

The Rattler



ISSUE #3 2014

President's Message

Good luck and hard work often come together. In this case our hard working Archivist, Deborah Sturdevant, uncovered a diary that chronicles the initial trail blazing of the most remote area of the Peninsula – Cabot Head and northwestward. You can read her account in this issue.

The Bruce Trail Conservancy is the beneficiary of this documentation of history and two pieces of land donated by the Krug estate which are now located within the National Park Boundaries. The Peninsula Club and BTC are working with MNR and the National Park to reopen access areas on Cabot Head now that some of the private ownership arrangements have changed. As the photos show, Cabot Head is an incredibly beautiful area and the public deserves the ability to see it.

You will see a new section to the Rattler called President's Choice – Loop Hikes. We hope to highlight some of the sections that members and I find interesting and beautiful. Please consider submitting an article or just a route with highlights that you find interesting and we will showcase some sections of the trail others may want to explore.

Your club Board is in transition and you will see ads for various positions; please consider joining us as we build a new team to help guide the club in the following years.

Walter Brewer

*"Winter Walk at
Williams Caves"*

*Watercolour
by
Suzanne Dyke*



Peninsula Bruce Trail Club

P.O. Box 2
Tobermory, ON
N0H 2R0
www.pbtc.ca
pbtcrafter10@gmail.com
Contact Ken Clark
Telephone: 519-270-7644
klclark5@hotmail.com

Bruce Trail Conservancy

P.O. Box 857
Hamilton, ON
L8N 3N9
www.bruce-trail.org
info@bruce-trail.org
Telephone: 800-665-4453
Telephone: 905-529-6821
Fax: 905-529-6832

Newsletter Editors:

Content : Kathryn Orr
Julie Heinrichs
Layout: Jan MacKie

Please send us your stories:
pbtcrafter10@gmail.com

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS

Any articles or stories of interest?
Deadline for submissions to next Rattler:
"March 7, 2015"

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Contact: Mike Marshall
Email: marshland_3@amtelecom.net

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The current executive team of the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club can be found on our website: www.pbtc.ca

50 Years Ago – October 8, 1964

At a meeting held last Thursday at the home of Mr. A.K. Adams, a club was formed to be known as the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club. The club was a territory of roughly 40 miles in length from Tobermory southward. At present, 25 miles of the trail have been completed and it is expected the remainder will be finished by early spring.

From the Wiarton Echo, October 13, 2014

50 Years Ago: Chesley Bruce Trail Club

Howard Krug (1904-1997) and his brother Bruce Krug (1919-2013) of Chesley, Ontario are known as two of the pioneers of the Peninsula section of the Bruce Trail, having cut and blazed portions of original trail between Cabot Head and northwest of Cave Point fifty years ago. Bruce Krug was awarded a Pioneer Plaque at the PBTC 2003 AGM for his contributions to establishing the trail, and in 2007 he was awarded the BTC's Calypso Orchid Environmental Award for his significant contributions to the restoration and preservation of the Bruce Trail and Niagara Escarpment.



Chesley BTC members among remains of ship boiler on shore north of Wingfield Basin, November 24, 1963 / by Bruce Krug. Courtesy of Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre, A2014.003.K63-14-03.

After Bruce's passing in 2013, his Estate donated Peninsula properties to the Bruce Trail Conservancy. The Estate also donated many boxes of Krug family personal, business, and local history records to the Archives at the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre. Among those many treasures was one of particular interest to the PBTC – a diary created by Howard Krug entitled "Notes of the Chesley Bruce Trail Club"! As Howard noted in the first entry, this was "an unorganized group from Chesley and vicinity which helped to cut and mark parts of the Bruce Trail." Although other parts of the trail were much closer to Chesley, the group decided to help in the Peninsula area "where it appeared that there might be less people interested in helping with the Trail." From Chesley to Cabot Head, the southern most starting point, would have been more than two hours of driving.

They made their start on November 24, 1963, meeting Jack Johnson and his son at Cabot's Head Lighthouse. At that time, until 1978, the Trail ran from Wingfield Basin, along the base of West Bluff and then beside the escarpment edge to High Dump. Currently, the trail cuts inland north of Dyer's Bay, before Cabot Head, emerging along the escarpment edge again at High Dump. The BTC is working towards the possibility that one day the trail will again follow a route similar to that blazed by the Chesley group.

cont'd on page 4

cont'd from page 3

The diary records their trail work activities on thirteen weekend days, from 1963-1965.

The group ranged from two to nine people, including: Howard and Bruce Krug, Jeff Ankerman, Dennis Bradley, Ted Cobean, Floyd Dudgeon, Doug Gaelor, Don McLean, Jim Siegrist, Tom and John Soper, Ken Steinhoff, Sid, Peter and Bud Street, George Toner, and Jim Witzhee.

It is clear from Howard's notes that they enjoyed the unexplored nature of the area, including the fascinating views and interesting discoveries. Perhaps not so enjoyable were the access challenges, sometimes resulting in more time spent hiking to the trail than working on the trail. The following is a selection of excerpts from the diary, the original of which is available to view in the Research Room and Archives at the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre (bruce-museum.ca). A scanned copy and transcript have also been posted on the PBTC website, courtesy of the BCM&CC, for anyone wishing to review the entries in full.

