

The Rattler



ISSUE #3, 2016



*Strawberry Trail
Watercolour by
Julie Heinrichs*

**President's
Message
page 3**

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

President's Message - Fall 2016

The Peninsula Bruce Trail Club had a busy six months.

The Hike Festival was a great success: kudos to Sheila Buckingham and her team. The keynote speaker on Saturday night was Beth Gilhespy, CEO of the Bruce Trail Conservancy. In 2017 the Hike Festival will be folded into the 50th Anniversary celebrations. The Hike Festival has been hosted on the weekend of Bruce Trail Day since 2003.

The 50th Anniversary of the PBTC is being celebrated on June 10, 2017. This is the exact same date as the official opening of the entire Bruce Trail from Tobermory to Queenston on June 10, 1967. YOU are invited to celebrate with us at the northern Cairn in Tobermory on that day. Stay tuned for more details!



The annual Peninsula End to End hike will be different next year! This E2E hike will be open to 100 registrants and have a bus shuttle to allow for self-paced hiking. Special thanks to Bridget and Susan for developing this initiative. There will be a unique badge designed for completion of End to End hikes in 2017.

There is a new PBTC website being designed and inaugurated for the celebration of the 50th Anniversary. The website will go live in January. This website will provide hiking options, trail updates, current event notification and historical information about 50 years of developing the trail on the peninsula. Thanks to those who worked on the website in the past and are involved in the current development.

It has been thrilling to have the BTC acquire three major parcels of land this year on the Peninsula: Vanishing Stream in Colpoy's Bay, Otter Lake on Dyer's Bay Rd N and the Light Nature Reserve near Tobermory. The Light Nature Reserve and a side trail on Malcolm Bluff commemorate Bob Light, an outstanding member and contributor to the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club.

This is the year to take your membership to a new level and volunteer to be part of the excitement: more information at pbtgeneralinfo@gmail.com

Walter Brewer
President PBTC



Bull Homestead: Bull family discovers ancestors along the Bruce Trail

PBTC Land Stewardship Director Bob Cunningham, his wife Anita, Bruce Trail Conservancy CEO Beth Gilhespy, and Ron Gatis, a local resident whose family has lived in Colpoy's Bay for generations, recently had the pleasure of meeting two great-great-grandchildren of William Bull, the original owner of the Colpoy's Bay Bull Homestead land purchased by the BTC in 2008 (Map 35, Bruce Trail Reference ed. 28, SE corner of Hwy 6 and Mallory Beach Rd.) Regan and Steve Bull only recently discovered their connection to William Bull, but quickly felt a sense of kinship with him and the property that we all now enjoy while walking the Bruce Trail.

Their father, Richard Bull, who never knew of the connection of his ancestor's land to the Bruce Trail, was a land steward for the Niagara Bruce Trail Club for a stretch of trail between Beamsville and Grimsby. As a High School science and horticulture teacher in Beamsville, he helped form an Environmental Studies curriculum for Ontario High Schools involving soil and water ecology, outdoor recreation and conservation. He passed down much of this knowledge and appreciation to his children. Steve recalled that his first overnight hiking trip in the 1970s was with his father on the trail in what is

now Bruce Peninsula National Park. At that time, outdoor gear was very rudimentary and hard to find. In the manner of true pioneers, their mother sewed a lot of their outdoor clothing. Both Steve and Regan live relatively close to the escarpment, with Steve residing in a 150-year old timber-frame farmhouse built by United Empire Loyalists at exactly the same time William Bull was clearing land in the Colpoy's Bay area.

William Bull is considered to be the first settler in the northern part of Amabel Township. After emigrating from England, he lived first in Ottawa, and later taught school in Perth County and Owen Sound. As his obituary explains, "his active mind however would not let him rest" and when Amabel Township lots were offered for sale by the Department of Indian Affairs in Owen Sound in September 1856, he made a purchase after exploring the area the year before. In spring 1857, at age 38, he travelled by boat from Owen Sound with his wife, Ann Barnard, and five children, at ages between 1 and 12, to settle on 83 acres of land, starting on the southern edge of what later later became the Village of Colpoy's Bay (on the north part of lots A and 1, concession 25).

cont'd on pg. 5



cont'd from pg. 4

As Bull explains in his reminiscences first published in the Warton Echo in July 1879, "During the first season our only neighbours were the Indians on the south side of the bay, the family of the missionary who resided with them and another white family ..." Bull cites appreciation for all the assistance he received from his First Nation neighbours, and mentions a time when they helped find his 10-year old son who became lost while bringing in the cattle.

