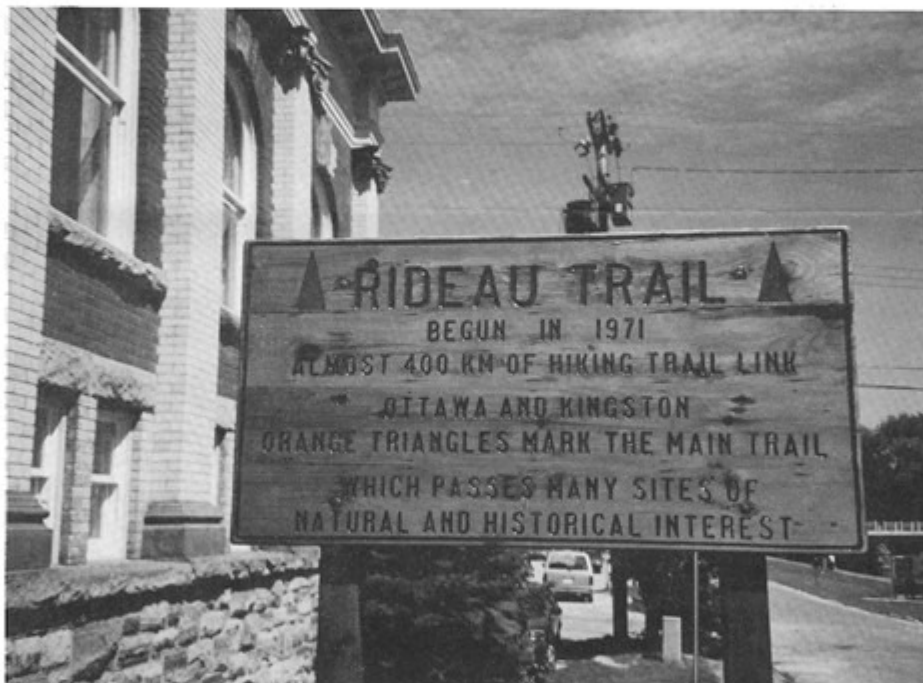




The Rideau Trail NEWSLETTER

FALL 1992

ISSUE No.85



The Rideau Trail Newsletter is published quarterly in December, March, June and September by the Rideau Trail Association. The editor of this issue is Patricia Hardy assisted by Lynn Nolan of the Kingston Rideau Trail Club.

Submissions for the next newsletter are encouraged. Pictures to accompany articles are desirable. Black and white are preferred as they print more clearly, but colour with good definition are acceptable. These are to be sent to the following person by **December 1**.

Frank W. Kemp,
701-1705 Playfair Drive,
Ottawa, Ontario, K1H 8P6

Phone (613) 736-9939

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

ISSN 0703-7085

THE RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 1991-92

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Kingston Representative	Shirley Conkie	Kingston	544-2832
Ottawa Representative	Peter Brebner	Ottawa	729-8178
Central Representative	Dorothy Hudson	Central Smiths Falls	Unlisted

COVER CREDIT: Rideau Trail sign in Perth, Ontario. Photo by Richard Wickman, Rochester, N.Y.

Since our A.G.M. is being held in Perth this year I thought that it might be a good idea if we knew a little about the town. I phoned the Chamber of Commerce in Perth and received quite a package. I certainly could not use all of the materials they sent me but here are a few of the gleanings I made from the materials they sent me. Credit should be given to the following authors of these materials: Peter and Susan Code and Michael Taylor. (Editor)

Last summer the Town of Perth celebrated its 175th anniversary. The Town of Perth as it is known today was founded in 1815 by a hardy group of Scottish pioneers. The town was named after the city of Perth Scotland, and it was natural that the river on which it stands took its name after the Scottish Tay.

Perth area was favourably described by the pioneers to their friends in the homeland, and in May 1815 three ships, the Atlas, Batiste Merechant and Dorothy, loaded with immigrants sailed from Greenock. Being too late to go right to their new home the settlers wintered in Prescott and Brockville and continued to the area of Scotch Line in April the next year. The same year many military men and settlers arrived to settle in the area.

Perth however, may be called a strictly military settlement, as most of its inhabitants were half-pay officers and discharged non-commissioned officers and men who were relieved of active duty when peace was declared between the United States and England after the 1812 War.

The Town started to develop when the first store was established by William Morris on the south side of the Tay River. As the settlement grew people of various occupations, needed by the townsfolk, moved in. Of note was the Reverend Michael Morris of the Episcopal Church. His son, James, became the first native of Perth. Life was difficult and luxuries few but the people persevered to make the town a thriving community. (Cont'd P.12)

RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Rideau Trail
Association will be held on:

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th, 1992.

