



The Rideau Trail NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2000

ISSUE NO. 118



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, 2001**, 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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THE RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2000-2001

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	Kingston	Cam Hodges	Kingston	545-1925
	Central	Don Sherwin	Perth	268-2447

Rideau Trail Association

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K7L 4V6

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Subject

COVER:

John Haley

Ragged Chutes, Central Club hike, October 22, 2000.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARDS

Ottawa Club - Graham Creedy

Graham is happy in untracked bush with only a compass to guide him, usually in the wild parts of Gatineau Park.

While he was Club Chair, Graham often expressed frustration with the Trail between Richmond and the Marlborough Forest being all on highways, when the Guidebook showed a great deal of uncharted swamp and bush (mainly swamp). That generations of Routes and Negotiations Committees had shaken their heads over but had never been able to find a way through.

After stepping down as Chair, Graham put his bushwhacking skills to good account. He single-handedly set about finding a way off Kettles, Munster, Greens, Franktown and Joy's Roads. All one summer and fall he explored, following old paths, snowmobile tracks, and bushwhacking, talking to farmers, snowmobilers, and others who might know that part of Old Marlborough Township. With a possible way through, he contacted landowners and negotiated for us to run the Rideau Trail over their properties, in one case calling at the Toronto office of an absentee landowner, where he found the person with the authority to say OK.

Graham faced one more major hurdle: the Jock River. He spoke to a landowner and got permission to build a crossing that could be taken out over the winter. He then designed a crossing and got a work crew together. They moved several tons of limestone rocks to fill wire baskets (gabions) in the river and fastened twelve foot planks to them so that the rest of us could cross the notorious Jock dryshod. By fall 1999 the Trail was complete.

This year's end-to-enders all walked on these trails and used the crossing. They know what a great improvement to the Trail Graham provided.

Peter Andrews (Award presented by **Bill Grant**)

Kingston Club - Bob Chadwick

After moving to Kingston in 1992, Wilma and Bob Chadwick switched to the Kingston Club from the Ottawa Club. It was "never say 'No'" after that.

Bob has been Club Chair, handled Trail Maintenance, been a hike leader on many Wednesdays and weekends, arranged B&B and camping outings, and was quick to volunteer as interim Treasurer when this was needed.

Currently, Bob is leading a series of end-to-end hikes on the Cataraqui Trail, is a member of the Guidebook Committee, and he and Wilma have become Membership Secretary of the RTA. Bob has been instrumental in providing RTA records to Queen's University Archives, and with Wilma has spent many hours sorting historical records of the Association for safekeeping there.

Bill Murdoch

RTA Executive Handbook Outstanding Service Award Guidelines

Criteria: Outstanding service or significant contribution by a member of the Association; such service or contribution could be in one or more of the following activities:

- member of the Executive
- maintenance or construction
- continuing service to a Club of the Association outside of Executive responsibilities
- contribution to special projects

Members may submit nominations for this award to their local Clubs. The deadline for submissions is May 1. Presentation of this award is at the AGM in the fall. Local Clubs will only make one selection from the nominations they receive per year. Their selection will be forwarded to the Board of Directors. Clubs are under no obligation to make an award each year.

Guidebook Editor Needed

The RTA is looking for a new Editor for the Rideau Trail Guidebook, to replace Gerry Hinderks, who will be retiring with the completion of the upcoming (sixth) edition.

The Guidebook is revised and updated about every 3 years, using information provided by the Clubs. The Editor needs to be well organized and responsible, as the Guidebook is a main source of information about the Trail, and its production is the largest single expenditure in the Association's budget. A working knowledge of GPS and a familiarity with digital mapping would be very helpful. Some experience in managing printing jobs would also be an asset.

If you are interested in considering this job, please contact Gerry Hinderks (592-3138) or Linda Hayes (749-9537).

RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT, AUG. 31, 2000

INCOME	BDGT. 1999-2000	ACT'L 1999-2K	BDGT. 2000-01
Memberships - renewal	10000	12114	11000
- new	4000	4820	4000
- life	<u>600</u>	<u>1500</u>	<u>900</u>
Total Membership Fees	14600	18434	15900
Merchandise - guidebooks	6000	9541	8000
- other	1000	901	1000
- shipping recov.	<u>0</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Merchandise	7000	10451	9000
Other			
- donations	2000	2342	2000
- interest	2000	3013	2000
- AGM	1000	0	1000
- other	<u>0</u>	<u>-532</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Other Revenue	5000	4823	5000
RTPF			
- donations	1000	375	500
- interest	<u>1000</u>	<u>726</u>	<u>500</u>
Total RT Preservation Fund	2000	1101	1000
TOTAL INCOME	28600	34809	30900

