



Fall 2017

The Club is a volunteer organization: Members are encouraged to volunteer based on their personal abilities, experience, and areas of interest, to organize and run events and activities and/or assist in the management of the Club's affairs. The Club's survival, as well as the quality of the membership experience for all members, is dependent on each individual member's participation.

GENERAL MEETINGS

All members or those interested in joining the Club are encouraged to come out to the general meetings. Past events are reviewed, new proposed events are put forth and any current business is reviewed. Generally there is a presentation by a speaker on events of interest to the members. Meetings are held on the last Tuesday evening of each month except July and December.

PLACE: Faith Place, Cana Hall, 44 William St., W., Oshawa (corner of Center & William Sts.)

TIME: 7:30-9:00pm

DATE: Last Tuesday, Monthly

NOTE: There will be no October general meeting due to Halloween Conflict. In December there is no general meeting due to Christmas.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Fall, my favourite season. The air is fresher and cooler, with a certain crispness. A great time to get outdoors and enjoy nature!

I'd like to welcome our new Web Administrator, Catherine Shearer-Kudel. There has been a smooth hand-over from Scott, who was filling this vacancy, to Catherine. We remain in good hands!

Your Club continues to evolve and progress. One of our challenges is to attract younger members. To that end, a new membership category has been formed. Membership is now available to full-time post-secondary students for only \$10. The new membership category is available on our membership page on the club website. Student membership complements the family membership that was started a few years ago. We have also started a Twitter account to broaden our presence – follow us at [@Durham_Outdoors](#).

A second challenge of your Club is to encourage existing members to participate in Club activities. While we have over 100 members, only a minority participate in events and activities. For members who do not participate, why not come out and enjoy the great outdoors and meet your fellow Club members.

Here's to a healthy - and hopefully less rainy - fall session.
Deborah

Notes from the Executive

We are always looking for someone of interest to speak at our monthly meetings. Please make suggestions to members of the executive so that we can provide informative talks at meetings. Remember to forward any ideas for Urban, Canoe, Hike, Walk, Bike, Ski or other activities to the coordinator (listed on back page).

Hike Leader Training – Hike Leader Training is available through Hike Ontario (www.hikeontario.com). Please consider this one day course if you are interested in becoming a certified hike leader. Durham Outdoors Club will reimburse a portion of the cost of training once candidates have lead three hikes or other activities following training. Check the Hike Ontario website for upcoming training opportunities.

Pets on Hikes and Walks – Before bringing a pet on a hike or walk, you must check with the leader to be sure pets are welcome. Some participants are uncomfortable around dogs. All pets must be on a leash, and owners must clean up after their pets.

First Aiders Needed – If you are a registered and up-to-date holder of a St. John's Ambulance or other first aid certification, please let the executive know. A roster of qualified first aiders may make a difference to the need for future training.

Letter from the Editor:

Its been a great summer, hasn't it? I hope everyone got out to have fun and experience something new. A new place, a new activity, a new vista.

Something you may not have experienced lately could be seeing the world through younger eyes. This coming Fall, I'd like to challenge you to invite a young person along with you on a club activity. Maybe you have a nephew who would like to try bike riding, or a grandchild who has yet to hike a summit. Maybe your neighbours kids have never been camping. Please bring them out, show them the beauty of our area, and challenge them to try something they've never done before. Who knows, you may find a hiking buddy for life!



Afterwards, I'd like to challenge you to write up your experience and theirs for the club to enjoy. We need to shape tomorrow's world. I think we can all agree that pathways and fresh air are a great place to start.

Chris

Regular Club Activities

Ensure that you are sufficiently prepared for all events with: appropriate foot wear, hat, mitts, extra socks, a change of dry clothes, backpack, water and a snack. Come prepared for all conditions including rain and mud. Wear comfortable boots, dress in layers, so you can remove or add layers to be comfortable climbing hills or standing exposed to the wind.

Wednesday Neighbourhood Walks

These walks take place every Wednesday evening from mid April until mid September. They start at 6.45pm and go for approximately 1 1/2 hours. Difficulty is easy to moderate and terrain is flat - usually city streets, bicycle trails or nearby conservation areas.

Hiking

Our hikes are rated based on ORTA guidelines so you can judge if they are suitable for your capabilities.

Slow:	3 km/hr-family friendly
Moderate:	4 km/hr
Fast:	5 km/hr
Very Fast:	6 km/hr or greater

Hiking poles are recommended especially in hilly areas or where there has been a recent thaw and conditions have become frozen again. Pack a lunch and hot drink if the hike is for the day. If you are carpooling with someone, make sure you take a plastic shopping bag with you for your muddy boots and offer to help with the cost of gas.