While walking the Bull Homestead land, we can only imagine what it would have been like to arrive in the Peninsula wilderness with a family, intending to establish a home where there were no roads, houses, stores, schools, or other settlers for many kilometres. It would be all the more difficult if the pioneer preferred teaching or governing to farming or lumberjacking! It wasn't long before a few others came to settle in the beautiful area of Amabel and Albemarle Townships. The Greig family arrived in the fall to settle about 5 km to the west. These "neighbours" relied upon each other; for example, the Greigs helped the Bulls take up their crop of potatoes, while Bull assisted the Greigs in cutting a road through the bush to their lots. They also supported each other through harrowing trips over the bays to Owen Sound in November to secure provisions to survive the winters.

Later that fall, Bull was also joined by John Wood and Samuel Atkinson who arrived on a schooner from Collingwood to settle 4-5 km NE of Bull who was happy to have another set of neighbours over the winter.

Bull engaged in some farming, particularly to meet the needs of his family and likely for trade. According to agricultural census schedules, in 1861 26 acres were under cultivation, growing wheat, oats, potatoes, turnips and hay, along with a one-acre garden. By 1871, the family tended a two-acre garden, and had "improved" 60 acres, with 20 acres in pasture and the rest growing his other vegetables and grains.

Bull's primary activities were in municipal service. He was Amabel Township Clerk for 18 years (1861-1879), filling the additional role of Treasurer for 6 of those years. He was also School Supervisor with Bruce County Board of Instruction from 1865-1871. In the summer of 1873, William travelled up and down the Peninsula performing a valuation of lands pursuant to a federal government appointment. Settlers had been complaining that they were paying too much for their properties, due to speculators driving up the price of land at the Owen Sound land auction. They also complained that timber operators were stripping the Peninsula of good timber, while settlers were denied the right to cut wood on their own land without a license. William Bull was appointed to report his opinion as to the true value of land, noting its condition (dry, farmable, rocky, swampy or wet), as well as the kind and quantity of timber.

Bull also held the position of Cape Croker "Indian Agent" from 1882 until his death in 1884. He died of blood poisoning after an accident while cutting a sliver off a post. His Warton Echo obituary attributed to him a true pioneer spirit: "who when he had an object to gain, kept that object continually in sight, and never relaxed an effort until he had accomplished his end."

In March 1873, William Bull's family moved to Warton and he sold the "Bull Homestead" property to Charles Ward, never imagining that it would someday host a public footpath and be managed by a conservancy. The property remained in the Ward family until they sold it to Charles E. Whicher in 1917. In 1929, the property was transferred to C.E. Whicher Ltd. The original farmhouse was occupied seasonally by the Farquar family until the 1950s when it was moved. The present foundation remaining on the property is that of the original barn which collapsed in the 1950s, and the wooden parts of the structure were burned in place. This stone foundation was used until the mid-2000s by a neighbour, to corral his cattle from the pasture ready to ship out to market.

cont'd on pg. 7

Two Trees

Two trees, amid those leafy shade
The warbling birds their vigil paid,
Stoos neighbours - each as noble tree
In height and girth as one might see.
The one, sequestered in the vale.
All sheltered from the boisterous gale,
Had passed his days in soft repose;
The other from the cliff arose,
And bore the brunt of snowy wind
That lashed him oft in frenzy blind.

A day there happed when from the north
Aquilon drave his forces forth,
And hurled them headlong on the rock
Where, proudly poised to meet the shock,
Our bold tree stood. In gallant might,
He took gage of proffered fight,
And though in every fibre wrung,
Kept every fibre still unsprung.

"Thou tremblest!" cried the sheltered tree,
"Thine own folly! Come to me.
Here no wild tempest rocks our boughs-
Scarce may it bend our haughty brows-
Scarce may a breeze our branches kiss-
From every harm a shelter this."