November 24, 1963: From Cabot Head Lighthouse, "we walked south of Wingfield Basin and the small lake coming out of the stony shore near the old boiler. Continuing along this



Howard Krug, Bud and Peter Street, and Dan McLean at old Burdock Camp, May 9, 1965 / by Bruce Krug.

Courtesy of Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre, A2014.003.K65-09-20.

stony and pebbly shore, we came to where the Bluff approached the shore and we were all fascinated by the large rock boulders which had fallen from the bluff and made it nearly impossible to get by at places." The February 1968 Bruce Trail Guide Book notes in the Rocky Bay area description "For the next mile the Trail follows the shoreline to reach West Bluff. Here several house-size boulders pepper the Trail where previous mountain climbing experience is an asset."

April 12 or 19, 1964: "We came across a trail running away from the lake here, so Tom and I followed it and it led to Urbshott's

hunting camp.

May 3, 1964: "... we drove in to the north end of Gillies Lake. ... we went in the trail past Lymburner Lake and Conlon Lake to Urbshott's camp and then on to join up with our previous stopping place. We did not cut trail today, but carried on along the top of the cliff and partly marked where the Trail should run, going as far as the High Dump. Here we went down to the shore (only place of access in this section and had our lunch. Some of the old timber work still remains of the slide which they had to put logs down to the shore from the top of the cliff.

cont'd on page 5



cont'd from page 4

From the High Dump, a trail leads in towards Moore Lake so we took this trail and after about a 4 mile hike, we came out to the road, after which Jack [Johnstone] and I had the additional walk of about a mile to get to the cars

May 10, 1964: "We drove to Gillies Lake and in by way of Urbshott's camp. We worked on the section towards High Dump, having our lunch at noon up on one of the rock lookouts. The view today was excellent and we could see Half-moon and Lonely Islands and beyond." "n our way back, we wanted to get down to the shore for water at the flat area north of Urbshott's but when we thought we were almost there, we found



*Howard Krug, north of Cabot's Head, April 1964 / by Bruce Krug.
Courtesy of Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre, A2014.003.K64-08-11.*

another cliff. I went towards the east, and Jim went westerly and Jim did find a place where he got down. In the meantime, the rest of the party found the "spring" which is a little north of our Bruce Trail ..."

October 18, 1964: "We walked in the Umbrella-Moore Lake trail to High Dump. After our long walk in from the car, our group were pretty leg weary, especially since some shoes were not fitting too good, so after cutting between ¼ and ½ mile, we retracted our steps on that long walk out."

October 25, 1964: "The road that we took in today from near Emmett Lake goes past what is called Burdock Camp. This is an old logging camp of Casters and the clearance around the remains of the log buildings gives ample evidence of the name of the camp without any need of signs."

May 2, 1965: "We went in the Emmet Lake road and trail to Halfway Rock Dump. At places we had quite a lot of snow on the road but, with the help of others pushing, we managed to get through. ... We were working in deep snow for most of the way until we got on top of the ridge running out to Cave Point."

May 16, 1965: We worked east from the end of the road [Cameron Lake Forest road] towards Crawford Warder's cabin. When we got near it a thunder storm came up and we had to run for shelter. Fortunately, he does not leave the place locked so we spent the duration of the storm inside and watched the storm over the lake. ... we headed back for the car with not too much work to show for the day's trip."

More information about the Krugs' contributions to conservation, the BTC and Bruce County communities may be found in Ross McLean's booklets "50 to Remember" (2012) and "Forty Years of Trail Building: the People and Stories of the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club" (2004), as well as the book "A Century of Excellence: Krug Bros. & Co. Furniture Manufacturers" by Howard Krug and Ruth Cathcart (ed.), (2001).





President's Choice – Loop Hike Boundary Bluffs

Beaver Baffle, Ancient Cedars, Daffodils, Panoramic View

I experienced this trail in the spring with the trail captain John Grandy and again in the fall and was impressed with the beauty, variety and exercise all packed into less than a two hour, 5 kilometer loop. It is written up in the BTC Reference Hike Guide 28 (pg 36-2) as strenuous with glorious views from the bottom and top of the escarpment. Now that should alert you that it is not just a walk on the edge of field, but also a great work out which of course rewards the hiker with panoramic views.

What appeals to me (other than the bear noted in the guide) is the display of daffodils in spring and the colourful view over Sydney Bay and Purple Valley in the fall. As we learned in the Settlement Hike at the Tobermory Festival, sometimes the only evidence of pioneer settlements are the plants and shrubs that continue to thrive. Try to see the field full of yellow this spring. Starting from the Pitt SR parking lot continue down the hill to the beaver pond where you will notice a Beaver Baffle. This is a water management program of our stewardship team intended to stop the extension of the trail flooding from the dam. Basically a culvert and a secure inlet, it has kept the flood in check this year.

The gentle accent of the escarpment takes you past an information station that points out the ancient cedars, with a little scrambling you are on top – feast on the view! Hook up with the Hart's Tongue ST and then the Main trail down a sturdy steel staircase and then a slippery-when-wet descent to the Cape Croker Park where you will find the Boundary Bluffs ST trailhead that takes you back around the field with a great view of what you accomplished.