You will need icers or snowshoes in the winter; sunscreen and bug repellent in other seasons.

Canoeing

The water is getting mighty hard. We've tried canoeing in the ice. It's cold and uncomfortable. We think winter camps are way more fun! Why not get in touch with some other club members and give camping in the snow a try!

Urban Events

Club members are encouraged to get together for games nights, bowling, the theatre, musical performances, educational opportunities, outdoor shows and a range of social and cultural events throughout the year. These often incorporate an element of the outdoors such as camping, walks or hikes. Members are generally responsible to arrange their own transportation and admission fees.

Biking

Rides are classified as easy to moderate, usually from 30km to 50km. Working up to 50km is quite easy if you participate in most of our rides or just ride on your own on other days.

We require that all riders' bicycles be in good working order. Your bike must have a bell, riders must wear a helmet, good footwear and no loose clothing. Also cyclists must carry at least one spare tube, two is better, and always bring water and snack for extra energy.

Dispatches

Please submit stories for consideration in the Dispatches portion of the Newsletter to Chris (cpotvin73@gmail.com)

Cycling the Danube – Mary Perkins

This past June Heather and I did a cycling trip along the Danube River, from Passau Germany to Vienna, Austria and then on to Budapest in Hungary. In all it was about 677 kilometers of riding and lots of sight-seeing, European cuisine, wine and beer. Other DOC members have done similar trips in Europe and if you are interested in such a venture there are a number of people who would be glad give you tips.

Our days usually started about 8:30 or 9:00 AM with a coffee stop at 10:00 or 10:30 and later lunch along the way. Once we arrived at our daily destination and checked in --our accommodation varied from



old-style hotels, a rebuilt monastery, luxury B&Bs, and some modest inns--we usually took a tour of the area and decided on where to have dinner. Our cycling days averaged about 50 K but in fact varied from about 35K to 75K. The route is quite flat and in fact generally downhill as you follow the river winding its way down to the sea. In many areas you follow a large dyke with a paved trail on top. There is a paved path, or bike lanes from Passau to Vienna and most towns have bike lanes, or at least very wide (often cobbled) streets. Interestingly enough, the route keeps moving from one side of the river to the other, Germany to Austria, Austria to Germany, back and forth, back and forth. Because both countries use the Euro, and speak German, this presents little problem.

After meeting Josef, the representative for the next part of our trip, and getting our new maps and directions we headed for Hungary. This time we were also crossing into Slovakia for a short distance as well as Hungary. Slovakia uses the Euro; Hungary uses the Forint (but will accept Euros, often at a premium).

The trail in these countries was less predictable. We had more parts on roads and country lanes - very country. One part ran along a farmer's field following a lumpy, bumpy tractor path and then into a woods. That is why we needed sturdy bikes!

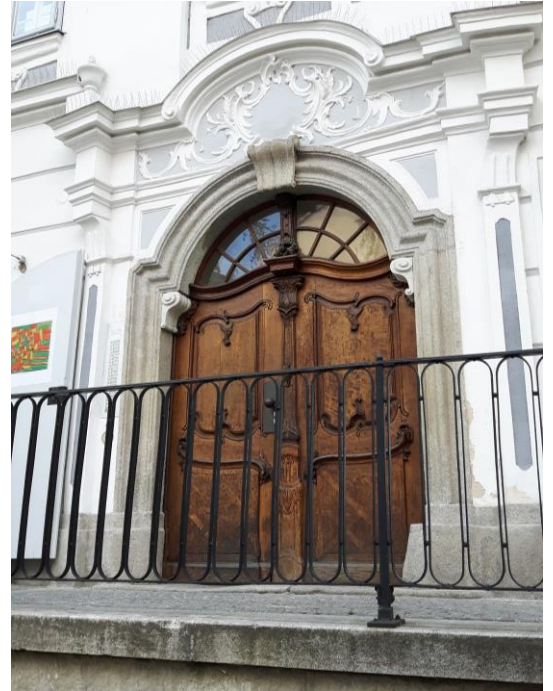
Along the way we met people from various places and countries, including three fellows from Ontario, one from Bowmanville (he was wearing an Oshawa Cycling jersey and Heather was wearing her Beach Street Spinners jersey) and one it turned out I knew from canoeing. We rode through towns, villages, cities, parks, vineyards; we visited a variety of sites, Melk Abbey being one that stands out, had a very moving experience at a concentration camp memorial (which had a staggering hill approach) and hiked up to a look-out high above a bend in the river to see tour boats navigating this famous point. Another day we stopped and swam at a park that had been made from some natural ponds --one of which had been made into a mechanical water ski park.