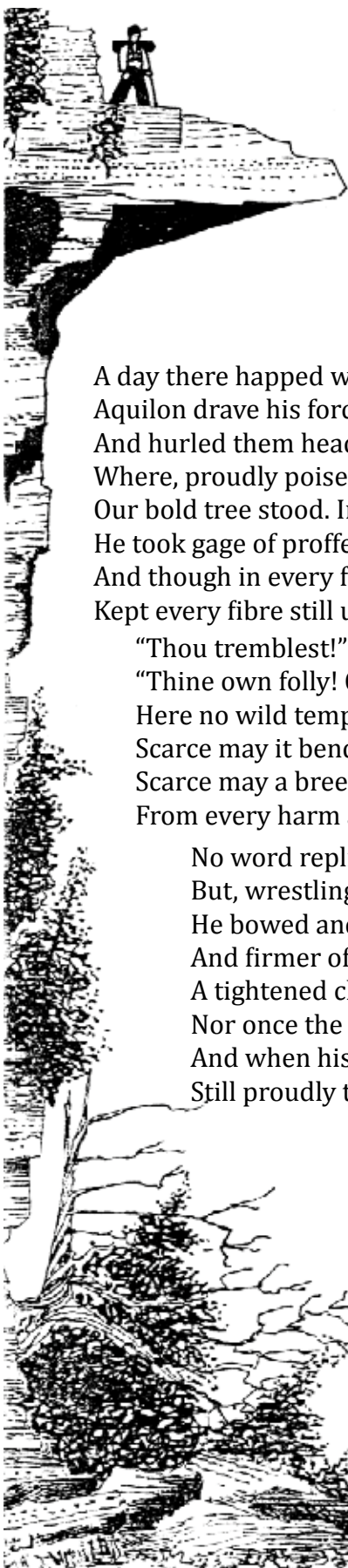
No word replied the storm-tryed tree,
But, wrestling from the mastery,
He bowed and straightened, writhed and shook,
And firmer of the rock he took
A tightened clench with grip of steel,
Nor once the the storm-fiend made him reel;
And when his weary foe passed by,
Still proudly towered he proudly to the sky.

Then through the vale the winged blast
For the first time in fury passed,
As through ripe grain the sickles go,
Widespread he scattered fear and woe;
Prone fell the tree-sosafe before
'Mid ruin dire, to rise no more.

He cannot fall who knows to fight
With stern adversity aright.
But soon is laid victim low,
That knows not how to ward a blow.

Sarah Ann Curzon 1887

Poem found in "The Last Stand" by Kelly & Larson





cont'd from pg.5

In 2008, the BTC acquired the property from the C.E. Whicher Co. Ltd. (Ron Gatis), who suggested the BTC name the property "Bull" after its original owner, which led the Bull family to notice the property and commence their genealogical investigations! The grasslands and watercourses are now naturalizing, and the property provides habitat for numerous plants and animals including several species at risk. Geologically the property has fine examples of karst topography, with numerous sinkholes, crevices and streams that run both above and below ground.

Sources:

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- ☐ Bartley, Allan. "The Voyage of William Bull." *Bruce County Historical Society Yearbook 1985*. Bruce County Historical Society, 1985. 6-15
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- ☐ Gatis, Sheila Lennox. "Colpoy's Bay Village: Then and Now." 2012. p. 38
- ☐ Lots A and 1, Concession 25, Amabel Township, Bruce County, Ontario Land Abstract.
- ☐ Robertson, Norman. "The History of the County of Bruce and of the minor municipalities therein." Third Printing. Owen Sound, Ont.: Richardson, Bond and Wright, 1971. 195-211.
- ☐ William Bull household, 1851 census of Canada West and 1861 census of Canada, Ontario, North Bruce (District 28), Amabel Township.
- ☐ "William Bull" obituary, *Warton Echo*, May 23, 1884.
- ☐ *Warton Echo* July 1879

by Deb Sturdevant

The Peninsula Bruce Trail Club Nominating Committee

We are looking for volunteers to fill unique and rewarding positions
on our Board of Directors for 2017 - 2018.

For more information contact
pbtgeneralinfo@gmail.com

* * * * *

DON'T MISS THESE 50TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS NEXT YEAR!

- June 10: A celebration in Tobermory. There will be tents, displays, boat trips, food, dignitaries, awards & more!
- June 25: A 50K Run from Rush Cove to Vanishing Stream, Colpoys Bay. 50K-in-one-day!
Can you do it?
- October 1: The Peninsula E2E hike will finish at the cairn in Tobermory.
Register to hike or just come to cheer!

