

TRAIL TALK

Oak Ridges Trail Association Quarterly

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Fall 2019



Photos clockwise from top: Paul Gervais, Gino Maulucci , Gino Maulucci, Brian Millage

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- TO OBTAIN THE MOST CURRENT OR UPDATED HIKES, GO TO:
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- DISCOVERY NIGHT SCHEDULE
- RENDEZVOUS SEPT 29, 2019
- HIKE ONTARIO SUMMIT
- AND MUCH MUCH MORE...

PRESIDENT'S CHAT

This has certainly been a packed past season for us with many accomplishments and firsts. Some of these are further explained elsewhere in this newsletter.

We successfully made the transition to an online offering of our quarterly newsletter Trail Talk. All but 41 of our members opted to receive their Trail Talk electronically. This will save us a considerable amount in the coming months.

We are in the final stages of preparation to host the Hike Ontario Summit this fall thanks to the work of Carol Dowell and Peter Schaefer. Hike Ontario is the governing body for hiking in the province and we look forward to hosting representatives from around the province.

We put on another very successful adventure relay raising a significant amount of funds. Thanks to committee chairs Michele Donnelly and Corie Bonnaffon and the dozens of you who volunteered. A very successful undertaking, all in all.

We have had initial meetings with the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust with a view to working together more closely to identify possible means to move more sections of the trail off road. They will be offering a training session for Trail Captains and Chapter Chairs to look at interacting with landowners.

We are excited to have recently received some significant donations and will outline those in further detail in the coming months as details become finalized.

Lastly take a look at our hiking pages for October and beyond. October has 33 guided hikes offered – something for everyone. Enjoy the fall colours and find hikes to your pace and interests from among the many offered.

I look forward to seeing you on the trails.

*Kevin Lowe,
President
Oak Ridges Trail Association*



FURTHER HIGHLIGHTS TO THE NOTES ON PETER SCHAEFER, our Lifetime Member award winner for this past year.

Peter joined ORTA in 2002 as Trail Director and was appointed to the Board in that same year. He has also served as Director of Fundraising, Vice President, President, Past-President, and kept serving on the Board for many years where he gave his valued

and helpful advice until 2019 when he retired from our Board. Peter's input helped us complete our first Strategic Plan which led us to completion of our Trail across the Moraine. We will miss his active participation on the Board.

RENDEZVOUS 2019 – SEPTEMBER 29th

Mark Sunday, September 29th on your calendar now. This lively event will be the third ORTA Hike Rendezvous- a day of hiking, meeting leaders and friends to share trail stories of the year, and topping it off with a delicious potluck dinner- in short, a celebration of another good year of hiking and social events. This event was initiated in 2017 to celebrate ORTA's 25th anniversary and has continued to take place in the Uxbridge chapter where there are many trail options- Oak Ridges Moraine Trail and others. This event is meant to be inclusive for all ORTA members as several leaders will organize hikes of various lengths and speeds, or you can just join in on the fun at the Goodwood Community centre for the potluck dinner and further celebrations. Look to the ORTA website for details of hike offerings. Eg. Bob Comfort- a 4hr fast hike; Bill Morrison- a 2 hr moderate hike, Wilma and Brian Millage- a 2 hr slow/moderate hike in the Secord Tract.

Prior to your hike (afternoon hikes only), you should drop off your special food dish for the Potluck dinner at the Goodwood Community Centre, 268 Hwy 47, east off hwy404 on the Bloomington Rd. in the town of Goodwood near Uxbridge. This will allow the food to be arranged for the dinner following your hike. Slow cookers can be brought to warm your dish, but please do not bring foods that require any cooking as we will not be using a stove or oven. You may also be able to car pool from this location to your hike. Many thanks to the event organizers and hike leaders for your efforts on this special day.

Brian and Wilma Millage

Near Nailsworth in The Cotswolds, Gloucestershire, U.K.

Middle Cottage, The Fooks,

Sleeps four adults. A car is essential for the rural location.

"As well as the Cotswold Way, there are many footpaths and trails in easy reach."

This cottage belongs to Stan Butcher's brother.

