



The Rideau Trail NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2007

ISSUE NO. 146



Rideau Trail Association Newsletter

Editor: Elizabeth Mason, Ottawa Club

Spring Newsletter

The Spring Newsletter will be prepared by the Kingston Club. Submissions are encouraged. If possible, text should be sent electronically with no document formatting. Pictures are also welcome, either in colour or in black and white, with good definition and contrast. Please ensure that all items arrive by **February 1, 2008** and that they are sent directly to:

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The Rideau Trail Association is a member of Hike Ontario.

Front Cover: Ottawa members enjoy winter in Gatineau Park. *Photos by Steve Kelly*

Inside...

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE OCTOBER RTA BOARD

MEETING.....	3
SKIING BIRTHDAY IN BANFF	4
ORIENTEERING ANYONE.....	5
WINTER END-TO-END HIKING 2008.....	6
VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BARBECUE	7
PHOTO CONTEST ENTRIES	8
CENTRAL CLUB ACTIVITIES.....	10
OTTAWA CLUB ACTIVITIES.....	12
KINGSTON CLUB ACTIVITIES.....	16

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE OCTOBER RTA BOARD MEETING

by John Cornish, Vice President

Progress is being made towards the implementation of a financial oversight mechanism. This has two parts: creation of a "financial oversight committee" to work with the Treasurer on maintaining sound financial practices; and the appointment of a professional accountant to carry out an annual review of the RTA financial records and statements. To date, Pat Archer and Suzanne Brown have indicated their willingness to serve on the committee. The Board is still searching for a reviewer.

A separate committee has also been established with the goal of developing a plan for eliminating the operating deficit. The plan will be ready for presentation at the 2008 RTA Annual General Meeting. Sheila Menard, Elizabeth Mason and Ron Hunt have volunteered to serve on this committee and presented their charter and project plan for this work at the October Board meeting.

Paul Jean has been recruited as the new RTA Webmaster. Paul is a software developer with previous experience as a volunteer webmaster. He has been a member of the RTA since 2006. Paul has begun the process of taking over the webmaster role from Peter Hawkins. This will offload Peter and make it easier for him to meet his commitments as the RTA Treasurer.

The total paid membership in the RTA as of September 30, 2007 was 1,036 which is comprised of 552 individual, 302 household and 182 life memberships. The Board discussed methods for improving the effectiveness of membership renewal efforts.

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for January 19, 2008.

RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION

RESERVE THIS DATE

**RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION
37TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**
Saturday, June 21, 2008
Westport

for further details see your spring newsletter

TIME to RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Please renew your membership **BEFORE** the end of March. It is very costly to send out reminder letters. You risk missing your Spring newsletter if you renew late. Please note the increase in membership rates to \$25 for individual and \$30 for household.

Thanks kindly, Sheila Menard – Membership
Director

RIDEAU TRAIL CLOSED Tuesday, March 18, 2008

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

From the editor: This is your newsletter. Please keep those articles and pictures coming. If you enjoyed a hike or outing or learned something along the way then chances are that other members will enjoy reading about it.

SKIING BIRTHDAY IN BANFF

by Steve Kelly

"I'd like to go skiing on my birthday - in Banff."

That was a year ago January, during a ski in Gatineau Park with Dorothy Belter. She was going to have a 'significant' anniversary next year and wanted a special celebration. Having previously hiked in the Rockies with her, the opportunity to see the mountains in winter was especially appealing.

Because we wanted to ski to a backcountry cabin, we made the focus of our trip the historic Skoki Lodge, built in the 1930s in Banff National Park. Our base was the Canadian Alpine Centre in Lake Louise - spartan, but comfortable accommodation. Each night we took turns preparing group meals, dining quite well.

One of the prettiest skiing areas was along the Pipestone River, across the highway from the village - a landscape of snow-laden evergreens, meadows, and mountain views.

Before skiing into backcountry, Paradise Valley was a perfect choice for a full day on mountain trails. Our trip into the valley followed the summer trail: ski-tracked, and un-groomed. After half an hour of awkward climbing through the trees, the trail moderated. Tantalizing glimpses of the mountains pulled us along. Emerging from the trees, we were awed by the splendour of Paradise Valley. We skied about 14 km, surrounded by meadows, clouds, and snow-capped Mt. Temple.

We knew the distance to Skoki Lodge, since I had been there in the summer, but that was all. The route climbed two mountain passes and crossed a high elevation lake. Reaching the first pass, it would be wide open for about 4 km, but would it be wind-blown? Icy? Cold? Would our Ottawa skis be OK?

A day on the trail provided the answers. The snow was good up to Deception Pass - the high point. However, the ski tracks were not very deep or well-defined, so we experienced some side-slipping. The 11 km route was marked with tall, red poles (slalom gates?) which helped our navigation under the heavy cloud cover.

Coming down from Deception Pass to Skoki - "I don't think I've ever gone so fast on skis." - Dorothy.

Lack of shadows and sparse tree cover affected our speed perception, making it difficult to recognize how fast we were going! On the other hand, this terrain and the new snow from recent days combined to make conditions perfect for powder skiing. The next morning, three of us returned to those ideal conditions.



Who went? Jim Leeson, Dawn and Steve Carrick, Steve Kelly, Judy Leeson, Dorothy Belter, Caroline Cheng, and Morris Davison.
Photo: Dawn Carrick.

