

Caledon Comment



Vol 54, No 4

Winter—2018—2019



Dave Moule and Sally Cohen received a BTC Life Membership in the Caledon Hills Club at the 2018 BTC AGM. Learn more about Dave and Sally on Page 11



The Caledon Hills Club won the Lloyd Smith Walking Stick at the 2018 BTC AGM in Red Bay on the Bruce Peninsula. Barry Westhouse accepted the award on behalf of the club from Peninsula President Walter Brewer. The award is given to the club achieving the greatest distance hiked by its members on the Sunday hikes.

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Opinions expressed in the Caledon Comment are not necessarily the views of the Caledon Hills Bruce Trail Club unless stated as such. Advertisements do not necessarily imply endorsement by the Caledon Hills Bruce Trail Club or The Bruce Trail Conservancy. Send address changes to:
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Follow us on Instagram & Facebook @caledonhillsbtc for the latest updates, news and photos from the trail.

Cal E-News is our club email newsletter that keeps members up to date on major club activities between editions of the



Caledon Comment. Subscribe at: calenews@caledonbruce trail.org

Visit our website, www.caledonbruce trail.org for lots more information about us, including the most up to date hike listings and to sign up for our blog.

**DEADLINE FOR THE SPRING EDITION:
 JANUARY 5, 2019**

Send copy by email to:
caledoncomment@caledonbruce trail.org

Ross McLean

“An Old Volunteer”

Read about Ross and his decades of volunteering for the Bruce Trail on Page 6



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 Terms: Cheque with order or e-transfer
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 “The Caledon Hills Bruce Trail Club”

ANNUAL WINTER HIKE & POTLUCK

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

At Caledon Village Place

10:00 am – 1:00 pm: Hike. Meet in the parking lot at Caledon Village Place at 9:45 am for an enjoyable local hike.

1:00pm – Light refreshments at the Hall

2:00 pm – Visit the Yukon on a Trip With Louise Carberry

Louise will present a slide show of her 2018 Yukon trip with Marilyn Ross and Jean Trask, highlighting their exploration of the Yukon including all the times they just missed seeing the bears. Louise says: "We were always relieved and disappointed at the same time as we had rehearsed our reaction daily. The spectacular scenery made up for the elusive bears. It is well worth the journey!"



2:45 pm – 3:30 pm - Social Hour with lots of time to bid in the Silent Auction and to check out the merchandise table

3:30 pm - Fine Dining - Bring a potluck dish to share

- Check your basements & closets for items to contribute to our silent auction
- Bring the ingredients list for your potluck dish so diners can allow for food allergies

Social Convener: Jackie Clark, 519-833-8531 or clark3@rogers.com

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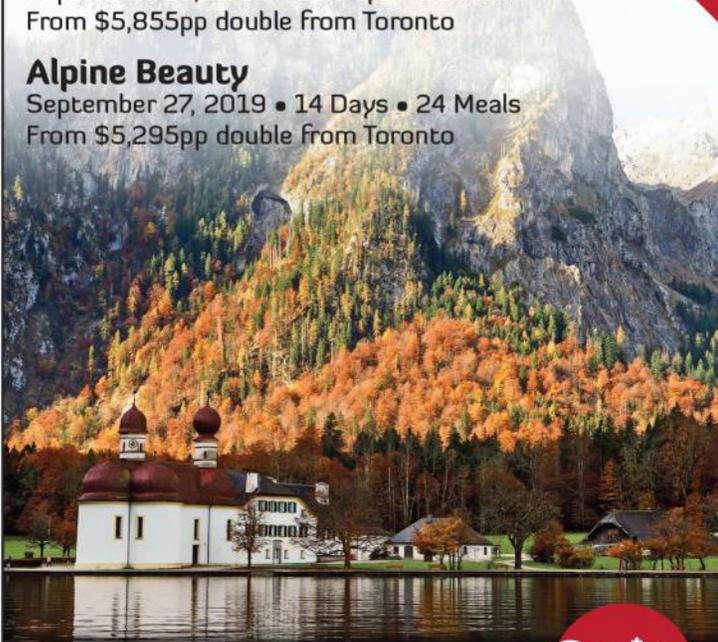
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Hiking in the Highlands of North Central Pennsylvania



NEW YEARS - Dec. 28 - Jan 1, 2019

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No snow - we hike. Relax by the fireplace.

EASTER April 19 - 22, 2019

Welcome spring on the trails and a Polish Easter Dinner.

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, \$75.00 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

Cheltenham Badlands Reopens to the Public



On September 22, 2018 the Cheltenham Badlands was officially reopened to the public. The reopening was preceded by a ribbon cutting ceremony.



From left to right:
Johanna Downey, Ward 2 Regional Councillor; Nando Iannicca, Board Chair, Credit Valley Conservation; Melanie Hare, Vice-Chair, Ontario Heritage Trust; The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport; Cathie Jamieson, Councillor, Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation; Beth Gillespy, Chief Executive Officer, Bruce Trail Conservancy; Mayor Allan Thompson, Town of Caledon.



