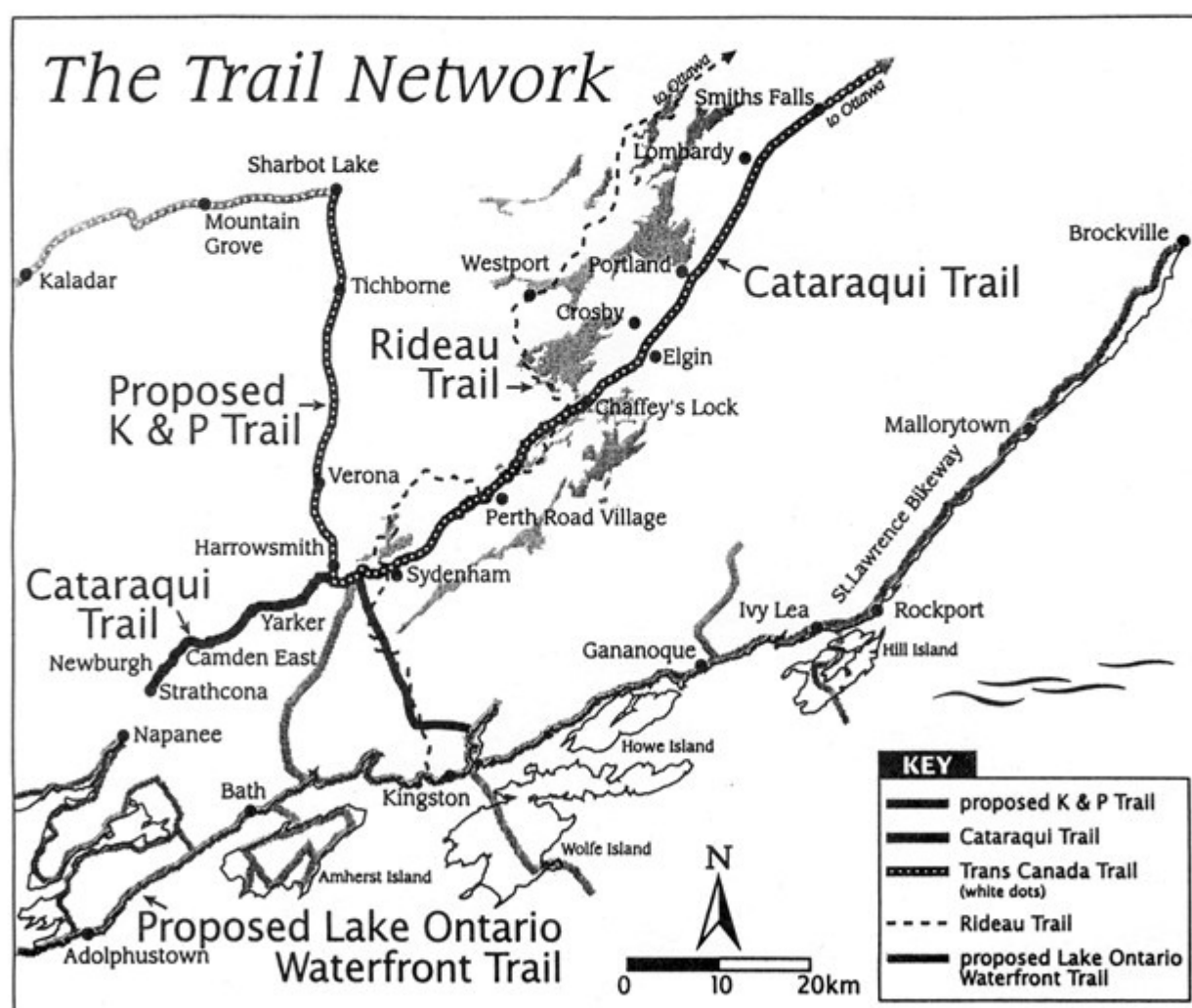




The Rideau Trail NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2000

ISSUE NO. 115



MEMBERSHIP YEAR ENDS MARCH 31, 2000. PLEASE REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE USING THE MEMBERSHIP FORM ON PAGE 16.



The Rideau Trail Newsletter is published quarterly in March, June, September, and December by the Rideau Trail Association. The Editors of this issue are Lynn Nolan and Lars Thompson for the Kingston Rideau Trail Club.

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

R. John Haley
433 Viewmount Drive
Nepean, Ontario, K2E 7P1 Telephone: (613) 225-0590

Text should be typed or mechanically printed. Pictures are 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, the opinions expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Rideau Trail Association.

ISSN 0709-7085

©2000 Rideau Trail Association

THE RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2000

President	Allan Tattersall	Kingston	549-4080
Vice President	James Mabbutt	Ottawa	521-6313
Secretary	Lorna Thorburn	Kingston	544-0845
Treasurer	Rolf Calhoun	Ottawa	739-9493
Membership Directors	Paul & Eva Smith	Glenburnie	542-6003
Trail Coordinator	Linda Hayes	Gloucester	749-9537
Correspondence Secretary	Jean Thompson	Kingston	544-0340
Past President	Graham Creedy	Ottawa	789-1657
Newsletter Editors:			
	Ottawa	John Haley	Nepean 225-0590
	Kingston	Lynn Nolan & Lars Thompson	Kingston 389-8747
Club Chairs:	Ottawa	Lisa Buchner	Ottawa 729-4487
	Kingston	Watson Ogilvie	Kingston 530-2378
	Central	John Miller	Perth 264-8338
Club Representatives:			
	Ottawa	Bill Grant	Ottawa 820-0697
	Kingston	Bill Murdoch	Kingston 389-3023
	Central	Mary Charlton	Perth 267-6802

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

RTA Web Page:
Club Telephone numbers:

www.ncf.carleton.ca/rta
Ottawa: 613-730-2229
Kingston: 613-545-0823
Central: 613-264-8338

Artistic Credits

Cover
Page 12
Page 14

Courtesy of

C.R.C.A.
Gershon Rother
Alberta Edgar

Subject

Trail Network Map
Lime Kiln, 1999
Stan Douglas on Harry Dyer Bench

Ottawa Club Annual General Meeting

**Friday April 28, 2000 at the
Dominion Chalmers United Church
355 Cooper Ave., Ottawa
(Parking lot off Lisgar or O'Connor)**

