



The Rideau Trail NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2003

ISSUE NO.127



A MEMORY : SKYCROFT, ORNICA LAKE RD. EARLY '70's

Drawing by Moira Drummond



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

Submissions for the next newsletter are encouraged and should be sent, to arrive by **May 1, 2003** to

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Text should be printed, typed, or (preferably) in electronic format with accompanying hard copy. 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.

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THE RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2002-2003

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Club Representatives: Ottawa	Bill Grant	Ottawa	820-0697	
	Kingston	Nicole Florent	Kingston	389-7121
	Central	Don Sherwin	Perth	264-0759 sherwin@perth.igs.net

Rideau Trail Association

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Picture Credits: The drawing on the cover is by Moira Drummond.

Photos were provided by Tony Denton (p. 7), John Barron (p. 11), Audrey Brown (p. 13), and Lars Thompson (p. 14).

Correction: The photo of Roger McCullough accompanying the Moonlighters article in the Winter 2002 Newsletter was provided by Irma Stegner (not Laraine Laughland).

Highlights of the RTA Board of Directors Meeting — January 11, 2003

The meeting was held at McMartin House, in Perth. As usual, the agenda was quite full. The Winter End-to-End hike, as planned by Bill Murdoch, is now underway. It is a real challenge, especially given our winter weather. For those hikers thinking about this event, there will be special recognition of your accomplishment – an embroidered snowflake can be added to your current end-to-end badge!

As we further adopt the use of the web to the needs of the RTA, the Communications Committee chaired by Marilyn Levitan, has recommended that the board secure the rights to the domain name www.rideautrail.org. The board approved this idea based on our understanding that we are the exclusive owners of the name. Our present website on the National Capital FreeNet remains unchanged, and is fully accessible by all members.

Beginning January 1st, 2003 charitable donations to the Rideau Trail Association or to the Corridor Preservation Fund will be acknowledged in the quarterly Newsletter, specifying, where appropriate, the purpose of the donation (ie. in memoriam, celebration, etc.) This will commence in the Spring Newsletter, 2003. Rolf Calhoun, our treasurer, has reported that a new member has volunteered to audit our records, but we are still in need of a person with expertise in the insurance field who could assist the Association.

The dates for the Hike Leader Training Sessions have been revised. The Kingston date is to be April 5, while the date for Central and Ottawa has not yet been set. Each club has indicated that it will pay the \$5 fee for the course. It will become essential in future years, for insurance and other purposes, that our leaders be as fully qualified as possible. Please check with your local club for further information.

Central Club brought forward a motion to be presented at the AGM as an amendment to the definitions of membership. Essentially, they wish to see the definition of membership clarified in that family membership refers to any two named persons, 18 or over, residing at the same address. This issue may be addressed at each club's AGM and all results will come forward at our AGM for the members to consider.

-continued on page 4

The Winter End-to-End Hike

The Winter End-to-End started as scheduled on January 4 with eighteen hearty souls who soon learned how treacherous the Trail can be — completely covered with ice, but luckily ten centimetres of snow fell the night before. The following day was about the same, but for some reason the number of participants dropped to thirteen. Five people missed seeing the porcupine and three deer. Weekend 1, 37.4 km.

Weekend 2 started at -19 C, but all thirteen hikers warmed up quickly and we did 22.2 km that day. Day 4 was probably our toughest. More snow now. Thank goodness for snowmobile trails. There were signs of an insurrection when, after saying we had about 2 km to go, there appeared a sign saying we had gone but 13 km. It wasn't long before we saw the cars and everyone settled down. Weekend 2, 41.6 km.

Bill Murdoch

The Winter End-to-End continues on February 15/16 and 22/23. See article in Winter 2002 Newsletter. Contact Grant Malinsky (Ottawa, 730-2772), Bruce Gourley (Central, 264-2478), or Bill Murdoch (Kingston, 389-3023).

Mid-Week Bed and Breakfast Trip

As in past years, the mid-week Bed and Breakfast Trip from Kingston for 2003 is being scheduled for the third week of September. This year we are planning to stay in Merrickville, where there is a good selection of Bed & Breakfast establishments listed in the new official Rideau Trail Association B&B Guide.

Merrickville is located on a major blue loop of the Rideau Trail. We expect to complete this loop and adjacent pieces of the Main Trail as well as take some time to explore this historic town and to join a boat trip on the Rideau Waterway.

In September 2002 our B&B stay was in Apsley. There we hiked some major trails in Petroglyphs and Silent Lake Provincial Parks and explored part of the Hastings Trail and other trails near Bancroft.

For more information call Bob Chadwick at (613) 352-1052.

Please Continue Your Support of the Rideau Trail

...by renewing your membership by March 31. Use the renewal form on the back cover page. Memberships provide financial support for the continuous maintenance, improvement, extension, and protection of the Rideau Trail network.

RTA Domain Name

A new RTA website is currently under construction with a reserved domain name www.rideautrail.org

Meanwhile, visitors and members can continue to enjoy the website at www.ncf.ca/rtta

Rideau Trail Closed on Tuesday, March 25, 2003

The Rideau Trail, where it crosses private land, will be closed on Tuesday, March 25, 2003. 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.

Subscribe to the e-letter

For timely tips on hikes (route changes, leader changes, additional information) and other news, RTA members can subscribe to the **e-letter**...sent every second Tuesday. Just check the box on the renewal form on the back page when you renew your membership, and remember to give your email address.

Highlights of Directors Meeting, continued from p 3

Arrangements are underway for the RTA AGM to be held on Saturday, October 4, 2003 at the Lombard Golf and Country Club, Lombardy, ON. Please note the date in your calendar.

