



VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS

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The Voyageur Trail Association is a non-profit, volunteer group dedicated to building and maintaining a public hiking trail along the northern shores of Lakes Superior and Huron, from Thunder Bay to South Baymouth on Manitoulin Island.

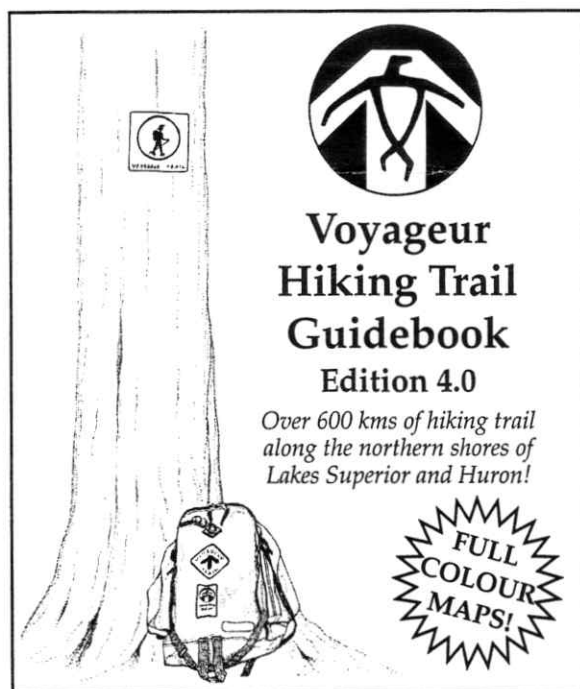
*The VTA is a member of
Hike Canada En Marche,
Hike Ontario,
Ontario Trails Council,
and
Trans Canada Trail.*

If you would prefer us to email you a short message when the VT newsletter is posted on our Internet site, just send an email to:
cheryl.landmark@sympatico.ca

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IT'S AT THE PRINTERS!



**Voyageur
Hiking Trail
Guidebook
Edition 4.0**

*Over 600 kms of hiking trail
along the northern shores of
Lakes Superior and Huron!*

**FULL
COLOUR
MAPS!**

It's gone to the printer (and many of us are doing a Mexican hat dance right now)! Although this latest edition of the Voyageur Trail Association Guidebook is "Edition 4.0", it has been re-created from the ground up (literally) since the very first Guidebook was published in the 1980s. It started with all the behind-the-scenes work. Funding had to be arranged, advertising had to be sold, and information-sharing agreements had to be hammered out. Most thankfully, we were fortunate to obtain significant cash grants from the Ontario Trillium Foundation and the Active 2010 Communities in Action Fund. Equally valuable were the in-kind contributions by Natural Resources Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, and the countless hours donated by a bevy of volunteers. The following businesses supported us by purchasing advertising in the Guidebook: Casque Isles: Coach House Motel, Circle Route Voyageur Motel, Serendipity Gardens Café & Guest House, Willows Inn Bed & Breakfast, and Township of Terrace Bay; Michipicoten: Naturally Superior Adventures, Wilderness Helicopters; Saulteaux: Glenview Cottages & Campground, Joe's Sports & Surplus, Clergue Forest Management, and Little Brown Dog Bed & Breakfast; and Coureurs de Bois: Township of

the North Shore and City of Elliot Lake. The cover artwork was re-designed. Then we "hit the ground" hiking some 600 km of trails with GPS units, and those tracks were downloaded into computers for the long process of working the information into over forty GIS-produced full colour maps. The trail descriptions were re-written for consistency and to reflect the new realities of walking each section of Voyageur Trail today. The trail descriptions, ads, photos, et al. had to be laid out for printing. The result?--A 140-page Guidebook with full colour maps having the latest in Voyageur Trail information! This includes new trails in Marathon now linking with Pukaskwa National Park; a new side trail that takes a long-distance hiker into the heart of Bruce Mines for re-supply; a new side trail that leads to the St. Mary's River waterfront boardwalk and past the International Bridge entrance in Sault Ste. Marie; a re-routed trail into the heart of Elliot Lake and all the way to Spanish.

There is LOTS of new and exciting information and we can't wait for the Guidebook to "hit the streets". This edition includes some extras, including a map distance calculator and index tab dividers to further enhance the greatly improved product.

Steve Dominy, Guidebook Committee Chair says, "It has been an enormous volunteer undertaking and I am extremely satisfied with the end product. And I think the hiking public will like it, too."

The project is not over yet. Still much work is to be done marketing the guidebook, raising awareness about the trail, monitoring changes to the maps and text for reporting to members through the newsletter, developing digital versions of individual trail sections, etc. Anyone who would like to help is invited to contact the VTA.

All members will want to have this 4th edition of the Guidebook to plan their upcoming hiking season. You may wish to consider giving copies as gifts as well. Just fill in the form at the back of this newsletter (\$25 for members-in-good-standing [max. 2 copies per member] or \$35 for non-members - and don't forget the \$8 postage/handling charge) and your copy will be one of the first sent out.

Then you can plan your summer with some REALLY interesting hiking!



REMEMBER YOUR CLUB...GIFTING by Debbie Morettin

There are a few ways that members make donations to the VTA. Occasionally members send in \$25 to \$100 with their membership renewal. Some members graciously make donations of their reimbursed mileage. Other members donate a gift "in kind". This may be a piece of equipment or other tangible item that could be of use to the club. All of these donations are much appreciated and help the club manage its budget.

All donations receive a tax receipt for the value of the donation. Most of us pay considerable amounts of income tax and have few opportunities to reduce that tax. Over the past several years, charitable giving has become an attractive tax credit. The first \$200 of all donations is worth about 20% in tax credits; but donations over \$200 is where the real advantage lies, with a minimum 40% tax credit! This credit benefits all equally, regardless of income tax bracket; i.e. as long as taxes are being paid the donation will reduce the amount of taxes owed. I think most of us are aware of this, however many are not aware that the government quite recently has taken another major step in making charitable giving tax "attractive". They have eliminated, yes, eliminated capital gains tax on the gifting of "securities".

Consider the case of Jay and Joy Walker. They are a retired, healthy, active couple. They have 2 children, grown up and financially independent. They don't consider themselves to be rich by any means, but certainly feel comfortable financially. They both have pensions as well as other investment accounts. Their investments include several mutual funds, some stocks and bonds. Recently they sat down with their investment advisor and looked at how their investments fit into their estate plan. They now feel very comfortable that they will have more than enough money to fund their entire remaining lives and know there will be a sizeable estate to leave to their children.

Jay and Joy are VTA members and have come to appreciate the value of the club. Some of their investments have appreciated more than they expected. In particular, Joy noted that one of the stocks they bought many years ago for \$5000 is now worth \$25,000. She's worried that it may not hold its value and wishes that they could take that money and give a donation to the club. Jay agreed that would be nice, but is concerned that as soon as they sell the stock, they will have a \$20,000 capital gain to pay. He knows that only half of the gain has to be claimed, and even if they divide it between them, adding \$5,000 to each of their incomes would certainly be noticed even with the donation credit.

Luckily they discussed this with their advisor and Jay and Joy learned that they could donate the stock to the VTA, instead of the cash. By doing so, zero capital gains have to be claimed, yes zero! Jay and Joy will still get the full donation credit. The donated stock gets transferred out of Jay and Joy's account and into the VTA's investment account. The VTA issues the donation receipt to Jay and Joy based on the

value of the stock the day they receive it. The VTA is free to sell the stock as soon as it is received, if the stock does not fit with its longterm investment strategy.

This is a win-win situation. Jay and Joy will eliminate their exposure to a stock that they no longer wish to own, they help their club financially which makes them feel good, and they will be reducing their taxes!. The VTA gets a \$25,000 donation that will help immensely in planning to do a few extra projects on the trails.

Debbie Morettin can be reached at 759-2330 (w) or 785-3247 (h) for more information

Debbie Morettin is an Investment Advisor with RBC Dominion Securities Inc. Member CIPF

This article is for information purposes only. Please consult with a professional advisor before taking any action based on information in this article.

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FOR SALE:

Bike carrier, Thule brand, like new, carries 2 bikes, fits Corolla or similar size car. \$65.
Call 705-942-9636

MEMBERS: Don't forget to check your newsletter envelope to see when your membership expires!



DON QUIOXTE WOULD HAVE A TILTING GOOD TIME!

by Cheryl Landmark

With all the wind turbines in the Prince Township Wind Farm, that famous tilter of windmills, Don Quixote, would be in seventh heaven. The largest wind farm in Canada boasts 126 turbines, which would keep old Don busy for quite some time!

On January 13, 2007, the VTA offered a tour of the project and 21 people attended.

