



The Rideau Trail

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 1992

ISSUE No. 86



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The Rideau Trail Newsletter is published quarterly in December, March, June and September by the Rideau Trail Association. The editor of this issue is Frank Kemp for the Ottawa Rideau Trail Club.

Submissions for the next newsletter are encouraged (pictures, preferably should be in black and white) and should be sent BY FEBRUARY 1st to:

Patricia Hardy,
115 Wright Cr., Unit 12,
Kingston, Ont., K7L 4T8

Phone: 548-1268

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

ISSN 0709-7085

THE RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 1992-93

President	Betty McIver	Kingston	549-8028
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PHOTOS:

COVER: Skiing - North of Ottawa, courtesy The Editor.
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RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION - FINANCIAL STATEMENT

As of August 31st, 1992

ASSETS

Total Cash	30524
Total Investments (GICs)	48443

EQUITY

	<u>Opening</u> <u>Balance</u>	<u>Operations</u>	<u>Closing</u> <u>Balance</u>
Operating Account:	19798	2239	22037
Publication and Merchandise	18294	6692	24986
Corridor Preservation Fund	18744	1200	19944
TOTAL AT END OF YEAR	56836	10131	66967

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The venue of this year's Annual General Meeting (AGM), which was held on 26th September, was St Paul's United Church, Perth. The arrangements were made by Caroline Whaley with the assistance of Elizabeth Mason. About 80 persons attended. Ron Maybury chaired the business meeting and presented the president's report in the absence of Betty McIver. Highlights of the past year were the successful reincorporation of the Association and the planning meetings held in the Spring. Ron also reported on a National Trail Association meeting he had attended.

Certificates were presented to retiring board members Helen Deek, Sig Swanbergson and Patricia Lynn. Ron thanked the guidebook editor, Pearl Peterkin, who is retiring after the third edition of the guidebook, due out in October. The new Chair of the guidebook committee will be Gerry Hinderks.

End-to-End certificates were presented to Barbara McVicar, Lynn Hinderks, Christine Banfill, Andre Mercier and Charles F. Rowe. End-to-Enders not at the meeting were Peter Roberts, Maxine Oldham and Horst Dannehl. The Outstanding Service award was presented to Su Nag for Kingston and to Elizabeth Mason for Ottawa. After the election of the new board (see verso of title page for the list) the business meeting was adjourned. The rest of the day was occupied with lunch, hikes, a slide presentation by Alex Bissett on trekking in Thailand and Bangladesh, exploring Perth in the rain and a pleasant dinner in the church hall courtesy of the ladies of St. Paul's.



FRIENDS ON THE TRAIL!

As noted elsewhere in the Newsletter one of the RTA's Hike Leaders mentions meeting a group of hikers from the Bruce Trail at the entrance to the Gould Lake Conservation Area. These folks stopped for a chat and a short break before they took off ahead of the Rideau Trail group. They didn't see them again and wondered if they got lost. The picture below is of the Bruce Trail hikers.



To follow up on this episode, the Editor received the following letter just prior to publication;

" I am sorry that I have not written to you earlier to provide the names of the intrepid Toronto area hikers whom your group met in early October.

We had a marvellous three days, finishing up at the Perth Road, after having started at the entrance to the Provincial Park. We plan to hike another two days this coming week-end (1 November), starting from Perth Road and continuing towards Westport. The days are short but the brisk weather is likely to assist our pace. Enclosed is a picture of your group.

If all is well, we will continue your lovely trail in the Spring.

Warren Cooper	Inge Bebi
Bunny Ezer	Stephen Freedhoff
Arnold Landis	Sybil Levine
Mark Jacobs	Myer Levine
Sherry Kelner	

(signed) Stephen Freedhoff"

R.T.A. OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARDS - 1992

KINGSTON CLUB - Patricia Lynn.

The very significant contribution of Dr. Sukriti Nag to the Rideau Trail Association and to the Kingston Club was recognized at the AGM this year when Su accepted the Kingston Club's Outstanding Service Award for 1992.

Since joining the Rideau Trail in 1983, Su has been interested in many aspects of Club and Board activities. She became hike co-ordinator for Kingston in 1985 and continued in this position for five years; during this time she provided a varied programme including back packing and canoe trips and introduced new areas to us, notably Blue Mountain and Grenadier Island. She also drew up a list of notes that were suitable for different times of the year, considering length and terrain conditions - a very useful source of information for later co-ordinators.

During this time, specifically from 1987 to 1990, Su also served as Chair of the Kingston Club and a member of the Board. On our behalf, she obtained a grant from the Ministry of Natural Resources to build a bridge and poster board at Gould Lake; it was her idea that a shelter be built off the Opinicon Loop and that plaques be erected at Elevator Bay to mark the beginning of the Trail and at Foley Mountain to commemorate the official opening of the Rideau Trail in 1971. She campaigned successfully in 1987 to keep the Slide Lake Loop as a side trail and to retain access to the cabin (the latter decision being again rescinded in 1990). She assembled and updated a list of maintainers on the Kingston section and was responsible for the updating and printing of the second edition of the Maintainers' Manual. As Past Chair she has updated the job description for positions on the Kingston Club Executive.

Although no longer serving in an official capacity, Su continues to assist us as a maintainer and hike leader, and although her international travels to give papers give her also the opportunity to hike in places as exotic as Hawaii, she still loves to walk the Rideau Trail.

We all thank Su most sincerely for her dedication to the Rideau Trail; we congratulate her on her professional work which is bringing her international recognition as a neuropathologist; most of all, we wish her happy hiking.