Program

**7:00 p.m. Coffee & Tea
7:30 p.m. Business Meeting
9:15 p.m. Presentation
"The Changing Trail" - Peter Andrews**

Kingston Club Annual General Meeting

**Saturday, April 29, 2000 at the
Little Cataraqui Conservation Area
Outdoor Centre**

Program

**09:30 Coffee
10:00 Business Meeting
12:30 Brown Bag Lunch
with hikes to follow**

Central Club Annual General Meeting

**Saturday April 8, 2000 at the
McMartin House
125 Gore Street at Harvey Street**

Program

**10:00 Business Meeting
12:00 Your Lunch (coffee provided)
13:30 Murphy's Point hike
Don Sherwin
Contact: John Miller 264-8824 or
Don Sherwin 264-0759**

GUIDELINES ON PROTECTION OF THE RTA TRADEMARK

The Rideau Trail Association has exclusive rights to use an isosceles triangle in association with hiking trails anywhere in Canada. It is used to mark trails and is used as well on letterhead, brochures and other forms of communication that cross provincial boundaries.

Details of the trademark are given in the Executive Handbook and are our assurance that trails marked with this symbol lead to places designated in the RTA Guidebook.

A trademark can be lost, or subject to successful challenge, if it is not defended against unauthorised use.

When an organization requests use of this symbol, the Rideau Trail Association may license the organization for a nominal fee (\$1.00) for the marking of trails only.

Should an organization unconnected with the Rideau Trail Association use this symbol in the vicinity of the Rideau Trail where confusion could arise the RTA can ask them to cease and desist in its use and if necessary may use legal procedures to protect the trademark.

**(Information condensed from Wilf Bradnock's report to the
RTA Board of November 1999)**

TRAIL CLOSURE

The Rideau Trail, where it crosses private land, will close Tuesday March 28, 2000. This action is necessary to protect the landowners who allow us to cross their land the remainder of the year. The Rideau Trail Association would like to thank all landowners for their generosity. Please take care not to trespass on this day.

MEMBERSHIP YEAR ENDS MARCH 31, 2000

Please remember to renew your membership using the form on page 16 in order to continue your membership and to receive the Rideau Trail Association newsletter.

WHAT IS A MODEL FOREST?

Perhaps many of us are not aware that the Rideau Trail passes through an area which is designated as the Eastern Ontario Model Forest. This is one of a network of eleven Federally supported Model Forests to be found across the country. They represent the varied forestry resources of Canada and are part of an International Model Forest network.

The EOMF is defined as an alliance of private individuals, First Nations peoples, businesses and non-governmental agencies, working together to improve the economic, social and cultural value of the forests of eastern Ontario. One of the aims of the organization is to improve the utilization of woodlands for recreation and education. The Rideau Trail Association has been a member since the EOMF was founded and has received from it a grant for the construction of the Ken Prior footbridge on the trail near Richmond. It is expected that the relationship between the two organizations will be of mutual benefit in the future as we make improvements to the Rideau Trail and as trails are integrated into the Model Forest program. Some of the projects of the EOMF are as follows:

The Eastern Ontario Biodiversity Museum has recently been opened in the lower level of Raina's Plaza, 215 Sanders St., Kemptville. It includes a permanent exhibit entitled "Forest Through the Seasons". There is also a display of wildlife and visiting exhibits from the Canadian Museum of Nature, the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and the EOMF.

Support for the concept of biodiversity is achieved through the planting of shoreline trees. These riparian forests reduce soil erosion and filter out pollution from agricultural land and riverside residences. They provide an improved habitat for wildlife and have a moderating effect on water temperature, a factor of particular importance in fish spawning areas. The restoration of shoreline vegetation has been carried out in a number of locations. An example can be seen on the Jock River near Fallowfield, where work has been done by volunteers from the Friends of the Jock. This could result in an improvement of the Rideau Trail in this area.

Partnership with Bluebird Acres, near Westport. This is an outdoor education centre which focuses on native trees and shrub species and encompasses a wide variety of wildlife such as hummingbirds, ospreys, vultures, deer and songbirds.

Partnerships with the Mohawk community at Akwesasne, the Algonquins of Golden Lake First Nation and Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg, provide a vast wealth of ecological knowledge which contributes to sustainable forest management. These First Nation communities hold a respect for forest life which derives from traditional and spiritual values passed on by generations of aboriginal peoples.

The production of seedlings for the reforestation of private and crown lands at the G. Howard Ferguson Forest Station in Kemptville was closed down recently by the Ontario Government. Through the efforts of the EOMF, the production of three million seedlings is now under municipal ownership. The forested areas, including the trails network, will remain the property of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.

The EOMF is prime maple syrup country, so much that Lanark County has been named "The Maple Syrup Capital of Ontario". Due to this large industry, the EOMF has supported research to improve both the production of maple syrup, and the development of markets for maple syrup products.

Other areas of activity include urban and community reforestation, nut tree culture, wildlife habitat studies, woodlot management and conservation of forest genetic material. The EOMF has a partnership with the Calukmul Model Forest on the Yucatan region of Mexico and has been organizing annual tours for Model Forest members and friends. More information may be obtained on the EOMF Web Site: www.comf.on.ca

Ron Maybury
Ottawa

THE CATARAQUI TRAIL "END-TO-END 2000" CHALLENGE

Hike, bike, jog, ski, ride your horse or ski doo along the full length of the Cataraqui Trail. Once you have completed the trail, you will receive a certificate and an "End-to-End 2000" flash. Registration fee is \$10.00. Contact Jim Blain at Box 63, R.R. #1, Elgin, ON, K0G 1E0 to receive your map and application kit, or you can phone the CRCA office at (613) 546-4228 x 248 for more information.

RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION — KINGSTON CLUB ACTIVITIES

The meeting place for all activities, unless stated otherwise, is at the Kingston Centre in the northwest corner of the existing Loblaws parking lot (next to the exit to 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 Summer season, or who wish to suggest new locations to hike are encouraged to contact Carol Cain at 548-4556 before the end of April.

