

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]! 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 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 24th, we are planning a badly needed work party on the Marathon trail. On Saturday, August 25th 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.

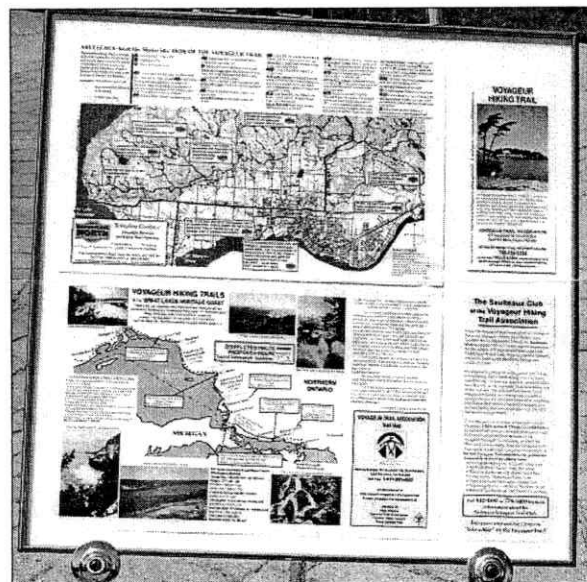
New Map Available!

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] and the new "Explorer's Club" of Algoma's Water Tower Inn [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

(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).

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 19th) 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 20th. 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 4th, 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

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 15th, 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 25th. 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!