OTTAWA CLUB - Linda Hayes

The Ottawa Rideau Trail Club presented the Rideau Trail Association Outstanding Service Award for 1992 to Elizabeth Mason at the September Annual General Meeting, in recognition of the valuable service she has provided to both the Club and the Association over many years. The criteria for nomination are outstanding service or significant contribution by a member of the Association. Such service or contribution could be in one or more of the following activities;

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

Elizabeth has served the Ottawa Club as Outings Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and as a leader of hikes, ski outings and bicycle trips. She has hosted the Christmas sing-along, while as Vice-Chairman she has organized both the Club and the Association Annual General Meetings for many years, and even written guidelines to help other organizers remember the many details involved.

Elizabeth served as Newsletter editor and in this capacity she organized the hand delivery system in the Ottawa area, which has saved the Association considerable postage costs. She continues to organize personal delivery each time the Newsletter is produced in Ottawa. She has also served on numerous ad-hoc committees, including the one which drafted the guidelines for the Outstanding Service Award.

Elizabeth is a good example of the type of person a volunteer organization like the RTA needs to survive. She's always been full of enthusiasm and new ideas, often bringing a fresh perspective on how things ought to be done.

TO ESTIMATE THE TEMPERATURE outside in degrees Fahrenheit, count the number of times a lone cricket chirps in fifteen seconds and add thirty-seven.

KINGSTON AGM

Saturday, April 24, 1993.

See April 1 Newsletter for details.



TRAIL REROUTING NOTICE

Map 2. After leaving Murton Road the Trail continues until it crosses Railton Road. THE TRAIL PROCEEDS STRAIGHT AHEAD (NORTH), ACROSS A FARMER'S FIELD AND THEN BENDS APPROXIMATELY 35° EAST UNTIL IT JOINS THE OLD TRAIL. (DISTANCE 0.3 Km.). The Trail change is well marked.

OTTAWA CLUB ACTIVITIES

A suggestion has been made for Tuesday evening hikes during June and July. While most of us are trying to adjust to the winter season, your hike planners are already starting to think about next spring and summer. A new suggestion is that we plan for a series of Tuesday evening hikes during June and July. In 1993, this would mean nine of these hikes from June 1 to July 27. We would meet at Booth and Albert at 18:00 (6:00 P.M.) and proceed to the start of the hike which would be in the southern part of Gatineau Park, in the Ottawa Greenbelt, or in another close location. Hikes would be easy to moderate and would last 2-3 hours. Hikes would not be held in the event of heavy rain.

If you have suggestions for destinations, wish to volunteer as a leader or have any other reactions or ideas, call Bill Grant (820-0697) or Roger McCullough (731-7596).

B&B ACCOMMODATION

- KINGSTON AREA.

To all those hikers planning End to End hikes in the Kingston area, the following B&Bs are listed for your convenience;

ANN OPTION 531-8074
91 Carruthers Ave.
Kingston, Ont. K7L 1M3.

HARKAWAY HOUSE, 544-3407
2500 Princess St.,
Kingston, Ont., K7M 3G4.

MAPLE LAWN FARM, 376-3127
Box 19, Sydenham, Ont.
KOH 2T0

NORTH SHORE, 376-3016
RR #1, Sydenham, Ont.
KOH 2T0.

TUMBLEHOME B & B, 376-6958
RR #1, Sydenham, Ont.,
KOH 2T0



"Let's not fool ourselves
The automobile is a wheelchair"

Found along the Trail, early-model hiker, well broken in but with some good use left. This item has been claimed by the finder, who promises to take good care of it, and never to leave it on the trail. Linda Hayes and Don Mitchell, married at Strathmere House, North Gower, 24 Aug 92.

THE PLAY'S THE THING.

- Roger McCullough

Like numerous Rideau Trail members who have completed the Rideau Trail, I have also been hiking on the Bruce Trail recently. In the evenings on our week-long excursions, however, there are no activities scheduled or even available. There is the possibility of playing bridge or other worthy pursuits if there happen to be players in the group. However, I have found that most of the hikers (Oh the shame of it) have tended to spend inordinately long evenings in local restaurants over indulging themselves, and thereby negating the beneficial effects of the active days.

Last year I discovered an appealing new combination of activities. A group of seven of us decided to start to hike the Niagara Section of the Bruce Trail. With the Shaw Festival at Niagara-on-the-Lake so close, we decided to combine hiking with play going. At that time the activities were separated; that is, we went to the plays on the days either before or after hiking. This year, on the holiday weekend in May, we took an extra day off and, using as home base the Queen Elizabeth Way in St. Catharines, we discovered a more advanced combination. We went to a play on the evening of the first hiking day, even after driving from Burlington or Toronto and hiking 12 kms. Saturday was a pure hiking day, with no play scheduled (a concession admittedly, but a fortunate one since we didn't finish hiking until 7 pm). The Sunday we took as a holiday from hiking, and went to two plays, although some of us climbed Brock's Monument in the morning just to keep in shape. Too much play-going, like too much eating, can ruin one's condition.

I found a new challenge later in the summer of 1992: Les Sentiers de l'Estrie (The Eastern Townships Trail) near Sherbrooke, Quebec. This is a 130 km trail through mountainous woods and parks, stretching from the U.S. border near Sutton, through Mount Orford Park to Kingsbury. I found some of my friends were also interested in exploring this new area and I sent for the Guide Book, which was available in French only. However we were further motivated by John Haley's discovery of two English-language theatres in the area (at North Hatley and at

Knowlton). In addition, we realized that the Mount Orford Music Festival takes place all summer just a short distance from this Trail. I chose a motel in Magog, which was close to Mount Orford. The drive to the area takes just over 3 hours from Ottawa, so a regular weekend, with a drive down Friday evening and back Sunday evening, was sufficient for our purposes.

