

HALTON HILLS CHAPTER OF THE TORONTO BRUCE TRAIL CLUB

Newsletter #27 ~ April 9 ~ July 2, 2017



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS!

SATURDAY, APRIL 1st: "A SWEET TASTE OF SPRING" ANNUAL PANCAKE HIKE ~ 9:30 a.m. start. See hike schedule for more details.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22nd: TORONTO BRUCE TRAIL CLUB ~ 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held at The Kortright Centre for Conservation in Woodbridge, ON. For more information, please go to the TBTC website <http://www.torontobruceclub.org/>.

SATURDAY, APRIL 29th: Halton Hills Chapter is participating in the **ANNUAL EARTH DAY AND SUSTAINABILITY FAIR**, held at the Georgetown Marketplace. Visit the Bruce Trail booth and meet our hike leaders and volunteers. We will have a display and information about the Bruce Trail. We'll be handing out information and literature to interested visitors. If you are interested in volunteering to help, for an hour or two, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Angelika Sommer at asgk.canada@sympatico.ca or call **905-877-7805**.

SATURDAY, JUNE 3rd: We will be participating in the **150-year celebrations** in Norval at **Willow Park Ecology Centre**. Probably offering a short hike in Hungry Hollow with subsequent carpool to Norval. Exact details and time will be advised at a later time. For more information closer to that date, please contact Angelika Sommer **905-877-7805** asgk.canada@sympatico.ca.

SATURDAY, JULY 1st: CANADA DAY in Glen Williams. The Halton Hills Chapter is participating in the Canada Parade in Glen Williams. Come out to join in the celebrations or – if you are interested in joining us in the parade – we welcome everyone. For more information contact Janet or Angelika at haltonhillshiking@gmail.com.

HIKE GUIDELINES:

PACE: • **LEISURELY:** 3 km/hr or less • **MEDIUM:** 3 to 4 km/hr • **BRISK:** 4 to 5 km/hr • **FAST PACE:** 5+ km/hr
TERRAIN: • **EASY:** mostly flat and usually good footing • **MODERATE:** some hills and/or some poor footing
• **STRENUOUS:** Hilly with steep climbs and some poor footing.

PLEASE NOTE: Unless stated otherwise in the **HIKING SCHEDULE** ~ we will meet at the south/east corner of the Georgetown Marketplace parking lot (south of the Medical Building, east of Walmart).

SPRING IS HERE! We have a couple of suggestions to make your hike more comfortable: Always dress to maintain a comfortable body temperature during the hike. Bring lots of water, lunch and/or snacks ~ and don't forget to bring your insect repellent as soon as some pesky little creatures start bugging you. **BLACKFLY ALERT!** Beginning in May, those troublesome blackflies will be active! Wearing light colours such as yellow and white will help ~ and don't forget to bring your bug spray.

Hikes may be changed or cancelled at the discretion of the hike leader. Please remember that ALL our hike leaders are volunteers.



HIKING SCHEDULE: April 9th ~ July 2nd, 2017

Sunday, April 9 FORKS OF THE CREDIT

Medium pace, some hills and rocky terrain, approximately 10 km. We'll depart at 10:00 a.m. from the usual meeting place at Georgetown Marketplace parking lot. Carpool to start the hike at Willoughby Road parking lot at km 18.3. We will loop through the Forks of the Credit Provincial Park and around Kettle Lake. Dress for the weather, hiking boots or good walking shoes are required, bring adequate water/snacks.

Hike Leader: Angelika Sommer 905-877-7805 asgk.canada@sympatico.ca

**Sunday, April 16
CALEDON TRAILWAY, MAIN BRUCE TRAIL, ROCKSIDE SIDETRAIL** – with the possibility of extending the hike to Winston Churchill Sidetrail if people are interested. 11 km (Winston Churchill Sidetrail extension would be 15 km). Moderate to medium pace, some hills, loop hike, may be wet in some areas depending on the weather. Depart 9:30 a.m. from the usual meeting place at Georgetown Marketplace **or** meet the hike at the starting point at 9:50 a.m. on Winston Churchill Boulevard, Bruce Trail map 14, km. 41.2. We may catch some early spring wildflowers. Wear appropriate footwear for the weather, bring water and lunch or snacks. **Hike Leader:** Teresa Riggs trigg2@cogeco.ca

HIKING SCHEDULE *continued*

Sunday, April 23

CANADA GOOSE SIDE TRAIL / BRUCE TRAIL

Medium pace, moderate terrain, 10-12 km hike. Depart 10:00 a.m. from the usual meeting place at Georgetown Market Place parking lot *or* meet at the start of the hike at 10:20 a.m. on 22nd Side Road and 4th Line Bruce Trail parking lot. This should be a pleasant hike with some early spring flowers along the escarpment woodland trails. May be wet in spots. Wear appropriate hiking boots, bring water/snacks.