EXPENSES

Newsletter	- printing	4500	3415	4000
	- delivery	<u>2000</u>	<u>968</u>	<u>1500</u>
Total Newsletter		6500	4383	5500
Operations	- office supplies	500	667	600
	- mail	1000	1192	1200
	- phone	600	647	600
	- copies	400	105	200
	- bank	100	68	100
	- awards	200	310	200
	- affiliations	200	30	700
	- publicity	1000	1555	1000
	- insurance	2500	3024	3000
	- legal & taxes	200	127	200
	- training	500	0	500
	- trail	500	955	500
	- GST	400	395	800
	- other	<u>200</u>	<u>148</u>	<u>200</u>
Total Operations		8300	9223	9800
Support	- Ottawa	3000	3949	3400
	- Kingston	2700	1406	3700
	- Central	<u>500</u>	<u>465</u>	<u>1500</u>
Total Club Support		6200	5820	8600

	BDGT.	ACT'L	BDGT.
EXPENSES (continued)	1999-2000	1999-2K	2000-01
Merchandise - guide printing	500	540	25000
- mktg. shipping	500	0	500
- other	<u>500</u>	<u>3485</u>	<u>2000</u>
Total Merchandise Expense	1500	4025	27500
Meetings - AGM	1000	0	1000
- Board	300	340	300
- conferences	<u>200</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>200</u>
Total Meetings	1500	340	1500
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>24000</u>	<u>23792</u>	<u>52900</u>
NET INCOME	4600	11017	-22000

BALANCE SHEET AS AT AUGUST 31, 2000

ASSETS

Chequing/Savings	48931
Accounts Receivable	386
Undeposited Funds	900
Club Receivables	20
GST Receivable	575
Investments RTA	70000
Investments RT Preservation Fund	46346
Inventory, Merchandise	<u>10000</u>
Total Current Assets	177158
Real Estate	1
Office Equipment	2600
A/V Equipment	4000
Trail Maintenance Equipment	<u>1</u>
Total Fixed Assets	6602
TOTAL ASSETS	183760

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Deferred Service Life Memberships	<u>40800</u>
Total Liabilities	40800
Members Surplus, Operating	45504
Members Surplus, Pub. & Merch.	0
Members Surplus, RTPF	86739
Year End Retained Income	-300
Net Income	<u>11017</u>
Total Equity	142960
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	183760

The RTA is looking for an auditor, preferably in Ottawa, for the coming year. The work is about 2 hours once per year. Some knowledge of accounting is desirable but not essential. Please contact the Treasurer at 739-9493 if you can help.

RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION – KINGSTON CLUB ACTIVITIES

The meeting place for all activities, unless stated otherwise, is in the Kingston Centre north 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 activity. Car entry fees for Provincial Parks and Conservation Areas are to be shared. Leaders should send attendance lists to Cam Hodges, 22 Liddell Cres., Kingston, K7H 2T4.

Members willing to be leaders for the Spring season, or who wish to suggest new locations to hike, are encouraged to contact David Armitage at 634-4426 before the end of January 2001.

Saturday December 2 Party Time

Let's get together and start off the Holiday Season with a bang. Bring your favourite dessert to St. Lawrence Place on Ontario Street at 6:30 p.m. for our Annual Dessert Party.

CONTACT: Barbara Pusch 544-0933

Saturday December 9 Frontenac Park

Hike Frontenac Park trails. Level 2. 12-15 km. Departs 09:00. Gas \$3. Phone for details.

LEADER: Allan Tattersall 549-4080

Wednesday December 13 Cataraqui Cons. Area

Hike or ski the trails at the Little Cataraqui Conservation Area. Level 1. Departs 09:00. Gas \$1.

LEADER: Jean Thompson 544-0340

Saturday December 16 Rideau Trail

Join Gloria and hike or ski from Unity Road to Orser Road. Level 1. 9 km. Gas \$2. Departs 09:00.

LEADER: Gloria Seeley 546-2503

Saturday December 30 Murphy's Point

Hike or ski the trails at Murphy's Point Provincial Park. Level 1-2. 15 km. Gas \$5. Departs 09:00.

LEADER: Dave Armitage 634-4426

Sunday January 7 Lemoine Point

Hike or ski the area from South Parking Lot. Bring a lunch to eat at Lars and Lynn's. Coffee/tea brewed and served by Lars. Level 1. Gas \$1. Departs 10:00 from Kingston Centre (10:15 at Lemoine Point South Parking Lot).

LEADER: Lynn Nolan 389-8747

Wednesday January 10 Frontenac Park

Hike the Corridor Trail to Big Salmon Parking Lot and return via road to the Trail Centre for lunch. Hike Doe Lake Trail afterwards. Subject to weather conditions.

