



The Rideau Trail NEWSLETTER

WINTER 1999

ISSUE NO. 114



The Rideau Trail Newsletter is published quarterly in March, June, September, and December by the Rideau Trail Association. The Editor of this issue is John Haley for the Ottawa Rideau Trail Club.

Submissions for the next newsletter are encouraged and should be sent, to arrive by **FEBRUARY 1, 2000**, to:

Lynn Nolan & Lars Thompson

832 Wartman Avenue

Kingston, Ontario, K7M 4M5

Telephone: 613-389-8747

Text should be typed or mechanically printed. Pictures are also welcome and, although colour photographs with good definition can be reproduced, black and white photographs are preferred because they print more clearly.

Unless otherwise stated, opinions expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Rideau Trail Association.

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Rideau Trail Association

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Picture Credits	Courtesy of	Subject
COVER:	Harry Menna	Completion of Jock River Crossing, Summer 1999.
PAGE 3:	Jean Thompson	Award Recipients Lynn Nolan and John Miller, Oct. 16, 1999.
PAGE 6:	Barbara Pusch	Butler Lodge, The Long Trail, Vermont, October 1999.
PAGE 13:	Peter Andrews	Updates of School House Map and Rideau Trail Map 10, Nov. 1999.
PAGE 14:	Mary & Wilf Bradnock	Award Recipient John Haley, Oct. 16, 1999.
PAGE 15:	Mary & Wilf Bradnock	End-to-End Award Recipients at the RTA AGM, Oct. 16, 1999.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARDS

Kingston Club — Lynn Nolan

Watson Ogilvie presented an Outstanding Service Award on behalf of the Kingston Club to Lynn Nolan at the Association's Annual General Meeting on October 16. Lacking a record of Watson's full commendations, it is only observed here that Lynn joined the Rideau Trail Association in 1983, and since then has served as Secretary for the Association and for the Kingston Club, as well as acting as social director, host of ski trips, organizer of other trips which have been greatly enjoyed according to various reports, Trail Maintainer, and activity leader. In addition and far from least, she is the Newsletter Editor for the Kingston Club, having served capably in that position since 1996.

Central Club — John Miller

John Miller joined the RTA in 1979, and very quickly became a pillar of the Association. By 1990, he was the de facto leader of the Central Club, and has for the past eight years been its Chairperson and the spark responsible for keeping this small but vital group alive and kicking, even when the pundits were predicting its imminent



demise. As a licensed Chartered Accountant, John also audited the Association's books for a number of years.

However, John's dream, and ultimate triumph, was to host the 25th anniversary AGM in September 1996 at Merrywood Easter Seals Camp on Lower Rideau Lake. Not only did he plan and organize this highly successful event, but he played the role of master chef in the preparation of lunch, part of the dinner, and the morning-after breakfast. With the beautiful lakeside setting, an evening of superb entertainment provided by talented members, and the novel opportunity for a sleep-over, John's AGM proved to be a most memorable occasion, and a fitting celebration of the RTA's silver anniversary.

John, as most of you know by now, is a man of great charm and humour, which were not diminished by a stroke which, some 18 months ago, temporarily kept him from participating in his favourite outdoor activities. But we are happy to report that he has made a great recovery, and is almost completely back to his usual spry and sly self. During the past few months he has led hikes and joined in the Central Club's activities, while providing the leadership necessary for its continued vigour.

Don Sherwin

More on page 14

RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT, AUG. 31, 1999

INCOME	BDGT. 1998-99	ACT'L 1998-99	BDGT. 1999-2K	EXPENSES (continued)	BDGT. 1998-99	ACT'L 1998-99	BDGT. 1999-2K
Memberships - renewal	9000	11823	10000	Merchandise - guide printing	500	0	500
- new	3500	5080	4000	- mktg, shipping	500	0	500
- life	<u>600</u>	<u>1500</u>	<u>600</u>	- other	<u>500</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>500</u>
Total Membership Fees	13100	18403	14600	Total Merchandise Expense	1500	0	1500
Merchandise - guidebooks	7000	10075	6000	Meetings - AGM	300	1161	1000
- other	1000	975	1000	- Board	300	381	300
- shipping recov.	<u>0</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>0</u>	- conferences	<u>200</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>200</u>
Total Merchandise	8000	11063	7000	Total Meetings	800	1542	1500
Other - donations	2000	1725	2000	RT Preservation Fund	0	1500	0
- interest	2000	2346	2000	TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>24100</u>	<u>21239</u>	<u>24000</u>
- AGM	200	1002	1000	NET INCOME	<u>5200</u>	<u>15977</u>	<u>4600</u>
- other	<u>0</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>				
Total Other Revenue	4200	5083	5000				
RTPF - donations	2000	543	1000				
- interest	<u>2000</u>	<u>2122</u>	<u>1000</u>				
Total RT Preservation Fund	4000	2665	2000				
TOTAL INCOME	<u>29300</u>	<u>37216</u>	<u>28600</u>				
EXPENSES				BALANCE SHEET AS AT AUGUST 31, 1999			
Newsletter - printing	4000	3243	4500	ASSETS			
- delivery	<u>1500</u>	<u>827</u>	<u>2000</u>	Chequing/Savings		39368	
Total Newsletter	5500	4070	6500	Accounts Receivable		155	
Operations - office supplies	500	685	500	Club Receivables		20	
- mail	1000	1393	1000	GST Receivable		437	
- phone	600	551	600	Investments RTA		70000	
- copies	500	249	400	Investments RT Preservation Fund		46161	
- bank	100	78	100	Inventory, Merchandise		<u>10000</u>	
- awards	200	111	200	Total Current Assets		166141	
- affiliations	200	30	200	Real Estate		1	
- publicity	1000	207	1000	Office Equipment		2600	
- insurance	2500	1890	2500	A/V Equipment		4000	
- legal & taxes	200	213	200	Trail Maintenance Equipment		<u>1</u>	
- training	500	0	500	Total Fixed Assets		6602	
- trail	500	1851	500	TOTAL ASSETS		<u>172743</u>	
- GST	400	312	400				
- other	<u>200</u>	<u>181</u>	<u>200</u>	LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Total Operations	8400	7751	8300	Deferred Service Life Memberships		40500	
Support - Ottawa	3300	1949	3000	Total Liabilities		40500	
- Kingston	4100	3927	2700	Members Surplus, Operating		42956	
- Central	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>	Members Surplus, Pub. & Merch.		32906	
Total Club Support	7900	6376	6200	Members Surplus, RTPF		42604	
				Year End Retained Income		-2200	
				Net Income		<u>15977</u>	
				Total Equity		132243	
				TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY		<u>172743</u>	

BEAR ENCOUNTER ON THE RIDEAU TRAIL

Little did we realize the tranquility of that warm Sunday morning in late June would end so dramatically. I was hiking easterly from Dwyer Hill Road with my faithful small dog Buffy to photograph the showy ladyslipper orchids. We crossed Brassils Creek and the Ducks Unlimited dam and, finding the orchids, wasted no time in returning as the warm humid morning was made rather irritating by numerous deer flies.