Peter Hawkins

Rerouted Trails and Changes to the Trail Guide

Map 11 near Fallowfield. Page 87-88 of the Guide (272.3 km, Fallowfield Road) should read:

The Trail turns right at Fallowfield Road where there is an attractive United Church on the corner. This was originally a Methodist church built in 1886; the cornerstone was laid by Sir John A. MacDonald. This church and the Catholic church farther on are the two remaining of the four churches that gave the name "Piety Hill" to this section of the crescent. At the rear of the church the Trail turns left and you go behind it and proceed northerly along the edge of an open field then into sparse bush. The Trail soon bears left then right at the rear of a playground. From the playground you can see St. Patrick's Church, built in 1866. It replaced a rough log building which was constructed in the early 1820's. The stone rectory was constructed in 1889. At the north end of the playground you will enter bush again and continue for about 300 metres until Khymer Court is reached. Turn left on Khymer Court and follow it to Richmond Road. If you wish to see Wallace house it is 100 metres to the left on the west side of Richmond Road. This house was built in about 1820 as a barracks and then used as a store and hotel. The first owner was Robert Wallace. The Trail turns right at Richmond Road and proceeds about 1 km to the Stony Swamp entrance.



Map 11 Closed portions of the Trail are marked XXX and new portions ●●●.

There has also been a minor rerouting near Eagleson Road (on the lower part of Map 11 near 41.5 km). The Trail is about half the distance along Eagleson Road than before.

Bill Murdoch

Rideau Trail Association — Kingston Club Activities

The meeting place for all activities, unless stated otherwise, is in the NE corner of the **Kingston Centre** north parking lot near the Canada Trust Building, 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 as listed below. Contact Donald Cutts at 542-5414 for detail or location of Wednesday walks. For **timely tips on these hikes** (route changes, leader changes, additional information) RTA members can subscribe to the **e-letter**...sent every second Tuesday.

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. Car entry fees for Provincial Parks and Conservation areas are to be shared. **See Notices on Activity Levels on page 7** of this Newsletter.

Members willing to be leaders, or who wish to suggest new locations for upcoming seasons, should contact Donald Bond at 1161 Front Road, Kingston, K7M-4M2, 634-9353. Leaders can obtain blank sign-up sheets from Joan Bailey at 709 Davis Drive, Kingston, K7M-7X5, 389-1935, and completed sheets are to be returned to her.

Saturday March 1. Location to be determined depending on weather conditions. Depart 9:00. Gas TBD.
LEADER: Barbara Pusch 544-0933

Saturday March 8. Myles Acres
Ski or hike the trails at Myles Acres, depending on conditions. Bring lunch to eat in clubhouse. Level 1-2, distances variable. Departs 9:30. Gas \$2
LEADER: Marie Poisson 389-2473

Wednesday March 12. Charleston Lake
Hike various trails in the Park as conditions permit. Bring a lunch and water. Level 1-2. Distance variable. Depart 9:00 Gas \$4 + Park fee.
LEADER: Ellen Shepherd 541-1185

Saturday March 15. Rideau Trail
Hike the Rideau Trail from Bullen Rd. to Unity Rd. and return. Level 2. Distance 10 km. Depart 9:00. Gas \$3
LEADER: Betty McIver 549-8028

Saturday March 22. Cataraqui Trail
Hike the Cataraqui Trail from Harrowshith to Sydenham and return. Level 1. Distance 13km. Depart 9:00. Gas \$3.
LEADER Alberta Edgar 542-9662

Saturday March 22. Pot Luck Supper
6 pm. An event to which we all look forward! Margaret and John Page have graciously consented to host our Spring Pot Luck Supper again this year. Bring your favourite dish and BYOB. Rumor has it that Lars will have the 'giant' Scrabble board for a team play! To confirm, call Cam Hodges at 545-1925.

Tuesday March 25. Rideau Trail closed.
See notice on page 4.

Saturday March 29. Depot Lakes
Hike or snowshoe Second Depot Lake. Level 2. Distance 9 km. Depart 9:00. Gas \$3
LEADER: Audrey Sanger 384-6244

Saturday April 5. Rideau Trail
Hike the Rideau Trail in the Foley Mountain area. Level 2. Distance 10 + km. Depart 9:00. Gas \$5.
LEADER: Bob Bradley (613)273-7848
Kingston contact: Don Bond 634-9353

Sunday April 6. Little Cat
Hike various trails in the Little Cataraqui Conservation Area. Level 1. Distance 8 km. Depart 10:00 Gas \$1 + Park fees.
LEADER: Gloria Seeley 546-2503

Wednesday April 9. Rideau Trail
Hike the Rideau Trail & Helen Henderson Loop from the trail head in Elevator Bay. Level 1. Distance 8 km. Depart 10:00 Gas \$1
LEADER: Jean Thompson 544-0340

Saturday April 12. Presqu'ile Provincial Park
Nature hike in the Park. Wildfowl migration. Level 1. Distance 10km. approx. Depart 8:30. Gas \$6 + Park fees.
LEADER: Betty McIver 549-8028

Sunday April 13. Charleston Lake
Hike the Tallow Bay trail(may be wet) . Level 2.

Distance 10 km. Depart 9:00. Gas \$4 + Park fees.
LEADER: Martin Reeve 548-4960

Saturday April 19. Gananoque
Hike the surrounding area. New trails. Level 2. Distance 8 km. Depart 9:00. Gas \$3
LEADER: Peter Murray 382-2824

Saturday April 26. Rideau Trail
Hike the trail through woodlands and pastures from Freeman Road to Sydenham. Lunch at the Tea Room. Level 1. Distance 8 km. Depart 10:00. Gas \$3.
LEADER: Peck Peckover. 544-9190

Sunday April 27. Crotch Lake
Look for wildflowers on a challenging hike. Level 3. Distance 15 km. Depart 8:00 Gas \$7.
LEADER: Linda Sterling (613) 279-1109. Kingston contact: Barbara Pusch 544-0933.

