



Oak Ridges Trail Association

TRAIL TALK



Oak Ridges Trail Association Quarterly
ISSN 1481-5982

Fall 2017

Celebrating



25 YEARS

IN THIS ISSUE

- ADVENTURE RELAY WRAP UP
- ANNIVERSARY HIKE AND POTLUCK
- DISCOVERY NIGHT
- MEET YOUR NEW HIKE LEADER
- MEET YOUR NEW DIRECTOR
- AND MUCH MUCH MORE...

PRESIDENT'S CHAT



As the warmer weather comes to a close we head into what some consider the prime time to hike---fall. By my count from the website there are about 70 hikes of varying distances and difficulties, weekends and weekdays from October through December. What

perfect opportunities to get out and enjoy the season. I look forward to seeing you all on the trails.

If you needed more convincing to get out and join our hikes the following information taken from the Ontario Parks web log should do the trick.

www.ontarioparks.com/parksblog/hiking-for-head-to-toe-health/

Hiking: good for your mind and your body

- HEART** Improves cardiovascular health
- MIND** Promotes creativity
- LOWER BODY** Strengthens quads, glutes and hamstrings
- UPPER BODY** Hiking poles work the arms, shoulders and back

OntarioParks.com/hphp

Hiking for head-to-toe health

It's probably no surprise that hiking is good for your health, but it might surprise you that the benefits reach from head to toe!

Check out the brain and body benefits of hiking:

Benefits for your brain

Get creative! Going for a hike can promote creative thinking. Research shows that spending time outdoors may increase your attention span and creative problem-solving skills by as much as 50%.

Relax: Nature sounds along the trail — like birds and rushing water — have been shown to lower stress levels.

Energize: A walk in the woods can help alleviate mental fatigue.

Get social: Hitting the trails with family and friends is a great way to spend time together and forge bonds doing something you enjoy.

Benefits for your body

Tone your upper body: Adding hiking poles ensures that your upper body gets a great work out too. Your shoulders, arms and back will thank you!

Get heart healthy: Regular exercise like hiking is good for cardiovascular health and can help reduce your risk of heart disease, high blood pressure and stroke.

cont'd on page 2

2018 HIKING TOURS



Cornwall & Cotswolds Hiking Tour – 13 Days

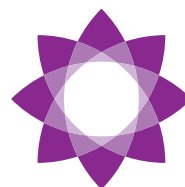
Hiking in Wales – 13 Days

Hiking in Scotland – 13 Days

Newfoundland Hiking Tour – 10 Days

Scottish Borders Hiking Tour – 16 Days

Vermont Hiking Tour – 5 Days



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END2END HIKING

There is a certain mystique attached to the hiking term "End2End," whether it's for the Bruce Trail, the Rideau Trail or the Oak Ridges Moraine Trail (ORMT). Some hikers can't quite imagine trekking the long distances, shuttling cars or making the overnight arrangements- others thrive on it to the extent that they repeat the process over and over. Bob Comfort and Malcolm Hann have led fast hikers across the 270+km of our ORMT on 13 days over a period of several months. That's a little more than 20km per day. Then there was Kelly Mathews who trekked the entire length in 7 consecutive days --- a 40km marathon per day!

This year an enthusiastic group completed their End2End at a more leisurely pace and distance per day. Led by Brian and Wilma Millage, this group of ORTA hikers started in the Glen Haffey C.A. in Caledon and earned their E2E badges over a 2-year period, walking at a moderate pace and trekking about 15km per day. Many other hikers joined the hike series for one or more days at various locations across the Oak Ridges Moraine Trail. Some of the late joiners wanted the same



sense of achievement inspired by the camaraderie of the group and went back to complete missed sections, either in small groups or individually. Special mention goes to Bill Patterson who created a spreadsheet to help everyone keep track of their results, and Bob Comfort who helped several hikers make up missed sections. One hiker even travelled from Cambridge to complete the entire trail with us. One special part of our journey was the final 3-day push to reach the east end at Warkworth. To save driving time, we stayed at Golden Beach Resort on Rice Lake for 2 nights while we completed the last 3 days of hiking through the Northumberland Forest. With hugs all round and a champagne toast, WE DID IT!

This week after our Second Forest hike in Uxbridge, Millie and Carol arranged a thank you reunion lunch at Nathan's Restaurant with most of the group attending --- and planning another outing for this October! Thank you all for being such a great group to hike with. The memories will endure.

Brian and Wilma Millage

FALL UPDATE ON CRESTS

by Wilma Millage

25th Anniversary Hike Crest

Well folks, the special 25th Anniversary crest which was designed by the 25th Anniversary Committee is proving to be very popular! The crest is earned by hiking 25 ORTA-led hikes this anniversary year and are already being handed out regularly at hikes and meetings. The crests are presented upon receipt of a completed log sheet that is available on the website under the Hiking heading. How far along are you on your list? I just earned mine on a recent hike with Marianne Broome at Cold Creek Conservation Area. These crests are free to hikers in celebration of ORTA's 25th anniversary year. They are available at ORTA Discovery Nights, on Monday hikes, or by presenting your completed log sheet to myself or Brian.

New End to End Crest

Other hikers are purchasing (\$3) the new End to End crest even though they may have completed their own End to End many years ago. I've seen many backpacks already that are displaying both new crests prominently and I think they look great.



President's Chat cont'd

Give bones a boost: Hiking is a weight-bearing exercise which means you can boost bone density on the trails.

Give your joints a break: The softer surface means trails are easier on your joints that walking on sidewalks or paved roads.

Tone your lower body: Hiking is great at toning muscles especially in quads, glutes and hamstrings. Add some hills or uneven terrain for an even better cardio workout and to burn more calories.

Kevin Lowe, President



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Slate Islands • Denison Falls

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Hiking in the Highlands of North Central Pennsylvania



Thanksgiving Oct. 6-9
New Years Dec. 28-Jan. 1

The Lodge is located in Potter County, Pennsylvania, 2.5 hours south of Buffalo. There is no agriculture or industry in the area, just great trails. Daily hikes of 10 to 15 km are led through hardwood forest, many beside mountain streams. Our lodge provides comfortable accommodation & excellent meals for \$70.00 semi-private or \$75.00 private USD per day per person. These outings have proven to be popular with the lodge filling quickly.

For more information, including driving directions, please see hikevincent.wordpress.com or contact Greg Vincent at 519-579-8210 or vincent.greg@gmail.com. For reservations call Carol Szymanik at 1-814-435-2163



adventure relay
2017

traversing the
Oak Ridges Moraine

Photos: Sign holder: Peter Rivington, Cyclist: Peter Rivington, Runner: Robert Alsop

adventure relay Thanks!!!

THANK YOU TO VOLUNTEERS

JUDY PERGAU



It was a real pleasure to visit all of the checkpoints during the Relay, and I was so pleased to hear the lovely compliments about you and your teams from the runners and cyclists along the way. Everything ran so smoothly, and you all presented a well-organized and friendly face of ORTA that makes everyone so proud of

your efforts. It is because of you and your hard work that our Relay continues to be one of the best activities of its kind in the country. I can't express enough how much I appreciate the job you did to make the day successful. I had fun, and I hope you did too. Thank you for everything.