With the opening of the new viewing platform and parking lot (parking fees apply) the main Bruce Trail has also reopened through the property. (For three years our trail had been re-routed onto Boston Mills Road, the Caledon Trailway and Chingacousy Road and it is good to be back in the woods again.) Upon reaching the parking lot, through hikers are encouraged to take a short detour west along Olde Base Line Road to enjoy the new viewing platform and educational signage.



Ontario Heritage Trust as the property owner has undertaken to preserve the Cheltenham Badlands for the people of Ontario to enjoy.

Credit Valley Conservation is now responsible for the stewardship of the entire property and the Bruce Trail Conservancy, together with the Caledon Hills Bruce Trail Club, is responsible for the maintenance of the main Bruce Trail which passes through the property. Full details about visiting the site can be found at:

<https://cvc.ca/enjoy-the-outdoors/conservation-areas/cheltenham-badlands/>





TRIBUTE TO A WONDERFUL VOLUNTEER

For many years Ross McLean has been an active volunteer with the Bruce Trail. Where did this enthusiasm begin? Ross's grandparents lived in Thornbury at the mouth of the Beaver River. Living in Toronto, Ross spent the humid summer months at his grandparent's home where he discovered a land that was "green and golden". One of his aunts lived at home and worked a 6-day week at the local hardware store. Sunday morning she went to church but then at Sunday dinner would ask "who wants to go for a ramble?" Ross would eagerly join her for the afternoon adventure. That was long before there was a Bruce Trail. But the aunt knew all the landowners in the Valley, after all, they shopped at the hardware store. Ross remembers that she would drive in a farm lane and ask for permission to walk in their "back 40", usually a wood lot that rose to the Escarpment. Its beauty was contagious and those experiences never deserted his memory.



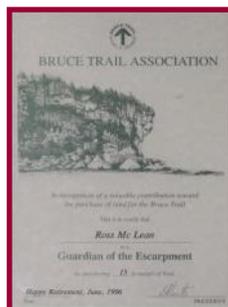
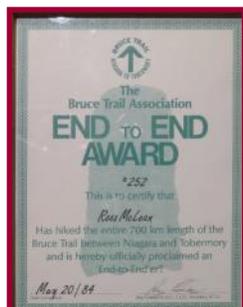
In early adulthood, Ross had taken out a BTA membership, but never became involved. Then, one issue of the *Caledon Comment* announced that it would be the last unless a new editor could be found. Ross volunteered and that commitment to the club has continued for forty years.

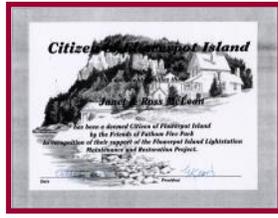
Starting in the 1980's, Ross was Newsletter Editor, BTA Representative, Trail Director and then President. One of the key achievements at this time was the building of side trails, most notably in the Hockley Valley. Up until this time, the Trail had been mainly linear. Side trail networks opened up an alternative for hikers. For their leadership in this area the Caledon Club received a special award from Hike Ontario in 1986.

Towards the end of the decade, Ross became the BTA's Trail Director. This opened up his vision to achieving the optimum route along the entire Trail. One of the key achievements at this time was the building of the Trail around Gun Point in the Bruce Peninsula. The Caledon Club adopted a section of trail from Tobermory to Halfway Dump and each May would host a "Spruce Up The Bruce" weekend, usually organized out of a group camping area at Cyprus Lake.

In 1993, Ross and fellow Caledon Hills club member Ed Doady, organized a Peninsula members' meeting in Guelph in an attempt to resurrect that club. It was immensely successful, and since then the Peninsula group has been one of the strongest clubs in the BTC.

This success opened Ross's eyes to other areas that could benefit from outside help. With his close friend Chris Walker, volunteers began work on the optimum route in Sydenham, then called the Bayview Extension. At about 70 km, it was the largest reroute in the history of the Bruce Trail and took five years to





complete. At least once a year, an invitation would go out to Bruce Trail members from Niagara to Tobermory. At times there were about 90 people in action together building new trail.

The next “dream” of Chris and Ross was to join Jack Morgan for the “Upper Beaver Valley extension”, a proposed reroute that circled the valley above Hogg’s Falls. About 31 km in length, it was completed in 2008. Now named “the Falling Waters Trail” it opened up a beautiful landscape on the optimum route.

One other memorable achievement was the opening of the reroute of Walker’s Woods in Dufferin Hi-land. Funds had been donated for its purchase in Chris Walker’s memory. When the Trail Director was asked when the trail on this property would be opened, he answered that he did not have enough volunteers. Ross stepped in (with the club’s permission) and in six weeks had about 50 volunteers on site to complete the work. Chris and Ross had been such good friends that the completion of this task was one of Ross’s most rewarding.