Hike Leader: Paul Vanhanen 905-877-1294

Sunday, April 30

TWISS ROAD to CRAWFORD LAKE (Map 11)

Medium pace, some hills, rocky terrain, approximately 10 km. Short-cuts and drop-out points along the way. Depart at 10:00 a.m. from the usual meeting place in the Georgetown Marketplace parking lot. We will park on Twiss Rd. (at km 102.5) and head north along the main trail into Crawford Lake Conservation Area. We will loop back using the Crawford Lake Side Trail. Along the way, we will walk past a reconstructed native village, a glacial lake and the escarpment edge offering great views across the canyon. Dress for the weather, hiking boots or good walking shoes are required, bring adequate water/snacks.

Hike Leader: Sara Maedel 289-890-0439 saramaedel@hotmail.com

Saturday, May 6

STARKEY HILL INTERPRETATIVE TRAIL ~ Spring Wild Flower Hike

Depart at 1:00 p.m. from SOBEY'S PLAZA, ACTON, IN FRONT OF THE ROYAL BANK BUILDING to carpool to Starkey Hill Parking Lot, south side of Arkell Road (Side-road 30) 1 km east of Arkell. Casual pace, suitable for all ages, hilly, approximately 4 km. This hike takes us through the Starkey Hill Interpretative Trail where we will meander along the trail looking for wild flowers such as Trilliums, Hepatica, Dutchman Breaches, Spring Beauty and Marsh Marigolds. Please dress for the weather, wear appropriate footwear, bring water, a snack and your camera!

Hike Leader: Janet 519-853-1285 or haltonhillshiking@gmail.com

Saturday, May 13

KYTHERA HIKING FRIENDSHIP TRAIL OPENING

We are going to participate in the opening of the Kythera Hiking Friendship Trail. On May 13th, the Bruce Trail Conservancy's ninth international Friendship Trail will officially open, marking the twinning of a section of the Bruce Trail with Kythera Hiking in Greece. The opening ceremony begins at 9:30 a.m. at the St. Helena Road parking lot, off Hwy 25, 1.5 km South of 15 Sideroad. Following the ceremony we will hike the route of the newly designated Friendship Trail south for about 1 hour and return to our parking space on St. Helena Road. More ambitious hikers can join the organized BruceTrail hike (8.5 km) all the way to the Philip Gosling Side Trail and on to the Hilton Falls Conservation Area parking lot. We will meet at 8:30 a.m. at our regular meeting place at the Georgetown Marketplace parking lot and carpool to St. Helena Road. More detailed information is available in the Spring 2017 Bruce Trail Magazine, page 14.

Hike leader: Heinz Rusche 905-877-3298

Sunday, May 14

DEVIL'S PULPIT to THE BADLANDS (map 14, 28th edition)

Medium pace, approximately 9 km, shuttle hike covering some rocky, steep terrain. We will depart 10:00 a.m. from the usual meeting place in the Georgetown Marketplace parking lot. We'll park on Forks of the Credit Road (just east of Dominion Street) and on Creditview Road (just south of Olde Baseline Road) and hike south along the main trail, climbing up the steep Escarpment edge (the Devil's Pulpit), through deciduous forest and past the Cheltenham Badlands (to which access is temporarily closed). We should also see lots of spring flowers. Dress for the weather, hiking boots are required, bring adequate water/snacks/lunch.

Hike Leader: Sara Maedel 289-890-0439 saramaedel@hotmail.com

Sunday, May 21

BENNETT TRAIL, SILVER CREEK CONSERVATION AREA and ROBERT SIDE TRAIL

Medium pace, moderate terrain, with some steep hills and exposed rocks, 12 km loop hike. We'll depart at 9:30 a.m. from the usual meeting place at Georgetown Market Place parking lot *or* meet the hike at the starting point at 9:50 a.m. on Fallingbrook Trail, Bruce Trail map 13 km 39.5. We should still be in time for the spring wildflowers. There may be wet spots, so bring appropriate footwear, also bug spray, water and a lunch or snacks.