As you remember, last year the Ladies Golf Club donated a fabulous prize of a round of golf for 2 (men or women) at their club. They donated it again this year and the winner of the draw was Robert Alsop. Congratulations Robert!

If you have any thoughts or suggestions about your checkpoint for next year, I would enjoy hearing them. Again, my sincere thanks to all of you.



to ORTA

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP

KEVIN LOWE, PRESIDENT

To: Brian Millage, Pat Ward and Michele Donnelly,

I would like to express my appreciation and acknowledge all you collectively have done as Co-Chairs of the Adventure Relay. I have been involved in enough large-scale projects in my time to know that they do not come out well without capable leadership, careful consideration of the people involved, the process, and the details. I also know how much hard work it takes to bring projects to fruition. All this was evident in spades as the adventure relay unfolded this past June.

Under your capable leadership the event came off extremely smoothly and successfully. Volunteers were engaged and well trained, competitors were excited and thankful, and distance was covered.

In my travels from checkpoint to checkpoint I heard nothing but accolades from the competitors. Congratulations on a job well done! Again, my sincere thanks for all the leadership you brought to the event and the resulting benefit

The Oak Ridges Trail Association (ORTA) Adventure Relay Committee takes this opportunity to say "thank you" to all the businesses that have supported us this year. You have enabled us to provide a gift card/voucher to reward participants who have raised more than \$100 for ORTA and to reward our winning racers.

Blue Heron Books	Uxbridge	Lakeridge Ski Resort	Uxbridge
Boston Pizza	Uxbridge	Mountain Equipment Co-op (MEC)	Toronto
Boyd's Sports	Uxbridge	Pathways to Perennials	King
Brocks Department Store	Port Perry	Pine Farms Orchard	King
Canadian Canoe Museum	Peterborough	Rhino's Roadhouse	Bewdley
Eggs 4 Life	Aurora	Rockford's Bar & Grill	King City
Foxbridge Golf Club		Swiss Chalet	Uxbridge
Scrambles Restaurant	Uxbridge	Tim Hortons	Uxbridge
Hardwood Ski and Bike	Oro-Medonte	Treetop Trekking	Ganaraska
Kawartha Dairy	Bobcaygeon	Zehrs	Uxbridge

NEW MEMBERS

ORTA welcomed the following individual and family memberships during our last quarter, April – June 2017:

Samuel Anderson	Sybil Massey
Margaret Burrows	Jane Rankin
Barbara Czegel	Robert & Judy Robinson
Louise Doucet	Adrienne Sequeira
Barbara Francey	Margot Sexton
Cynthia Gibson	Stephen Swigger
Debbie Kernohan	Olivia Vaz
Lee Choo Khaw	Sherri Wilson
Elizabeth Laaniste	Cita Wong
Mikal Lawton	

A MEANINGFUL ALTERNATIVE

As part of ORTA's program to *Celebrate Life's Milestones* or *In Memory* of friends or family, a gift was received:

in honour of

Nicola Palframan

A member and hiker

Please remember ORTA if you have someone special to remember or an event to celebrate



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CHAMPIONS

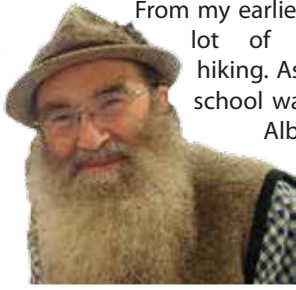
April 1, 2017 to June 30, 2017

Thank you to all donors who have made donations of \$10.00 or more.

A.K. Aagaard	Reza Farmand	David Rawcliffe
Samuel Anderson	Alexandra Forer	George & Jennifer Rigg
Jim Baston	Carol Fraser	Nora Ryan
Angela Bender	Juergen Friedrich	Debbie Schaefer
Rick Berry	Robert & Linda Hansen	Peter Schaefer
Gail Birkett	Pamela Hasson	Margot Sexton
Russell Burton	Robert Henderson	Pam Shepherd
Breezy Ridge Farm	Belinda Higgs	Cathy Simpson
Elizabeth Calvin	Robert & Audrey Hofland	David Taylor
Susan Canning	Isobel Hood	Robert Taylor
Noel & Judy Carey	Greg Jaski	Millie Wan
Dr. Hugh R. Chambers	Josipa Klostranec	Ileana Wenger
Jack & Gillian Churchill	Mikal Lawton	Jean Williams
Judy Pergau & Bob Comfort	Susan Liver	Andrew Wilton
Ruth Comfort	Kevin Lowe	Hon Wah Wong
Gary Dixon	Gaye Mas	York Pines United Church
Lissa Dwyer	Elisabeth Oberparleiter	Bill Young
Vicki Elsinga	Paul & Lesley Pergau	

If you would like to make a donation to ORTA, call 905-833-6600 or visit ORTA's website www.oakridgestrail.org for more information.

MEET YOUR NEW DIRECTOR, KLAUS WEHRENBURG



From my earliest years I did a lot of walking and hiking. As well, my high school was named after Albert Schweitzer, a humanitarian who also highly respected all non-human life.

Together, to this day, these influences have steadily guided what I do. Before the Bruce Trail even officially existed I hiked there, experiencing the wonders of the Niagara Escarpment, and the solitudes.

As a Board Member with that organization, and now with ORTA, my concern that our Trail serve to deepen the appreciation of the hiking environment has my highest priority. To that end I shall work tirelessly to get the Trail off-road entirely.

The Oak Ridges Trail would not exist if it were not for the natural treasures of the Oak Ridges Moraine – and they can rarely be found in a road corridor!

I would be glad to hear from any Member who wants to help in any way to achieve an ENTIRELY OFF-ROAD OAK RIDGES TRAIL.



The Town of Aurora is fortunate to have an extensive pedestrian trail system which connects many of its neighbourhood parks, Town facilities and open space corridors. At present, the Town maintains approximately 57 kilometres of trails. All Aurora trails are considered multi-use, with the primary focus being pedestrian hikers. Opportunities also exist for cross-country skiers. Most of our trails are compact gravel surfaces with some asphalt sections through neighbourhood and community parks.

The Klaus Wehrenburg Trail adjoins the Tim Jones Trail in Sheppards Bush and continues south through the hardwood forest to Vandorf Side Road where it meets the Evans Park Trail running South from Vandorf Side Road to Evans Park.

NEW ORTA HIKE LEADER, BRUCE COHEN



Bruce Cohen, one of ORTA's new hike leaders, is now leading slow- to moderate-paced hikes in the Goodwood area. That includes Durham Regional Forest, York Regional Forest and Secord. For most of the fall Bruce expects to lead Sunday afternoon hikes every other week, with kids and leashed dogs welcome. Each hike will last about two hours.

Bruce began hiking in 1991 when he lived in downtown

Toronto and joined the Bruce Trail Club to get out of the city every weekend. He has since done many mountain hiking trips in North America and Europe with almost annual treks to New Hampshire's White Mountains and New York's Adirondacks.

Bruce joined ORTA about 10 years ago, but is becoming really active only now that he is fully retired. In addition to leading hikes, Bruce is an Uxbridge trail captain and a trail maintenance volunteer.