At this time, Ross explained that he would help any club “that asked for assistance”. In the Caledon Club the Trail Director’s post had become vacant and, facing the enormity of the needs, no one stepped up to volunteer. Ross returned to the role which he had held about 25 years earlier. His terms were very clear: he would hold the position for only two years but when he retired, he would leave an active corps of volunteers. That he achieved.

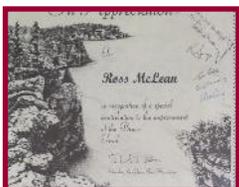


The highlight of this period was the rehabilitation of the Trail in the Badlands where it had suffered badly from erosion. It required an enormous volunteer commitment over the spring and fall seasons. A total of about 300 volunteers were involved, including 125 students from Upper Canada College. For that work in 2007, the Club won the BTA’s Philip Gosling Award for its environmental consciousness and also received recognition from the Credit River Conservation Authority. Ross won the BTA’s Volunteer of the Year Award. The picture on the left shows Ross carrying in some supplies during the Badlands trail rehabilitation project.

In recent years, because of some health problems, Ross has not been as active on the Trail, but he still continues his support. In 2014 he edited *A Celebration of 50 years*, the history of the Caledon Hills Bruce Trail Club. Readers of the *Caledon Comment* frequently see his articles. That is a throw-back to his first volunteer role with the Caledon Hills Club as editor of their newsletter.

Editor’s Note: This is a sampling of Ross’s certificates of recognition.

Continued on Page 19



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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!**

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When: 10 am to 4 pm every Saturday and Sunday beginning Saturday, December 1st while supplies last.

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For further information, call Dave Moule:

**416-225-2069 (Home)
647-973-6150 (Cell)**

Or e-mail salydave@sympatico.ca



Memories of Selling Christmas Trees

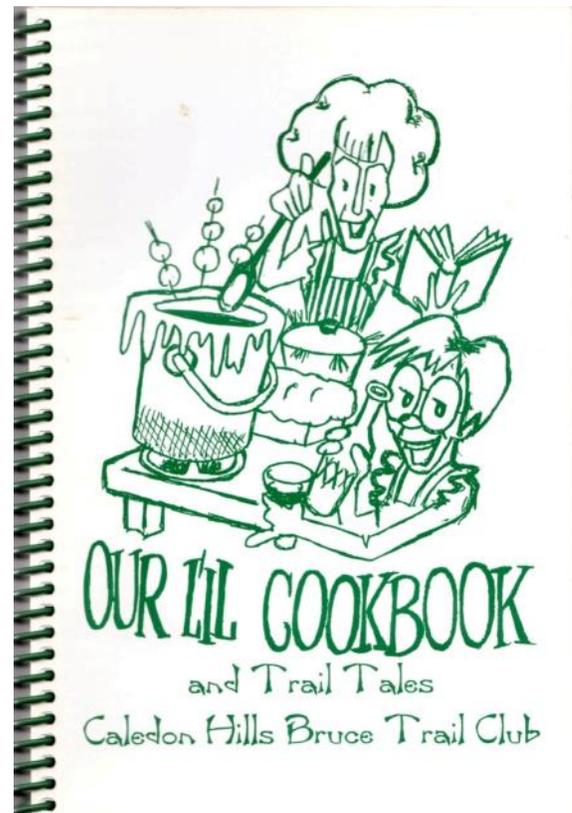


In 2010, my wife Pat and I volunteered to help sell Christmas trees for the club along with another member and her daughter. Well, sometimes sales were not very brisk and it was cold, so Pat and the young lady set to building a snowman. Yes, we did sell some trees and yes, the snowman was named "Bruce"! - Dave Platt



Louise Carberry prepares some hot apple cider for everyone who stops by to purchase one of our home grown or pre cut Christmas trees, wreaths or planters during her volunteer shift. Since its inception, this annual sale at Hockleycrest Farm has raised about \$35,000 for the Bruce Trail Conservancy. Come out this year to buy your greenery. See Page 8 for all the details.