Level 1. 11 km. Gas \$3. Departs 09:00.

LEADER: Audrey Sanger 384-6244

Saturday January 13 Frontenac Park

Ski Patroller Peter Burbidge will guide you along the Corridor Trail to the Little Salmon Lake Trail. Hike or Ski. Level 2. 14 km. Gas \$3. Departs 09:00.

LEADER: Peter Burbidge 634-1877

Sunday January 21 Schoolhouse Loops

Ski, hike or snowshoe. Relax in the warm atmosphere of the Schoolhouse for lunch. Level 1+. Gas \$6. Departs 09:00.

LEADER: Bill Murdoch 389-3023

February 2-4 Get-away Weekend Hotel L'Esterel

For last minute information

CONTACT: Lars Thompson 389-8747

Sunday February 4 Myles Acres

Marie will take us Cross Country Skiing to Myles Acres. Lunch in the cosy atmosphere of the Lodge. Alternative plan if weather conditions unfavourable. Level 1-2.

Distance variable. Gas \$1. Departs 09:30.

CONTACT: Marie Poisson 389-2473

Saturday February 10 McIntosh Mills, Brockville

Ski the Trails at the Triangle Ski Club with Peter Burbidge. Trail Fee \$5. Level 2. 12 km. Gas \$6. Departs 08:30.

LEADER: Peter Burbidge 634-1877

Wednesday February 14 Parrot's Bay

Ski or hike the trails at Parrot's Bay Conservation Area and Collins Creek. Lunch at a doughnut shop. Level 1-2. Gas \$2. Departs 10:00.

LEADER: Margaret Page 389-7840

Saturday February 17 Opinicon Loop

Hike or ski the Opinicon Loop. Cook your lunch over an open fire. Level 2. 16 km. Gas \$4. Departs 09:00.

LEADER: Allan Tattersall 549-4080

Sunday February 18 Little Cataraqui Creek
Hike, ski or snowshoe in the Conservation Area depending upon conditions. Level 1. 10 km. Gas \$1.
LEADER: Stan Huff 634-6146

Saturday February 24 Gould Lake
Ski or hike some of the trails at Gould Lake, conditions permitting. Level 2. 8-10 km. Gas \$3. Departs 09:30.
LEADER: Lynn Nolan 389-8747

March 3-4 Murphy's Point
Winter Weekend at Loon Lake Lodge. See Notice on page 8 of this Newsletter.
CONTACT: Dave Armitage 634-4426

Sunday March 4 Rideau Trail
Hike the Billy Greene Road from Maple Leaf Road to the woods. Level 1. 12 km. Gas \$3. Departs 09:30.
LEADER: Allan Tattersall 549-4080

Saturday March 10 Depot Lake
Hike or ski the trails at the Depot Lake Conservation Area. Less capable skiers are welcome as the group can be divided to avoid the difficult sections. Level 2+. 15 km. Gas \$4. Departs 09:00.
LEADER: Peck Peckover 544-9190

Wednesday March 14 Wellesley Island, USA
Hike or ski the trails in Wellesley Island State Park. Bring identification and Health Insurance. Level 1. Gas \$5. Departs 08:00.
LEADER: Bob Chadwick 352-1052

Sunday March 18 Rideau Trail
Hike From Elevator Bay to Cataraqui Cemetery and return. Level 1. 10 km. Departs 10:00.
LEADER: Peggy Harding 546-7202

HIKE ACTIVITY LEVELS

Hikes are graded with the following Levels

- 1 Well defined trails, gentle inclines. Hiking boots not required, but trails may be very wet. Suitable for beginners and recommended for newcomers.
- 2 Generally on trail. May include hills, light bushwhacking, some rough spots or obstacles. Boots recommended.
- 3 May include one or more of rough terrain, long climbs and descents, rock scrambling, extensive bushwhacking. Boots, level 2 experience, and a high level of fitness essential. Long pants and sleeves recommended.

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, turn right from the main street (Gore Street) onto County Road 10 towards Westport, and take the third road to the right (Conlon Drive) to the Conlon Farm parking area. If in doubt, call 264-8338.