Details:

www.thefooks.co.uk





Take a HIKE ON the Moraine October 18-20, 2019

45th Hike Ontario Summit

Hosted by Oak Ridges Trail Association

FRIDAY NIGHT

Newmarket Inn
Pub Night

SATURDAY

Aurora Seniors Centre
90 John West Way, Aurora
AGM

2 Keynote Presentations
Workshops

Lunch & Snacks Provided
Lunchtime Hike—Aurora Arboretum

SUNDAY

Variety of Hikes Offered

Accommodations: Newmarket Inn

(905) 895-4585—Mention Hike Ontario AGM for group rate, includes breakfast

Keynote Speakers



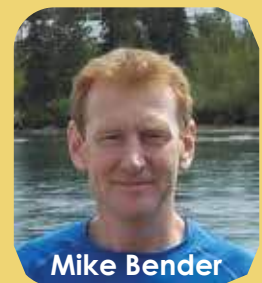
David Crombie

David Crombie

“Regenerating
Communities:
The Great Lakes
Waterfront Trail,
Trails and Ravines”

Mike Bender

“Trans Canada Trail
Ontario—Beyond
Connection”



Mike Bender



REGISTER TODAY
www.hikeontario.com/summit



adventure relay 2019 WRAP-UP

Yes, it happens every year. Yes, it always seems to go almost flawlessly. It would be so easy to take our annual Moraine Relay for granted but it and the people who make it happen are amazing!

Long before race weekend, Committee members have contributed hundreds of hours ... no one seems to wear just one hat but... for organizing publicity, thank you Carol Dowell; for organizing an army of volunteers, thank you Frank Alexander; for planning and preparing the route, thank you Bob Comfort and Garry Niece; for sourcing and distributing donated prizes, thank you Judy Carey and Noel Carey; for making sure there are race numbers, t-shirts and race binders, thank you Judy Pergau; for liaising with land owners and corporate donors, thank you Brian Millage and Wilma Millage; for keeping our budget on track, thank you Bob Alexander; plus for liaising with the teams from the office and sharing the co-chair position with me, thank you Michele Donnelly!

The generosity just goes on and on. Members of the community donate all our racer awards. See the list on the following page. The George & Denise Jones and Dale & Sandy Millsom families allow us to use their properties on Rice Lake and lend their boats to help scoop up capsized paddlers. Mazda Canada and Golder go the extra mile and enter as corporate teams.



This year, the Capstone Infrastructure Corporation also made a sizable monetary donation of \$5,000 in support of the race, thank you Huw Evans for connecting with them.

Then there's race day! Literally, from before dawn until after midnight on race day volunteers are at hard at work. An amazing group of 143 ORTA folks led by their fearless Checkpoint Captains manage 15 checkpoints spread across 160 kms and do it so well that every year racers rave about how wonderful they are. Thank you to each and every one of you. The Time Team works their magic and results from every stage and every racer are tallied and posted

incredibly quickly, thank you Bob Comfort, Pat Ward, Michele Donnelly, Derek Cowbourne, Gaye Mas and Anna Sunn. To cap it all off, all of this is captured in terrific photographs by Bill Patterson and Robert Alsop, thank you Bill and Robert!

I believe the race continues to thrive because it brings together the beauty and charm of the Moraine with the generosity and dedication of so many dedicated ORTA members and all in all it is tremendously fun. Why not join us next year, June 13, 2020.

*Corie Bonnaffon
Race Co-chair 2019*



Photo: Bill Patterson

Thank you once again to Viper Marketing Group and Second Wedge Brewing Co. for the great volunteer T-Shirts.



Photo: Bill Patterson

THANK YOU TO OUR 2019 ADVENTURE RELAY SPONSORS

The Oak Ridges Trail Association (ORTA) Adventure Relay Committee would like to take 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 individual participants who have raised at least \$100 for ORTA and to also reward our winning racers.

Blue Heron Books	Uxbridge		Mountain Equipment Co-op (MEC)	Toronto
Boston Pizza	Uxbridge		Pine Farms Orchard	King
Boyd's Sports	Uxbridge		Rhino's Roadhouse	Bewdley
Brock's	Port Perry		Rockford's Bar & Grill	King City
Canadian Canoe Museum	Peterborough		Second Wedge Brewery	Uxbridge
Canadian Tire - Uxbridge	Uxbridge		Starbucks	Uxbridge
Eggs 4 Life	Aurora		Swiss Chalet/Harveys	Uxbridge
Eggs 4 Life	Markham		Tim Hortons	Uxbridge
Foxbridge Golf Club-Golf North	Uxbridge		Treetop Trekking	Ganaraska
Kawartha Dairy	Bobcaygeon		Zehrs	Uxbridge
Lakeridge Ski Resort	Uxbridge			



Top and Middle Photos: Robert Alsop

Huge thank you to the Racers and Teams who collectively or individually raised money. Well Done!
 Lynn Bird, Grace Cantarutti, Steven Cockle, Deana Donnelly, Graham Loeb, Peggy Millson, Charlotte Owens, Susan Wyatt, Adele Matsalla, CFUW Aurora/Newmarket, CRIT, TRCA Underdogs, Wandering Singers.

A special thank you should be given to Wynn Fitness Clubs for their continued support and very generous donation. It will be distributed to the winning teams of each division-Corporate, Elite, Recreational and Half Relay.