ORTA RENDEZVOUS HIKE CELEBRATION— SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2017

Save the date and join in the fun- ORTA is having a Rendezvous- a mammoth afternoon of hikes for all, followed by a potluck dinner celebration, awards and a picture show. Mark this date on your calendar and invite other ORTA friends along. This will be one of the highlights of our 25th anniversary celebrations. The Uxbridge Chapter has been chosen to host this event as a wide variety of trails are available, and ORTA leaders are planning hikes from slow/moderate to moderate or fast--- your choice. Check this issue as well as the website for any future additions. Most hikes will start just after lunch but will end about 4pm so we can then assemble at the Goodwood Community Centre for a potluck dinner. Bring your favourite dish --- enough for you and a few others to sample ---- and drop your food off before the hike so it can all be arranged for your arrival when the hikes are done. If you have ever attended the ORTA Christmas potluck lunch you will know how well this works. Delicious!

The Goodwood Community Centre is located east off hwy 404 on the Bloomington Rd. right at the stoplights in Goodwood. We plan to show some of the hiking highlights of this and past years, recognize recent End2End accomplishments, and present more of those prized 25Hike/25Year badges to folks who have logged 25 ORTA hikes during 2017. We would also like to recognize and thank the many volunteers and hike leaders who make our organization so special. We have come a long way in 25 years.



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ORTA FALL 2017 HIKE SCHEDULE

PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF HIKES LISTED ON THE ORTA WEBSITE. OCCASIONALLY THERE ARE ADDITIONAL HIKES OR CORRECTIONS ADDED AFTER PRESS TIME.

- Remember that it is your responsibility to dress appropriately! Hat, gloves, gaiters, umbrella, may be needed. Wear sturdy hiking boots appropriate to changing precipitation and temperature; no cotton socks, use a liner sock plus a hiking sock. Dress in layers as conditions can vary widely within a short time or distance. Waterproof boots, jacket and pants recommended. Hiking poles optional.
- Keep these in the car: plastic bags for muddy boots, spare footwear, spare dry/warm clothes.
- Drinks and snacks recommended for all hikes and lunch may be needed for longer ones.
- Dogs: It is the hike leader's decision whether to allow dogs on hikes. If not specified in the hike listing, call the leader beforehand. Many landowners regulate that dogs shall be on leash. ORTA hikers and leaders will adhere to this policy. In all cases, dogs are expected to be well mannered and under strict control by their owners, out of consideration and safety for fellow hikers, other trail users and the environment.
- Winter Months: Late fall, winter and early spring are characterized by variable and unpredictable weather and trail conditions, in particular ice and snow. Conditions on the trail will often vary significantly from those outside your front door. For hiker and group safety, based on trail conditions, hike leaders may require participants to use icers or snowshoes to participate in the hike. If concerned, contact hike leader beforehand.
- In case of inclement weather, call the hike leader to confirm the hike.
- Be aware that parking areas are public places; refrain from keeping ANY valuables in your car.

HIKERS SHOULD ARRIVE AT LEAST 15 MINUTES BEFORE THE ADVERTISED HIKE TIME.

OCTOBER

Sun, Oct. 1, 2017 12:00 PM, Uxbridge - Glen Major West (Conc. 6 - aggregate pit)

ORTA Map 5; 16+km; Fast; 4+hrs.; "4 Tract" loop taking in 4 TRCA Conservation areas. Hilly. Additional Instructions: Join us on our First Hike Rendezvous to celebrate ORTA's 25th Anniversary. After our hike we will join other hikers at the Goodwood Community Centre for a potluck dinner. Bring your favourite dish to share with other hikers. Meet at parking lot on east side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 0.6 km north of Uxbridge Town Line or 5.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.006009, -79.101922

Bob Comfort, 905-473-2669, cell phone on day of hike 905-960-0543

Sun, Oct. 1, 2017 1:30 PM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods East (Conc. 7 - microwave towers)

ORTA Map 5; 11+km; Fast; 2+hrs.; Hilly loop hike Walker Woods east and beyond. Join us after the hike for our 25th Anniversary pot luck at the Goodwood Community Centre. Bring your favourite dish to share. Meet at parking lot on west side of Uxbridge Conc 7, 2 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.0394862, -79.0892224

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sun, Oct. 1, 2017 2:00 PM, Uxbridge - Secord Forest (Conc. 3)

ORTA Map 5; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Join us on our First Hike Rendezvous to celebrate ORTA's 25th Anniversary. After our hike through this beautiful area of forest, ponds and streams we will join other hikers at the Goodwood Community Centre for a potluck dinner. Bring your favourite dish to share with other hikers. Meet at Secord parking lot, 2 km south of Goodwood Rd, on Conc 3, east on Secord Rd. GPS: 44.017830, -79.182766

Brian & Wilma Millage, 905-853-2407, cell phone on day of hike 416-722-6512

Sun, Oct. 1, 2017 2:00 PM, Uxbridge - Countryside Preserve (Hwy 4)

7km; Moderate; 2hrs.; Join us on our First Hike Rendezvous to celebrate ORTA's 25th Anniversary. After our hike we will join other hikers at the Goodwood Community Centre for a potluck dinner. Bring your favourite dish to share with other hikers. Meet at conservation parking lot behind the Wal Mart store at the south end of Uxbridge, off Hwy 47. GPS: 44.088752, -79.132089

Bill Morrison, 905-985-2624 (before 10:00PM) cell 905-439-0484 (hike day only).

Wed, Oct. 4, 2017 9:30 AM, Scarborough - Rouge Park (Kingston Rd)

16km; Moderate to fast; 4hrs.; Loops; varied, hilly, terrain. Bring drinks/snacks/lunch. Pub stop afterwards. Meet at parking lot by Glen Rouge Campground. Entrance on north side of Kingston Rd (Hwy 2), east of Port Union Rd (Scarborough), west of Altona Rd (Pickering). GPS: 43.80489, -79.1372092

Garry Niece, 905-655-8040, cell phone on day of hike 905-809-5138

Thu, Oct. 5, 2017 9:30 AM, Scarborough - Rouge Park (Meadowvale Rd.)

Moderate; 2hrs.; hike through Rouge Valley, will visit the Valley Halla mansion, hilly Meet at Pearse House, 1749 Meadowvale Rd, east side of Meadowvale Rd at Zoo Rd-follow signs for the Rouge Valley Conservation Centre. GPS: 43.8190238, -79.1709644

Kevin Lowe, 416-655-2256

Fri, Oct. 6, 2017 9:30 AM, Markham - Unionville Urban Hike (Toogood Pond)

10km; Fast; 2hrs.; Loop hike to Milne Park and back. Meet at Toogood parking area. Take Main St Unionville north, from Carlton Rd 0.5km turn west on Toogood Pond to parking. GPS: 43.872670, -79.314465

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, Oct. 7, 2017 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 5+km; Moderate; 1hr.; Join us for breakfast after the hike. Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.039694, -79.116764

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Mon, Oct. 9, 2017 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Glen Major West (Conc. 6 - aggregate pit)

ORTA Map 5; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Join us for a fall colour walk on Thanksgiving Day. This hike has moderate hills and scenic lookouts. Well mannered dogs are encouraged to bring their owners. Meet at parking lot on east side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 0.6 km north of Uxbridge Town Line or 5.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.006009, -79.101922

