

CHAPTER SIX THE HIKING PROGRAM AND SOME HIKERS' RECOLLECTIONS

The Inaugural Meeting on Saturday May 23rd. 1992 was followed by a Hike on the Albion Hills Trails. *Developing and maintaining a trail system across the Oak Ridges Moraine was the founders' first objective; to engage in a variety of excursions, walks and hikes was a close second. For many it remains their primary participation in the life of the association.* Walking together is always an opportunity to talk. Perhaps more issues have been resolved through informal discussions en route than during formal business meetings.

CORT Hikes and the Hiking Community

Announcements and reports of hikes have always been key items in our Newsletters. From Newsletter No. 1, September 1992:

In keeping with the tradition established by the original Steering Committee, CORT Board members try to arrange a short hike on the Moraine associated with their meetings. A hike is planned from 10 - 12 a.m. on October 18 in the Aurora area. If you wish to participate in this or similar hikes, please contact a Board member for details.

All members and non-members of CORT are invited to participate in a hike on the Oak Ridges Moraine on Sunday, October 4. The hike will begin at 10:00 a.m. and will last approximately 3 hours. We will be hiking in the area south of Uxbridge on the site of CORT's first proposed trail section. The area is a good example of the unique moraine environment and should be of interest to all. Interested hikers should meet in a parking area on the east side of the 7th concession, south of Durham Regional Road 21 (please see map). Please bring a lunch, water and appropriate dress for expected weather conditions. For more information please contact Steven Greenland after 6 p.m.

CORT endorsed a 12 km walkathon through the Moraine out of Pottageville in King Township at a community "Canada 125" celebration on June 14. About 40 hikers and bikers participated. Those that paid \$8.00, received a commemorative medallion for their efforts. This could become an annual event for CORT supporters.

Hike Ontario had been one of the organizations encouraging the formation of an Oak Ridges Moraine Trail and thus from the beginning CORT participated in its programs. Some Group Hikes listed in the Newsletters were arranged in partnership with the Bruce Trail Association and the Ganaraska Trail Club, making use of their developed trails.

ORTA's Program – Hiking and More

The meeting in the Log Cabin at which CORT became ORTA on Sunday January 9th 1994 was preceded by a ski through the trails of Seneca College led by Adam Zakrzewski by 6 skiers and 1 hiker. A bias suggested by Adam's family name?

In these early years most hikes were on weekends. Plans were submitted by chapter personnel to the Secretary for listing in the Newsletter. At the AGM on May 29th 1994 it was reported: "Our hiking program will continue with the objective of holding one hike a week in the coming year." President Fiona Cowles' report to the AGM on May 11th 1996 shows how the program expanded beyond just hikes on the moraine.

HIKING EVENTS We have had a full program of hiking events, co-ordinated by Stephen Kamnitzer, and advertised to the ORTA membership through our quarterly newsletter, Trail Talk. Around 80 events have been arranged since May last year. Some of the hikes have been on the Oak Ridges Trail to introduce the membership to both the established sections and possible new sections. But there have also been a variety of activities offered in other parts of the Oak Ridges Moraine and on the Ganaraska and Bruce Trails and on the Waterfront Trail. Through the winter there have been cross-country skiing and snow-shoeing outings, and the Spring events include canoeing, cycling on the Caledon rail-trail, and even a plane trip to see the Moraine from the air - an event for which there is now a waiting list. Our invaluable Peter Attfield is responsible for much of this variety and we are most grateful to him for his creative initiatives. We hope that these activities will help to illustrate the potential for trail links throughout the Greater Toronto area and aid in the understanding of the idea of an inter-regional trail system.

Scattered throughout this chapter, indeed throughout this history, are a variety of photos which reflect the joy of hiking on the Oak Ridges Moraine and other trails every season of the year.



Hike Program Co-ordinators

Stephen Kamnitzer joined the Board as Hike Co-ordinator 1994 - 1997.¹

Peter Attfield succeeded him as Hike Co-ordinator 1997 – 1999. There were now 34 hike leaders. Peter reported there was an average of 15 participants in group hikes. We remember his Summer Solstice Pot Luck suppers overlooking Lake Wilcox followed by a hike around the Lake St. George.

Jill Doble took over this increasingly busy role. In 2000 she reported "over 2,500 hikers have enjoyed ORTA hikes this past year. . . . Leaders have been very enterprising in organizing hikes on such themes as moonlight hikes, sunrise hikes, wildflower strolls, mushroom hikes as well as family outings and a few treasure hunt hikes."

Gail Morris was Hike Co-ordinator for four years, 2004 – 2008 during which time participation in our hike program continued to increase. At the AGM in 2005 she reported that the number of active hike leaders had fallen to about 20. But six people had registered for the Hike Leader Certification Course in May and there would probably be another course in September.

Malcolm Hann saw a description in a local paper of an ORTA hike in 2006 and came out to join us – becoming Hike Co-ordinator in 2008. Under Malcolm's leadership there are two informative Hike Leaders' meetings annually and a series of First Aid classes. Later we will review the developments in submitting and reporting hikes which are facilitated with our new website.

Group Hike Program Developments Since 2000

Harold Sellers' Wednesday hikes commenced in January 2000 continued every week through to his "retirement" to B.C. in 2009. Each included a stop for lunch and his special jokes; followed by a visit to a local establishment in an ongoing investigation into who made the best fries along the trail.

A little sketch by Pauline Dixie



¹ Stephen Kamnitzer continued to serve the hiking community as Treasurer of Hike Ontario for many years -

For Spring 2000 Harold organized 13 hikes as the first **End-to End** series. Varying between 9 and 14 km long each required a car shuttle. In September Jill Doble led the second "official" series of End to End hikes – see Appendix 6.1.

At Harold's farewell Marilyn Mussel recounted how Harold led her (astray?) to enjoy a glass of beer!

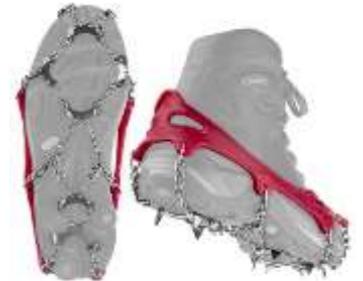
Jill Doble led a hike before each AGM – a member reported: "we made it to the meeting on time as she was a fast hiker!" In her final report in 2004 she noted that participation in weekday hikes was now greater than at weekends.

In 2004 Stan Butcher tested the option of Transit Connected hikes which would allow for one-way hikes without involving car shuttles. A group met in Aurora at the gazebo near the United Church and hiked to Garriock Hall on Seneca's King Campus, returning to Aurora by YRT Bus #32. On another occasion hikers came to Garriock Hall by YRT Bus #88 from Finch via Bathurst Street, hiked to Aurora and returned south by VIVA Blue. Participation was low – but this may become more practicable as the transit services beyond Toronto city limits are increased.

Prior to 2007 some winter hikes had to be cancelled due to frozen trail surfaces. The introduction of Icers which had been designed for the Fire Services was a blessing. Various brands of Grippers are now available.

Kahtoola Microspikes with red polymer-elastic

bands are easy to slip onto boots and in our experience are the most reliable design.