Jim Deluzio, the General Manager of Wind Operations for Brookfield Power in Ontario, presented

some interesting facts and figures about the wind farm. Phase 1 of the project commenced in September 2005, in which 66 turbines were constructed southwest of Red Rock Road. Commercial operation of the turbines was started in September 2006. Phase 2, northeast of Red Rock Road, saw an additional 60 turbines added to the wind farm. The entire project cost \$392 million, or \$3.11 million per turbine, 100% of which was Brookfield money. No government funding was used. The farm is located mostly on private land, with only 20 turbines on Crown land. Each owner will receive 2% of the revenue from each turbine on his or her property, which works out to about \$6,000 to \$7,000 per turbine per year. The Ontario government has signed a 20-year contract with Brookfield to purchase the power from the wind farm at a fixed price. Each turbine is capable of producing 1-1/2 megawatts of power in a very efficient manner and the farm can supply energy for approximately 40,000 homes annually.

The turbines themselves appear to be quite simple structures, but Jim's explanation of how they were constructed leaves one quite impressed. Each steel-reinforced foundation is 50 feet in diameter and consists of 225 cubic metres of concrete (or, to make it a little easier to comprehend, 35 truckloads!). Four hundred tons of earth covers the foundation. Three sections make up each tower, which rises 80 metres into the air. A huge crane was used to lift and connect each section together. To give you an idea of just how big this crane was, it took 18 trucks to transport the crane to the site! The blades themselves are 37 metres, or 125 feet long, and connect to a rotor, which makes the entire blade section 77 metres long. The blades pitch into the wind according to a sensor located on the top of

the tower and turn at 14 revolutions per minute, which is constant. They won't go any faster no matter how windy it gets. The blades are designed to withstand winds of 90 kilometres an hour, but not for long, and will shutdown after a certain length of time. Maximum power is produced at wind speeds of 50 kilometres an hour. The nacelle on the top of



each tower to which the blades are connected houses the generator and gear box and weighs about 56 tons. The generator runs at 1400 rpm. There is a high voltage control cabinet at the base of the tower containing power cables, etc.

For Phase 1, all of the power cables are buried underground, while Phase 2 has some overhead cables. All of the turbines are connected by a fibre optic network and are monitored by GE from California for the first two years. Brookfield Power monitors the electrical system.

As far as the environmental impact of the turbine construction, Jim assured us that only about 2% of the land was cleared for the roads and turbines and no clear cutting was done in any of the areas. A question was raised about the noise level of the turbines and Jim showed us a chart, which indicated that 300 metres from the base of a turbine, the noise level was 30-34 decibels (equal to little more than a whisper). One complaint has been received locally, but, other than that, there has been little impact. Brookfield will hire a noise consultant shortly to measure the noise level.

Another concern was the impact of the wind farm on local wildlife. Brookfield did a monitoring study for birds and bats and will continue to monitor and collect data for two years. So far, there seems to be minimal impact on wildlife. Bats tend to stay in the tree canopy, which is about 20 metres high, and don't generally fly up to the 43-metre height where the blades of the turbines are. Wildlife might have been chased away temporarily during the construction phase, but indications are that they are now returning to the area.



The tour was topped off by a trip to Red Rock Road to witness the wind turbines in action. Unfortunately, the beautiful sunny day was without a breath of wind and the blades remained stubbornly motionless!

All in all, the presentation was quite informative and interesting, and I would like to thank Jim Deluzio for giving up a Saturday morning to educate us about the Prince Township Wind Farm.

Don't be surprised if you see Don Quixote on one of your hikes out in that area, but, please remember that the roads running through the wind farm are private, so everyone is urged to stay on the Voyageur Trail.



EXPERIENCE ICELAND

July 2 to 13, 2007

Land of the midnight sun! Trek on volcanic terrain, marvel at the view atop Iceland's own "Grand Canyon", stand at the edge of the most powerful waterfall in all Europe, and relax in the soothing thermal waters of the Blue Lagoon. From Reykjavik all the way north to the fishing village of Husavik, days are packed full of awesome sights and experiences.

This is a once-in-a-lifetime adventure!

DISCOVER SLOVENIJA

July 30 to August 11, 2007

Discover the fairy-tale setting of Slovenia with its Julian Alps, medieval castles, baroque churches and Dragon Bridge. Hike behind the thundering Slap Pericnik waterfall and through Vintgar Gorge gushing with white water. Trek up the impressive Mt. Triglav and around the glacier-fed Lake Bohinj.

Discover unspoiled Slovenia.

LA BELLE SAGUENAY

August 25 to Sept 2, 2007

Hike along the 2nd longest fjord in North America! Explore 3 of Quebec's most celebrated parks, all in the Saguenay-Lac Saint-Jean region. Highlights include superb hiking trails, whale-watching in Tadoussac, a Quebecois dinner on a family farm and even a little free time to sightsee in Quebec City. Our hotel is nestled on the hillside overlooking the tranquil Baie des Ha! Ha! and offers some of the best in French cuisine.

SAVOUR TUSCANY

September 15 to 29, 2007

Mouth-watering gelatos, world-famous vino, gastronomic feasts, passionate locals and some of the most picturesque hiking in the world await you on this 2-week adventure in glorious Tuscany. Join us as we hike the region famous for its vineyards, olive groves and renaissance architecture. You will be captivated by the scenery and charmed by the towns and villages that can only be best appreciated on foot!

You will truly get a taste of *La Dolce Vita*!

EXPLORE NEW ZEALAND

November 4 to 23, 2007

Spring in Kiwi country! Explore Rotorua, Tongariro, Abel Tasman National Park, and last but not least, the Milford Track - long described as the finest walk in the world!

LET'S HIKE! NEWSLETTER

Want to stay current on all the trips we offer? Be invited to attend hiking clinics? Find out about special offers, photo contests and our Rewards Program? Then sign up for our e-newsletter "Let's Hike!"

Comfortable Hiking Holidays
(416) 445-2628

info@letshike.com www.letshike.com

TRAIL SECTION DEDICATED

by Gayle Phillips



On March 26, 1973, the Commissioner of Parks and Recreation for the City of Sault Ste. Marie, Harold A. Brain, convened a meeting at the Community Service Board Offices, then located in the Sault Memorial Gardens, of "persons interested in establishing a hiking trail along the precipice of the Cambrian Shield" from Gros Cap on Lake Superior to Hiawatha Park, just north of Sault Ste. Marie. One of those in attendance, Dr. Paul D. Syme, a Sault Ste. Marie research scientist and

member of the Bruce Trail Association, immediately saw the possibility of extending this concept eastward to Espanola, then south across Manitoulin Island to link up with southern Ontario's Bruce Trail. The other seven persons at the meeting needed little convincing, and an association was born.

Over the next several months, the group held information meetings, recruited new members for the project and busied themselves learning the ABCs of trail building.

Over the summer, Paul Syme, the acknowledged leader of the group, visited with officials of the Bruce Trail Association, soliciting advice and guidance.

It was at a meeting on October 24, 1973, that the name "Voyageur Trail Association" was chosen, and that the decision was taken to follow the Bruce Trail model of dividing the trail (at this point the proposed trail eastward was to be known as the North Channel Trail, and the proposed trail to the north, the Superior Trail) into sections and assigning responsibility for trail building, maintenance, public hikes, etc. to local Voyageur Trail (VT) Clubs.

The first President of the Association, Paul D. Syme, was wont to remark on the satisfaction that comes from being part of an idea that is greater than one's self. The Voyageur Trail is just such an idea. Members past and present have developed and maintained a major hiking trail through some of the most rugged, yet scenic, topography in eastern Canada--a remarkable accomplishment for an organization, the membership of which has probably never exceeded 250.

At a 2003 VTA Executive meeting, Dr. Paul Syme was asked which part of the Saulteaux section was his favourite. He said the section from Camp Korah (Goulais Avenue) to Maki Road. I am honoured to announce that the Saulteaux Voyageur Trail Club has named this section the "Dr. Paul Syme Voyageur Trail Section" in recognition of Dr. Syme's contributions to the VTA and it will be listed as such in the new version 4.0 edition of the VTA Guidebook.

Congratulations Paul and thank you for your efforts to these many years!



Coueurs de Bois Outdoors Club (Elliot Lake)

For fun, fitness and friendship come and join us.

Meet at Sears parking lot.

For all outings bring water, lunch, dress appropriately and be prepared to sign an "Assumption of Risk Agreement". Make sure your fitness level corresponds to the outing level you wish to participate in.

PLEASE CONTACT HIKE LEADERS FOR MORE INFO.

For any changes in the schedule and photos of outings check our website at: www.coueursdeboiselliottlake.blogspot.com and/or The Elliot Lake Standard - Community Bulletin Board section.

Hike Levels

Easy 2 - 3 hours Level 1 Ontario

Intermediate 3 - 4 hours Level 2 Ontario

Advanced 4 - 6 hours Level 2 Ontario (Note the Coueurs de Bois have NO Level 3 hiking routes--our advanced level is relative to time on the trail only.)