*We would like to share your ideas of a great hike.
Please send in write up and we will feature it in the
President's Choice section (I get to choose – so it's my choice)*

Thanks and have fun.

Walter



*Boundary Bluffs Photos:
top: early spring, daffodils abounding
lower left: view from the cliff
lower right: beaver dam*



My Visit to the Cotswold Trail

At an executive meeting of PBTC in 2012 it was agreed that BTC should twin the Lions Head Loop of The Bruce Trail with a section of the Cotswold Way, a National Trust Property in England.

I was planning a trip to England in April 2013 and, out of curiosity, looked to see where “our” section of the trail was in the Cotswolds. The twinned section is near the town of Stroud, and the trail goes through the village Painswick where Joanna, a friend from my childhood lives. I phoned Joanna and arranged to visit her before going to see my mother in Devon.

On a lovely April morning I landed at Heathrow, rented a car and drove to Painswick. The one and a half hour trip went from very busy motor ways, to dual carriage ways, to narrower and narrower roads till I came to lanes only wide enough for one car. I arrived at Joanna’s and, from her house, was delighted to see a panoramic view of the Cotswolds.



View of the Cotswolds from Joanna’s garden

We arranged to hike the trail two days later with her sister Jonquil.

The Friendship Trail is a looped trail 6 miles long and is called “Haresfield Beacon”. The Cotswold Way, like the Bruce Trail, follows along the edge of an escarpment. The rocks are Jurassic limestone, much younger but visually quite similar to our predominantly dolostone geology.

They are a source of very fine building stone from which much of the beautiful Cotswold architecture has been constructed.

No trek in England should take place without a stop at the pub, so we parked our car at The Edgemoor Inn and had lunch there before starting our hike.

Leaving the pub the trail winds through the Maitland Woods, down a valley by interesting farms and homes, through Halliday Woods and beside an ancient well with a sign reading:

“DEO GRATIAS
Whoer the bucket full upwindeth,
Let him blefs God, who Water
findeth:
Yet Water here but small availeth,
Go seek that Well which never
faileth.
John c.4 v.14”

story cont’d on page 9

See Trail Map page 11



*Photo left:
Jane and Joanna on the Lions Head loop*

cont'd from page 8


Shortly after the well there is another stone carving which tells of a battle fought there in September 1645 but it was damaged and hard to decipher. The path is well worn and, at that time of the year, it passes through a mass of bluebells and ferns, crossing a minor road and up a lane through Ringhill Farm. At the top of the lane is a magnificent view of the Severn River looking across to Wales. We hiked along the windswept ridge at Harefield Beacon and across Bunker's Bank. In the middle of this windy bank is a topographic model of the area. From here it was a short hike back to the car through the fields of Stoneridge and Harefield Farms, over scrub lands pock-marked with rabbit warrens and finally through Pitchcombe Wood.



The three of us on the Friendship Trail

I had given Joanna and Jonquil a Bruce Trail "Take a Hike" shirt which they wore that day! There were no Bruce Trail blazes yet, so for the photo I folded a piece of paper making a very large blaze!

John and I returned the following January and there were still no blazes but, we have been told there are some now. This June Joanna came to visit us in Tobermory and we enjoyed taking her on the Cotswold Way in Lions Head. *Jane Greenhouse*



