



VOYAGEUR

*The Newsletter of the Ottawa Voyageurs Walking Club/
Le Club de marche des Voyageurs d'Ottawa*

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The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Ottawa Voyageurs d'Ottawa Walking Club.

Our club newsletter, Voyageur, is making progress in the electronic age! The last issue was successfully emailed to the majority of our club members resulting in decreased costs to our club. A big thank you to Kathy Luten for her work in converting this document to the appropriate format, and Jim McConkey for his assistance in forwarding the electronic version. As well, we appreciate the help from H el ene Viel who gets the hard copies reproduced, and Helene and Ole Olson and other club members who distribute the hard copies. What a team! Thank you.

Helen Galley, Editor

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A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT.....

The Ottawa Voyageurs d'Ottawa turned one year old on 12 February 2003. Happy Birthday and best wishes for the future!

Club Membership

On 15 May 2003, the Club membership was constituted of 121 regular members and 95 family members, as well as one honorary member for a grand total of 217 members, i.e. the exact same number of members we had last year at our June 2002 Issue. Make recruiting your number one priority and be proud of recruiting a new member: our survival depends on it.

New Year Round Event

A new YRE is presently being developed. It is a thematic walk dedicated to the Canadian Armed Forces and will be entitled "Tribute to the Canadian Forces". The objective is to acknowledge and discover the different military monuments and sites in the National Capital Region. This walk will likely be inaugurated at the beginning of July 03.

President's Message continued

AGM/CVF Synopsis

The CVF Annual General Meeting was held in Fredericton, NB during Mother's Day weekend on 9-11 May 2003. The following summarizes what took place at the said meeting:

1. The Business/Marketing Plan initiated, some years ago, is still in the process of being completed and, subsequently, submitted for approval.
2. The National Walking Day, now called Ole Olson/Helen Viel Canada Walk, was extended to year 2004, i.e. 22 May 2004.
3. CVF Convention 2004 will be held in Vancouver, BC at the University of British Columbia (UBC) on 21-23 May 2004.
4. CVF Convention 2005 will most likely be held in Québec City. This still has to be confirmed.
5. The National Database, elaborated by Graham Fawcett, is just about complete. The Executive Assistant at the Head Office in Ottawa will operate it.
6. Club volksmarche Nord-Sud de Loretteville submitted a proposal to the effect that when an application is forwarded for a volksski activity that it would be possible to also walk, snowshoe or skate, as long as the start and finishing points of these activities take place in the same spot. After a long debate on the subject, the Assembly finally adopted the proposal.
7. The AGM closed with the election by acclamation of Mr. Arne Roosen, as President of CVF, Mr. Graham Fawcett, as Vice-President of CVF, Mrs. Linda Kanne, as Atlantic Director and Mr. Des Davidge, as Ontario Director. Congratulations to all those newly elected and wishing them well in their new functions.

In addition to the local YREs, the President Walk and the Convention Walk, on Thursday evening, 8 May 2003, the World Walking Day, a walk took place, in Hartland, NB, at the Longest Covered Bridge in the World. Finally, on Friday, 9 May 2003, a choice was offered to the delegates to either repeat the walk done the night before or to do the 25 Km Military Engineer Walk from CFB Gagetown to Fredericton.

To sum up, the Convention was a very good one. The weather was cooperative although a little cool. At least, there was no snow as in Medicine Hat, AB last year...

Final Word

I wish each and everyone of you an excellent walking season. Participation is the key word. Keep on walking!

*Benoît Pinsonneault
President, OVO*

P.S. The Publicity Coordinator position is still vacant. Any volunteer will be more than welcome.

MOT DU PRÉSIDENT

Le Ottawa Voyageurs d'Ottawa a célébré sa première année d'existence le 12 février 2003. Bonne fête et nos meilleurs vœux de succès pour l'avenir !

L'adhésion au club

Au 15 mai 2003, le club était composé de 121 membres réguliers et de 95 membres familiaux ainsi que d'un membre honoraire pour un grand total de 217 membres, soit exactement le même nombre que l'an dernier lors de la parution de notre bulletin de juin 2002. Faites du recrutement votre objectif et soyez fiers de recruter un nouveau membre, notre survie en dépend.

Nouvelle marche continue

Une nouvelle marche continue est présentement en voie d'élaboration. Il s'agit d'une marche thématique dédiée aux Forces armées canadiennes et qui sera intitulée « Hommage aux Forces canadiennes ». L'objectif est de souligner et de prendre connaissance des différents monuments et sites de la présence militaire dans la région de la capitale nationale. Cette marche sera vraisemblablement inaugurée au début du mois de juillet prochain.

Compte rendu AGA/FCV

La 17^e Assemblée générale annuelle de la FCV a eu lieu à Fredericton, au Nouveau-Brunswick, au cours de la fin de semaine de la Fête des mères, les 9-10 et 11 mai 2003. Ce qui suit se veut un résumé de ce qui s'est produit lors de ladite réunion :

1. Le plan d'affaires et de marketing de la FCV, initié, il y a déjà quelques années, est toujours bien vivant et en voie d'être complété et sera ultérieurement soumis pour approbation.
2. La journée nationale de la marche maintenant intitulée « La marche du Canada d'Ole Olson/Hélène Viel » a été extensionnée jusqu'en mai 2004, soit le 22 mai 2004.
3. Le congrès 2004 de la FCV aura lieu à Vancouver, Colombie-Britannique, à l'Université de la Colombie Britannique, les 21, 22 et 23 mai 2004.
4. Le Congrès 2005 de la FCV aura vraisemblablement lieu à Québec. Cette affirmation reste toujours à être confirmée.
5. La base nationale de données, élaborée par Graham Fawcett, est, à toutes fins pratiques, complétée. Elle sera opérée par l'assistante exécutive au bureau de la Fédération à Ottawa.
6. Il fut proposé par le Club volksmarche Nord-Sud de Loretteville que, sur une demande d'activité volksski, il soit également loisible de faire une marche, de la raquette ou du patinage, pourvu que le départ et l'arrivée de chacune de ces activités se fassent au même endroit. Après un long échange d'idées sur ce sujet, l'assemblée a finalement adopté cette proposition.
7. L'AGA s'est finalement terminée par l'élection sans opposition de M. Arne Roosen à la présidence de la FCV de M. Graham Fawcett à la vice-présidence de la FCV, de Mme Linda Kanne, directrice de l'Atlantique et de M. Des Davidge, directeur de l'Ontario. Félicitations à tous ces nouveaux élus et bon succès dans leur nouvelle fonction.

En plus des marches locales continues, de celle du président et du congrès, il y a eu, jeudi soir, le 8 mai 2003, la Journée Marche Mondiale qui s'est tenue à Hartland au Nouveau-Brunswick, site du plus long pont couvert au monde. Finalement, le vendredi, 9 mai 2003, offrait aux congressistes une répétition de la marche de la veille ou encore la marche des Ingénieurs militaires de 25 Km de la BFC Gagetown à Fredericton.

En somme, ce fut un très bon congrès et la température a été assez clémente, bien qu'un peu froide, mais toutefois sans neige comme ce fut le cas l'année dernière à Medicine Hat en Alberta.

Mot de la fin

Je souhaite à tous et chacun une bonne saison de marche. Participation est le mot clé. Continuez à marcher !

*Benoît Pinsonneault
Président, OVO*

P.S. La position de Coordinateur à la publicité est toujours vacante. Tout volontaire serait fort bienvenu.

Special Congratulations to some of our Membership

Hélène Viel for having been awarded on 10 May 2003 at the Convention in Fredericton, NB the Diane Hoskins Merit Award for 12 years of exceptional volunteer contributions to the Canadian Volkssport.

Graham Fawcett for his appointment as Vice-President of the Canadian Volkssport Federation for the next two years. We are convinced that he will do well in his new capacity as the right person at the right time for the CVF. We are proud of him!

Faye & Ian Morgan, Trevor Luten, Benoît Pinsonneault for individually receiving the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal. See the separate article on these individual events entitled "Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal for four of our Members".

Queen's Jubilee Medal for Four of our Members

Ian and Faye Morgan, as well as Trevor Luten and Benoît Pinsonneault, were honoured with the Queen's Golden Jubilee award, which was created to mark the 50th anniversary of the accession of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to the Throne on February 6, 1952.

On December 16, 2002 at the Centre Block of the House of Commons, Faye and Ian Morgan were presented with the Medal by their Member of Parliament, Mr. Mauril Bélanger, in recognition for having been long term volunteers in a number of worthy causes. Of particular note is their work in recent years on the Canada Remembers project honouring those who fought the war, which they started in 1994 and more specifically their displays for D-Day, Battle of the Atlantic and WRCNS. Both also served as Naval Reserve Officers for a number of years reaching the rank of Lieutenant-Commander.



Trevor Luten's Jubilee Medal was presented on Parliament Hill, on February 25, 2003 by his Member of Parliament, Mr. Eugène Bellemare. Trevor joined the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals in 1961 and served as a communications technician until his retirement as a master Warrant Officer in 1995. Electronics instructor, paratrooper, one isolation tour in CFS Alert, three postings with NATO Forces in Europe, and three peacekeeping missions fairly summarize his career in the Canadian Forces. Since his retirement, he has worked at NDHQ as a civilian providing communications support for our troops, both at home and abroad. He still continues to serve his country by volunteering his services to a number of Veterans organizations: CAVUNP as the Ottawa Chapter Membership Chairman since 1996, member of the Royal Canadian Legion, of the Signalers Club of Canada and of two Airborne Associations. Trevor has served his country for over 40 years and continues to do so. When retirement really comes, he plans on devoting more time to veterans' activities.



At a ceremony on April 10, 2003 in the Office of the Judge Advocate General (JAG), Lieutenant-Colonel (Retired) Benoît Pinsonneault was awarded by Major-General Jerry S.T. Pitzul, the JAG of the Canadian Forces, the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal for his significant contribution to Canada and to the military community (school boards, parents associations, credit union, teaching and on several social committees) during his 26 years as a legal officer within the Canadian Forces.

Congratulations to our four recipients for this recognition and award, which reflect on our Club and its entire membership. We are honoured by and proud of your accomplishment. Once again, BRAVO for your volunteerism and for work well done!

The Departure of a Tireless Volunteer

It is with shock and disbelief that we learned from Doug Chase himself of his decision to leave the National Capital Region for Stirling, Ontario, which is halfway between Trenton and Belleville. This announcement came on 17 April 2003 at our Monthly Executive Committee Meeting, where he told us that he had good and bad news: the good news being that we could finally get rid of him and the bad news being that we were left to find a replacement as Trail Director for OVO. What a great challenge for anyone of you members and readers to take on this responsibility! Any submission will be appreciated. Don't be shy to come forward.



Thank you very much Doug for your tireless dedication to volkssporting. Your sudden departure will certainly create a void. The important thing for you and Bernice is to be happy and filled with joy, satisfaction, peace, tranquillity and good health under other skies, surrounded by friends and with the support of your families.

Although this is only an "Au revoir", this separation is difficult to accept as we are losing good friends' daily presence, your contagious love of walking, as well as your unconditional volunteerism. One again, thank you so much to both of you for everything and wishing you the best in your new life in Stirling and its surroundings.

Benoît Pinsonneault

Tulips and More ...Did we get it right!

After the first two weekends of the Annual Tulip-Fest were a washout with cool weather, no tulip blossoms and lots of rain, the last weekend when the Ottawa Voyageurs Walking Club had their annual Saturday Volksmarch and Sunday Map Walk turned out to be just what our President wanted with lots

of sunshine, warm temperatures and the Tulips at their peak for viewing. And the walkers responded.

For the Saturday Volksmarch, a total of 168 people from the various Volkssport Clubs in the National Capital Area and from other Clubs in Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia and northern USA joined us to do the walk from the RA Centre. Thirty (30) walkers were from the areas of Ste Therese and Ste Eustache in Quebec who enjoyed a picnic along the route during the walk. All the Volksmarchers were given a scroll in honour of the Ole Olson/Helen Viel National Walking Day. For the Sunday Map Walk, a total of 90 walkers took advantage of the perfect day for walking with clear skies, mild temperatures (20C) and light winds. All-in-all, it was a perfect weekend for the start of the Ottawa Voyageurs Club Special Events for the year.

Thanks to all the members who helped to mark the trail for Saturday, check the trail signs early Saturday a.m., man the Start/Finish tables both days, filling names on all the scrolls, working at the Check-Point, and removing the trail signs at the end of the Volksmarch. A special thanks to our President for designing the routes.

Doug Chase, Trails Director

FEET'S FEATS

From the April-June, 2003, issue of Volkssport Canada, the following members of the Ottawa Voyageurs d'Ottawa have achieved the following awards: (You will notice that our former Ontario Director and club member, Graham Fawcett, must have cleaned out his drawer

Events:

1250 Events	Denis Benke	300 Events	Graham Fawcett
1050 Events	Ole Olson	275 Events	Graham Fawcett, Benoit Pinsonneault
1000 Events	Hélèl Viel, Maureen White	250 Events	Graham Fawcett, Dorothy Prieur, Donna Sullivan
950 Events	Maureen White	225 Events	Graham Fawcett
850 Events	Bernice Murphy	200 Events	Michel Gauvreau, Claudette Houle, Dale Powell, HR Tyo
650 Events	Darlene Blight	175 Events	Michel Gauvreau, Claudette Houle
500 Events	Alan Bones	150 Events	Michel Gauvreau, Claudette Houle
400 Events	Graham Fawcett	100 Events	Kim Critchley
375 Events	Graham Fawcett		
350 Events	Graham Fawcett		
325 Events	Graham Fawcett		

Distance:

50000 km	Helen Viel	4000 km	Graham Fawcett, Michel Gauvreau, Claudette Houle, Donna Sullivan
14000 km	Maureen White	3500 km	Graham Fawcett, Claudette Houle, Benoit Pinsonneault, Dorothy Prieur
11000 km	Alan Bones	3000 km	Graham Fawcett
10000 km	Darlene Blight	2000 km	HR Tyo
9000 km	Betty Galimore	1500 km	Rosalee Milford
5500 km	Graham Fawcett		
5000 km	Graham Fawcett, Michel Gauvreau		
4500 km	Graham Fawcett, Michel Gauvreau, Claudette Houle		

Well Done and congratulation to all of you. Fine achievements.

Jim McConkey

Highlight of the 6th Blossom Walks of the VICTORIA INTERNATIONAL WALKING FESTIVAL An observation

During the weekend of Friday, April 18, to Sunday, April 20, the 6th Blossom Walks took place in Victoria, British Columbia. Although the weatherman had predicted some downpours, typical for the “Wet Coast”, we were lucky to get away with just a few sprinkles now and then. One of the best days was Friday, and that might have persuaded some “good weather walkers” to come out and participate. Yet Easter had a somewhat sobering effect on the attendance. There are still lots of people that go places at Easter.

It goes without saying; the Internationals had made up their mind long ago, regardless of SARS and the Iraqi affair. Only one group pulled out because of the former. There were members of thirteen other countries that participated during the weekend.

In the Canadian group we had participants from Halifax, NS and Ottawa, ON. Of the latter group two persons deserve special mentioning. They were Ole Olson and Helen Viel of Trans Canada walking fame. In 2001 those two walked from the West coast to the East coast, starting in Tuktiaktuk and the Arctic Ocean, to the BC coast and the Pacific and on to the Atlantic in Newfoundland. No small feat by any stretch of imagination. They were the keynote speakers on a well-attended walking seminar on Friday afternoon. Helen spoke on the preparations leading to this event and all the planning necessary, including the almost insurmountable logistics. Ole described the 212-day trek, walking an average of 50km per day for a total of 10,081 km! They also displayed a map, covering Canada from West to East with their trek route marked in red. From the many questions asked after the presentation, it is reasonable to say that the trip created a lot of interest and, became the highlight of this year’s Walking Festival.

It is worthwhile also to mention, that the two Trans Canada Walkers were interviewed on local radio and TV stations. And since Saturday morning distances of 5km, 10km, 21km, 42km and 52km were offered, guess which distance our two guests did!

Lot of compliments were received for the good marking of the trails and the control point supplies. Some suggestions for improvement were also offered and will be considered for the future. The entertainment and the banquet on Friday night also received high praise.

Bearing in mind that some 2,500 participants finished their chosen distances during the weekend and that several high walking awards were presented during the closing ceremony, indicates that it was another successful event of the Victoria International Walking Festival.

W.H. (Wolf) Schlegel, Past Vice Chair, VIWF

Bike Event

We know that you are all great walkers. I am betting that a few of you also have bike in your garage or basement that may not get a lot of use. I bet a few of you may have a bike distance book that isn't getting much use either.

We'll bring that bike out of mothballs and get to the RA Centre on July 27 and join in the Voyageurs first bike event. We will have a 25km and a 40km course. And those of you without a bike book can enter you distance in your walking book (but only once a year).

For those of you who do not have a bike, or who think their legs, or whatever, aren't up to the minimum 25 km come out and do the YRE at the RA Centre. So let's all meet at the RA Centre (east end parking lot) at 9 am on July 27th, rain or shine.

Donna Sullivan



FIRST ANNUAL "VOYAGE"

Mark your calendar for August 30 and 31. Pack your bag and join us for our first annual VOYAGE.

As was voted at our AGM in February we are planning a partially subsidized trip for our club members. Our first trip will take us to Montreal and the Eastern Townships. We are planning walks in Montreal (Ile des Soeurs) and Thetford Mines, where we will overnight. In the morning we will be off to Mansonville before returning to Montreal for another walk. Our last stop will be for supper at a pub in the Montreal area. So get your walking shoes on and become a true VOYAGEUR. Then grab your cheque book.

- T If you think you'll need the peace and quiet of solo accommodations the price will be \$137.
- T Want to spend the week-end with your favorite walking partner, \$95 per person.
- T If 3 people share the room it is \$77. If 4 share it is \$68 per person. This includes accommodations and transportation. Please try to find your own room mates, we may be able to help, but it is better to make your own arrangements.
- T We'll provide you with breakfast munchies the first morning, you provide your own brew. (Breakfast the second morning is at the hotel -- \$). The other 4 meals will be up to you. So let's hear from you. We expect the spaces on the bus to be claimed fast. So go find the registration form and return it right away.

If you need further information contact Helene Viel at 824-1583 or Donna Sullivan at 224-6880.



Registration form for The Voyageur OVO BUS TRIP

Sat. Aug. 30 and Sun. Aug. 31.

4 walks--Montreal (2), Thetford Mines and Mansonville

1 person \$137 2 people \$95 each 3 people \$77 each 4 people \$68 each

Please register me / us for the trip:

- 1) _____ 2) _____
3) _____ 4) _____

Enclosed is my cheque for \$ _____

Please make cheques payable to the **Ottawa Voyageurs d'Ottawa Walking Club**
Mail your registration and payment, by July 15th to:

Donna Sullivan
14 Côte des Neiges Rd.
Nepean, ON K2G 2C2