Brian & Wilma Millage, 905-853-2407, cell phone on day of hike 416-722-6512

Wed, Oct. 11, 2017 9:15 AM, Bruce Trail - Hockley Heights (7th Line)

18+km; Moderate to fast; 4+hrs.; Note start time! Enjoy the fall colours. Many steep hills through mixed forest. Hilly with great views over Hockley valley. Shuttle. Must pre-register via phone or e-mail: rcomfort@xplornet.com Meet at the Bruce Trail parking area on the east side of Airport Rd. Take Airport Road 1.7 km north of Hwy 9, then east on 7th Line to parking area. GPS: 43.960276, -79.979739

Bob Comfort, 905-473-2669, cell phone on day of hike 905-960-0543

Fri, Oct. 13, 2017 9:30 AM, King - Happy Valley North (Conc. 7)

ORTA Map 2; 10km; Moderate to fast; 2hrs.; Loop hike some hills lunch after hike at Pine Orchard. Meet at the (dead end) on 7th. Conc. 2.8km south of Pottageville from the Lloydtown-Aurora Rd. NOTE, this point can only be accessed by vehicles coming south on 7th. Conc. GPS: 43.967134, -79.616811

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, Oct. 14, 2017 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 4km; Moderate; 1hrs.; Join us for breakfast after hike. No dogs allowed. Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.039694, -79.116764

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, Oct. 14, 2017 9:30 AM, King - Seneca King Campus/Mary Lake (Keele St.)

ORTA Map 2; 8km; Slow to moderate; 3hrs.; We will go to Pine Farm after finishing the Hike for fresh bakery or picking the apples Meet at roadside parking on Keele, 3 km north of King Road on both sides at ORTA trail sign. GPS: 43.955220, -79.535400

Mina or Mahnoosh, 905-770-9954 or 416 250 7033

Sun, Oct. 15, 2017 10:00 AM, King - Seneca King Campus/Mary Lake (Keele St.)

ORTA Map 2; 8km; Moderate to fast; 2hrs.; icers and snowshoes Meet at roadside parking on Keele, 3 km north of King Road on both sides at ORTA trail sign. GPS: 43.955220, -79.535400

Josie Klostranec, 416-296-1408 (before 10:00PM)

Sun, Oct. 15, 2017 2:00 PM, Uxbridge - Secord Forest (Conc. 3)

ORTA Map 5; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; A variety of fairly easy forest and meadow trails. Kids and leashed dogs welcome. Meet at Secord parking lot, 2 km south of Goodwood Rd, on Conc 3, east on Secord Rd. GPS: 44.017830, -79.182766

Bruce Cohen, 905-649-8596, cell phone on day of hike 647-639-8602

Mon, Oct. 16, 2017 9:30 AM, East Gwillimbury- YRF Bendor & Graves (McCowan Rd)

Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Moderate hills, mature forest. Dogs welcome. Meet at 17858 McCowan Rd at parking lot on west side 1.3 km north of Davis Dr. GPS: 44.101330, -79.338555

Noel Bain, 905 470 8425, cell on hike day 647 261 6095

Wed, Oct. 18, 2017 9:30 AM, Richmond Hill - Jefferson Forest (Bridgewater Dr.)

ORTA Map 3; 6km; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Noel Bain, 905-470-8325 Meet at Bridgewater Dr, south of Stouffville Rd, 0.9 km west of Leslie St and 0.9 km east of Bayview Ave. GPS: 43.933104, -79.418038

Gail Dutchak, 905-737-6675, cell phone on day of hike 647-377-1913

Wed, Oct. 18, 2017 9:30 AM, Whit-Stouffville - YRF Eldred King Woodlands (Hwy 48)

ORTA Map 4; 10+km; Fast; 2+hrs.; We will hike Eldred King, Scout and Mitchel Tracts. Meet in parking lot west side of Hwy 48, 2.5 km north of Ballantrae. GPS: 44.0604749881, -79.3080759980

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Thu, Oct. 19, 2017 9:30 AM, Pickering - Seaton Hiking Trail (Whitevale Rd)

Moderate; 2hrs.; there and back hike following the river Meet in the park on the west side of West Duffins Creek, south side of Whitevale Rd in the village of Whitevale. GPS: 43.8865, -79.1628

Kevin Lowe, 416-655-2256

Fri, Oct. 20, 2017 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods West (Conc. 6. / Allbright Rd.)

ORTA Map 5; 10km; Fast; 2hrs.; West and East Walker Woods loop hike, hilly. Meet at parking lot on the east side of Conc 6, 2 km south of Durham Rd. 21 at Allbright Rd. GPS: 44.033851, -79.1141206

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

LEGEND

HIKE TERRAIN: Easy = mostly flat, good footing. Challenging = some hills and/or poor footing. Strenuous = hills with steep climbs

CA = conservation area

TRCA - Toronto & Region Conservation Authority

Select hikes most suitable for your ability:

T&B = there and back hike

BT - Bruce Trail Conservancy

Slow 3km/h Fast 5km/h

YRF - York Regional Forest

PP - Provincial Park

Moderate 4km/h Very Fast 6km/h

Sat, Oct. 21, 2017 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 5+km; Moderate; 1hr.; Join us for breakfast after the hike. Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.039694, -79.116764

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, Oct. 21, 2017 2:00 PM, Uxbridge - Glasgow/Goodwood (Conc. 2)

ORTA Map 5; Moderate; 2.5hrs.; Hike with us on some of our favourite forest trails with moderate hills. Dogs welcome. Meet in the parking lot east side of Conc 2, 200M south of Webb Rd. GPS: 43.991959, -79.203572

Brian & Wilma Millage, 905-853-2407, cell phone on day of hike 416-722-6512

Sun, Oct. 22, 2017 1:00 PM, King - Happy Valley (Weston & 16th Sdrd)

ORTA Map 2; 7.5km; Moderate; 2.5hrs.; Oak Ridges Trail, Love Mountain and Humber Source Woods. Beautiful forests and meadows with some hilly sections. Well behaved dogs welcome. Marianne encourages a love of nature so we stop to admire the view. Bring your camera if you like to take photos.. Meet at roadside parking northeast corner of Weston Rd & 16th Sdrd. NOTE: For 12 months from the fall of 2017 this meeting place is not accessible from the east due to reconstruction of the bridge under Hwy 401. GPS: 43.954224, -79.586575

Marianne Broome. 905-939-7007 Cell 416- 409-1980 (hike day only)

Mon, Oct. 23, 2017 9:30 AM, Caledon - Palgrave Forest north (Finnerty SR)

ORTA Map 1; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Walk with us in this area of ponds, streams and sheltered trails with moderate hills. Well mannered dogs are encouraged to bring their owners. Join us for lunch afterwards in Schomberg. Take Hwy 50 south 0.8km from Hwy 9 and turn west onto Finnerty SR. Drive 750m. to the Palgrave Forest parking lot on the south side of the road. GPS: 43.960580, -79.863394

Brian & Wilma Millage, 905-853-2407, cell phone on day of hike 416-722-6512

Wed, Oct. 25, 2017 9:30 AM, Caledon - Palgrave Forest (Hwy 50)