Saturday December 2 Flower Station to Barryvale
We may be able to ski! We'll have fun in any case. About 15 km. Level 1. A leisurely day. Meet at 09:00.
HARD TO GET LOST WITH: John Miller 264-8824

Sunday December 17 Murphy's Point Provincial Park Central Pig Out and Hike and Ski
Bring your festive mood and a bottle of wine (for use after hike). Each person or group is requested to organize a game, skit, or what-have-you. A special invitation is extended to our Treasurer to see how we are managing our budget. There will be a charge for the meal. Please phone Heide Gibbs ahead of time as space is limited. A long or short outing. Meet at 09:00.
HOSTESS WITH THE MOSTESS: Heide 267-6848

Sunday January 14 Round Lake Loop
As this is the first outing of the season, we will be going clockwise round the lake. This is a level 2 ski and is a lot easier if we get a good snow coverage. Meet at 10:00 at Tay Valley Ski Club at Murphy's Point Prov. Park.
START OUT RIGHT WITH: Don Sherwin 264-0759

Sunday February 18 Snow Road Snowmobile Club Trail - Perth to 5th Line of Bathurst
Ski into the sunlight on this level 1 trail for a distance of 10 km. Hot cider or mulled wine at end. Meet at 10:00.
COME IN FROM THE COLD AND JOIN:
John and Veronica 264-8824

Sunday March 4 Foley Mountain Area
Ski a new trail to the North of Foley Mountain, level 2+, for a distance of 6 km and finish up by skiing in the upper part of Foley Mountain. Meet at 10:00.
FOLLOW THE MARCH HARE WITH:
Veronica 264-8824

Sunday March 25 Murphy's Point to Narrows Lock
This ski is designed for left-handed people as generally they have a right leg that is longer than their left leg which is useful when traversing a mountain from a clockwise direction. You will get the drift when you ski this level 2 part of the trail. Meet at 10:00.
HOPPING ALONG WITH: David Miller 826-2336

RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION - OTTAWA CLUB ACTIVITIES

The meeting place for all Ottawa Club activities, unless otherwise stated, is in 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 in 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, and passengers voluntarily contribute to the driver's gas costs. 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 each individual participant.

Leaders are requested to send sign up sheets to Ruth Hutchinson, 168-2111 Montreal Rd, Gloucester, Ontario K1J 8M8.

For more information about a particular activity, call the leader at the number listed below. If you are unable to reach a leader, or for general information, call the Ottawa Club at 860-2225.

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 meeting place. These are level 2 or level 3 outings. Call Nanette Whitwam (730-5417) or Dorothy Belter (523-4420)

Sunday December 3 Ottawa

Level 1 short hike at edge of Ottawa, possible refreshments after. Departs 10:30. Gas \$3.
LEADER: Bill Grant 820-0697

Saturday December 9 Pot Luck Supper

Bring a main dish, salad, appetizer, or dessert, and dishes, cups, cutlery, beverage. There may be a small charge for incidentals. 18:30 at party room, Queen Elizabeth Towers, 530 Laurier Avenue West, which has a small microwave, toaster oven, coffee pot, fridge. Maximum 40 people, adults only. Call before **December 7**.
CONTACT: John Cottee 231-5562

Saturday December 16 Greenbelt

Level 1 snowshoe or hike. Slack Road area trails, 8 km. Departs 12:30 from south end of parking lot at Baseline OC Transpo Station. Gas \$2.
LEADER: Jean Cottam 726-1596

Sunday December 17 Pine Road to Herridge Lodge

Level 1 ski or hike, 11 km. Departs 09:30. Gas \$5.
LEADER: Andrew Macdonald 235-8569

Monday January 1 New Year Afternoon Chili Party

Celebrate the Millenium with chili at the Schoolhouse. Ski, snowshoe, or hike on Schoolhouse loops. Volunteers needed for toboggans and to help in transport from road to Schoolhouse. Expect small contribution to cover costs. Participants must call before **December 27**.
CONTACT: Pearl Peterkin 747-2985

Saturday January 13 Greenbelt Snowshoe

Level 1, departs 12:30, gas \$3.
LEADER: David Spector 829-6802

Sunday January 14 Gatineau Park

Level 3 ski from parking lot 17. Departs 09:30. Gas \$5.
LEADER: Sam Ludmer 721-2855

Friday January 19 Pot Luck & Board Games Night

Bring a main dish, salad, appetizer, or dessert, and dishes, cups, cutlery, beverage. There may be a small charge for incidentals. Stay after supper for a relaxed evening. Anyone with a Crokinole board? 18:30 at party room, Queen Elizabeth Towers, 530 Laurier Ave. West, which has a small microwave, toaster oven, coffee pot, fridge. Max. 25, adults only, must register before **January 15**.
CONTACT: Ruth Hutchinson 749-0990

Saturday January 20 Greenbelt Snowshoe

Level 1 snowshoe to lime kiln. Departs 12:30 from south end of parking lot at Baseline Transpo Station. Gas \$2.
LEADER: Jean Cottam 726-1596

Saturday January 27 Greenbelt Ski

Level 2- ski, Corkstown Road area. Easy, somewhat hilly, about 12 km. Departs 09:30. Gas \$3.
LEADER: Don Grant 828-1026