Photos left and middle: Bill Patterson; Photo right: Robert Alsop

NEW MEMBERS

ORTA welcomed the following individual and family memberships during our last quarter, April – June 2019:

Jane Anderson
 Daniel, Maria & Michael Braganza
 André Campos & Solange Nogueira
 Eric Kwan Kui Chan & Anita Sau Ping Lo
 Margaret Corner & Raymond Rutilus
 Karen & Barry Fockler
 Cheryl Foy & Steve Wilson
 Gord Irish & Gloria Markiewicz
 Alyson Jurrius
 Stephen Luk
 Patrick McConvey & Annette Straver
 Caiti McLelland
 Erik Neathery
 Michael, Nancy, Patrick, Connor & John O'Reilly
 Mary Orlando
 Phillip & Wendy Piltch
 Camille & Barry Scarlett
 Carol Seglins
 Kathy, Bob, Sam & Tom Shearman
 Iaroslav Strasevici & Iryna Petrovych
 Brian Ware

A MEANINGFUL ALTERNATIVE

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

In Celebration of the following 20 year members of ORTA. Thank you for your continued support!

Madge Ford Sept 1999 – 2019
George & Jennifer Rigg April 1999 – 2019

In Celebration of Bill Tibbo's Birthday!

In Honour of Trevor Colbeck
 "Keep Up the Good Work"

In Memory of ORTA member Isobel Hood
 She lived a full and active life hiking, cycling, skiing, skating and travelling around the world.

In Memory of
"Jim Stratt" Eustrate Tseretopoulos,
 ORTA member and volunteer for the past 19 years.

In Memory of Barbara Rance,
ORTA Lifetime member.
 Her generosity will permit ORTA to carry on the development of the trail.

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



Oak
Ridges
Trail
Association

CHAMPIONS

April 1, 2019 to June 30, 2019

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

A.K. Aagaard	Derek Connelly	Gaye Mas	Peter Rivington
Robert Alexander	Joan Cotton	Michele A. Mastroeni	David Rosevear
Brenda & Paul Arkell	Lissa Dwyer	Ray & Adele Matsalla	Jane Rowe
Jim Baston	Reza Farmand	Lena McDonell	Doris Rudert-Dolby
John Bedford	Joyce Feinberg	Paula & Ralph Miller	Jane Salhani
Angela Bender	Barbara Francey	Jo-Ann Minden	Imelda Santiago
Lynn Bird	Juergen Friedrich	Jeffrey Morrison	Nancy Scollard
Gail Birkett	Erika Friesen	Judith Nancekivell	Ruth Smart & B. McLain
Emily Burgetz	Sylvia Gilchrist	Outdoor Club of East York	David & Faith Smith
Andre Campos	Susan Goodfellow	Charlotte Owen	John Sparkes
Fulvia Cantarutti	Robert & Audrey Hofland	Laurie Panagiotou	Anna Sunn
Grace Cantarutti	Isobel Hood	Ruth & Andy Patterson	Stephen Swigger
Noel & Judy Carey	Richard & Anne Kinch	Susan Peters	Millie Wan
Dianne Charlton	Keith Lamont	Hung Poon	Barbara Weese
Jack & Gillian Churchill	Murray Legge	Barbara Raaflaub	Gayle Whitehead
Elizabeth Clark	Graham Loeb	David Rawcliffe	Steve Wyatt
Judy Pergau & Bob Comfort	Kevin Lowe	George & Jennifer Rigg	Tracy Yake-Meurs & John Meurs

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.



Photos: Bill Patterson

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SUSQUEHANNOCK LODGE and TRAIL CENTRE
Hiking in the Highlands of North Central Pennsylvania

THANKSGIVING - Oct. 11,12,13,14, 2019
Great fall colours and a full Thanksgiving dinner.

NEW YEARS - Dec. 28, 29, 30, 2019, Jan 1, 2020
Snow – we will snowshoe, cross country ski.
No snow we hike.