Saturday May 3. Kingston Club Annual General Meeting. See notice on page 7.

Sunday May 4. Frontenac Park
Hike the Bufflehead trail. Level 3. Distance 8 km. Depart 9:00. Gas \$4. + Park fees.
LEADER: Lynn Nolan 389-8747.

Saturday May 10. Charleston Lake
Hike several of the east side trails, possible swim, weather permitting. Level 2. Distance 10km. approx. Depart 9:00. Gas \$4 + Park fees.
LEADER: Watson Ogilvie 530-2378.

Wednesday May 14. Sand Banks Provincial Park
Hike in the Park and observe migrating birds and wildflowers. Level 1. Distance 8 km. approx. Depart 8:45. Gas \$5 + Park fees.
LEADER: Bob Chadwick 352-1052.

Saturday May 17. Rideau Trail
Hike Railton Road to Orser Road & return through meadows and woodland. Level 1. Distance 9 km. Depart 9:30. Gas \$3.
LEADER: Bill Murdoch 389-3023.

Sunday May 18. Amherst Island
Bike ride on the Island. Level 1. Distance 15 km. Meet at the ferry dock in time for the 9:30 ferry.
LEADER: Bernie Gates 389-1835

Saturday May 24. Lemoine Point Conservation Area
Hike the Area trails and observe the

wildflowers. Level 1. Distance 6-8 km. Depart 10:00. Gas \$1
LEADER: Alberta Edgar 542-9662

Sunday May 25. Rideau Trail, Gould Lake
Hike the Rideau Trail from the Gould Lake gate around the Ridgewalk Loop and return. Level 3. Distance 15 km. Depart 9:00 Gas \$3
LEADER: Bill Murdoch 389-3023

Saturday May 31. Frontenac Park
Hike the Cedar Lake Loop. Level 2. Distance 15 km. Depart 9:00 Gas \$4 + Park fees.
LEADER: Lynn Nolan 389-8747

Sunday June 1. Charleston Lake
Hike the trails in the Park. Level 2. Distance 10 km. Depart 9:00. Gas \$4 + Park fees.
LEADER: John Cornish 382-4778

Saturday & Sunday June 7 & 8. Weekend/Canoe/Camping. Hart Lake overnight canoe trip. Shakedown for summer. Canoe camping with emphasis on gourmet campfire cooking. Book before May 30 as space is limited.
LEADER: Allan Tattersall 549-4080

Saturday June 7. Amherst Island
Hike on the Island. Possibly visit the bird conservation area. Level 2 Distance 17 km. Depart 8:30. Gas \$2
LEADER: Dave Armitage 634-4426

Sunday June 8. Frontenac Park
Hike the Arkon trail. Level 3. Distance 14 km. Depart 9:00. Gas \$4 + Park fees.
LEADER: Peggy Harding 546-7202.

Wednesday June 11. Sand Banks Provincial Park
Hike the sand dunes and possible swim after. Level 2. Distance 10 km. Depart 8:45. Gas \$5 + Park fees.
LEADER: Bob Chadwick 352-1052

Saturday June 14. Slide Lake Loop
Hike the Slide Lake Loop from Perth Road & return. Level 3. Distance 14 km. Depart 9:00 Gas \$4.
LEADER: Bill Murdoch 389-3023

Sunday June 22. Cape Vincent, N.Y
Cycle to Cape Vincent via Wolfe Island and return. Bring proof of Canadian citizenship for U.S.A. Customs, and medical insurance coverage. Have your lunch at Cape Vincent Level 1. Distance 25 km.

approx. Meet at the Wolfe Island ferry dock in time for the 9:30 ferry. U.S. ferry fee \$2.
LEADER: Mike Amodeo 634-1847

Sunday June 29. Purdon Bog, Perth Area
Enjoy the lady slipper orchids in and around Purdon Bog. Hike other trails in the area north of Perth. Level 1. Distance 10 km +. Depart 8:30. Gas \$7.
LEADER: John Miller (613) 264-8826.
Kingston contact: Cam Hodges 545-1925.

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.

Kingston Club Annual General Meeting

Saturday, May 3, 2003, 09:30
Little Cataraqui Conservation Area
Outdoor Centre

Program:

09:30 Coffee
10:00 Business Meeting
12:30 Brown bag lunch followed by hikes

RTA Photo Librarian

Audrey Cormier has agreed to fill this new RTA position to collect, file and organize a print and web photo library for this club. People willing to let RTA use their photos in the Newsletter or on the website are encouraged to submit them to Audrey. She can be reached at trailphotos@hotmail.com or at (613) 761-7685.



Putting the Planks on the Jock River Bridge - Spring 2002

Bud Masse, Don Grant, Graham Creedy, Ernie Bartels, hard working dog, and Geoff Berry in the water
Photo by Tony Denton.

RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION - OTTAWA CLUB ACTIVITIES

The meeting place for all Ottawa Club activities, UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED BELOW, 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 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 contribute to the driver's costs. Fees for parking and entry to Parks and Conservation Areas are shared among the driver and passengers.

Scheduled activities take place regardless of the weather. For more information about a particular activity, call the leader at the number listed. If you are unable to reach a leader, or for general information, call the Ottawa Club at 860-2225.

Leaders, please send sign up sheets to John Haley, 55 Maple View Crescent, Nepean, Ontario K2G 5J7.

Participants' Responsibilities: Participants should bring a lunch, drinking water, sun and insect protection and should wear appropriate footwear and clothing. They must choose activities suitable to their physical capabilities and skill levels (see levels on page 7). They must inform the leader before the start about any health problems and of any existing or potential difficulties with their equipment. They must respect the leader's judgement and their own financial obligations for the activity. Parents and guardians must supervise their own children.