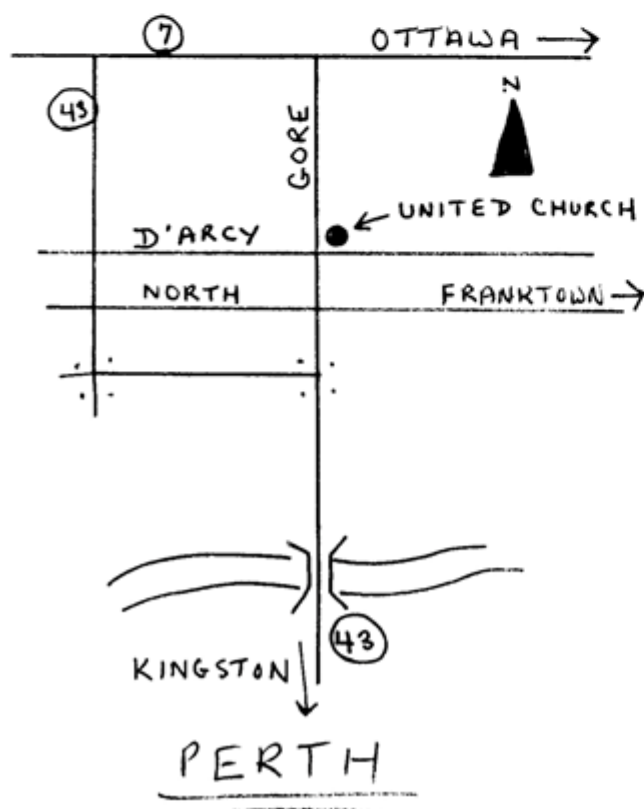
At Perth United Church.
(Corner of D'Arcy & Gore Streets, Perth)

10:00 a.m. Refreshments
10:30 a.m. Business
12:00 noon Lunch (Bring your own)
1:00 p.m. Afternoon activities
5:30 p.m. Dinner

Dinner is by reservation only and is \$12.00. A hot dinner will be catered by the ladies of Perth United Church. There is a choice of roast beef or turkey. You must make a reservation on or before Sunday September 20, indicating your choice of meat.

Reserve for dinner by phoning:

Kingston:
Lynn Nolan - 389-8747
Central and Ottawa:
Elizabeth Mason - 729-6596



THE FIFTH ANNUAL MERRITTHON

The NIAGARA BRUCE TRAIL CLUB is sponsoring a ONE DAY long distance hike on the Merritt trail. The hike will be from Port Colborne on Lake Erie to Port Dalhousie on Lake Ontario. The full distance will be 45 kilometers.

The Merritt Trail is fully groomed, flat and easy walking. Experienced hikers should be able to complete the hike in about 9 hours with a couple of rest periods and a lunch break.

The meeting point will be at Rennie Park in Port Dalhousie. Exit north off the QEW onto Ontario Street and then turn left (northwest) onto Lakeport Road. The park is just off Lakeport Road at the north end of Martindale Pond. Starting time will be at 7:30 am on Saturday, October 3, 1992.

There will be a registration fee of \$6.00 per person which includes the price of a Merritt Trail Badge and Certificate on completion of the hike. The fee also includes bus transportation.

Send your name, address and registration fee to:

John McIntyre,
104 Riverside Drive,
Welland, Ontario
L3C 5E2
or Phone 416-734-4636

WINTER SKI WEEKEND - LAKE PLACID
January 29 to 31, 1993 - Early Registration
is required (see article in this issue for details)

INFORMATION REQUIRED

It was suggested at the last board meeting that it would be advantageous to have information about the flora, fauna, and geological aspects of the Trail since requests are often made for this information by people hiking on the Trail. If you have this type of information or are interested in exploring and writing about it, we would appreciate hearing from you. Contact your Routes and Negotiations person:

Ed Gill, Kingston - 389-3108
Peter Brebner, Ottawa - 729-8178

BED & BREAKFAST ALONG THE RIDEAU TRAIL

By Pearl Peterkin

Have you ever wondered as you did your End-to-end whether there were B & B's available along the stretch of Rideau Trail that you walking? I was reading a magazine celebrating Perth's 175th Anniversary and came across an advertisement for the Town & Country group of B & B's, all of which might be useful to Rideau Trail members. Here are the names and addresses, as well as a little information on each of them:

WOODROW FARM - Century Victorian farmhouse with comfortable rooms. North of Perth, just east of Balderson (Yes, that's right - where the cheese factory is). Member of Ontario Vacation Farm Association (OVFA).

John and Ann Miller
RR 1, Balderson, Ontario
K0G 1A0
613-267-1493

RILEY'S ON THE RIDEAU - Resort setting on Big Rideau Lake, overlooking Horseshoe Bay.