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 effective Oct. 1st \$75.00 semi-private, \$80.00 private-double occupancy, \$90.00 private-single occupancy, 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

ORTA FALL 2019 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

Fri, Oct. 4, 2019 9:30 AM, Markham - Unionville Urban Hike - Unionville Main Street

11km; Fast; 2hrs.; Please read the parking instructions as they have changed. This hike goes from the back of the stores on Main Street Unionville to Markham Rd. over board walks, forested areas, and a new suspension bridge over a dam. Meet in the parking area behind the stores on the east side of Unionville Main Street, south east from Main Street and Carlton Road. GPS: 43.868529, -79.311416

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, Oct. 5, 2019 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. 5, 2019 9:00 AM, King - Seneca King Campus/Mary Lake (Keele St.) New

ORTA Map 2; 12km; Slow to moderate; 3.5hrs.; Dropout at 8 km, Beginners, Families, Hiking boots, Refreshments after. This is a loop hike we will stop at Pine Farm Orchard for refreshment also picking or buying 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 Kazemnia 905-770-9954

Sun, Oct. 6, 2019 10:00 AM, Pickering - Seaton Hiking Trail (Whitevale Rd)

10km; 2+hrs.; 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

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

Sun, Oct. 6, 2019 10:00 AM, Caledon - western ORTA trail head

ORTA Map 0; 6km; Moderate; 2hrs.; Loop hike exploring the Dingle, Trout Ponds and ORTA Trailhead, south of Glen Haffey CA. Drive south from Mono Mills (Hwy #9 and Airport Rd) for 3Km. Turn east on to Coolihans SR. and travel 1.1Km. At this point the Bruce Trail crosses Coolihans SR. (there are signs on both sides of the road). Park at the side of the road (Coolihans SR.). Meet in this road side parking. To get to the ORTA trail follow the Bruce trail south for 0.6Km to the ORTA trail head kiosk. GPS: 43.937745, -79.934971

David Francis, 905-936-4446, cell phone on day of hike 416-579-5432

Wed, Oct. 9, 2019 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods East (Conc. 7 - microwave towers)

ORTA Map 5; 11+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, Oct. 10, 2019 9:30 AM, Pickering - Seaton Hiking Trail (Whitevale Rd)

8km; Moderate; 2.5hrs.; Pretty area. There and back hike. Hopefully the salmon will be running and we can watch them make their way upstream. 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. 11, 2019 9:30 AM, Pickering - Seaton Hiking Trail (Whitevale Rd)

10km; Moderate to fast; 2hrs.; 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

Sat, Oct. 12, 2019 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

Mon, Oct. 14, 2019 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods East (Conc. 7 - microwave towers)

ORTA Map 5; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Enjoy the fall colours on these sheltered trails with moderate hills as we hike to the Skyloft Tract and back. Well mannered dogs are encouraged to bring their owners. Join us for lunch afterwards in Uxbridge. Meet at parking lot on west side of Uxbridge Conc 7, 2 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS: 44.0394862, -79.0892224

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

Wed, Oct. 16, 2019 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Glen Major West (Conc. 6 - aggregate pit)

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, Oct. 18, 2019 9:30 AM, Markham - Bob Hunter Memorial Park

10+km; Fast; 2hrs.; Meet in parking lot at 7277-14 Ave. Take Reesor Rd (south from hwy #7 or north from Steeles Ave), west on 14 Ave, south at first driveway with house numbers (this is the entrance to the Rouge National Urban Park). GPS: 43.863494, -79.211209

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, Oct. 19, 2019 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. 19, 2019 9:00 AM, King - Seneca King Campus/Mary Lake (Keele St.) New

ORTA Map 2; 12km; Slow to moderate; 3.5hrs.; Dropout at 8 km, Beginners, Families, Hiking boots, Refreshments after. This is a loop hike we will stop at Pine Farm Orchard for refreshment also picking or buying 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 Kazemnia 905-770-9954

Sun, Oct. 20, 2019 10:00 AM, Scarborough - Rouge Park (Meadowvale Rd.)

10km; 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)

Mon, Oct. 21, 2019 9:30 AM, Caledon - Palgrave Forest north (Finnerty SR)

ORTA Map 1; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Join us on the sheltered trails of Palgrave Forest for late fall colours. Some slightly hilly terrain. 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. 23, 2019 9:30 AM, Long Sault CA (Woodley Rd)

ORTA Map 7; 17+km; Moderate to fast; 4+hrs.; Loop hike through Long Sault Conservation Area. Hilly. 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. - \$6/ vehicle/day or \$3/ hour. GPS: 44.049939, -78.741937

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

Thu, Oct. 24, 2019 9:30 AM, East Gwillimbury - YRF Bendor & Graves (Kennedy Rd)

8km; Moderate; 2.5hrs.; Hike through meadows and ravines. Poison Ivy present. May be wet in some areas. Bring snacks and drinks. 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, Oct. 25, 2019 9:30 AM, King - Happy Valley (Weston & 16th Sdrd)

ORTA Map 2; 10+km; Fast; 2+hrs.; There and back 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 via 16th SR due to reconstruction of the Hwy 400 overpass GPS: 43.954224, -79.586575

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, Oct. 26, 2019 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

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

T&B = there and back hike

BT - Bruce Trail Conservancy

YRF - York Regional Forest

PP - Provincial Park

Select hikes most suitable for your ability:

Slow 3km/h Fast 5km/h

Moderate 4km/h Very Fast 6km/h

Sat, Oct. 26, 2019 9:00 AM, King - Seneca King Campus/Mary Lake (Keele St.) New

ORTA Map 2; 12km; Slow to moderate; 3.5hrs.; Dropout at 8 km, Beginners, Families, Hiking boots, Refreshments after. This is a loop hike we will stop at Pine Farm Orchard for refreshment also picking or buying 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 Kazemnia 905-770-9954

Mon, Oct. 28, 2019 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Wilder Tract (Durham Rd. 1 / Brock Rd.)