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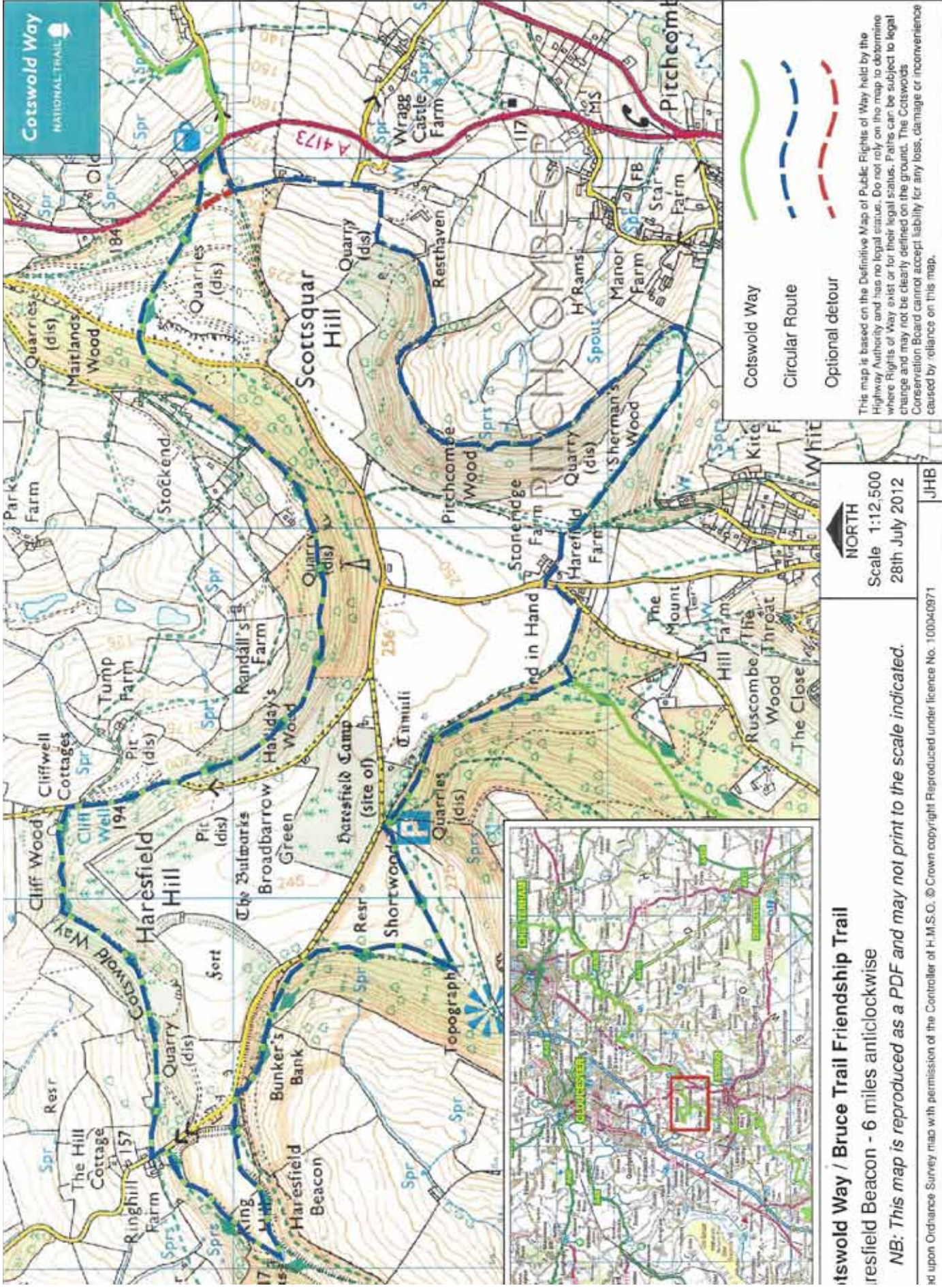


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WINTER 2014 -2015 PENINSULA-BRUCE TRAIL ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME	NAME AND WHERE TO MEET	DOD	LENGTH	DESCRIPTION AND CONTACT INFORMATION
December 3, 2014	10:00 a.m.	534 Gould St, Wiarnton	Easy Terrain, Leisurely Pace	8 km	Urban hike around the perimeter of Wiarnton, a few hills. Pot luck lunch at Harriet & Roy's place to follow: 534 Gould St. Wiarnton. RSVP! Leader info: RSVP: Harriet Nixon 519-534-0426 harrietonix@bmts.com
January 6, 2015	10:00 a.m.	Len Holly Side Trail	Moderate terrain, Moderate pace	3.6 km	Linear, snow shoe hike (weather permitting). Anyone wishing to go on this hike please contact the hike leader for meeting place and hike specifics - Marianne Williams, 519-534-2087 schoolhouse lady@gmail.com
January 24, 25 and 26, 2015		McGregor Provincial Park is located 5 km south of Port Elgin. West of Hwy 21 on Lake Huron			Winter is a special time at MacGregor Point, and an excellent place to cross-country ski and snowshoe. Hit your stride at the skating loop, about 400m long, winding through the campground and lit at night! Also, feeding the birds is a highlight in winter. Visit with this year's "yurters" and plan to join in next year. Contact Marianne Williams at schoolhouse lady@gmail.com or 519-534-2087 for more information.
January 31, 2015		Wiarnton Willie Festival Bluewater Park, Wiarnton			LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH THE PENINSULA BRUCE TRAIL CLUB ACTIVITY In 2015 Willie will be celebrating his 59th annual festival by offering events and opportunities galore such as award winning performers, exciting outdoor fun in Bluewater Park encompassing activities like dog sledding, cross country skiing, snow shoeing, astronomy, arts and culture, aboriginal crafts, obstacle course, maybe even archery, winter camping, survival and carving. Contact Susan Allen at susan_allen@sympatico.ca
March 12, 2015	1:00 p.m.	Nels Maher Loop	Moderate terrain, Moderate pace	2.5 km	Loop, snow shoe hike, weather permitting Anyone wishing to go on this hike please contact the hike leader for meeting place and hike specifics - Marianne Williams, 519-534-2087 schoolhouse lady@gmail.com
March 21, 2015		Owen Sound Health Fair 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre, Owen Sound			COME OUT FOR A COUPLE OF FUN AND REWARDING HOURS - HELP HOST OUR INFORMATION BOOTH. The purpose of the event is to provide a valuable service to our community by increasing health and wellness through education, awareness and prevention. Carpooling to Owen Sound may be available. Contact Susan Allen at susan_allen@sympatico.ca
April 16, 2015	10:00 a.m.	Gravelly Point Loop	Moderate terrain, Moderate pace	4.1 km	Loop, snow shoe hike, weather permitting Anyone wishing to go on this hike please contact the hike leader for meeting place and hike specifics - Marianne Williams, 519-534-2087 schoolhouse lady@gmail.com



Note: this map is part of the story from page 8/9 Trail Map-The pub is the top right side of map. We hiked it anticlockwise as recommended

Hiking Festival 2014

If you weren't at the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club's fall hiking festival in early October, then odds have it you were most probably somewhere else. But oh my, that was a mistake!