Details on the **Millenium End-to-End** hikes including start and end locations can be found on page 11.

Sunday March 12 Myles Acres

Support one of our new leaders who will be taking us out to Myles Acres for x-cnty skiing or hiking (pending conditions) with lunch in a very cozy atmosphere. Level 1. Approx 14 km. Departs 10:00. Gas \$1.
Leader: Marie Poisson 389-2473

Saturday March 18 Rideau Trail

Hike from Bullen Road to Unity Road. Approx 14 km. Level 1-2. Departs 09:30. Gas \$1.
Leader: Betty McIver 549-8028

Sunday March 26 Hiker's Dilemma

Will it rain, snow or shine? Be adventurous and join Gloria on an excursion of an undisclosed location (all depends on conditions). You can expect around 18 km with this trooper. Level 2-3. Departs 09:00. Gas tba.
Weather Watcher: Gloria Seeley 546-2503

Friday March 31 Membership Year Ends!

Please renew your membership now using the form provided on page 16 in order to continue receiving your copy of the Newsletter.

Saturday April 1 Rideau Trail

Skats is going to take you on a relaxed hike along the Tay River where birding is known to be popular. Level 1. 12 km. Departs 09:00. Gas \$6
Leader: Skats Sanger 384-6244

Sunday April 9 Gould Lake Conservation Area

Hike the trails of Gould Lake including the Wagon Trail, Tom Dixon and Mica Trail. Level 3. Approx 12 km. Departs 09:30. Gas \$3.
Leader: Lynn Nolan 389-8747

Wed April 12 Murphy's Point Provincial Park

Try some wild turkey surprise! They are apparently alive and well at Murphy's Point and Skats is going to take you on the trails for perhaps a glimpse. Level 1. 12 km. Departs 09:00. Gas \$5
Gobbler: Skats Sanger 384-6244

Saturday April 15 Depot Lake Conservation Area

Hike the area's lakeside trails and discover once again, the new shoots of Spring. Level 2. Approx 12 km. Departs 09:30. Gas \$4.
Leader: Dale Ross 384-2959

Saturday April 22 Charleston Lake Prov. Park

The Man of Many Barks will take you out to rediscover the various trails of Charleston Lake. 8 km. Level 1. Departs 09:30. Gas \$5.
Leader: Peter Murray 382-2824

Saturday April 29 Kingston Club Annual

General Meeting: See notice on page 3 for details.

Saturday May 6 Millenium Hike #1

Kick off from Elevator Bay for the Rideau Trail 2000 end-to-end. Elevator Bay to Van Order Road. There will be a mixture of cemetery and park trails, road allowances and city streets. Level 2. 18.9 km. Departs 09:00 from Elevator Bay. Please remember to provide your shuttle driver with contributions towards gas throughout the end-to-end.
Leader: Bill Murdoch 389-3023

Sunday May 7 Millenium Hike #2
Van Order Road to Gould Lake Conservation Area.
Get to know the park and field trails; some road
allowances. Could be muddy or flooded in places.
Level 2. 20.2 km. Departs 09:00. Gas \$2.
Leader: Stan Huff 634-6146

Wednesday May 10 Sandbanks Provincial Park
Enjoy Sandbank trails, and if you're slightly barmy,
bring your swim suit too! Pants are recommended on
this hike. Level 1. 12 km. Departs 09:00. Gas \$5.
Leaders: Margaret & John Page 389-7840

Saturday May 13 Millenium Hike #3
Gould Lake Conservation Area to Frontenac Park
Visitor Centre. Mainly rugged trails, some roads.
Level 3. 11.3 km. Departs 09:15. Gas \$3
Leader: Audrey Sanger 384-6244

Sunday May 14 The Cataraqui Trail
Hike the railway line from Harrowsmith to Yarker and
have lunch at the "ol church". Level 1. 16 km.
Departs 09:00. Gas \$2.
Rail Rogue: JackRabbit Jewitt 389-0226

Sunday May 21 Frink Centre Hike
Venture along the numerous trails of the Frink Centre
(near Belleville) and enjoy the waterfowl on route to
northern climes. This hike has a variety of scenery
and habitat. Level 2. 20 km. Departs 09:00. Gas \$6.
Kingston Contact: Betty McIver 549-8028
Leader: Morgan Harris 399-5590 (613)

Saturday May 27 Charleston Lake Prov. Park
Watson guarantees to swim on this hike, so join him
as he takes you on the Tallow Rock Bay Trail before
taking the dip! The bridge is open and ready for use.
Level 3. 14 km. Departs 09:30. Gas \$5.
Hardy Swimmer: Watson Ogilvie 530-2378

Sunday May 28 Millenium Hike #4
Frontenac Park Visitor Centre to Maple Leaf Road.
Rugged trails. Level 3. 13.2 km. (maybe 16 km. be
prepared). Departs 08:30. Gas \$3. Long car shuttle,
extra compensation for shuttle drivers recommended.
Leader: Bill Murdoch 389-3023

Sat./Sun. June 3-4 Hart Lake Canoe/Camping
Book before May 31 to coordinate crew and gear.
Leader: Allan Tattersall 549-4080

Saturday June 3 Millenium Hike #5
Maple Leaf Road. to Massassauga Road.; roads and
forest trails. This is a long hike, so come prepared
with extra grub, fluids and energy. Level 2. 24.3 km.
Departs 09:30. Gas \$3.
Leaders: Murray Henderson 546-9906
 Carol Cain 548-4556

Sunday June 4 Frontenac Park
Black flies. Test your mettle on the Arkon Lake Loop
and be a proud member of Ada's "Swat Team". Level
3. 13 km. Departs 09:30. Gas \$3.
Swat Coordinator: Ada Chambers 549-8008

Saturday June 10 Rideau Trail
This hike appears to be a favourite, so join Bill from
Orser to Railton Road and return. Level 1. 9 km.
Departs 10:00. Gas \$2.
Hockey Fanatic: Wild Bill Murdoch 389-3023

Sunday June 11 Millenium Hike #6
Massassauga Road to Lions Club Beach at Westport.
Roads, road allowances and trails. Expect some wet
spots. Level 2. 22 km. Departs 09:30. Gas \$4.
Leader: Joe Pollock 544-3825