ORTA Map 5; Slow to moderate; 1.5hrs.; Meeting in the Pleasure Valley Pathways parking lot on the east side of Brock Rd. 3.2Km. north of the Uxbridge/Pickering Townline. GPS: 44.019503, -79.134345

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

Mon, Oct. 28, 2019 9:30 AM, Whit- Stouffville - YRF Porritt Tract - Pangman Springs (Kennedy Rd.)

ORTA Map 4; 8km; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Dog walk, wooded trails, moderate hills. 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

NOVEMBER

Fri, Nov. 1, 2019 9:30 AM, East Gwillimbury - YRF Bendor & Graves (Kennedy Rd)

10km; Fast; 2hrs.; Loop hike some hills Meet in the parking area at the dead end of Kennedy Rd, north of Davis Dr. GPS: 44.087113 , -79.360133

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, Nov. 2, 2019 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. 2, 2019 9:00 AM, Richmond Hill - Oak Ridges Corridor/- Jefferson Forest (Oak Ridges Community Ctr.)

ORTA Map 3; 10km; Slow to moderate; 3hrs.; This is an easy late fall hike at Jefferson forests. Dress for weather bring hot drink. you may need icers. No dropout, Beginners, Families. South parking lot of Oak Ridges Community Centre, west side of Bayview Ave, 1.5 km north of Stouffville Rd. GPS: 43.947384 , -79.427794

Mina Kazemnia 905-770-9954

Sun, Nov. 3, 2019 10:00 AM, Leader's Choice Hike

5km; Moderate; 2hrs.; Loop Hike around Mono Tai Chi Centre including tours of Tai Temples. Meeting at Mono Township 5th Sideroad, north of Hwy 9 on Airport Road, East side. If not reflected elsewhere in this information, contact the hike leader for the meeting place and trek details. GPS: 0, 0

David Francis, 905-936-4446, cell phone on day of hike 416-579-5432

Sun, Nov. 3, 2019 10:00 AM, King - Seneca King Campus/Mary Lake (Keele St.)

ORTA Map 2; 10km; 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)

Mon, Nov. 4, 2019 10:00 AM, Leader's Choice Hike

6km; Slow to moderate; 2.5hrs.; We will explore the trails in Glen Haffy Conservation Park. Bring a snack for break on the trail. Coffee after. email: tjshelvey@yahoo.com. Directions: From Hwy 9 go South on Airport Road about 3km's to Coolihans sideroad and turn left for 2km's then park on the road at the intersection of Coolihan's and Glen Haffy Rd. If coming from Caledon East go north on Airport Road for about 9km's to Coolihan's sideroad. Turn right on Coolihan's for 2km, then park on the road at the intersection of Coolihan's and Glen Haffy Rd. If not reflected elsewhere in this information, contact the hike leader for the meeting place and trek details. GPS: 0, 0

Tessa Shelvey, 416-320-8555

Fri, Nov. 8, 2019 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. 9, 2019 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. 11, 2019 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Wilder Tract (Durham Rd. 1 / Brock Rd.)

ORTA Map 5; Slow to moderate; 1.5hrs.; Meeting in the Pleasure Valley Pathways parking lot on the east side of Brock Rd. 3.2Km. north of the Uxbridge/Pickering Townline. GPS: 44.019503, -79.134345

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

Wed, Nov. 13, 2019 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Durham Forest (Houston Rd)

ORTA Map 6; 16+km; Moderate to fast; 3+hrs.; From the meeting place we will hike the Crows Pass Conservation area and some side trails in the Durham forest. Dress appropriately for the weather. Bring lunch and a drink. Meet at the dead end of Houston Rd., west from Lakeridge Rd. (2.4 km. north of Chalk Lake Rd.). GPS: 44.044566 , -79.067489

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

Fri, Nov. 15, 2019 9:30 AM, Whit-Stouffville - YRF Eldred King Woodlands (Hwy 48)

ORTA Map 4; 10+km; Fast; 2+hrs.; hilly loop hike. 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. 16, 2019 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, Nov. 16, 2019 9:00 AM, Richmond Hill - Oak Ridges Corridor/Jefferson Forest (Oak Ridges Community Ctr.)