This year's theme was based on the UNESCO focus on the family farm and featured a comprehensive line-up of hikes, lectures, activities and entertainment that took a good look at what it meant to be a pioneer here in the Northern Bruce Peninsula. And for any of you with romantic "Little House

on the Prairie" thoughts about what pioneer life meant, we were quickly disabused of notions of the worst challenges having anything to do with Nelly Olsen.

Local archaeologist Scarlett Janusas started the weekend with a comprehensive history of the region and the stories of land acquisition and settlement from the earliest records. Most settlers to the area traded everything they had for a piece of land that was near impossible to clear and held almost no arable acreage. Some stayed and eked out a meagre living from the land while others lost their lives trying. Opportunities in logging and fishing sustained further families. But the cultural imprint on the landscape tells the tale of how hard this peninsula was to tame. And oddly, Scarlett tells us that much of what can be learned about any family homestead will be learned from an excavation of the privy. Clues about diet, health and vices reside in the place where waste goes and evidence is stashed. Seeds, medicine and liquor bottles figure prominently in privy digs. Who knew?

Since we are first and foremost a hiking festival, we were determined to take people out to the trails to explore in person the obvious and more obscure relics of pioneering and farms. Hikes were taken over old farmsteads where crumbling foundations bore testimony to the hard work of dragging stones off the land and into the basis of a home. Remnants of old cedar rail fences gave witness to their age in the styles in which they were fashioned and stands of lilac or rhubarb almost always

indicated a place to look for yet another long-collapsed homestead.

Morning and afternoon private tours of the remains of the old saw mills and log flume near Cabot Head were a sold-out activity as soon as they were posted. American friends Ned and Mary Crawford graciously opened their property to our groups to take a look at the epicentre of the industry that had the greatest impact on the entire region. If you don't count fires at the turn of the century, nothing changed the landscape and ecosystem here more profoundly than the logging era. Well, possibly nothing until development, settlement and our current economy of tourism.

Even the early days of marine transport were given a nod with a waterfront hike out to a very old shore-stranded gas buoy. It must have been a terrific storm that washed that huge heavy metal object so far above any memorable high-water mark! Also on the marine history side, there was an excursion to bootlegger's cave along a boulder beach. This is not the typical Georgian Bay boulder "sand" strand, but rather a stretch where massive pieces of cliff have broken away and seem to block all possible routes between the cliff bases and the beautiful but bracingly cold waters. Unless you are prepared to find routes over, under, around and through these imposing monoliths, which is exactly how the group arrived eventually at Bootlegger's cave, where nefarious sailors may or may not have stashed their booty during the times of prohibition.

For the less physically adventurous, a wonderful morning was spent in the St. Edmunds museum which once housed the region's school. Under the tutelage of local artist Julie Heinrichs, participants learned to manipulate watercolour paint to create images of the Belrose log cabin. It sits on the museum property and is the oldest known "built dwelling" in the area. What a great opportunity to acquire a new skill and go home with a piece of art depicting peninsula history!

cont'd on page 13



cont'd from page 12

When one thinks of the history of pioneers of this area, it is hard not to envision the images created by local artist Alan Smutylo whose work hangs in most galleries here, in the park visitor centre and in many private homes. Alan lived among the last of the people who made their lives in the pioneer ways and he chronicled them and their lives in his portraits. Alan has spent years away from the area but clearly has never gone too far away in his heart as evidenced by his recently staged play about the "old" Tobermory appropriately entitled "The Portrait. Following the story of local character Orrie Vale, Smutylo's play mirrors the change as modern reality finds its way north and slowly changes lives and landscapes. A hugely entertaining evening of reminiscing, anecdotes and music from his play was provided by Alan and his band. A packed house buzzed out of the theatre and lingered long, reluctant to break the spell the presentation had cast.

And let's not forget Bruce Trail Day Sunday, when Bruce Trail Conservancy Director and geologist Beth Gilhespy led a sizeable group over remarkable topography in the Cape Croker area exploring and explaining the special attributes of the land there.

A very full and satisfying weekend indeed, described by many as "the best hiking festival yet." Next year, we look at UNESCO's theme of "Year of the Light" and we are giddy with the possibilities this presents. Stay tuned for information in upcoming Rattler editions and mark your calendars now for October 2nd to 4th 2015.

You don't want to make the same mistake twice, do you?

Sheila Buckingham

LEARN FIRST AID



That PBTC will reimburse 50% of the cost, up to \$75.00 for the successful completion or re-certification of a recognised First Aid course by a member currently active in hike leadership, large trail work, chain sawing and Club special events. Contact Peninsula BTC MNTC (trailreportsbptc@gmail.com) for more information or to submit your request for a refund.