The Wednesday Walkers

Every Wednesday there are Level 2-3 hikes in the Gatineau Park. Departure time is 09:30. Call Dorothy Belter (523-4420) or Nanette Whitwam (730-5417) for more information including the meeting place.

The Moonlighters

Every Tuesday evening, starting April 29 to August 26, there will be a short Level 1-2 hike, usually in the Gatineau Park, always within a 30-minute drive. Meet by 17:55 (5:55 p.m.) to depart at 18:00 (6 p.m.) sharp. Hikes usually last until sunset. Bring water, snack, bug repellent, and a flashlight.

COORDINATOR: Laraine Laughland 723-8851

Saturday March 15 Afternoon Snowshoe
Level 1, Ottawa River Parkway. Departs 13:00 (1 p.m.).
LEADER: Jean Cottam 726-1596

Sunday March 16 Gatineau Park
Level 2 ski or hike depending on conditions. Departs
09:30. Gas TBD.
LEADER: John Barron 828-2296

Bike Workshop
If you would like information on buying a bike -
selecting the proper size, type, tires, etc., adjusting and
maintaining it, & how to fix a flat tire, please express
your interest in a group session at a location and date to
be arranged.
CALL: Bill Cazemier 745-9957 by March 21

Saturday March 22 Cake Walk
Level 1. Walk along Bank Street between Heron Road
and Wellington Street with stops for goodies at selected
bakeries. 10 km. Departs 09:30. Gas \$2.
LEADER: Dan Byrne 730-1039

Sunday March 23 Stanleyville Area
(Beyond Perth)
Level 2 hike, snowshoe, or ski depending on
conditions. 12 km. Departs 09:00. Gas \$5.
LEADER: Dave Miller 692-5055

Please renew your RTA Membership by March 31.

Sunday March 23 Sock It To Me!
Information and social evening. Learn about hiking
footwear, then enjoy potluck dessert/social. Bring
dessert, utensils, plate, mug, & folding chair. Tea/
coffee provided. 19:00 (7 p.m.) at Bushtukah, 203
Richmond Road at McRae.
CONTACT: Theodora Newton 569-3540

Tuesday March 25. Rideau Trail closed. See page 4.

Saturday March 29 Gatineau Park
Level 2 ski, snowshoe, or hike - call ahead to
determine. Departs 09:00. Gas TBD.
LEADER: Marilyn Booth/Don Carpenter 730-3879

Saturday April 5 Scenic Ottawa Walk
Level 1, 10 km. Victoria Island - Museum of
Civilization - Bytown Locks - The Mill. Café stop
optional. Departs 10:00.
LEADER: Theodora Newton 569-3540

Sunday April 6 Daylight Savings Time begins.

**Thursday April 10 Special Activity for Leaders and
Prospective Leaders**

Supper and planning session to complete the summer
activity schedule. Details will be sent to activity
leaders. To list your hike/event, and for more
information,
CALL: Bill Grant 820-0697

Saturday April 12 Gatineau Park
Level 3. Cregheur Road to the Gallery and Pulpit, with
possible extension, if conditions allow. Departs 09:00.
Gas \$4.
LEADER: Graham Toulson 247-0677

Saturday April 12 Joint Activity with Central Club
Level 1. Meet Central Club members in Perth, short
walk in this historic and architecturally interesting town,
lunch at a pub and visit a bakeshop, then the used
bookstore. Departs 10:00 from Tunney's Pasture. Gas \$5.
LEADER: Margaret Lafrance 267-6743
OTTAWA CONTACT: Bill Grant 820-0697

Sunday April 13 Wakefield Area
Level 2 hike, departs 09:00. Gas \$5.
LEADER: Marilyn Levitan 828-2281

Saturday April 19 Gould Lake
Level 3 very strenuous 18 km. hike on rugged trails,
may be icy or wet in parts. Spring flowers likely. Long
day, supper at Westport, late return. Departs 08:00. Gas
\$7.
LEADER: John Haley 225-0590

Saturday April 19 Gatineau Park
Level 2. O'Brien - MacDonald Bay and possible side
routes, about 12 km. Departs 09:30. Gas \$4.
LEADER: Laraine Laughland 723-8851

Monday April 21 Western Gatineau Park
Level 2+. About 10 km. loop from Eardley Masham
Road via Nanny Goat Hill. Departs 10:00. Gas \$5.
LEADER: Peter Hawkins 749-2093

Friday April 25 Ottawa Club AGM
See notice on page 11.

Last date to register for Victoria Day weekend outing.

Saturday April 26 Western Gatineau Park
Strenuous Level 3 hike and bushwhack, Lac Monette
& Lac Racine area. 12 km. includes 4 km. on trail, 8
km. off trail. 300 m. vertical. About 6 hours. Departs
08:00. Gas \$5. cdaly@sprint-um.firstclass.com
LEADER: Cliff Daly 224-4413

Saturday April 26 Frontenac Park
Level 2+. Arkon Lake plus. 18 km. Long drive,
supper stop, late return. Departs 08:30. Gas \$7.
LEADER: David Spector 829-6802

Saturday April 26 Greenbelt
Level 1+ hike. Meet at south end of parking lot at OC
Transpo Baseline Station. Departs 09:30.
LEADER: Jean Cottam 726-1596

Sunday April 27 Western Gatineau Park
Level 3-. Exploring the headlands of Bradley Creek,
returning via power line trail. 10 km. Departs 09:30.
Gas \$5.
LEADER: John Barron 828-2296

Saturday May 3 Gatineau Park
Level 3, 12 km. Hollow Glen - Waterfalls, multiple
lookouts, lunch at Huron Lodge. Departs 09:00. Gas
\$4.
LEADER: Alex Macdonald 237-6399

Saturday May 3 Gatineau Park
Level 2. 15 km. from P7. Departs 09:30. Gas \$4.
LEADER: Alex Bissett 828-4363