We had two more days of skiing at Skoki Lodge before our ski out. Our accommodation was two small cabins, separate from the main lodge. We

had carried in only clothes and equipment. The remaining necessities were provided by Skoki - food, bedding, towels, etc. Naturally, they served birthday cake our first night.

Skoki's location and topography offer cross-country skiers a variety of opportunities. The valleys between the mountains are generally deep and fairly wide, so the ups and downs are usually gentle. The scenery combines forest, meadows and peaks.

Our day trips included visits to two backcountry campgrounds and a park warden's patrol cabin. One group skied a circle around Skoki Mountain, while others ventured up a creek bed into a pass that provided some of the trip's most spectacular scenery. That coincided with our one day of clear weather. There's nothing like blue sky and sunshine to improve the view.

So Dorothy celebrated her special birthday in fine style, enjoying a taste of skiing in the Rockies, and surviving to tell the tale.

ORIENTEERING ANYONE

by Nigel Brereton

We have just done a "brochure exchange" with the Ottawa Orienteering Club to introduce their members to the RTA and ourselves to their activities.

The first thing I learned is that "orienteering" is not necessarily "bushwhacking" as each of their events consists of three levels:

- One where you use a map alone to find control points on a trail;
- One where a compass is also needed but the control points are close to a trail, and
- One where you would be well off trail.

The other thing I learned is that you do not have to be a runner to enjoy orienteering as you can "walk the course" and enjoy the scenery. Rather than thinking of it as a competition, think of it as a way of improving your use and

understanding of a map, sense of direction and use of a compass – all of which will give you a better feeling of confidence in the woods and thus benefit you as a hiker. The Ottawa Orienteering Club offers basic instruction courses periodically. Many of their events are at different locations in Gatineau Park.

The Club has an informative website at www.ottawaoc.ca and upcoming events are also recorded on their information line at 613-226-2773.

Whereas our slogan may be "see you on the trail", theirs is "see you in the woods", but remember, these are not mutually exclusive.

SKYLINE HIKERS OF THE CANADIAN ROCKIES

Join the many hikers from the Rideau Trail Association who have enjoyed hiking and camping with this non-profit organization.

There are five 6-day base camps in the back country of Banff National Park from mid-July to mid August 2008. Hikers carry only a day pack, but must be fit for mountain hiking. Hike fee approximately \$900.00. Includes return bus transportation from Banff to trailhead, tent accommodation, wholesome meals, camp staff, guided day hikes.

For information and a free brochure contact:

1-866-445-3774

e-mail: registrar@skylinehikers.ca

website: www.skylinehikers.ca

Ontario contact: Volunteer Harry

Moerschner: 705-445-0267

WINTER END-TO-END HIKING 2008

The decision last year to have two groups proved successful. About two dozen members participated in each group.

GROUP 1: This group is from the Ottawa area. Last year they reached Murphy's Point and will be continuing towards Kingston from there. They travel a minimum of 15 km per day. Leaders are Grant Malinsky 613-842-8736 and Bernie Kerr 613-258-9675. The first outing is January 5. Meet to leave at 8:30 a.m. from the Lally Homestead, Murphy's Point Provincial Park, km 145.1 on map 8, edition 7 of the Rideau Trail Guidebook. Additional days will be January 6, 18 (night hike), 19 and 20; February 2, 3, 16 and 17. Contact the leaders for details.

GROUP 2: This group comes from Kingston. They are hiking towards Ottawa and travel a minimum of 10 km per day, led by Bill Murdoch 613-389-3023. The first outing is January 5. Meet to leave at 8:30 a.m. from 9th Concession Rd. and Salem Rd., km 108.2 on map 6, edition 7 of the Rideau Trail Guidebook. Additional days will be January 6, 18 (night hike), 19 and 20; February 9, 10, 23 and 24. Contact the leaders for details.

Participants can expect to be on the trail a minimum of 5 hours. If snowshoes are needed, they are fun, easy, and you can expect lots of help. Skiers are welcome but must arrange their own transportation.

Join us to work towards a winter end-to-end badge, or a weekend or even a day. We think you will enjoy it. This is year six!

Bill Murdoch

RIDEAU TRAIL NAMEPINS

Names count – especially to the hiker next to you who can't remember yours! Let's have everybody comfortable on our hikes.

Order your custom NamePin using the form found on page 19.

CONGRATULATIONS

The following RTA members completed the Kingston End to End in 2007. Joy Webster, Maryetta McDowell, Susan Irving, Elaine Lowen, Audrey Sanger, Don Bond, Sandra Muis, Staff Huff, Sandra Lopes and Sheila Menard.



Beware of Perils along the Trail!

Dave Miller had quite a surprise when he visited this outhouse while hiking the Buck Lake trail in 2006. Immediately after entering the privy, it fell over with its door up against a tree, trapping Dave inside! Lucky for him, he was hiking with Linda Sterling and Janet Laraway who helped him escape. *Photo: Janet Laraway*

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BARBECUE

The second annual Volunteer Appreciation barbecue was held at Foley Mountain Conservation area. Approximately seventy volunteers enjoyed a wonderful day, delicious and plentiful food, a hike and a swim. A big thank-you to the Kingston club who hosted the event this year.

How many people can you identify in the collage below?



Photos: Ernie Trischuk, Linda Haack

PHOTO CONTEST ENTRIES

Three prizes were awarded in the photo contest – two for photos and one for an anecdote. Margaret Lafrance's winning entry is shown below.