Almost back at the car with Buffy in the lead, we started up a steep rise into the cedar trees. Suddenly, right in front of Buffy, out popped a small bear cub. There was no time to assess the mutual reaction of the animals as mother bear, a medium sized healthy specimen, sprang from the trees and, grabbing Buffy by the rear back, pulled her violently away from the cub. Everything happened so fast, I can only remember feeling a strong element of guilt because I had no intention of saving my friend.

The bear then sank her fangs into the dog's right front shoulder producing two 3 to 4 inch gashes; the dog howled in pain — I believed she was dead. Whether it was the dog's cry, or the fact that she had missed the second cub, the bear released the dog and looked back into the cedars. To my surprise Buffy got up and started to come to me. The bear turned her head to see the dog getting away and made a motion to grab her again. At

this point a strong verbal challenge was issued. "HEY," I shouted, and the bear halted abruptly with a noise expressing annoyance. She returned to the trees and after a short time crossed the Trail with the second cub, giving us only a glancing look.

Buffy's wounds were described by the vet as a medium variety. Her vital signs were good in spite of her estimated 14 years of age. After a two-hour operation with intravenous she arrived home sporting a thick red collar and numerous latex tubes to drain fluid. The first evening at home she headed for the recently cut hay field and, tail wagging, pounced into a pile of hay to kill a mouse — "Ah," I thought, "no psychological damage done, no trauma counseling required."

In retrospect, the bear could easily have killed the dog; the claws were not used, only a warning this time. What conclusions can be drawn? One, probably a very rare occurrence. Two, a collision course of two groups minding their own business, not an aggressive attack. Finally, a mother protecting her offspring has my respect.

It is not necessary to explain to readers that, in spite of carrying great quantities of camera gear, there is no photographic evidence to corroborate the actual encounter; however, the dog's recovery is fully documented.

John Le Geyt Life (shortened by encounter) Member

LOON LAKE 2000

Last year's winter get-away weekend was a great success and is worth repeating. Enjoy an all-inclusive overnight stay at Loon Lake Lodge, Murphy's Point. On Saturday, experience the wonderful natural environment with our favourite Park Naturalist, Tobi Kiesewalter, on a guided ski or snowshoe tour, and return to a fine dinner at the Lodge. An evening program will be selected to taste (e.g. a slide show), followed by a skate on the shores of Loon Lake, or howl up some coyotes, hoot in some owls, or sing-along by the outdoor fireplace or in the rustic, pine interior of the Lodge. The next morning will bring a feed of flap-jacks, and we can have another guided adventure or plan our own ski or snowshoe trip before heading back for lunch. The cost for this weekend retreat is \$65 per person, double occupancy, and includes one breakfast, two lunches and one dinner, guided trips, and slide show. Besides your recreational equipment, bring your sleeping bag, pillow, towel, toiletries, favourite instrument to

blow, strum or bang on, and something from the Rumtroph to wet your whistle.

The Lodge is situated in the centre of the park on the shores of Loon Lake. This smoke free environment can comfortably accommodate 18 people. Amenities include a fully equipped central kitchen/dining area and lounge. Two central washrooms have showers and laundry facilities and two fully equipped meeting rooms are available for evening programs or get-togethers. A large refrigerator is available for those who wish to bring their own drinks or snacks for late-night attacks!

A schedule of events will be mailed to registrants (use the form on page 6) indicating the weekend's itinerary and departure time from the Kingston Centre. To obtain more information, please call the Coordinator, Carol Cain, at 533-6000 Ext 77628 during the week days or 548-4556 after 6:00 p.m.

VERMONT HIKE

Recently 24 of us, including our tender shepherd Watson Ogilvie, spent a few days hiking in and around Stowe. We stayed at Mount Mansfield Hostel, the Vermont State Ski Dorm in Mount Mansfield State Forest, the heart of the Green Mountains.

It rained for part of one day, which made us all the more grateful for the beautiful weather we enjoyed for most of our stay: sunny with crisp temperatures. The hardier group of hikers encountered ice as they reached higher altitudes on the Long Trail.

The trip was a visual feast: idyllic pastoral views in the valleys, mountain streams, waterfalls, covered bridges; the village of Stowe, a delight of early American architecture with the 8 km. Recreation Path winding through it; and always in the background there were the mountains, green with bright patches of fall colour, huge cloudbanks, and the light on it all constantly changing.

We were a happy, noisy bunch gathering around the fireplace in the

evenings, waiting for the plentiful good food to be served, including Vermont maple syrup.

There were some hilarious moments: Watson mislaying his car keys in someone else's packsack; Peter Murray having brought 3 (!) socks had to hike in Audrey's, who didn't let him forget it; 17 women and one shower!

It was enjoyable to meet out-of-town members who came on this trip: Lucia and Maria from Ottawa, Margaret and Barry from Belleville, Ernie from Smiths Falls, and Coral from Woodstock.

It was a fun trip; thank you, Watson! Same time next year?

Barbara Pusch



Registration Form for Rideau Trail Weekend

March 4 & 5, 1999 at Loon Lake Lodge

Murphy's Point Provincial Park

RTA members will be given booking priority. Bookings will be on a first-come, first-serve, payment in full basis and space is limited! It is suggested that non-members take out a membership before registering to ensure their booking priority. (Rooms will be allotted in order of registration.).

Mail completed registration application and payment to:
Carol Cain (Loon Lake '00)
212 Greenlees Drive
Kingston, Ontario K7K 6P7

Enclosed is my/our registration fee of \$65 per person, totalling \$ (payable to Rideau Trail In Trust) and post-dated February 15, 2000.

Name(s):

Address:

City:

Postal Code:

Phone (home):

Phone (business):

RTA Member? Yes / No

RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION — KINGSTON CLUB ACTIVITIES

The meeting place for all activities, unless stated otherwise, is the northwest corner of the Kingston Centre parking lot (Sir John A & Princess St), before the departure time indicated. Wednesday walkers depart at 13:30, except on the second Wednesday of the month, when an all day outing is scheduled. Bring lunch, water and sunscreen. Wear strong footwear and come prepared for weather changes. If in doubt about your ability to cope with the outing, call the leader in advance. Car pooling will be organized. The contribution towards gas is indicated for each hike and patrons are expected to apportion those fees related to entry into Provincial Parks and Conservation Areas, when applicable. Members willing to be leaders for the Spring season, or who wish to suggest new locations to hike, are encouraged to contact Carol Cain at 548-4556 before the end of December. Please see page 10 of the Summer Newsletter for Activity Level details, etc.