The Bruce Trail Conservancy Annual Donour Recognition Event

This event was held at The Burlington Performing Arts Centre on Nov 6, 2014 and went from 7-9 pm.

There were 165 people in attendance with a total of 46 award recipients.

Special guests included BTC Founder, Philip Gosling, Paul McQueen from the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority and our guest speaker was Rhonda-Marie Avery.

The Peninsula Club was awarded the Champion level (\$100,000 and \$249,999) which means that over the year the Club's cumulative total is \$101,755.

Waffle time....

...will be back



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Meet Lloyd Hayward, Trail Director, Southern Section – Treasurer – Peninsula Bruce Trail Club

I was born in Bonavista, Newfoundland and at age sixteen came to Toronto and joined BMO, Bank of Montreal in July 1963. I retired in 2000 and started part-time with BMO in Owen Sound from which I retired again in 2007. Married Mary in 1966 and we have two children and 4 grandchildren. Besides Toronto, we have lived in Galt, Waterloo, Drumbo, Hespeler, Windsor, Ingersoll, London, Barrie, Clinton and Mississauga. We built our cottage in 1979 in Oliphant and renovated in 1999 to become our permanent residence in 2000.

My wife, Mary, has been hiking the Bruce Trail for some time, completing her first E2E in 2009. She and her friend always went together but for one weekend in August 2006, her friend was not able to go and Mary talked me into going on a “short” hike with her. I had not hiked any distance before this and did not have hiking boots. So, off to Suntrail for a new pair of boots and I wanted a pair that did not need a break-in period. Kathy Orr was most accommodating. In any event, the short hike ended up being about 26 km due to a reroute around construction on Highway 6 near Hamilton. It was also 26 to 30 degrees!

Undaunted by the forgoing experience, I signed up for a Peninsula e2e led by Marlene Rothenbury in 2008. On one of these hikes, John Greenhouse suggested I should get more involved with PBTC and I mentioned that perhaps I could help out occasionally. He said he was looking for more than that and only later did I learn that he was recruiting for Board members!

It wasn't long after that I met John Appleton who was Trail Maintenance Director for all of PBTC and I became Trail Captain of the McIver Side Trail.

I guess I must have done a reasonable job because shortly after that I became Trail Maintenance Director for the southern sections.

At the PBTC e2e, I met Nick Torra, Jeannie McKeoun, Carolyn Williams and Barb Chester. In 2009 we completed the Sydenham e2e and in 2012 reached the cairn in Queenston.

After my term as Trail Maintenance Director South I became an Assistant to the new Trail Maintenance Director, John Van Bastelaar. Since John left I have been helping Walter with trail issues and also worked on the Audit. Through my involvement with Rotary Winterama, Secretary for past 10 years, I met Henry Weickert and a couple of years ago he asked if I would consider being Treasurer of PBTC. He said it was “easy” so I accepted that role.

Now, it's my turn. I've known Lloyd and Mary for many years, always in association with the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club. When I asked Lloyd to provide a history of his involvement in the trail, I knew he would get on it, get it done, and it would be very good. That's his nature. Lloyd takes any job he's asked to do head on ... gives it lots of thought ... thinks on how he can do it better ... and gets on with it.

We have many, many hard working volunteers that maintain our beautiful section of trail; the Peninsula section as we all proudly explain how perfect it is--oh the views--oh the ruggedness -- all of those lovely side trails -- all of those kilometres of main trail meandering over private and secured lands. Well, Lloyd has taken on the huge task of Trail Director for the southern section.



cont'd on page 15

cont'd from page 14

He works in a partnership with Jeff Buckingham, who is the long standing Trail Director for the northern section, and Walter Brewer, Trail Director and Communicator Extraordinaire. We are lucky to have all three of them.

And it is kind of unofficial, Trail Director southern section, that is. I remember several years ago, the southern section needed a Trail Director and Lloyd stepped up to the bat and took it on ... in the interim ... just till we get someone permanent ... well, he's still there, unofficially managing the entire southern section. The grapevine tells me Lloyd is out on one part or other of this part of our trail at least once a week, sometimes more. He is one of the reasons our Peninsula Club receives so many accolades for its perfect condition. He responds to any issues, or work needed right away. Off he goes, by himself many times, to set the issue right. And he's worked in organizing many teams to get the big jobs done too. At one time, Lloyd retired from the job, and then came back. He's never been one to run from work that is needed to be done.

Lloyd is currently also Treasurer of the Peninsula club. As he modestly mentions in his bio, a few years ago, Henry approached him to consider taking on the role of Treasurer. Very reliable sources tell me he is doing an excellent job. His reports are very understandable which is very much appreciated by many on the board whose first language is NOT accounting. He is very conscientious about this role and has clarified and simplified what seems to be a complex task in managing the financial reporting for the club.

I remember Lloyd and Mary on our epic End to End of the Peninsula Section, as he mentions above. We had a large group, a great group. We always needed

someone to sweep, and sometimes someone to hang in the middle. I was usually in the lead finding the best lookouts and rest stops for lunch. I could always count on Lloyd to do whatever was needed without any hesitation. He was fun, enthused, and always supportive of everyone on some of those long slogs we accomplished back then.