APRIL: All hikes at 10 AM unless otherwise noted.

14 Sat., Intermediate Hike ~ Alan 848-8767

17 Tues., Easy Hike ~ John B 848-3515

19 Thurs., Intermediate Hike ~ Fred 848-2956

21 Sat., Easy Hike ~ Nicki and Gerry 461-6304

24 Tues., Easy Hike ~ Jean-Guy 848-2544

26 Thurs., Intermediate Hike ~ Alan 848-8767

28 Sat., Easy Hike ~ John V 461-1026

MAY: All hikes at 10 AM unless otherwise noted.

1 Tues. Easy hike with Nancy-Jo 848-2947

3 Thurs. Intermediate hike with Phil & Liz 848-8767

5 Sat. 9AM Cobre Lake Trail Work Party and Hike ~ All are welcome Call Al @ 848-4372

6 Sun. Breakfast at the Moose & hike with John V 461-1026

8 Tues. Easy hike with John Burns 848-3515

10 Thurs. Intermediate hike with Phil & Liz 848-8767

15 Tues. Easy hike with John V 461-1026

17 Thurs. Intermediate hike with Fred 848-2956

22 Tues. Easy hike with John V 461-1026

24 Thurs. Intermediate hike with Phil & Liz 848-8767

29 Tues. Easy hike with John V 461-1026

31 Thurs. Intermediate hike with Phil & Liz 848-8767

JUNE: All hikes at 10AM unless otherwise noted.

3 Sun. Breakfast at the Moose & hike with John V 461-1026

5 Tues. Easy hike with John V 461-1026

10 Thurs. Intermediate hike with John Burns 848-3515

12 Tues. Easy hike with John V 461-1026

JUNE: (continued)

12 Tues. 7PM C de B Meeting @ Snowbird's Clubhouse

14 Thurs. Intermediate hike with Phil & Liz 848-8767

OR

14 Thurs. Easy canoe on Elliot Lake at Sailing Clubhouse with Jean-Guy 848-2544. Extra canoes available.

19 Tues. Easy hike with John V 461-1026

21 Thurs. 9AM Easy canoe trip Esten Lake to Elliot Lake (all day) with Jean-Guy 848-2544 (Rain date ~ Sat June 23)

22 Fri. 4PM Potluck in Westview Park with Alan & Di 848-8776

26 Tues. Easy hike with John V 461-1026

28 Thurs. Intermediate hike with Phil & Liz 848-8767

30 Sat. Jewel in the Wilderness Parade. For time & specifics call Alan 848-8776

JULY: All hikes at 9AM unless otherwise noted.

1 Sun. Breakfast at the Moose & Canada Day hike. Call Alan 848-8776 for times/location.

3 Tues. Easy hike with Jean-Guy 848-2544

5 Thurs. Intermediate hike with Phil & Liz 848-8767

7 Sat. Canoe/Hike/Pot luck/BBQ at Fred & Maxine's Cottage on Lake Huron (Overnight camping if desired.) Call Fred 848-2956

10 Tues. Easy hike with John Burns 848-3515

12 Thurs. Intermediate hike with Jean-Guy 848-2544

14 Sat. Canoe/Hike at Perkins' cottage on Dunlop. Call Fran 848-5291

17 Tues. Easy hike with Jean-Guy 848-2544

19 Thurs. Intermediate hike with Phil & Liz 848-8767

21 Sat. Quirke Lake canoe/hike/bike to Panel Beach. Contact: Elizabeth 461-7760 or Heather 461-3099

24 Tues. Easy hike with Jean-Guy 848-2544

26 Thurs. Intermediate hike with John Burns 848-3515

30 Mon. Highway Clean-up ~ Airport to Depot Boat Launch. Call Jocelyn 848-0405

AUGUST: All hikes at 9AM unless otherwise noted.

2 Thurs. Intermediate hike with Phil & Liz 848-8767

5 Sun. Breakfast at the Moose/ hike with John V 461-1026

7 Tues. Easy hike with John Burns 848-3515

11 Sat. Canoe Trip with Alan. Call 848-8776 for details.

16 Thurs. Intermediate hike with Phil & Liz 848-8767

23 Thurs. Intermediate hike with John Burns 848-3515

24 Fri. TO 26 Sun. Mississauga Park Weekend.

Canoeing, Hiking, Bon-Fires, Pot Luck Supper and BBQ on Sat. night. Everyone come out for all or part of the weekend. Call Alan 848-8776

30 Thurs. Intermediate hike with Phil & Liz 848-8767



OUTING SCHEDULE

This schedule was put together early and may have last-minute changes. Please call the outing leader listed to check if any details of the outing have changed. This schedule is also on our web site

< www.voyageurtrail.ca/saulteaux.html > Unless otherwise indicated, these outings are all a Level 2, slow (according to Hike Ontario recommended ratings.) Goodlife building, 589 Second Line East (Second Line side); Market Mall 275 Second Line West (on Korah Road corner); Churchill Plaza near the Beer Store, 150 Churchill Blvd., (on Trunk Road between Lake and Wellington Streets); Wellington Square Mall near the now closed old restaurant, 625 Trunk Road.

Saulteaux Club

(Sault Ste. Marie and area—outings marked with an asterisk (*) are outside Sault Ste. Marie.) For all outings, bring water, lunch, dress appropriately and be prepared to sign an Assumption of Risk Agreement.

Sat., Apr. 14 - Hike in the Hiawatha area with Gayle (942-1891). Meet 10AM in Goodlife building parking lot (Second Line side). Behaved pets welcome.

Sat., Apr. 21 - Earth Day Clean-Up with Gayle (942-1891). Meet 10AM in Goodlife parking lot (Second Line side) to car pool. Bring work gloves.

Sat., Apr. 21 - Saulteaux Club Annual dinner at 6:30 PM @ Buttermilk. After dinner, there will be presentation by Dieter Ropke entitled, "Lake Superior Backpack and Coastal Exploration: A Nostalgic Visit". Call 949-4105 for tickets.

Sun., Apr. 22nd - Hike with Ila (949-1097) in the Hiawatha Highlands. Meet 10AM at the Goodlife building (Second Line side). Behaved pets welcome.

***Sun., Apr. 29th** - Go to Blazes Work Party with Gayle (942-1891). We will blaze a blue side trail to the Harmony Beach lookout. Meet at 10AM in the Goodlife parking lot to car pool. Behaved pets welcome.

TWO SPECIAL OFFERINGS in MAY:

Ron Stone is looking for company to do a few days hiking on Manitoulin Island. For more information, call 248-2666.

Mark Crofts is a certified ORCA instructor for flat-water canoeing. He is offering a 1.5-2 day course in basic canoeing/flatwater for up to 10 people for the \$100 cost to ORCA. Call Mark at 254-2356 to arrange a good place and time.

***Sat., May 5th** - VTA Coordinating Council meeting in Terrace Bay with hike afterwards. Call 779-3409.

***Sun., May 6th** - Hike Robertson Cliffs

with Mark (254-2356). Meet 10AM at Goodlife. Behaved, leashed pets okay.

Sat., May 12th - Re-dedication of the Tom Allinson Side Trail Meet at 10:00 at Market Mall to car pool. Pets welcome. Call Mike 779-3409

Sun., May 13th - Mother's Day Hike with Horst (971-4812 or 542-8978). Meet in the Market Mall at 10AM to car pool. Pets must be leashed at lunch.

Mon., May 14th - Saulteaux Club meeting at 7PM in the Civic Centre. Call 942-1891 for more information.

***Sun., May 20th** - Hike the Nature Trail at Pancake Bay with Ila (949-1097). Meet 10AM at Goodlife (Second Line side). Behaved, leashed pets welcome.

Wed., June 6 - Work Party with Susan. Call 949-4105 for meeting place & time.

Thurs., June 7 - Evening stroll on the HUB Trail with Gayle (942-1891) as part of Trails Open events. There will be trail information handed out. Meet at Fort Creek Second Line parking lot at 7PM.

Wed., June 13 - Work Party with Susan. Call 949-4105 for meeting place & time.

Sun., June 17 - Hike with Ila (949-1097). Meet 10AM in Goodlife parking lot (Second Line side). Behaved pets welcome.

***Tues., June 19** - Evening paddle on Upper Island Lake with Susan (949-4105). Meet in Goodlife parking lot at 6:30PM.

Wed., June 20 - Work Party with Susan. Call 949-4105 for meeting place & time.

***Sat., June 23** - Hike the Haviland section with Jim (254-7494). Meet Goodlife at 9AM. Pets ok.

Wed., June 27 - Work Party with Susan. Call 949-4105 for meeting place & time.

Thurs., July 5 - Evening hike with Gayle (942-1891) at the Sault Canal. Meet 7PM

in the Visitor's Centre parking lot at the Sault Canal.