Colin and Jacquie Riley
RR 3, Perth, Ontario
K7H 3C5
613-267-5463

LINDENMEADOW FARM - In the hills of Lanark County, 12 miles NW of Perth. Country-style breakfasts. Cross-country skiing. Member of OVFA.

Georg and Gerta Lindenstruth
RR 1, Lanark, Ontario
K0G 1K0
613-259-2693

HOUSE ON THE CORNER - Victorian brick home right in Perth. Four bedrooms.

Opal Van Alstine
53 Wilson Street
Perth, Ontario
K7H 2N3
613-264-0901

MCDONALD'S CORNERS BED & BREAKFAST - This is a bit off the Trail, but handy to the Purdon C Conservation Area to see the Lady's Slippers.

Penelope Bass
RR 1, McDonald's Corners, Ontario
K0G 1M0

MAUD'S B & B - Secluded cabin on the bank of the Tay River at the rapids, Port Elmsley.

Anne Porter
RR 5, Perth, Ontario
K0H 3C7
613-267-5760

REPORT FROM THE BOARD

A meeting of the Rideau Trail Association Board of Directors was held on July 11th at Murphy's Point. Our President informed us that our provincial charter has been renewed, so we can now call ourselves RTA Inc.

Following some discussion of problems that have arisen along the trail, it was decided that an up-to-date list of landowners is desirable and action will be taken by the clubs to maintain one.

Ron Maybury reported on the annual meeting of the Ontario Trails Council, which he attended. This organization is working with the Ontario Government for the conversion of abandoned rail lines into recreational trails.

Peter Brebner reported on his work to improve the trail by rerouting along the Jock River from Twin Elms into the village of Richmond. Markers should be in place in the near future.

Planning meetings have now been held in Kingston and Ottawa areas and a report on the priorities developed will be presented for discussion at the Annual General Meeting. This is to be held at the United Church in Perth on September 26th. The next Board meeting is scheduled for October 26th, in Perth.

RIDEAU TRAIL OTTAWA CLUB OUTINGS

The hikes described below normally take place as scheduled regardless of the weather and the **RENDEZVOUS POINT FOR THE HIKES IS ALWAYS THE CORNER OF BOOTH AND ALBERT STREETS IN OTTAWA** at the times indicated. This is the departure time. Private cars are used for transportation to the trail head and hikers are asked to contribute to the drivers' gas cost, in the amount indicated below (where not indicated, it is usually \$3.00). Some hikes will be followed with optional refreshment stops, but this is usually decided on the day, unless otherwise indicated.

The autumn list features a variety of hikes to suit all tastes and other activities in December. The program includes the concluding hikes of the END TO END series and the first of a series of loop hikes. Please take note of the descriptive details for all activities so that you will not be disappointed. Except for afternoon walks, hikers should bring a lunch. For specific information on individual events, phone the leader indicated, and for more general information, or if the leader is not available, phone Bill Grant, Activities Coordinator at 820-0697. Hike leaders are asked to collect names and phone numbers of the participants and send them to Bill Grant.

Wednesday Walkers

Every Wednesday, there are hikes in the Gatineau Park. These hikes are sometimes very vigorous and are definitely for beginners or persons not in good physical condition. Good footwear is recommended and hikers should bring a lunch and water. The meeting time is 9:30 a.m. and the place, the corner of Booth and Albert. Call Dorothy Belter at 532-4420 or Nanette Witwam at 231-5417 for more information.

Saturday, September 26 AGM Perth

Members requiring transportation meet at Booth and Albert at 9:00 am.

For further information see the notice page 3 in the newsletter.

Saturday, October 3 Slide Lake Loop

A vigorous 14 km hike in what may be the most attractive part of Frontenac Park. This is the first of a series of loop hikes and is not a hike for beginners. Bring a lunch and good footwear. Gas contribution \$6:00

DEPARTURE TIME: 8:30 am.

LEADER: Alex Bissett 828-4363

Sunday, October 4, Gatineau Park

A vigorous hike from Pilon's Road to Twin Lake, returning via the "Yellow Box" route. Bring a lunch and wear good footwear with grip. Not a hike for beginners

DEPARTURE TIME: 9:00 am.

LEADER: Graham Creedy 233-1657

Friday, October 9 Wine and cheese at the Schoolhouse, followed a moonlight walk.

Dessert contributions gratefully accepted. Bring your own cup or wineglass. This will also represent an opportunity to organize an adhoc hike during the Thanksgiving weekend.

DEPARTURE TIME: 6:30 pm. (Booth & Albert)

or go directly to the Schoolhouse for 7:00 pm.

LEADERS: Ron Maybury 489-2255

L. Laughland 723-8851

Saturday, October 17 Gatineau Park.

See the fall colours in the park! A moderate hike in the Lac Phillippe area. Bring a lunch and good footwear.

DEPARTURE TIME: 9:00 am.