Sunday December 5 Rideau Trail

Join Watson on the Unity Road to Orser Road part of the Rideau Trail. Level 1. 9 km. Departs 09:30. Gas \$1.
RT PATRIOT: Watson Ogilvie 530-2378

Wednesday December 8 Rideau Trail

Hike the woodlands and pastures from Freeman Road to Sydenham and return, with lunch at a local cafe. Level 1. 8 km. Departs 10:00. Gas \$2.
LEADER: Ellen Shepherd 541-1185

Saturday December 11 The Cataraqui Trail #1

Hike from Harrowsmith to Sydenham on the old Railway line and lunch at a local cafe/restaurant before returning. Level 1. About 12 km. Departs 10:00. Gas \$2.00
CHIEF ENGINEER: Bobbie Chadwick 352-1052

Sunday December 19 The Opinicon Area

Al's conducting a hike recce of the Opinicon region for a future ski outing. Enjoy the crisp air of mid-December and at lunch practice your hot meal skills over a warm, inviting fire. Level 2. 12 km. Departs 09:00. Gas \$4.
FIRECHIEF: Two-Stick Al Tattersall 549-4080

Saturday January 8 The Cataraqui Trail #2

Trains go both ways so join BobCat as he travels the rail line on the Perth Road to Sydenham run. Prepare to ski if we're blessed with white stuff. Level 1. 10-15 km depending on activity. Departs 09:30. Gas \$2.50.
COACH: BobCat Tolley 542-9626

Wednesday January 12 Rideau Trail

Hike Elevator Bay to Sydenham Road. Bring brown bag lunch for a stop at Jean's place around 12 before returning to the trail. Level 1. 8 km. Departs 10:00. Gas \$1.
LEADER: Jean Thompson 544-0340

Saturday January 15 Annual Dessert Party

Hold up on those New Year's resolutions until after this annual sweet tooth event. Bring your favourite after dinner delight and join your fellow hikers and volunteers at St. Lawrence Place for 6:30 p.m. Celebrate together and raise a glass of cheer as we welcome in the year 2000, toast our health and prepare for another year of RT

activities. Cheers to all!

CONTACT: Audrey Sanger 384-6244

Sunday January 16 The Opinicon Loop-de-Loo

Depending on weather conditions, Al's recce of last December will now become a reality! Ski the loop trail of the Opinicon region and demonstrate or bring along your hot meal tips to the rest of the Nordic ski bums. Level 2. 16 km. Departs 09:00. Gas \$4.
BLAZER: Like 'em Hot Tattersall 549-4080

Saturday January 22 Lemoine Point Cons. Area

Ski or hike the Conservation Area from the south parking lot. Bring a lunch to top off the day at Lynn & Lars' Tea Room & Cafe. Level 1. Departs 10:00. Gas \$1.
TRAIL BREAKER: Lynn Nolan 389-8747

Sunday January 30 Frontenac Park & Vicinity

Join Dugald on a ski of the Frontenac Park area; maybe you'll enter the Park and then again ... who knows! Find out on this trek of about 13 km. Level 3. Departs 09:30. Gas \$3.
TRUE NORTHER: Compass Carmichael 542-8628

February 4-6 Hostel L'Esterel, Laurentians

Winter get-away weekend (Fri - Sun) in la Belle Province. See notice on page 15 of Fall Newsletter.
ORGANIZERS: Peck Peckover 544-9190
Dale Ross 384-2959

Saturday February 5 Charleston Lake Prov. Park

Please welcome one of our newest leaders who will be taking us on a snowshoe hike of the Tallow Rock Bay East area and other trails of the Park. About 10 km. Level 2. Departs 09:00. Gas \$5.
LEADER: Liz Hill 384-3999

Wednesday February 9 Rideau Trail

Ski or hike from Railton Road to Sydenham and return with a stop for lunch either on the trail or at a restaurant/cafe. Level 1. About 10 km. Departs 10:00. Gas \$2.50.
LAPLANDER: Watson Ogilvie 530-2378

Kingston Club Activities Continued

Sunday Feb. 13 Barnes Corners Ski Trails, New York
Ski the Inman Gulf Trail and others or snowshoe the Oak Rim Trail; the choice is yours to discover. Another joint Rideau Trail/Adirondack Mountain Club excursion.

Socialize over a hot bowl of soup after the day's outing. Level 2-3. Km depending on energy level. Departs Meadowcrest parking lot (Codes Corner - corner of Hwy #15 and Kingston Mills Road) at 08:00. Gas \$8. Have health insurance and American \$ for soup stop.

LEADERS: Carol Cain 548-4556

Kathy Disque (315) 656-3383

Saturday February 19 Cataraqui Creek Cons. Area
We would be remiss if the "Cat" was not scheduled for a ski run. Level 1. 10 km at half-time or 20 km for those full of beans. Enjoy lunch in the Outdoor Centre.

Departs 10:30. Gas \$1.

OLD NAVY HIMSELF: Stan Huff 634-6146

Sunday February 27 Frontenac Park

Enjoy a day in the park by skiing the Arkon Lake Loop.

Level 3. 15 km. Departs 09:00. Gas \$3.

WAXWINGER: Dale Ross 384-2959

March 4 & 5 Loon Lake Lodge Weekend

See details on pages 5 and 6 of this Newsletter.

ORGANIZER: Carol Cain 548-4556

Saturday March 4 Isle of Quinte

Join our Ganaraska and Bruce Trail friends and hike the Beaver Meadow Wildlife Management Area and parts of Sandbanks for a change of scenery in the beautiful Isle of Quinte. Level 2. 20 km. Departs 08:30. Gas \$7.

CONTACT: Margaret Spicer 530-2308

FRIENDLY GIANT: Morgan Harris (613) 399-5590

Wednesday March 8 Gould Lake Conservation Area

Snowshoe, ski or hike the west side of Gould Lake and other trails depending on conditions. Level 2. 10 km.

Departs 10:00. Gas \$3.

SNOWSHOE HARE: Lynn Nolan 389-8747

Sunday March 12 Myles Acres

Support another of our newest leaders who will take us to Myles Acres for x-country skiing or hiking (depending on conditions) with lunch in a very cozy atmosphere. Level 1. About 14 km. Departs 10:00. Gas \$1.

LEADER: Marie Poisson 389-2473

Saturday March 18 Rideau Trail

Hike from Bullen Road to Unity Road. About 14 km.

Level 1/2. Departs 09:30. Gas \$1.

LEADER: Betty McIver 549-8028

RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION CENTRAL CLUB ACTIVITIES

The meeting place for Central Club activities is Conlon Farm in Perth, unless otherwise indicated. To reach this recreational area, take the main street (Gore Street) south-east through Perth to County Road 10, turn right (south-west) towards Westport, then take the third road to the right (Conlon Drive) to the Conlon Farm parking area. If in doubt call the hot line, 264-8338.

Sunday December 19 Murphy's Point Prov. Park

Pre Yuletide ski or hike, difficulty and duration to depend on conditions. Meet 10:00.

SKI GUIDE: Bob Pelletier 267-3630

Saturday January 15 Central Club AGM

The Annual Meeting will be held at 10:00 in McMartin House, 125 Gore Street at Harvey St. All RTA members in Perth, Lanark, Smiths Falls, Westport and neighbouring rural areas, and any other interested members, are requested to attend so that we can hear your comments on how the Central Club may best serve your interests.

Bring your lunch; coffee will be provided. Following the meeting, there will be a ski outing (Level 1-2) at Murphy's Point at 13:30, led by Don Sherwin.

