weather conditions, as winter reared its ugly head Monday.

## Fortunate carved bear needs name

APR. 24, 2001  
Sault Star  
The photo caption on April 17 referred to "This carved wooden bear standing outside the Tourist Information Centre near the International Bridge." But he ought to have a name. How about Lueki (pronounced Loo-kee)?  
Granted, the picture taken

by Keith Stephen is beautiful and worth a thousand words.

It shows Lueki smiling, but it can't explain why he smiles, why he stands straight and tall, undaunted by wind, rain and snow.

Why has he, of all bears, been honoured with this high

profile and privileged station so close to the tourist information centre and casino (hence a name reminiscent of "lucky")?

Then, too, there is respect. Let us respectfully refer to Lueki by name.

Frank Wilson,  
Chippewa Street

## Take a hike; see why Harvey is smiling

MAY 1, 2001  
Sault Star  
In response to *Fortunate carved bear needs name* by Frank Wilson (April 24):

I can explain why the carved bear smiles.

His name is Harvey the Hiking Bear, and he was installed by the Voyageur Trail Association a couple of years ago to promote our hiking trails in Sault Ste. Marie and area.

He "stands straight and tall" because he enjoys much healthy hiking on our local

trail.

He is "undaunted by the wind, rain and snow" because he has come prepared (as we all should) with his backpack sporting our Voyageur Trail logo.

He smiles and leans on his hiking stick while a beaver mounted atop a carved pole takes his picture.

Harvey is fortunate because there is more than 55 kilometres of peaceful hiking trail within the boundaries of Sault

Ste. Marie.

The local club, called the Saulteaux Club, offers more than 35 outings a year to the general public, including hiking, snowshoeing and bush-whack skiing, and has more than 100 local members.

Plan to join us on a hike for your health and you too will know why Harvey smiles.

Gayle Phillips,  
Publicity Director,  
Voyageur Trail Association,  
Pardee Avenue

*Recently, I received an anonymous letter offering a different angle on the whole issue, and here it is for your enjoyment.*

## Me and Harvey the Hiking Bear by C. Chopper P. Eng.

It should be remembered that although bears are bigger than us beavers, they are not necessarily smarter. I sit on top of this carved pole mainly for reasons of body size.

Imagine how silly to have a small beaver standing here on the ground with a walking stick, and a huge bear on top of this pole with a camera. Then too, it is doubtful that a bear with such big paws could handle a tiny camera.

Like building dams, bridges, and houses, taking pictures demands engineering sense—a feel for space, relativity and aesthetics. Bears don't have such sense or feeling.

I would ask adult visitors to remind their children that *big* is not always *best*. And that big people and little people must work together. So must beavers and bears. After all, everyone breathes the same air, drinks the same water, walks the same earth.

**Editor's Note:** Pay a visit to the Ontario Tourism Centre on the corner of Queen and Huron Streets. With our bear/beaver carving, the Trans Canada Trail sign, and our own Saulteaux Club sign—it seems to be *the* place to be!