Memories of Selling Our L'il Cookbook

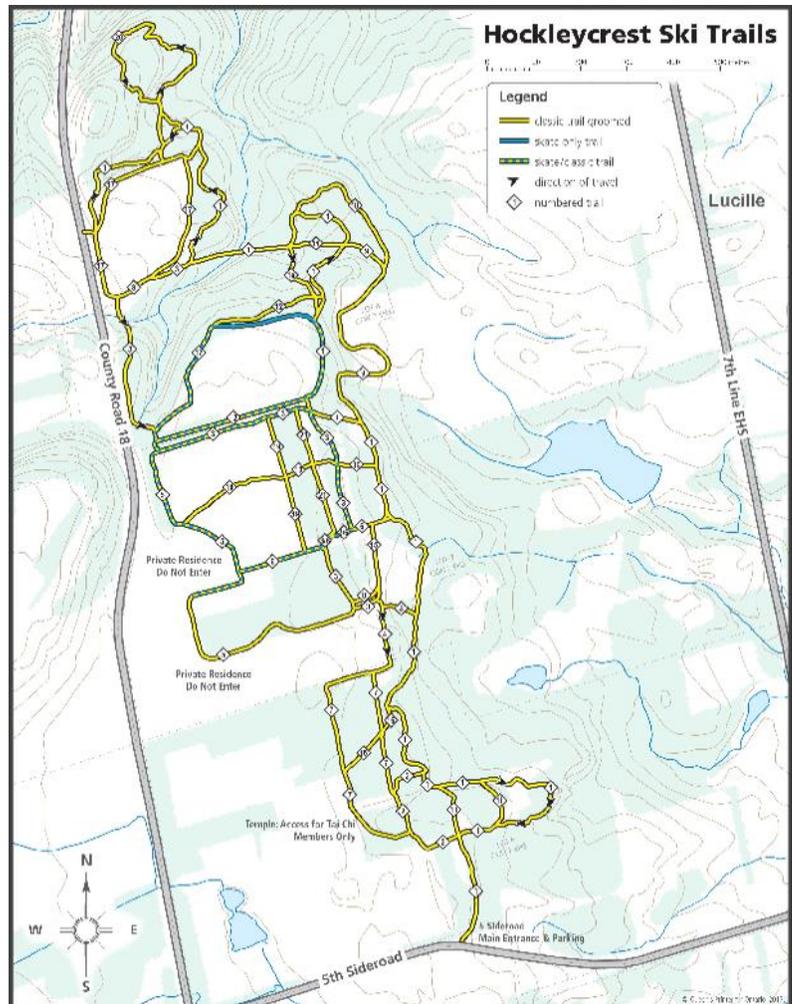


In 2002 the Caledon Hills Club presented the BTA (now BTC) with a cheque for \$2620.00 which was raised selling "Our Lil Cookbook", a collection of our members' recipes and trail tales.

Left to Right are Fran Chamberlain, Bob Lee (BTA President) Pat Bryant and Pam Marshall. Jack Cave sketched the cover of the cookbook.

Hockleycrest Ski Trails – Winter 2018/19

When winter arrives, the club's cross-country ski trail network at Hockleycrest will be open again. When snow conditions permit, the trails will be groomed with a roller, and if there is sufficient snow depth, a track will be set.



The map above shows the general layout of over 14 km of cross-country ski trails that are maintained. For the 2018-2019 downloadable map of this winter's routes go to: <http://caledonbruce trail.ca/cross-country-skiing/>

There are a few small changes to the trails for this coming winter:

First, a new trail named the Black Cherry trail #23 has been built in the central area. This is an easy trail over relatively flat terrain, through a pine plantation and across a regenerating field containing lots of young cherry trees. The approximate route of this trail is shown on the map in yellow highlighter.

Second, the section of Mainline trail #1 at the southeast corner of the network (east of Trail #11), previously restricted to southbound traffic only, has been upgraded so it can now be skied in both directions.

Third, the skate skiing trail has been discontinued. This trail was very difficult to maintain, and was only being used by one skier. That young man has gone off to university this year, so he won't be around to ski on it; consequently we are going to reduce our maintenance effort and concentrate on classic trails only.

As we did last year, a short portion of the main Bruce Trail will be closed to hikers during the ski season, but will be replaced by an alternate route connecting with trails exclusively for snowshoeing. This trail change will be posted on the BTC website when it occurs.

By Dave Moule



Dave Moule and Sally Cohen Receive BTC Life Membership at 2018 AGM

It all began in 1986 with Dave Moule's first involvement with the Bruce Trail helping to build about 12 km of new trail at Gun Point in the Bruce Peninsula. He volunteered to be the trail captain of a section of this loop, and over the next few years scouted out and built the route that today leads down to the shoreline at McKay's Harbour. Dave's involvement has continued to this day; he is the longest serving trail captain in the Peninsula club, and perhaps in the entire Conservancy.

After that introduction, Dave's volunteer involvement simply intensified. In 1990 he became the BTA's Trail Director, a post he held for five years. Under his leadership, the Trail Directors from the nine clubs became much more consistent in their approaches and higher standards of trail maintenance were developed. This role also made him a contributing member of the larger BTA Board.

Dave and his wife Sally have a farm on the south side of the Hockley Valley. They donated the land containing the Optimum Route to the BTA as a conservation easement. At that time, the Bruce Trail in the area followed long and dusty side-roads. Because of Dave's and Sally's work as Landowner Relations Directors for the Caledon Hills club, neighbouring landowners were convinced initially to give handshake agreements, and then gradually to offer purchase opportunities. Today this stretch of Trail is entirely off-road thanks largely to Dave and Sally.

When a key property that blocked access to the west of Airport Road came up for sale, Dave and Sally offered to be the "white knights" for this acquisition.

In addition, the Moules allowed club volunteers to plant Christmas trees on their land, and the first trees were harvested in 2005. This fundraising project has raised about \$35,000 for the BTC to date. Each winter Sally and their children help with welcoming customers and serving them hot cider and cookies.