CONTACT: John Miller 264-8824

OR: Don Sherwin 264-0759

Sunday February 20 Mount Pakenham

Ski the groomed trails at this popular resort with the Central Club (we'll pray for lots of snow!). Bring your own nutritious lunch or indulge yourself in the junk food at the cafeteria. Level 2. Meet at Conlon Farm at 09:30 or Pakenham ski lodge at 10:30.

LEADER: Bob Pelletier 267-3630

Sunday March 5 Foley Mountain

Ski or hike (early spring?) in this scenic area near Westport. Level 1-2. Meet at Conlon Farm at 10:00.

LEADER: Dave Miller 826-2336

Sunday March 19 Murphy's Point Provincial Park

Round Lake Loop. Hike or ski this newest trail in the Park, depending on conditions. Level 2. Meet at Conlon Farm at 10:00.

LEADER: Ken Parkes 546-9449

Saturday April 15 Trillium Trail

Hike a section of the old Glen Tay to Havelock CP rail line (now part of the Eastern Ontario Trails Alliance network) between Maberly and Sharbot Lake. Level 1-2, 17 km. Meet at Conlon Farm at 10:00.

LEADER: Wanda Pelletier 267-3630

RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION — OTTAWA CLUB ACTIVITIES

UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, the meeting place for Ottawa Club activities is the parking lot of the R. H. Coats Building (Statistics Canada) on the west side of Parkdale Avenue just north of its intersection with Scott Street, Ottawa. OC Transpo riders use the stop for Tunney's Pasture. The times given below are departure times.

Transportation is by pooling of private cars. Each passenger donates the amount suggested below to the driver's gas costs on a voluntary basis. Any other fees, e.g. for parking and entry to Parks and Conservation Areas, are shared among the driver and passengers. Trail fees in Gatineau Park are the responsibility of the participant.

Leaders, please send sign up sheets to Ruth Hutchinson, 168/2111 Montreal Rd, Ottawa, Ontario K1J 8M8.

For more information about a particular event, call the leader at the number listed below. If you have trouble reaching a leader, or for general information, call the Ottawa Club at 730-2229. See the Summer Newsletter for Activity Levels, etc.

Wednesday Walkers take to their skis as soon as possible. Drivers meet at Tom Brown arena, Bayview at Wellington, at 09:30. Non-drivers should call in advance for information on the meeting place. These are Level 2 or Level 3 outings. Call Nanette 730-5417 or Dorothy 523-4420.

Saturday December 11 Greenbelt

Level 1 snowshoe or hike. 10 km. Departs 09:30. Gas \$2.

LEADERS: Wilf and Mary Bradnock 829-1403

Saturday December 18 Greenbelt

Level 1 snowshoe or hike. Meet OC Transpo Baseline station (at Woodroffe Ave.), south end of parking lot. Departs 13:00. Gas \$2.

LEADER: Jean Cottam 726-1596

Sunday December 19 Gatineau Park

Level 1 hike or level 2 ski, Pine Road to Herridge Lodge, 10 km. Departs 09:30. Gas \$3.

LEADER: Andrew Macdonald 235-8569

Sunday January 2 New Year Resolutions! Dim Sum

Meet for Dim Sum followed by a level 1 ski. Departs 09:30. Gas \$2.

LEADER: John Barron 828-2296

Sunday January 9 Greenbelt - Winter afternoon

Level 1 snowshoe or walk depending on conditions. Bruce Pit, about 2 1/2 hours. Meet OC Transpo Baseline station (at Woodroffe Ave.), south end of parking lot. Departs 13:00. Gas \$2.

LEADER: Jean Cottam 726-1596

Sunday January 9 Gatineau Park

Level 2 ski, Pine Road to Herridge Lodge. Departs 09:30. Gas \$3.

LEADER: Andrew Macdonald 235-8569

Saturday January 15 Gatineau Park

Level 2+ ski. Departs 09:30. Gas \$3.

LEADER: Roslyn Bern 819-827-3845

Sunday January 16 Greenbelt - Winter afternoon

Level 1 snowshoe. Trails 27 and 28. Meet OC Transpo Baseline station (at Woodroffe Ave.), south end of parking lot. Departs 13:00. Gas \$2.

LEADER: Jean Cottam 726-1596

Saturday January 22 Gatineau Park Moonlight Ski

Level 2. Pine Road to Herridge Lodge. Please call the leader the day before to confirm. Bring your own supper suitable to be heated on woodstove (foil wrap, etc.).

Departs 18:00. Gas \$3.

LEADER: Caroline Whaley 726-0237

Sunday January 23 Western Greenbelt

Level 1 snowshoe. Departs 12:30. Gas \$2.

LEADER: David Spector 829-6802

Saturday January 29 Schoolhouse Loops

Level 1 ski at the Schoolhouse. Departs 09:30. Gas \$3.

LEADER: Nanette Whitwam 730-5417

Sunday January 30 Gatineau Park

Level 2+ ski, O'Brien to Herridge Lodge. Discovery Trail. 20 km. Departs 09:30. Gas \$3.

LEADER: Bud Massé 235-4670

Tuesday February 1 Duck Island Ski Registration

Last date to register for Level 1 short ski & refreshments at the Bennetts'. Date of outing will be determined by ice conditions after discussion with Old Man Winter. Gas \$3.

LEADER: Bob Bennett 749-7440

Saturday February 5 Gatineau Park

Level 2 ski. Departs 09:30. Gas \$3.

LEADER: Alex Bissett 828-4363

Ottawa Club Activities Continued

Sunday February 6 Manotick Area

Level 1 short snowshoe or ski; invitation to hot chocolate at leader's afterwards. Must call leader the day before to confirm weather conditions. Departs 10:00. Gas \$3.

LEADER: Marg Lafrance 692-1810

Saturday February 12 Gatineau Park

Level 2 ski, the Pipe Dream. Departs 09:30. Gas \$3.

LEADER: Peter Scott 729-9557

Sunday February 13 Valentine Snowshoe or Hike

Level 1 winter afternoon, Jack Pine Trail in Greenbelt. Meet OC Transpo Baseline station (at Woodroffe Ave.), south end of parking lot. Departs 13:00. Gas \$2.

LEADER: Jean Cottam 726-1596

Sunday February 13 Gatineau Park

Level 2 ski, Lac Philippe to Herridge Lodge & return, 21 km. Departs 09:00. Gas \$4.

LEADER: Geoff Berry 831-5468

Note: Keskinada Loppet, Gatineau Park, February 18-20.

Saturday February 19 Snowshoe or Hike

Level 1. Departs 12:30. Gas \$3.

LEADER: David Spector 829-6802

Saturday February 19 Gatineau Park

Level 2 ski. Departs 09:30. Gas \$3.

LEADER: Bev Armstrong 738-0310

Saturday February 26 Gatineau Park

Level 3 ski, probably Trail 17 depending on conditions.

Steep hills. Departs 09:30. Gas \$3.