LEADER: Bev Armstrong 738-0310

Sunday, October 18 15th Annual Joint Outing with Ottawa Field Naturalists.

A general interest walk on the various trails in the Mer Bleue area, possibly mushrooms. Bring a lunch and good footwear.

DEPARTURE TIME: 10:00 am.

LEADER: Bob Bennett 749-7440

Saturday, October 24 A Joint outing with the Central Club

An interesting hike of moderate length in the Snow Road area. Bring a lunch and good footwear. Gas contribution \$6:00.

DEPARTURE TIME: 8:30 am.

LEADER: John Miller 1-264-8338 or

Bill Grant 820-0697

Sunday, October 25 Maintenance Day

Help maintain the trail in good condition or participate in building a bridge.

DEPARTURE TIME: 9:00 am.

LEADER: Chris Jones. 824-3512

Sunday, October 25 Map and Compass Practice

For those who wish to learn or practice these techniques. Basic map reading skills are a prerequisite.

CONTACT: Graham Creedy 233-1657

Saturday, October 31 Gatineau Park

A hike of approximately 12 km. Bring lunch and good footwear.

DEPARTURE TIME: 9:30 am.

LEADER: Marion Dunning 232-8304.

Sunday, November 1 Gatineau Park

An afternoon hike for two or three hours east of Meech Lake. No lunch necessary, but bring a snack if you wish.

DEPARTURE TIME: 1:00 pm.

LEADER: Elizabeth Mason 729-6596.

Saturday, November Bird Sanctuary

Once again we visit this fascinating area for an easy 12 km. hike, where we will see a wide variety of trees, fern species, and perhaps wildlife. Bring a lunch and good footwear. Gas contribution \$5.00.

DEPARTURE TIME: 9:30 pm.

LEADER : David Spector 829-6802

Sunday, November 8 Gatineau Park

A moderate hike to visit Lusk Lake and Lusk Caves. Bring lunch and good footwear.

DEPARTURE TIME: 10:00 am.

LEADER: Barb Sigurdson 521-7311

Wednesday, November 11 Mystery Hike

Commemorate Remembrance Day by hiking on a new trail located by the Wednesday Wanderers. Bring a lunch and good footwear. Possibly a long day. Gas contribution \$5.00.

DEPARTURE TIME: 9:30 AM.

LEADER: Bill Grant 820-0697

**Saturday, November 14 - Sunday, November 15
GRAND FINALE!! END TO END HIKES**

Hike from Sydenham to Kingston (30 kilometres total (16km. the first day)

All hikers to meet at Booth and Albert at 8:30 am. on Saturday. Arrangements will be made for those requiring motel accommodation. Other make their own arrangements. For motel accommodation in Kingston contact Bill Grant by October 31. Others may wish to drive to Sydenham on Saturday and to Kingston on Sunday. Saturday's hike begins in Sydenham at 12:00 noon, rendezvous at the hamburger restaurant in the centre of the village near the main crossroads. Sunday's hike rendezvous is also at 12:00 noon, where the trail crosses Elginburg road.

CONTACT: Bill Grant 820-0697

Sunday, November 22 Raisin River Valley

A repeat of last fall's unusual hike from Martinstown to Williamstown in historic Glengarry. Bring a light lunch, but there will be a restaurant stop at the end of the hike. Gas contribution \$5.00

DEPARTURE TIME: 9:00 am.

LEADER: David Spector 829-6802

Sunday, November 29 Rideau Trail

An easy day on a section of the trail appropriate to weather and ground conditions. Bring a lunch and good footwear. Refreshments afterwards.

DEPARTURE TIME: 9:30 am.

LEADERS: Geoff Berry & Margaret LaFrance 731-4832

Saturday, December 5 Final hike of the year!

Location to be determined by weather and ground conditions. Not a vigorous hike. Bring a lunch and good footwear.

DEPARTURE TIME: 10:00 am.

LEADER: Joanna Ede 731-1541

Early December Pot Luck Supper

Roger McCullough will host a pleasant social evening. Date to be determined.

Register by December 3 by calling Roger at 731-7596 or Bill Grant at 820-0697.

Saturday, December 12 Slide Show

Geoff Berry and Margaret LaFrance will host a slide show with refreshments. Members wishing to show slides of hiking or canoeing trips contact Bill Grant at 820-0697 by December 5.

All members are welcome to attend

7:00 pm. at 1880 Arizona Avenue.

**RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION
CENTRAL CLUB FALL OUTINGS**

FOR HIKING INFORMATION AND FOR PARTICIPATION IN NON-LISTED OUTINGS CALL THE HOT LINE 264 - 8338

Sunday, September 20 Smyths Bay Canoe/Hike

Join us for the Canoe and Hike outing to Smyths Bay and High Falls near "Ted Pearl", a new experience.