Wednesday June 14 Rideau Trail
Hike to see woodlands and pastures in early summer
garb, from Freeman Road to Sydenham and return,
with lunch in a local tea room. Level 1. 8 km.
Departs 10:00. Gas \$2.
Leader: Peck Peckover 544-9190

Saturday June 17 Millenium Hike #7
Lions Club Beach in Westport to the Narrows Lock.
Hilly, rocky trails and some roads. Possible swim. Car
shuttle. Level 2. 13.3 km. Departs 09:00. Gas \$5.
Leader: Lynn Nolan 389-8747

Sunday June 18 Frontenac Provincial Park
Hike the Little Salmon Lake trail and bring those
swimming trunks. Ellen is known to be an early bird
swimmer. Level 3. 17 km. Departs 09:00. Gas \$3.
Leader: Ellen Shepherd 541-1185

Saturday June 24 Amherst Island

Join Gilligan and the Skipper on a bike/hike of the Amherst Isle area. Level 1. Bikers approx 15 km and hikers 10. Departs 09:45. Gas \$1 plus ferry fee.
Leaders: Sheila & John Needham 389-1894

Sunday June 25 Millenium Hike #8

Narrows Lock to Murphy's Point Provincial Park. Mainly trails and cottage roads. Possible swim there-after. Level 2. 17.8 km. Departs 09:00. Gas \$5.
Leaders: Carol Cain 548-4556
Murray Henderson 546-9906

LEVELS OF DIFFICULTY

Skiing:

Level 0 - Flat terrain, variable length.

Level 1 - Gentle hills, may be long distance (15+ km)

Level 2 - Variable terrain, some steep hills. Level 1 experience needed.

Level 3 - Long, varied terrain, may be off trails. Level 2 experience essential.

Hiking:

Level 1 - Well defined trails, gentle inclines. Hiking boots not required, but trails may be wet. Suitable for beginners. Recommended for newcomers to Club activities.

Level 2 - Generally on trail. May be hilly, light bushwacking (where permitted) some rough spots or obstacles. Boots recommended.

Level 3 - Rough terrain. One or more of extensive bushwacking (where permitted) steep sections, long climbs and descents, beaver dams or other obstacles, rock scrambling. Boots, Level 2 experience, and a high level of fitness essential. Long pants and sleeves recommended.

RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION CENTRAL CLUB ACTIVITIES

Sunday March 19 Murphy's Pt Provincial Park Round Lake Loop.

Hike or ski this newest trail in the park. Depending on conditions it's level 2. Meet at Conlon Farm 10:00.
Looper: Ken Parkes 546-9449

March 31 Membership year ends. Please renew using form on page 16.

Saturday April 8 Central Club AGM.

See notice on page 3 for details.

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.

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: Conlon Farm at 10:00.
Puffer: Wanda Pelletier 267-3630

Sunday April 30 Mill Pond Conservation Area.

Level 1, 10 km. Meet at Conlon Farm at 10:00.
Leader: Don Sherwin 264-0759

Sunday May 28 K & P Sharbot Lake to Snow Road.

Heidi, this is as level as it gets. Level 1, 16 km. Meet at Conlon Farm at 10:00.
Train Driver: John Miller 264-8824

Friday, Saturday, Sunday June 16, 17, 18 Canoe Camp Outing at Black Rapids and Jones Falls.

Low Down: Provided by Dave Miller 826-2336

Saturday June 24 Purdon Bog

See the pretty orchids. Keep on the path but bring a camera.
Local Showy Expert: Mary Charlton 267-6802

Please note End-to-End 2000 details on page 11.

RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION — OTTAWA CLUB ACTIVITIES

The activities described below take place as scheduled regardless of the weather. Unless otherwise stated, the rendezvous point for hikes is the parking lot of the R. H. Coates Building (Stats Canada) in Tunney's Pasture on the west side of Parkdale Avenue just north of its intersection with Scott Street. Transportation is by pooling of private cars, and passengers are asked to contribute to the driver's gas costs. Conservation area fees, if any, are the responsibility of the participant.

Hikers should bring a lunch, drinking water, sun and insect protection and should wear appropriate footwear and clothing. Leaders, please give or send sign up sheet to Ruth Hutchison, 168-2111 Montreal Rd., Gloucester, Ont K1J 8M8. For more information about a particular event, call the leader at the number listed below, or the spring activity co-ordinator Barbara Dorrell at 235-0604. If you have trouble reaching a leader, or for general information, call the Ottawa Club at 730-2229. Participants are expected to: select a trip suitable to their physical ability and skill level, inform the leader prior to the event of any health problems or possible difficulties with their equipment, and respect all financial obligations. Volunteer leaders will expect the support and cooperation of each group member. Parents and guardians are expected to supervise their children.

Wednesday Walkers. Every Wednesday there are Level 3 hikes in the Gatineau Park. Beginning of the hike season is usually mid April, but dependent on conditions. Departure time is 09:30. Call Dorothy Belter (523-4420) or Nanette Whitwam (730-5417) for more information.

The Moonlighters. Every Tuesday evening, from April 24 to late August, there will be a short Level 1-2 hike, usually in the Gatineau, always within a 30 min. drive. Meet by 17:55 to depart 18:00 hrs sharp. Hikes usually last until sunset or shortly after. Bring water, snack, bug repellent and flashlight. Laraine Laughland 723-8851.

For details on the **Millenium End to End** hikes, please see notice on Page 11.

Saturday March 18 Urban Half-Day Walk

Level 1. 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. Departs 10:00. Gas \$3.

Leader: Bill Grant 820-0697

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

Leader: John Barron 828-2296

Membership year ends March 31. Please renew your membership using the form on page 16.

There will be no outings March 25/26 due to the unavailability of leaders.

Sat. April 1 April Fool's Day Ski Gatineau Park

Level 2. Depart 09:30. Gas \$3.00.

Leader: Bud Masse 235-4670

Sunday April 2 Gatineau Park

Ski/Hike. Level 2+. Depart 09:30. Gas \$3.00. Call leader for details and meeting place.

Leader: Roslyn Bern 819-827-3845

Saturday April 8 Renfrew Area

Level 2. Depart 09:00 Mostly road, 15 km. Gas \$5.00.