WATCH OUR WEBSITE FOR EXCITING DETAILS

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Cornerstone Golf Club Rescues Club in Trail Re-Route

Our Peninsula Club has been searching for a trail re-route near Tobermory for some time and Jeff Corner of Cornerstone Golf Club really came through with a solution. When he was approached about the possibility of a trail re-route through his golf club he readily agreed. But his assistance went way beyond that permission. He suggested an ideal route which led hikers through woods, only crossing the course at an old unused tee box and a clearer blazing set-up. During construction he loaned golf carts and ATV's to make the work much easier. This new trail re-route is a tremendous help to our club and Jeff's assistance is greatly appreciated.



We want to send a sincere THANK YOU to Lion's Head Promotions Group for generously placing a Johnny-on-the-spot in the McCurdy parking lot off Moore St., Lion's Head. This is the second season visitors have been able to enjoy a much appreciated respite. And another big THANK YOU to Bruce Peninsula Septic Service, owned by Kelly and AJ Arps, for maintaining the toilet



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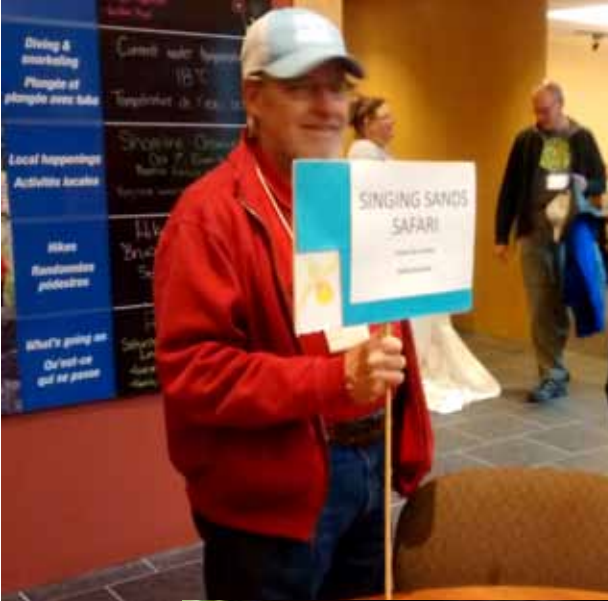
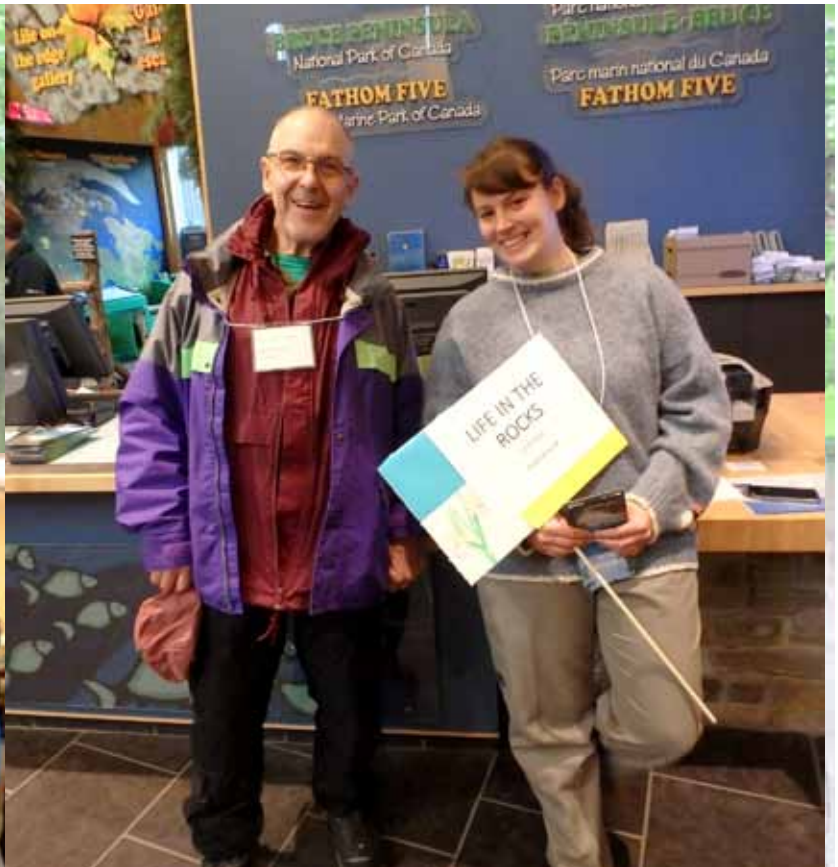
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Hiking Festival 2016