Bring a canoe, (if possible), swimwear, lunch and item for Pot Luck Supper at Wanda's. Meet at Conlon Farm at 9:00 am.

LEADER: Wanda Pelletier 278-2157

Monday, September 21 Annual General Meeting

See page 8 in the newsletter for details.

Sunday, October 4 Ragged Chutes

Hike from King Dam to Ragged Chutes. Bring Lunch - good firm gripping footwear required. Meet at Conlon Farm at 9:00am.

LEADER: John Miller 264-8338

Saturday, October 24 Lanark County

Joint scheduled outing with the Ottawa Club. Join us for this eventful day. Bring a lunch. Meet at Conlon Farm at 9:30 am.

LEADER: Don Sherwin 268-2447

Sunday, November 15 Cononto and Palmerson

Visit the Cononto and Palmerson Conservation Area as well as hiking part of the K&P Trail around Snow Road. Bring a lunch. Meet at Conlon Farm at 9:00 am.

LEADER: Don Sherwin 268-2447

Saturday, December 5 Perth Tay

A Joint Hike with the Kingston Club, commencing at the Tay Basin and ending at Beverages Locks. Meet at the Tay Basin at 10:00 am.

LEADER: John Miller 264-8338

RIDEAU TRAIL KINGSTON CLUB OUTINGS

All hikes start from the northwest corner of Sears parking lot. When a hike is not listed on Wednesday, meet for a walk at 1:30 pm. Always come prepared for rugged hiking, bring a lunch and respect the hike leaders decisions. Ill-equipped hikers will be discouraged from starting on rugged hikes. Call the leader in advance if in doubt of your ability to handle the outing. There will be car pooling organized with passengers contributing towards the gas. Fires should be laid only in designated sites. Leaders are reminded to send their attendance to Peggy Harding 546-7202. Hike suggestions and offers of leadership can be made to Jean Thompson 544-0340.

Saturday, September 5 Wolf Island Bicycle Trip.
Bicycle on Wolfe Island. Bring a lunch and swimwear.
Meet at the ferry dock at 9:00 am. to get the 9:15 ferry.
LEADER: Peggy Harding 546-7202

Sunday, September 13 Sandbanks
Hike in Sandbank Provincial Park (West Branch). Bring a lunch and swimwear.
Meet at Sears north parking lot at 9:00 am.
LEADER: Allan Tattersall 549-4080

Saturday September 19 Rideau Trail
Hike the trail from Catteraqui Cemetery to Elginburg Rd. (9Km). Be prepared for wet areas. Bring a lunch.
Meet at Sears north parking lot at 9:30 am.
LEADER: John Willis 376-3723

Saturday, September 26 A.G.M.
See notice page 3 in the newsletter.

Sunday, October 4 Hike Ontario Day
Introduce your friends to the joys of hiking. Hikes planned are:

Hike #1 - Frontenac Park
Christian Barber is presenting an historical tour. There will be a one-hour session in the trail centre, followed by a 10 km. hike. Please call leader before October 1, if you plan to attend.
Meet at Sears north parking lot at 8:45 am.
LEADER: Norm McLeod 546-9440

Hike#2 - Rideau Trail
Hike the beginning of the trail from Elevator Bay to Catteraqui Cemetery and back, stopping for lunch at Jean Thompson's. 10 km.
Meet at Elevator Bay at 9:30 am.
LEADER: Alberta Edgar 542-9662

Saturday, October 10. Rideau Trail.
Hike from Desert Lake Road to Gould Lake barn and back. Rugged Terrain.
Meet at Sears north parking lot at 9:00 am.
LEADER: Stan Douglas 389-2563

Monday, October 12 Thanksgiving Day
Enjoy a guided walk through the Catteraqui Cemetery. The trail winds past stately trees and the grave of Sir John A. McDonald.

Meet at Sears north parking lot at 3:00 pm.
LEADER: Cathy Cutts 542-5414
The walk will be followed by dinner at a local restaurant at 5:00 pm. Contact Lynn Nolan at 389-8747 if you plan to attend.

Saturday, October 17. Maintenance Day
We need your help to maintain our trails. Bring a lunch and implements, if you have them. Would maintainers please send reports of your sections to the maintenance co-ordinator Bernie Gates 389-1835.
Meet at Sears north parking lot at 9:00 am.

Monday and Tuesday, October 19 & 20
Cathy's B&B See elsewhere in the newsletter.

Saturday & Sunday October 24-25 Backpacking or hike.
Anyone interested in a Backpacking Weekend for October 24/25, please contact Bob Tolley at 542-9626 by October 18. If there is to be no packing, Bob will lead a hike in Frontenac Park. Call for verification and particulars.