Wednesday January 31 Duck Island Ski Registration

Last date to register for short level 1 ski and refreshments after at the Bennetts'. Actual date of outing will be determined by conditions. Gas \$3.
LEADER: Bob Bennett 749-7440

Thursday February 1 Schoolhouse Ski Registration

Last date to register for level 1 ski at schoolhouse, beginners welcome. Actual date of outing depends on conditions. Bring lunch to eat inside. Gas \$4.
LEADER: Pearl Peterkin 747-2985

Saturday February 10 Greenbelt Snowshoe

Level 1, Jack Pine Trail. Departs 12:30 from south end of parking lot at Baseline OC Transpo Station. Gas \$2.
LEADER: Jean Cottam 726-1596

Sunday February 11 Manotick

Level 1 snowshoe or ski on trails in Manotick.
Refreshments at leader's house afterwards. Please call the leader the day before to confirm. Gas \$4.
LEADER: Margaret Lafrance 692-1810

Saturday February 17 Gatineau Park

Level 2 ski, departs 09:30, gas \$4.
LEADER: Caroline Whaley 726-0237

Saturday February 24 Schoolhouse Loops Ski

Level 1 ski, departs 09:30, gas \$4.
LEADER: Nanette Whitwam 730-5417

Saturday February 24 Gatineau Park Ski

Level 2 ski, departs 09:30, gas \$5.
LEADER: Bev Armstrong 738-0310

Sunday February 25 Gatineau Park Ski

Level 2 ski, Pipe Dream. Departs 09:30, gas \$4.
LEADER: Peter Scott 729-9557

Saturday March 3 Gatineau Park Ski

Level 2, Herridge Lodge. Departs 09:30, gas \$4.
LEADER: Andrew Macdonald 235-8569

Sunday March 4 Hot Cider in Gatineau Park

We have arranged for access to a cabin in Gatineau Park for hot cider at about 2 p.m. Come, ski on your own in the Lac Philippe area, and then join us. Bring your own lunch and trail drinks. A small contribution may be requested. Numbers are limited; participants must register before **February 27**.
CONTACT: Pearl Peterkin 747-2985

Sunday March 4 Lac Philippe Area Snowshoe

Level 1 snowshoe together to the cabin for the hot cider at about 2 p.m. Bring your lunch and trail drinks. Each participant in this group **must also register before February 27** for the gathering as above. About 8 km. return, departs 10:00, gas \$5.
LEADER: Ann Bolster 521-6354

Sunday March 18 Early Spring Hike

Level 1, 8 km. Destination to be determined by the weather. Departs 09:00, gas to be determined.
LEADER: David Spector 829-6802

Sunday March 18 Gatineau Park

Level 2 ski or hike. Departs 09:30, gas \$5.
LEADER: John Barron 828-2296

KINGSTON CLUB - LOON LAKE, MARCH 3-4

Enjoy another great get-away weekend at Loon Lake Lodge, Murphy's Point Provincial Park, March 3-4, 2001. On Saturday a Park Naturalist will lead guests on a guided Ski or Snowshoe tour of about 2-3 hours. In the evening, dinner will be provided followed by a slide presentation. Other evening activities may include a skate on the shores of Loon Lake, Coyote Howling, or a Singalong by the outdoor fireplace, or indoors in the rustic pine atmosphere of the interior of the Lodge.

After a full breakfast the following morning, another guided event will be available, or we can plan our own ski or snowshoe trips before heading back for lunch. The cost for this retreat is \$79 per person, double occupancy and includes four meals: 1 breakfast, 2 lunches, 1 dinner.

Bring your recreational equipment, sleeping bag, pillow, towel, toiletries, favourite instrument to entertain by the fireside and your own liquid refreshments.

Registrants will be mailed an itinerary with departure times from the Kingston Centre. RTA members will be given booking priority and registration is on a first come, payment-in-full basis. Space is limited and rooms will be allotted in order of registration. Mail registration form and payment to David Armitage (Loon Lake 2001), 4323 Bath Road, Kingston, Ontario K7M 4Z1. For more information please call David Armitage at 634-4426.

Enclosed is my/our Registration Fee of \$79.00 per person totalling: \$
payable to Rideau Trail Assoc. In Trust and postdated to February 16, 2001.
Name(s):
Address:
City:
Postal Code:
Phone (home):
Phone (bus.):
RTA Member (Yes/No):
Special Needs:

JOCK RIVER CROSSING

RTA members are asked to note that the bridge over the Jock River has been removed for the winter, and will be put back in the spring as early as conditions allow.

JUST ANOTHER WALK IN THE WOODS

In October I completed a final section of the Appalachian Trail (AT) with a ten-day hike in Connecticut and New York. The end-to-end marathon involved 190 days of hiking over 10 years, with 21 trips to various trailheads from Georgia to Maine. Not a record-setting pace to cover 3,500 km., but one which can perhaps be forgiven as I am only five years younger than the AT itself.