ORTA Map 3; 10km; Slow to moderate; 3hrs.; This is an easy late fall hike at Jefferson forests. Dress for weather bring hot drink. you may need icers. No dropout, Beginners, Families. South parking lot of Oak Ridges Community Centre, west side of Bayview Ave, 1.5 km north of Stouffville Rd. GPS: 43.947384, -79.427794

Mina Kazemnia 905-770-9954

Sun, Nov. 17, 2019 10:00 AM, Whit- Stouffville - YRF Porritt Tract - Pangman Springs (Kennedy Rd.)

ORTA Map 4; 7km; 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, Nov. 18, 2019 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Secord Forest (Conc. 3)

ORTA Map 5; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Join us in one our favourite areas with forest, meadows and streams. 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, Nov. 20, 2019 9:30 AM, Pickering - Seaton Hiking Trail (Whitevale Rd)

17km; Moderate to fast; 4hrs.; There and back hilly hike. 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

Fri, Nov. 22, 2019 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. 23, 2019 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

Wed, Nov. 27, 2019 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods East (Conc. 7 - microwave towers)

ORTA Map 5; 15+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

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Fri, Nov. 29, 2019 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods West (Conc. 6. / Allbright Rd.)

ORTA Map 5; 10km; Fast; 2hrs.; Hilly loop hike including Al Shaw. 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, Nov. 30, 2019 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, Nov. 30, 2019 9:00 AM, Richmond Hill - Oak Ridges Corridor/Jefferson Forest (Oak Ridges Community Ctr.)

ORTA Map 3; 10km; Slow to moderate; 3hrs.; This is an easy late fall hike at Jefferson forests. Dress for weather bring hot drink. you may need icers. No dropout, Beginners, Families. South parking lot of Oak Ridges Community Centre, west side of Bayview Ave, 1.5 km north of Stouffville Rd. GPS: 43.947384, -79.427794

Mina Kazemnia 905-770-9954

DECEMBER

Sun, Dec. 1, 2019 10:00 AM, Leader's Choice Hike

5km; Moderate; Welsh Tract Loop hike exploring Secret Pond, nice intimate trail that's concealed through thick forest and has wonderful views. Located off Hwy 27 north of Hwy 9. Township of Bradford West Gwillimbury 44°09'21.4"N 79°40'04.8"W. Turn right onto 12 Line, just passed Pioneer Cemetery going north. Muddy sections, so bring waterproof boots. Small parking area at entrance. If not reflected elsewhere in this information, contact the hike leader for the meeting place and trek details. GPS: 0, 0

David Francis, 905-936-4446, cell phone on day of hike 416-579-5432

Mon, Dec. 2, 2019 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods West (Conc. 6. / Allbright Rd.)

ORTA Map 5; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; We invite you to join us on our wedding anniversary hike to our chapel in the woods. Share a special treat in the forest with us. ORTA members are invited to join in the pot luck lunch afterwards at the Goodwood Community Centre where we can all share stories of another successful hiking year. 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

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

Fri, Dec. 6, 2019 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, Dec. 7, 2019 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. 8, 2019 10:00 AM, Markham - Bob Hunter Memorial Park

10km; 2hrs.; Meet in parking lot at 7277-14 Ave. Take Reesor Rd (south from hwy #7 or north from Steeles Ave), west on 14 Ave, south at first driveway with house numbers (this is the entrance to the Rouge National Urban Park). GPS: 43.863494, -79.211209

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

Mon, Dec. 9, 2019 10:00 AM, Leader's Choice Hike

6km; Slow to moderate; 2.5hrs.; Pretty hike mostly in the forest on variable terrain. We will hike 3km South from Duffy's Lane to Castleberg Road and re-trace our steps the same way. No dogs please. Coffee after. Bring snacks to eat on the trail. Park on the East side of Duffy's Lane (not blocking the mailbox) where the trail comes out to the road. Directions: Head north on Hwy 50 from Bolton. Turn west on Castleberg Road for approx. 2km then north (right) on Duffy's Lane for approx. 2km's. e-mail inquires tjshelvey@yahoo.com If not reflected elsewhere in this information, contact the hike leader for the meeting place and trek details. GPS: 0, 0

Tessa Shelvey, 416-320-8555

Wed, Dec. 11, 2019 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)

Fri, Dec. 13, 2019 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods East (Conc. 7 - microwave towers)

ORTA Map 5; 11+km; Fast; 2+hrs.; Hilly loop hike Walker Woods east and beyond. You might need icers. 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

Sat, Dec. 14, 2019 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 5+km; Moderate; 1hr.; you might need icers. 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