Calls for a greater variety of hikes led to the weekly Monday Trekkers Slow Hikes, regular Fast Hikes on Fridays, pre-breakfast hikes on Saturdays, and, some Sunday afternoon family strolls. In recent years, as ORTA's stalwarts' aged, participation has dropped somewhat in the Wednesday Hikes but increased in the shorter, slower, Monday Treks

One hour long hikes on Saturdays at 7.00 a.m., usually led by Joan Taylor or Russ Burton on trails south of Uxbridge, have become a weekly prelude to breakfast for a group of "morning people."

Group Hikes on the Oak Ridges Moraine Trail

Year over year about 75% of ORTA's Group Hikes listed in *Trail Talk* are on the main ORMT and side trails. We have literally thousands of group photographs taken during these hikes – often from behind the group! The statistics which follow later in this chapter show that attendance is year-round and, notably, winter hikes are often better attended than those on hot summer days!



Even allowing for the Uxbridge numbers which are boosted by the Saturday morning pre-breakfast short hikes, a large proportion are in Uxbridge and Whitchurch-Stouffville. There are good reasons for this. One need go no further than looking through *The Guidebook*: there's a proliferation of side trails around the Conservation Areas and Regional Forests which offer a variety of loop hikes with few road crossings. Secondly, the majority of our Members live in the Young Street corridor and adjacent communities; getting to meeting points, many of which have large parking lots, is easy for them.

Late April and early May beautiful but short-lived spring wildflowers can be found in the forests before the trees burst into leaf. In Aurora's Sheppard's Bush and adjacent woodlots about 20 species have been identified annually.



Left: *Trillium* in Jefferson Forest
Below: *Trout Lilly* in Sheppard's Bush.



Hikes from the Secord Parking lot adjoining the unique Pet Cemetery consistently draw the highest attendance. . About every fourth year native orchids may be seen along The Orchid Side Trail. In summer Puff Balls are often found in one field.



Hikers along the main trail through Happy Valley, King Township, get a good workout. One spring hundreds of Red Eft hatchlings were across the trail up this hill.



Further west the Palgrave Forest and Wildlife Area provides a variety of loop hikes. The route to the new Western Terminus at Glen Haffy is ideal quiet hiking territory.



Going east from Purple Woods Conservation Area there are wonderful views south to Lake Ontario, and at Bewdley and Gore's Landing across Rice Lake. And opportunities to learn some local history.

The trail through Northumberland County Forest is used less frequently. It's somewhat challenging and Poison Ivy loves the sandy soil.



Group Hikes are also social occasions – much chatter on a hike in Walker Woods.

Charlie Atkinson addresses the Haggis on Burns' Day.

Some groups have lunch together most weeks.



Group Hikes on Other Local Trails

About 25% of the ORTA Group Hikes are on other trails. In the early years, as mentioned elsewhere, these include the Bruce and Ganaraska Trails - often jointly with their associations' members.

Communities across the moraine have made significant additions to their local trails. The Nokiidaa Trail, a project of the towns of East Gwillimbury, Newmarket and Aurora, engaged ORTA volunteers in its development, blazing and maintenance. It is frequently used for our hikes in the Yonge Street Corridor.



Nokiidaa Trail going north from Green Lane Park beside Richvale Greenway, Richmond Hill

Hikes on Urban trails in Aurora, Richmond Hill and Markham offer glimpses of the communities from different aspects.

"Wow, I didn't know this trail went behind our house!" The Hike Leader replied: "Next time we'll call in for coffee!!"

South of the moraine hikes on the Seaton Trail and in Rouge Park are popular. A summer hike on the Waterfront Trail east of Toronto has been an annual event.

North of the moraine the Monday Trekkers enjoy Uxbridge Countryside Preserve.



Home of the first Trans Canada Trail Pavilion (in Caledon East) the 36 km Caledon Trailway follows the path of an abandoned rail line from Terra Cotta to Palgrave - where the ORMT joins it for 3 km - and continues north to Tottenham. With some spectacular embankments, the gravelled and well cared for trail is well used by families on bikes; ORTA groups prefer to hike it on weekdays.



Watching a turtle lay her eggs in an embankment along the Caledon Trailway



Beyond . . .

David Francis and Malcolm Hann have led day hike trips to Beausoleil Island in the Georgian Bay Islands National Park.

Canada Parks provides the boat service to the island from Honey Harbour.



And Overseas . . .

A good number of ORTA people have participated in hiking trips and adventures around the globe. ORTA Member Heinz Nitschke leads hiking trips for one agency which are regularly advertised in *Trail Talk*. These have included the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu and the Galapagos Islands.

ORTA Around the World is a popular back page feature of *Trail Talk*. Members' presentations describing their hikes in remote places are greatly enjoyed at Discovery Nights.

Other Hikers on the Trail

It is known there are many purchasers of The Guidebook do not participate in group hikes. Local residents, particularly in urban areas, use the trail on a day-to-day basis. . Some groups such as the local University Women's Hiking Group and the East York Outing Club contribute to trail facilities or by donations to ORTA. Other people see the signs and use the trail without acknowledging the need to support our volunteer based activities and "Meet-up" groups have become increasing popular. ²

Hikes for Students and Visitors

We have led hikes on the moraine for school groups to complement their environmental studies; sadly we noted some students – typically grades 7 or 8 – were out of their comfort zone when in the forest and wanted to be sure they'd get back in time to go "mallng." More recently our volunteer Hike Leaders have co-operated with York Region Forestry who have staff specializing in environmental presentations for school parties and at their open days at their Hollidge Centre.

On a rather hot morning, August 26th 2005, we led the Cleveland Hiking Club around the trails of Seneca College, King Campus. This was part of their week long summer coach trip; in the afternoon they were going to the Waterfront Trail in downtown Toronto. We learned something of the operations of a Hiking Club which does not have responsibility for any trail system.

On June 7th 2006 we similarly entertained a group from Rochester, NY. *Opposite: A return visit was organised by Gail Morris in October to hike in the Finger Lakes Region.*



² SGB: What might be revealed by enumeration of trail usage by the general public? Might this lead to more financial support from local municipalities?

Hike Leaders and Hike Ontario Certification

Hike Ontario's Hike Leader Certification program was operated for many years by David Francis who became a significant mentor to ORTA. Tim Lawley was the first of our number to "sample" the course in September 1995. Two years later ORTA required all aspiring Hike Leaders to take this course. A pre-requisite was Standard First Aid. Ray Matsalla, Harold Sellers and, more recently, Brian Millage received training so that ORTA can offer this program in-house and to other interested parties. See the list of current Hike Leaders in 2017, Appendix 6.1



The hiking program would not be possible without our dedicated Hike Leaders. There is no requirement for people to register ahead of time, so the Hike Leader is obliged to be at the meeting point in anticipation someone may turn up.