In the early years of the new century, Dave took on the chairmanship of the BTA's Land Securement Secretariat. This was an enormous administrative task, looking at all possible options for

securing properties along the optimum route.

This was the beginning of the Bruce Trail's commitment to the idea of a Conservancy.

Sally also volunteered on the Board of the Caledon Hills Club many years ago, primarily as Landowner Relations Director. Now, after a necessary hiatus, she is getting back into formal volunteering, become our club's Secretary.

Dave has continued relentlessly to work for the trail on the ground. For about five years he was the Caledon Club's Land Stewardship Director. Then, in 2009 when they reorganized trail maintenance responsibilities, he became a Quadrant Leader for the club. He also worked on trail design as Trail Development Director for the club; for example, in the Hemlock Ridges property with both main Trail and a network of side trails. In the past few years, Dave has developed a 14 km cross-country ski network of trails on his farm and neighbouring lands. Dave grooms these trails regularly, and when snow conditions permit, the Caledon Hills Loppet, which Dave and Sally organize, can be held.

But the work is not just limited to Caledon; Dave still continues as trail captain in the Peninsula with the support of his entire family. Several years ago when there was a shortage of trail captains in Sydenham he, along with Laurence Christie, took on a section which had fallen into disrepair. Quickly it became a showcase section of Escarpment lands. (I know of no other volunteer who is a trail captain with three different Bruce Trail clubs.)

Dave Moule has been a trail captain, a landowner, a land steward, a Board member, a committee chair, a donor..... No list can do justice to the effort and energy that he and his family have devoted to the Trail for over three decades. Dave and Sally also lead hikes where they share their incredible knowledge of the trail to their hiking audience. The entire family's passion and commitment to Escarpment preservation and public access is remarkable.

By Ross McLean

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A Note from Our Trail Coordinator, Joan Richard

A hiker took the time to send our club's website a picture and a map about a tree that was blocking the trail. This is what the hiker said on Sunday evening:

"Discovered this tree down on our hike today. Looked quite fresh—the leaves had not yet wilted!"

The information wasn't passed along till yesterday morning (Tuesday), when it was very hot and humid, and one of our trail maintenance volunteers reported:

"I looked at this email at 8am. The branches were cleared from the trail at 10am with only a bow saw! See pictures attached before and after. Thanks to the person that reported the tree for the accurate description and picture."

I would like to also thank the hiker and of course the volunteers who keep our trail safe and enjoyable.



Before



After

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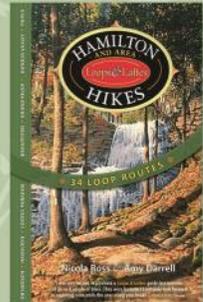
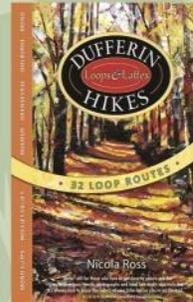
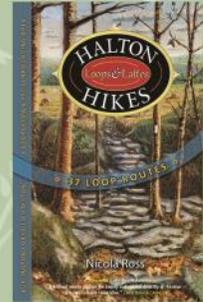
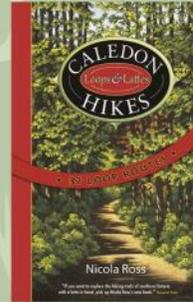
“Better still for those who love to get close to nature are the precise directions, terrific photographs and local lore that are also included. It’s always nice to know the ‘whys’ of your hike before you’re on the trail.”

JULIE SLACK, Metroland Media

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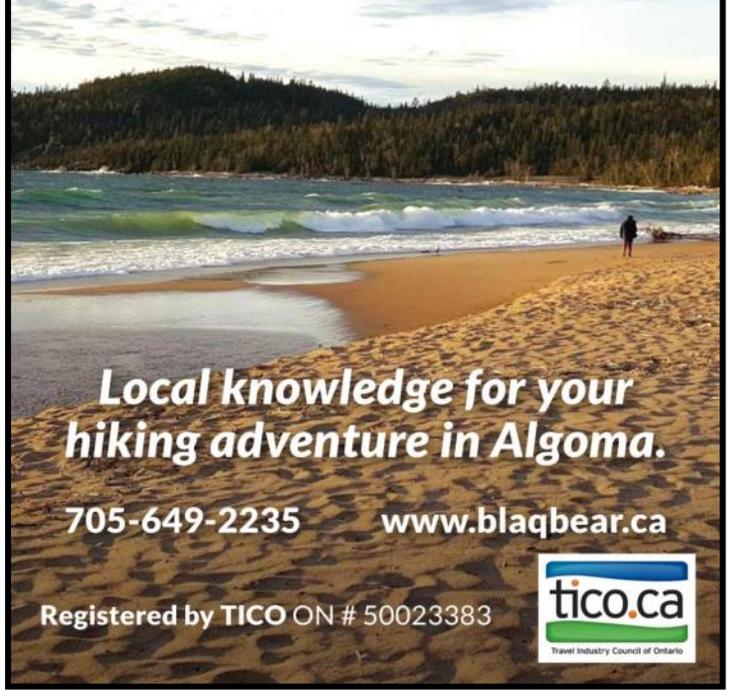
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HIKING INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES

The hike listings in the Caledon Comment have been condensed. To get the full description of each hike, you must go to the club website at www.caledonbrucetrail.org.