Sunday May 4 Gatineau Park
Level 2. Carman Lake area, about 12 km. Departs
09:30. Gas \$5.
LEADER: Peter Scott 729-9557

Sunday May 4 Hearts Desire & Chapman Mills
Level 1, 5 km. A very short walk in Ottawa's best
wild-flower location, & a longer walk along the
Rideau River. Optional refreshment stop. Departs
12:30. Gas \$3.
LEADER: Bill Grant 820-0697

Saturday May 10 Western Gatineau Park
Leisurely level 3, moderate pace on and off-trail.
Departs 09:00. Gas \$5.
LEADER: Mohan Taagepera (819) 770-4258

Saturday May 10 Gatineau Park
Level 1, 10-12 km. Enjoy the beautiful spring
flowers. Departs 09:30. Gas \$4.
LEADER: Jean Sunter 828-6077

Sunday May 11 Gatineau Park
Level 3 - fairly intense hike but finishing by 3 p.m.
Cregheur Road - Pulpit/South Window. Departs 09:30.
Gas \$4. LEADER: Lisa Buchner 729-4487

May 16 - 19 White Mountains Outing
Choose from a menu of New Hampshire White Mountain strenuous level 2 and 3 hikes on each of Saturday and Sunday, staying and dining at the Kinsman Lodge, Franconia NH. Shared bathrooms. 3 nights, 3 breakfasts, 2 dinners. \$208 CAN pp (double), \$246 CAN pp (single), \$187 CAN pp (triple), all inclusive. Space limited. Reservation period Sat. March 1 to Fri. April 25. \$50 pp non refundable deposit secures, balance owing by April 25. cdaly@sprint-um.firstclass.com
CONTACT: Cliff Daly 224-4413 or by e-mail.

Saturday May 17 Gatineau Park
Level 3, some off-trail. Departs 09:00. Gas TBD.
LEADER: Don Carpenter/Marilyn Booth 730-3879

Sunday May 18 Gatineau Park
Level 2. Lac Philippe to Twin Lakes. Departs 09:30.
Gas \$5.
LEADERS: Lena and Graham Creedy 789-1657

Monday May 19 Mill of Kintail Conservation Area
Level 1. Nature walk for naturalists and photographers, about 5 km. Stop at Blakeney Rapids Conservation Area for short hike along the rapids. Departs 09:30. Gas \$4. Mill of Kintail Cons. Area. admission \$2 per person.
LEADER: Bev Wigney 826-2584 larkspur@sprint.ca

Saturday May 24 K&P Trail
Level 1-2, flat but long hike, 15-20 km. Departs 09:00.
Gas \$6.
LEADER: Pat Robinson 825-1457

Saturday May 24 Gatineau Park
Level 2. Pine Road - Meech Valley - Carbide Ruins - Discovery Trail. 13 km. Departs 09:30. Gas \$4.
LEADER: Grant Malinsky 730-2772

Sunday May 25 Gatineau Park
Level 3 exploration, Pilon Road area. Good opportunity for navigation practice. Departs 09:30. Gas \$4.
LEADER: Graham Creedy 789-1657

Saturday May 31 Gatineau Park
Level 2. Wolf Trail area. Departs 09:00. Gas \$4.
LEADER: Marion Dunning 232-8304

Saturday May 31 Rideau Trail - Earth Star Loop
Level 1. Departs 09:30. Gas \$4.
LEADER: Nanette Whitwam 730-5417

Saturday May 31 Cycle Outing - Bells Corners
Leisurely level 1 via cycle paths. Departs 10:00.
LEADER: Coby Fuykschott 722-6022

Sunday June 1 Western Gatineau Park
Level 3. East side of Lac Lapeche, off-trail. 10 km.
Departs 09:30. Gas \$5.
LEADER: John Barron 828-2296

Saturday June 7 La Blanche Forest, Mayo, Quebec
Level 2 hike at the Centre éducatif forestier de l'Outaouais. Departs 09:00. Gas \$5.
LEADER: Kay Méthot 526-5589

Saturday June 7 Greenbelt
Level 1. Meet at south end of parking lot at OC Transpo Baseline Station. Departs 10:00.
LEADER: Jean Cottam 726-1596

Sunday June 8 Mill Pond Conservation Area
Level 2. Nature walk, about 8 km. Relaxed pace with frequent stops for observation. Bring lunch, insect-proofing. Cameras welcome. Departs 09:00. Gas \$5.
LEADER: Bev Wigney 826-2584 larkspur@sprint.ca

Friday June 13 Evening Canal Walk
Level 1, 2 hours, refreshments after. Meet at Dow's Lake Pavilion. Departs 18:00 (6 p.m.).
LEADER: Hendrika Exel 836-2153

Saturday June 14 Cycle Trip
70 km. loop from Hudson, Quebec (1.5 hours by car from Ottawa), partly paralleling Soulange Canal. Please advise by June 12 if you intend to join us for supper at Mon Village on Highway 417. Departs 08:30. LEADERS: Dennis Sculley 565-7710 and Geoff Berry 831-5468

Saturday June 14 Gatineau Park
Level 3. Lusk Falls area. Departs 09:30. Gas \$4.
LEADER: Ann Lane 741-3184

Saturday June 14 Greenbelt
Level 1 leisurely hike, Bells Corners to Kanata & return, 8-10 km. Lunch in a coffee shop or bring your own. Departs 10:00. Gas \$2.
LEADER: Coby Fuykschott 722-6022

Sunday June 15 West Greenbelt
Level 1, 8-10 km. Departs 10:00. Gas \$3.
LEADER: Hendrika Exel 836-2153

Saturday June 21 Rideau Trail
Level 2 hike, with possible swim, on a scenic section from Westport to Narrows Lock. Departs 08:30. Gas \$6. LEADER: Don Grant 828-1026

