



VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS

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EDITOR: Cheryl Landmark

LAYOUT: Gayle Phillips

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HIKING THE MAGNIFICENT TRAILS OF CASQUE ISLES!

by Cheryl Landmark, VTA General Secretary

Toll Free 1-877-393-4003

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/Rosspport/Terrace Bay areas.



(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.

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.

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



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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And much, much more!

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

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 caboos. Partway up the mountain, the caboos 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!

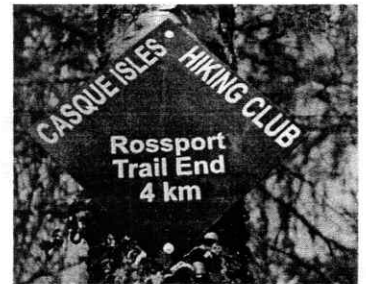
The Casque Isles club showed samples of their nine trailhead and six highway signs that have been installed in the Schreiber/Rosspport/Terrace Bay area. Very impressive! (See the photos of these signs in the next column or on the VTA web site in the Casques Isles photo gallery and I think you will agree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

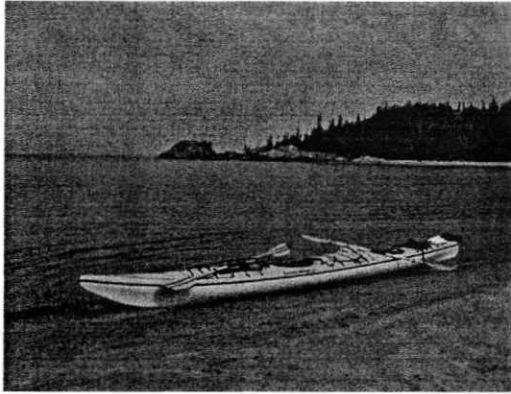


So, following is a compilation (partly tongue-in-cheek) of arguments you can use to convince

(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.coueursdeboiselliottlake.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

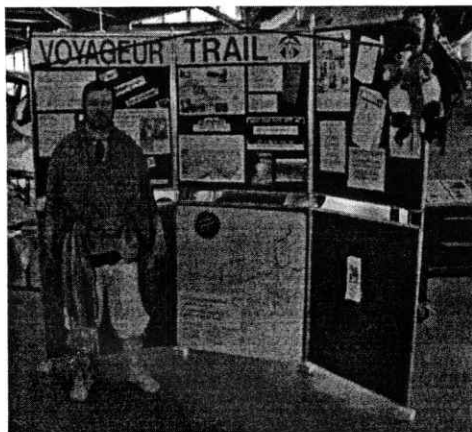
Advanced 4 – 6 hours Level 2 Ontario (Note the Coueurs de Bois have NO Level 3 hiking routes--our advanced level is relative to time on the trail only.)



"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 ñ 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

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.



(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.



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)

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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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vacant

VICE-PRESIDENT - WEST:

Duncan MacKay 807-825-3338

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Patrick Capper 705-253-4470

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GUIDEBOOK COMMITTEE:

Steve Dominy 705-946-2484

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE:

Editor: Cheryl Landmark 705-779-3409

Layout by: Gayle Phillips

CASQUES ISLES:

Doug Stefurak 807-824-2724

MARATHON:

Glenn Labrash 807-229-2576

MICHIPICOTEN:

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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):

<u>Section</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Club</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Nipigon/Thunder Bay	Nipigon/Thunder Bay V.T.C.	<input type="checkbox"/> Echo Bay	
<input type="checkbox"/> Schreiber/Terrace Bay/Rosspport	Casques Isles V.T.C.	<input type="checkbox"/> Desbarats	Desbarats V.T.C.
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		<input type="checkbox"/> Sudbury	