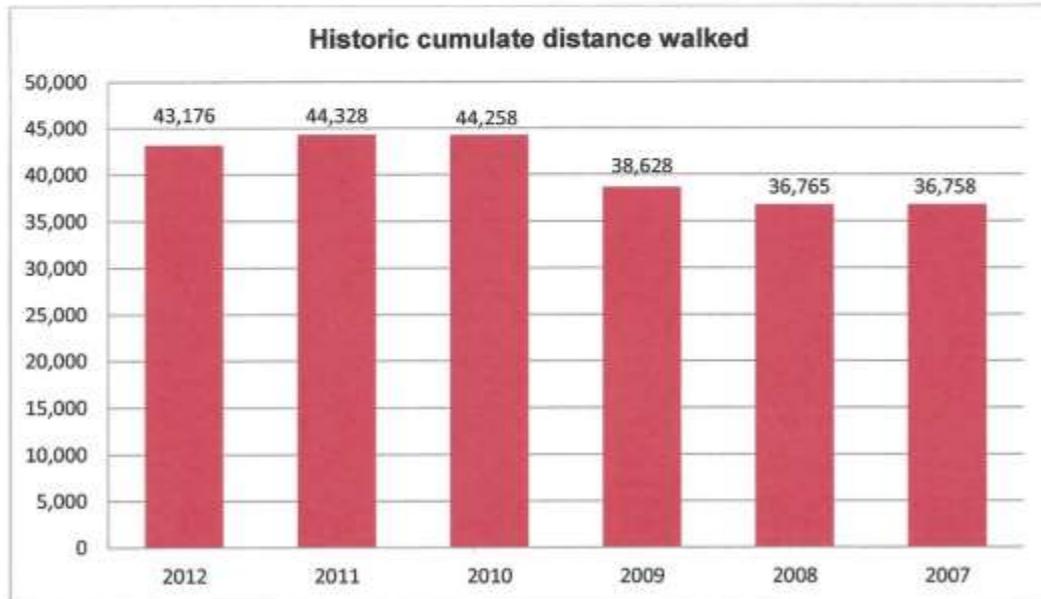
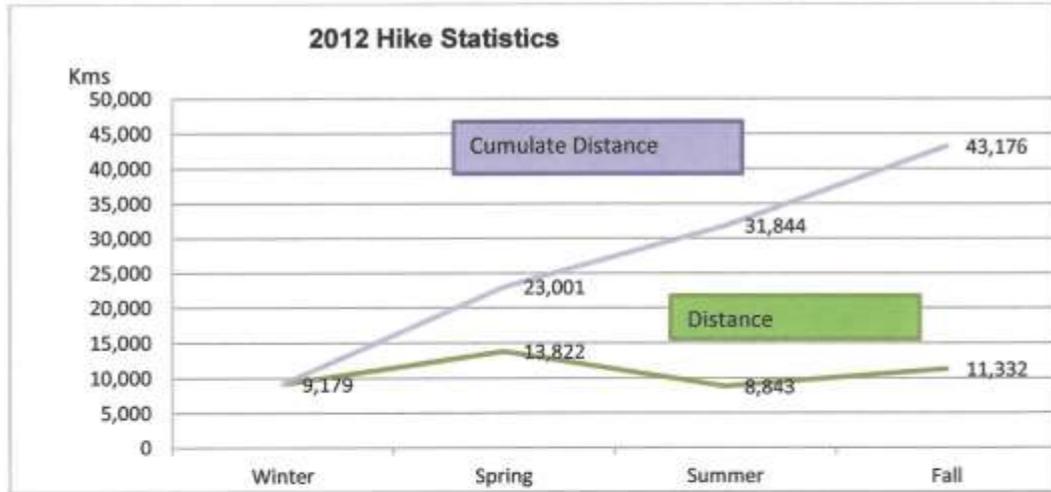
"Over a period of ten years I had three occasions when no-one came thanks to fog or heavy rain. Twice before we equipped with Icers, I had to advise we would not hike due to trail conditions. And three times when only one person turned up – on one such occasion Bill Roberts and I agreed we didn't really want to hike into a very strong northerly wind and we retreated to Tim's! Sadly also I once had to turn away a newcomer who had come with only light footwear totally unsuitable for the route to be followed." Stan Butcher

Hike Program Assembly Template

In 2010 the Hike Leaders were introduced to a MS Excel Spreadsheet based template to submit their hike plans. This speeds submissions, minimizes errors and ensures a standard format. The quarter's program is thus electronically assembled and transferred to Trail Talk. This led indirectly to a format change which enhanced readability.

The computer based template has been further developed in conjunction with the website so that Hike Leaders now enter hikes directly and can themselves add, edit and update hike plans at any time and this is immediately available to anyone who logs on. More recently a form has been added so Hike Leaders enter their hike reports and the data is accumulated.

Some Hike Program Statistics



Malcolm Hann and his predecessors like statistics. So, there's data like this reported at most Annual Meetings.



Hikes are enjoyed every season of the year

In 2009 40% of the cumulative distance hiked was in Uxbridge Township

Really!

Well it is the Trails Capital of Canada!

Hikes in Uxbridge and Whitchurch-Stouffville include the short Saturday morning pre-breakfast hikes

2009	Data		
Township	Count of Hike #	Sum of # HIKERS	Sum of Extrapolated Km
Ajax	3	67	1,011
Aurora	10	93	618
Clarington	11	159	1,904
Dundas	2	26	455
George Town	1	28	364
Hamilton	3	15	191
King	45	671	5,913
Markham	2	26	269
Milton	2	32	320
Newmarket	5	79	752
Oshawa	4	58	513
Pickering	2	40	656
Richmond Hill	4	46	211
Scarborough	2	43	689
Toronto	1	28	336
Uxbridge	107	1,402	11,834
Vaughan	1	27	270
Wasaga	1	26	377
Whitby	1	14	210
Whitchurch-Stouffville	51	774	6,680
Yonge Street Corridor	15	135	959
Grand Total	273	3,789	34,530

Some Hikers' Recollections

SGB: In January 2017 I invited folk at Discovery Night and through Wild Apricot to participate in a short survey:

My first ORTA Hike was (date) led by from . . . to

My favourite hike on the Oak Ridges Moraine Trail is from . . . Map . . .

Some statistical questions . . . which day of the week? . . . etc.

Plus: please contribute a special recollection from a hike; an amusing happening; a strange encounter; or even an account of how you got lost!

There were insufficient answers to develop reliable statistics . . . a biased proportion came from Monday Trekkers. Here are extracts from contributions, some of which were anonymous:

Twenty years ago, I loved the occasional winter hike. Once, during a blizzard, I attempted to lead a hike with the 4 intrepid hikers who showed up, and somehow managed to get lost in the Durham Regional Forest. We wandered for quite a while, unable to see the sun, or any trail markers, until eventually, thankfully, finding our way back to the road. Trail markings and hike leaders have come a long way since then!

Teresa Porter – a Founding Member.

My first CORT Hike was on October 31st. 1993 from Tannery Mall, Newmarket, to Rogers Reservoir; I can't remember who led it. I had thought of going on the CORT Hike in Pottageville led by Peter Scholefield on June 13th, but at that time I was still active with the BTA Caledon Club.

Heather Cooper

My first ORTA Hike was in 1994. I joined as soon as I heard about ORTA. I had moved from Oakville. I was used to the Bruce Trail being handy to me and was so disappointed when I arrived in Port Perry in to find no trail. I was thrilled when ORTA started.

While I was hiking alone a kind man in a truck stopped to tell me that his friend was off-roading on a dirt bike nearby and had just seen a bear where I was headed. I did not see the bear but chances are that it saw me.

Lynne Thorklesson

I have been a member for about 20 years. I have also have done some great hiking holidays. (Italy, Channel Islands, England, El Camino in Spain). The Channel Islands trip was organized by Audrey Murison and the group were mainly ORTA members. I always remember Audrey (a very dedicated member of ORTA) telling me about her first ORTA hike. It was in Uxbridge and ended at Tom Rance's home where he served delicious home-made soup. She thought all hikes would be like this and immediately signed up as a member!

Joye Cornell

Gillian and I enjoyed our first ORTA Group Hike, led by John M. Scott on April 26, 1997, from Byers Road through Burketon to Long Sault. The enthusiasm and good company of the group was a great start to our participation in the association.