Saturday June 21 Frontenac Park
Level 3. Big Salmon Lake loop, 21 km. Long drive, supper stop, late return. Departs 08:30. Gas \$7.
LEADER: David Spector 829-6802

Saturday June 21 Arnprior - McNamara Trail
Level 1, 5.5 km. Another hike on this wonderful short trail. Tea in Arnprior after. Departs 11:00. Gas \$5.
LEADER: Bill Grant 820-0697

Saturday June 21 Summer Madness Barbeque & Moonlight Canal Walk
Venue: Ann Manor, in the garden by visitor parking (50 Cooper Street). Bring your own meat/chicken/hot dogs and drink; bring a salad or dessert to share. Volunteer assistance welcome. Call in advance to attend.
CONTACT: Theodora Newton 569-3540

Social Calendar

Upcoming activities include the Bushtukah presentation on footwear (March 23) and summer barbeque (June 21).

If there is enough interest, I will coordinate a Polar Bear Express trip in August. We hope to have a corn roast at the Schoolhouse in September. As this depends greatly on volunteers, please contact me to offer to help.

Recent activities: On January 25, an afternoon of skating or walking preceded a pot-luck supper of excellent food accompanied by warm and friendly conversation. By the time you read this, we will also have enjoyed a visit to Winterlude activities and a Dim Sum lunch planned for February 15.

Theodora Newton 569-3540

Special Notice for Ottawa Activity Leaders

What events would **you** like to see in the summer schedule (June 28 to September 22)? Leaders and prospective leaders - there will be a supper and planning meeting 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 10 - see page 9. Please think of a hike or other event you could lead. By Thursday, March 27 please call Bill Grant (820-0697) to RSVP for the April 10 supper. New leaders: to be added to the list of leaders, please e-mail Marilyn Booth mjbooth@sympatico.ca or advise Bill Grant.

Ottawa Rideau Trail Club Annual General Meeting

**19:00 (7 pm)
Friday, April 25, 2003**

**Chalmers United Church
Metcalf and Cooper Streets, Ottawa**
(parking North of the church)

Program:

7:00 p.m. - Coffee and tea;
7:30 p.m. - Business meeting;
9:15 p.m. - Guest Speaker:
Eve Ticknor - "Falcon Watch".



Early spring hiking near the Ottawa River in Aylmer Quebec. Left to right: Margaret Lafrance, Theodora Newton, Ann Bolster (leader), Dave Wardell, Peter Scott, Dorothy Forrester, Grant Malinsky, Jean Cottam, Barbara Thain. Photo by John Barron.

Offer for RTA Members from Ottawa Outdoors Magazine

RTA members can show their membership card at Bushtukah on Richmond Rd. in Ottawa and receive a complimentary copy of the Winter Edition of Ottawa Outdoors Magazine. Dave Brown, the editor, will be issuing a special annual subscription rate for RTA members. (\$9.95 per year)

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) southeast through Perth to County Road 10, turn right (southwest) towards Westport, then take the fourth road to the right (Conlon Drive) to the Conlon Farm parking area. If in doubt, call the hot line at 264-8338 or the hike leader. **See Notices on Activity Levels on page 7.**

Saturday, March 8 Foley Mountain
Hike or ski this fine vantage point above Westport. Warm up at the Cove following the outing. Level 2. Skiing is for the adventuresome. Sorry no birds, but plenty of wildlife.
BACKEND LEADER: John Miller 264- 8824

Sunday, March 23 Cataraqui Trail
Hike or possibly ski this area between Perth Road and Chaffey's Locks. Flat and as easy as it can get. Level 1. Bring sun tan lotion. **CATCH THE EARLY TRAIN WITH :** Veronica Airth 264-8824.

*Tuesday March 25. Rideau Trail closed.
See notice on page 4 .*

Saturday, April 5 Central Club AGM
Bring your ideas to the meeting at 10 a.m. at McMartin House, 125 Gore Street East, Perth. The meeting will be followed by a hike along the Tow Path from Perth to Frizell Road. Level 1, 8 km. **KEEP ON THE TOW PATH WITH :** Bob Taylor 264-8928

Saturday, April 12 Walk Around Perth
Jointly with Ottawa Club we'll walk around Perth with a visit to bakeshop, used book store, ending up at a pub. Rendezvous with Ottawa members at the front of the Town Hall at 11 a.m. Level 1, 5-6 km.
LEADER: Margaret Lafrance 267-6743

**Saturday, April 19 North end of K & P Trail:
Flower Station to Barryvale**
Easy & Flat... Level 1, 16 km.
ENGINE DRIVER: Don Sherwin 264-8824.

Saturday, April 26 Maple Festival in Perth
Give us your support at the Festival Booth. Meet People. Sell memberships. Supporters needed, call 264-8338.

Sunday, April 27 Crotch Lake
Jointly with Kingston Club we'll go to Linda Sterling's new loop on Crown Land in the Crotch Lake area. Level 3, 16 km.
KINGSTON COORDINATOR: Barbara Pusch 544-0933, CENTRAL COORDINATORS: Linda Sterling 279-1109 and Dave Miller 267-6743.

Saturday, May 10 North Frontenac Park.
Come and learn about wildflowers and birds, bees... Level 2, 14 km.
FLOWER GIRL: Gunhild Karius 264-2861.

**Sunday, May 25 K & P Trail: Mississippi
Station to Sharbot Lake**
Bear Territory - keep together, bring a whistle. Level 1, 14 km.
OUR BRAVE LEADER: Veronica Airth 264-8824.