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Mon, Dec. 16, 2019 9:30 PM, Whit-Stouffville - YRF Hall & Eldred King (McCowan Rd)

ORTA Map 4; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Join us on these broad, sandy trails with moderate hills for a winter hike. (icers?) 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, Dec. 18, 2019 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Glen Major West (Conc. 6 - aggregate pit)**

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. 20, 2019 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. 21, 2019 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, Dec. 21, 2019 10:30 AM, King - Seneca King Campus/Mary Lake (Keele St.)**

ORTA Map 2; 6km; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; We will hike over to Eaton Hall Lake, go around the lake and back the same way. No dogs please. Meet at roadside parking on Keele, 3km north of King Road on both sides at ORTA sign. phone 416-320-8555. e-mail

tjshelvey@yahoo.com Meet at roadside parking on Keele, 3 km north of King Road on both sides at ORTA trail sign. GPS: 43.955220, -79.535400

Tessa Shelvey, 416-320-8555**Sun, Dec. 22, 2019 10:00 AM, King - Seneca King Campus/Mary Lake (Keele St.)**

ORTA Map 2; 10km; 2hrs.; you might need icers. 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)**Fri, Dec. 27, 2019 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods West (Conc. 6 / Allbright Rd.)**

ORTA Map 5; 10km; Fast; 2hrs.; Hilly loop hike including the Wilder property. you might need icers. Maybe snowshoes. 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. 28, 2019 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)**

ORTA Map 5; 5+km; Moderate; 1hr.; You might need icers. 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, Dec. 30, 2019 9:30 PM, Uxbridge - Durham Forest (Conc. 7)**

ORTA Map 5; Slow to moderate; 2hrs.; Join us on our last hike of 2019 on the wide and hilly trails of Durham Forest. Well mannered dogs are encouraged to bring their owners. Join us for lunch afterwards. 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

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

ORMT MEETS RNUP AND THE GREAT TRAIL (TRANS CANADA TRAIL)

The Oak Ridges Moraine Trail and the Rouge National Urban Park meet at Webb Rd., just east of Stouffville and south of Goodwood. Plans for trail adjustments and slight reroutes have been ongoing over the past year as ORTA co-operates with the Toronto and Region CA and Parks Canada. A new trail loop will be established in the Goodwood Tract (ORMT), easily accessible from the Glasgow Tract (now Coyote Trail) of the RNUP. There is a good parking lot just south of Webb Rd. on the east side of the 2nd Concession of Uxbridge- and it has an accessible washroom, of the portable type. No major trail changes have occurred in the Glasgow Tract yet but the most recent addition to Rouge trails by Parks Canada is a 3.5km trail from the just east of the 9th line on the 19th Conc. south of Stouffville, to Elgin Mills Rd. Both ends have good parking lots and trailhead kiosks. This trail winds through meadows and short forest tracts and has several raised viewing points as well as log benches. From the north end, you can see downtown Toronto in the distance while listening to meadow and forest birds around you.

Recently you may have noticed new marker posts being established along the ORTA trail westwards from the Durham Forest through Walker Woods, Norton/Clubine, Secord and Goodwood Tracts. These will be markers for a new extension of the Great Trail providing a future route across the ORMT, and south through the Rouge Valley to Lake Ontario. It will take several years for the necessary links to be completed. At some point you will be able to take the Go Train from Toronto north to Lincolnville past Stouffville, follow the Rouge trails south to Lake Ontario then take another Go Train home. Currently MEC is sponsoring a Park Bus from Toronto to two locations in the Rouge Park- a great start. We are pleased to be part of this effort to make peaceful trails more accessible to the growing population near the Oak Ridges Moraine. ORTA Trail Captains have been working hard this year to keep trails cleared.

*Brian Millage,
Regional Director*

ADVENTURE RELAY 2019 TEAM “WEDDING PLANNERS”

Neil Maskery is the Team Captain for the Wedding Planners. His team has had various names; in 2015 they were Plumb Nellie, THM in 2016, Stouffville RB2 in 2017 and last year 2018 they entered as Stouffville Stump Jumpers.

Back in 2017, Neil emailed a number of his friends to see if they wanted to participate in the Oak Ridges Adventure Relay Race. He had most of the spots filled but still needed another runner. Nyree was a good friend of Jill Green's and mentioned to Jill, when she was visiting her one day that she was cycling one leg of the race on her own and would like some company. Neil was also there discussing the race and Jill offered to cycle with Nyree. That's how Jill got in the race. That was about six weeks prior to the race day. About the same time, John Pendlebury was searching the internet for some "adventure races" and came across the Adventure Relay Race. He inquired about entering onto a team and found his way to Neils' team. He became their last runner. The majority of the team participants' didn't know one another and met for the first time on the day of the race.