- Please arrive 15 to 20 minutes before departure time.
- Bruce Trail map and kilometre references are from the 29th edition of the Bruce Trail Reference.
- Always carry your Ontario Health Card.
- Carry an adequate amount of water and food.
- If you have to carry an auto-injector or other medical device, make sure someone on the hike knows about it.
- Unless stated otherwise hiking boots are required and no dogs are allowed.
- Unless stated otherwise all hikes will depart at 9:30 am.
- Check the website regularly for updates to the hiking schedule.

While there are a few portions of the Bruce Trail within conservation areas that are wheelchair accessible, use of the majority of the Trail is suitable for foot traffic only. To participate in an organized hike you need to be able to complete the specified length of the hike on your own or with your own support person within the time allowed. Please refer to the hiking schedule for details.

Hike ratings have been standardized across most of the Bruce Trail Clubs.

Pace -

Leisurely - 3km/hour or less

Medium - 3 to 4 km/hour

Brisk - 4 to 5 km/hour

Fast - 5+ km/hour

Terrain -

Easy - Mostly flat and usually good footing.

Moderate - Some hills and/or some poor footing.

Strenuous - Hilly with steep climbs and some poor footing

Thank you for following
the Trail Users Code all
year.

Please stay on the Trail.

WINTER HIKES 2018 - 2019

**Saturday December 1, Iroquoia Section,
Waterdown, Map 9,**

This 13 km "there and back" hike will take approximately 5 hours and is at a leisurely pace over moderate terrain.

**Saturday December 15, Caledon Hills
Section, Hockley Valley, Map 18,**

This 11 km loop hike will take approximately 3.5 hours and is at a medium pace over strenuous terrain.

**Saturday December 29, Dufferin Hi-Land
Section, Mono Cliffs Provincial Park, Map 19,
This 10 km loop hike will take approximately 4
hours and is at a medium pace over moderate
terrain.**

**Sunday January 6, Caledon Hills Section,
Forks of the Credit, Map 15, Winter Blues.
This 17 km "there and back" hike will take ap-
proximately 5 hours and is at a medium pace
over strenuous terrain.**

(Continued on page 16)

Saturday January 12, Dufferin Hi-Land Section, Boyne Valley, Murphy's Pinnacle & Primrose ST, Map 20,
This 11 km loop hike will take approximately 3.5 hours and is at a medium pace over strenuous terrain.

Sunday January 13, Iroquoia Section, Mount Nemo, Map 10,
This 9 km loop hike will take approximately 3 hours and is at a leisurely pace over moderate terrain.

Saturday January 19, Toronto Section, Scotsdale Farm, Map 13,
This 10 km loop hike will take approximately 3.5 hours and is at a medium pace over moderate terrain.

Saturday February 2, Caledon Hills Section, Glen Haffy, Map 17,
This 10 km loop hike will take approximately 3.5 hours and is at a medium pace over moderate terrain.

Sunday February 3, Caledon Hills Section, Hockley Valley, Map 18, Winter Blues,
This 14 km shuttle hike will take approximately 5 hours and is at a medium pace over strenuous terrain.

Sunday February 24, Caledon Hills Section, Caledon Rail Trail,
This 8 km "there and back" hike will take approximately 2.5 hours and is at a leisurely pace over easy terrain.



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WINTER TUESDAY HIKES 2018 - 2019

FULL HIKE DESCRIPTIONS CAN BE FOUND ON THE CLUB WEBSITE AT
WWW.CALEDONBRUCETRAIL.ORG

See Page 15 for More Hike Information and Guidelines

Tuesday December 4: Iroquoia Section, Waterdown, Map 9. An 11 km shuttle hike that will take approximately 4 hours and is at a medium pace over moderate terrain.

Tuesday December 11: St. Jacob's, Waterloo County. A 12 km "there and back" hike that will take approximately 3.5 hours and is at a medium pace over easy terrain.

Tuesday December 18: Caledon Hills Section, Albion Hills, Map 17, Holiday Lunch. A 9 km shuttle hike that will take approximately 3 hours and is at a medium pace over easy terrain.

Tuesday January 8: Toronto Section, Scotsdale Farm, Map 13. An easy loop hike of 10 km (about 3 hrs) at a medium pace on moderate terrain.

Tuesday January 15: Iroquoia Section, Burlington Bay. An 8 km "there and back" hike that will take approximately 3 hours and is at a leisurely pace over easy terrain.