On the first weekend, there were six of us, with two cars. We hiked two sections (about 30 km) in two days and on the Saturday evening saw a play at the Piggery Theatre in North Hatley. We found much of the Trail well-marked and interesting, with fine views of lakes and mountains. However, we thought the Guide Book (dating from 1988) was somewhat out-of-date in places, and one section of the Trail was virtually impassable. This section did not stop us but it delayed us considerably so that we had to rush dinner and were almost late for our play. On the second weekend, there were four of us, with two cars, and we hiked a shorter section, which included an optional climb of Mount Orford. We also went to a string quartet concert instead of a play on the Saturday evening.

On the Bruce Trail, we hope to start next spring on the Iroquois Section and see some more Shaw plays, probably based at accommodation in Stoney Creek. We may also check into the distance from Stratford. For the Sentiers de l'Estrie, we calculate that three more weekends should see us complete this trail. Then, on to Vermont and the Long Trail! We're waiting for next year's play and concert schedules with great anticipation.



RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION OUTINGS

KINGSTON CLUB

The meeting place for all our outings is at the northwest corner of Sears parking lot, unless stated otherwise. During the winter, whether we hike or ski depends on snow conditions in that particular area. Always check with the hike leader so you can come prepared to enjoy the event. When an outing is not listed on Wednesday, meet for a walk at 1:30 p.m. There will be car pooling organized, with passengers contributing towards the gas. 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.

Sun., Dec. 13, Rideau Trail. Sydenham to Gould Lake Conservation Area.
About 10 km. Bring Lunch. Meet at Sears North parking lot at 9:30 a.m.
LEADER: Dugald Carmichael; 542-8628.

Sat., Dec. 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 a.m.
LEADER: Nancy Young; 549-8856.

Sat., Jan. 2, Rideau Trail.
Hike or ski in the Elevator Bay area. This can be managed easily by the novice. Meet at Sears North parking lot at 1:30 p.m.
LEADERS: Cathy & Donald Cutts; 542-5414.

Sun., Jan. 10, Clear Lake.
Hike or ski the ridge between Black and Bear Lakes and the Little Clear Lake loop. Intermediate skiing ability required. 12 to 17 km. Bring a lunch. Meet at Sears North parking lot at 9:30 a.m.
LEADER: Allan Tattersall; 549-4080.

Wed., Jan. 13, Second Depot Lake.
Ski at 2nd Depot Lake Provincial Park. Bring lunch. Meet at Sears North parking lot at 10:00 a.m.
LEADER: Margaret Page; 389-7840.

Sat., Jan. 16, Lemoines' Point.
Ski or hike in this Conservation Area, traversing south to north. Bring a lunch and eat at Lynn's. Meet at Sears North parking lot at 10:00 a.m.
LEADER: Lynn Nolan; 389-8747

Sun., Jan. 24, Picton.
Ski the rolling hills in the Sandbanks area. Bring lunch. Meet at Sears North parking lot at 9:30 a.m.
LEADER: Dale Ross; 384-2959.

Jan. 29 to 31 - Ski Weekend Lake Placid.
Enjoy a weekend of skiing in Lake Placid. There are a few places left for this x-country ski trip. Price is \$195 including five meals, transportation & accommodation. For information, call Bob Tolley, 634-3756

Thurs., Feb. 4, Theatre Night.
Domino Theatre, King Street East, 8 p.m.
"The Farnsdale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society Murder Mystery". Tickets are \$8.00. Lynn Nolan; 389-8747 (after 6 p.m.). Confirmation and payment by 10 January.

Sun., Feb. 7, Murphys' Point Provincial Park. Ski varied terrain. Bring lunch. Meet at Sears North parking lot 9:00 a.m.
LEADER: Larry Dyke; 389-6692.

Wed., Feb. 10, Harkaway House.
Ski the groomed trails at this local B&B. Lunch will be served by Chris Harkness, the owner, at a reasonable price. Please call the R.T. # 545-0823 before Feb 9 and leave your name if you plan to attend.
LEADER: Peck Peckover; 544-9190.

Sat., Feb. 13, Frontenac Park.
Ski the swamps in the southern section of Frontenac Park. Bring lunch. Meet at Sears North parking lot at 9:30 a.m.
LEADER: Eric Usherwood; 542-9958.

Sun., Feb. 21, Family Day.
Ski, skate, snowshoe or toboggan at Little Cataraqui Conservation Area. Bring the whole family! There will be soup and hot drinks available in the Warming Room, but bring along a lunch. Meet at Sears North parking lot to pool cars under the direction of the leader, as there is a \$4.00 charge for each car.
LEADER: Lynn Nolan; 389-8747.

KINGSTON OUTINGS (Contd)

Sat., Feb. 27, Slide Lake.

Ski in the Slide Lake area. This is only recommended for experienced skiers. Bring lunch. Meet at Sears North parking lot at 9:30 a.m.

LEADER: Arne Henrikson; 544-0465

Sun., Mar. 7, Rideau Trail.

Hike the Maple Leaf Rd., between Cottage and Perth Rd. 11 km. Map 10. Bring Lunch. Meet at Sears North parking lot 9:30 a.m.