Stan Butcher

My first hike - almost 20 years ago - was led by Harold Sellers in Happy Valley
My favorite hike is around the Secord Forest.

Gail Dutchak

My wife and I led our first ORTA Hike from King West Section near Bathurst St. and 16 Sdrd.
In December 2002 I got seriously lost late in the day in the Ganaraska Forest!
Got disoriented, lost track of what was east and what was west, and my compass was useless!
Eventually found my way back to Boundary Road.

Just many pleasant memories of hiking in Eldred King Woods, Secord Tract, Hollidge Tract, Greenwood Tract and Walker Woods, with my wife and our two sons - when they were babies, toddlers, and now as teenagers.

Robert Robotham, a Member since 1995.

My first ORTA Hike was in Spring 1998 led by Bill Roberts from Happy Valley to the 16th. Ave. dead-end.

I remember Bob Ellison and what a great recruiter he was. It was on a hike in the Uxbridge Section in late 1999 when Bob told me about a need at Hike Ontario to hire a staff person. Short story: I applied, got the job. It was a stepping stone to becoming Executive Director for ORTA 3 years later. Two of the best jobs of my life!

Harold Sellers

I have logged all my Hikes. My first was September 18, 1999 led by Eric Worsely - I do remember the Seneca/Mary Lake location. Only 9 km, but I thought that my knees would explode before the end. It was still so much fun, I kept coming back.

On a different hike: Managed to slip on a muddy trail, and fracture my ankle. I needed to borrow poles, and 2 hikers had to accompany me back to the cars. It was quite a way! Moral of the story - always take hiking poles with you! And stay upright!

It is still a mystery to me how Harold managed to take ordinary everyday women, like myself and turn them into hikers! I am truly grateful.

Charlotte Owen

My first ORTA Hike: April 7, 1999. Leader: Harold Sellers
Route: Sheppard's Bush, Case Woodlot, Aurora town streets
Favourite hike on Oak Ridges Moraine Trail: Long Sault Conservation Area, Map#7
I most often hike on a Monday; usually with an ORTA group.

Elinor Allison

On Harold's Hike, Apr. 12th 2000 we had not gone far from Burketon, when a black Labrador Retriever happily joined us. From his tag, cell phone calls established his name was Leroy and there was no answer at his residence. He completed the hike with us to Purple Woods then Barbara, Jill and I volunteered to take him back to his laneway . . . and later joined others at the Country Store for refreshments. (As noted in my journal.) *Isobel Hood*

My first ORTA Hike was in January 2001, led by Harold Sellers from Newmarket Town Hall. My favorite hike on the Oak Ridges Moraine Trail is from Long Sault, Map #7.

Just a few snapshots from my years with ORTA:

Charlie Atkinson doing his address to the haggis for Robbie Burns Day . . . and even bringing a tape player with bagpipe music!

Wilma and Brian's wedding in the woods . . . and all the anniversaries.

Dave Hinton vaulting the gate . . . and sliding down the hill on a crazy carpet!

Harold's corny jokes at lunchtime. *A sample opposite.*

Going to a cafe or pub at the end!

The time one hiker produced a rope from his backpack to pull people up a steep slope. Losing my footing on a very icy day and sliding all the way down the hill, luge-style, on the Seaton trail, watched by the whole hiking group. *Jacky Bramma*

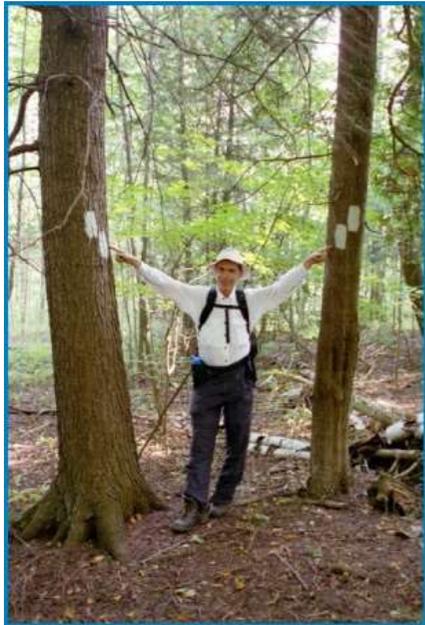
Our first hike was in 2001 led by Peter Attfield from Keele Street, King City, to Mary Lake.

Our favourite hike on the Oak Ridges Moraine Trail is Glen Major Forest, Map #5. *Anon.*

I call these the **AMAZING BLAZES**, because they seem to suggest that the trail turns both left and right. At the spot shown in the picture, the trail does a **U** turn. Approaching from the west, the blazes on both trees are visible, as seen in the picture. The picture was taken Sat. Sep. 14, 2002, on the Oak Ridges Trail, in the Township of King, likely between the 11th and 12th Concessions (or possibly between the 10th and 11th). See Map 1.

Vic Davis

Does anyone remember *The Chocolate Lady*? She used to bring Kisses for everyone on Harold's Wednesday Hikes. *Stan Butcher*



A woman was sitting at a bar enjoying an after work cocktail with her girlfriends when an exceptionally tall, handsome, sexy middle-aged man entered.

He was so striking that the woman could not take her eyes off him. The young-at-heart man noticed her overly attentive stare and walked directly towards her.

Before she could offer her apologies for so rudely staring, he leaned over and whispered to her: "I'll do anything, absolutely anything that you want me to do, no matter how kinky, for \$20.00 . . . on one condition."

Flabbergasted the woman asked what the condition was. The man replied: "You'll have to tell me what you want me to do in just three words." (Controlling huh?)

The woman considered his proposition for a moment then slowly removed a \$20 bill from her purse, which she pressed into the man's hand along with her address. She looked deeply into his eyes, and slowly, and meaningfully, says:

"Clean my house."

My most memorable hike is a long loop hike (17 km) on October 30, 2002 within the Long Sault CA. It was on narrow winding trails and the fall colors were absolutely beautiful in this magnificent forest: Peter Bramma led that hike. My favorite Hike on the ORTA trail is from Weston Road and 16th Sideroad to the 10th Concession on 18th Sideroad (Map #2)

Peter Schaefer

My first ORTA Hike on Jan 8th 2003 was led by Harold Sellers to Sheppard's Bush. I love all the trail. I usually hike Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. *Joan Taylor*

My first ORTA Hike was in 2005. My favourite hike on the Oak Ridges Moraine Trail is from Concession 7 to Concession 6 Aggregate Pit. I usually hike on Mondays and Fridays; maybe with an ORTA group, or family and friends and sometimes by myself.

Diane Charlton

Our first ORTA Hike was in Nov. 2005 led by Brian and Wilma Millage from 6th Conc. and Albright Rd around Walker Woods. Our favourite hike on the Oak Ridges Moraine Trail is from Walker Woods to Glen Major, Map 5. The sighting of nature's creations, especially the wildflowers in the spring. Also spotting a fairy ring was special and of course the wildlife: deer, owls etc.

Noel and Judy Carey.

I have been a member since 2006. ORTA hikes are informative and great scenery. One is always travelling with a great group of people. Although I have not been able to hike due to arthritis, I still plan someday when the knees are replaced!

Hilka Parker

Several members reported that their favourite hike was around the Secord Tract and the Pet Cemetery. With Brian Millage as the leader.