These pictures were taken on a hike I led in September 1994, on a now abandoned section of the Rideau Trail near Richmond. The main reason for the hike that day was to dedicate a bridge to a recently deceased long time member of the Ottawa Club. The bridge, engineered and constructed by Rideau Trail volunteers, was very impressive but it did appear to be over a dry creek. Further on down the trail we encountered a heavily flooded section where we were forced to take off our shoes, roll up our pant legs and wade through the water.

Looking at these photos now, I am wondering in which order they were taken. Was the bridge moved by those two strong men after we waded through the flooded area?!



Gunhild Karius' winning entry.



“The little things worth noticing...”

Above: Praying Mantis – Participant in Frontenac Challenge

Left: Trillium or Quadrillium? 4 Petals / 4 Leaves!

Barbara Powell's winning entry "Four Flats and a Trail" was published in the Summer 2007 newsletter.

From the Webmaster:

My name is Paul Jean; I'm also known as "PJ". I'm excited about contributing to the RTA as the volunteer webmaster. I look forward to hearing from members via email at web@rideautrail.org or by phone at 613-830-2853. Submissions, updates and feedback are welcome.



Hikers rest at Tawinda in Gatineau Park.

Photo: Art Ferri

RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION - CENTRAL CLUB ACTIVITIES

WINTER 2007

The meeting place for Central Club activities is Conlon Farm in Perth. To reach this recreational area, take the main street (Gore Street) southeast through Perth to County Road #10 (Scotch Line), turn right towards Westport, then turn at the 4th side street on the right, Conlon Drive, to the Conlon Farm parking area. If in doubt regarding any aspects of the hike or other activity call the leader or the Central Club hot-line at 613-264-8338.

Wednesday Morning Wanderers

There will be a level 1, moderate-paced hike every Wednesday morning, departing from Conlon Farm. Time and destination will be announced to Central Club members by e-mail at the beginning of each week. For more information contact Margaret Lafrance 613-267-4360.

Saturday, December 1 Rideau Trail

Foley Mountain to Narrows Lock

Meet 9:00 am. Level 1 hike, 12 km. Gas \$3.

TRAILING BRUCE: Bruce Gourley

613-283-5967

Sunday, December 9 Rideau Trail

Perth to Beveridges Locks

Meet 9:00 am. Level 1 hike, 14 km. Gas \$2.

THAT'S ANOTHER STORY: Don Sherwin

613-264-0759

Sunday, December 16 Round Lake Loop,

Murphys Point Park

Meet 11:30 am. Level 1 hike, 12 km, followed by Christmas celebration dinner at Skye Dragon restaurant in Perth. Gas \$2.

HE MUST BE LOOPY: Don Sherwin

613-264-0759

Saturday December 29 – Upper Canada

Village “A Light At Night”

Kingston invites you to join them at Upper Canada Village. RSVP by December 26. See Kingston schedule.

Sunday, January 6 Murphys Point Park

Meet 10:00 pm. Level 1 hike, ski or snowshoe. Gas \$2.

VISIT MRS. MURPHY'S WITH: Don Sherwin

613-264-0759

Saturday, January 12 Rideau Trail

Lions' Club Park to Bedford Mills

Meet 9:00 am. Level 2 hike, 16 km. Gas \$4.

NO STRAYING FROM THE TRAIL WITH:

Janet Laraway 613-284-2127

Thurs. January 17 Leaders' Planning Session

Bring your ideas for spring hikes and early summer canoeing to: 8 Taggart Cres., Perth at 4:00 pm

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE TWIN

ORGANIZERS: Don Sherwin 613-264-0759 and Dorothy Hudson 613-283-0332

Sunday, January 20 Mica Mine Conservation Area

Meet 10:00 am. Level 2 snowshoe or hike, 12 km. Gas \$2.

LOOK FOR THE DIFFERENT ANIMALS, BIRDS AND OBJECTS WITH: Don Sherwin 613-264-0759

Saturday, January 26 Millpond Conservation Area

Meet 10:00 am. Level 1 hike or snowshoe. 6-8 km. Gas \$3.

TWO IN ONE WITH: Josee Aghajanian
613-283-5967

**Friday, Saturday, Sunday, February 1, 2, 3
Algonquin Park**

Meet 10:00 am. Friday. Ski or snowshoe the Park trails, staying in Whitney. Carpool. Sign on before January 15 to ensure a spot.

4 A GOOD WEEKEND: Dorothy Hudson
613-283-0332

Saturday, February 9 Murphys Point Park

Meet 10:00 am. Level 2 ski or snowshoe, 8 km.
Gas \$2.

FIND THE HAYSTACK WITH: Bruce Gourley
613-283-0759

Sunday, February 17 Crotch Lake

Meet at 10:00 am. Level 1 hike, snowshoe, ski, followed by pot-luck at Linda and Bruce Sterlings'. Gas \$5.

SHE DESERVES A MEDAL FOR HER
EFFORTS: Linda Sterling 613-279-1109

**Saturday, February 23 Alba Wilderness
School Trails**

Meet 10:00 am. Level 2 snowshoe or hike, 6-8 km on trails in this beautiful, privately owned wilderness area. Gas \$5.