As part of the journey in Hungary we were given tickets to take the train part-way for one day. Finding the station in Mosonmagyaróvár was as difficult as pronouncing the name. Trying to find out when the train ran and on which track was interesting as the agent and I could not really communicate; English is less common in Hungary. However, Josef, our rep, had said ask a young person if you need help as many of them do speak English. Fortunately there were some young people who were very helpful. The explanation was that we must take our very, very heavy bikes down the steep stairs to the tunnel under the first track and up the even steeper stairs to the second track. Thank goodness Heather is strong. Otherwise I would still be there trying to get that bike up those stairs. Another day we were given tickets to take a boat part way. Much easier. Not as luxurious as the river cruises we saw moving by us each day, but a lovely way to travel and again, meet some very interesting fellow-travelers.

In Budapest we booked two extra nights in order to catch a direct flight home. It is a fantastic city and I think both of us could have stayed longer. The architecture dates from the time of Emperor Franz Josef and the whole city on the Pest side is still consistently of that period. We booked a hop-on-hop-off pass which also included a night cruise on the river (not to be missed!) and some restaurant and bar goodies. It was a great way to be able to get around in our limited time and the heat. At the suggestion of a young Canadian we met on the night cruise, we even had an afternoon at the natural mineral water baths.

Is this for you? The company says inexperienced cyclists, even children can do it. I would say you should have some cycling experience behind you (or your behind will hurt you), but definitely worth getting in shape for. After all, when you cycle instead of drive (or cruise) you can justify that extra beer or that lovely dessert!

Mary Perkins



EVENTS SCHEDULE

IMPORTANT: Visit our website to download copies of the newsletter and also to check for new activities, updates to times, dates, venues, and for cancellations.

Activities start promptly at the stated start time. Please arrive 10 – 15 minutes prior to start time to get organized and sign the waiver form.

www.durhamoutdoorsclub.ca and now on Twitter! Please follow @Durham_Outdoors

October 2017

Bike Cannington - Beaverton & Return

Bike – Moderate – 42km – 3hrs

Sunday, October 1 – 10:00 AM

Meet at: Rick MacLeish Community Centre

Directions: Take Hwy 12 N, turn right on Regional Rd 12 (Cameron St) and continue through downtown Cannington and turn right on Peace St to go to the Rick MacLeish Memorial Community Centre. Park near the Legion Hall.

Description: Cycling on quiet paved roads, snack stop in Beaverton before returning to Cannington.

Contact: Roy Crooks – (905) 434-9861

Orono Crown Land Hike

Hike – Moderate – 8km – 2hrs

Sunday, October 8 – 10:00 AM

Meet at: Parking lot at the intersection of Ochonski and Station Street in Orono.

Directions: From Taunton Road, drive south on Ochonski to small parking lot on west side, just past the Morgan Horse farm.

Description: Orono Crown Lands

Contact: Roy Crooks – (905) 434-9861

Hiking Weekend

Hike – Moderate – 10km - weekend

Friday, October 13 – Sun Oct 15

Meet at: Oxtongue Lake cabins on Friday night

Description: Algonquin Park Hiking weekend; staying at Oxtongue Lake cabins; reasonable price (approx. \$80 per person for weekend); bring own food, towels, personal items.

This event is full. No Waitlist available.

Contact: Jeannie - 905-728-8051

Biking Highland Creek - Pickering

Bike – Moderate – 45km – 3hrs

Sunday, October 15 – 9:00 AM

Meet at: Meet at the Alex Robertson Park, 700 Sandy Beach Rd, Pickering.

Description: Cycle the waterfront trail and then onto the Highland Creek Trail. Some quiet streets and trail, mostly all paved. There will be a coffee stop as well.

Contact: Elinor Major - elinor.major@hotmail.com or (905) 721-8897



Durham Forest Hike

Hike – Moderate – 8km – 2hrs

Sunday, October 22 – 9:00

Meet at: Parking Lot, East Side Concession 7, just south of the Goodwood Rd.

Description: Hike Durham Forest

We will loop the Maple, Pine, Spruce & Oak trails.