He and Mary completed the entire Peninsula section along with the others. They had so much fun, bonded so well, and had made some good friends along the way, that a small group of intrepids continued on, as you can see from the photo, to complete the Sydenham section the following year ... as Lloyd says "it was a kind of snowball effect, once we got one section done, we just thought well, might as well get on with the next" till they finished at Niagara. It took them 5 years, usually one weekend a month, to hike these last sections. And it wasn't all just hiking. These bonded hiker friends usually stayed at the same B and B or motel, and the inevitable party would break out. One of the events that stands out in their collective memory was the day the tornado swept through Goderich. They were in a more southern section, but they watched the sky carefully as the storms blew through. One of the team members was from Goderich, and wasn't able to reach home for a few days.

All in all, Lloyd, along with his wife Mary, have been a part of this club for many years. As I mentioned before, the club is sustained by volunteers, some prominent, some more in the background. All are needed to make this well-oiled machine run successfully. Thanks to hard workers like Lloyd, we can be proud of our club and our members.

Thanks Lloyd for jobs well done.

Marlene Rothenbury



Peninsula Club Volunteers Spruce up their Skills

Last month a training day for Trail Captains was held at the Woodford Community Centre, the first such session for many years. All four of our northern clubs sent participants, including nine members from Peninsula Club.

Subjects on the agenda included: trail planning and clearing, how to check structures for safety, and other aspects of trail maintenance. BTC Trail Director John Grandy explained how the BTC decides when and where to build new trails, and what steps Trail Captains should follow if they think they have an opportunity to open a new trail or improve the route of an existing one.

Former BTC Trail Director Dave Moule enlivened the proceedings by bringing one of his own spruce trees into the hall and showing us how to trim it (see photo). He also showed us how to paint perfect blazes freehand.

Peter Leeney, the BTC's Director of Risk Management, explained how the trail audit works and why it is important. We also talked about Trail Status Reports and how they should be completed.

If you missed the session but you would like to learn more about trail maintenance, you can check out our series of videos, "Loose on the Bruce", at the BTC's YouTube channel, here: <http://www.youtube.com/user/BTConservancy>.

We're always looking for talent! If you are interested in becoming a Trail Captain or improving your skills, please contact our Trail Director, Walter Brewer.

John Grandy



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March 9 to 22, 2015

Fascinating and complex, Israel offers immense diversity. Hike the lush vineyards of the Golan Heights & the deep canyons of the Judean Desert, plus the famed Jesus Trail from Nazareth to the Sea of Galilee. We shall visit Jerusalem, the Dead Sea, Masada, Bethlehem and Tel Aviv, and although this holiday is not religious by design, we cannot help but be immersed in the dominant role it has played for centuries.

CAMINO DE SANTIAGO

April 15 to 27, 2015

Thousands of pilgrims have walked before us, and it is finally time to add our own footsteps to this historical journey in the north of Spain. Walk the last 152km, staying in lovely hotels along the way while having your luggage transported for you. Meet other pilgrims and share your stories, finally concluding your adventure in Obradoiro Square overlooking the gothic cathedral that has inspired so many. Collect your "compostelas" and forever wear this trip as a badge of honour. "Buen camino!"

CORFU, GREECE

May 11 to 23, 2015

This Greek island is the perfect combination of European flare and tranquil sea-side living. Hike to the heavens to visit holy monasteries and trek in shade of ancient olive groves. We promise - you will never tire of the deep, deep blue of the sea that surrounds you. Opa!

IRELAND

June 2 to 12, 2015

With more shades of green than you can imagine, the **Emerald Isle** lives up to its deserving reputation. From historical Dublin to picturesque Killarney & parts in between, we will take you hiking through some of the most sought-after scenery the country has to offer - and we'll even make a few pub stops along the way!

KENYA

July 5 to 17, 2015

Don't just *drive* through Kenya – hike it too! Imagine encountering herds of zebras, giraffes and gazelles right on your path! Travel to 3 different parts of the country, take in incredible sunsets over the savannah, visit Masai herdsmen in their homes and, of course, see lions, elephants & leopards on our game drives. Accommodations include luxury tented camps and one night at The Ark! And did you know that July is the coolest month of the year in Kenya?

AMALFI COAST, ITALY

October 5 to 17, 2015

Italy never fails to capture the hearts (and stomachs) of its visitors, and the Amalfi Coast lives up to that reputation - towns perched impossibly on mountainsides, one of the most famous stretches of coastline in the world, sapphire-blue water in every direction, an infamous volcano and some of the finest Limoncello anywhere. Come hike in Sorrento, Positano, Amalfi and on the posh island of Capri.

Information Kiosks

Raising the profile of the Bruce Trail in the community has long been one of Peninsula Club's objectives so when the opportunity arose to erect high quality information kiosks at trail head locations we embraced it. After two years of preparation we now have five of these kiosks in place at Wiarnton, Cape Croker, Lion's Head, Dyers Bay and Dunks Bay. They are a cooperative venture between Bruce Trail and Bruce County but also involved the welcome assistance of both North and South Bruce municipal staff employees. A special thanks to Andrew Beumer of Bruce County Trails and Zane Davies of Treadscape.