GET INTO THE WILDERNESS WITH:
Margaret Lafrance 613-267-4360

**Have you renewed your membership?
Please do so today!**

Sunday, March 2 Rideau Trail, Skycroft Area

Meet 9:00 am. Level 2 hike or snowshoe, 9 km.
Gas \$5.

THE MOON IS THE LIMIT WITH: Gunhild
Karius 613-264-2861

Saturday, March 8 Mill of Kintail

Meet 10:00 am. Level 1 hike, snowshoe or ski followed by visit to Ironworks Pub in Almonte.
Gas \$5.

FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD
WITH: Dorothy Hudson 613-283-0332

**Sunday, March 16 Wheelers' Sugarbush,
McDonalds Corners**

Meet at 10:00 am. Level 1 hike, ski or snowshoe, 8 km, followed by pancakes and maple syrup.

Gas \$5.

YOU CAN HAVE CHOCOLATE TOO:

Veronica Airth 613-264-8824

**Saturday, March 22 K&P Trail, Clarendon
Station to Sharbot Lake**

Meet 10:00 am. Level 2 hike, 12 km. Gas \$5.

BRING YOUR NO URANIUM SIGNS AND
JOIN: John Miller 613-264-8824

Sunday, March 30 Foley Mountain

Meet 9:30 am. Level 2 joint hike with Kingston
RT Club. Gas \$3.

WE'RE PROUD OF OUR LEADER: Gunhild
Karius 613-264-2861

Participants' Responsibilities

Participants are expected to choose a trip suitable to their physical abilities and skill level. At the start they should inform their leader of any health problems or potential difficulties with their equipment. Each participant will respect all financial obligations. The volunteer leaders will expect the support and co-operation of each participant. Parents and guardians are expected to supervise their own children.

In Memoriam - Mohan Taagepera

We note with sadness the passing of Mohan Taagepera on November 11, 2007. As a hike and snowshoe leader with the Ottawa Rideau Trail Club for several years, Mohan brought to these activities his welcoming smile, unique style, and intimate knowledge of his surroundings in the Gatineau Park. Our condolences to his family and to his loving friend, Kay Methot. Mohan will be missed by all who knew him.

RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION - OTTAWA CLUB ACTIVITIES

WINTER 2007

The meeting place for Ottawa Club activities can be one of three main locations along the OC Transpo transitway. Although traditionally, the meeting place has been at the R.H. Coats Building (Statistics Canada), now two other meeting locations along the OC Transpo transitway are frequently used. As a result, hike descriptions include the meeting place as one of the following three start locations.

<u>Tunney's Pasture</u> The parking lot of the R.H. Coats Building (Statistics Canada) on the west side of Parkdale Avenue just north of where it intersects with Scott Street. The Tunney's pasture OC Transpo stop is one block away.	<u>Fallowfield Park & Ride</u> The northwest parking lot of the OC Transpo Fallowfield Park & Ride station located at Fallowfield and Woodroffe. If you travel by car take the first left after you enter the Park & Ride facility, turn right into the lot and go across the parking lot to the far side.	<u>Baseline Park & Ride</u> The parking lot at the OC Transpo Baseline Park & Ride station on Woodroffe Avenue south of Baseline Road. Meet at the south-east corner of the parking lot. All cars must proceed to the trailhead and must not remain in the parking lot.
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Transportation for hikes is by car-pooling of private cars; passengers contribute to the driver's costs. Fees for parking and entry to parks and conservation areas are shared between the driver and the passengers. Scheduled activities take place regardless of weather. For more information about a particular activity call the leader at the number listed. If you are unable to reach the leader or if you need general information, contact the Ottawa Club at 613-860-2225. See page 11 for Participants' Responsibilities and back cover for Levels of Difficulties.

Leaders: Blank sign-up sheets are available from Elizabeth Mason 613-729-6596 or on the RTA WEB site. Please send completed sign-up sheets to Elizabeth at 283 Avondale Ave., Ottawa, ON, K1Z 7G7 e-mail: emmason@sympatico.ca.

Tuesday Skating

Don't be depressed by the end of the hiking season. Soon you can join the Graceful (or not) Gliders on the canal. All are welcome. Skate at your own pace – it's impossible to get lost. When the canal is open, we meet on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Fifth Avenue change hut. After a wonderful skate, we visit a local pub for snacks or a beverage. For canal conditions, check the NCC web site or call 613-239-5234. LEADER: Janet Murphy 613-728-8072 or jkm@magma.ca

Impromptu Saturday Skiing

Saturdays as soon as skiing starts and when no ski outing is scheduled, there are impromptu level 2 or better ski outings in Gatineau park – weather and conditions permitting. Depart Tunney's Pasture 9:30 a.m. Destination to be determined. **Warning:** these outings are

- NOT for beginners
- May be long and may include challenges
- Involve shared leadership responsibilities and are generally organized at the meeting point

Contact: Esther Hault 819-775-9695

Level 1 Impromptu Saturday Snowshoeing

Saturdays, when no other snowshoe outing is scheduled on the weekend, there are impromptu level 1 snowshoe outings in the Western Greenbelt. Depart at 12:30. Do not go to Tunney's Pasture. Meet at Baseline Park-and-Ride at the **south-east** corner of the parking lot. All cars must proceed to the trailhead and must not remain in the parking lot. **Participants must call the leader Saturday morning to confirm in light of variable weather and snow conditions.**

LEADER: Jean Cottam 613-726-1569 or cell 613-299-8856

Level 2-3 Impromptu Saturday Snowshoeing/Hiking

Saturdays, when no other snowshoe outing is planned that weekend, there are impromptu snowshoe/hike outings in the Gatineau. Depart Tunney's Pasture at 9:30 a.m. Destination to be determined.