Completing the AT would have been unlikely without Don Mitchell's company, experience and encouragement. Don more than finished his end-to-end of the AT in 1996 and I was happy, at least in retrospect, to have been with him while struggling through Maine's Mahoosuc Notch in October that year. Since then Don continued with me most of the time but often was content to do car shuttling, locate camp sites and meet me as I slackpacked the day's distance. Although more than half of my trail days were spent backpacking, the day hikes covered considerably more distance. With countless relocations over the years the AT now traverses wilderness 99% protected from private encroachment. Very little road walking remains but, except in Maine, road crossings are frequent.

Parts of the AT I hope to revisit include the northern lake wilderness in Maine and its terminus atop 5,200 foot Katahdin, the high grassy Balds of Tennessee-North Carolina, the White Mountains of New Hampshire with their full-service mountain-top huts, and the Smokies which seemed remarkably easy once you got up to the 5,000-6,000 foot ridge. In Virginia switchbacks ease the climb and you will come across the gorgeous Virginia Creeper, a 16 km. optional rail trail criss-crossing a winding, shaded river but, alas, lacking tea rooms.

My absolutely slowest progress was last year when backpacking a 50 km. section in Maine where Bill Bryson and his pal finally bailed out, 135 km. from Katahdin. There were also over-ambitious day hikes never to be repeated: in New Hampshire south of Franconia Notch where Don and I needed 12 hours to scramble and stumble over 26 km. of high precipitous ridges; and in Maine with a normally fast hiking partner—21 km. in 11 hours.

Despite many difficult challenges of the AT, over 5,000 hikers have recorded end-to-ends, including 550 in 1999. These dedicated individuals and countless others owe much to the Trail founders' vision and to continuing work of staff and volunteers. Most recent statistics record that the latter, 4,400 in number, provided, in one year, 174,000 hours of donated labour and skills.

Bud Massé (Ottawa Club)

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE RTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OCT. 21, 2000

The President reviewed preparations for the AGM and announced that the Association is still looking for someone to fill the position of Corresponding Secretary.

The Trail Coordinator announced that a new improved Rideau Trail Guidebook should be ready to go to press in the spring of 2001. The Board approved expenditure up to \$25,000 for preparation and printing. This will result in a deficit for the coming fiscal year, but reserves amply cover the loss and sales of the Guidebook will eventually recover the costs. Funding to cover part of the costs may be sought if it will not delay publication.

At the Hike Ontario meeting in Kingston on Oct. 13-15 the RTA formally rejoined Hike Ontario. The President advised that while savings in costs of insurance coverage were less than anticipated, there was no additional cost burden on the RTA. Further, Hike Ontario membership may provide an effective lobby to promote the interests of hikers with government. The Treasurer advised that he will be insisting that Hike Ontario maintain financial reporting requirements of high quality, and noted that there has been considerable improvement recently.

The President advised that there has been little progress in the development of the K&P Trail, primarily due to opposition from neighbouring landowners.

On an issue of whether non-members should be entitled to obtain end-to-end awards, the Board decided that effective on publication of the new Guidebook end-to-end awards will only be available to members of the RTA.

RTA membership remains relatively constant.

Several Board members have become aware of websites suggesting that dirtbikes may use the Rideau Trail. Comments were made to the operators of these sites stating that the Trail is reserved for hikers, with requests that the information be corrected.

James Mabbutt, Vice President

With respect at least partly to the last item above, the Board has been notified of a proposed motion for the next Board meeting, to **change the name** of the Association to Rideau Hiking Trail Association, Inc., i.e. to add the word Hiking in the name of the Association. **Members are asked to provide comments** on this proposal to their local Club Chair or Club Representative (see page 2), **by the end of December**, so that all views can be taken into account in considering such a motion as proposed.

RTA HISTORY

An enthusiastic and hard-working couple who have made an outstanding contribution to the RTA are Ed and Shirley Simpson. Founding members in Ottawa, they were two of the five people from Ottawa who attended the original meeting in Kingston in 1971.

During that summer Ed and Shirley served on the Routes and Negotiations Committee. Ed, who worked in the Surveys and Mapping Branch of Energy, Mines and Resources, was a natural to this committee. When the students finished any given part of the Trail, they asked the committee where they should go next, and the committee would quickly decide on the next section. Ed and Shirley and the other committee members went every weekend, scouting out the Trail. They greatly enjoyed this experience and the contact with the students.

When the Trail ran across private land, it was necessary to get the permission of the landowners, usually farmers. The committee was pleased that the initial response was usually positive and enthusiastic. Sadly, some farmers later withdrew their support because of vandalism and hazards such as broken glass that appeared on the path.