***Sun., July 8** - Hike with Ron (248-2666) in the Two Horse Lake area. Meet in Goodlife parking lot at 9AM to car pool. Please leave your pets at home for this outing.

***Sun., July 15** - Hike & swim in the Rock Lake area with Ila (949-1097). Meet in the Wellington Square Mall (near the former MacDonalds restaurant) at 9AM. Behaved pets welcome.

Mon., July 16 - Saulteaux Club meeting at 7PM in the Civic Centre. After meeting we will begin to plan the fall outing schedule.

Sun., July 22 - Hike with Gayle (942-1891). Meet at 10AM in the Goodlife parking lot to car pool. Behaved pets welcome.

***Sun., Aug. 5** - Hike in LSPP (weather permitting) with Ila (949-1097). Meet 9AM in the Goodlife parking lot (Second Line side). Please leave your pets at home for this outing.

Thurs., Aug. 9 - Evening hike on the HUB Trail with Gayle (942-1891). Meet at the bottom of Finn Hill at 7PM. Behaved pets welcome.

***Sat., Aug. 11** - Paddle in Bruce Mines area with Dieter & Erika (942-9636) with potluck afterwards. Call for meeting place and time.

***Sun. Aug. 19** - Hike Agawa Bay to Pictographs with Ron (248-2666). Meet at Goodlife parking lot at 9AM to car pool. Please leave your pets at home for this outing.

Sun., Aug. 26 - Hike with Gayle (942-1891). Meet at 10AM in the Goodlife parking lot (Second Line side) to car pool. Behaved pets welcome.



WELCOME TO NEW VTA MEMBERS... in 2006

At-Large:

Ken Benjamin
Tom Hall
Elizabeth Kelly
Howard Kelly
Shannon Kelly
Gina LaForce
Margot McGorman
Franz Ohler
Helene Ohler
Bill Reist
Gail Slavik
Kees Vanfrankenhuyzen

Coueurs de Bois:

Claire Baronette
Raymond Baronette
Larry Clinesmith
Janet Croteau
John Franks
Maureen Johnston
Orlena Kughni
Darla MacPhail
Grant MacPhail
Marlene McCromme
Shelley McLennan
Mike Perkins
Angela Prash
Lorna Shaw

Casque Isles:

Lucien Deschatelets
Mary Deschatelets
Irene Duffy
Maurice Duffy
Ariane Falzetta
Ari Fuad
Linda Pearen
Warren Pearen
Laurie Roy

Saulteaux:

Debbie Amaraso
Michelle Bugeja
Tania Burrows
Donna DiAngelo
Gail Francis
Mike Kirby
Jim Kohut
Rod Lehto
Sharon Lessard
Janet Messenger
Bob Sinclair
Dan Sweezey
Theresa Sweezey
Spring Zhu

Nipigon/Thunder Bay:

Bob Anglin

SKYLINE HIKERS OF THE CANADIAN ROCKIES

Celebrating 75 years of hiking in the Canadian Rockies!



Enjoy a first class wilderness experience with this non-profit organization offering five 6-day base camps in Banff National Park from mid-July to mid-August 2007.

Hikers carry only a daypack, but must be fit for mountain hiking.

Hike fee approximately \$900.00 p/p.

Includes return bus transportation from Banff to trailhead, tent accommodation with stove, wholesome meals, hot water, camp staff, guided day hikes, evening campfire program and sing songs.

For information & a free brochure

contact: 1-866-445-3374

e-mail: registrar@skylinehikers.ca

Website: www.skylinehikers.ca

Ontario residents contact volunteer:

Harry Moerschner: 1-705-445-0267



VTA landowners are entitled to free advertisements when they sell their property...



VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION YEARLY MEMBERSHIP FORM (please print)

Name: _____

Address: _____

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

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

E-mail address: _____

MEMBERSHIP FEES:

Individual ~ \$25 / Family or Group ~ \$30..... = _____

Student ~ \$10..... = _____

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

Charitable Reg. #119261923RR0001

2007 Guidebook*: members \$25 / non-members \$35 ____ = _____

(*limit of 2 per person)

Shipping/Handling for ALL MAILED Guidebooks \$ 8.00

For topography maps, call Steve (705) 946-2484

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please send my VTA newsletter via:

☐ Reminder to upload pdf from VTA web site

My email is: _____

☐ Snail mail to my home address.

Make cheques payable and mail to:

VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION

PO Box 20040, 150 Churchill Blvd.

Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 6W3



cont'd on back

VTA CO-ORDINATING COUNCIL

PRESIDENT:

vacant

VICE-PRESIDENT - WEST:

Duncan MacKay 807-825-3338

VICE-PRESIDENT - CENTRAL:

vacant

VICE-PRESIDENT - EAST:

Alan Day 705-848-8776

TREASURER:

Debbie Morettin 705-785-3247

GENERAL SECRETARY:

Cheryl Landmark 705-779-3409

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:

Mike Landmark 705-779-3409

PUBLICITY DIRECTOR:

Gayle Phillips 705-942-1891

TRAIL MASTER:

vacant

HIKE ONTARIO REPRESENTATIVE:

Patrick Capper 705-253-4470

(alternate) vacant

GUIDEBOOK COMMITTEE:

Steve Dominy 705-946-2484

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE:

Editor: Cheryl Landmark 705-779-3409

Layout by: Gayle Phillips

CONTACTS:

CASQUES ISLES:

Doug Stefurak 807-824-2724

MARATHON:

Rob Woito 807-229-0265

MICHIPICOTEN:

Laura Mitchell 705-856-7153

SAULTEAUX:

Gayle Phillips 705-942-1891

BRUCE MINES/THESSALON:

Allan Beilhartz 705-842-2159

PENEWOBKONG:

Joanne Marck 705-843-2199

COUREURS DE BOIS:

Alan Day 705-848-8776

(For information on any of these positions [especially the vacant ones], please contact us at our toll-free number 1-877-393-4003.)

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

Deadline for the next issue is:

August 1, 2007

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 can 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.

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: ☐ Outdoor Activities (eg: trail maintenance/development, lead outings) Tel: _____

☐ Indoor activities (such as: newsletter, publicity, record keeping, special events, guidebook work, etc.) Tel: _____

Do you have any special skills? (eg: leadership skills, computer skills, etc.) _____

Please consider me a member-at-large ☐ or a member of (check one below):

Section	Club	Section	Club
<input type="checkbox"/> Nipigon/Thunder Bay	Nipigon/Thunder Bay V.T.C.	<input type="checkbox"/> Echo Bay	
<input type="checkbox"/> Schreiber/Terrace Bay/Rosspoint	Casques Isles V.T.C.	<input type="checkbox"/> Desbarats	Desbarats V.T.C.
<input type="checkbox"/> Marathon		<input type="checkbox"/> Bruce Mines	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wawa	Michipicoten V.T.C.	<input type="checkbox"/> Thessalon	
<input type="checkbox"/> Batchewana		<input type="checkbox"/> Blind River/Iron Bridge	Penewobikong V.T.C.
<input type="checkbox"/> Harmony Beach/Haviland Bay		<input type="checkbox"/> Elliot Lake	Coueurs de Bois V.T.C.
<input type="checkbox"/> Goulais / Stokely		<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sault Ste. Marie	Saulteaux V.T.C.	<input type="checkbox"/> Massey	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Espanola	Rainbow V.T.C.
		<input type="checkbox"/> Little Current	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Sheguiandah	
		<input type="checkbox"/> South Baymouth	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Sudbury	





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VOYAGEUR TRAIL
ASSOCIATION
PO Box 20040
150 Churchill Blvd
Sault Ste. Marie ON
P6A 6W3

Toll Free 1-877-393-4003

Web Site:
www.voyageurtrail.ca
(set your bookmarks)

E-mail:

voyageur.trail@sympatico.ca

The Voyageur Trail Association is a non-profit, volunteer group dedicated to building and maintaining a public hiking trail along the northern shores of Lakes Superior and Huron, from Thunder Bay to South Baymouth on Manitoulin Island.

*The VTA is a member of
Hike Canada En Marche,
Hike Ontario,
Ontario Trails Council,
and
Trans Canada Trail.*

If you would prefer us to email you a short message when the VT newsletter is posted on our Internet site, just send an email to: cheryl.landmark@sympatico.ca

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VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS

EDITOR: Cheryl Landmark

LAYOUT: Gayle Phillips

HIKING THE MAGNIFICENT TRAILS OF CASQUE ISLES!

by Cheryl Landmark, VTA General Secretary

The Voyageur Trail Association (VTA) held its spring Coordinating Council Meeting in Schreiber on Saturday, May 5, 2007. The meeting was generously hosted by the local VTA Casque Isles hiking club at 'The Centre' in Schreiber and was attended by five of its members, along with three members of the Coordinating Council from Sault Ste. Marie. We had a chance to see some of the beautiful new trailhead signs that have been locally produced, thanks to a generous Trillium grant, and samples of the proposed highway signs touting the hiking and natural wonders of the Schreiber/Rossport/Terrace Bay areas.