Note: These outings are run on much the same basis as the Wednesday Walkers. Expect to be out for 4 to 5 hours plus a lunch stop. Be flexible and bring your own ideas. Bring lunch and wear warm clothes in layers.

Contacts: Chris Heap 613-740-9975, Alex Macdonald 613-302-2137, Wally Kalbfleisch 613-728-8072

Wednesday Walkers

Every Wednesday there are level 2 and 3 hikes or cross-country ski outings in Gatineau Park. Departure time is 9:30 a.m. Call Dorothy Belter 613-523-4420 or Nanette Whitwam 613-747-2985 for more information including the meeting place. Do not go to Tunney's Pasture.

Tuesday, December 11 - Christmas Lights Urban Walk

Level 1. Enjoy the lights on the Hill and at the Museum of Civilization. Approximately two hours depending on the weather. Gather afterwards for refreshments (location TBD). **Do not go to Tunney's Pasture.** Meet at the parking lot on the EAST side of the National Library and Archives Building off Wellington Street. Depart 6:00 p.m. LEADER: Pat Archer 613-565-6149

Saturday, December 15 – Hike Marlborough Forest

Hike somewhere in the Marlborough Forest - exact location to be determined - and stop on the way home for a hot drink. Bring lunch or a snack and warm layered clothing. Level 1. 5 to 10 km, depending on conditions. Meet at Tunney's Pasture to depart at 10 a.m. Gas \$4. LEADER: Elizabeth Mason 613 729-6596

Saturday, December 22 – Level 1 Impromptu Snowshoe and Level 2/3 Impromptu Snowshoe
See details above.

Saturday, December 29 – Level 1 Impromptu Snowshoe and Level 2/3 Impromptu Snowshoe
See details above.

Saturday December 29 – Upper Canada Village “A Light At Night”

Kingston invites you to join them at Upper Canada Village. RSVP by December 26. See Kingston schedule.

Sunday, December 30 – Ski Gatineau Park

Skiing. Level 2. On trail, route depending on conditions. Gas \$5. Depart 9:30 a.m. Tunney's Pasture. LEADER: John Barron 613-828-2296

January 5&6 Weekend #1 - Winter End-to-End on Rideau Trail

Level 1-2. See description on page 6.

Jan. 5: Meet at Lally Homestead, Murphy's Point Provincial Park, at km 145.1 on map 8, edition 7 of the Rideau Trail Guidebook. Do not go to Tunney's Pasture.

Jan. 6: Contact leader for details.

LEADERS: Grant Malinsky 613-842-8736 and
Bernie Kerr 613-258-9675

**Saturday, January 5 – Level 1 Impromptu
Snowshoe and Level 2/3 Impromptu Snowshoe**
See details on page 13.

Saturday, January 12 – Ski Gatineau Park
Cross Country Ski - P5 (Penguin) to Keogan via
Ridge Road side trails on return. About 15 kms,
moderate pace. Meet at Tunney's at 9:00 a.m.
Please confirm with leaders if you plan to attend.
LEADERS: Cliff and Gloria Daly 613-224-4413
cliff.daly@rogers.com

Sunday, January 13 – Hike Marborough Forest
Winter Hike. A pleasant walk past woods and
wetlands. Hike the Rideau Trail from Dwyer Hill
Road to Earth Star Loop Junction return. Level 1+.
11 km. Depart 12:00 noon from Eagleson Road
West Side Park & Ride (west side of Eagleson Road
and Queensway) Note: Number 96 bus stops in
front of the Park & Ride. Gas: \$5.
LEADER: David Spector 613-270-1046

**January 18, 19 & 20 Weekend #2 - Winter End-
to-End on Rideau Trail**
Level 1-2; See description on page 6. Contact
leader for details.
LEADERS: Grant Malinsky 613-842-8736 and
Bernie Kerr 613-258-9675

Saturday, January 19 – Snowshoe Clinic
Snowshoe Clinic and Level 1 Snowshoe.
Short climbs / descents. Bring lunch or snack.
Depart: 9.30 a.m. Meeting place to be confirmed.
Gas: \$3. Please call leader after January 12 to
confirm participation and to indicate whether you
need snowshoes. The leader will reserve them
(approx. \$12/day).
LEADER: Theodora Newton 613-569-3540.

**Saturday, January 26 – Level 1 Impromptu
Snowshoe and Level 2/3 Impromptu Snowshoe**
See details on page 13.

Sunday, January 27 – Ski Gatineau Park
Ski on NCC trails; P17 Wakefield Parking lot to
Herridge Lodge for lunch. 20 km. Level 2+ Gas
\$5. Depart 9:30 a.m. Tunney's Pasture.
LEADER: Dave Audette 613-224-1147
Email: dg.audette@sympatico.ca

**Sunday, January 27 - Snowshoe/Hike near
Merrickville**
Snowshoe or hike in the Merrickville area. Level 1.
10 km. Meet at the Merrickville Blockhouse at 10
a.m. LEADER: Denis Faulkner 613-269-2136
Ottawa members meet at Tunney's Pasture at 9 a.m.
Gas \$5.
CONTACT: Coby Fuykschot 613-722-6022