At Checkpoint 13, John Pendlebury and Team Captain, Neil Maskery, pulled up in their car. Jill Green walked over to say hello and as the car window lowered, she saw John for the first time in the passenger seat. Time paused for a brief moment and with a smile on her face, she gave a big "hey" to the gents, curiously gazing at John. They pulled over and a brief conversation took place, before Jill and Nyree set off for the Bike section.



Team Trophy – painted gold. Each year a plaque is added.



They learned that John was originally from Yorkshire, England and Jill was from Chiswick, England. Both moved to Canada and he was living in Aurora, while she was living in Stouffville. John asked Jill if she gets back to England much and she replied "I'm actually going over for my brothers' wedding in September" to which John replied "oh, I'm also headed to England in September to visit family and friends". This is what they consider their "serendipity" moment...they left for England on the same day only minutes apart!!! Had John not been flying with Icelandic Air, they would have been on the same flight!!

When Jill and Nyree were leaving the race, Nyree commented that John liked Jill. A day or so after the 2017 Relay Race, Neil Maskery sent an email to the team members congratulating and thanking them for their participation. John replied back to the team with a similar message and Jill took the opportunity to do the same and casually mentioned that she was a "single mother" (hint hint) John got the message and sent an email to the team members to find out if anyone else was interested in doing more adventure races. After a number of back and forth emails, John and Jill got together for their first date about mid-July 2017. They haven't been apart since.

In 2018, Neil registered the team again for the Adventure Relay Race. John completed 3 legs and Jill did 2 legs. In September, they both participated in the Scotland Coast-to-Coast race, where at the end of the race, John proposed to Jill. She said yes!!

For 2019, (the 13th Annual Adventure Relay Race) Neil decided to change the name of the team to "The Wedding Planners". John completed two bike legs and Jill completed one run leg. They both ran the last leg together.

The wedding will take place on May 30, 2020 at Silver Lakes Golf Club and on September 15 at the end of the Scotland Coast-to-Coast race there will be a blessing for the couple.

The happy couple will once again, be participating in the 14th Annual Adventure Relay Race set for Saturday, June 13, 2020.

On behalf of everyone at the Oak Ridges Trail Association and the Adventure Relay Race Committee, I would like to congratulate John Pendlebury and Jill Green on their upcoming wedding and wish them a lifetime of adventure and happiness. Congratulations.

*Carol Dowell
Publicity Director*

DISCOVER YOUR WORLD

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. 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!



Thursday, September 19, 2019

Chris Campbell: Join Chris Campbell, beekeeper as he talks about beekeeping, pollinating plants and the problems with using neonicotinoids. Chris will be bringing in an observation hive so you can see the bees for yourself. Please note the bees are completely contained and cannot get out.

Thursday, October 17, 2019

Marlis Butcher: Exploring Qausuittuq National Park In the High Arctic

In 2016 Marlis was one of the first persons to visit Canada's newest national park, Qausuittuq, in the high Arctic. Her unique story about this trip was published by the Royal Canadian Geographic Society.

Marlis will be presenting a storied slide show describing what it's like to travel to and explore this unique park – and meeting it's endangered inhabitants.

Thursday, November 21, 2019

Jenna Siu: Happy Valley Bat Monitoring project

Jenna is a graduate of Queen's University with a BSCh in environmental studies and biology. She completed a MSc in Biology at Western University and is currently the Coordinator, Conservation Biology for Happy Valley Forest with the Nature Conservancy of Canada, where she plans and implements stewardship activities including the bat monitoring program.

Jenna will speak about NCC, what they do in Happy Valley Forest and their bat monitoring project.

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SLOVENIJA – BLLED & TRIGLAV

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Slovenija is where the Alps meet the Mediterranean - 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 is the fairy-tale setting of Bled. Dates were specifically chosen to catch the Bled Days Festival, when organizers launch 15,000 lights in eggshells onto Lake Bled.

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TRAIL BITES IN BOLTON



You see here 4 happy hikers after Tessa led 9 of us for a hike on The Humber Heritage trail out of Bolton. We had a great lunch at the Riverside Grill, 65 Queen St. N. in downtown Bolton. John, the owner, seen behind the counter, specializes in halibut fish and chips, which according to our hikers, were VERY tasty! John hand cuts both his fish and fries. We also enjoyed the pork souvlaki on a pita with John's delicious tzatziki sauce. Next time you are out that way drop in and say hi to John while you enjoy a delightful meal. They are open 7 days a week.

Editor: Michele Donnelly (info@oakridgestrail.org)

Advertising space available. Submission deadline Nov. 1, 2019

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