Sunday November 1 Arkon and Salmon Lakes
Hike Arkon and Salmon Lakes area. Rugged Terrain, so wear strong boots. Bring a lunch. There is a charge per vehicle in Frontenac Park.
Meet at Sears north parking lot at 9:00 am.
LEADER: SU NAG 546-6041

Saturday, November 7 Cedar Lake Loop
Hike the Cedar Lake Loop in Frontenac Park. Not difficult but long (15 km.) Bring a lunch and wear strong boots. There is a charge per vehicle in Frontenac Park.
Meet at Sears north parking lot at 9:00 am.
LEADER: Janice Ley 542-9958

Wednesday, November 11 Charleston Lake Park
Hike the short trails east of Running's Bay. Bring a lunch.
Meet at Sears north parking lot at 10:00 am.
LEADER: Donald Cutts 542-5414

Sunday, November 15 Slide Lake Loop
Scenic but rugged. Strong boots recommended. Bring a lunch
Meet at Sears north parking lot at 9:00am.
LEADER: Patricia Lynn 546-3993

Saturday, November 21 Rideau Trail
Hike the trail between Desert Lake Road and West Slide Lake Junction (11 km.) Bring a lunch
Meet at Sears north parking lot at 9:30 am.
LEADER: Allan Tattersall 549-4080

Sunday, November 29 Rideau Trail

Hike the trail from Bedford Mills to Westport Dam (13 km.)

Bring a lunch.

Meet at Sears north parking lot at 9:00 am.

LEADER: Peck Peckover 544-9190

Saturday, December 5, Rideau Trail

Join John Miller and the Central Club on a hike from Port Elmsley to Perth. Bring a lunch, but we will finish up with tea in Perth.

Meet at Sears north parking lot at 9:00 am.

LEADER: Bernie Gates 389-1835

Wednesday, December 9 Little Cataraqui Conservation Area.

Hike the Sugar Bush and Pine Loops, followed by a tour of their new building. Bring a lunch.

Meet at Sears north parking lot at 9:30 am.

LEADER: Jean Thompson 544 0340

Saturday, December 12. Coffee and Dessert Party

Social gathering at Pat Hardy's place. A little R & R in the midst of Xmas shopping. Bring your favourite dessert.

Phone Pat Hardy 548-1268 or Lynn Nolan 389-8747

for details.

Sunday, December 13 Rideau Trail

Hike from Sydenham to Gould Lake Conservation Area.

About 10 km. Bring a lunch.

Meet at Sears north parking lot at 9:30 am.

LEADER: Douglas Carmichael 542-8628.

Saturday, December 19 Wagon Trail

Hike or ski the Wagon Trail into Gould Lake Barn. Bring a Lunch

Meet at Sears north parking lot at 10:00 am.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

We frequently receive inquiries from people who want to ride bicycles on the trail. The trail crosses private land and conservation areas. We do not have permission for bicycle riding in these areas. The land owners have been very gracious to permit passage of the Rideau Trail over their land and in return we have an obligation to respect their wishes regarding the use of their land. Please spread the word that the Rideau Trail is for **walking and skiing only**. And remember that the only thing to be left behind are light footprints or ski tracks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTRAL CLUB

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE
RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION**

Monday, 21st September, 1992

at

McMartin House, in Perth,

Commencing

7:00 p.m.

BED AND BREAKFAST HIKES

Marlborough Forest Area

October 19 - 21.

Enjoy the fall colours over level terrain in the Marlborough Forest. Accommodation at local Bed & Breakfast. Three days of hiking.

To reserve a place phone Cathy Cutts 542-5414
before October 1, 1992.

**THEATRE
SPECIAL EVENT**

A Kingston theatre evening is in the planning stages for a Domino Theatre production early February 1993 called "**The Farnsdale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society Murder Mystery**". Please call Lynn Nolan, 389-8747 (after 6) for details later in the fall and watch for further details in the December newsletter.

BED AND BREAKFAST HIKES

Trails of the Moira River Conservation Authority

By Cathy Cutts

Based in Tweed at the Park Plaza Motel overlooking Storo Lake, a group of Kingston Club members hiked for three days in three very different areas.

Sheffield with its lakes and rocky outcroppings on a sunny day was perfect. There were some very spectacular views of "Blue Lakes and Rocky Shores" Canadian Shield terrain is special - we all agreed! Also an opportunity for a swim in Little Melon Lake at the end of the hike was very refreshing.

Nanderwater, with the Moira River gently flowing over the limestone terraces was a contrast. There are trails through plantations of conifers as well as riverside. As we had some heavy rain that day so we toured Hasings County Museum, Glanmore House in Belleville. We were sorry to miss Quinte which has old fields and hedgerows - great for studying wildflowers and birds.

At Madoc we walked the abandoned railway which runs south from the town through a swampy area and lunched at a friend's cottage on the shores of Moira Lake. Again some went for a swim. If you hike in these areas be sure to bring your bathing suit.