My first hike on the Oak Ridges Moraine Trail was in 2007 around the Seneca College Campus. I'm a solo walker and use the time to cleanse my brain and think through problems. Walking with others is distracting. I have many special memories of walks in late fall, mid-winter or early spring.

Richard Mackenzie.

We introduced the Richmond Hill Group of Artists to the ORTA Trail on a hike going west from Concession 7 in Happy Valley led by Diana Piché. The artists loved it and came back to photograph and paint. They were "entertained" by a jogger from the Naturist camp who circled them several times wearing what naturists wear – nothing but shoes! (Think this was around 2007)

Sharon and Jim Bradley



My first ORTA Hike was in Summer 2007 - an Aurora Urban Hike led by Stan Butcher. My second hike in the late Fall of 2007 took the group past Musselman Lake. The air temperature was cold for the time of year (freezing) and a stiff breeze was blowing in our faces across the lake. I was surprised to hear from a seasoned hiker: "ORTA hike all year; that includes January and February!" I commiserated with another newbie hiker: "The speaker was obviously out of his mind with the cold!" Both of those newbies are now seasoned ORTA hikers having hiked on a lot colder days.

Malcolm Hann . . . soon to become Hike Program Co-ordinator

My first ORTA hike was summer 2008 led by Tessa Shelvey from Bindertwine Park to Rutherford Rd. On recent ORTA group hikes I've enjoyed seeing my first ever Salamander in the wild and checking to see if the Bluebird side trail nest boxes were occupied - they were!

Julie Nettleton

My first ORTA Hike was with Saturday morning walkers in early summer 2013 led by Russ Burton from Walkers Woods North.

My special recollection has to do with the support ORTA members provide. As a new member, I had little knowledge or experience with all the trail meeting places. One hike that sounded fun was in the Caledon Forest. However, I had not a clue where that was and since I live quite far away, I lacked the confidence that I

would find my way. The evening before I called the hike leader, Brian Millage, and explained my problem, and without hesitation Brian encouraged me to come meet him and Wilma and we would go together. I did. It turned out a beautiful late Winter day that included a pristine walk through the woods, a tasty lunch in Palgrave and even a visit to see some wonderful paintings by Marianne Brooke.

A few years later and I am comfortable finding all sorts of roadside and trail meeting places (even using GPS coordinates) both in the western and eastern sections of the Oak Ridges Moraine and have great memories of many hikes. But I know that the helping hand at the beginning made all the difference!

Carol

My first ORTA Hike was in Spring 2014. No idea where!

My favourite hike is from Durham Region Forest, Concession #7 South of Hwy 21.

I did this hike again on January 1st 2017 - a beautiful day and everyone was out mid-day. Not surprised to see hiking, snowshoeing, and cross country skiing, but for the first time I saw more than a few people out cycling with their 'snow tires.'

Very interesting!! Lena McDonnell

Early Bird Hikes in North Walker Woods - before breakfast on Saturday Mornings - led by Joan Taylor have received many favourable comments. For some it was their first participation in the ORTA program.

I joined about 8 years ago. I don't hike as often as I would like . . . life! My first was with Wilma and Brian in Stouffville area; they are lovely people. I tend to do the faster walks with Joan. I've gotten my sister involved . . . she does more of the west area hikes . . . and a friend who does the Uxbridge area. I like the hikes where the guide shows and explains flora and fauna.

Kathy Amenta

My favourite hike on the Oak Ridges Moraine is from Lake Wilcox. I loved the beautiful Trilliums along the Spring Hikes.

Susan Pruvli

My first ORTA hike was in Richmond Hill with Stan Butcher in 2011. I like to hike all year long, spring and autumn are the best. And a moonlight hike is also enjoyable.

Snowshoe hike is a new experience. I am getting to know lots of places along the ORMT and wonderful people to hike with. Thanks ORTA. *Weibo Cheng.*

My first ORTA Hike was in May 2012 from Seneca College to Aurora. I love to hike in the Jefferson Forest in May when the Trilliums are blooming. *Gae Maas*

I have only been on one guided hike and it was from Keele St. toward Seneca College before a meeting. Ken and I like the Mary Lake trail and have done it several times. *Shirley Bowers*

Have not done organized hikes but frequently use the Aurora trails either solo or with family. *Bruce Corbett - now the Aurora Chair.*

My first ORTA Hike was on Canada Day 2015 from Concession 10 to County Rd. 6 (Keele St.).

My favourite hike on the Oak Ridges Moraine Trail is from Palgrave Conservation Area to the New Western Trail Head, Map # 0.

Most of our hikes, 14 to complete the whole trail, were done in the heat of July, August and September 2016. On the eastern part of the trail the most prolific plant life was poison ivy. It was challenging to answer calls of nature without contacting the poison ivy, which in many cases was knee high or more. Overall our group of 5 enjoyed the sandy back roads and conservation areas.

Bill Snel of Owen Sound on leading a group of his friends End to End.

Our first ORTA Hike was in Summer 2016 led by Joan Taylor from Walker Woods. Our favourite is King Campus to Eaton Hall and Mary Lake. Haven't got lost - yet -but have enjoyed every single hike.

The leaders are wonderful and we have experienced so many lovely places we didn't know existed. Our fellow hikers are all so nice and it is not only marvelous exercise but great camaraderie as well. Thanks to everyone, especially the leaders who give so generously of their time. *Eileen*

My first ORTA hike in September 2016 was led by Brian and Wilma. I usually hike on Mondays with them and bring my dog for exercise and enjoyment. My favourite hike is Crow's Pass. *Pat Baldwin*

I have been a Member of ORTA for 2 years. I first led myself around the trails near Eaton Hall. Mary Lake to Eaton Hall remains my favourite hike on the Oak Ridges Moraine Trail

My favourite moment on the ORMT was on the final day of my ORMT300 Challenge (August 28-Sept 3, 2016). I was just about to end my ~300km over 7 days to raise money and awareness for the ORTA and attempt a trail record for the fastest hike across the entire ORMT. When I meandered around Main Street in Warkworth (the Eastern Trail Head) and saw so many people from the ORTA there to cheer me in – that was my moment, I was exhausted and sore but their support and encouragement lifted me. I met so many amazing people along this journey and I will never, ever forget that moment or any of them! I took my final step at exactly 4:44pm on Saturday September 3, 2016

We raised \$5,000 for the ORTA and ORTA President Kevin Lowe presented me with an Honourary Lifetime Membership and my ORTA End to End Badge. These things and these people I will treasure forever! Thank you ORTA for all that you do for being a part of one of the more rewarding and fulfilling moments of my life! *Kelly Mathews*

APPENDIX 6.1 CERTIFIED HIKE LEADERS

There were 53 Hike Leaders shown in the ORTA database at the end of 2017. Two were listed as Lapsed, i.e. needed to have their HO certification renewed. Typically during Fall 2017 the Trail Talk lists hikes planned by 17 Leaders.