Saturday, February 2 – Snowshoe
At the Nepean Campsite on Corkstown Road (P3)
Level 1. 6 km. Meet at Moodie Drive and
Corkstown Road at 10:30 a.m. Those travelling by
bus take bus 96 heading to Stittsville and get off at
Moodie Drive, then walk north for 5 minutes to the
meeting place. All participants will go by car to the
trailhead (P3) and will start from there. No charge
for gas. A small snack is suggested.
LEADER: Don Grant 613-828-1026

Saturday, February 2 – Ski Gatineau Park
Level 3 (back-country, 10 km max, 4 or 5-hours)
largely off-trail ski trip if snow conditions permit,
starting from Wakefield (P17). Otherwise a
snowshoe outing (avoiding ski tracks) from P17
towards Carman Lake. Due to leader's speed limit
this will not be a fast trip. Participants should have
some experience with waxing skis for going uphill,
and wear and carry adequate clothing so there is no
need to race along just to stay warm. Depart
Tunney's Pasture 9:00 a.m. Gas \$5.
LEADER: Stan Rosenbaum 613-596-4288,
srosen@magma.ca

**February 2&3 Weekend #3 - Winter End-to-End
on Rideau Trail**
Level 1-2; See description on page 6.
LEADERS: Grant Malinsky 613-842-8736 and
Bernie Kerr 613-258-9675

Saturday, February 9 - Ski Gatineau Park

Level 2. Gatineau Park. From P12, a combination of smaller trails such as numbers 21, 20, 9, 18, and 40 depending on conditions. Gas \$4. Depart 9:30 a.m. Leaders: Don Carpenter/Marilyn Booth 613-730-3879

February 16 & 17 Weekend #4 - Winter End-to-End on Rideau Trail

Level 1-2; See description on page 6.
LEADERS: Grant Malinsky 613-842-8736 and Bernie Kerr 613-258-9675

Saturday, February 16 – Ski Gatineau Park

Ski a loop from P12 to Western Lodge by various trails depending on conditions. Approx 12 km. Level 2 ski. Gas \$4. Depart 9:30 a.m. Tunney's Pasture
LEADER: Alex Bissett 613 828-4363 or
Email: alexbissett@sympatico.ca

Saturday, February 16 – Level 1 Impromptu Snowshoe and Level 2/3 Impromptu Snowshoe

See details on page 13.

Saturday, February 23 - Snowshoe Gatineau Park

Level 2+ or 3 depending on snow & weather conditions. Curley Lake - Fairburn Bay loop from Steele Road, about 11 km. Gas \$5. Departs 09:30 a.m. from Tunney's Pasture.
Leader: John Haley 613-225-0590

**Have you renewed your membership?
Please do so today!**

Saturday, March 1 – Level 1 Impromptu Snowshoe and Level 2/3 Impromptu Snowshoe

See details on page 13.

Saturday, March 1 – Ski Gatineau Park

Ski from the Booth Hill area on the less used trails to Keogan Lodge for lunch. Location of ski may change due to snow conditions. Level 2. 10 km.

Meet at Tunney's Pasture. Depart 9:30 a.m. Gas \$3.
LEADER: Elizabeth Mason 613 729-6596

Saturday, March 8 – Level 1 Impromptu Snowshoe and Level 2/3 Impromptu Snowshoe

See details on page 13.

Would you like to be a hike leader? Why not give it a try? Contact Elizabeth Mason at 613-729-6596. She can help to get you started.

**Ottawa Stores
offering RTA members
10% discounts on regularly priced goods**
Bushtukah Great Outdoor Gear
203 Richmond Rd. (613-792-1170)
The Expedition Shoppe
43 York St. (613-2418397) and
369 Richmond Rd. (613-722-0166)



Group 1 Winter End-to-End leaders Grant Malinsky and Bernie Kerr. Photo: Denise Belcher

RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION - KINGSTON CLUB ACTIVITIES

WINTER 2007

The meeting place for all our activities, unless otherwise stated, is the **Canadian Tire parking lot** along Bath Road towards the gas station. Be there shortly before the departure time indicated. Bring lunch, extra water and sun screen. 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. Leaders may obtain blank sign-in sheets from Joan Bailey at 613-389-1935, and should return completed sheets to her at 709 Davis Drive, Kingston, K7M 7X5.

Please note: Pace scale: slow 2-3 km/hr, moderate 3-4 km/hr, fast 4-5 km/hr, very fast 5+km/hr.

Wednesday Walkers

Depart at 1:30 pm, except on the second Wednesday of the month when an all day outing is scheduled (see below). For information on these afternoon walks, call the Milloys at 613-530-2142.

Saturday, December 29 - Upper Canada Village "A Light At Night"

Hike near village in the afternoon. Level 1, moderate pace. Optional: skating at outdoor rink or touring around the village. Supper at Harvest Barn 5:00 pm, followed by horse drawn ride around the village to see the lights (\$3). Admission to village \$4. Depart at 12 noon. Gas \$9. Call Pat by Dec 26 to reserve dinner and for further details.

LEADER: Pat Casey 613-385-2356.

Saturday, January 5 - Little Cataraqui Conservation Area

Ski or hike around the conservation area. Level 1, moderate pace. Distance depends on weather conditions. Depart at 9:30 am. Gas \$2.50.

LEADER: Yvonne Hawkins 613-384-9717.