Contact: Margot - (905) 655-3770

Biking Brighton

Bike – Moderate – 45km – 3hrs

Sunday, October 22 – 10:00 AM

Meet at: Brighton Arena, 75 Elizabeth St (Hwy 2 just east of town of Brighton).

Description: Cycling through quiet roads and Presqu'ile Park. Bring snacks/lunch and water.

Contact: Glenna Christenson - (905) 579-2011

East Duffins Creek Headwaters Hike

Hike – Moderate – 10km – 2hrs

Sunday, October 29 – 10:00 AM

Meet at: Parking lot on east side of Brock Rd Pickering - 3 km north of Claremont (Durham Rd. 5)

Description: Hike Headwaters East Duffins Creek some hills, bring water.

Contact: Barbara - plantsbarbara@295.ca or (905) 839-7600

Biking - Waterfront Trail, Darlington - Bowmanville & Return

Bike – Moderate – 45km – 3hrs

Sunday, October 29 – 9:00 AM

Meet at: GM Headquarters, 1908 Colonel Sam Dr, Oshawa.

Description: Cycle the Waterfront trail, mostly quiet road and some gravel trail, east to Bowmanville and return. Bring snacks/lunch and water.

Contact: Elinor Major – elinor.major@hotmail.com or (905) 721-8897

Family Bike Ride (weather permitting)

Bike – Easy – 30km – 2hrs

Sunday, October 29 – 9:00 AM

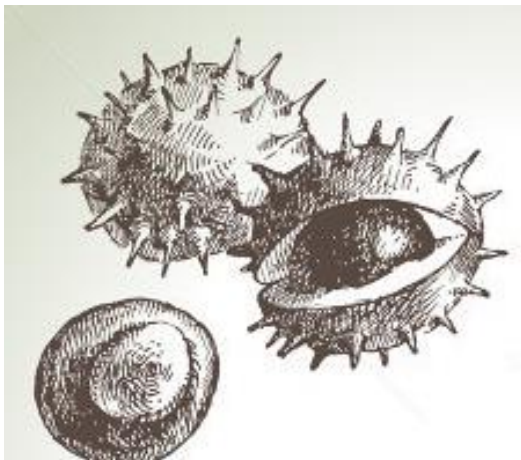
Meet at: GM Headquarters, 1908 Colonel Sam Dr, Oshawa.

Description: Cycling Waterfront Trail from Oshawa east toward Whitby. Ride lead by 9yr old James.

Contact: Chris Potvin - fromourfamily@hotmail.com

October General Meeting

Cancelled due to Halloween conflict. Please go out and walk among the ghouls if you don't have goblins of your own!



November 2017

Durham East Cross Forest Hike

Hike – Moderate – 12km – 3hrs

Saturday, November 4 – 9:00 AM

Meet at: Durham East Cross Forest, North Parking lot.

Directions: Travel north on Regional Road #57. Turn right at Devitts Road. Destination is at 4560 Devitts Road, Scugog, ON

Description: For more details see:

<http://www.kawarthaconservation.com/conservation-areas/durham-east-cross-forest>.

Contact: Scott Nokelby - scott.nokleby@gmail.com

Dinner and a Play

Urban Event

Saturday, November 4

6:15 PM Dinner, 7:30 Play

Meet at: Dinner Location TBD, Play at Arts Resource Centre, 45 Queen St. Oshawa

Description: Shoestring Players presents “In Roles we play.”

Contact: Jeannie – (905) 728-8051- call or text

Sunday morning hike - Long Sault Conservation Area

Hike – Moderate – 8km – 2hrs

Sunday, November 12 – 10:00 AM

Meet at: Meet at Parking Lot (Pay & Display)

Directions: Take Hwy # 57 North & turn East (right) onto Regional Road # 20, then turn North (left) onto Woodley Rd and follow to Long Sault Parking Area.

Description: Walk forest trails. Dress for weather. 8 to 10 K as decided by group.

Contact: Jeanne – (905) 263-8234

Hike and More (Port Perry)

Hike – Easy – 4km – 4hrs

Saturday, November 18 – 10:00 AM

Meet at: Green P Parking on Water St.

Directions: Water St. just north of Hwy 7A.

Description: Port Perry Waterfront Trail Hike then shop in historic Port Perry with late lunch at place TBA. Bring snacks and dress for weather.

Contact: Jeannie - (call or text) 905-728-8051

1st Annual Winter Camping Symposium

Saturday, November 25 – 9:30 AM

Meet at: University of Waterloo – Theatre of the Arts

Description: An opportunity for new and experienced winter campers to gather and listen to 6 great speakers talking about winter camping in Ontario.