First name	Last name	Hike Leader Certificate #
Robert	Alsop	3098
Fatemeh	Amini	2830
Mahnoosh	Aminian	2831
Peter	Attfield	2833
Noreen	Azoulay & Neil Abrey	4963
Noel	Bain	4709
Pat	Baldwin	4186
Rhys	Beak & Leila Ram	1893
Marianne	Broome	3649
Russell	Burton	2835
Stanley & Gillian	Butcher	2836
WeiBo (Alice)	Cheng	3178
Doug	Christie	3231
Muriel E.	Cober	1696
Bruce	Cohen	4710
Judy Pergau & Bob	Comfort	2073
Soheila	Dehmassi	3583
Gail	Dutchak	2757
Reza	Farmand	4711
Lee	Fisher	3957
John	Fisher	4022
Bev & Dave	Fowler	4703
David & Margaret	Francis	2840
John	Fuchs	3859
Adeline	Griffin	4706

Malcolm	Hann	3592
Jane	Hu	4700
Bob & Diane	Hughes	2842
Mark	Humphrey	4701
Mina	Kazemnia	2846
Josipa	Klostranec	2754
Kevin	Lowe	2848
Carolyn	Mancey	3588
Nancy	Marr	4705
Michele A.	Mastroeni	0213
Kelly	Mathews	4712
Brian	Millage	2849
Wilma & Brian	Millage	2850
Ed	Millar	4702
Grace	Moore	2851
Bill	Morrison	3835
Dr. Mary & Bill	Morrison	3835
Garry	Niece	2852
Scott	Nokleby	4021
Bill & Kathy	Patterson	4707
Diana	Piche	2853
Leila	Ram	1920
Monika	Rothman	4567
Peter	Schaefer	2854
Dani	Shaw	4133
Tessa	Shelvey	2855
Cornelius	Sommer	4026
Joan	Taylor	2856

Note that where two members of a household are shown generally one of them is a Certified Hike Leader. The partner often assists as the Sweep.

APPENDIX 6.2 END-TO-END HIKERS

As recorded in the reprints of Trail Talk articles below, ORTA's End-to-End program was initiated in 2000. The concept wasn't new as a much greater challenge had been enjoyed by avid Bruce Trail hikers for several years. At this time the continuous length of the Oak Ridges Trail was about 120 km but other open lengths and side-trails were included for a total of 172 km.

From the get-go of our program it was arranged that individuals could be recognised as End-to-End Hikers by recording their hikes on the honour system – a log sheet was available. Hikers unable to participate on every day of a group End-to-End Hike series could make up missing lengths at their leisure.

A Chevron Badge was awarded on completion; albeit at a cost of \$3.00. The achievement was also recognised by a letter from the President advising that over time the length to qualify would increase with the suggestion folk should hike the additional sections of the trail as they became available. And that eventually, when the ORMT was complete, there would be a Certificate.

The first group to undertake an End2End Series are shown *opposite*. The second official group led by Jill Doble completed their last hike in deep snow on January 7th, 2001. *Trail Talk report overleaf*. From April through June 2001 Harold Sellers incorporated an End2End Series in the Wednesday Hike program. *Below*:

From April through June 2001, our Wednesday hikers completed an End-to-End walk of the Oak Ridges Trail. We began under sunny skies with a hike from the Oak Ridges Trail - Caledon Trailway junction on Mt. Wolfe Road in the Caledon Chapter. Fifty-six hikers showed up!

Thirteen weeks later, we completed one of the new Clarington Chapter sections, hiking about 12 km from the Darlington-Manvers Townline and Concession 8 back to Long Sault CA. Over those thirteen Wednesdays, we hiked 172 kilometers. Eleven of the thirteen days were sunny, while two were cloudy, one with a bit of snow at the beginning. A total of 114 individuals joined in for at least one of the hikes. The numbers were incredible, ranging from a low of 34 to a high of 57. The average was 44 hikers per outing.

Four people, besides myself, attended every Wednesday. However, a number of people completed hikes on other days when they couldn't come out on Wednesday. As a result, 15 End-to-End Badges were awarded on the last day, June 27th.

Congratulations to all End-to-End Badge recipients:

ORTA End-to-Enders

Charlie & Janet Atkinson, Stouffville
Jacky & Peter Bramma, Whitby
Mary & Ron Conrad, Thornhill
Jim & Sylvia Gilchrist, Aurora
Shirley Gibson, Cookstown
Mary Lynn Graham, Shelburne
Dave Hinton, Orono
Beverley Lunau, Schomberg
Ed Müller, King City
Charlotte Owen, Newmarket
Karen Smith, Tottenham
Linda Tyndall, Nestleton
Karen Vanderlee, Leaskdale

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Trail Talk

Autumn 2000

End-To-Enders

The Oak Ridges Trail is still evolving and growing as new sections are added. However, with the completion last year of the Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville sections, we have now a continuous trail of significant length, about 120 km. This Trail stretches from the Long Sault Conservation Area near Blackstock in the east to the Caledon Trailway near Tottenham in the west.

As some of us contemplated the delightful new prospect of being able to walk the continuous length of our beautiful Trail, we were inspired to create a new patch or badge to recognize those who would now completely hike it "end-to-end." That patch is now available in the form of a chevron in the same green and white colours as our ORTA membership patch. Many members have earned their end-to-end badges already and you can too, as outlined at the conclusion of this article.

The Spring 2000 period was my first opportunity to plan an end-to-end series for my Wednesday Hikes. Beginning on April 5th with a short 9 km hike from the village of Burketon and then through Long Sault, the end-to-end journey began. Seven newcomers amongst the twenty-five hikers that day was an indication of the level of interest in this challenge.

Thirteen Wednesdays were in April through June, so I divided up the trail into manageable segments, with a few diversions and loops thrown in, to make each hike 9 to 14 kilometers in length. Twelve hikes would complete the ORT, the thirteenth would be a hike in the Caledon area.

Food seems to be a favourite topic of discussion amongst hikers!

Throughout the complete series of hikes, we pushed a measuring wheel ahead of us. Some Trail sections had not been previously measured accurately, so this was an ideal time to verify distances. It also allowed ORTA to document how much of the Trail is on road and off, knowledge that now challenges us to build more off-road Trail.

The number of hikers ranged from a low of nineteen to a high of thirty-three on several days. During the hikes, we enjoyed visits to *Ocala Winery* near Port Perry and the *Stouffville-Whitchurch Museum* in Vanderford. We usually had lunches along the trail but did make stops at Coppins Corners and *Hanson's*



Restaurant, and while hiking through Aurora a cell phone call resulted in pizza being delivered to us. And then there were the after-hike refreshment stops at *Sheena's Kitchen* in Schomberg and *Mrs. Wileman's Cafe* in Goodwood. Food seems to be a favourite topic of discussion amongst hikers!

Some interesting wildlife sightings were made on this series, such as a deer, a close encounter with a large owl, Snapping and Painted Turtles, and a family of foxes. We were also there to witness the arrival of all the beautiful Spring flowers...and later the mosquitoes!

The last hike was on June 21st beginning where the Caledon Section meets the Caledon Trailway (also part of the Trans Canada Trail) on Mount Wolfe Road. This turned out to be one of the most challenging hikes as we were rained on, attacked by hordes of mosquitoes and struggled through very tall grass and weeds on a newer section of the trail. Tired and relieved, all 25 hikers finished the hike, several receiving their end-to-end badges right then and there on the side of the road.

Since then, a few members have completed missing sections of their end-to-end and have received their patches. Others are still working on it.

Recipients of the End-to-End badge so far have been (and I'm sorry I think I've missed a few, so please let me know if your name is not on this list):

Joye Cornell, Larry Haigh, Barry Hammerton, Betty Heaton, Barbara Heyes, Diane Hughes, Ruth Mori, Gail Morris, Marilyn Mussell, Bill Roberts, Harold Sellers, and Eleanor Stelling.