O'Hara Mill has an historical theme with several buildings to visit. This pioneer farm settlement depicting the evolution of agricultural life from 1847-1935. Buildings include the Mill House, Log Schoolhouse, Blacksmith and Woodworking Shops and driveway to display vintage equipment.

The trails in the area, though short, are varied, wooded with gentle hills and moss covered stones along the stream. The mill pond seemed to have a healthy population of bullfrogs. What a chorus!

What's a mini holiday without visiting tea rooms, coffee shops, flea markets and craft shop? There is a great variety in this area.

We also managed to fit in a walking tour of the fine old buildings of Tweed including the jailhouse 18 x 22 feet built in 1900 and used as an information booth since 1965. It may be the smallest in North America. Fortunately we were not detained.

Editor's note. I went along on this trip and would like to thank Cathy and Donald Cutts for a well-planned and very pleasant trip.



PHOTO #1 - Left to Right - Kay Graham, Pat Hardy, Bird Sampson, Cathy Cutts, Diane Duttie - lunch in Sheffield Conservation Area.

PHOTO #2 - Enjoying the lake view

PHOTO #3 - Cathy Cutts, Pat Hardy and Bird Sampson walking the old railway track south of Madoc.

WINTER SKI WEEKEND

Due to the excellent service and enjoyable time at the Swiss Acres Motor Inn last year as well as the good snow conditions we have decided to return in '93 to Lake Placid. We will have the opportunity to finish the Jackrabbit Trail to Keene, the most scenic section, as well as ski at the Whiteface Inn Nordic Centre. We will be departing on Friday morning January 29 at 8:30 am and return Sunday evening, January 31. The total cost of \$195.00 Canadian includes 2 nights accommodation, 3 dinners, 2 breakfasts, transportation in a washroom equipped bus, tax, gratuities and a one day pass to the ski centre. Accommodation is 2 per room, with suites available for 4 singles to share. Single occupancy is \$50.00 additional.

A deposit of \$45.00 is required by September 21 with the balance of \$150.00 due January 1st, 1993. This may be sent at the same time by postdated cheque. Cheques should be made out to R.E. Tolley, in trust, and sent to 40 Grenadier Drive, Kingston, Ontario, K7K 6E8. Payments are totally refundable providing a substitute is available.

For further information call Bob Tolley at 542-9626. Places will be reserved according to date of receipt of deposit and a waiting list will be maintained. The Kingston section hopes that members of the other sections will be able to join us this year.

A DISCOUNT of 10 % off the regular room rates of \$56.00 U.S. weekends, or \$42.00 weekdays, is available at the Inn on presentation of your RTA card, except for Canadian Thanksgiving weekend. This may be of particular interest for fall hiking in the Adirondacks. Phone the Inn at 1-518-523-3040 to reserve or Bob Tolley for more information.

Editor's Note: While the general consensus of opinion at the Kingston AGM was that the Ski weekend should be held in Canada this year our organizer, Bob Tolley, advised that it would be very time consuming to research an alternate location and that he would prefer to visit Lake Placid and the Swiss Acres Motor Inn again this year. This was agreed to by the Executive

RAILS TO TRAILS

By Ray Maybury

Hiking on and around the Rideau Trail we often come across remnants of abandoned railway lines. The Opinicon loop runs partly on the Smith Falls to Strathcona line, and several hikes have been held along the old "Kick and Push" or Kingston and Pembroke Railway.

Some of these lines were abandoned many years ago, when the mines or lumber resources they serviced dried up. Many, however, are being closed today after competing unsuccessfully with road transportation. The rails of the old Pontiac Line along the Quebec side of the Ottawa River have been torn up in the past year.

When lines are abandoned, the railway company gives Provincial Governments the opportunity to purchase the rights-of-way. The Ontario Trails Council has been working for a number of years with the Ontario Government to develop, from these old railways, a network of recreational trails for public use. Such Greenways create environments for wildlife and can provide natural corridors to other habitats in parks and wilderness areas.

The Rideau Trail Association is an associate member of the Ontario Trails Council and keeps a watching brief on the development of rails to trails. The success of this process depends on the ability of local interest groups and individuals to promote trails in their own areas. The South Eastern Ontario Rails to Trails Association, based in Kingston, is pursuing the conversion of a number of abandoned railways in Eastern Ontario.

If these natural corridors are destroyed by sale of sections to private developers, a great opportunity will be lost. Members of the RTA can help in the promotion of Greenways by lobbying their Members of the Ontario legislature at any opportunity.

THE INCREDIBLE BRUCE

By Janice Vansickle

Travel with good companions this wondrous trail
Finding peace and contentment
And life's enduring values
In the all-embracing beauty of God's world

-- From "Impressions of the Bruce"
By Edity Sainsbury

The Bruce Trail does, indeed, inspire poetry.