Leader: David Spector 829-6802

Gatineau Park Taylor Lake

Level 1, 10 kms. Depart 09:30. Gas \$3.00.

Leader: Kay Methot 526-5589

Sunday April 9 Merrickville Area

Hike Level 1, 12 kms. Depart 09:00. Gas \$4.00.

Leader: John DuVernet 738-8021

Friday April 14 Ottawa Club AGM. Notice Page 3.

Saturday April 15 Sugar Bush, Fulton's, Pakenham

Level 0 to 1. Pancakes, followed by short walk through the maple groves. Depart 10:00.

Leader: Nanette Whitwam 730-5417

Saturday April 15 Carman Trails

Level 2, approx 10-12 kms. Depart 09:30. Gas \$4.00.

Leader: Peter Scott 729-9557

Sunday April 16 Earth Star Loop Hike

Level 1, 14 kms. Depart 09:30.

Leader: Geoff Berry 831-5468

Lower Bilberry Creek (Gloucester Trails) Level 1.

A half day hike on well maintained walking trail, 5 to 6 kms. Depart 09:30. Gas \$1.00.

Leader: Ruth Hutchinson 749-0990

Saturday April 22 Gatineau Park

Level 2 Depart 09:30. Destination depends on conditions. Gas \$3.00.

Leader: Ann Bolster 521-6354

Mystery hike on western fringe to see wild flowers.

Level 1, leisurely 7 kms approx. Depart 10:00 am.

Possible refreshment stop afterwards. Gas \$2.00.

Leader: Bill Grant 820-0697

Easter Sunday April 23 Petrie Island

Level 1 Easy half day hike, early spring mud. Depart 09:30. Gas. \$1.00.

Leader: Ruth Hutchinson 749-0990

Easter Mon April 24 Green's Creek Cons. Area

Level 1, 10 km. Depart 09:30. Gas \$3.00. May be muddy, boots advised.

Leader: Pearl Peterkin 747-2985

Saturday April 29 Plaisance Nature Reserve

Level 1. View migrating geese and walk to spectacular waterfall. Less than 10 km. Possible small trail fee.

Depart 09:30. Gas \$3.00

Leaders: Bob and Mabel Bennett 749-7440

Gatineau Park Eardley Escarpment

Level 3, approx 20 km. Depart 08:30. Gas \$4.00.

Leader: John Haley 225-0590

Sunday April 30 Mud Lake

Level 1. Spring flowers and returning birds. Approx 6 kms. Depart 12:30 (bring snack). Possible stop afterwards at an organic food store and/or pub.

Leader: Pat Grant 820-0697

Gatineau Park Lac Philippe Area

Level 2, approx 10 km. Depart 09:30. Gas \$4.00.

Leader: Gerry Schut 746-4548

Monday May 1 Deadline for summer hike leaders to inform Ruth Hutchinson of availability to lead an activity. Please call by noon at 749-0990

May 6 & 7 End to End 1 & 2, Kickoff Weekend

Saturday May 6 End to End #1 Level 2, 18.9 km.

Ottawa ride co-ordinator Ruth Hutchinson 749-0990.

Call Ruth in advance for ride and hotel information.

Reservations are hikers own responsibility. Depart Friday evening.

Sun May 7, End to End #2. Level 2, 20 kms.

Saturday May 6 Gatineau Park

Level 2 Skyline to King Mt. 12-13 km. Depart

09:30. Gas \$3.00.

Leader: Bev Armstrong 738-0310

Sunday May 7 Western Gatineau Park

Level 2+ min. 12 km hike in Gatineau Park's remote nw sector. Highlights: Kelly Lake, Lac a La Loutre and Sandy Lake. Beaver dam crossing, wet areas and bushwacks. Mostly on trail. Depart 09:00. Gas \$4.00.

Leader: Rod Gaskell 725-2329

Saturday May 13 End to End #3

Level 3, 11.3 km. Depart Ottawa 07:30, late return. Gas \$6.00.

Ottawa organizer John Barron 828-2296

Spring Flower Walk

Level 1. West end location, wherever flowers are best.

Depart 09:00. Gas \$3.00

Leaders: Wilf and Mary Bradnock 829-1403

Sunday May 14 Nakkertok North Trail

Level 2, 15 km. Depart 09:30. Gas \$3.00, plus \$2.00 day use fee.

Leader: Jane Buckley 745-5786

Western Gatineau Park

Level 2+ , 15 kms. Hike old trail #68 to Ben Lake and Lac La Peche with stop at Mudpout Lake and Le Casque a Palette. May be some wet areas and stream

crossings, some bushwacking, mostly on trail.
Depart 09:00. Gas \$4.00.
Leader: Rod Gaskell 725-2329

Hilly Hike 2000

Friday May 19 to Monday May 22. Day hiking in New Hampshire's White Mountains. Three nights and all meals at the Wayside Inn in Bethel NH for approx \$275.00 CDN. double occupancy. Graded at hardy intermediate, we will hike approx 8 to 16 km daily. Payment/registration deadline is April 28.
Leader: Cliff Daly 834-1851

Saturday May 20 Gatineau Park

Curley Lake, Lac La Peche loop. Level 2 Depart 09:30. Gas \$4.00.
Leader: Ron Mayberry 836-2953

Kemptville Area trails Level 1+, 12 -16 kms.
Depart 08:30. Gas \$3.00.
Leader: Henry Clarke 258-7220

Sunday May 21 Gatineau Park

Level 2. Destination dependent on conditions.
Depart 9:30. Gas \$3.00.
Leader: Pat Clarkin 729-2737

Gatineau Park in the delightful Meech Lake Area

Level 2, 16 kms Depart 09:00. Gas \$3.00.
Leader: Jean Sunter 828-6077

Sat May 27 Rideau Trail. Richmond Area

New section of the trail. Kettles Rd. to Franktown Rd. Level 1, 10km. Depart 09:30.
Leader: Linda Hayes 749-9537

Gatineau Park, Wolfe Trail

Level 2, 12 km. Depart 09:30. Gas \$3.00.
Leader: Barbara Dorrell 235-0604

Sun May 28 Rideau Trail End to End #4

Level 3, rugged trails, 13.2 km. Departs Ottawa 07:15, late return. Gas \$6.00, plus small separate gas contribution to shuttle driver due to long car shuttle.
Ottawa organizer: Graham Creedy 237-6215