Contact: Scott - scott.nokleby@gmail.com

Oshawa Trails Hike

Hike – Moderate – 8km – 3hrs

Sunday, November 26 – 10:00 AM

Meet at: Midtown Mall parking lot

Directions: Enter parking lot off King St. W (on N side) or John St. (on S side) and park at south-east corner next to creek

Description: Walk Oshawa Creek Trail to Lakeview Park and return via Michael Starr Trail to mid-town area where optional stop for lunch is possible. Any suggestions for a coffee stop along the way appreciated.

Contact: Mary - mary100perkins@gmail.com

November General Meeting

Tuesday, November 28 – 7:30 PM

Meet at: Faith Place, Canna Hall – 44 William St. W, Oshawa

Description: Social night! Festive Potluck. Coffee, juice, tea, plates and napkins to be provided by the exec. and coordinators. Membership is asked to bring food to share.

Contact: Deborah – (905) 430-3320

December 2017

Hike at Heber Down

Hike – Moderate – 10km – 2-3hrs

Sunday, December 3 – 10:00 AM

Meet at: East end of Lyndebrook.

Directions: North from Taunton Rd on Country Lane then right on Lyndebrook.

Description: North and south loops with possible drop-out halfway. Bring a non-breakable wildlife friendly decoration(s) to decorate the trees!

Contact: Deborah – (905) 430-3320

Annual Beaches Walk

Hike – Easy – 2-3 hrs

Sunday, December 10 – 1:00 PM

Meet at: Parking lot at Athens Pastries (Lakeshore Blvd East at foot of Coxwell).

Directions: Turn right onto Ashbridges Bay Park Road (straight on if heading south on Coxwell; first left and continue into parking lot. Park near Athens Pastries & Cafe/Tim Hortons.

Description: Wander Beaches area with optional meal afterwards.

Contact: Barry – bcjneil@gmail.com

December General Meeting

There is no December general meeting.

Advance Notice

Arrowhead Ski/Skate/Snowshoe Escape

Overnight – Moderate

Tuesday, February 6 – Thursday February 8

Meet At: Tulip Inn – Huntsville

Description: Winter activities in Arrowhead Park such as X-country skiing, skating trail, snowshoeing, and tubing. Signup sheet to be available at general meeting.

Contact: Elinor Major - elinor.major@hotmail.com or (905) 721-8897

Limberlost Forest and Wildlife Reserve

Snowshoe weekend

January 26th weekend

Approximate cost \$245 pp includes lodging and breakfast Sat-Sun.

Pot luck dinner Saturday evening

Trip Agenda to be sent out prior to trip.

Trip limited to Durham Outdoors Club members. You must sign insurance waiver.

Sign up at Sept/Oct. General meeting or via email.

Contact: Irene odaat@powergate.ca



Administrative Contacts and Schedules

EXECUTIVE FOR 2017 - 2018

President Deborah (905) 430-3320 dmcorb@gmail.com	Treasurer Kaja (905) 571-4407	Newsletter Chris (905) 493-6668 cpotvin73@gmail.com
Past President Scott Nokleby (905)259-3896 or scott.nokleby@gmail.com	Secretary Coral (905) 721-2476	Membership Jeannie (905) 728-8051
	Web Site Administrator Catherine (905) 728-8349	

EVENT CO-COORDINATORS 2017-2018

Please contact event coordinators with event suggestions or to lead an outing.

Canoeing and Kayaking Mike Thomas (905) 666-2788	Wednesday Walks (Spring/Summer) Coral (905) 721-2476 coralpetzoldt@hotmail.com	Urban Events Ray Bartodziej (905) 668-0070
Hiking Mary (905)725-2874	Cycling Elinor (905) 721-8897 or elinor.major@hotmail.com Bob Astley(905) 433-1385	Skiing Robb Duncan (905) 665-5021

Meeting Schedule and Submissions

The Durham Outdoors Club meets on the last Tuesday of each month as outlined in the events schedule. This Newsletter is published four times a year, and the Executive meets quarterly. Please ensure matters for discussion by the executive or for inclusion in the newsletter are delivered in a timely manner.

	Winter 2018	Spring 2018	Summer 2018	Fall 2018
Deadlines for Event Submissions	January –March December 1	April – June March 1	July – September June 1	October – December
Executive Meetings	December 5	March 6	June 5	September 4