After the meeting, three other VTA members, who also made the trip from Sault Ste. Marie (VTA Saulteaux Club), joined us on a hike to Mount Gwynne.

The six members from Sault Ste. Marie remained in the Schreiber area until Tuesday, May 8th, to explore and hike the many wonderful trails that abound here.

The newly revamped 4.0 version of the Voyageur Trail Association's guidebook, with its GIS-produced full colour maps and rewritten trail descriptions, was a big help to us as we climbed and rock-hopped and generally enjoyed the diverse hiking experiences. The scenery was breathtaking, the weather was perfect (lots of sunshine and no flies!), and the trails were in excellent shape, despite it being so early in the hiking season.

There wasn't time on this trip to complete all the trail sections in the area, but I know for certain that my husband, Mike, and I (along with Pierre the Bear and Misty the Dog) will be back in the not too distant future to continue our exploration of this magnificent part of the country.

On behalf of the Voyageur Trail Association, I would like to thank the friendly and helpful



(In photo, Left to Right) Dean Main (Casque Isles Club), Gayle Phillips (VTA Publicity Director), Dan McGrath (Trailmaster, Casque Isles Club), Warren Pearen (Casque Isles Club), Doug Stefurak (President, Casque Isles Club), Ila Aho (Saulteaux Club), Pat Maenpaa (Secretary-Treasurer, Casque Isles Club), Erika Ropke (Saulteaux Club), Dieter Ropke (Saulteaux Club), Cheryl Landmark (VTA General Secretary), Mike Landmark (VTA Membership Secretary), Pierre the Bear, and Misty the Dog.

people of Schreiber, Rossport and Terrace Bay, and, in particular, the Casque Isles club, for making our visit so enjoyable.



MEMBERS:

*Don't forget to check
your newsletter
envelope label to see
when your membership
expires!*

PIERRE THE BEAR: GREAT ADVENTURES - PART 1 *by Pierre the Bear*

Bonjour! I am Pierre the Bear and I live in Gros Cap, west of Sault Ste. Marie. I am what you call a voyageur, you know, those guys that paddle on the big lake. But, when I read in the newspaper about the Voyageur Trail Association's revised guidebook, Edition 4.0, I think, hey, good time to put away the paddle and use the feet instead! *Mais oui!* Let's see what great adventures I can find in this book.

This spring, my explorations started on a trail near my home, named for that great guy that was a long time in the Association, Tom Allinson. I took along *mes amies*, Mike and Cheryl and Misty. Good thing, too. My legs are so short, I had a hard time climbing over some of the logs and rocks! Because I am

such a little guy, Mike had to carry me on his back-pack for most of the hike. But, the



view was *fantastique* from up there! We started out at one of those big white things I think they call a windmill in the Prince Township Wind Farm. *Mon Dieu*, I could not believe how tall that thing was! Mike and Cheryl and Misty have done much work on the trail since it was closed two years ago so all those big white things could be built. When we reached the big lake, we rock hopped along the shore for awhile and had lunch near an old boiler that lies a little ways offshore. The water was so low, we could see quite a bit of the boiler sticking out. Then, we had to hike mostly uphill back to the van. Good thing for me that *mon ami* Mike wasn't too tired to carry me back or I never would have made it on my short legs!

Next, I had an adventure up in a little town called Schreiber. The VTA invited me to attend their spring meeting there, so I said, *bien sûr*, why not? At the meeting, I saw some *magnifique* signs that the Casque Isles club will be installing at trailheads and along the highway. *Très bien!* After the meeting, Monsieur Doug Stefurak, President of the Casque Isles club, led eight of us on a hike up Mount Gwynne. Along with Mike and Cheryl and Misty, there was also Dieter and Erika Ropke, Ila Aho and Gayle Phillips.



Monsieur Doug was the engine of our little train of hikers and Erika and Ila were the caboose. Partway up the mountain, the caboose somehow got ahead of the engine and the rest of the train

could not find them for awhile. What an adventure that was! It turned out okay, though. We finally all got back together again and Doug the engineer, he was happy! We hiked on



more trails in the Casque Isles area for the next two days. It was a good time. The weather, she was

good, and no pesky flies bothered us.

Me, I am a great explorer at heart. I like to paddle the big lake, but this hiking thing is good, too. There are many more trails in the VTA guidebook, so I will tell you all about my other adventures in the future.



THE VTA GOES NORTH! *by Cheryl Landmark*

The VTA headed north to Schreiber for its spring meeting on May 5, 2007. Many thanks to President Doug Stefurak and the Casque Isles club for hosting the meeting and providing us with a delicious lunch!

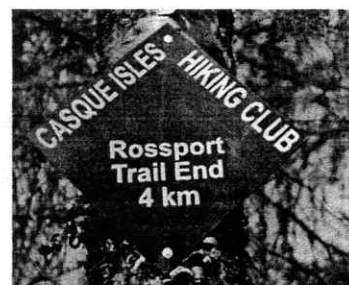
The Casque Isles club showed samples of their nine trailhead and six highway signs that have been installed in the Schreiber/Rossport/Terrace Bay area. Very impressive! (See the photos of these signs in the next column or on the VTA web site in the Casques Isles photo gallery and I think you will agree they are beautiful!)

Two other issues of interest that arose from the meeting include:

1) a motion to be voted on at the Annual General Meeting in the fall that the Landowner Liaison position be combined with the Membership Secretary position and the Trail Master/Tool Keeper position be combined with the Treasurer position, and

2) a position of Database Manager be added to the Coordinating Council to maintain the electronic database created for the trail system during the recent updating of the guidebook; this, too, will be voted on at the AGM.

Edition 4.0 of the VTA guidebook has been completed and distributed to various outlets in numerous communities. For a complete list of distributors, see page (9). Hundreds of hours of volunteer work went into this impressive book with its full-colour, GIS-produced maps and updated trail information. Steve Dominy and the Guidebook Committee are to be commended for a job very well done.



CALL FOR STEVE TAYLOR AWARD

Thirteen years ago, the Voyageur Trail Association created the Steve Taylor Memorial Award to be given to the VTA volunteer who goes "above and beyond" the call of duty in their devotion to the Voyageur Trail.

We are calling for nominations for this year's award which will be announced at the VTA Annual General Meeting on Saturday, September 29th at 2PM at the Bellevue Bed & Breakfast in Goulais River, just north of Sault Ste. Marie.

Please email your nominations as soon as possible to voyageur.trail@sympatico.ca or call 1-877-393-4003.



10 REASONS TO USE A GPS! *by Steve Dominy*

First of all, I want to put my cards on the table. I don't consider myself a techie. I managed quite well since the 70's using a compass and map for navigation in the bush. Also, in no way is this article sponsored by a GPS manufacturer. The title says 'using' a GPS, so technically you could borrow or rent one. In fact, many auto rental companies now offer that option if you ask. Rather, the article was inspired by my acquired appreciation for the merits of GPS technology based on limited use, conversations with other users, and extensive research.

In this newsletter last year I wrote a pair of articles that went into the what, why, and how aspects of GPS units and geocaching. At that time I did not own a GPS, but had used a VTA unit. Since then I have bought, used and somehow managed to lose a Garmin E-Trex Legend (I don't think that model is manufactured anymore). Like most technologies, the price has trended downwards as popularity has increased, so if I replace it I'll probably get something with more bells and

whistles for less money. Do I regret buying the old technology? Not a bit. It proved useful in helping me become familiar with the capabilities of the gadget, and I now know better the key features I would look for in a replacement unit. Also, I can now sound like I know a thing or two when I talk with the sales staff! Mind you, it cost me \$200 to get that knowledge.

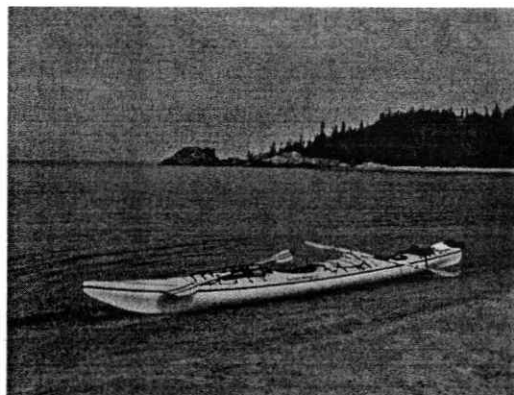


So, following is a compilation (partly tongue-in-cheek) of arguments you can use to convince

(continues on page 6)



IT'S NEVER QUITE WHAT'S PLANNED *by Dieter Ropke*



Our 180 km kayak trip on Lake Superior turned out to be an expedition. Erika's preparations for all meals were time consuming. She packaged all meals separately in double bags to prevent any give-

away smells and to keep the food waterproof. There were 14 breakfasts and suppers—we needed only 12. While paddling we had our lunch in our lifejackets, power bars and fruit bars with much needed energy. Careful planning was essential, dry matches, no smell to attract animals etc. Cans of fish were burned, flattened and then taken out to be recycled. Lake Superior has a constant annual average temperature of only 4 degrees C. Luckily somewhat warmer in the upper layer in summer until Oct/Nov storms restores the 4 degrees throughout. Often we kept up to 1 km (sometimes more) offshore to escape the wash from shore rocks, shoals and just for efficiency.