Tuesday, January 8 - Spring Planning Session

Members willing to be leaders or who wish to suggest new locations for the spring season are invited to attend this planning session. Meet at 7:00 pm, 117 Park Street, Party Room.

CONTACT: Linda Line 613-531-4353.

Wednesday, January 9 - RMC, Fort Henry, Barriefield

Hike, level 2, slow pace, followed by refreshments at Tim Horton's. Depart 10:00 am. Gas \$2.00.

LEADER: Audrey Sanger 613-384-6244.

Saturday, January 12 - Harrowsmith to Sydenham

Hike to Sydenham and return on the Cataraqui Trail. Lunch stop in the tea room. Level 1, moderate pace, 12 km. Depart at 10:00 am. Gas \$4.

LEADER: Stan Huff 613-548-3003.

Sunday, January 13 - Skate Under The Stars at Market Square

Meet at the rink on corner of King & Brock at 7:00 pm. Warm up with a brew at local pub after skate.

LEADER: Jennifer Gazley 613-634-2286.

Saturday, January 19 - Lemoine Point

Ski or hike, level 1, moderate pace. Distance depends on weather conditions. Depart at 9:30 am. Gas \$2.

LEADER: Yvonne Hawkins 613-384-9717.

Saturday, January 26 - Cataraqi Trail

Ski or hike on the Cataraqi Trail to Sydenham East and return. Level 2, moderate pace. Distance depends on weather conditions. Depart at 9:00 am. Gas \$4.

LEADER: Sandra Muis 613-542-8224.

Sunday, January 27 - Gananoque Area

Easy snowshoe or hike in the woods and fields. Lunch in a warm place. Short hike in the afternoon. Easy level 2, moderate pace. Depart at 9:00 am. Gas \$5.

LEADER: John Cornish 613-382-4778.

Sunday, February 3 - Lemoine Point

Ski or hike. Level 1, moderate pace. Distance depends on weather conditions. Depart at 9:00 am. Gas \$2.

LEADER: Jennifer Gazley 613-634-2286.

Saturday, February 9 - Frontenac Park

Ski or hike from the trail centre to Big Salmon Lake on the road. Level 2, moderate pace, 8 km. Depart at 9:00 am. Gas \$5.

LEADER: Elgin Bock 613-389-4216.

Saturday, February 9 - Opinicon Road

Ski or hike depending on conditions. Opinicon Rd along the Old Bedford Rd (partially flooded areas), past Hamilton Lake to Massassauga Rd (Buck Lake Loop) returning to Opinicon Rd. Level 2, moderate pace, approx 12 km. Depart at 9:00 am. Gas \$5. Please phone for hike or ski conditions.

LEADER: Don Coulter 613-542-9998.

Wednesday, February 13 - Mystery Hike

Mystery hike at a moderate pace. Depart at 9:00 am. Gas \$3.

LEADER: Audrey Sanger 613-384-6244.

Saturday, February 16 - Depot Lake

Hike in the Depot Lake area. Level 2, moderate pace, 10 km. Depart at 10:00 am. Gas \$5.

LEADER: Audrey Sanger 613-384-6244.

Thursday, February 21 - Frontenac Park

Ski or hike from trail centre to Big Salmon Lake on the road. Level 2, moderate pace, 8 km.

Depart at 9:00 am. Gas \$5.

LEADER: Elgin Bock 613-389-4216.

Saturday, February 23 - Little Cat Conservation Area

Hike or ski Little Cat Area. Level 1, moderate pace. 10 km. Lunch at trail centre. Depart at 10:00 am. Gas \$2.50.

LEADER: Stan Huff 613-548-3003.

**Have you renewed your membership?
Please do so today!**

Saturday, March 1 - Cataraqi Trail

Ski or hike from Sydenham towards Perth Rd and return. Level 1, moderate pace. Distance depends on weather conditions. Depart at 9:00 am. Gas \$4.

LEADER: Yvonne Hawkins 613-384-9717.

Sunday, March 2 - Lemoine Point

Ski or hike Lemoine Point. Level 1, moderate pace. Depart at 9:30 am. Gas \$2.

LEADER: Jennifer Gazley 613-634-2286.

Saturday, March 8 - Charleston Lake

Hike west side trail of Charleston Lake. Level 2-3, moderate pace. 10 km. Depart at 9:00 am. Gas \$6.

LEADER: Pat Casey 613-385-2356.

Sunday, March 9 - Gould Lake

Hike Gould Lake trails. Conditions permitting hike from Park Gate on main trail and double

back through Ridge Walk, Mine Loop, Tom Dixon Trail and Wagon Trail. Level 2+, moderate pace. 16 km. Gas \$5. Depart at 9:00 am.

LEADER: Bill Ottney 613-858-3183.

Wednesday, March 12 - Landon Bay

Hike includes the best lookout over the islands. Possibility of further hiking in the afternoon depending on weather conditions and participants. Level 2, moderate pace. 6 km. Depart at 9:00 am. Gas \$5.

LEADER: Don Coulter 613-542-9998.

Saturday, March 15 - Spring Pot Luck Dinner Party

Start off the hiking season by saying good bye to winter at our spring party. Bring an appetizer, main course or dessert and your own booze to: Queen's Women's Association, 144 Albert Street. Time 6:00 pm. There is a charge of \$3 per person for room rental.

CONTACT: Linda Line 613-531-4353.