LEADER: Tom Newton; 542-9253.

Wed., Mar. 10, Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area.

Hike the various trails in this area. Bring a lunch and meet at Sears North parking lot 10:00 a.m.

LEADER: Jean Thompson; 544-0340.

Sat., Mar. 13, Rideau Trail.

Hike the Bullen Road to Elginberg Road and return. Waterproof footwear advised. Bring a lunch and meet at Sears North parking lot at 10:00 a.m.

LEADER: Betty McIver; 549-8028.

Sat., Mar. 20, Pot Luck Dinner.

The Wendholts are hosting this get-together at 5:30 p.m. Please call Lynn Nolan 389-8747 (after 6 p.m.) for details and to confirm your attendance and your dish.

Sun., Mar. 21, Brewers Mills.

Hike on a farm over the rolling hills of Brewers Mills. Bring lunch and meet at Sears North parking lot at 10:00 a.m.

LEADER: Sam Heusel; 542-2201.

Sat., Mar. 27, Rideau Trail.

Hike from Gully Road to Gould Lake Conservation Area. 13 km. Map 2. Bring lunch and meet at Sears North parking lot at 9:00 a.m.

LEADER: Ed Luce; 549-5300

Sun., Apr. 4, Skycroft.

Choice of trails available for hiking. Bring a lunch and meet at Sears North parking lot at 9:30 a.m.

LEADER: Bernie Gates; 389-1835.

Sat., Apr. 10, Lemoine Point Conservation Area.

An early Spring hike in this scenic park. Bring lunch and meet at Sears North parking lot at 10:00 a.m.

LEADER: Alberta Edgar; 542-9662.

Wed., Apr. 14, Rails to Trails.

Hike the abandoned railway tracks from Perth Road to Chaffey's Locks. Bring a lunch and meet at Sears North parking lot at 10:00 a.m.

LEADER: Patricia Lynn; 546-3993.

RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION OUTINGS CENTRAL CLUB

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

Sat., Dec. 5, Perth Tay.

A joint hike with the Kingston club. Commencing at the Tay Basin and ending at Beveridge Locks. Bring a lunch and meet at the Tay Basin at 10:00 a.m.

LEADER: John Miller, 264-8338.

Sat., Jan. 9, Murphy's Point.

A joint hike with the Ottawa club. Hiking or skiing outing to the gentle trails of this Provincial Park. Beginners welcome. There is a vehicle charge to the Park. Bring a lunch. Meet at Murphy's Point at 10:30 a.m.

LEADER: Don Sherwin, 268-2447.

Sun., Feb. 16, Purdon Farm.

Join us for a ski over rolling countryside on unbroken trails. Not too difficult. Bring a lunch and meet at Sylvania Lodge, near McDonalds Corners at 10:00 a.m.

LEADER: Don Sherwin, 268-2447.

Sat., Mar. 15, Surprise Ski.

As weather plays an important part at this time of year we will decide on the venue just prior to the hike-ski. Bring a lunch and meet at Conlon Farm at 9:30 a.m.

LEADER: John Miller, 264-8338.

RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION OUTINGS

OTTAWA CLUB ACTIVITIES

This winter we offer a larger number than ever of ski outings in January and February. There are no ski outings scheduled in March because of the uncertain weather and snow conditions. UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED, THE RENDEZVOUS POINT FOR DAYTIME WINTER OUTINGS IS AT BOOTH AND ALBERT. Please be on time. Private cars are used and skiers are asked to make a contribution to the drivers' cost. The amount to be contributed is \$3.00 unless otherwise specified. In some cases, outings also involve a park admission fee. All ski outings are subject to cancellation due to adverse weather conditions.

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 until Jan. 24. After that date, Nanette Whitwam at 730-5417 will be accepting general calls. Please read the descriptive details, so that you will not be disappointed. End-to-End hikes will resume in the spring.

Once again we express our thanks to the club members who volunteer to lead these activities and request participants to make their job as easy as possible.

Wednesday Walkers. Every Wednesday there are ski outings during the skiing season and walks at other times. These activities tend to be vigorous and are not for beginners. The meeting time and place is always 9:30 a.m. at Booth and Albert. Call Dorothy Belter, 523-4420 or Nanette Whitwam, 730-5417

Mon., Dec. 21 Christmas Carols Janice Gray will host a pleasant evening of carol singing at her Glebe home, followed by refreshments, Starting time - 8:00 p.m.
Registration necessary.
Phone Bill Grant, 820-0697 by December 18

Thurs., Dec. 31 New Year's Eve Potluck Dinner and Party! Celebrate the end of the year with Rideau Trail Club friends at Irene Elce's house at 8:00 p.m., bring your skis or snowshoes from 6:30 p.m., if the weather & snow are suitable.
Registration necessary. **CONTACT:** Lorraine Laughland 723-8851 by December 24,

Fri., Jan. 8 Moonlight Ski in the Gatineau Up the Parkway to a heated hut; ski out by moonlight. Bring ingredients for dinner, a drink, and a candle. Numbers limited - registration necessary.
Phone Barbara Krieger 235-0604 by Jan. 6.