We cooked on a small single burner in the morning and with a wood fire at night which also helped with the flying critters. There was an abundant amount of firewood to be had on all beaches. We made 'indian fried bread' in a cast iron frying pan as required, it was a staple.

Although we have made this trip repeatedly (Dieter 7x, Erika 5x), this particular one was the most difficult. There were frequent thunderstorms on and off the lake, significant rains, mosquitoes were plentiful in contrast to all the other trips, the sea was wild quite often, it was truly an 'inland sea'. And it was very cold and windy on some days. Our dry set of clothes packed at the top of a hold, was a great comfort to us. While we were warm while paddling, we arrived wet and when exposed without paddling, we super cooled quickly. So we quickly beached the kayak pulling it out of the water as much as possible and then we changed into dry clothing.

On the first half of the trip the inhospitable rocky shoreline provided few safe exits. This improved east of the University River where there are numerous beaches with great views. All our campsites were memorable, The White Gravel, the North Swallow River, Immogene Bay, the Julia River etc.

Surf became a real problem. All storms gave rise to tremendous surf and taking off was tricky. We counted 3-4 large waves and then, when there was a series of smaller ones we made a run for it. To be hit by only one rogue wave would be problematic because the hold would flood and to maneuver a 22 foot kayak full of all gear and food and add water to the hold would be a touchy situation with even more

waves coming. Once we were on the water, we always felt safe even when 2 m waves rushed up from behind us and sometimes broke over us.

We saw 8 bald eagles on 7 different days and locations, a successful peregrine falcon nest, many loons and at one beach (Ghost River) we shared the beach with a friendly arctic visitor a semi-palmated plover. Swainson's thrush was ubiquitous and their melodic sound woke us each morning. There were a number of colorful butterflies and a host of arctic plants clinging to the cold north shore of the Lake, unique for this area. One evening we watched 2 adult and 2 young otters for an hour, playing, fishing, fighting and socializing. Moose tracks were common. But the coast is so inhospitable that even the common raven was rare and we only saw one cormorant but 2 merlins in different areas.

We had to sit out 2 days on shore. At the Julia River the wind changed and brought horrendous waves up the beach. We moved our kayak another 10 m and at 6 a.m. we pulled it a further 25 m up the beach, those waves had an amazing reach. It was quite a drama to watch. We did benefit from the mostly W, NW winds which pushed us along.

The sense of isolation and remoteness was real. Encountering campsites with 500-750 m beaches bearing not a single human footprint, was a privilege. Often we ate supper with an impressive panorama of 180 degrees. On one side there might be some summer fog, in sheets, in dense banks, as a mist above the water and on the other side might be ink-blue sky with lightning.

Conditions changed constantly also while paddling. It was always exciting and unique. On our second last day, the lake was a multitude of silver depressions in which the blue sky was reflected with small brownish ping clouds. It was like a breathtaking vast canvas and it touched us profoundly and lasted for 2 hours. No camera could ever do justice to such beauty on this vast scale.

The night sky had no light pollution, what awe.

I knew this shore well and felt comfortable paddling it and as I said before, I felt safe on the lake at all times. However, the tremendous surf, the slapping, collapsing waves at night provided an unsettling background. I think it is a function of my age that I now want security, certainty and comfort. The early mornings unnerved me and that was a first for me for kayak travel.



FOR SALE: Kayak-double, ideal for touring Great Lakes, Current Designs, Libra XT Kevlar, large capacity with additional center cockpit for child or extra gear, yellow with white hull, very safe, comes with neoprene spray skirts, 2 quality paddles and a spare, and pump, excellent condition, \$ 4300, e-mail dieter@vianet.ca or phone 705-942-9636 in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.



OUTING SCHEDULE

This schedule was put together early and may have last-minute changes. Please call the outing leader listed to check if any details of the outing have changed. This schedule is also on our web site

< www.voyageurtrail.ca/saulteaux.html > Unless otherwise indicated, these outings are all a Level 2, slow (according to Hike Ontario recommended ratings.) Goodlife building, 589 Second Line East (Second Line side); Market Mall 275 Second Line West (on Korah Road corner); Churchill Plaza near the Beer Store, 150 Churchill Blvd., (on Trunk Road between Lake and Wellington Streets); Wellington Square Mall near the now closed old restaurant, 625 Trunk Road.

Saulteaux Club

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

For all outings, bring water, lunch, dress appropriately and be prepared to sign an Assumption of Risk Agreement.

Thurs., Sept. 6 - Work party with Susan (949-4105). Meet 10AM in Goodlife parking lot. Tools will be provided.

***Sun., Sept. 9** - Work party with Gayle (942-1891). Meet 10AM in Churchill Plaza parking lot near Beer Store. Behaved pets OK. Tools will be provided.

Thurs., Sept. 13 - Work party with Susan (949-4105). Meet 10AM in Goodlife parking lot. Tools will be provided.

***Sat., Sept. 15** - Hike to Burnt Rock Pool in LSPP with Doris (942-9466). Meet Goodlife @ 9AM to car pool. Behaved pets welcome.

Mon., Sept. 17 - Saulteaux Club bi-monthly meeting at 7PM in Civic Centre. Call Gayle 942-1891.

Thurs., Sept. 20 - Work party with Susan (949-4105). Meet 10AM in Goodlife parking lot. Tools will be provided.

Sat., Sept. 22 - Dedication of Dr. Paul Syme section at Camp Korah @ 10:30 am with short hike afterwards. Call Gayle at 942-1891.

***Sun., Sept. 23** - Tier Lake hike with Ila (949-1097). Meet 10AM in Goodlife parking lot. Behaved pets welcome.

Thurs., Sept. 27 - Work party with Susan (949-4105). Meet 10AM in Goodlife parking lot. Tools will be provided.

***Sat., Sept. 29 - VTA Annual Meeting** at Bellevue Valley B&B in Goulais River at 2PM with hike afterwards.

Sun., Sept. 30 - Join local geocachers for trail maintenance, and a potluck follow-

ing. Meet at Glenview Cottages at 1:30PM. Please leave your pets at home. RSVP to Don (946-9599).

Sun., Oct. 7 - Hike King Mountain with Ila (949-1097). Meet 10AM in Goodlife parking lot. Behaved pets welcome.

***Sat., Oct. 13** - Hike in the Tower Lake area & enjoy the understory fall colours. Meet 10AM Churchill Plaza, pets OK. Call Dieter & Erika 942-9636.

***Sun., Oct. 14** - Work party with Gayle (942-1891). Meet 10AM in Churchill Plaza. Behaved pets welcome. Tools will be provided.

***Sat., Oct. 20** - "GPS & the New Guidebook" Hike in Echo Ridges near Tower Lake. Some GPS units will be provided as we test/demonstrate an electronic aid to following the trail using GPS tracks and the new Guidebook. Meet 9:30AM at Churchill Plaza near the Beer Store to car pool. Call Steve 946-2484 or Bob 946-3126 for more info.

Sun., Oct. 21 - Hike the Crimson Ridge loop with Doris (942-9466). Meet at 10AM in the Market Mall parking lot. Behaved pets welcome.

Sun., Nov. 4 - Hike in the Hiawatha Park area with Ila (949-1097). Meet 10AM in Goodlife parking lot. Behaved pets welcome.

Sat., Nov. 10 - 'Gales of November' hike at Red Rock (weather permitting) with Gayle (942-1891). Meet 10AM in Market Mall parking lot. Behaved pets okay.

Mon., Nov. 19 - Saulteaux Club Meeting at 7PM in Civic Centre. Call 942-1891.

Sun., Dec. 2 - Hike in the Creek Road area with Ila (949-1097). Meet 10AM in Goodlife parking lot. Behaved pets welcome.

Sat., Dec. 22 - Winter solstice evening hike/snowshoe at end of Goulais Avenue and bonfire afterwards with

Gayle (942-1891).

Tues., Dec. 25 - Voyageur Trail Closed.

Wed., Dec. 26 (Boxing Day) - Hike/Snowshoe with Don (946-9599). Meet at Glenview Cottages at 10AM. Behaved pets welcome.

Tues., Jan. 1st (New Year's Day) - Hike/Snowshoe with Ila (949-1097). Meet 10:30AM in Goodlife parking lot. Behaved pets okay.



EVERYONE'S INVITED!