ORTA Map 1; 22+km; Moderate to fast; 5hrs.; From the meeting place we will trek to the western end of the Oak Ridge Trail and then return to parking lot on Hwy #50. The trail is hilly with some sections of road. Bring snacks, lunch and a drink. Meet at Palgrave Forest Parking Lot, W side of Hwy 50, 2.2 km S of Hwy 9 or 0.5 km N of Palgrave Village. GPS: 43.955354, -79.843260

Malcolm Hann, 905-477-7260 (before 10:00PM) cell 416-333-1440 (hike day only)

Fri, Oct. 27, 2017 9:30 AM, East Gwillimbury- YRF Bendor & Graves (McCowan Rd)

10km; Fast; 2hrs.; Meet at 17858 McCowan Rd at parking lot on west side 1.3 km north of Davis Dr. GPS: 44.101330, -79.338555

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, Oct. 28, 2017 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 4km; Moderate; 1hrs.; Join us for breakfast after hike. No dogs allowed. Meet at road side parking on west side of

Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.039694, -79.116764

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, Oct. 28, 2017 9:30 PM, King - Seneca King Campus/Mary Lake (Keele St.)

ORTA Map 2; 8km; Slow to moderate; 3hrs.; We will go to Pine Farm after finishing the Hike for fresh bakery or picking the apples Meet at roadside parking on Keele, 3 km north of King Road on both sides at ORTA trail sign. GPS: 43.955220, -79.535400

Mina or Mahnoosh, 905-770-9954 or 416 250 7033

Sun, Oct. 29, 2017 10:00 AM, Scarborough - Rouge Park (Meadowvale Rd.)

10km; Moderate; 2+hrs.; Challenging terrain. T&B, hilly, forested, new members welcome. Bring snacks and water. Bring proper hike gear. Meet at Pearse House, 1749 Meadowvale Rd, east side of Meadowvale Rd at Zoo Rd-follow signs for the Rouge Valley Conservation Centre. GPS: 43.8190238, -79.1709644

Josie Klostranec, 416-296-1408 (before 10:00PM)

Sun, Oct. 29, 2017 2:00 PM, Whit- Stouffville - YRF Porritt Tract - Pangman Springs (Kennedy Rd.)

ORTA Map 4; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Join me for a late fall walk on these wide sandy trails- moderate hills. Dogs welcome. Meeting in the YRF parking lot on the west side of Kennedy Rd. 550m. north from Aurora Rd. GPS: 44.031875, -79.347087

Noel Bain, 905 470 8425, cell on hike day 647 261 6095

Mon, Oct. 30, 2017 9:30 AM, Leader's Choice Hike

5km; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Join us to circle the loops in the NCC's Goldie Feldman Nature Reserve at #4093 17th Sideroad in King Township. Note that the site is accessible by vehicles ONLY by turning west off Weston Road 6 km north of King Road or 2.9 km south of the Aurora-Lloydtown Road. Park inside the site if the gate is open. Moderate hills are forested with some meadow patches. GPS 43.97083, -79.59851 If not reflected elsewhere in this information, contact the hike leader for the meeting place and trek details. GPS: 0, 0

Bill Patterson, 905-833-0391, cell phone on day of hike 289-380-0002

NOVEMBER

Wed, Nov. 1, 2017 9:30 AM, Ganaraska Forest - (Pinegrove Lane)

ORTA Map 9; 14km; Moderate to fast; 4hrs.; Varied, hilly terrain. Exact distance & time dependent on weather & trail conditions. If winter comes early, be prepared with both snowshoes and icers, which may be mandatory if conditions dictate. Bring drink, lunch/snacks. Take Ganaraska Rd (#9) to Garden Hill, go north (left) on County Rd #10 to Pine Grove Ln (2-3km) go west (left) on Pinegrove Ln to meet at roadside parking. GPS: 44.075235, -78.409269

Garry Niece, 905-655-8040, cell phone on day of hike 905-809-5138

Thu, Nov. 2, 2017 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods West (Conc. 6. / Allbright Rd.)

ORTA Map 5; Moderate; 2hrs.; loop hike, gentle hills, possibility of lunch stop after hike Meet at parking lot on the east side of Conc 6,

2 km south of Durham Rd. 21 at Allbright Rd. GPS: 44.033851, -79.1141206

Kevin Lowe, 416-655-2256

Fri, Nov. 3, 2017 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Durham Forest (Conc. 7)

ORTA Map 5; 10+km; Fast; 2+hrs.; Hilly loop hike including Skyloft. Meet in the Durham Forest parking area on the east side of the 7th Conc. 1 km south of Durham Rd 21. GPS: 44.050009, -79.093841

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, Nov. 4, 2017 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 5+km; Moderate; 1hr.; Join us for breakfast after the hike. Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.039694, -79.116764

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Mon, Nov. 6, 2017 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Brock Tract (Durham Rd. 1 / Brock Rd.)

ORTA Map 5; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Join us on a fall walk through mature forests with scenic, hilly terrain. Well mannered dogs are encouraged to bring their owners. Join us for lunch afterwards. Meet at parking lot on East side of Brock Rd, 1 km north of Uxbridge/Pickering Town Line. GPS: 44.000020, -79.127899

Brian & Wilma Millage, 905-853-2407, cell phone on day of hike 416-722-6512

Wed, Nov. 8, 2017 9:30 AM, Ajax - Greenwood Conservation Area (Greenwood Rd)

15+km; Moderate to fast; 4+hrs.; We will hike north to the Pickering Museum near Hwy #7 and back including some side trails. Bring snacks/lunch and water. Meet at C.A. parking lot. From Westney Rd, go W on Greenwood Rd (3.5 km S of Hwy 7; 1 km N of Taunton Rd), turn left at T-junction; then right. Park in front of entrance gate. GPS: 43.898568, -79.058256

Malcolm Hann, 905-477-7260 (before 10:00PM) cell 416-333-1440 (hike day only)

Fri, Nov. 10, 2017 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Glen Major West (Conc. 6 - aggregate pit)

ORTA Map 5; 10km; Fast; 2hrs.; Loop hike some hills Meet at parking lot on east side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 0.6 km north of Uxbridge Town Line or 5.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.006009, -79.101922

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, Nov. 11, 2017 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 4km; Moderate; 1hrs.; Join us for breakfast after hike. No dogs allowed. Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.039694, -79.116764

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, Nov. 11, 2017 9:30 PM, King - Seneca King Campus/Mary Lake (Keele St.)

ORTA Map 2; 8km; Slow to moderate; 3hrs.; We will go to Pine Farm after finishing the Hike for fresh bakery or fresh apples. Meet at roadside parking on Keele, 3 km north of King Road on both sides at ORTA trail sign. GPS: 43.955220, -79.535400

Mina or Mahnoosh, 905-770-9954 or 416 250 7033

Sun, Nov. 12, 2017 10:00 AM, Whit- Stouffville - YRF Porritt Tract - Pangman Springs (Kennedy Rd.)

ORTA Map 4; 8km; Moderate; 2hrs.; Meeting in the YRF parking lot on the west side of Kennedy Rd. 550m. north from Aurora Rd. GPS: 44.031875, -79.347087

Josie Klostranec, 416-296-1408 (before 10:00PM)

Sun, Nov. 12, 2017 2:00 PM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods East (Conc. 7 - microwave towers)

ORTA Map 5; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Durham Forest and Skyloft trails. Moderate hills. Kids and leashed dogs welcome. Meet at parking lot on west side of Uxbridge Conc 7, 2 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.0394862, -79.0892224

Bruce Cohen, 905-649-8596, cell phone on day of hike 647-639-8602

Wed, Nov. 15, 2017 9:30 AM, Pickering - Seaton Hiking Trail (Whitevale Rd)

16km; Moderate to fast; 4hrs.; There and back some hilly sections. Meet in the park on the west side of West Duffins Creek, south side of Whitevale Rd in the village of Whitevale. GPS: 43.8865, -79.1628

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Thu, Nov. 16, 2017 9:30 AM, East Gwillimbury - YRF Bendor & Graves (Kennedy Rd)

Moderate; 2hrs.; loop hike through varied terrain, some hills, may be wet spots Meet in the parking area at the dead end of Kennedy Rd, north of Davis Dr. GPS: 44.087113, -79.360133

Kevin Lowe, 416-655-2256

Fri, Nov. 17, 2017 9:30 AM, Whit-Stouffville - YRF Eldred King Woodlands (Hwy 48)

ORTA Map 4; 10+km; Fast; 2+hrs.; We will hike Eldred King, Scout and Mitchel Tracts. Meet in parking lot west side of Hwy 48, 2.5 km north of Ballantrae. GPS: 44.0604749881, -79.3080759980

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, Nov. 18, 2017 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 5+km; Moderate; 1hr.; Join us for breakfast after the hike. Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.039694, -79.116764

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Mon, Nov. 20, 2017 9:30 AM, Whit-Stouffville - YRF Hall & Eldred King (McCowan Rd)

ORTA Map 4; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Join us on wide, sandy, sheltered forest trails. Well mannered dogs are encouraged to bring their owners. Join us for lunch afterwards. Meet at parking lot 1 km north of Aurora Rd on the east side of McCowan Rd. GPS: 44.042433, -79.323129

Brian & Wilma Millage, 905-853-2407, cell phone on day of hike 416-722-6512

Wed, Nov. 22, 2017 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods East (Conc. 7 - microwave towers)

ORTA Map 5; 16+km; Moderate to fast; 4+hrs.; Figure of 8 hike through Durham Forest, Skyloft CA and Crowspass CA. Hilly. Meet at parking lot on west side of Uxbridge Conc 7, 2 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.0394862, -79.0892224

Bob Comfort, 905-473-2669, cell phone on day of hike 905-960-0543

Fri, Nov. 24, 2017 9:30 AM, King - Happy Valley North (Conc. 7)

ORTA Map 2; 10km; Moderate to fast; 2hrs.; Loop hike some hills lunch after hike at Pine Orchard. Meet at the (dead end) on 7th. Conc. 2.8km south of Pottageville from the Lloydtown-Aurora Rd. NOTE, this point can only be accessed by vehicles coming south on 7th. Conc. GPS: 43.967134 , -79.616811

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, Nov. 25, 2017 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 4km; Moderate; 1hrs.; Join us for breakfast after hike. No dogs allowed. Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.039694, -79.116764

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, Nov. 25, 2017 9:30 PM, King - Seneca King Campus/Mary Lake (Keele St.)

ORTA Map 2; 8km; Slow to moderate; 3hrs.; We will go to Pine Farm after finishing the Hike for fresh bakery or fresh apples. Meet at roadside parking on Keele, 3 km north of King Road on both sides at ORTA trail sign. GPS: 43.955220 , -79.535400

Mina or Mahnoosh, 905-770-9954 or 416 250 7033

Sun, Nov. 26, 2017 2:00 PM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods East (Conc. 7 - microwave towers)

ORTA Map 5; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Somewhat hilly, forested trails in Durham Forest. Family hike with kids & leashed dogs welcome. Meet at parking lot on west side of Uxbridge Conc 7, 2 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.0394862, -79.0892224

Bruce Cohen, 905-649-8596, cell phone on day of hike 647-639-8602

Mon, Nov. 27, 2017 9:30 AM, Caledon - Palgrave Forest north (Finnerty SR)

ORTA Map 1; 8km; Slow to moderate; Loop trails through gently rolling woodland. Early snow may necessitate the use of icers. Dogs are welcome if they can keep their owners under control. Take Hwy 50 south 0.8km from Hwy 9 and turn west onto Finnerty SR. Drive 750m. to the Palgrave Forest parking lot on the south side of the road. GPS: 43.960580 , -79.863394

Bill Patterson, 905-833-0391, cell phone on day of hike 289-380-0002

Wed, Nov. 29, 2017 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods East (Conc. 7 - microwave towers)

ORTA Map 5; 10+km; Fast; 2+hrs.; Hilly loop hike Walker Woods east and beyond. Meet at parking lot on west side of Uxbridge Conc 7, 2 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.0394862, -79.0892224

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Thu, Nov. 30, 2017 9:30 AM, Pickering - Seaton Hiking Trail North - (HWY #7)

Moderate; 2hrs.; there and back hike, pretty surroundings, icers may be needed Meet in the Seaton Trail Parking lot on the south side of Hwy #7, 1Km east from Green River. GPS: 43.902114 , -79.177021

Kevin Lowe, 416-655-2256

DECEMBER**Fri, Dec. 1, 2017 9:30 AM, Whit-Stouffville - YRF North Tract**

ORTA Map 4; 10km; Fast; 2hrs.; Meet at parking area on the west side of Hwy 48, 0.5km north of Vivian Rd or 1.3 km south of Davis Dr. GPS: 44.082138, -79.307819

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, Dec. 2, 2017 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 5+km; Moderate; 1hr.; Join us for breakfast after the hike. Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.039694, -79.116764

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sun, Dec. 3, 2017 10:00 AM, Vaughan - Woodbridge - Trails (Rutherford Rd)

8km; Moderate; 3hrs.; We will hike north along the Granger Greenway 4km to the McMichael Gallery where we can warm up and then re-trace our steps the same way. There are a couple of hills. Icers may be needed. No dogs please. e-mail inquires tjshelvey@yahoo.com. Cell on day of hike 416-320-8555. Meet in the Pierre Berton Library parking lot, 350 m. east from the intersection of Islington Avenue and Rutherford Road. GPS: 43.817958 , -79.596205

Tessa Shelvey, 416-320-8555

Mon, Dec. 4, 2017 9:30 PM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Come along to celebrate our 14th wedding anniversary hike on the Oak Ridges Trail. This is a lovely forested area with wide sandy trails that lead to our 'Chapel in the woods' where we share memories and treats with our many hiking friends. Afterwards, ORTA members are invited to join us for the ORTA Christmas Pot Luck Lunch served at the Goodwood Community Centre. See more details in Trail Talk. Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.039694, -79.116764

Brian & Wilma Millage, 905-853-2407, cell phone on day of hike 416-722-6512

Wed, Dec. 6, 2017 9:30 AM, Long Sault CA (Woodley Rd)

ORTA Map 7; 17km; Moderate to fast; 4hrs.; Loops. Varied, hilly terrain. Bring drink & lunch/snacks. NOTE: In case of winter conditions, be prepared with icers or snowshoes, which may be mandatory if conditions dictate. Actual distance & time dependent on trail & weather conditions. Paid parking \$4. Meet at C.A. Parking Lot. Exit 401 at Waverly Rd. Travel North on Regional Rd. #57. Turn right at Regional Rd. #20. Turn left at Woodley Rd. Pay and Display Parking is in effect at a cost of: Max. - \$5/ vehicle/day or \$2/ hour. GPS: 44.049939, -78.741937

Garry Niece, 905-655-8040, cell phone on day of hike 905-809-5138

Wed, Dec. 6, 2017 1:00 PM, Caledon - Palgrave Forest (Hwy 50)

ORTA Map 1; 7.5km; Moderate; 2.5hrs.; Moderate hills in this beautiful forested area with ponds and meadows. Well behaved dogs welcome. Marianne encourages a love of nature, so bring your camera as we will stop to admire the view. Meet at Palgrave Forest Parking Lot, W side of Hwy 50, 2.2 km S of Hwy 9 or 0.5 km N of Palgrave Village. GPS: 43.955354, -79.843260

Marianne Broome. 905-939-7007 Cell 416- 409-1980 (hike day only)

Fri, Dec. 8, 2017 9:30 AM, Whit-Stouffville - YRF Eldred King Woodlands (Hwy 48)

ORTA Map 4; 10km; Fast; 2hrs.; Loop hike with some hilly sections, icers snowshoes may be required. Meet in parking lot west side of Hwy 48, 2.5 km north of Ballantrae. GPS: 44.0604749881, -79.3080759980

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, Dec. 9, 2017 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 4km; Moderate; 1hrs.; Join us for breakfast after hike. No dogs allowed. Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.039694, -79.116764

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sun, Dec. 10, 2017 10:00 AM, Whit- Stouffville - YRF Porritt Tract - Pangman Springs (Kennedy Rd.)

ORTA Map 4; 8km; Moderate; 2hrs.; Meeting in the YRF parking lot on the west side of Kennedy Rd. 550m. north from Aurora Rd. GPS: 44.031875, -79.347087

Josie Klostranec, 416-296-1408 (before 10:00PM)

Mon, Dec. 11, 2017 9:30 AM, Whit- Stouffville - YRF Porritt Tract - Pangman Springs (Kennedy Rd.)

ORTA Map 4; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Join me on these sheltered forest trails with moderate hills. Dogs welcome. Meeting in the YRF parking lot on the west side of Kennedy Rd. 550m. north from Aurora Rd. GPS: 44.031875, -79.347087

Noel Bain, 905 470 8425, cell on hike day 647 261 6095

Wed, Dec. 13, 2017 9:30 AM, Whit-Stouffville - YRF Hall & Eldred King (McCowan Rd)

ORTA Map 4; 12+km; Moderate to fast; 3hrs.; We will circle through Hall and Patterson side Trails. The length of the hike will dependant on the weather. Come prepared with icers/snow shoes. Bring a snack and warm drink. Meet at parking lot 1 km north of Aurora Rd on the east side of McCowan Rd. GPS: 44.042433, -79.323129

Malcolm Hann, 905-477-7260 (before 10:00PM) cell 416-333-1440 (hike day only)

Thu, Dec. 14, 2017 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Glen Major West (Conc. 6 - aggregate pit)

ORTA Map 5; Moderate; 2hrs.; loop hike in Brock Tract, some hills, icers may be needed, possibility of lunch stop after hike Meet at parking lot on east side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 0.6 km north of Uxbridge Town Line or 5.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.006009, -79.101922

Kevin Lowe, 416-655-2256

Fri, Dec. 15, 2017 9:30 AM, Whit-Stouffville - YRF Eldred King Woodlands (Hwy 48)

ORTA Map 4; 10+km; Fast; 2+hrs.; We will hike Eldred King, Scout and Mitchel Tracts. You might need icers or snowshoes this time of year. Meet in parking lot west side of Hwy 48, 2.5 km north of Ballantrae. GPS: 44.0604749881, -79.3080759980

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, Dec. 16, 2017 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 5+km; Moderate; 1hr.; Join us for breakfast after the hike. You might need snowshoes or icers. Meet at road side parking

on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.039694, -79.116764

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sun, Dec. 17, 2017 2:00 PM, Uxbridge - Secord Forest (Conc. 3)

ORTA Map 5; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; A variety of fairly easy forest and meadow trails. Kids and leashed dogs welcome. Meet at Secord parking lot, 2 km south of Goodwood Rd, on Conc 3, east on Secord Rd. GPS: 44.017830, -79.182766

Bruce Cohen, 905-649-8596, cell phone on day of hike 647-639-8602

Mon, Dec. 18, 2017 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Secord Forest (Conc. 3)

ORTA Map 5; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Join us on these sheltered, winding trails in the Secord and Goodwood forests. We may even need icers, depending on the weather. Well mannered dogs are encouraged to bring their owners. Join us for lunch afterwards. Meet at Secord parking lot, 2 km south of Goodwood Rd, on Conc 3, east on Secord Rd. GPS: 44.017830, -79.182766

Brian & Wilma Millage, 905-853-2407, cell phone on day of hike 416-722-6512

Wed, Dec. 20, 2017 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Glen Major West (Conc. 6 - aggregate pit) New

ORTA Map 5; 16km; Moderate to fast; 4hrs.; Loop hike with lots of hills Meet at parking lot on east side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 0.6 km north of Uxbridge Town Line or 5.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.006009, -79.101922

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Fri, Dec. 22, 2017 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods West (Conc. 6. / Allbright Rd.)

ORTA Map 5; 10+km; Fast; 2+hrs.; There and back some hills. Meet at parking lot on the east side of Conc 6, 2 km south of Durham Rd. 21 at Allbright Rd. GPS: 44.033851, -79.1141206

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, Dec. 23, 2017 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 4km; Moderate; 1hrs.; Join us for breakfast after hike. No dogs allowed. Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.039694, -79.116764

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sun, Dec. 24, 2017 10:00 AM, King - Seneca King Campus/Mary Lake (Keele St.)

ORTA Map 2; 8km; Moderate; 2hrs.; Meet at roadside parking on Keele, 3 km north of King Road on both sides at ORTA trail sign. GPS: 43.955220, -79.535400

Josie Klostranec, 416-296-1408 (before 10:00PM)

Wed, Dec. 27, 2017 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods West (Conc. 6. / Allbright Rd.)

ORTA Map 5; 12+km; Moderate to fast; 4+hrs.; 12-16 km. depending on conditions. Loop hike through Walker Woods and Glen Major. Icers or snowshoes, as required. Hilly. Meet at parking lot on the east side of Conc 6, 2 km south of Durham Rd. 21 at Allbright Rd. GPS: 44.033851, -79.1141206

Bob Comfort, 905-473-2669, cell phone on day of hike 905-960-0543

Fri, Dec. 29, 2017 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods West (Conc. 6. / Allbright Rd.)

ORTA Map 5; 10km; Fast; 2hrs.; West and East Walker Woods loop hike, hilly. snowshoes or icers a must have. Meet at parking lot on the east side of Conc 6, 2 km south of Durham Rd. 21 at Allbright Rd. GPS: 44.033851, -79.1141206

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, Dec. 30, 2017 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 5+km; Moderate; 1hr.; Join us for breakfast after the hike. You might need snowshoes or icers. Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.039694, -79.116764

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Mon, Jan. 1, 2018 9:30 AM, Leader's Choice Hike

1+hrs.; If not reflected elsewhere in this information, contact the hike leader for the meeting place and trek details. GPS: 0, 0

Malcolm Hann, 905-477-7260 (before 10:00PM) cell 416-333-1440 (hike day only)



TRAIL BITES — HAROLD & LINDA SELLERS RETURN FOR A VISIT



Seen here on the deck outside the Schomberg Pub (formerly Dr. Dillaine's) are a group of hikers enjoying lunch with former Executive Director and hike leader Harold Sellers who joined Marianne Broome's Cold Creek hike on Wednesday, August 9, 2017.

Harold often led hikes along our trail, which ended at this favourite patio for a cool drink and some great French fries. It was the second hike they attended during their week of vacation back here in Ontario.

**ORTA AROUND THE WORLD:
THE CAMINO DE SANTIAGO**

BY ELINOR ALLISON

For me, this was a trip of a lifetime. What made it even more special was having done it with Isobel Hood, current ORTA member, who had the honour of being the most senior of our group and, yet, she did very well, hiking approximately 20-26 kms a day on El Camino de Santiago to a total of 160 kms in 7 days. It was the most picturesque hike I have done, with a terrain being mostly flat with the occasional small hills, in and out of a beautiful forest full of the tallest trees including an 800-year old tree that was pointed out to us. The whole experience satisfied me spiritually, historically and aesthetically.



Elinor Allison and Isobel Hood on El Camino de Santiago de Compostela in Northwest Spain. They were on a Comfortable Hiking Holidays venture in May with 16 fellow hikers and covered 160 km of "The Way" in seven days, with additional days touring historic sights of the area.

CORPORATE MATCHING GIFT PROGRAMS

The Oak Ridges Trail Association has been recognized by various members and companies that offer corporate matching gift programs. In the past this has included, Bell Canada, IBM Canada, Johnson & Johnson, Levi Strauss and Company, Ontario Provincial Police, RBC, TD Bank, Telus Corporation, and yet there are hundreds more that may have a similar program in place.

Companies take their corporate social responsibilities seriously and actively look for ways to be good for the planet, their communities, and also to help their employees become good citizens. The option discussed here is the employee matching gift program. Companies do this by matching donations to registered charities and non-profits that their employees support. Please check the link below to see whether YOUR company already has a matching gift program in place. If not, perhaps it's time to ask the company to start one.

<https://tinyurl.com/orta-matching-gift>

Remember, this is ORTA's 25th anniversary! Any extra donations, whether matched or not, would be a much appreciated way to recognize the event. All member dues and donations qualify for the charitable donation tax credit which may help to reduce your income tax liability.

DISCOVERY NIGHT IS BACK!

Starting again in September our Discovery Night series will be presenting interesting and entertaining speakers. Presentations take place in the Ballantrae Community Centre, 5592 Aurora Rd., on the 3rd Thursday of each month, starting at 7 p.m. A \$5 fee covers the presentation, coffee, juice and cookies. A very inexpensive cost for an interesting evening!

Join us for this series of speakers on worldwide journeys, fascinating nature stories, adventure treks and other stories on a wide variety of subjects. It is also an opportunity to get together with your ORTA friends to catch up on what is happening in our organization. Come along and bring a friend to enjoy these pleasant evenings.

Thursday, September 21, 2017

Bob and Dianne Charlton have often done presentations of some of their very interesting trips around the world. This presentation covers a personally planned, self-driven tour of many of the byways and historic sights in both Southern and Northern Ireland.

Thursday, October 19, 2017

Every Trail Has a Story... Bob Henderson has travelled widely across Canada with an eye for a good story that makes the land echo with meaning. As author of 3 books on the subject of heritage travel, he will share images and stories of near and far Canadian trails.

Thursday, November 16, 2017

Stan Butcher is going to give us a preview of his upcoming 25th Anniversary History of the Oak Ridges Trail Association CD that he is producing right now. He is a great storyteller and has lots of interesting anecdotes and facts about how our organization has grown over the past 25 years.

Join the discovery night team :

Help us to continue to bring fun and informative evenings to ORTA and the community at large. Many hands make light work, as they say. Please lend a hand to secure lively speakers, organize the night's events and keep the Discovery Night tradition active.

Do you or someone you know have a great story to share? You could be an upcoming Discovery Night speaker. Let us know.



Comfortable Hiking Holidays (416) 445-2628

info@letshike.com www.letshike.com

THE "CAMINO", SPAIN

April 28 to May 10, 2018

The Camino de Santiago is an iconic trek covering some 800km across the north of Spain. Our journey encompasses the last 160km 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.

CORFU, GREECE

May 14 to 26, 2018

This Greek island is the perfect combination of European flare & 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!

MARITIMES ROAD TRIP

June 21 to July 3, 2018

Experience the world's highest tides at the Hopewell Rocks in NB; meet Anne of Green Gables and build sandcastles in PEI; celebrate Canada Day in Halifax, NS. Plus lots more activities from cycling to hiking, and you could eat lobster every day of this trip if you tried!

Part of the C.H.H. Adventure Collection.

SLOVENIJA

July 13 to 23, 2018

Slovenija, where the Alps meet the Mediterranean, is a country of amazingly unspoiled beauty. Our program includes hikes behind the thundering Slap Pericnik waterfall, through Vintgar Gorge gushing with white water, on the slopes of & Mt. Triglav, and around the glacier-fed Lake Bohinj. Home base for the entire holiday will be the fairy-tale setting of Bled.

MACHU PICCHU, PERU

September 14 to 26, 2018

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 with your own eyes will give you goose bumps!**

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

NEW ZEALAND

November 6 to 25, 2018

Enjoy a full itinerary of hiking and sightseeing throughout the North and South Islands, including the Tongariro Crossing, the Abel Tasman Coastal Walk and the famed Milford Track.

TICO # 50018498

Photo: Heather Cooper



Editor: Marilyn Bardeau (editor@oakridgestrail.org)
Advertising space available. Submission deadline 1 May 2017
Online: www.oakridgestrail.org/trail-talk (in colour)

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WHY JOIN THE OAK RIDGES TRAIL ASSOCIATION (ORTA)?

Your membership in ORTA

- Demonstrates interest in the moraine to provincial and local governments, influencing potential legislation and ensuring preservation and public enjoyment of the moraine
- Provides a deeper understanding of the beauty and critical nature of the moraine
- Provides funding for restoration and maintenance projects, trail building, hike leader training, securement, newsletter production, website services and more!
- Gives members access to social networking and group activities
Includes opportunities to assist in maintenance of the trail and other volunteer preservation projects.

YES, I WANT TO JOIN!! Please go online to sign up to be a member:
www.oakridgestrail.org/membership or call the ORTA OFFICE

ORTA OFFICE:

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