LEADER: Sam Ludmer 721-2855

Sunday February 27 Greenbelt - Winter afternoon

Level 1 snowshoe or hike to the Lime Kiln. Meet OC Transpo Baseline station (at Woodroffe Ave.), south end of parking lot. Departs 13:00. Gas \$2.

LEADER: Jean Cottam 726-1596

**March is the month to
renew your RTA membership**

Saturday March 4 Schoolhouse - Beginners' Ski

Level 0, all beginners welcome. Bring lunch, we'll eat inside. Please call the leader the day before to confirm; this event will be cancelled if weather conditions are not appropriate. Departs 10:00. Gas \$2.

LEADER: Pearl Peterkin 747-2985

Saturday March 4 Gatineau Park - Camp Fortune

Level 2 ski on trails. Departs 09:30. Gas \$3.

LEADER: Bill Shannon 722-6407

Sunday March 5 Greenbelt - Morning Snowshoe

Level 1 activity organized jointly with the NCC. Departs 09:30 from Tunney's Pasture, or meet at 10:00 at Mer Bleu parking lot at the end of Ridge Road near the boardwalk. Bring munchies and drinks, your own snowshoes, and appropriate clothing. Gas \$2.

LEADER: Ann Bolster 521-6354

Saturday March 11 Greenbelt - Winter afternoon

Level 1 snowshoe or hike, Trail 26. Meet OC Transpo Baseline station (at Woodroffe Ave.), south end of parking lot. Departs 13:00. Gas \$2.

LEADER: Jean Cottam 726-1596

Saturday March 11 Gatineau Park

Level 2 ski from Fortune to Western loop and return. Departs 08:30. Gas \$3.

LEADER: Andrew Macdonald 235-8569

Sunday March 12 Early Spring Hike/Road Walk

Level 1, destination to be determined. Possible stop for hot chocolate afterwards. Departs 12:30. Gas \$3.

LEADER: David Spector 829-6802

Saturday March 18 Urban Half-Day Walk

Level 1 hike. Explore 8-10 km. along the river from Richmond Landing. Departs 09:00.

LEADER: Ann Bolster 521-6354

Sunday March 19 Last Day of Winter

Level 1 short walk. Location depends on conditions, possible refreshment stop after. Departs 10:00. Gas \$3.

LEADER: Bill Grant 820-0697

Sunday March 19 Gatineau Park

Level 2 ski or hike depending on conditions. Departs 09:30. Gas \$3.

LEADER: John Barron 828-2296

MEMBERS OF ALL CLUBS — JOIN IN!

Wanted: Co-Hikers on the Bruce Trail

Mary and Wilf Bradnock are proposing to walk central and northern sections of the Bruce Trail for one week in April and one week in May. Anyone interested in joining them is invited to call them at 829-1403.

Snowshoe or Hike the End-to-End

An adventuresome pair are challenging the Rideau Trail this winter by snowshoeing/hiking from the Perth area to Ottawa. Folks interested in participating are encouraged to contact Bill Murdoch at 389-3023 or Barbara Pusch at 544-0933. Skiers are also welcome to join in, but they will have to arrange their own transportation. Distances will depend on weather conditions.

RIDEAU TRAIL CHANGES

NEW BRIDGES

On October 7 a construction team from the Kingston Club completed a new bridge on the Wagon Trail in the Gould Lake Conservation Area. This trail is maintained by the RTA, and crosses a creek over a causeway and culvert which was washed out during spring floods a few years ago. Since then hikers have been crossing the gap left by the flood over logs. The bridge now spans this gap, and has been designed to be suitable for skiers. Materials for the bridge were provided by the CRCA.

At Charleston Lake Provincial Park a new floating bridge 95 m long has been installed across Slim Bay, replacing a former bridge which had to be demolished a few years ago. It is now open for hikers, and opens up once again the Tallow Rock Bay Trail as a continuous loop. The bridge comprises 13 standard spans and one arch span to allow canoes to pass underneath. The bridge is stabilized by transverse pontoons, and anchored by cables to adjacent shoals. The bridge was built commercially using funds provided by the Province of Ontario.

Tony Parfitt

Construction Coordinator, Kingston Club

NAILS ON TRAILS (A sad true story)

An unfortunate hiker stood on a nail
A spike in the foot will turn anyone pale
Shame on us, as maintainers, it's our bit of Trail
So we went out to check it as soon as we could
Looking, we thought, for a nail in some wood
It was there sure enough and the spike drew my blood

To by-pass a wet spot that often will flood
Was built, in a side-trail, a bridge made of wood
No doubt, at the time, the idea seemed quite good

But the corduroy bridge sank down and rotted
Leaving long spikes, not easily spotted
At least twenty logs in which spikes were dotted

This path is now made safe and good
The mud is crossed on new-felled wood
The spikes, disabled, will corrode as they should

The moral of this doggerel tale
Is for maintainers of the Trail:
Beware, in wood, the upright nail

Wilf Bradnock

FOLEY MOUNTAIN — RIDEAU TRAIL MAP 4

The following is a description of the blue trails at Foley Mountain Conservation Area, newly added to the Rideau Trail. The text replaces the short paragraph at the top of page 76 of the current (Fifth Edition) Rideau Trail Guidebook. New maps will be created for the next edition of the Guidebook. In the meantime, trail maps are available at the Conservation Area and also on the RTA web site.

The Beaver Pond Trail begins 50 m east of the parking/picnic area along the park road where self-guiding maps are provided. The main Beaver Pond Trail winds 1.5 km in a westerly direction by the Pond back to the Park entrance, while a major branch turns right after 1 km north of the Pond and proceeds in a southeasterly direction for 2 km to reach the park road and the main Trail 1 km to the east of the parking area.

The Scenic Ridge Trail is a 1.5 km loop. It proceeds southeasterly from the parking area along the escarpment offering access to scenic lookouts. It rejoins the main Trail 500 m east of the parking/picnic area, with connecting spurs to the park road and the Beaver Pond Trail easterly branch.

The Wildflower Trail is a 500 m side trail leaving the main Trail as the main Trail makes a sharp left turn at km 113.4. It proceeds steeply down the escarpment to the Nature Centre, where there is a parking area and pit toilets for visitors. At the east end of the parking area, a wide pathway leads 250 m to the beach at Little Bay.

The main Trail proceeds easterly from the parking/picnic area away from the escarpment edge, winding through mature, mixed woods and over rocky outcrops with juniper bushes. Blue markers are interspersed with the orange markers, indicating that the main Trail is suitable for skiing at this point. Following two intersections with blue loop trails at km 112.4 and km 112.8, the main Trail makes a very sharp (300 degree) turn to the left at km 113.4. At this point the Nature (Wildflower? - Editor) Trail continues straight ahead down the escarpment.

The main Trail proceeds from the junction with the Wildflower Trail in a northeasterly direction over a wooden bridge and across a paved section of the park road before winding back down the escarpment to emerge on the beach at Little Bay.