Sunday, March 16 - Gananoque Trail

Loop around the town, through woods and along the water front. Level 1, moderate pace. 11 km. Depart at 9:00 am. Gas \$5.

LEADER: John Cornish 613-382-4778.

**Tuesday, March 18 - RIDEAU TRAIL
CLOSED FOR ENTIRE DAY**

Saturday, March 22 - Annual Visit to Maple Sugar Shack

Maple syrup available to purchase. Bring your lunch. Level 1, fast pace. 8 km. Depart at 10:00 am. Gas \$4.

LEADER: Bill Murdoch 613-389-3023.

Sunday, March 23 Easter - no hike

Sunday, March 30 - Foley Mountain - Joint Hike With Central Club

We're teaming up with the Central Club for this spring outing! Level 2, moderate pace. 10 km.

Depart at 9:00 am. **Central Club meet at Foley's Mountain 9:45 am.** Gas \$6.

LEADER: John Cornish 613-382-4778.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
KINGSTON CLUB**

Hike Planning Team: We need one person to join the 4-member team that puts together the Club's activities schedule each quarter. Most of the hikes are generated through the Hike Leaders Planning Meetings. The volunteer would take the leadership for preparing one quarterly schedule for the Newsletter each year. Computer word-processing ability is required for this.

Cataraqi Trail Management Board - needs a Hiking Representative. The Rideau Trail Association nominates persons to represent the "Hikers" interests. Our nominee would ensure that the Cataraqi Trail continues to be a high-quality hiking destination. Monthly meetings are on Thursday evenings.

For further information or to volunteer please phone JOHN CORNISH 613-382-4778 or contact him by e-mail at Cornish@kos.net.

Advance Notice

**Kingston Club
Annual General Meeting**

Saturday, April 19, 2008
Cataraqi Regional Conservation Area
Outdoor Centre

for further details see your spring newsletter

Recent donors to the RTA Fund:

Nick Daniel

Robert Groves & Marianne Lods

Brooke & Ruth McNabb

Recent donors to the RTA Preservation Fund:

Wilma Greenley

M.J. Moore

Margaret Ann Varner

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The RTA membership year runs from April 1 to March 31, but if you join after October 31 your membership will be extended to the end of the following membership year. Your fees entitle you to receive the quarterly newsletter, and to vote at Association and local Club meetings. They also provide essential financial support for the continuous maintenance, improvement, extension, and protection of the Rideau Trail.

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

All members must be at least 18 years of age.

() Annual Individual Membership \$25.00

() Annual Household Membership \$30.00
(Two adults at the same address)

() Patron (Life Membership) * \$500.00

() Trail Guidebook:

Members-insert only ** \$25.50

Members-insert & cover ** \$35.50

Non-members-insert & cover ** \$39.95

() Car Sticker (free to new members) \$1.00

() RTA Hiker Namepin - **Please fill in name** \$6.00
box below

() Crest \$2.00

() Enamelled Pin \$6.00

() Wall Map ** \$12.00

() Donation-Rideau Trail Association * \$_____

() Donation-Rideau Trail Preservation Fund * \$_____

* Qualifies for income tax credit

(No 11911 9485RR 0001)

** Includes postage and handling

Prices subject to change TOTAL \$_____

In addition to enjoying hiking and other activities sponsored by the three local clubs, there are many other ways for you to be actively involved in the Rideau Trail Association. If you are willing to participate please check any of the activities on the right which interest you. You will be contacted when your help is needed.

Name on RTA Hiker namepin (print in CAPS)

PLEASE INDICATE MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

New () Renewal () Life ()

(Please Print)

Name(s):

Address:

Postal Code:

Telephone:

If you wish to receive the RTA e-letter as well as the mailed Newsletter then provide your e-mail address below.

E-mail address:

() Maintaining trails

() Leading hikes

() Leading cross-country ski or snowshoe outings

() Communicating with members

() Recording information

() Carrying out publicity activity (displays, presentations)

() Hosting social events

() Serving in an executive capacity as....

() Other. Please specify...



PM40022816
RETURN UNDELIVERABLE
CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO
Rideau Trail Association
P.O. Box 15
Kingston, ON K7L 4V6

LABEL

TIME to RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Please renew your membership **BEFORE** the end of March. It is very costly to send out reminder letters. You risk missing your Spring newsletter if you renew late. Please note the increase in membership rates to \$25 for individual and \$30 for household.

Thanks kindly, Sheila Menard – Membership
Director

HIKING LEVELS OF DIFFICULTY

Level 1 Well-defined trails, gentle inclines. Suitable for beginners.

Level 2 Generally on trail. May be hilly, light bushwhacking, some rough spots or obstacles. Boots recommended.

Level 3 Rough terrain. One or more of extensive bushwhacking, steep sections, long climbs and descents, beaver dams or other obstacles, rock climbing. Boots, level 2 experience and a high level of fitness essential. Long pants and sleeves recommended.

The following people received their End-to-End badge in 2007!

Congratulations

#438 MARYETTA McDOWELL
#439 GEORGE BLUNDELL
#440 DINI BLUNDELL
#441 PETER F. RICE
#442 FAYE RICE
#443 NANCY KIEFER
#444 RUTH HUTCHINSON

The following people received their Winter End-to-End badge in 2007!

Congratulations

#26 SANDRA MUIS
#27 MARIE WARNER
#28 KATHRYN FOURNIER