Peninsula Bruce Trail Club's 13th Annual Hike Festival "The Bruce Trail Rocks" took place on September 30 to October 2. This was an opportunity to explore our ancient history and cultural heritage up close and personal. Some of the workshops offered were Cryptic Fall Fungi, Life in the Rocks at Little Cove, Geology at Cape Dundas, Geology of Singing Sands, Fall Bounty at the Warder Ranch, Singing Sands Safari and a Tour and Tasting at the local Brew Pub. Evening speakers included Peter Russell from the University of Waterloo on Friday and Beth Gilhespy from the Bruce Trail Conservancy on Saturday. On Sunday, during Bruce Trail Day, hikes were led in the White Bluffs area overlooking Whippoorwill Bay. Thank you to all the volunteers. The event was well attended and all the feedback very positive.





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PATAGONIA - Chile & Argentina

March 5 to 17, 2017

In Chile, visit penguins on Isla Magdalena. Then journey even further south to Torres Del Paine NP - sleep in geodesic ECO-DOMES, hike up to "The Towers", and see icebergs & glaciers on Grey Lake.

Then join the gauchos in Argentina. Travel to El Chalten and El Calafate in Los Glaciares NP, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Hike over to view Mt. Fitz Roy and even visit the renowned Perito Moreno Glacier. This exciting adventure concludes in the cosmopolitan city of Buenos Aires.

AMALFI COAST, ITALY

April 17 to 29, 2017

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.

THE "CAMINO", SPAIN

May 1 to 13, 2017

The Camino de Santiago is an iconic trek covering some 800km across the north of Spain. Our journey encompasses the last 152km from O'Cebreiro to Santiago de Compostela, including many "extras" in order to make it a complete Galician experience. Thousands of pilgrims have walked before us, and it is time to add your footsteps to this famous trail.

IRELAND

June 6 to 16, 2017

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 WALKING SAFARI

July 9 to 21, 2017

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 herdsman 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?

MACHU PICCHU

September 15 to 27, 2017

Explore the Sacred Valley of the Incas by hiking through the famed salt pans of Maras, the ancient ruins of Pisac, and trekking high up into the Urubamba mountain range. Then that all important day arrives when we hike into Machu Picchu - **rounding the corner of the Sun Gate and seeing Machu Picchu for the first time with your own eyes will give you goose bumps!**

(Note: This trip does not involve ANY camping - all accommodations are in hotels & lodges.)

End 2 End Special Arrives in Tobermory

On September 8, the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club's End2End Special, a hike for the occasional hiker going at a gentle pace, arrived at the cairn in Tobermory having left Wiarton on Thursday, May 5, a distance of 166 km.

By the numbers:

- 19 Thursdays hiking, 659 individual hikes, 22 hikers hiked 3,652 km for a flowerpot badge, 6 new Bruce Trail members
- \$ 1,453 raised for maintenance of the Peninsula Club's section of the Bruce Trail, one twoonie at a time
- Hikers aged from 12 to 81 and hailing from Owen Sound, Collingwood, Fergus, London, Waterloo, Hanover, Sauble Beach, Red Bay, Lion's Head and places up and down the Peninsula and in between
- Sighted en route: 2 bears, 1 coyote, 1 porcupine and 3 rattlesnakes
- Swims at 12 beaches, only one hour of hiking in the rain and one thunderstorm just as we arrived back at the cars
- 2 birthdays on the trail, 40 participants at the post hike pot luck BBQ celebration

Many thanks to the landowners who allowed us to park on their property
And our thanks to everyone for coming out to make this such a fun event, it took the whole summer!

*Bridget Rosser and Doug Sloan
Peninsula Bruce Trail Club*



Profile - Bob and Anita Cunningham

Panoramic views abound from Bob and Anita Cunningham's home, allowing the two to keep a watchful eye over the Bruce Trail section which winds through their property. Perched on the rocks over Isthmus Bay, their home provides stunning views of the bay, escarpment setting, and the flora and fauna which the two so love and appreciate. The scope of their watchfulness, however, widens to include the overseeing of other Bruce Trail properties on the Peninsula, as well as keeping an eye on community members in need of hospice support. Also, Bob and Anita maintain a particular focus on birds – both on the Peninsula as well as all over the world.