Sat., Jan. 9 Murphy's Point Provincial Park A joint outing with the Central club. A pleasant day's skiing on rolling landscape, not too difficult. Gas contribution - \$4.00.
DEPARTURE TIME: 9:00 a.m. at Booth and Albert or Murphy's Point Park Ski Lodge at 10:30 a.m..
CONTACT: Bill Grant 820-0697 or John Miller 1-264-8338

Sun., Jan. 10 Gatineau Park

A pleasant afternoon ski of not more than three hours. Newer skiers will have a chance to ski in the woods and try some hills. Bring a snack and a hot drink, if you wish. No park admission fee.
DEPARTURE TIME: 1:00 p.m.
LEADER: Elizabeth Mason 729-6596

Sat., Jan. 16 Snowshoe Outing

A challenge for snowshoers on the Schoolhouse Loop; about 2 1/2 hours. Bring a lunch. Warm up in the Schoolhouse.
DEPARTURE TIME: 11:00 a.m.
LEADER: David Spector 829-6802

Sat., Jan. 16 Potluck Supper

Roger McCullough will host a pleasant social evening at 6:30 p.m. at 6 Tammela Court in Ottawa (south-east). Registration necessary. **CONTACT:** By 14 Jan.
Phone: Roger McCullough 731-7596 or Bill Grant 820-0697

Sun., Jan. 17 Ski Outing.

A cross country ski outing for beginners and intermediate skiers. Bring a lunch and warm clothing. There may be a Park admission charge.
DEPARTURE TIME: 9:00 a.m.
LEADER: Peter Brebner. - 729-8178

OTTAWA CLUB WINTER ACTIVITIES (Contd).

Sat., Jan. 23 Gatineau Park

Moderately difficult skiing on one of the trails. Bring a lunch, warm clothing.

DEPARTURE TIME: 9:00 a.m.

LEADER: Alex Bissett - 828-4363

Sun., Jan. 24 Afternoon Ski

A short outing near the city (west-end) on flat terrain; ideal for new skiers. Refreshments afterwards at Erl Cassells'.

Gas contribution \$2.00.

DEPARTURE TIME: 12:30 a.m.

LEADER: Erl Cassells - 820-8157

Sat., Jan. 30 Gatineau Park

An intermediate ski on blue trails in the park. Approximately 15 to 20 km, with a lunch stop at one of the heated huts.

DEPARTURE TIME: 9:30 a.m.

LEADER: Barbara Krieger - 235-0604

Sun., Jan. 31 Schoolhouse Area An afternoon ski on flat terrain with the warm Schoolhouse as base.

DEPARTURE TIME: 1:00 p.m.

LEADER: Nanette Whitwam - 730-5417

Sat., Feb. 6 Gatineau Park

A moderately easy ski in the park, not more than three hours, weather permitting. Wear warm clothing, bring a hot drink.

DEPARTURE TIME: 12:30 p.m.

LEADER: Anne Bolster - 521-6354

Sun., Feb. 7 Gatineau Park

A vigorous outing, not for beginners. Location to be determined by conditions on the day. Bring a lunch and warm clothing.

DEPARTURE TIME: 9:30 a.m.

LEADER: Don Mitchell - 749-9537

Sat., Feb. 13 Gatineau Park

A vigorous outing, not for beginners. Bring a lunch and warm clothing.

DEPARTURE TIME: 9:30 a.m.

LEADER: Bev Armstrong - 738-0310

Sun., Feb. 14 Ottawa River

Ski, walk, or snowshoe on the river, conditions permitting. Refreshments at the Bennetts' afterwards.

Gas contribution \$2.00. Numbers limited - registration necessary.

DEPARTURE TIME: 12:30 p.m. or

go to the Bennett's at 1:00 p.m.

CONTACT: Bob Bennett - 749-7440 by Feb. 12

Sat., Feb. 20 Earth Star Loop

A leisurely ski outing on un-groomed trails in the Marlborough Forest to our shelter. Bring a lunch and warm clothing.

DEPARTURE TIME: 9:30 a.m.

LEADER: Ron Hunt 830-1592

Sun., Feb. 21 Gatineau Park

A vigorous ski outing, not for beginners. Bring a lunch and warm clothing.

DEPARTURE TIME: 9:30 a.m.

LEADER: Dorothy Belter - 523-4420

Sat., Feb. 27 Schoolhouse Loop A short ski outing for moderate skiers and warm-up at the schoolhouse. Bring a lunch and warm clothing.

DEPARTURE TIME: 1:00 p.m.

LEADER: Andrew Oakes - 225-8982

Sun., Feb. 28 Gatineau Park

A two-to-three-hour ski for experienced skiers who like hills. It may be tiring. Bring a snack and hot drink, if you wish. Park admission charge.

DEPARTURE TIME: 1:00 p.m.

LEADER: Elizabeth Mason - 729-6596

Sat., Mar. 6 Stony Swamp Snowshoeing

Another opportunity to use your snowshoes, weather permitting. About three hours in the greenbelt area. Bring a lunch, and a hot drink. Gas contribution - \$2.00.

DEPARTURE TIME: 10:30 a.m.

LEADER: David Spector - 829-6802

Sat., Mar. 20 Slide Show Evening The Simpsons will again host a slide show at 7:00 p.m. Address - 1206 Placid St. (west end, north of Baseline Rd.). Bring slides of hikes on the Rideau Trail or hikes by Rideau Trail members in other places.

Numbers limited - registration necessary.

CONTACT: Bill Grant 820-0697 or

Ed Simpson 828-1679

phone between Mar. 15 and 18th

Sat., Mar. 27 First Hike!

Spring has arrived and Johanna will start us off with a hike at a location to be determined by ground and weather conditions. Bring a lunch, wear appropriate clothing and footwear.

DEPARTURE TIME: 10:00 a.m.