The maps and information on the plaques will be very useful to visitors and local trail users alike. A big thank you to the many people involved in this project and to Bruce County and the regional tourism unit- 'RTO7' for the majority of the funding.

Don McIlraith



FEEDBACK

11 Sept., 2014

We were reading through the paper copy of The Rattler, that regularly shows up in our mailbox, when we noticed Ross MacLean's article about our hero Ken Ingham, and then right across the gutter was a bit of Nelson Phillip's article about our mission here at Rural Rootz.

We want to say a sincere thank you for all the fine work the Peninsula Club does all year around.

Keep On Keeping On!

Happy Trails, Tom and Dee Ashman

Do you have anything you want us to know about what you have read in our newsletter?

Please send to pbtcrattler10@gmail.com

ACCOLADES PAGE

To: Walter Brewer
November 4, 2014

- completed trail Sunday with the help of my daughters
- magnificent views
- stayed with home to home members very comforting and welcoming atmosphere
- what a wonderful hiking experience
- will continue to sing praises for the experience
- have already found several people to share the experience
- will start the adventure again in the spring
- thank members and executive for all their hard work

Sincerely

Pat Keesmaat

Quality Trail Check Up

Every five years the Bruce Trail Risk Management Group review the state of our trails with an eye to safety and consistency. The Trail Workers Manual provides all trail workers with a guide to placing blazes and for keeping the trail clear of obstructions and wet or hazardous areas; the audit ensures universal compliance. Our insurers expect these standards to be met when determining our coverage, so it is important that each club strives to meet the standards as outlined.

Our section was audited in 2013 and we have had the last year to remedy any areas identified in the review. We must thank the hard working auditors for their rigour, eye for detail and comprehensive report. Equally we thank all the Trail Captains who took the report along with them while doing maintenance this year and reported on the items cleared. The results include a number of signs replaced or added, guide book corrections and blaze improvements. We should be in great condition for the next audit in 2018!

Walter Brewer

Maintenance Coordinator

Snow Shoes - A Summer Application

Keep your snow shoes handy if you want to manage the land and reduce flooding caused by beavers!

The issue was an ever increasing pond which was making about 200 meters of trail very soggy. The cause was determined to be a beaver dam which has been growing in height each year and backing up into the field and the Boundary Bluffs side trail. A review with our stewardship team and the BTC ecologists resulted in a plan for a “Beaver Baffler (BB)”. A BB is a culvert with a screen mesh intended to keep the water level at a consistent level.

Don McIlraith, our Stewardship Director, enlisted the help of the Stewardship Rangers to install the BB. This group is now the Grey-Bruce Stewardship Rangers which are funded by a grant from MNR and work under the Grey Bruce Stewardship Network. Thanks guys!

Back to the snow shoes. Don found that they were just the thing to help with his footing on the gooey mud bottom which is as deep as 2 feet! A great display of land stewardship, cooperation and involvement of dedicated youth. But maybe it has left a baffled beaver or two as well!



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The Peninsula Bruce Trail Club Nominating Committee

is inviting interested volunteers to serve on our Board of Directors for 2015 - 2016.

We are particularly interested in filling the following positions.

A candidate must be...

- A member of the Peninsula Club or be willing to join.
- Have recognized skills for particular facet of board work or be willing to learn.
- Supportive of the purposes and values of the Bruce Trail Conservancy.
- Available to meet during the week, days or evenings, or on weekends.
- Willing to travel to board meetings without reimbursement.
- Willing to have a 1 year term minimum on the Board and attend all meetings.
- Forward thinking, proactive, and a team worker.

Refer to the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club webpage www.pbtc.ca for additional details
or contact pbtcnominatingcommittee@gmail.com
Candidates are also welcome to visit a board meeting.

Director at Large: Directors with no specific responsibilities. It is expected that Directors at Large will move on to specific portfolios after their first year. Ideally will work with the Director whose portfolio they will assume. May be called on by the President to undertake special duties as needs arise. Participates in Board's deliberations and decisions in matters of policy, finance and advocacy.

Publicity: Searches out opportunities and responds to requests to promote the Club for members and the community at large. Liaises with the Webmaster to ensure that the website is current. Places ads and articles in local newspapers to maintain the profile of the PBTC in the community. Identifies needs/opportunities for articles or presentations and brings them to the appropriate Board member/committee. Reports to the Board at their meetings.

Secretary: Records and distributes the minutes of all meetings of the Club and of the Board of Directors. Prepares agendas for meetings of the Board, notifies Board members of the time and place of meetings, keeps a record of the Directors, and other related duties as may be assigned.

Sales Director: Responsible for purchase, sale, and inventory maintenance of map sets, pins, badges and other items offered by the club to its membership, and to the public, through a distribution network of stores and tourism outlets. Reports to the Board at their meetings.

Volunteer Coordinator: Responds to volunteering questions and applications. Works together with potential volunteers to determine their best fit within the club based on their availability, interests and strengths. Ensures each volunteer receives applicable manuals, orientation and adequate training. Maintains the volunteer database. Recognizes volunteers in conjunction with other club officials. Reports to the Board at their meetings.



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