Ed was in charge of Trail Maintenance for the Ottawa Club for several years. In early days, work parties and outings were combined. Families came out to hike and work on the Trail at the same time. The Simpsons had three children, Tom, Debbie and Donna; the youngest, Donna, sometimes came with them on these outings.

When indoor meetings were required, they often took place in the Simpsons' basement. The Simpsons' phone number served as the information number for the Ottawa Club for many years.

Ed and Shirley remember many enjoyable outings, including backpacking trips to the Kingston area every fall, some winter camping, and ski trips to Merrickville.

Perhaps their greatest single project was the building of the cabin. In 1974 a man named Peter Cameron donated 4.6 acres of land to the Club. The Simpsons formed a committee to develop the land. First they planted trees, 100 small maples and firs. Then somebody offered some black walnut seedlings, and the Simpsons remember digging these up, in pouring rain, and transplanting them to the site.

Next the group decided to build a log cabin on the site. None of them had ever built such a cabin before, so they got books out and read up on how to do this. They applied for a Wintario grant, hoping to raise \$10,000.

Wintario eventually gave them roughly half that amount, \$4,531.23 to be exact. They raised the rest themselves.

Many people provided volunteer labour to work on the cabin. Shirley kept a list of all the names and attributed an hourly rate to their time. This amount of money was officially recorded as a donation of the person concerned.

They were given some wood from a building on Richmond Road that was going to be demolished, and with this wood they built an outhouse. By all accounts, this outhouse was very elegant.

Building the cabin was hard work, but this was a happy time for the Simpsons. Many people pitched in to help. Early in 1977 the group purchased the necessary logs, for \$272.00. Unfortunately, when the logs were delivered to the site, they were dumped in the wrong place and had to be carried some distance by hand over the rough terrain. Next the group had to strip the bark off the logs before it dried on. All the work had to be done by hand because there was no electricity at the site.

Ed and Shirley laugh as they recall the 'chinking', smoothing the cement between the logs. Everyone had an individual style for doing this.

Although a few details remained to be finished, the cabin was in usable condition by the end of 1977 - a remarkable achievement.

The group put up a bird feeder, and Shirley established a roster of people willing to trek in with bags of birdseed, in winter, to keep this feeder filled. They collected discarded bottles along the Trail and took these in for a refund; this money was used to buy the birdseed.

The cabin became a focal point for the Ottawa Club. People who loved the outdoors appreciated it very much. For more than ten years, it provided shelter and enjoyment for countless hikers, skiers, birdwatchers and others. Even snowmobilers treated it with respect. Unfortunately, though, after a while problems did arise. Some wild parties were held there, and eventually the cabin was destroyed by fire. This was devastating for all the people who had worked on it. "So many memories went with it," said Shirley.

Nevertheless, Ed and Shirley Simpson retain their optimism and most of their memories of the Rideau Trail are happy. They have kept in touch with the RTA and have carefully preserved all the bulletins, in order, from 1971 to the present. We owe them heartfelt thanks for all their contributions to the Club over many years.