The couple's home rests in the same location where Bob's parents' cottage formerly stood. Anita's family also had a cottage on the same stretch of road. There they met, as teenagers, in 1958. They continued to spend all their summers there. After studies at Ryerson – Anita for fashion design, and Bob for business —they married. During their time at Ryerson, they met a group of friends with whom they have travelled and socialized for over 50 years.

Bob's employment was centered in the Toronto Area. He held management positions for 40 years at Canada Packers leather tanneries in Acton and Aurora and, subsequently, at a Toronto law firm. Anita worked for 15 years as an educational assistant for Wellington, Peel, and York Region Boards of Education. She was also employed as an interior landscape designer. The couple raised two children: a son, who lives in Oakville, and a daughter who resides in B.C. In 2013, Bob and Anita built their present home, and left Caledon to reside permanently on the Peninsula.



The couple's home is adjacent to an area of national and scientific interest (ANSI). During the time that Bob's family cottage existed, the Bruce Trail ran from Lions Head down the main street and along Isthmus Bay road. In the early 2000's, Bob and Anita were approached by Ross McLean and John Appleton and hence agreed to route the trail across their property. They became trail captains of the section from the harbour to Isthmus Bay Road. Both later became land stewards (inspecting, monitoring and reporting activities) for the Bull Homestead property (2008/9) and then for the Williams Caves property (2013). Then, in 2015, Bob succeeded Don McIlraith as Land Stewardship Director, and he continues to hold this position at present. Anita carries on as a land steward for the Vanishing Stream property as well as for the Bull Homestead property (along with Grant Ehrhardt).

Bob and Anita now lead the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club spring birding hike. They offer a remarkable wealth of birding experience. Anita's parents had been avid birders and Anita shared their passion. Bob more recently became an enthusiast. Once each year the couple travels somewhere in the world for a birding expedition. It was Anita's 60th birthday wish to return to Trinidad (where she was born) on a birding vacation. Bob accompanied her. His eyes light up as he recalls the impact of the beauty of the vision of mass colour sightings of exotic birds he has experienced.

cont'd from page14

Expedition destinations for the two have also included Iceland, Spain, Costa Rica, Uganda, Brazil, Jamaica, Panama, Mexico, India and Cuba. This year they plan to travel to Ghana for birding. This year they plan to travel to Ghana for birding. They also enjoy experiencing the cuisine and culture of the places they visit.

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Anita has incorporated her love of natural beauty into her pastime of abstract quilting. She has produced exquisite works of fibre art, some of which are displayed in local shows and sold. Collecting clocks is a shared hobby, producing a medley of tones resonating throughout their home. In his own brew room, Bob delights in making beer “from scratch”.

Also active in their local community, both Bob and Anita work as hospice volunteers, regularly assisting clients who may be bereaved, ill or caretakers of ill family members.

Anita and Bob contribute a great deal of time and expertise to the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club. As well as enjoying hiking themselves, they delight in seeing other hikers enjoying the route through their property and possibly resting on the teak root bench which the two have placed near the shore for that purpose. They have also ensured that the portion of the Bruce Trail running through their property is legally protected in perpetuity. We are surely fortunate to have such dedicated, passionate and knowledgeable volunteers in our Peninsula club.

by Carol Chitovas



Creating the Future: Justine Rydall

Justine is a young, friendly woman who serves as a volunteer firefighter for the town of Wiarton on the Bruce Peninsula. She is also my personal trainer. She has lived all her life in beautiful Purple Valley, except for a couple years at college, surrounded by her extended family, her horses, and her vegetable garden. She and her cousins grew up hiking, and later running, the Purple Valley Access Trail which is only a kilometre and a half from her home. They had their own pet-name for the trail, "Top-of-the-Rock" because of the great view and a gigantic rock which they loved to climb.