Gatineau Park Lusk Lake Loop

Level 1+, 12 km. Depart 09:30. Gas \$4.00.
Leader: Millicent Toombs 521-6693

Saturday June 3 Rideau Trail End to End #5

Level 3, 24.3 km. Depart 08:00. Gas \$6.00.
Ottawa organizer: Don Grant 828-1026

Gatineau Park

Level 2, 15 kms. From Meech Lake (McCloskey) on various trails. Depart 09:30. Gas \$3.00.
Leader: Alex Bissett 828-4363

Sunday June 4 Cycle Level 1

Destination dependent on weather. Approx 40 km.
Depart 10:00.
Leader: Margaret Lafrance 692-1810

Saturday June 10 Western Gatineau Park

Level 2+. A 10-15 km hike starting at Hammond Line. Travel the scenic new trail along Curley Lake, following the "backbone route" to Lac La Peche. Short bushwacking, beaver dam crossings, mostly on trail. Possible swim. Depart 09:30. Gas \$4.00.
Leader: Rod Gaskell 725-2329

Canoe Level 2. Lac Le Peche

Approx 4 hrs of paddling with lunch break on shore. Bring own equipment. Rain date Sunday June 11.
Depart 09:00. Gas \$4.00.
Leaders: Marilyn Booth & Don Carpenter 730-3879

Sun June 11 Rideau Trail End to End #6

Level 2, 22 km. Departs Ottawa 08:00. Gas \$5.00.
Ottawa organizer: Ron Hunt 590-7467

Cycle Level 2 Leisurely cycle trip to St Andrew West and Williamstown and return (50 km.). Explore this interesting village, including Nor'westers Museum (if open, small fee). Possibility of early supper at Quinn's Inn in St Andrew West. Depart 10:00. Phone if your car can take an extra bike.
Leaders: Barri and Dennis Scully 565-7710

Saturday June 17 Rideau Trail End to End #7

Level 2. 13.3 kms. Possible swim afterwards.
Depart 08:30. Gas \$5.00.
Ottawa organizer: Don Grant 828-1026.

Western Greenbelt

Level 1+, 12 - 15 km. Hiking trails 26 to 29. Depart 10:00. Gas \$2.00.
Leader: Jean Cottam 726-1596

Sunday June 18 Kanata ski trails

Once again! Level 1, 7-8 kms. Possible refreshments afterwards. Depart 10:00. Gas \$2.00.

Leader: Bill Grant 820-0697

Western Gatineau Park

Level 2+, approx 15 kms. Mainly on trail, maybe short bushwack. Depart 9:30. Gas \$4.00.

Leader: Lisa Buchner 729-4487

Saturday June 24 Rideau Trail Ridge Walk Gould Lake area. Level 3, 18 km. Hilly and rough terrain, beaver dam to cross. Depart 08:30. Gas \$6.00.

Leader: David Spector 829-6802

Purdon Bog Joint hike with the Central Club to see the Lady Slipper orchids. Details in next newsletter.

Sunday June 25 Cycling to historic Pinhey's Point Level 2, approx 80 km. Depart 09:00. Remote meeting point, approx 09:30, at Andrew Haydon Park (washroom bldg) continuing 60 km. Call to confirm.

Leader: Esther Hault 724-6106

RIDEAU TRAIL END-TO-END ODYSSEY 2000

This Rideau Trail End-to-End series is a joint enterprise of the Ottawa, Kingston, and Central Clubs of the Rideau Trail Association. It will cover the entire Rideau Trail beginning in Kingston May 2000 and ending in Ottawa in September 2000. The hikes are strenuous (Level 2 & 3) and very long (20 km.), and should be attempted only by people in good physical condition. Long drives and long car shuttles are required, so a late return is the norm. Participants are welcome to do any or all of the hikes.

The arrangements and meeting place are the usual ones for each local club (see the introduction to each Club's Activity Schedule). Gas contributions from Ottawa and Kingston are listed individually. Also, participants are reminded that a small additional gas contribution would be appropriate for each shuttle car driver.

The trail leader is appointed by the Club responsible for the trail segment being covered: the other Clubs appoint an organizer to make car pool arrangements from their locations. For information about a particular hike, call the leader or organizer as listed in the Activity Schedule for your Club.

For overall information about the series, call Ruth

Hutchinson 749-0990 in Ottawa. In Kingston, call Carol Cain 548-4556(h) or preferably 533-6000 x 77628(w) or e-mail cainc@post.queensu.ca.

KINGSTON TO OTTAWA

Map references are 1998 Edition of Trail guide.

May 05, 06 & 07. Kick off Weekend in Kingston
Saturday May 06. End-to-End #1 Elevator Bay to Van Order Rd. Mixture of cemetery and park trails, road allowances, roads, city streets. Level 2. 18.9 km. Departs 09:00 from trailhead at Elevator Bay. Parking available. Map #1.

Sunday May 7. End-to-End #2 Van Order Rd. to Gould Lake. Mixture of park and field trails, road allowances and roads. Could be muddy or flooded. Level 2. 20 km. Departs Kingston Centre 09:00. Maps # 1 & 2.

Saturday May 13. End-to-End #3 Gould Lake Gate to Frontenac Park Visitor Centre. Mainly rugged trails, some roads. Level 3. 11.3 km. Late return. Maps #2 & 3.

Sunday May 28. End-to-End #4 Frontenac Park Visitor Centre to Maple Leaf Road. Rugged trails. Level 3-. Map #3. Note: Meeting time for start of car shuttle changed to 09:30. In view of extra long car shuttle essential for this hike, each participants is reminded to ensure small separate additional gas contribution to the shuttle driver.

Saturday June 3. End-to-End #5 Maple Leaf Road to Massassauga Road. Level 3. Some roads and forest trails. Maps # 3 & 4.

Sunday June 11. End-to-End #6 Massassauga Road to Lions Club Beach. Roads, road allowances, and trails. Wet spots. Level 2. Map #4. Possible swim.