LEADER: Johanna Ede 731-1541

MEMORIES OF BLUEBERRY PICKING.

One highlight of our Wednesday hikes has surely been the sunlight days when we dawdled along the escarpment, stopping as often as we dared, without inciting cries from our leaders, to fill our mouths, plastic bags and sandwich boxes with blueberries.

Although the following poem, 'Blueberries', by the American poet Robert Frost contains much more than the description of blueberries you may enjoy these excerpts. Published in 1914 in England, the poem draws of his earlier life of farming in New Hampshire.

*"You ought to have seen what I saw on my way
To the village, through Patterson's pasture today,
Blueberries as big as the end of your thumb,
Real sky blue and heavy, and ready to drum
In the cavernous pail of the first one to come!
And all ripe together, not some of them green,
And some of them ripe! You ought to have seen!*

*...
It must be on charcoal they fatten their fruit
I taste in them sometimes the flavor of soot,
And after all really they're ebony skinned;
The blue's but a mist from the breath of the wind,
A flourish that goes at the touch of the hand,
And less than a tan with which pickers are tanned.*

*...
You ought to have seen how it looked in the rain,
The fruit mixed with water in layers of leaves,
Like two kinds of jewels, a vision for thieves."*

The escarpment, where we picked our berries, is a unique and beautiful part of the Gatineau Park. Under the current NCC master plan for the park the escarpment and an area west of Lac Lapêche are designated as a natural conservation zone -- one that will be presumably left undeveloped. Plans have come and gone, however, with changes in management and pressures from developers and politicians. This NCC land is not a national park as defined by the federal act and it will remain vulnerable to pressures to make "improvements".

We Wednesday walkers have spent many pleasant days scrambling over rocks and thrashing about in the bush. Perhaps we should consider contributing to the

protection of our favourite hiking territory by keeping a sharp eye open for announcements of change. The NCC loves to consult and holds open houses to discuss plans. Letters to the Chairman and newspaper editors, about that chewed up trail, or whatever, also get attention. These are small things that each of us can do, when the occasion arises, and they help maintain some balance in the various demands made on the park.

John Cameron
Wednesday Walker.

HELP WANTED - OTTAWA CLUB
Trail maintainers needed for
three sections of the Trail.
CALL PETER ANDREWS,
TRAIL MAINTENANCE - 728-3016



THE RIDEAU TRAIL GUIDEBOOK.

The new edition of the Rideau Trail Guide Book is now available. Cost is \$15.00 to Members or \$20.00 to Non-members PLUS \$2.00 for postage and handling. SEE YOUR LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE.

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OTTAWA CLUB - POSITION OPEN
the Position of Co-ordinator(s) -
Activities will be open in the
Spring of 1993.

Try your hand as part of the
Executive. Lots of help to get you
started.
Don't wait - Call Now.
Barb Sigurdson at 521-7211 has the
details.

A HIKE LEADERS DAY!

In the Fall I agreed to lead an end-to-end hike from Sydenham to Gould Lake. About a week before the hike date the phone calls came from people who were interested in going on the walk. One call was from Holly MacKay & Melanie Mason, Glebe High School students, who hadn't been on any of our walks but who were interested. Another call came from Leon Sokolowski for a group who wished to meet at the hike site. Similar calls come from Prescott and from Carleton Place.

The Weather Man co-operated and Saturday was a sunny day with no rain forecast. The night before I get my gear ready; my binoculars, camera, the Rideau Trail Hike Guide, the EMR map for that area, my compass and whistle, and my rain gear. My wife makes me a big lunch and fills my water bottle.

I drive to the standard rendezvous meeting place in town, arriving 20 minutes before the appointed departure time. Then came the standard procedure of signing in, identifying drivers willing to drive & to take passengers, and verifying that e

everyone is dressed for the hike and has sufficient water.

Normally Hike Leaders try to leave the city at the scheduled time. I am ten minutes late. There are twenty-eight of us. When we arrive at the hike site we find the six more hikers patiently waiting for us. Now! We have everybody together. Some are End to Enders. Some are Rideau Trail Club members, some are new. All are welcome.

Most of our hikes are one way, so we leave some of the cars in Sydenham we move on to the start of the hike. Before we get on our way I review a few basic rules of hiking such as the use of a whistle by the leader, having plenty of water, wearing the right type of footwear. I again suggest that passengers should consider helping their driver defray the cost of gas.

Peter B (who has his offspring with him) offers to be "Tail-end Charlie". We are on our way! There is some difficulty picking up the first trail marker and I remember Bob Bennett mentioning something about that when he had led a hike through this area several weeks ago. We pick up the first marker and then the second. Mark Watson, who does his bit for the environment and at the same time adds money to the Club's coffers has found a large cache of beer bottles and stays behind with Bill Grant to secure his find. The trail maintenance crews from the Kingston Club must have been through here lately - there is a very wide cleared (mowed??) path. Later on there is a scarcity of the orange triangle trail signs and we have to send out groups in various directions to locate the next marker. In some cases we have to skirt around wet areas. This is all normal stuff and causes no concern. (One way to test if a portion of the Trail meets the Clubs expected standard is to have a stranger walk over the trail).

When we stopped for lunch Mark and Bill catch up to us. They are accompanied by ten other hikers from the Bruce Trail (see photo elsewhere in this News). They stop for a chat and a short break and then they are off ahead of us. We expected to run into them again when they stopped for lunch but maybe they got lost or were a way ahead of us. We came across several stiles across high wire fences which were in good condition and a great aid for the walkers. It was a great day for walking and a great hike.