Tuesday January 22: Iroquoia Section, Mount Nemo, Map 10. A 9 km loop hike that will take approximately 3 hours and is at a medium pace over moderate terrain.

Tuesday January 29: Iroquoia Section, Webster's Falls / Crooks Hollow, Map 8. An 11 km "there and back" hike that will take approximately 3.5 hours and is at a medium pace over moderate terrain.

Tuesday February 5: **OPEN. Check website for updates**

Tuesday February 12: Toronto Section, Hilton Falls, Map 11. A 10 km loop hike that will take approximately 3 hours and is at a medium pace over easy terrain.

Tuesday February 19: Iroquoia Section, Waterdown, Map 9. A 13 km "there and back" hike that will take approximately 4 hours and is at a leisurely pace over moderate terrain.

Tuesday February 26: **OPEN Check website for updates**



1991 Work Party with Ray McCluskey, Caledon Hills Club President at the time

Laurence Christie Champion of the Environment

Laurence Christie has been a tireless Bruce Trail volunteer for over 30 years. From the very beginning of his volunteer service with the Bruce Trail, he has distinguished himself as a respected trail builder who cares deeply for the environment. In *A Celebration of 50 Years of the Caledon Hills Bruce Trail Club 1964 – 2014*, Ross Mclean wrote:

Laurence's favourite area of the Trail remains the Hockley Valley. In the 1980s and continuing to this day, he has worked here to "solve some critical environmental problems." Some of the reroutes which he organized were done to repair "the scars that overuse...and erosion by water had done on a very sensitive land." As he says, "you can correct those things." As a result of this work, he has played a major role in awakening in Caledon trail workers an environmental consciousness, a realization that any trail must "walk lightly on the land." For this reason, he strongly supported the name change to a "Conservancy"; it is "reflected in how we build trails, how we do our work."



In 1996, the Bruce Trail acquired the Vallis property in the Caledon Hills section. At the time, Laurence was the Caledon Hills Club Trail Director and beginning in 1997 he began an ambitious tree planting initiative that continues to this day. Laurence's vast knowledge of the Vallis property along with his detailed records led to a research report (Vallis Property Tree Report) by his land steward assistant Corinne Meadows. Laurence later became the Land Steward for the Vallis property and expanded his stewardship role to include the elimination of invasive species, installation of bluebird boxes and just recently enhancing monarch butterfly habitat. He has also taken the initiative to work with other land stewards and BTC volunteers to conduct an aggressive program to control the spread of garlic mustard.



Over the years, Laurence has been an invaluable leader and mentor to each and every one that he works with. In any task he undertakes, first and foremost he thinks about the environment. Our trail development and maintenance team uses methods devised by Laurence to build trails with minimal impact on the environment.

When it comes to building and maintaining bluebird nesting boxes, he has taught us that there is a right and wrong way and as a result, the club now has a volunteer who will co-ordinate all aspects of our nesting box program. When planting trees on our properties, we turn to Laurence for his expertise, and with Laurence's leadership, we're now beginning to enhance monarch butterfly habitat on our properties.

Continued on Page 19

Continued from Page 18

Laurence Christie is a perfect example of a volunteer who not only embraces the BTC's mission, but actively works to carry it out. In 1997 he was awarded the Susan Oleskevich award honouring the BTC's "unsung volunteer" for his exemplary dedication to trail development and maintenance, and in the process, he always promoted the concept of "walking lightly on the land". His enthusiasm in trail development has been as much about conservation as building safe trails with minimal environmental impact. In everything he does he embraces the BTC values of commitment, integrity, stewardship, collaboration and respect.

At the 2018 Bruce Trail Conservancy AGM, Laurence was recognized for his commitment to preserving and enhancing biodiversity along the trail corridor and on our Bruce Trail managed properties. Laurence is most worthy of the recognition.



By Gary Hall, Land Steward Director

Tribute to A Wonderful Volunteer

Continued from Page 7

Over the years, Ross has received numerous awards. As he says, "it is not the reason I volunteer but it is nice to be recognized". Twice he has been named an Honorary (Life) member of the BTA/BTC, the first in 1997 for his efforts in revitalizing the Peninsula Club, and the second in 2012 for his work with the Caledon Hills Club. When asked how one could use two life memberships, he responds that "obviously the BTC believes in reincarnation". He hopes in his next appearance to be able to use that second membership.

In 2007 a side trail in Sydenham was named after Ross and in 2009, the Caledon Hills Club introduced the Ross McLean Award for exemplary dedication and commitment to the club over the long term. Ross received the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Award in 2012. His nomination referred to his "infectious enthusiasm... He has been, and continues to be, a role model for hundreds of volunteers".