Saturday June 17. End-to-End #7 Lion's Club Beach, Westport to Narrows Lock. Hilly and rocky trails and roads. Level 2. Maps #4&5. Possible swim.

Sunday June 25. End-to-End #8 Narrows Lock to Murphys Pt. Trail and cottage roads level 2. Map #5.

THE LIME KILN

A settler establishing a homestead in the 1800s was faced with the daunting task of clearing land, building shelter, and getting a crop started. While we don't normally think of these pioneers as being large consumers of chemical products, there was one very important product required in the 19th-century Canadian household - lime. Lime was a very important building and household chemical used to make mortar, fertilizer, white wash, plaster and many other products.

The earlier pioneers made their own crude lime by burning limestone rocks on piles of brush or in shallow pits. Better quality lime was produced in larger stone ovens commonly called kilns. Lime was produced as a result of the chemical reaction when limestone rock was sufficiently heated to drive off the carbon dioxide. This lime would later be combined with water and mixed with other materials to produce mortar for chinking (closing the cracks and spaces in log or rock walls) of their houses.

Nepean Township (now the City of Nepean) was largely settled between 1825 and 1850. The land surrounding the site of the kiln was most likely cleared around this time. We suspect that early farmers in this district would have made their own lime, using the abundant local limestone and burning trees from the clearing of their fields. It was not until the area was somewhat better established that the local economy would have supported a commercial lime producing operation.

In what is now the Stony Swamp Sector of the Greenbelt, on a miniature escarpment of exposed limestone bedrock

known as the Hazeldean Fault, Francis Flood built his lime kiln in the late 1800's. It was an intermittent kiln operation, meaning that a load of wood and rock quarried from the nearby escarpment would be placed in the circular kiln pot and fired for several days. The ashes and lime were withdrawn through the opening at the bottom of the kiln and the process repeated. The finished lime was stored in a building attached to the kiln itself, and black powder for quarrying was stored in a thick walled building a short distance away. The rock would have been carted out to the Richmond Toll road for delivery to the Bells Corners and Richmond districts.

The ruins of Francis Flood's Kiln were rediscovered in the early 1970's just outside the southern edge of the Greenbelt. A land exchange with Nepean resulted in the kiln and adjacent 50 acres being added to the NCC's Stony Swamp Conservation Area. The NCC commissioned an archaeological survey in 1975 and had some stabilization work carried out the next year. It was not until 1998 that funds were secured to carry out a more thorough stabilization of the ruins.

This past fall, a group of Ottawa Rideau Trail Club members built a 2 km. side trail from the main Rideau Trail (the section between Fallowfield and Bells Corners) to the site of the ruins. The new trail meanders along the edge of the same small escarpment on which the kiln was built and provides views down onto surrounding marshes, crosses an old cedar rail fence, and passes through a variety of cedar and hardwood forests.

Gershon Rother
Ottawa



HIKING SEASON

Last fall I started hiking early. For over seventeen years I have followed a particular seasonal cycle. From the end of October friends and I have hiked in the Canadian Shield bush north of Sydenham. Once snow is too deep for comfortable walking we turn to skis and snow-smoothed slopes and the special exhilaration of frozen ponds, direct, uninterrupted lines across country. When the ground bares, we lace up our hiking boots again, walking spring's progression through hepatica, trilliums, Dutchman's breeches, and trout lilies until the blackflies' onslaught at the beginning of May. Counting the number of times we have walked in the rain, I would not call us fair weather hikers, but I would dub us "fair bug" hikers. Insects are less dense on open water, and May brings warmth for canoeing and then swimming.

It also brings on the leaves to obscure visibility. My friends and I have always delayed the resumption of our hikes until late October to give the leaves time to drop off. By then the trees are stark and scrawny, their ribs showing, and distances are largely unimpeded. Two years ago, however, we took up hiking again on the weekend before Thanksgiving and were well-pleased with the opportunity to walk amid the spreading burn of changing leaf colour. As well, enough leaves had already fallen to open up the forest somewhat. So, with the success of that year's inaugural hike, last autumn we nudged ourselves ahead yet another week, to two weeks before Thanksgiving.

That hike was a qualified pleasure. There were, of course, no biting bugs to contend with. But though some rosy pigments had begun to show, the leaves were still thick. The confinement of the view seemed to add to the day's closeness. Loafing through a long lunch in the sunshine, making regular stops, we tried to steer clear of the woods in favour of clearings along the edge of a huge pond, but even so we found useful lessons to be learned in how different a country that you are familiar with in November looks when the trees are still decked out in their summer finery. Many people desert Frontenac Park in November, grumbling about the month's bleakness -- a sunless time, the implication is, with temperatures too cold for canoeing but not yet cold enough to lay down snows for cross-country skiing -- but the glory of the Canadian Shield in fall and winter is in its openness and bareness. From ridges the land unfolds for miles; close-up beaver ponds and lakes stand disclosed that in summer were concealed from practically an arm's length away. With our hiking timetable, we are used to prowling the land's austere lovely minimalist geometry, its bones; the lushness of summer crows with vigour, but is also disorienting.

That said, this past summer I did not adhere to the routine I've outlined here. I did more walking than canoeing. In early July my brother-in-law and I headed for Lake Superior with the canoe on the Jeep's roof and the tents in the back. We only paddled twice on Lake Superior itself: once at sunset amid swells that, due to sloppiness on my part (my first canoeing thirty years ago was on Lake Huron), almost swamped the canoe during the launch and again when we returned to shore, and the second time on limpid blue water behind islands and beside a cliff of five-hundred-year-old red ochre pictographs.

But the most exciting attraction turned out to be walking some of the Coastal Trail, a hiking route along Lake Superior's coastline for about forty-five miles through Lake Superior Provincial Park. I sent postcards to my hiking partners in Kingston telling them that I had found the ideal place for summer hiking. My brother-in-law and I spent two exhilarating days scrambling and leaping from boulder to boulder at the edge of the vast breadth of lake. Except where the trail snaked up through forest there was no overgrowth to obstruct the dazzling slashes of view. (During our brief sojourns in the woods the path often cut through ripe blueberries that could be eaten for the bending and picking). Even in the trees there were no mosquitoes, and I saw only two deer flies, both puny compared to their north-of-Kingston cousins.