"CHECKING YOUR PACE - If you can't keep the pace up, hour after hour, it is too fast"

END TO END AWARDS

The End-to-End Awards for this year (1992) were awarded to the following;

	<u>Started</u>	<u>Finished</u>
Horst Dannehl	7 Sep 91	15 Sep 91
Andre Mercier	10 Nov 90	22 Oct 91
Charles F. Rowe	Nov 90	30 Jun 92
Christine Banfill	21 Sep 78	2 Aug 92
Lynn Hinderks	Mar 90	10 Mar 92
Peter Roberts	9 Apr 89	12 Aug 92
Maxine Oldham	9 Apr 89	12 Aug 92
Barbara MacVicar	Oct 91	12 Sep 92

NATIONAL TRAIL -

GATINEAU PARK SECTION

The following is an excerpt from 'Hike Canada' of Aug/Sep 92. Plans are underway to nominate a trail through the Gatineau Park as a section of the National Trail. This section will be between Hull on the Ottawa and Gatineau rivers and Wakefield, about 30 kms. north of the Gatineau River. It is planned to have two shelters and would link to the many trails already existing in Gatineau Park. It is hoped, that city, regional, provincial, and federal officials will help to create an urban trail link between the Rideau Trail and the Gatineau Park. Much of the work for this part of the National Trail is a result of the initiative of Real Martel (past president of La Federation quebecoise de la Marche) and Roch Dufresene, both from Sentier National Quebec. Jean-Rene Doyon, Director, Gatineau Park, a hiker himself, is a strong supporter of this initiative.

"Everyone has to grow older, but nobody has to grow old" - Woody Herman

Art Campbell - Heard On the Trail.

My idea of a good walk is a railway track with a tea room at each end.

WARSAW CAVES & PETROGLYPHS

The following pictures were submitted by Linda Hayes after an trip by the Ottawa Club to the Warsaw Caves and Petroglyphs near Peterborough.



PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION

(an excerpt and a summary of an article
appearing in the July 1992 issue of 'The Rideau Inquirer')

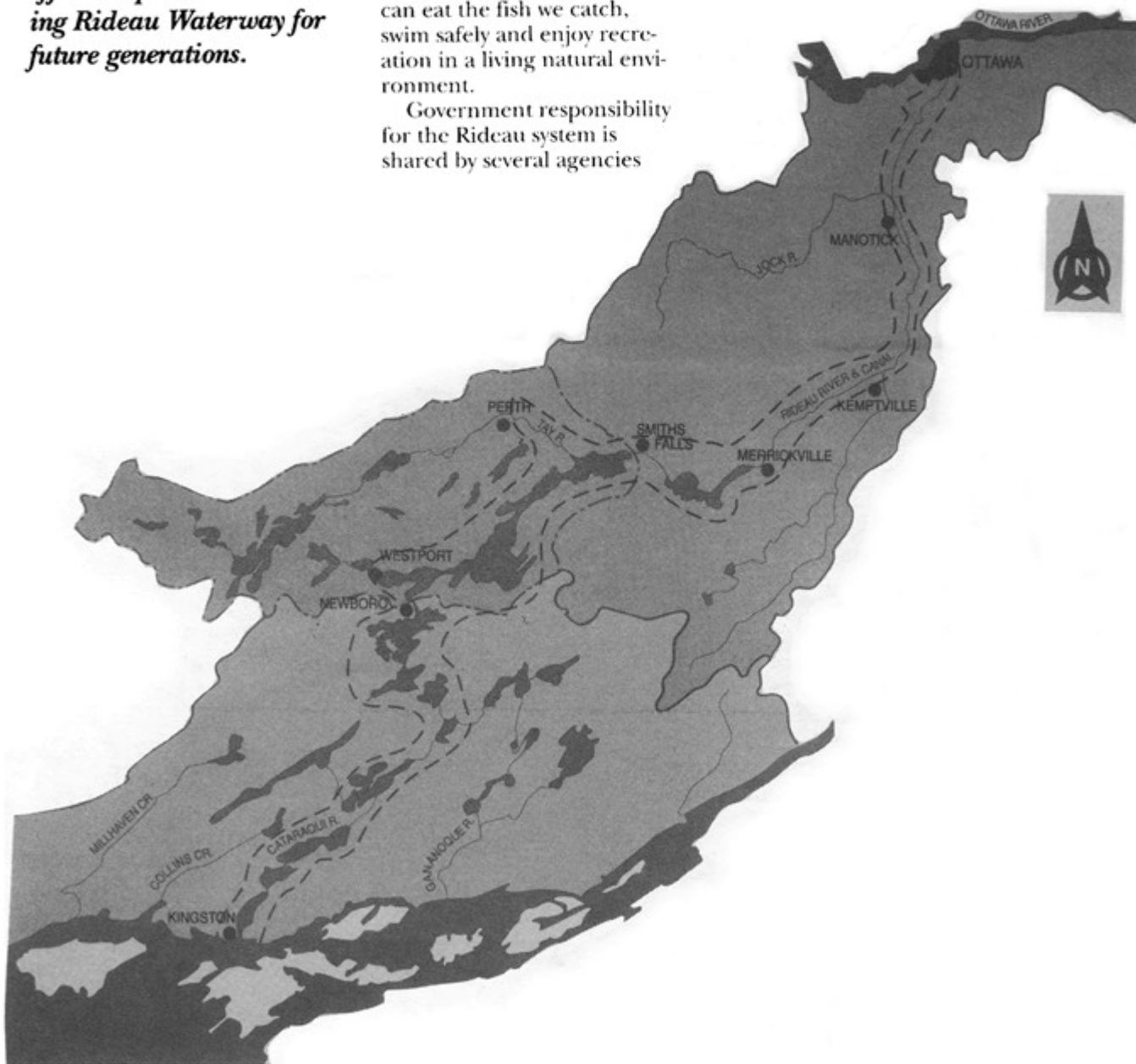
***The Cataraqui Region
Conservation Authority,
the Rideau Valley
Conservation Authority
and the Canadian Parks
Service are now taking
action in a coordinated
effort to preserve a liv-
ing Rideau Waterway for
future generations.***