A special logsheet has been created to aid in keeping track of your hikes. However, this form is not necessary. All we really need is your written record of when and where you hiked to complete the entire trail. Go back thru your records and see what you still need to complete, do it and send a copy, along with \$3, for your badge to ORTA, PO Box 28544, AURORA, ON, L4G 6S6.

You certainly meet the nicest, considerate people when hiking

To conclude, some comments from end-to-end graduates:

"End-to-end concept and badge was a great idea! It brought out many new hikers and has made the organization grow in numbers." - *Ruth Mori*

"You certainly meet the nicest, considerate people when hiking. It sure is nice to get more of the trail off the roads. Keep up the excellent work." - *Marilyn Mussell*

I hope the goal of an End-to-End will encourage many more of you to join us on the beautiful Oak Ridges Trail.

Harold Sellers



Trail Talk



Winter 2000 -1

ISSN 1481-5982

Oak Ridges Trail Association Quarterly

www.orta.on.ca

Happy Hikers Start End-To-End

On September 10th, fourteen happy hikers began their end-to-end of the Oak Ridges Trail - the second "official" end-to-end, a series of thirteen hikes over four months, led by *Jill Doble* and arranged by *Harold Sellers*.

The hikers are as varied as the terrain over which they hike. Youngest is nine year old *Colten Dixon*. Colten's previous claim to fame occurred this summer when he was chosen to be a relay representative on the *Trans Canada Trail*, carrying water from one of Canada's three oceans to Ottawa along a short section of the trail. His new challenge is to conquer the Oak Ridges Trail on foot.

Our first hike began with a 9 km walk from *Burketon* to the *Long Sault Conservation Area* parklands. As we hiked along, *Jill* and *Liz Elliot* taught us about the plant life seen along the trail. We were fortunate enough to see *Jack-In-the-Pulpit* seeds, and to have *Liz* along to point them out to us. We were also lucky to have *Jill* show us all the *poison ivy* along the way, and are grateful that she ensured our rest stops occurred where there wasn't any chance of encountering *poison ivy*.

Over the next month and a half, we met five more times. *Jill* has an unbelievable ability to attract the press, & our group has been photographed and featured in articles in several Port Perry and Uxbridge area newspapers. The numbers in our group increased as the hikes progressed, probably as a result of all this publicity. On our most recent hike, on October 22nd, more than thirty people showed up to share the good weather and enjoy the fall colors on the Trail.

The weather has been great on all six of our hikes, and the trail has been picturesque.

There have been lots of road sections, a couple of really swampy muddy sections, and a challenging hilly area.

On most of our hikes, we have had interesting happenings, in addition to the encounter with news photographers:



From: *Jim* (standing) & *Colten Dixon* (sitting), *Paula Pokitnicki-Wejcik*, *Joan Rudland*, *Laura Novikow*. Second row: *Rebecca Marchildon*, *Beryl Bell*, *Sharon*

(Sitting), *Paula Pokitnicki-Wejcik*, *Joan Liz Elliot*, *Doag Hancey*, *Lynda Tyndall Galway*, *Jill Doble*, *Kathy Newbigging*

- We have had Conservation Area personnel give us good maps of the Long Sault area and maps of all Durham Regional hiking trails;
- An off-road bike race took place along side us as we hiked through the Durham Forest;
- We enjoyed an entertaining stop at the *Ocala winery*, as we luckily hiked through the winery during their fall festival.
- And during early October, the fall colours were spectacular.

We are all looking forward to seeing what *Jill* has in store for us on the last half of the end-to-end.

Brenda Eggett

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Happy Holidays



Summer 2001

Trail Talk

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Second End To End Hike Is Finished!!

Early in January, *Jill Doble's* group finished the second official Oak Ridges Trail end to end. After hiking for 160 kms over a series of 14 hikes, we are proud to say that we have hiked the whole trail. (Actually the official length is 154.5 km and 13 hikes, but we had to do a section twice.)

An article in the Winter issue of Trail Talk described the first six hikes in our end to end series. The last eight hikes were equally interesting, mostly due to the challenges brought by Mother Nature. We hiked in wind, sun, dense fog, deep snow, and rain.

Hike # 7 took place on October 28th. Twenty-five people hiked the *Musselman's Lake* section that day, in bright sunshine but with a very cold North wind. That was the highest number of people that took part in the "winter" half of the end to end. Once the snow arrived, we saw only the dedicated end-to-enders show up. On a couple of occasions, there were only four of us.

November 26th was a wet, foggy day. Only four hikers showed up, but we really enjoyed the areas of *Aurora* we hiked through. The trail here is not marked with white blazes, but with little white signs with green arrows. Some of the homes we hiked past (especially along *Kennedy Road West*) were gorgeous, and helped take our mind off the freezing rain and the fog.

There were three very memorable hikes in this last series. On December 9th, six of us, with a friendly dog who joined us for most of the distance, hiked through the *King West* section. This area is one of the prettiest of the Oak Ridges Trail, but on this hike a light blanket of fluffy white snow covered everything, and the scenery was gorgeous.

On December 16th, only four hikers showed up. We tackled the *Caledon/King* section of the trail, the morning after a heavy we snowfall. The first 5 km of our hike was along side roads, so we had no idea of what challenges lay ahead. Once we left the plowed streets, the snow was heavily drifted, and very deep. Most times the snow was over our knees. Some times, we fell in up to our waists. We crawled up snow banks, hiked across snow drifts, and slid down snow slopes. We laughed, got wet, and were quite glad when we reached the next concession road. It had taken us an hour to travel two kilometers! At that point, we decided to finish



Laurie, Dan, Jill, Eleanor, Heinz, Liz and Paula

our hike on the roads. I fondly remember hiking down 18th Sideroad, in the rain, singing songs and carols with *Jill*, *Paula* and *Heinz*. Because of this detour, and because we had difficulty finding part of the trail between *Mount Wolfe Road* and *Albion Trail*, we ended up hiking this section again in January to make up for the parts we missed.

On our second last hike we went through the *Palgrave Forest*, and along the *Caledon Trailway*, which is also part of the *Trans Canada Trail*. There were eight of us out to enjoy breaking trail in the bright sunshine and deep snow. As we left the *Palgrave Forest* (photo #8 with *Dan*, *Eleanor*, *Paula*, and *Liz*) we took a short break to recover from the hard hiking we had just done. *Heinz* had brought along his harmonica, and we grouped together in an informal Christmas choir. (Photo #9 - *Laurie*, *Dan*, *Jill*, *Eleanor*, *Heinz*, *Liz* waving, and *Paula*) We met after our hike at *Sheena's* kitchen, and enjoyed a hearty, delicious, well earned lunch.

On our last hike, on January 7th, we hiked seven very difficult kilometers in deep, heavy snow. We were done! Many thanks are due to *Jill* for leading us to this end-to-end.

Brenda Eggett

King Section

Fifteen ORTA volunteers met at the *King City Library* on April 19 to plan trail maintenance work.

Trail marking will be improved at *Puck's Farm* and the *Abel* property; side-logging is to be done at the junction of these two properties.

The west side of the *Salmon* property will get some new board walk, and trail along the pipe line will be re-located east of the *ATV* track. A new bridge is planned there.

The north fence line on the *Watt* property is to be improved by removal of rock and filling of holes.

Eric Worsley has volunteered to be *Trail Captain* on the *O'Hara* land, 10th to 11th Concessions.

Joe Gross, a willing volunteer in many *King Township* activities, died suddenly and will be missed by all who worked with him.