This was especially true in May when a group from the Ottawa area hiked the northern-most sections of the trail. During eight days and 154 km of hiking, the group traversed lush green meadows under the lazy and curious eyes of grazing cattle. They meandered through forest floors bathed in trilliums. And, they gazed awe-struck from atop the rugged cliffs of the Niagara Escarpment down at the crashing, blue-green waves of Georgian Bay.

Under post-card perfect conditions, they explored caves carved out by years of battle between rock and water. They strolled country lanes and scampered up and down steep rock faces, stopping to admire the unique flora and fauna.

The hike, between the Bruce Peninsula towns of Wiarton and Tobermory, was organized by Rideau Trail members Pearl Peterkin, and John Young. They were joined by Dorothy Belter, Bud Vansickle and Nanette Whitwam.

While some had hiked sections of the Bruce Trail before, it was the first time most had enjoyed the magnificence of the Peninsula. Many agreed the most spectacular part of the hike was the trek around Lion's Head, where the trail follows the edge of the escarpment, providing thrilling views of the rugged shoreline and the majestic expanse of Georgian Bay.

The group stayed in some of the many bed and breakfast spots in the area. Willing hosts provided insight into the trail's history and alerted hikers to the joys the next day's walk would bring.

In all, the Bruce Trail is about 762 km, running from Queenston in the south, near Niagara Escarpment, traversing both private and public lands. This year, the Bruce Trail Association is celebrating the trail's 25th anniversary. For the Ottawa group it was a fitting coincidence to be hiking some of the trail's most beautiful section in the same year.



Photo #1 - from left, Anneke Schwarz, John Martens, Janice Vansickle, Dorothy Belter, Bud Masse, Pearl Peterkin, Gerry Schut, John Young.
Photo #2 - Janice Vansickle and Pearl Peterkin enjoy the view from atop the Niagara Escarpment.
Photo #3 - Two shots of pebble beach along the Peninsula coast.

(Perth Notes Continued)

The last and most publicized duel ever fought in Canada, took place on the banks of the Tay River. Two law students , Robert Lyon and John Wilson fought this duel with pistols on June 13th, 1833. Miss Elizabeth Hughes over whom the duel was fought was a teacher at Miss Ackland's School for Young Ladies. The first shots both missed. However, urged by Lyon's second they repeated the duel and Lyon was fatally wounded. At the insistence of her parents Miss Hughes broke her engagement to Wilson who later became a supreme court judge.

Prior to 1890 there were many cheese factories in operation in the area known as Eastern Ontario and the dairy farmers of the area needed some good advertising. So it was decided to make the world's largest cheese to be shipped to the Chicago World's Fair in 1883. Perth citizens turned out to send it on its way with suitable fanfare. After the fair the cheese found its way to Tooley Street in London and the dining tables of Britain.

I have often wondered what the "Conlon Farm" that is mentioned so often in the Central Hike Shedule was. Now I know. Bordered by Rogers Road, the Scotch Line and the Tay River, Conlon Farm boasts 55 acres of parkland on Perth's western fringe. It is a recreational area providing all types of recreation for all types of people. Over 150,000 users participate yearly in the activities at Conlon Farm.

Riding for Canada from Perth, Ontario *The Winner * Ian Millar & Big Ben. Over the past decade this headline has been used with growing frequency on radio, television and the press throughout the world. Ian is a world champion equestrian rider more than once, and is and an Order of Canada recipient for his contribution to his sport. When not competing Ian can be found at his farm, Millar Brook, just outside of Perth.

Space does not permit the inclusion of all the things there are to see and do in Perth but one could easily spend several pleasant days exploring all the possibilities.

SUBSCRIPTION APPLICATION: Membership year is from April 1st to March 31st. Your membership in the Rideau Trail Association provides financial support essential for the continuous maintenance, improvement, extension and protection of the Rideau Trail network. As a member you will receive the quarterly newsetter and special mailings as well as voting rights in the local club and association activities. **To join or renew complete the form below, place it in an envelope and mail to :**

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

**Ottawa Phone Number 613-567-2229
Kingston Phone Number 613-545-0823
Central Phone Number 613-264-8338**

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|--------------------------------------|---------|
| () Annual Family Membership | \$15.00 |
| () Patron (Life membership) | 200.00* |
| () Guide Book - Members | 15.00 |
| Non-members | 20.00 |
| (plus \$2.00 postage and handling) | |
| () Car Sticker (Free to members) | 1.00 |
| () Crest | 2.00 |
| () Enamelled pin | 3.00 |
| () Rideau Trail Wall Map | 10.00 |
| (Includes \$4.00 Postage & handling) | |
| () Donation to RTA | _____* |
| () Donation to the Corridor fund | _____* |
| Prices subject to change | |

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*Qualify for income tax deduction.
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