Grace Hyam

RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION END-TO-END AWARDS 2000

Number	Hiker	Start	Finish	Award	Club/City
285	Sarjit Grewal	20 April 98	5 Oct. 99	Oct. 00	Ajax
286	Parkash Grewal	20 April 98	5 Oct. 99	Oct. 00	Ajax
287	Marion Polk	26 Sept. 97	11 Sept. 99	Oct. 00	Pakenham
288	Sharon Whyte	26 Sept. 97	11 Sept. 99	Oct. 00	Pakenham
289	George McClure	26 July 99	17 Nov. 99	Oct. 00	Kingston
290	Bill Roberts	25 April 99	2 Dec. 99	Oct. 00	Newmarket
291	Bill Murdoch	11 Jan. 99	28 Feb. 00	Oct. 00	Kingston
292	Kathy Forte	27 Feb. 99	3 April 00	Oct. 00	Kingston
293	Wayne Forte	27 Feb. 99	3 April 00	Oct. 00	Kingston
294	Heather Buckley-Layng	1998	March 00	Oct. 00	Ottawa
295	Tony Layng	1998	March 00	Oct. 00	Ottawa
296	Barbara Pusch	11 Jan. 99	28 Feb. 00	Oct. 00	Kingston
297	Donald Grant	5 April 97	15 July 00	Oct. 00	Ottawa
298	Frances Cutler	4 June 94	28 May 00	Oct. 00	Ottawa
299	Ron Maybury	1985	9 May 00	Oct. 00	Ottawa
300	Don Bond	20 Oct. 99	24 June 00	Oct. 00	Kingston
301	Joe Pollack	20 Oct. 99	24 June 00	Oct. 00	Kingston
302	Mary Bradnock	18 Mar. 00	25 Aug. 00	Oct. 00	Ottawa
303	Wilf Bradnock	18 Mar. 00	25 Aug. 00	Oct. 00	Ottawa
304	Erica Eason	22 April 00	17 Aug. 00	Oct. 00	Ottawa
305	Doug Thompson	Oct. 98	7 July 00	Oct. 00	Kingston
306	Elva Thompson	Oct. 98	7 July 00	Oct. 00	Kingston
307	Ray Voteary	Oct. 98	7 July 00	Oct. 00	Kingston
308	Cora Voteary	Oct. 98	7 July 00	Oct. 00	Kingston
309	Carol German	18 Oct. 99	30 Aug. 00	Oct. 00	Ottawa
310	Kyoung Uhm	26 April 97	31 Aug. 00	Oct. 00	Ottawa
311	Gayle Bender	26 April 00	10 Sept. 00	Oct. 00	Kingston
312	Sandra McNeil	6 May 00	10 Sept. 00	Oct. 00	Kingston
313	James Leakey	6 May 00	10 Sept. 00	Oct. 00	Kingston
314	Peter Burbidge	3 May 00	10 Sept. 00	Oct. 00	Kingston
315	Maria Tilford	25 June 00	10 Sept. 00	Oct. 00	Kingston
316	Donna Elliott	6 May 00	4 Sept. 00	Oct. 00	Ottawa
317	Vince Jewitt	6 May 00	10 Sept. 00	Oct. 00	Kingston
318	Grant Malinsky	3 June 00	10 Sept. 00	Oct. 00	Ottawa
319	Judy Ferren	13 May 00	10 Sept. 00	Oct. 00	Kingston
320	Doris Ihrig	6 May 00	10 Sept. 00	Oct. 00	Ottawa
321	Shawn Hutchinson	6 May 00	10 Sept. 00	Oct. 00	Ottawa
322	Dave Flowers	6 May 00	10 Sept. 00	Oct. 00	Winchester
323	Francois Munier	13 May 00	10 Sept. 00	Oct. 00	Ottawa
324	Janice Miller	6 May 00	14 Oct. 00	Oct. 00	Ottawa
325	Graham Creedy	May 90	5 June 00	Oct. 00	Ottawa
326	Lena Creedy	May 00	5 June 00	Oct. 00	Ottawa
327	Sandra Muis	6 May 00	12 Oct. 00	Oct. 00	Kingston

This year there were 43 End-to-End awards. Special crests in honour of the Millennium were awarded to those completing their hikes in 2000. Many hikers expressed gratitude to those who organized and led the Millenium hike series. The shuttle buses in particular were a big hit. Although it was a very wet year for hiking, all the hikers finished the Trail with a great feeling of accomplishment, enjoying the well-maintained trails and the camaraderie of their fellow hikers. Thanks to all those who lead the hikes and maintain the Trail for the enjoyment of their fellow hikers.



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This is your opportunity to become involved! Be a Guidebook Editor (page 3) or auditor (page 4). Provide comments (page 9). Or contribute in any way you can, and remember to renew your Annual Membership in March! Thank-you.

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

Telephone - Ottawa Club: 613-860-2225
Central Club: 613-264-8338
RTA and Kingston Club: 613-545-0823

web page: www.ncf.ca/rta e-mail: rta@ncf.ca

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--|-----------------|
| ☐ | Annual Individual / Family Membership | \$20.00 |
| ☐ | * Patron (Life Membership) | \$300.00 |
| ☐ | † Guide Book: Members | \$17.00 |
| ☐ | † Non-Members | \$22.00 |
| ☐ | Car Sticker (Free to New Members) | \$1.00 |
| ☐ | Crest | \$2.00 |
| ☐ | Enameled Lapel Pin | \$4.00 |
| ☐ | † Rideau Trail Wall Map | \$12.00 |
| ☐ | * Donation to the RTA | \$ _____ |
| ☐ | * Donation to the RT Preservation Fund | \$ _____ |
| | Prices Subject to Change | |
| | TOTAL | \$ _____ |

- † Includes Postage & Handling
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Charitable Registration No. 0041733-56-11.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY:

- ☐ New ☐ Renewal ☐ Present Life Member

Name:

Address:

Postal Code:

Telephone:

E-mail:

PLEASE INDICATE A DESIRE TO HELP WITH:

- ☐ Maintaining trails ☐ Leading hikes
☐ Leading ski / snowshoe outings
☐ Communicating with members
☐ Word processing ☐ Publicity activities
☐ Hosting social events ☐ Executive, serving as:
☐ Other, please specify: