



WASKAHEGAN WANDERINGS

VOLUME 44 ISSUE 1
SPRING 2013

Waskahegan Trail Association, P.O. Box 131, Edmonton AB T5J 2G9

www.waskahegantrail.ca

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & SOCIAL

April 12 2013

AVONMORE UNITED CHURCH

7909—82 AVENUE

7:00 PM

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You are invited to come and attend our spring general meeting and social.

A place to visit, welcome new members and elect a new board.

After the business and elections portion of the meeting there will be a presentation

"Walking Holidays in Europe"

Lee Stickles

Coffee will be provided.

Goodies would be appreciated.

THE WTA EXECUTIVE

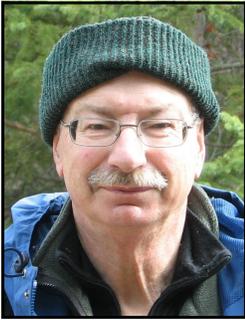
PRESIDENT: ROB FAULDS
SECRETARY: RENIE GROSS
TREASURER: JOANNE BUREK
MEMBERSHIP/DONATIONS: MARILYN BOURASSA

780-478-5622
780-420-6367
780-487-0645
780-463-1207

ARCHIVES:
TRAILS/MAINTENANCE:
PERMISSIONS:
NEWSLETTER:

GARY STEINBRING
MARILYN BOURASSA 780-463-1207
GEOFF FLECK 780-855-2126
MARILYN TICHKOWSKY 780-937-5121

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Rob Faulds

Spring is approaching and we shall soon be looking for the first opportunity to hike out on our trail. There are indeed many scenic and special places to visit, through the generous permission of our many landowners who share our love of the outdoors. We are indeed grateful to them.

As the Annual General Meeting is fast approaching on 12 April at Avonmore United Church at 7pm, with the business of the Association and a guest speaker to round out the evening.

Most important is for each us in the general membership to take an active part in the affairs of the Association through participation on the Board, as this is how we are governed according to the laws of Alberta. As a member of the board you have the opportunity to guide the activities of the Association and to learn valuable skills, which can be transferred to other groups of your interest. Any current member may be approached and will welcome your questions. An organization thrives with a regular exchange of members at the board. A regular turnover on the board is governed through our BY-Laws and the Societies Act of the Province of Alberta, I look forward to your interest in becoming a board Member

I look forward to your attendance at the AGM on 12 April 2013

A YEAR OF HIKING—2012

Have you hiked a few or all of our scheduled hikes? Did you enjoy where you hiked? Would you like a memento? Would you like to tell the world (or just your friends) all about “The Waskahegans”?



The DVD for 2012

\$5—A year of Hiking 2012 and Trail Maintenance 2012 is now available, with payment, from our Membership person.

Please contact Joanne Burek at 780-487-0645 or email Membership@Waskahegantrail.ca or mail a cheque payable to WTA to P.O. Box 131, Edmonton AB T5J 2G9 with confirmation of your mailing address.

MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNT

Waskahegan members are eligible to receive 10% off any regular priced merchandise bought at Camper’s Village on 170 Street or at 32nd Avenue and Calgary Trail and also at Track ‘n Trail, 10148—82 Avenue. To obtain the discount you must show your membership card.



TRAIL MAINTENANCE—APRIL 2012

With hopes for an early and dry spring, it's once again time to make plans to join a work party out maintaining a section of the trail.

This will be a busy year, as usual. The past two years were wetter than we have experienced in almost a decade, and the result was abundant undergrowth, grasses and tree growth. As usual, we can expect there will be plenty of dead-fall to clear away, and as always, the downed trees left by beaver activity.

So again, this year we are asking members to step forward and help clear out and mark the trail. A number of volunteers have answered my call and donated many days on maintenance over the past season, especially those who could handle a chainsaw. Many more were able to come out one or two days and help support the team leaders with clipping and brush clearing. Your efforts and time were so valuable in making last year a successful maintenance season.

This coming summer, there will once again need to be work parties out to cut back deadfall and clip and sign sections to be hiked. In addition, there will need to be work on a submerged bridge up in the Ross Creek section, and stiles for new fences which went up over the past year.

Tools and equipment are provided, as well as safety gear and safety protocols. If you feel you would like to look into handling a chainsaw or weed eater, a crew leader would be happy to answer questions, provide hands-on training, or a refresher session.

Please consider the donation of a day this season. Either a weekday or a Saturday, the crews leave the city around 9:00am, have lunch on the trail, and are finished and back to the city by mid-afternoon. A coffee and conversation rounds off the day. A worthwhile experience and a meaningful way to contribute to this trail we all enjoy so much.

If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer, please contact:

Marilyn Bourassa at Marilyn.Bourassa@Telus.net or 780-463-1207



EDMONTON RIVER VALLEY CLEAN UP— SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2013

The annual River Valley Clean-up is expected to be on May 4. Bev Stokowski is coordinating the event for the club.

Please give Bev a call at 780-469-7948 if you would like to be involved.





WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

The WTA welcomes the following new members:

Nirmal Takhar
Wendy Emond
Erin Akins/Michael Osborne
Lynda Ross

Emily Bruce
Marlene Bykowski
Barbara Ulbricht
Joe Boyle

BIRKEBEINER FEBRUARY 9, 2013



2013 was the Silver Anniversary of the Canadain Birkie Cross Country Ski Race

Bev Stokowski, with the help of an enthusiastic crew of Waskahegan volunteers set up the Last Chance Food Station. Our crew was ready at 10:40 am to accept the first 31 km skiers.



To celebrate the Silver Anniversary the volunteers made streamers of red & white balloons and four poster boards with Canadian Flags, acknowledging the Canadian Birkie's 25th year.

A total of 976 competitors, 610 for the 31 km and 366 for the 13km.

Our volunteers received many compliments from the competitors about the food trays and the hot Gatorade and water, as they skied through Last Chance Food Station.



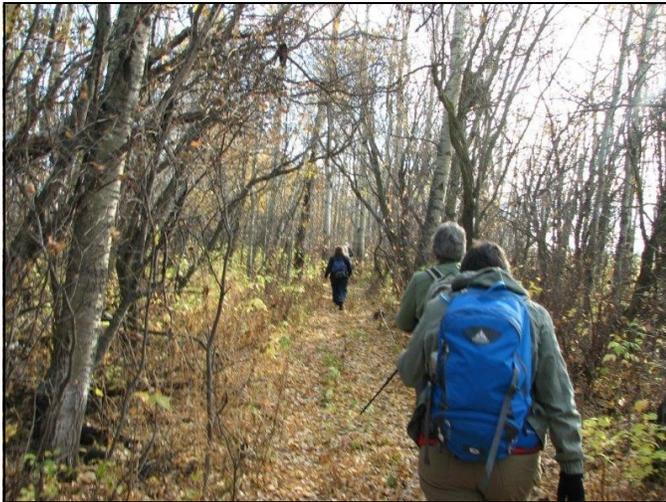
Many thanks to the cheerful Waskahegan volunteers, who donated their time and energy, David & Darlene Barnard, Darlene Crane, Johanna Fischer, Mel Jessco, Edda Loomes, David Mutch, Karen Soch, Helen Whitson, Christine Yakoweshyn and Oscar Zawalsky.



Special thanks to reliable food manager, Rob Faulds.



2012 in Pictures



WHY IT'S HEALTHY TO BE A TRAIL MAINTENANCE VOLUNTEER

by Don Cangiano, Treadway Editor, The Bruce Trail Conservancy



You arrive at the section of trail where the work is to be performed; the walk in is about a 3-kilometre hike. Walking is good exercise, especially when you're carrying a 20-pound pry bar, a chainsaw or a pail of nails. Add to that a 15-pound backpack and 5 pounds of work boots and you have yourself a decent work out - as good as you'll get in any gym. Pounding nails for about 3 hours or digging a drainage ditch doesn't do you any harm either.

You eat healthier. Lunch on the trail is usually a chicken sandwich on whole wheat bread, water or tea, a banana and a handful of raisins. There's no temptation to dig into the cookie jar or fry up a batch of bacon and eggs. Even the rendezvous at Tim Hortons after the work party is good for you - there's nothing wrong with a diet Pepsi and a bran muffin.

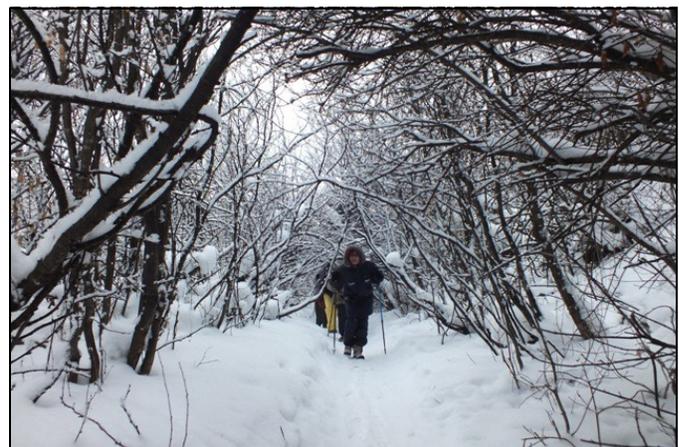
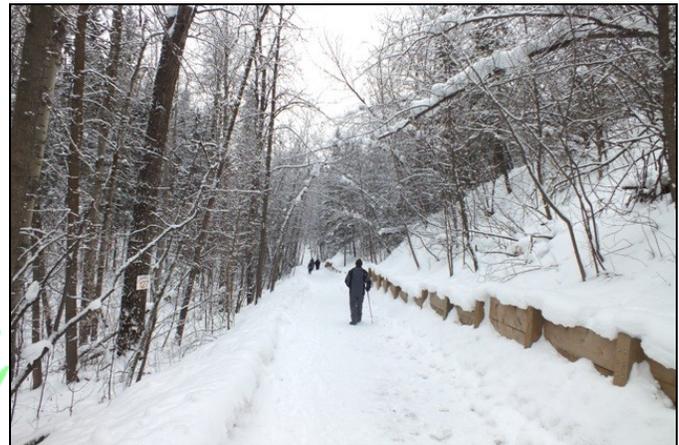
And then there's one of the greatest experiences of all, the contact you have with people who share the same values that you do. You talk about things; and because your co-workers have become a second family to you, you tell it the way it is without feeling you may be offending someone. They understand. At the end of the day you look back on what you've accomplished and there's a feeling of accomplishment knowing that what you've done will bring someone happiness and joy for years to come.

Reprinted from TREADWAY

<http://brucetrail.org/pages/volunteer/volunteers-in-action>

When trail-maintenance day rolls around, hypertension seems to disappear; suddenly there's no one phoning to ask if you want your air ducts cleaned, have your windows replaced or send you on a cruise for next to nothing. And you haven't had the time, before you leave for your work party, to look at the morning newspaper only to discover that some politician or corporate executive has taken an all-expense paid trip to Naples for some conference at your expense.

You arrive at the section of



HOW TO ENTER A WRITE UP FOR A HIKE

If you want to enter a write up for a hike, here are the steps:

1. Log on to WTA web site with your ID and password. If you forget, please click on the "Help" and it will send your ID and Password to your email.

If you forget, please click on the "Help" and it will send your ID and Password to your email.

2. Under "Volunteers' Area", please click on

"- Edit Past".

3. Click on the blue text "Archive" on a hike.

Waskahegan Trail Association - Officer Area - Manage Events

Show My Events
Event Search

★ Add New WTA Event

ID	Date	Type	Title (click to view Details)	Edit	Delete	Dates	Promo	Archive
202	9/2/2012	Hike	Ross Creek A109-A111	Edit	Del	Dates	Promo	Archive
203	9/9/2012	Hike	Bigstone Ft.Ethier A48 to D	Edit	Del	Dates	Promo	Archive
204	9/16/2012	Hike	Chickakoo Prov. Rec. Area	Edit	Del	Dates	Promo	Archive

4. Enter your write up in the text box and click "Submit" button.

Waskahegan Trail Association - Officer Area - Event Archive

Here you can change or add archive details for the event listed below.

Event: Goldbar
Date(s): Sun, Feb 10 2013

Write Up:

 (HTML Permitted)

Photo Album URL:

Send Notification?: (send an automatic notification to attendees about the update?)

5. Go back to Home page and click on the "Recent photos":



6. Notice the small bubble beside the hike. Click on it and you will see the write up you just entered.

Waskahegan Trail Association - Past Events

Family: Yes No Days: Weekend Weekday

Activity Type: Difficulty:

- Sun, Feb 10 2013 - Hike - Goldbar
- Sun, Jan 27 2013 - Hike - Whitemud Nat. Reserve to Snow Valley
- Sun, Jan 13 2013 - Hike - Hawrelak Shelter 2 to Museum Loop

If you need assistance, please contact Webmaster, Bonnie G. at (780) 482-3120. Happy Trail.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM 2013

All Waskahegan Trail Association memberships expire at the end of February each year. If you haven't renewed your membership and wish to do so, please complete the form printed below and send your membership application form with a Twenty dollar registration fee.



WASKAHEGAN TRAIL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

www.waskahegantrail.ca

P.O. Box 131, Edmonton, AB, T5J

Please complete this form and Member Waiver(s) and mail to
Waskahegan Trail Association, P.O. Box 131, Edmonton, AB, T5J 2G9

First and Last Name _____

Name of Family or Group _____

Address, City, Province,
 and Postal Code _____

Phone (area code) _____

E-mail _____

Adults/Family/Group Membership Fee _____ \$20.00/ year Membership runs March 1st to February 28th. Members joining after September 1st receive the balance of the year free with a full paid membership

Guide Book (Members Only) _____ \$10.00

Guide Book and/or DVD Shipping _____ \$5.00 (if mailed out)

Crest _____ \$3.00

Decal _____ \$2.00

Pin _____ \$3.00

DVD "A Year in Hiking & Trail Maintenance" _____ \$5.00

Donation _____ Tax receipt issued for donations of \$10 and more

TOTAL _____ Total in Canadian Dollars

We encourage and appreciate your active support and participation in our association.

Hike Leader*

Board of Directors

Trail Maintenance*

Social Events

Not Sure, please contact me

Web/Newsletter/Publicity

How did you hear about our association?

Poster _____
Where?

Web _____
Web Site?

Newspapers _____
Which one?

Other _____
Please provide details

Word of Mouth _____

- _____ I have completed a Member Waiver available from [www.waskahegantrail.ca/ member/](http://www.waskahegantrail.ca/member/)
- _____ We have completed 1 Member Waiver for each adult member of our family who will be attending events.
- _____ We have completed 1 Child Waiver for each non-adult member of our family who will be attending events.
- _____ If an organization, I understand that each member of our organization will complete a guest waiver for each WTA event our organization members attend.
- _____ I wish to support the association but do not plan to attend WTA events, therefore I (we) have not completed a waiver. I understand that if I do attend an event, I will need to sign a waiver at that time.

2013 HIKES & ACTIVITIES

Waskahegan Trail Association trips meet at the various locations as listed below and then we car pool from there. Passengers contribute \$5.00 to the driver for gas. Pets are not allowed on the hikes as there are wild and domestic animal encounters along the trail. The 6th & 7th edition trail guide page number are listed after the hike description.

Hikes with a “*” are new for 2012/2013. “***” facility charges a fee; “****” skiers may wish to donate to facility. Beyond hikes and other events may require pre-registration. Hike details are subject to change. Please consult our website for the most current and up to date information (www.waskahegantrail.ca).

MEETING PLACES

McDonalds Argyll	Argyll & 81 Street
Superstore Calgary Trail	5019 Calgary Trail NW corner

*2013 Hikes & Activities**

**Please note changes in time, meeting place, and destination have been made since the last*

<i>Date 2013</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Meeting Place</i>	<i>Destination</i>	<i>Bk Page</i>	<i>Leader</i>	<i>Phone (780-)</i>
7-Apr	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Stony Plain and Creek		Joanne B.	780-487-0645
14-Apr	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Millcreek to Kinsmen		Bev S.	780-469-7948
21-Apr	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Saunders Lake South	24	Stella C.	780-488-9515
28-Apr	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Coal Lake South A46 to Dam	36	David M.	780-434-2675
5-May	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Battle River East Duhamel to RB Hill	52	Elizabeth B.	780-672-2873
12-May	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Hastings Lake A97 to A95+ (Allen Nature Trail)	78	Yvette S.	780-756-3623
19-May	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Pipestone: Highway 814 to Coal Lake	42		
26-May	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Blackfoot Wask. Staging Area to Elk Island	84	Helen W.	780-468-4331
2-Jun	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Ministik A87 to Horseshoe Lake	72	David M.	780-434-2675
9-Jun	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Saunders Lake North	24	Stella C.	780-488-9515
16-Jun	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Mix-Cloverlawn A36 to Stan's Bench	28	Stella C.	780-488-9515
23-Jun	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Coal Lake Middle: A43 to Pt. Cooperation	34	David M.	780-434-2675
30-Jun	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Gwynne Section and Chickadee Trail	46	Oscar Z.	780-435-1197
7-Jul	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Ord Lake to Kopp Lake	26	Stella C.	780-488-9515
14-Jul	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Stoney Creek	56	Elizabeth B.	780-672-2873
21-Jul	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Battle River Middle A60 to Trautman Crossing	50	Elizabeth B.	780-672-2873
28-Jul	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Blackfoot A98 to Lost Lake Shelter	84	Bev S.	780-469-7948

<i>Date 2013</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Meeting Place</i>	<i>Destination</i>	<i>Bk Page</i>	<i>Leader</i>	<i>Phone (780-)</i>
4-Aug	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Battle River A60 West	48	Joanne B.	780-487-0645
11-Aug	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Ross Creek A111-A112 and A116 - A115	104/ 106		
18-Aug	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Hastings East A91 to Motet Hill	78	Joanne B.	780-487-0645
25-Aug	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Coal Lake South A45 to Water Plant	36	Bev S.	780-469-7948
1-Sep	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Battle River East Duhamel to RB Hill	52	Joanne B.	780-487-0645
8-Sep	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Trappers Lake to Oster Lake	100	David M.	780-434-2675
15-Sep	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Fort Ethier Bigstone Creek	40	Joanne B.	780-487-0645
22-Sep	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Berg: A88 to Triple B Ponds	76		
29-Sep	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Pipestone: Highway 814 to Coal Lake	42	David M.	780-434-2675
6-Oct	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Saunders Lake North	24	Stella C.	780-488-9515
13-Oct	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Kopp Lake North	26	Yvette S.	780-756-3623
20-Oct	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Lois Hole Provincial Park	124	Dennis M.	780-973-3164
27-Oct	9 am	51 Ave Superstore	Blackfoot Lake Staging Area	88	Helen W.	780-468-4331

ATTENTION HIKE LEADERS— 2013



At the Annual General Meeting April 12th there will be a supply of hike signup sheets, waivers, brochures and membership applications for hike leaders to take for their upcoming hikes