Linda Hayes

More Trail Changes >

RIDEAU TRAIL CHANGES

Jock River Crossing Completed (Cover Photo)

A key part of the re-route in the Marlborough Forest – the crossing over the Jock River – is now complete, at least on a seasonal basis. The river crossing was a major hurdle for the Ottawa Club in its campaign to get the Trail off roads and instead to route it through interesting countryside more in keeping with the recommendations of the Optimum Route Study. The project was the outcome of over two years of investigation – so much, in fact, that in the end it took less time to actually do the job than had previously been spent simply talking about it!

After several possibilities were ruled out by long boardwalks which would have been needed, consultations were held with the various local authorities involved and with other interested parties to examine alternatives. A factor was the Jock River canoe race, sometimes held over this section of the river during the spring. Various types of bridges were considered at different locations, but were ruled out because of cost. They would have had to be strong and high enough to resist ice build up during the spring thaw, and it was difficult to justify the additional cost for year-round use when almost all the anticipated need is from May to October. (The ice can be crossed in Jan.-Feb. once the river is fully frozen, and much of the Rideau Trail is not really usable during the spring thaw).

The crossing selected is next to an existing ford, where the river is shallow enough in the hiking season to permit use of small gabion (stone-filled wire basket) supports, with lengths of railroad tie on which scaffolding planks are placed as a walkway. The structure was built by a 9-person crew in one day, crossing a total span of about 18 metres at a cost of \$1300 including beer and pizzas.

Credits for this engineering marvel go to Graham Creedy, gung-ho chief Geoff Berry, and enthusiastic volunteers Ken Buckingham, Don Grant, Ron Maybury, Bud Massé, Harry Menna, Dennis Scully and Bill Shannon, plus to Lloyd Scarth who provided the pickup truck to transport materials to the site. Special thanks also to landowners Mark and Karen Cooligan who permitted us to access the river at this point, and to all who helped in the reroute.

The crossing will be operational up to about November 13 this year, when the planks will be removed for winter storage. The route will then follow a blue loop via the Munster Road bridge until spring. The planks should be back in place for use by May 1 next year, providing the gabion supports survive the winter as expected.

Graham Creedy

Kettles Road to Ottawa Street (Map 10)

A major part of the reroute in the Richmond Fen section of the Marlborough Forest has now been completed.

From the Kettles Road railroad crossing, the Trail runs 350 m southwest along Kettles Road, then turns right (northwest), crossing a stile to run between fields across the boundary line between Rideau and Goulburn Townships. It winds across the fields by an abandoned farmstead, then continues northwest as a farm road until it exits via a gate to the road at Soldiers Line.

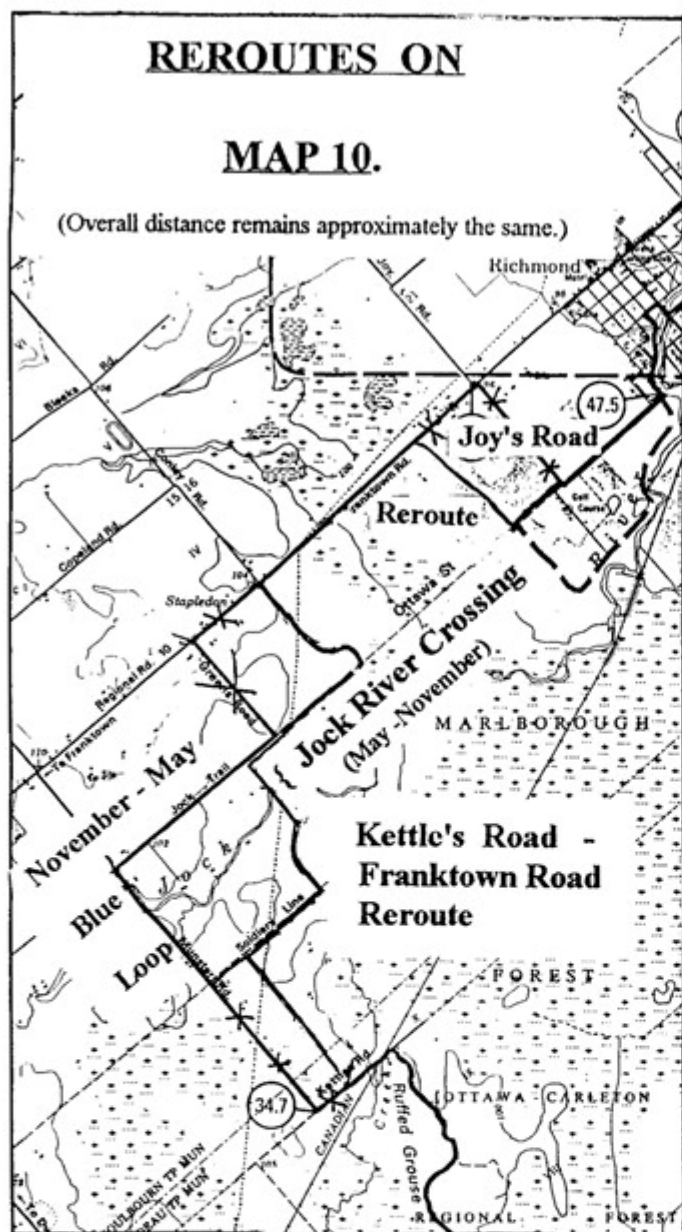
This is the point where the main (summer) Trail and the blue loop (winter) trail diverge. The main Trail should be operational from May 1 to October 31 inclusive – check the website or Ottawa Club line, or call Graham Creedy at 789-1657 for information on the status of the Jock River crossing if hiking this section outside of these dates. The blue loop (winter) trail turns left (southwest) along Soldiers Line to Munster Road, then right (northwest) along Munster Road to Jock Trail, then right (northeast) along Jock Trail to rejoin the main Trail just before the junction with Greens Road.

The main Trail turns right (northeast) and runs along Soldiers Line, continuing 800 m past the end of the surfaced road, then turning left (northwest) into the bush. The Trail meanders along an old track through the forest for 800 m, to a point just before the track reaches open fields. Here the Trail turns right (northeast) and twists for 300 m through mixed bush to emerge running north-west through rough pasture. The Trail traverses the pasture roughly in a straight line to meet a farm track just before the Jock River, then crosses the river by a plank boardwalk just to the left of the farm track crossing.

The Trail then climbs the river bank and immediately turns right (northeast), following a horse trail cut through rough pasture and running by the farm, northwest across the lawn and then parallel to the farm laneway which it then joins. At the end of the laneway the Trail emerges on Jock Trail just southwest of the junction with Greens Road. At this point the main Trail turns right (northeast) and is rejoined by the blue loop (winter) trail.

The Trail runs northeast on Jock Trail past the end of the surfaced road and continues for another 600 m to a trail junction where a shelter and dry toilets operated by the local snowmobile club can be seen on the right. Opposite the shelter the Trail takes the fork 45 degrees to the left

Continued on page 14



HIKING IN THE CANADIAN ROCKIES

You can join the Skyline Hikers of the Canadian Rockies, the oldest hiking club in Canada, at their annual base camp in Banff National Park, offering five 6-day camps, July 17 to August 14, 2000. Cost of about \$550 per person covers return transportation from Banff, tent accommodation, hot water, all meals, camp staff, and guided day hikes. Hikers carry only a day-pack, but must be fit for mountain hiking. Brochures should be available in early January. For more information call Harry Moerschner 705-445-0267, e-mail moersch@bmts.com, or call 780-488-9847 in Alberta.