Hike Leader: Teresa Riggs trigg2@cogeco.ca

Sunday, May 28

BRUCE TRAIL AND SPEYSIDE SIDE TRAILS

Medium pace, moderate with some rough terrain, 8 km loop hike. Depart at 10:00 a.m. from the Georgetown Marketplace parking lot *or* meet the hike at the starting point, at 10:20 a.m., on 15th Side Road – Bruce Trail map 12, km 11.9. This should be a pleasant late spring hike along woodland trails. Please wear appropriate hiking boots, bring water and snacks.

Hike Leader: Paul Vanhanen 905 877-1294

Sunday, June 4

DEVIL'S GLEN – BLUE MOUNTAIN SECTION Map 22

Approximately 8 – 10 km, medium pace, strenuous terrain. We will depart at 9:00 a.m. from the usual meeting place in Georgetown Market Place parking lot. Drive approximately 2 hours from Georgetown to Devil's Glen Provincial Park, to begin the hike. This is the highest location in Southern Ontario, reaching an elevation of about 1,791 feet above sea level. The view sweeps over the entire valley. Devil's Glen rests on a broad terrace known as the Manitoulin Bedrock ledge. The Gorge, carved by the Mad River, spreads out as far as your eye can see. Please dress for the weather, wear appropriate footwear, bring water, snacks, lunch and insect repellent.

Hike Leader: Janet 519-853-1285 or haltonhillshiking@gmail.com

Sunday, June 11

DUNDAS VALLEY CONSERVATION AREA

Medium pace, some hills and/or some poor footing, approximately 10 km. Drop-out locations and short-cuts available. Depart at 9:00 a.m. from the usual meeting place in the Georgetown Marketplace parking lot. From there we'll carpool to the lower parking lot at Dundas Valley Conservation Area (on Governor's Road, just east of Sulphur Springs Road). We'll hike the Main Loop Trail (which includes a section of the Bruce Trail) as well as part of the Monarch Trail and the Sulphur Creek Trail, passing a giant oak tree and stone mansion ruins. Dress for the weather, hiking boots or good shoes are required, bring adequate water/snacks. Bring some cash, as there's a per-vehicle parking fee at the conservation area.

Hike Leader: Sara Maedel 289-890-0439 saramaedel@hotmail.com

Sunday, June 18

BOYNE VALLEY / PRIMROSE LOOP SIDE TRAIL

Medium pace, moderate to strenuous terrain. Depart 9:00 a.m. from the usual meeting place in the Georgetown Marketplace parking lot. We'll carpool to starting location at Bruce Trail parking lot north of Primrose, approximately 10 km. We'll enjoy lush valleys and may be able to pick raspberries growing wild on the Primrose Loop Side Trail. Bring water/snacks.

Hike Leader: Angelika Sommer 905-877-7805 asgk.canada@sympatico.ca

Sunday, June 25

SYDENHAM SECTION – WALTERS FALLS LOOP Map 29

Approximately 8 km, medium pace, moderate terrain. Depart 9:00 a.m. from the usual meeting place in Georgetown Market place parking lot. We'll carpool to starting location at The Falls Inn at Walter's Falls (approximately 2 hours drive from Georgetown) to begin a loop hike along the river and through the surrounding woods. There are some steep, but short ascents. This trail visits an important piece of local heritage. Please dress for the weather, wear appropriate footwear, bring your insect repellent, water/snacks and lunch.

Hike Leader: Janet 519-853-1285 or haltonhillshiking@gmail.com

Sunday, July 2

HOCKLEY VALLEY, South Side

Moderate pace, moderate to strenuous terrain, 12 km. Depart 9:00 a.m. from the usual meeting place in the Georgetown Marketplace parking lot to carpool to starting point at the Bruce Trail parking lot near km 61.6 (map page 18). We'll hike along the south side of Hockley Valley to Griffith Ravine Side Trail and loop back on the main trail alongside a babbling brook. Some steep hills! Wear appropriate footwear, bring insect repellent, water/snacks/lunch.

Hike Leader: Angelika Sommer 905-877-7805 asgk.canada@sympatico.ca



The Halton Hills Chapter is an affiliate of the Toronto Bruce Trail Club.