The Voyageur Trail Association Annual General Meeting will take place on Saturday, September 29th at 2PM at the Bellevue Bed & Breakfast in Goulais River, just north of Sault Ste. Marie. We will enjoy an autumn colour hike afterwards. (Information, directions and a map can be found at: www.bellevuevalleylodge.ca or by calling 705.649.2880 or by emailing to: bellevue@soonet.ca)

AND we hope you'll stay the extra day and join us in our Geocaching event on Sunday, September 30th!



The Saulteaux Voyageur Trail Club is very sorry to announce



the passing of Jim Miller in LSPP on Friday, August 10, 2007 at the age of 60. Jim was an active club leader and served as Chairperson of the Sault Trails Advocacy Committee (STAC), whose focus is

to build the Sault Ste. Marie HUB Trail. Jim will be remembered for his community contributions, kind demeanor and devotion to the things he was passionate about.



Coueurs de Bois Outdoors Club (Elliot Lake)

For the latest schedule and photos of outings, check our website at: www.coueursdeboiselliotlake.blogspot.com and/or The Elliot Lake Standard - Community Bulletin Board section.

Regular Tuesday and Thursday hikes.

PLEASE CONTACT HIKE LEADERS FOR MORE INFO.

For fun, fitness and friendship come and join us. Meet at 10AM in the Sears parking lot, unless otherwise noted.

For all outings bring water, lunch, dress appropriately and be prepared to sign an "Assumption of Risk Agreement". Make sure your fitness level corresponds to the outing level you wish to participate in.

Hike Levels

Easy 2 – 3 hours Level 1 Ontario

Intermediate 3 – 4 hours Level 2 Ontario

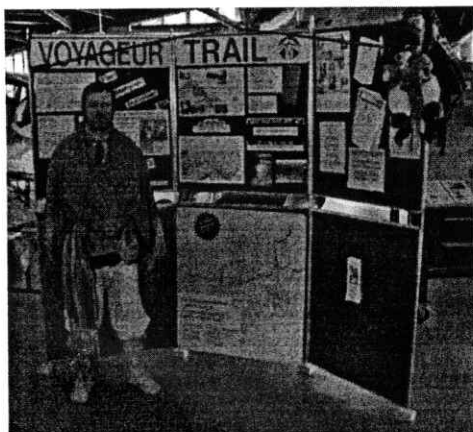
Advanced 4 – 6 hours Level 2 Ontario (Note the Coueurs de Bois have NO Level 3 hiking routes--our advanced level is relative to time on the trail only.)



"PIERRE" DOES DISPLAYS...



"Pierre", our unofficial mascot (see page 2) has been busy representing the VTA at public events! (Above at the Trails Open Ontario event and hike along the Sault Ste. Marie HUB Trail on June 7th)... and (below) at the Northern Ontario Tourism display at the Bushplane Heritage Museum on May 3, 2007. Hey Pierre, who is that sashed man?



REASONS TO USE A GPS (continued from page 3)

a family member or friend that a GPS would make an ideal gift. I must emphasize that this is an electronic device, and as such is not infallible. Running out of battery power, backing over it with your car, or trying to use it where it cannot receive a satellite signal (inside a building, for example), will probably leave you carrying nothing more than a fashion accessory. Also, if you want to use one in a vehicle, you will need a special connection as a GPS unit suitable for hiking will not work inside a car.



10. People (especially those younger than 35) will think you're really cool with one hanging from a belt or protruding from a purse. Of course, if this is important to you, don't get one in a colour that clashes with your outfit.

9. Your ability to relocate that favourite fishing hole where you caught 'the big one' will impress your friends. Fishermen were amongst the first to recognize the pricelessness of the GPS.

8. You'll be able to easily find your way to a restaurant of your ethnic choice in unfamiliar cities. With the right software you will have thousands of key businesses and other points of interest that you can search on, and be given spoken directions to (car unit only).

7. You won't have to wear a watch to know the time. The digital watch keeps good time, and even corrects the hour as you move to a different time zone.

6. You won't need to carry a compass to know where North is. As long as precision is not of the essence, the built-in compass can lead you in the desired general direction.

5. You'll have a handy (albeit expensive) projectile to throw at marauding wildlife. This assumes that you don't go anywhere without your GPS, so it is always at hand in an emergency.

4. You'll discover a place you would likely never have visited by simply downloading and finding a geocache in an unfamiliar area. This serves to fill the time when, for example, you are waiting for family members to complete their shopping when vacationing in a distant city.

3. You'll be able to create customized maps with your favourite trails, using tracks and waypoints you generate on your GPS.

2. You'll be able to create your own loop hikes (or cycle outings, canoe trips, etc.) easily without fear of getting lost. This assumes that you share at least one gene with the moose and thus are able to put your head down and crash through thick underbrush.

(continues on page 8)



NEW FOR 2007!

TURKEY

October 14 to 25, 2007

Hike in Cappadocia with its secret frescoed churches, underground cities and volcanic tuff sculpted into fairy chimneys. Visit ancient ruins on the Aegean side, shop the bazaars of Istanbul and take a history lesson through time.

Steeped in tradition and a masterpiece of nature, Turkey will impress you.

RESERVE NOW FOR 2008!

THAILAND

February 16 to March 1, 2008

Countless new experiences await you in Thailand – hike through tribal villages, visit incredible floating markets & Buddhist temples, bathe elephants and taste an abundance of fresh & flavourful foods. Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai & the River Kwai - all part of this incredible journey.

ANDALUCÍA, SPAIN

April 13 to 26, 2008

The Spanish passion for living is deliciously contagious! Hike the picturesque Andalucía region with its "white villages" nestled in the mountains and bottomless gorges where vultures nest.

Experience the history of the Alhambra Palace & let Ronda charm you.

CORFU, GREECE

May 11 to 24, 2008

This Greek island is the perfect combination of European flare and tranquil sea-side living. Hike to the heavens to visit holy monasteries and trek in shade of ancient olive groves. We promise - you will never tire of the deep, deep blue of the sea that surrounds you. Opa!

OPEN HOUSE

See photos, hear commentary, learn about our new and exciting ventures and **MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS!**

WHEN: Sunday, October 28 at 3:30 p.m.

WHERE: Crescent School, 2365 Bayview Ave., Toronto
(one light north of Lawrence Ave. East on the east side of Bayview) - Free parking!

Tuscany • France • Spain • Iceland • Corfu • Cuba
Thailand • Saguenay Fjord • Turkey

2008 HIKING CALENDAR

To receive our new 2008 Hiking Calendar, please e-mail or call us with your address and we will gladly add you to our guest list. You will also receive our e-newsletter "Let's Hike".

Comfortable Hiking Holidays
(416) 445-2628

info@letshike.com www.letshike.com

TIDBITS...

VTA Landowner working hard to improve trail... John Hornstein from Wawa has applied for grants to assist him with the creation of 10 kilometres of trail in the Silver Falls area and improvements to the parking area currently available. Essentially the application was for the expenses associated with creating the Spiral Stair Display. The Spiral Stair Display is to be a structure that would facilitate access to the trailhead area from the parking area, since the entrance to the Voyageur Trail (at Silver Falls) is a steep ascent equal to about 50 feet of elevation. This entrance dissuades a large percentage of possible visitation since only the reasonably fit can access it. The structure would have five landings and will accommodate 20 high pressure laminate signs, that describe the natural and cultural history of the region. The VTA applauds John for his dedication to improving the hiking trail in Wawa.

Helpful Web Site... Discovered this site that allows you to sign up to receive notices when changes to favourite websites are detected. Might be of interest to our members who want to monitor our VTA website?

<http://www.ChangeDetection.com/>

Checking the 'books'... Checking the sign in books along the trail I have noticed that some mountain bikes have a bit of trouble with the ruggedness of our trails. We have also seen marriage proposals from the top of Robertson Cliffs. Glad they said yes and all the best to them

Stickers Anyone? The VTA has a limited supply of yellow window stickers left. These can be placed on the inside of automobile windows. If you would like to be shipped with your next membership renewals please let Mike know at cheryl.landmark@sympatico.ca, 705-779-3409 or through the VTA regular address.

Please Note... hunting season for WMU 36
moose gun Oct 6-Nov 15
moose bow Sept 15 to Oct 15
deer Oct 13 to Nov 2.



TAST RE-DEDICATION

On May 12, 2007 the Tom Allinson Side Trail was re-dedicated in Tom's memory after being closed for two years during the windfarm construction.

Please remember to hike only on the Voyageur Trail in this area.

The windfarm roads are private.



DRINKING WATER AWAY FROM HOME from Algoma Public Health

Drinking water is not usually a concern when at home, but in the great outdoors, it can make you ill. The Health Protection Branch of Health and Welfare Canada wants to help you avoid health hazards. So if you camp, backpack, sail or if you take trips by bike, canoe or recreational vehicle or even if you use a cottage, ensure the water you drink is safe by following these precautions.