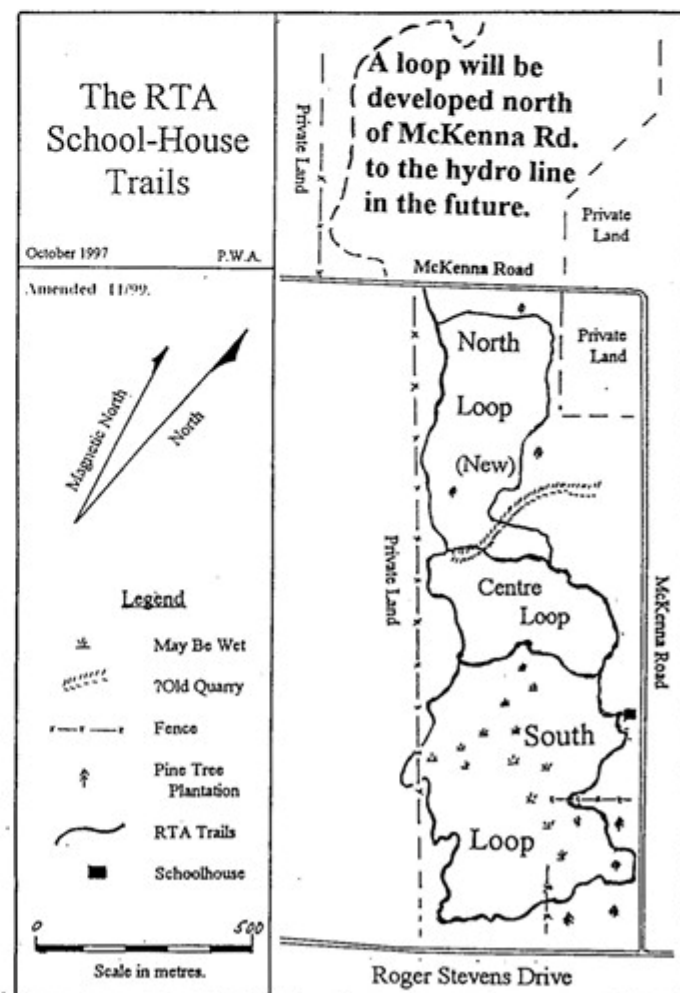
SCHOOL HOUSE TRAILS

New work has been done on the School House Trails this year. The hope is that people will come back and start to use both the trails and the School House for winter outings. A new shortened North Loop that attaches at two points to the Centre Loop will give skiers several choices, either to ski the perimeter or a combination of the perimeter and any of the loops inside.

All of the trails have been well identified with blue markers, and in addition, wooden signs are placed at junctions so there should be no confusion. Small trail maps will be made available in the School House for skiers without guidebooks. The trails haven't been measured yet, but it is estimated that it would take three hours to travel the perimeter of the three trails.

The outhouses now have metal can-equipped toilet paper dispensers. The School House has been cleaned and is ready for the first potluck supper or lunch of the winter season. We hope the facilities will be used by many people over the winter.

Bill Shannon, Trail Maintenance Coordinator



Kettles Road to Ottawa Street (Map 10) continued

(north) along the snowmobile trail for 100 m, then turns left (west) into the bush. It then curves generally to the right (west) then left (southwest) and after 500 m reaches a T-junction. Here the Trail turns right (north-west) and runs for 800 m as it emerges from the forest as a wide track and passes under the hydro lines to exit at Franktown Road opposite the junction with Conley Road.

Here the Trail turns right (northeast), rejoining its former route to run along Franktown Road for 2.3 km. Just after the white house at No. 6700 Franktown Road the Trail turns right (southeast) and enters the bush. It then runs through the bush in a generally southeasterly direction for 1.5 km until it exits at the road at Ottawa Street, directly opposite the last laneway entrance on Ottawa Street if one is coming from Richmond. This laneway, which is on the south side of Ottawa Street, has a gate with the letters "W-W" in metal in its centre. At Ottawa Street the Trail turns left (northeast) and runs along the roadway for 700 m to the junction with Joy's Road (North) which is the former Trail route. It then continues along Ottawa Street into the town of Richmond.

Peter Andrews

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE RTA AGM

The Annual Meeting of the Rideau Trail Association was held on October 16, 1999 at The Perth Curling Club.

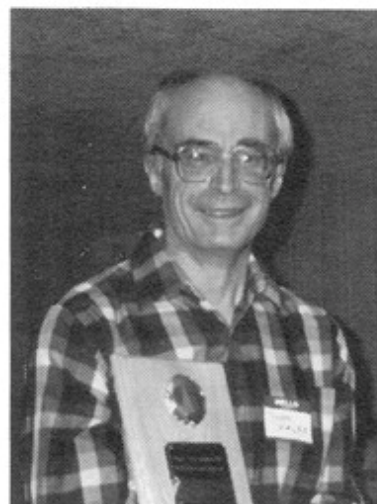
President Graham Creedy reported on ongoing activities including progress towards alignment of the Trail to the Optimum Route, membership and volunteer promotion, and the guidebook and mapping projects. Treasurer Rolf Calhoun presented financial information summarized on page 4. Paul Smith reported on membership numbers, which have increased over the last 2 years but have yet to climb back to their levels of 5 years ago. Paul noted that we receive several new members each month via the RTA web site, maintained by Tom Bach.

Trail Coordinator Linda Hayes discussed mapping and Trail changes (see above). Officers were elected as listed on page 2; incoming president Allan Tattersall thanked Graham for his service, and thanked other volunteers. Outstanding Service Awards were presented for all three Clubs, and End to End Awards were presented.

Visitor Peter Heinz gave a presentation and answered questions on Hike Ontario, and lunch on the banks of the Tay River was followed by a choice of three activities led by Mary Charlton, John Miller, and Dave Miller. The day ended with an excellent dinner at the Curling Club.

Outstanding Service Awards — cont'd. from page 3

Ottawa Club — John Haley



At this year's RTA AGM, I had the pleasure of presenting the outstanding service award for the Ottawa Club to John Haley. As many of you know, John has been the Ottawa Club's Newsletter Editor for over 5 years. In those years, we have seen the Newsletter improved to its present excellent standard. As Newsletter Editor, John has accomplished the nearly impossible task of decoding Canada Post rules and regulations in order to mail our Newsletters at a lower cost and with less volunteer hours. As proof that we will always need John around, Canada Post has recently changed the rules.

One of John's many qualities that has always impressed me is his approach to Association and Club affairs. His approach is not just as the Newsletter Editor, but as a thoughtful member of the team. He thinks about the issues and makes significant contributions to improve the organization. Two years ago, he initiated our most successful membership renewal strategy to date. Because of the overwhelming success of the campaign it was quickly adopted by the other Clubs. This strategy is likely responsible for our recent gain in membership numbers.