Last year, in the Peninsula, some 230 acres were donated by a landowner to the Bruce Trail

Conservancy, and they credited Ross's friendship with them over the years as a key factor in their donation. In Fall 2016 Ross unexpectedly received an email from the donors: "Because you were our first contact with the Bruce Trail Association so many years ago...I want you to be the first to know of our thinking. ...The Cape Dundas property is a very special place and we want it to remain so for as long as possible. We would like to donate this property to the Bruce Trail Association. [It is] a jewel on the Bruce." Then in May 2017, the owners emailed Ross again: "Your love of the Bruce Trail and the ecology of the region was in no small part responsible for our decision to proceed with the donation". Ross's role in this donation is the achievement he cherishes most.

Ross will tell you that it has been a great forty years. It has not only been the beauty of the land, it has also been the volunteer spirit and friendship of the people with whom he has worked. Ross has embodied the true spirit of volunteerism over the past four decades.



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Congratulations to the 74 Hikers who Completed the 2018 Caledon Hills Fall Colours End-to-End

Chicory Badge:

Colleen Zouhar
Graham Allen
Yijing Sun

2 Day Badge:

Amy Vanderhurk
Edward McCarthy
George Biondic
Justin Hutchins
Lindsay Fleischer
Margaret O'Dell
Patrick Luna
Poornima Muralidhar
Cheryl Mitchell
Dorothy Lamond
Glenn Graham
Mary Ellen Cole (prehike)
Sandra Green (prehike)

3 Day Badge:

Mary Ellen Cole
Adam Guppy
Angela Mullins
Anne Harauz
Asanka Meththa
Asia Shin
Carol Seal
Cathy Sears
Chris Lewis
Dan Welsh
David LeBrun
Deborah Pope
Diane Vanhie
Eileen Rowe
Elizabeth Goldsworthy
Ellen Yang

3 Day Badge Cont'd

Ewa Kundid
Gail Manning
Grace Cheng
Heather Platt
Irene Shaw
Jenny Stevenson
Juli Strader
Katherine Mullin
Karen Lee
Kelly Chevrier
Linda Dufour
Lisa Creighton
Liz Rzymkowski
Lois Goldsworthy
Marcel Grimard
Margaret Corner
Margery Cruise
Margot Sexton
Mary McGarry
Melissa Guppy
Michael Heine
Michael Hook
Nancy Stephens
Norm Pemberton
Pat Concessi
Raj Mohar
Rebecca Strader
Rhonda Couture
Rich Coons
Roland Kreisig
Sheldon Rayburn
Soojn Lee
Stephen Crocker
Stephen Deschamps
Tammy Horn
Ted Wenskus
Teri Russell-Hill
Terry Sears
Tony Buys
Trish Gaudry
Venna Venkat
Wayne Concessi
Wendy Vandenhoeck
Yong You



Thank you to all the volunteers who made the 2018 Fall Colours End to End a huge success. It couldn't happen without you!



Jean Trask at her checkpoint ready to provide welcome nourishment to hikers.

Memories of B&B Hikes in Prince Edward County April 2007

By Dave Platt

Prince Edward County is literally an island jutting out into Lake Ontario. Years ago, it was a bastion of United Empire Loyalists where you saw only the Union Jack! Now it is well known for its large number of vineyards and wineries. It is also known for the 'Sandbanks' where we hiked. Legend has it that there are cottages buried under the dunes!

We were fortunate to have a retired Ministry of Natural Resources Area Manager, who spent forty years working in the county, give us a brief talk about the area. It is a most interesting place.



After hiking on the dunes, a drink was definitely in order, but as Jack Cave often said: "Where's my beer?"



Our second day was spent walking around the town of Picton. Afterwards, some of us drove up to 'Lake on the Mountain', which is located some 170 feet above the Bay of Quinte and that's about the same height as Niagara Falls! Here are Halyna, Lesia, Joyce and Janet overlooking the Bay of Quinte and a view of the 'Glenora Ferry' down below!



It is rumoured that the waters of Lake on the Mountain are fed by an underground stream under Lake Ontario from Lake Erie. There have been studies done which show that as the water levels rise and fall in Lake Erie, so do the water levels of Lake on the Mountain rise and fall.

It was a very interesting and memorable B&B outing way back in 2007!





Be sure to get out on the Trail this winter and enjoy the beauty of newly fallen snow and a crisp, clear blue sky. Whether aiming for the side-ways badge, like the group above, or going out with a friend, there is nothing quite like the peace you will find on a brisk, winter day on the Trail.



Save the Date

Weekends in December

*Christmas Trees, Planters and Wreaths on sale at Hockleycrest Tree Farm.
See Page 8*

Sunday, December 2nd

Winter Hike and Pot Luck at Caledon Village Place. See Page 3

Sunday, April 7, 2019

Annual General Meeting, Hike and Pot Luck. Details to Follow.

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

Theatre Orangeville Fundraiser—a Comedy. Details to Follow.



Some of our Wonderful Bruce Trail Day Volunteers

Left to Right: Heather Murch, Cec Clark, Jackie Clark, Kristina Zeromskiene, Diane McKenzie and Julia De Paz



**The Bruce Trail Conservancy Mission:
Preserving a ribbon of wilderness, for everyone, forever.**

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