Tom Atkins

Kelly Mathews Record End-to-End Hike

It's over! I can't believe after all the fundraising, planning, training, etc. the #ORMT300 is now a not-so-distant memory! I can't thank all of you enough for the tweets, retweets, texts, emails, calls, etc. I tried my best to keep up with them all.

Without a doubt, that was the toughest thing I have ever done both physically and mentally. I could not have done it without the overwhelming support from key people at the ORTA! Special thanks to Brian and Bob my trusty trail guides and to Michele at the ORTA office for keeping everything and everyone updated and on schedule. I would also like to thank Wilma and Judy (my extra trail mom's) in addition to my parents. My thanks to others who also accompanied me on route; Kevin Lowe, Frank Alexander, Russ Burton, Kim Aagaard and Kathy & Bill Patterson. This turned out to be the most UN-solo, solo-hike ever hiked and I am so grateful for it!

Some of the highlights include:

- Finishing the darn thing!
- The head massage by a raccoon through my tent wall at Mussleman's Lake in the middle of the night (true story)!
- The ice cream delivery from the Patterson's in the middle of nowhere – thank you!
- The lawn chair and snack delivery out in Trent on the last day – merci Michele.
- The lemonade and bathroom break at ORTA Kim Aagaards.
- The incredible views...
- Counting monarchs... 13 in one day was the record!
- Buttertarts! Honey! Peanut Butter... oh and fruit leather – that stuff was magic!
- All the different words to use EXCEPT the word "HILL" which was forbidden at some point during the hike: elevation, rise, slope, grade, knoll, mound, incline, speed-bump, mass, pile... you name it!
- Old Swamp Road Trail in Clarington – I will be back!!
- Ice cold creeks... ahhhhhh...
- The laughs, the cries, the packages and packages of mole skin...
- Coming out of the forest and seeing the Hwy 115 and Hwy 35 sign on the highway... it hit me how far I had come that day...
- The ice cold Heineken from a stranger at the finish line in Warkworth ON!
- That amazing cake, the champagne and Villa Conti!
- Pushing through a great deal of pain every single day... P.S. last Friday September 2nd was unofficially sponsored by Tylenol #3!
- Receiving Honourary Lifetime Membership with the Oak Ridge's Trail Association at the finish line – I will always treasure my End to End Badge!!!
- Raising \$9,500 for 2 organizations that mean a great deal to me!
- Sharing this Oak Ridges Moraine Trail Record experience with all of you! That was the icing on the cake for me!!

Fundraising Update:

Seneca College: \$4,000
 ORTA: \$5,076
 Funds Raised: \$9,076

Thank you again... all of you... your enthusiasm and support kept me going.
 Kelly Mathews
 "Not all who wander are lost"

ORTA END2END HIKES COMPLETED 2003-2017

Unfortunately we do not have a full record of persons who completed an End2End Series prior to 2003.

2017	Michelle	Wormald	non member
2017	Cathy	McPherson	non member
2017	Barry	Stayzer	non member
2017	Nancy	Stayzer	non member
2017	William	McCullough	
2017	Wilma	Millage	
2017	Brian	Millage	
2017	Linda	Markle	non member
2017	Marjorie	Stephenson	
2017	Smadar	Junkin	non member
2017	Neil	McFadgen	
2017	Kathy	Patterson	
2017	Bill	Patterson	
2016	Kelly	Matthews	
2016	Pier-Giorgio	Bassi	
2016	William	Snel	archived member
2016	Carlo	Aiello	
2016	Kara	Kuo	
2016	Alina	Lin	
2016	Anisa	Khan	
2016	Glynn	Richardson	
2016	Jacqueline	Van Dyke	
2016	Lina	Chicchetti	
2016	Lynne	Horbatiuk	
2016	Nick	Rodmore	
2015	Bill	Morrison	
2015	Cornelius	Sommer	
2015	Eva	Csendes	
2015	Julie	Heyes	
2015	Malcolm	Hann	
2015	Marco	Durepos	
2015	Melvyn	Rosenfeld	
2015	Mike	Denny	
2015	Suzanne	Field	

2015	Vicky	Chan	
2014	Art	Johnston	
2014	Sue	Young	
2014	Ann	Beniusis	
2013	Pat	Foley	
2013	Samatha	Foley	
2013	Tristan	Goquen	
2013	Isabelle	Sheardown	
2013	Keith	McEwen	
2012	Alexandra	Forer	
2011	Joan	Burton	
2011	Patrica	Ward	
2011	David	Francis	
2011	David	Royston	
2010	Margaret	Shearer	
2010	Georgia	Mulholland	
2010	Glenda	Mulholland	
2010	Sharon	Kerr	
2010	Bob	Comfort	
2010	Russ	Burton	
2010	Joan	Taylor	
2010	Lorrie	Collins	
2010	Fatemeh	Amini	
2010	Bijan	Doustdar	
2010	Karen	Underwood	
2010	Victor	Ramautar	
2010	Ken	Peters	
2010	Noel	Carey	
2010	Judy	Carey	
2010	Kim	Chen	
2010	Alain	Thomas	
2010	Eleni	Stopp	
2010	Russ	Brown	
2010	Arthur	Last	
2010	Brenda	West	
2010	Cathie	Kitchen	
2010	Janmy	Wallbank	
2010	Jane	Kenyon	
2010	Graham	Stead	
2010	Shirley	Camani	
2010	Andrew	Camani	
2008	Mr.	Wengler	
2008	Mrs.	Wengler	
2008	John	Fuchs	
2007	Rudi	Bosshard	
2007	Colette	French	

Steven McLean who leads hikes for the BTA is also an ORTA member.
The group "with Tom Hall" were also Bruce Trail Members

Year	First Name	Last Name	Notes
2007	Tom	Hall	Second E2E? Received Cheron in 2003?
2007	John	Clark	
2006	Thomas	Barker	
2006	Charlotte	Barker	
2006	Michel	Roy	
2006	Carole	Duchaine	
2005	Steven	McLean	BT busing hiker
2005	Neil	Allison	BT busing hiker
2005	Kathleen	Hemp	BT busing hiker
2005	Christina	Tong	BT busing hiker
2005	Margret	Mc Court	BT busing hiker
2005	Elsa	Karhas	BT busing hiker
2005	Jean Claude	Li-Ting	BT busing hiker
2005	Hsuan Cynthis	Tong	BT busing hiker
2005	Barbara	Powell	
2005	Erlinda	Biondie	
2005	George	Biondie	
2005	Werner	Barth	
2005	Joan	Taylor	
2005	Myria	?	
2005	Gordon	Proudfoot	
2004	Elke	Wolfe	
2004	Clause	Wolfe	
2004	Carol	Fernandes	
2004	Rob	Irving	
2004	Rose	Millet	
2004	Peter	Verbeek	
2004	Bob	Short	
2004	Unknown		Record with no name
2003	Tom	Hall	
2003	Unknown		With Tom Hall
2003	Unknown		With Tom Hall
2003	Unknown		With Tom Hall
2003	Unknown		With Tom Hall
2003	Unknown		With Tom Hall
2003	Unknown		With Tom Hall
2003	Unknown		With Tom Hall
2003	Jim	Brillinger	

Between Summer 2001 and mid-2003 a number of ORTA Hikers who'd been unable to attend all of the Wednesday series completed their End2End by other hikes, and a number of other hikers who recorded their hikes on the honour system, were awarded their E2E Badges.