THE RIDEAU CORRIDOR and surrounding watersheds make up a very special ecosystem. The tributary streams, cool clear lakes and warm fertile wetlands are all part of the same whole and we all live downstream.

All of us who share a lifestyle along the Rideau also share a vision of the future. We want a Rideau where we can eat the fish we catch, swim safely and enjoy recreation in a living natural environment.

Government responsibility for the Rideau system is shared by several agencies

and spread across three layers of government. Despite the bureaucratic obstacles, the major managing partners are working together to protect a living waterway. We realize that the Rideau corridor and the surrounding watersheds must be treated as a single system.



PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION (Cont'd).

The map, with a brief description, which appears on the opposite page, appeared in a recent issue of the "Rideau Inquirer". A condensed version of the article accompanying this map is given below with permission of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority.

The 'Partners' include;

The RIDEAU VALLEY CONSERVATION STRATEGY will ensure a healthy functioning river system for all of us who live, work and play along its shores.

The study explains the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority's plans and programs designed to preserve a Rideau with clean water, natural shorelines and sustainable land use practices throughout the watershed.

A healthy valley environment will be our greatest gift to future generations.

Contact:
Rideau Valley Conservation Authority
Box 599 Mill Street,
Manotick, Ont., K4M 1A5.

The RIDEAU LAKES STUDY presents a whole new way of using the shores of our recreational lakes. Shoreline residents will be called upon to make fundamental changes in their actions towards shorelands in the Rideau Lakes Basin.

Resulting from a co-operative partnership of government agencies and 15 municipalities, the study is a co-ordinated attempt to limit deterioration of water quality before it occurs through new planning policies, innovative development guidelines and programs for immediate action

Contact:
Rideau Valley Conservation Authority
Box 599, Mill Street,
Manotick, Ont., K4M 1A5.

The CATARAQUI REGION CONSERVATION STRATEGY. is a long term planning document which will guide the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority in the development of its programs and projects. It will clearly define our areas of environmental responsibility, and it will describe how we plan to accomplish our strategies in co-operation with our partners, both government and non-government.

The Conservation Strategy will focus our efforts to achieve our vision of a watershed where the natural environment is conserved and restored, regional diversity is valued and the public is aware of the roles we can all play in protecting the environment.

Contact:
Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority.
Box 160, 1641 Perth Road,
Glenburnie, Ont., K0H 1S0.

The RIDEAU CANAL MANAGEMENT PLAN is being prepared by the Canadian Parks Service as a guide for management of the canal in the future. Plan proposals will be released during the summer of 1992. You can participate in the review of the plan proposals by obtaining a copy of the Rideau Canal Management Plan newsletter or by meeting Parks Service staff at open houses.

The Parks Service operates the Rideau Canal as a national historic site, a recreational waterway and as a natural environment. The Parks Service is responsible for protecting wetlands, and historic structures on canal lands, operating the historic locks, interpreting the history of the Canal, maintaining safe navigation and approving dredge and fill applications.

Contact:
Canadian Parks Service,
Rideau Canal Office,
34A Beckwith Street South,
Smith Falls, Ont., K7A 2A8

THE CORRIDOR PRESERVATION FUND

- Extract from an article by Al Gamble.

The Rideau Trail is a legacy to future generations provided by the builders of the past. The vision of those first trail builders became a reality through years of effort in planning and negotiations to obtain this 400 Km route through the scenic and historic countryside between Kingston and Ottawa. Those early negotiations with private landowners, municipalities, conservation authorities and other agencies were the key to obtaining the best possible route at that critical time. Then followed the construction.

Since then, each year has seen other dedicated volunteers come forward to give their time and energy to maintain the trail and to improve the route.

Thus the Rideau Trail is a precious heritage which all can share and which is handed on for our protection. It was in this spirit that the Corridor Preservation Fund was conceived.

A growing population and pressures from expanding commercial/industrial interests pose obvious threats to the trail route in the decades ahead. Clearly also, there will be opportunities to take advantage of better routings for the trail as negotiations with landowners change or as ownership changes. Likewise it seemed wise to provide for natural disasters to the trail (beavers particularly) which could force major re-routings. To face such possibilities without providing financial resources, would leave the trail in jeopardy and betray the trust of those whose work had made it all possible.

Accordingly, as insurance for the future, the Corridor Preservation Fund was established in 1975. The initial objective was to accumulate \$10,000. In 1985, this initial target was reached and the Board of Directors established a new and even more ambitious goal of \$50,000. At various times it has been necessary to make use of this fund but to day the fund stands at nearly \$20,000.

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

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

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

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| () | 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 new 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.

* Qualify for income tax deduction.

PLEASE CHECK New () Renewal ()

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Postal Code _____

Telephone: _____

CHARITABLE REGISTRATION No. 0041733-56-11.