**Saturday, June 7 Springtime Hike to Ragged
Chutes**
A leisurely walk in the exceptionally beautiful old growth forest leading to Ragged Chutes, with time to linger at the Chutes and a few spots along the rocky shore of the Mississippi River.
Level 1 -- 6 km.
TAKE IT EASY WITH : Susan Samila 264-1196

**Saturday, June 14 Canoe day: Round Schooner
Lake & Long Schooner Lake, near Plevna**
Beautiful: crystal-clear lakes, with small picturesque islands; beach and swimming area. There may be an \$8 per car fee -- charged in relation to road improvements to site. If you do not have a canoe, or if you have a canoe and are looking for a canoeing partner, please call the leader to be paired up.
CRYSTAL CLEAR LEADER: Tom Irwin 749-0523

Sunday, June 29 Purdon Bog Conservation Area
This is a joint hike with the Kingston Club to see the Showy Lady Slipper Orchids, followed by hike &..Level 1, 12 km.
KINGSTON COORDINATOR: Cam Hodges 545-1925, BOG BUDDY: John Miller 264-8824

RTA Central Club Annual General Meeting

**Saturday, April 5, 2003, 10 a.m.
McMartin House, Perth**

See details under April 5 hike above.

The Trek to the Green Mountains

September 16 to 20, 2002 saw twenty people gathered at the Red Fox Inn near Jeffersonville for the 4th Annual Vermont Hike. We enjoyed perfect weather the entire week and great camaraderie. On Day 1 we hiked 2.2 miles up Camel's Hump and then broke into two groups. Watson Ogilvie led the leisure crowd on trails at that elevation. Camel's Hump is one of only three mountains in Vermont that have Alpine vegetation. We saw tiny white and yellow flowers and varieties of berries that no one recognized, and also little blue flowers that were identified as gentians. There were blankets of thick moss, little salamanders and many varieties of delicate ferns. Some paths were already carpeted with red and gold leaves. Peter Burbidge led the keeners on for another 1.1 miles to the summit, where they were rewarded by a spectacular view of misty mountains. The summit was 4083 feet and the vertical climb about 2600 feet.

On Day 2 Watson led a hike on the Clara Bow Trail, a beautiful and very interesting path. At one point we climbed down a ladder into a dark cave and then up the side of a ravine. Peter led a hike on the same trail to Butler Lodge, then up the west side of Mt. Mansfield. The last 1000 feet of vertical climb was extremely steep and treacherous. They descended down the east side into Smugglers' Notch for a total distance of 10.2 miles. The elevation gain was 2500 feet and afforded them a sweeping view of Lake Champlain, the Adirondacks and Mt. Washington.

On our last day we followed Watson to Devil's Gulch and saw huge slabs of rock that somehow managed to sustain miniature ferns. Jim King led his group on a meandering hike up Mt. Pisgah. The elevation gain was about 1000 feet. The lookout afforded a beautiful view of Vermont and, to the north, Owl's Head in Canada.

On our last evening we gathered around the campfire and ate unlimited amounts of Ben & Jerry's ice cream. We also expressed our thanks and gratitude to Watson as well as the hope that he will lead the 5th Annual Trek to Vermont next year.

Audrey Kilpatrick



'Happy Hikers' - Silent Lake

**B&B Trip with Bob Chadwick
26 September, 2002**

Photo by Audrey Brown.

Don't Miss the Next Newsletter !

Membership renewals are due March 31, and this will be your last newsletter if you do not renew. Use the renewal form on the back cover page. Please continue your support of the Rideau Trail.

Donations to the Rideau Trail Preservation Fund

Donations were received from the following supporters between January 1 and February 23, 2003.

Andrew Bales
Anne and Ian Boyd *
Bob and Wilma Chadwick *
Robert and Marcia Gnuse *
Elizabeth Kirchhoff *
Ann Lane *
Diann Lawton
Ottawa Rambling Club *

* In memory of Sandra Malinsky

Note: Beginning January 1, 2003, donations are being acknowledged in the Newsletter.

Ski Weekend at L'Estérel

Jan 31 - Feb 2, 2003



Arne Henrikson celebrated at L'Estérel

If a weekend in paradise can be purchased for under \$300 (\$290 to be precise), then most of our participants would recommend L'Estérel in the Laurentians.

Whatever minor complaints were expressed last year (slow dinner service in particular) the hosts of paradise listened and corrected, without a loss of grace and quality.

Those skiers who wanted more varied and extended trails this year had their wish granted with a bus excursion to the Morin Heights region on Saturday. Twenty-one skiers took advantage of a five hour venture, using different trails in that area. A modest trail fee was charged (\$5 per) for the privilege.

The other fifty skiers or skaters stayed in paradise for the day (though it is rumoured that two skiers had a downhill experience). The skaters were particularly happy that the hotel rink was connected to the town rink, bridging an extended skate into the town of Saint-Marguerite. Some walked it — with or without snowshoes.

Within an extended family of seventy members, one is likely to find a birthday or two or three. Arne Henrikson (who tested his new hip) had his 80th celebrated by his RTA family. Joan Patterson

and Lars Thompson were included in the celebration but they didn't mention their ages (who counts years in paradise!)

The social events were well received: a mixer on Friday (designed for new participants); in the evening Cookie had us cycling on Kettle Creek in B.C. and, skiing in Norway; Saturday Peck took us to Antarctica and Jo Saunders, a new program volunteer, led us in song (she brought song sheets from home in large print, but forgot the piano).

Our RTA weekenders thank these program volunteers for their contribution to making the weekend a success. Every year we get fresh ideas and new participants.

The one constant throughout these ski weekends has been the services of Konrad Wolf (our bus driver) and Joan Patterson (our travel agent). Konrad always provides (or finds for us) safe driving. For the second year in a row he found Bob Sine to drive the van. Joan Patterson makes all the contacts with the hotel, making the task of the co-ordinator (me) much easier.

When asked where do we go next year, over twenty-five respondees said "L'Estérel". The bus is half sold already for next year, without looking for a new location - making the job of the co-ordinator easier. A few other places have been mentioned should we wish to change location. This trip was our fifth year at L'Estérel and my third year as planner.