John is of course well known as one of our favourite level 3 hike leaders. In addition to volunteering you will often meet him at Club and Association activities. John is an outstanding leader both on and off the Trail and is very deserving of this award.

Congratulations.

Lisa Buchner

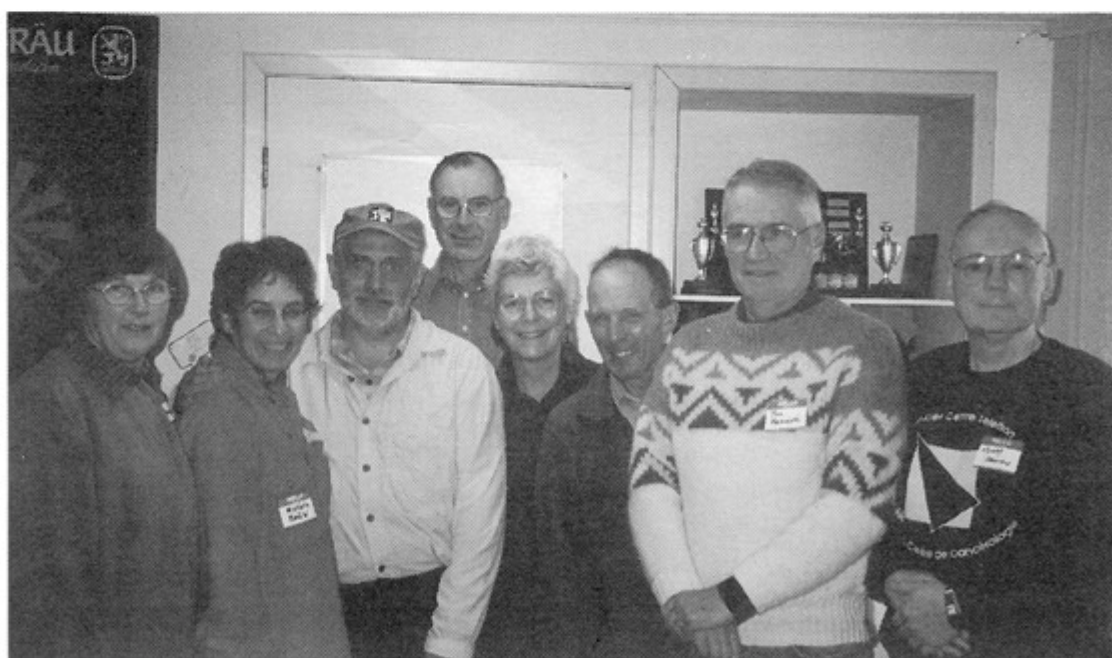
RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION END TO END AWARDS 1998

Number	Hiker	Start	Finish	Award	Club/City
261	Irene Shier	Apr. 30, 98	Oct. 1, 98	Oct. 99	Kingston
262	Marge Grant	Apr. 30, 98	Oct. 1, 98	Oct. 99	Kingston
263	Terrance Dawson	March 96	Oct. 98	Oct. 99	Ottawa
264	Jon Howarth	Apr. 3, 98	Oct. 29, 98	Oct. 99	Ottawa
265	Don Priestman	April 98	June 11, 99	Oct. 99	Bruce Trail
266	Marita Fairchild	April 98	June 11, 99	Oct. 99	Bruce Trail
267	Joyce Humphries	April 98	June 11, 99	Oct. 99	Bruce Trail
268	Katherine Morrison	April 98	June 11, 99	Oct. 99	Bruce Trail
269	David Cowtan	April 98	June 11, 99	Oct. 99	Bruce Trail
270	Gill Langford	April 98	June 11, 99	Oct. 99	Bruce Trail
271	Barbara Powell	April 98	June 11, 99	Oct. 99	Bruce Trail
272	John Cunningham	April 98	June 11, 99	Oct. 99	Bruce Trail
273	Lori Chysyk	April 98	June 11, 99	Oct. 99	Bruce Trail
274	Janet Douglas	April 98	June 11, 99	Oct. 99	Bruce Trail
275	Joe Slaney	April 98	June 11, 99	Oct. 99	Bruce Trail
276	Betty Clifford	April 98	June 11, 99	Oct. 99	Bruce Trail
277	Jeff Forgrave	Aug. 26, 98	May 19, 99	Oct. 99	Ottawa
278	Barbara Pusch	Oct. 29, 94	May 2, 99	Oct. 99	Kingston
279	Bob Brûlé	Aug. 30, 98	July 1, 99	Oct. 99	Ottawa
280	Michèle Brûlé	Aug. 30, 98	July 1, 99	Oct. 99	Ottawa
281	Linda Booler	Summer 96		Oct. 99	Ottawa
282	Peter Booler	Summer 96		Oct. 99	Ottawa
283	Bob Fowler	Sep. 26, 98	Sep. 19, 99	Oct. 99	Ottawa
284	Nancy Creelman	Sep. 26, 98	Sep. 19, 99	Oct. 99	Ottawa

End To End Award Recipients at the RTA Annual Meeting

From left to right:

Nancy Creelman
Michèle Brûlé
Bob Brûlé
Bob Fowler
Linda Booler
Peter Booler
Jon Howarth
Terry Dawson



Rideau Trail Association
P.O. Box 15
Kingston, ON K7L 4V6

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION: The Membership year is from April 1 to March 31. Your Membership in the Rideau Trail Association provides the financial support essential for the continuous maintenance, improvement, extension, and protection of the Rideau Trail network. As a Member you will receive the quarterly newsletter and special mailings, as well as voting rights in local Club and Association activities. To join or renew, complete the form below and mail it with your payment in an envelope to:

Rideau Trail Association
P.O. Box 15
Kingston
Ontario K7L 4V6

Ottawa Club Telephone: 613-730-2229
Kingston Club Telephone: 613-545-0823
Central Club Telephone: 613-264-8338

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--|-----------------|
| ☐ | Annual Individual / Family Membership | \$20.00 |
| ☐ | * Patron (Life Membership) | \$300.00 |
| ☐ | † Guide Book: Members | \$17.00 |
| ☐ | † Non-Members | \$22.00 |
| ☐ | Reverse Text | \$4.00 |
| ☐ | Crest | \$2.00 |
| ☐ | Car Sticker (Free to New Members) | \$1.00 |
| ☐ | Enamelled Pin | \$3.00 |
| ☐ | * Donation to the RTA | \$ _____ |
| ☐ | * Donation to the RT Preservation Fund | \$ _____ |
| | Prices Subject to Change | |
| | TOTAL | \$ _____ |

- † Includes Postage & Handling
* Qualifies for income tax credit.
Charitable Registration No. 0041733-56-11.

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR INTERESTS:

- Serving on Executive ☐ Construction ☐
Trail maintenance ☐ Leading hikes ☐
Leading x/c ski outings ☐ Newsletter ☐
Other (specify): _____

PLEASE INDICATE MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY:

- Renewal ☐ Already Life Member ☐
New Member ☐ Complimentary Member ☐

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Province: _____

Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____