While Justine has me doing box squats and step-ups, she reminds me how my muscles will be in better shape for the trail. She's right. I started off being worried about 6 kilometres, now I'm up to 15. I recently told her how I had to hike the Halfway Dump to High Dump section of the trail to complete my E2E Special. She has her own experiences of that rugged part of the trail. As a Grade 12 student at Peninsula Shores District School, she was a participant in their Eco-Shores course. The course offers senior students an opportunity to enhance their academic learning by moving beyond the traditional classroom and incorporating regular field trip learning experiences. The Bluewater Outdoor Education Centre, near Wiarton, is used extensively for this purpose. The overall focus of the program is on the Bruce Peninsula and the Niagara Escarpment. Students earn 3 credits: in Environment and Resource Management, Outdoor Activities, and English. The program is offered every 2 years.

Justine was so determined that she be able to fit this course into her studies that she took another required course by correspondence to make room for Eco-Shores. She remembers a speaker in class who taught them about the Bruce Trail: the length of the trail; about wildlife they might see, especially the Massasauga rattlers; about alvars and more. They earned their GPS certification, learned meal planning and outdoor survival. The students did an overnight winter camping in February at the BWOEC where they

could be close to indoor warmth if needed. Next, they did a 3-day trip in early May from High Dump to the Grotto, camping one night in High Dump and one in Stormhaven. The course culminated in an 8-day backpacking and canoeing trip in Algonquin Park in late May. There are 15 to 25 participants each year, including junior chaperones and full chaperones. After her 1st trip as a student, Justine went back as a junior chaperone 2 years later, and 2 years after that, as a qualified full chaperone.

The teachers ensure that everyone has good footwear, and access to tents, backpacks and appropriate clothing so that no student is precluded from the trip for financial reasons. Students like the fact that they don't need to get fancy for hiking. It is something they can afford for the price of a pair of runners, a jacket, and a bottle of water. There is a fee for the course but the students do fundraising to help with this. Justine remembers receiving funding from the Gosling Foundation with students assisting with the grant applications.

The weather for Justine's 3 hikes went from pouring rain, to nice, to tropically sunny. They found that tenting back up on the hills was warmer than the sites right at the water's edge where the chill wind would blow right through their tents. A few years earlier, students even experienced tents collapsed by snow. She can picture her classmates huddling under tarps because of the rain, being mesmerized as they heard the ghostly horn of the Chi-Cheemaun ferry and watched it slowly make its way through the fog.

The hike always started at the High Dump end. They were careful not to "turtle" as they climbed down the rope to the beach with 60 pounds packs... no falling backwards and landing on their backs, helpless as turtles. The students were rewarded for their perseverance to Stormhaven with the easier groomed trails at the Grotto. As a full chaperone, Justine found she was the first one up in the morning and the last one to bed, keeping morale up for any students who were tired or exhausted.

cont'd on page 17

cont'd from page 16

She remembers clearly and with admiration for her group, that there were no “whiners”, even the slowest hiker kept on coming. She left a teacher in charge of the main body of hikers, went back and offered to carry that student’s backpack but he refused. Gradually they got stronger and braver and enjoyed “bouldering” at Bootlegger’s Cave.

Justine continued her weight training on the trail. Hers was always the heaviest pack and she insists it was because of her bulky sleepwear. Later on, describing with enthusiasm the meals they would concoct over their single-burner stoves and acknowledging her love of fresh vegetables, she admits the food was probably weighing her down! Each tent group would make their own meals – whipping up chili or stirfry. Justine loved being a junior chaperone because the students cooked for her and she just provided snacks. She recalls explaining to the students why granola bars and chips in the tent were a bad idea.

Many of the students had never been on the Bruce Trail before and were very inexperienced when it came to hiking. But they grew to love it. The good feelings and comradeship which developed carried over into their final months in high school.

Each year the students would start off being fairly quiet. They were not in their usual comfort zones, they didn’t mix with their fellow hikers back at school. Each subsequent time Justine participated, she noticed that the students were more tied to their cell phones. She would entreat them to “be present where you are.” If they dropped their phone, lost it, or the rain got it – that was on them.



As they put their phones away, they soon found new things to do: carving, writing, making fishing spears, fashioning bow and arrows, and just talking. As they became more creative, the different groups started to mesh. They started to come together through their shared experience of exploring their environment. There was a whole wide world outside the internet!

Justine is hoping she can be a chaperone for the hike again in 2 years time. She grew up enjoying the Bruce Trail and I admire the way she is “paying it forward”. There are more hikers on the trail because she got involved. Thanks.

by Brenda Langlois



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Missing from photos are Brenda, Steve & Phil



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