Our committee of five (Konrad, Joan, Lars, Jenny and Al) will meet the last week of February to review your recommendations and plan for next year. We need to decide soon before all the good dates and places are gone for the year 2004.

Lars Thompson

Other Activities

The activities below are not sponsored by the Rideau Trail Association and the Association accepts no responsibility for them. These notices are published as a service to RTA members.

"A Toronto Bruce Trail Club Invitation"

We met so many wonderful people while hiking the Rideau Trail End to End in 2001/2002. The Toronto Bruce Trail Club would like to extend an invitation to Rideau club members to join us on the Ganaraska Trail End to End in 2003/2004. The pace will be moderate. Also needed are: Hiking boots, food, at least 2 litres of water, current Ganaraska Trail guide, and a good Ontario road map (Map Art, Ontario Road Atlas is a good one). Departure from the meeting place to car pool to the start will be 0830h, sharp.

To pre-register contact:

Cathy Johnstone
johnstone_cathy@hotmail.com
519-782-3749 anytime

OR

Tom Hall
tomjhall@rogers.com
416-239-6578 between 6 & 9 pm

There are more hikes scheduled for the following long weekends in 2003: Aug. 2, 3, 4 & Aug. 30, 31, Sept. 1 & Oct. 11, 12, 13.

Hike #1 Date: May 17, 2003
Meeting Place: Tinkerville Rd. (km 21.2)
Start of Hike: Queen St. in Port Hope (km 0.0)
Maps: 1 & 2
Section: Pine Ridge Distance: 21.2k

Hike #2 Date: May 18, 2003
Meeting Place: Glamorgan Rd. (right of the Pontypool Rd. bridge over Hwy #115) (km 42.3)
Start of Hike: Tinkerville Rd. (km 21.2)
Maps: 2 & 3
Section: Pine Ridge Distance: 21.1k

Hike #3 Date: May 19, 2003
Meeting Place: Crosswind Rd. (km 64.3)
Start of Hike: Glamorgan Rd. (right of Pontypool Rd. bridge over Hwy # 115) (km 42.3)
Maps: 3 & 4
Section: Pine Ridge Distance: 22.0k

Hike #4 Date: June 28, 2003
Meeting Place: Ken Reid Conservation Area (km 19.0)

Start of Hike: Crosswind Rd. (km 0.0)
Maps: 4 & 5 & 6
Section: Peterborough Distance: 19.0k

Hike #5 Date: June 29, 2003
Meeting Place: Coulson Rd. (km 39.9)
Start of Hike: Ken Reid Conservation Area (19.0)
Maps: 6 & 7 & 8
Section: Peterborough Distance: 20.9k

Hike #6 Date: June 30, 2003
Meeting Place: Monck Rd. (Reg. Rd. 45) (km 61.9)
Start of Hike: Coulson Rd. (km 39.9)
Maps: 8 & 9 & 10
Section: Peterborough Distance: 22.0k

Hike #7 Date: July 1, 2003
Meeting Place: Black Lake Rd. (100 metres from Hwy #35 in Moore Falls (km 76.7)
Start of Hike: Monck Rd. (Reg. Rd. 45) (km 61.9)
Map: 10
Section: Peterborough Distance: 14.8k

Skyline Hikers of the Canadian Rockies

Non-profit organization offers five 6-day wilderness base camps in the Canadian Rockies, mid July to mid August. Cost approximately \$620, includes return bus, tent accommodation, all meals, hot water, camp staff, guided day hikes. Hikers carry only a day pack, but must be fit for mountain hiking. For information contact Ontario volunteer Harry Moerschner: (705) 445-0267, email moersch@bmts.com

Hiking Tour to Northern Kenya Walking with Warriors - July 2004

A unique trekking safari with Samburu warriors in the spectacular Leroghi Mountains of Northern Kenya. Guided by Peter and Rosalie Faull with a team of ten Samburu warriors. Superb meals and comfortable tents. Track wild animals and learn about an ancient tribal culture. Approximately CA\$3750 plus airfare. For itinerary, send a SAS to Howaboutahike, Linda Simpson, 46 Daniel St., Brockville, ON, K6V 4Z5 or email howaboutahike@aol.com



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MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE MARCH 31
SUPPORT THE RTA AND MAIL YOUR RENEWAL TODAY !
 The Summer Newsletter will not be sent to those who do not renew.

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, please complete the form below (or obtain a form from the RTA website www.ncf.ca/rta and mail it with your payment to: **Rideau Trail Association, P.O. Box 15, Kingston, Ontario, K7L 4V6.**

() Annual Individual/Family Membership	\$20.00	MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY
() Patron (Life Membership)	* \$300.00	New () Renewal () Present Life Member ()
() Trail Guidebook: Members	† \$22.00	Name:
(6th edition, 2001) Non-Members	† \$27.00	Address:
() B&B Guide	† \$5.00	City:
(\$4.00 if ordered with a Trail Guide)		Province:
() Rideau Trail Wall Map	† \$12.00	Postal Code:
() Crest	\$2.00	Telephone:
() Lapel Pin	\$4.00	() I wish to subscribe to the RTA e-letter.
() Car Sticker (free to new members)	\$1.00	E-mail address:
Prices subject to change		PLEASE INDICATE A DESIRE TO HELP WITH
() Donation to RTA	* \$ _____	Leading hikes () Maintaining trails ()
() Donation to RT Preservation Fund	* \$ _____	Leading xc ski/snowshoe outings ()
TOTAL	\$ _____	Communicating with members ()
* Qualifies for income tax credit		Hosting social events () Serving on Executive ()
(Charitable registration # 11911 9485 RR 0001)		Helping with publicity ()
† Includes postage and handling		Other (specify): _____