Avoid drinking water from sources with visible signs of pollution from industry, agricultural practices and other sources.

Disinfect all water taken from lake, rivers, mountain streams and ponds no matter how clean it looks. Water may contain invisible but harmful organisms called pathogens. These bacteria, fungi, viruses, protozoan cysts and worm eggs may cause mild nausea and fever or develop into severe diarrhea, hepatitis or typhoid fever. Another invisible pathogen is the protozoan cyst *Giardia* which causes "Beaver Fever." *Giardia* is carried in the feces of many domestic and wild animals (including beavers) and contaminates the water.

Commonly found in Canadian surface water, these cysts are quite resistant to chemical disinfection methods. Boiling will kill protozoan cysts.

Periodically clean and rinse tanks and containers used to store water. Water treated with chlorine or iodine remains drinkable for several days without refrigeration, while water treated by other means is best used within two days. Use only good drinking water for brushing teeth.

When in doubt, boil the water for one minute.

Emergency or Short-Term Water Disinfection

Boiling - Bring to a boil, allow to cool. Advantages: Kills all known pathogens. Comments: Water that has been boiled for coffee or cooking is also safe. **Disinfection Tablets** - Use as directed. Advantages: Usually effective if directions are carefully followed. Comments: If water is very cold, allow extra time before drinking. **Chlorine Bleach** - Add 2 drops

(0.1mL) per litre of water (or 4 drops if water is turbid). Mix, let stand at least 30 minutes. Advantages: Usually effective if water is not too alkaline. Comments: If water is very cold, allow extra time before drinking. **Tincture of Iodine (2%)** - Add 5 drops (0.25mL) per litre of water (or 10 drops if water is turbid). Mix, let stand at least 30 minutes. Advantages: Usually effective. Comments: If water is very cold, allow extra time before drinking. Do not drink water for more than a few days at a time.

Portions taken from Environmental Health Directorate, Health Protection Branch 1986, Minister of Supply and Services Canada 1986. Cat. No. H49-15/10-1986E

Water On The Go... Heading to the cottage, hunting, fishing or hiking through the woods? Taking water from home for drinking??? Clean your containers to ensure your water will taste good and be safe. The following guideline will help you to 'freshen' and 'sanitize' your water container. Ensure your container is made of food grade material.

To Sanitize (kill germs) - Wash your hands. - Add potable (drinkable) water to your container (about 1/4 full). - Add an ounce of household bleach per gallon. - 'Swish' the water and bleach in the container to contact all areas including spouts and lids. - Let sit for 10 minutes. - Drain. Pour some into a clean container and soak container cap too for 5 minutes. - Fill container again with potable water (about 1/4 full) and rinse the excess bleach. - Drain. - Fill container with potable water, replace the lid and if possible, store refrigerated.

To 'Freshen' (remove taste and odour from container) - Wash your hands. - Add potable (drinkable) water to your container (about 1/4 full). - Add two tablespoons of baking soda per gallon of water. - Let stand for 5 minutes - 'swish' around. - Drain. - Fill container again with potable water (about 1/4 full) and rinse the excess baking soda. - Drain. - Fill container as usual.

If you have any other concerns or questions on bottled water, water containers, wells and municipal water supplies, contact your public health inspector at Environmental Health, Algoma Public Health.



REASONS TO USE A GPS (continued from page 6)

And the number one reason to use a GPS...

1. You'll be able to find and follow the Voyageur Trail more easily, even on trails that haven't had a much-needed work party in the recent past. This is why some of us are currently trying to create digital GPS tracks of each trail section. However, even without a GPS track you can use the guidebook map (Edition 4) to estimate the latitude and longitude of an access point to help you locate it.

There are many other uses for this technology, which is rapidly evolving. For example, a GPS can now be attached to a digital camera to allow recording of the geographic location of outdoor photos. I guess the expression 'the sky is the limit' is quite apropos in the context of GPS possibilities.

So I hope you're intrigued enough to want to give the technology a try. There are two outings this fall offering hikers the opportunity to learn first hand some of the ins and outs of this technology (see page 5). Why not come along. We should have a few GPS units to allow members a hands-on experience, and we'll share our knowledge with you. Maybe current users can teach other members a few tricks as well. Consider these as free introductory courses - just one more benefit of supporting your VTA.



GUIDEBOOKS FOR SALE

For non-members to purchase a VTA 2007 Guidebook (now available), just E-mail: voyageur.trail@sympatico.ca and snail mail your cheque payable to Voyageur Trail Association c/o PO Box 20040, 150 Churchill Blvd., Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 6W3. (Paypal purchase will soon be available on our web site at www.voyageurtrail.ca)

VTA Non-members: \$35.00 + \$8.00 shipping/handling = \$43 (Cdn.)

GUIDEBOOK SELLERS:

Schreiber/Terrace Bay: Coach House Motel; Township of Terrace Bay; Circle Route Motel; Nor-West Hotel/Birch Grove Motel; Aguasabon Gorge Campground

Wawa and area: Friends of Lake Superior Provincial Park, Naturally Superior Adventures, Wawa Tourism, Young's General Store

Montreal River: Northgate Restaurant & Service Centre

Pancake Bay: Agawa Indian Crafts

Batchewana Bay: Voyageur Lodge & Cookhouse

Goulais River: Bellevue Valley Lodge and B&B; Blueberry Hill Campground

Sault Ste. Marie: ACR Gift Store; Algoma's Water Tower Inn; Dunn's Authors; Joe's Sports & Surplus; Bush Plane Museum; Airways General Store; Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority; Stamp 'N Win Postal Outlet (Churchill Plaza); Trading Post; Western Automotive; Upper Case Book Store.

St. Joseph Island: Fort St. Joseph

Bruce Mines: Foster's Fresh Mart, Jerry's Live Bait & Rock Shop

Thessalon: Forestland Clothing & Gifts

Iron Bridge: Red Top Inn

Elliot Lake: Elliot Lake Trading Post

Barrie: Sojourn

London: Novacks

Toronto: Europe Bound (King Street)

Ottawa: World of Maps

Waterloo: Adventure Guide



VTA landowners are entitled to free advertisements when they sell their property.

VTA Members In-Good-Standing are eligible for free advertising for their gently used outdoors equipment.

Call the Editor at 1-877-393-4003 or 705-779-3409.



VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION YEARLY MEMBERSHIP FORM (please print)

Name: _____

Address: _____

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

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

E-mail address: _____

MEMBERSHIP FEES:

Individual ~ \$25 / Family or Group ~ \$30..... = _____

Student ~ \$10..... = _____

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

Charitable Reg. #119261923RR0001

2. Guidebook*: members \$25 / non-members \$35 ____ = _____

(*limit of 2 per person)

Shipping/Handling for ALL MAILED Guidebooks \$ 8.00

For topography maps, call Steve (705) 946-2484

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

08/2007

Please send my VTA newsletter via:

☐ Reminder to upload pdf from VTA web site

My email is: _____

☐ Snail mail to my home address.

Make cheques payable and mail to:

VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION

PO Box 20040, 150 Churchill Blvd.

Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 6W3

cont'd on back



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(For information on any of these positions [especially the vacant ones], please contact us at our toll-free number 1-877-393-4003.)

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

Deadline for the next issue is:

December 1, 2007

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 can 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.

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: ☐ Outdoor Activities (eg: trail maintenance/development, lead outings) Tel: _____

☐ Indoor activities (such as: newsletter, publicity, record keeping, special events, guidebook work, etc.) Tel: _____

Do you have any special skills? (eg: leadership skills, computer skills, etc.) _____

Please consider me a member-at-large ☐ or a member of (check one below):

Section	Club	Section	Club
<input type="checkbox"/> Nipigon/Thunder Bay	Nipigon/Thunder Bay V.T.C.	<input type="checkbox"/> Echo Bay	
<input type="checkbox"/> Schreiber/Terrace Bay/Rosspoint	Casques Isles V.T.C.	<input type="checkbox"/> Desbarats	Desbarats V.T.C.
<input type="checkbox"/> Marathon		<input type="checkbox"/> Bruce Mines	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wawa	Michipicoten V.T.C.	<input type="checkbox"/> Thessalon	
<input type="checkbox"/> Batchewana		<input type="checkbox"/> Blind River/Iron Bridge	Penewobikong V.T.C.
<input type="checkbox"/> Harmony Beach/Haviland Bay		<input type="checkbox"/> Elliot Lake	Coueurs de Bois V.T.C.
<input type="checkbox"/> Goulais / Stokely		<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sault Ste. Marie	Saulteaux V.T.C.	<input type="checkbox"/> Massey	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Espanola	Rainbow V.T.C.
		<input type="checkbox"/> Little Current	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Sheguiandah	
		<input type="checkbox"/> South Baymouth	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Sudbury	