With no slashing underbrush along the shore, I hiked in shorts and without a shirt. The temperature was about twenty-four degrees Celsius, in sunshine, with a gentle twenty-four degrees Celsius, in sunshine, with a fanning breeze. We were alone in miles of coastline, with limitless choices of spots for breaks or lunch, all of them scenic: fingers of bare rock jutting into the lake, whalebacks of polished stone. I couldn't resist skinny-dipping, once off a slope into a narrow slippery-sided channel that led out into deep green water, and the next day in a small cove cradled in the arm of a bulbous-tipped headland terminating, after a fringe of pines, in a pod of smooth rock. The rim of the rockbound cove was a brief crescent of sand slipping under a sheet of clear, calm water. I swam there twice, once when we were northbound and again on the southbound trip. In that long northern afternoon the light had an almost timeless stillness, shifting imperceptibly towards evening. The water was even warmish.

**Submitted by Terry Fuchs
Kingston**

MID-WEEK END-TO-END

Irene Backholm is interested in getting together with a group of other mature women to plan the completion of an End-to-End series over the summer. Irene can be reached at 613-389-2627, FAX 613-389-5013.

CROSSING BIG SALMON LAKE AT NIGHTFALL

Be adventurous:
Seize the sky with your mind
and wander among the stars;
Feel with your fingers
How warm the water is
Under the gusty wind;
Hear the stirring leaves,
The ripples on the bow,
The passing of an owl
On the rim of time
In Frontenac.

Michael Johnston
New Hamburg, Ontario

HELP

Any information leading to the identification of the "Phantom Maintainer" would be greatly appreciated. The Phantom appears to strike at random along the Kingston Section (maybe beyond) and can be identified by the sudden appearance of an oversized marker, two inches taller than the regular marker. The marker is cut from one quarter inch fibre board and is attached to a tree using drywall screws.

All maintainers and hikers alike should be on the alert. Please contact me if you spot any suspicious individual, typically wearing a trench coat, upturned collar, and possibly carrying a battery driven screwdriver. Reward not guaranteed, as such an expense may not appear in the budget.

Robin Turkington (Maintenance Coordinator)

IN MEMORY OF HARRY DYER

Overlooking Gould Lake, on a site that Harry Dyer chose as his favourite camping spot, sits a bench made by Stan Douglas in memory of Harry who died a few years ago.

Alberta Edgar, Kingston



Stan Douglas on the bench he built in memory of Harry Dyer

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE RTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING JANUARY 15, 2000

The guidebook review task force presented options and recommendations for the next edition, which the Board accepted in principle. These were based on feedback from those at the AGM, and call for the more elaborate version of the guidebook using a binder format. The guidebook will be divided along geological lines rather than club boundaries, and will feature the maps at the back. The intent is to publish this version when stocks of the current 5th edition are used up, which will likely be in about two years.

The GPS mapping project is proceeding well, and Bill Murdoch has undertaken to do the complete Trail with the help of volunteers from each area.

The project to compile a history of the Trail has been scaled back to a series of submissions on various aspects of the Trail's history to appear in the newsletter. It may later be possible to publish them in book form, but this depends on finding volunteers willing to undertake the work.

The new brochure design was approved in principle, and will be printed once final details are confirmed and stocks of the existing brochures are down.

Guidelines for use of the RTA's trademark triangle were approved, and will be added to the executive handbook.

The RTA's insurance has now been extended to cover Directors and Officers liability, as required by the bylaws.

Arrangements were made to facilitate the timely transfer of budgeted funds to the Kingston Club now that the accessibility of signing officers is more restricted.

The Ontario government's move towards a provincial Trails Policy is being monitored to protect our interests.

RTA's possible membership in Hike Ontario is now being given serious consideration following the fee changes made by Hike Ontario in response to our earlier concerns. The question of voting rights, however, is still an issue.

Options for a two-day weekend event organized around this year's annual general meeting are being explored. More information will be provided via the newsletter and website as details become known.

**Graham Creedy,
Ottawa**

KINGSTON'S 11TH ANNUAL SKI WEEKEND

The February 4, 5, 6, ski weekend at Hôtel l'Estérel Quebec was a great success. A total of 62 participants enjoyed three wonderful days of sun, good snow conditions, and gourmet food.

Annie, the resort's ski director, gave ski instructions and led ski outings for beginner/intermediate participants as well as a 12 km. cross country ski tour on Sunday for the more adventurous.

Norma Pickering and Lars arranged for the bus to take ice skaters into the village of Ste. Marguerite to enjoy a scenic skate on the lake. Some non skaters walked back to l'Estérel on the path along the edge of the skating loop, and some even managed to fit in an aperitif.

Dugald Carmichael and Patricia Borlace both provided evening slide presentations; Joan Patterson, our personal travel representative from Marlin Travel, gave a talk on travel arrangements; and Anne Turnbull gave tips on ski techniques.

Our thanks to Peck, and Dale Ross, for all their work in arranging this great weekend, and to Keith Bull and Arthur Fox who pioneered our first trip.

Lynn Nolan & Lars Thompson

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

**Canada Post
Publication Mail
Agreement No. 1650440**

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE TO KINGSTON MEETING PLACE. DEPARTURE IS NOW FROM THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE EXISTING LOBLAWS PARKING LOT (NEXT TO THE EXIT TO PRINCESS ST.) SINCE THE FORMER SEARS PROPERTY IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION: The membership year is from April 1 to March 31. Applications for new memberships dated November 1 - March 31 will be valid for the following membership year. 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 to:

**Rideau Trail Association
P.O. Box 15
Kingston, ON. 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 RTA | * \$_____ |
| () Donation RT Preservation Fund | * \$_____ |

Prices Subject to Change

TOTAL \$_____

* Qualifies for income tax credit

** Includes Postage and Handling

Charitable Registration No 0041733-56-11.

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR INTERESTS:

Serving on executive () Construction ()
Trail maintenance () Leading hikes ()
Leading x/c ski () Newsletter ()
Other (specify) _____

PLEASE INDICATE MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY:

Renewal () Already Life Member ()
New Member () Complimentary Member ()

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Prov. _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone Number _____