

10th annual Wilderness & Canoeing symposium on  
Northern Overview and Some Remarkable Journeys

January 27, 28, 1995 at Monarch Park Collegiate, Toronto

Program Participants

ANNANACK, David: Inuit Perspectives & the Korok Torngats

Ungava Quebec

- was born in George River and has lived on the shores of Ungava Bay all of his life, as did his parents before him. He is owner of and guide for "Koroc Torngat Mountains Outfitters". He is also a member of the Land Holdings Board of Directors, as well as on the Ungava Hospital Board of Directors.

BURSEY, Brian: Northern Labrador Visitations

St. John's NF

- is a civil servant with the Newfoundland Department of Fisheries. He has travelled extensively throughout Newfoundland and Labrador by canoe, boat, and on foot. He has written extensively on historical and economic issues, and has published several books of photography on his home province, including {Exploring Labrador, and Discovering Newfoundland.

BUTTIGIEG, Pat: [Chair]

- is an enthusiastic paddler and WCA member. She started tripping with her parents in Northern Ontario and has continued this pursuit of water and wilderness with her husband, Bryan. Most recent journeys include canoeing the Kattawagami and the George rivers. When she is not out in the wild, Pat is working as a Social Worker at Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto.

BUXTON, Max: Trans - Polar Ski Trek

Calabogie ON

- has been the Calabogie doctor for ten years, and while not working in that capacity has travelled extensively in the Canadian and Siberian Arctic. In 1988, he walked across the Arctic Ocean from the north coast of Siberia to Canada with twelve other Russian and Canadian teammates. The members of the Polar Bridge Expedition are the only group in history to have crossed an entire ocean on foot.

GRINNELL, George: Death & Resurrection on the Dubawnt

Cape Breton NS

- taught the history of science and technology for 24 years at McMaster University, which he decided was a mistake and now lives in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia with his wife and family. Their spiritual home is in the wilderness: the rivers of the North, the mountains of Europe, the forests and sea around Cape Breton.

HENDERSON, Bob: [Chair]

- has made his most recent summer outings to Labrador, where his spirit wanders freely with the prior travelers, explorers and dwellers of the north. He teaches outdoor education in the Department of Kinesiology (Physical Education) and the Arts and Science programme at McMaster University.

HOYLE, Gwyneth: Unsung Northern Travellers

Peterborough ON

- has canoed enough to understand the meaning of all the canoe lore she read while researching and writing Canoeing North Into the Unknown with co-author Bruce Hodgins. Retired as a librarian from Trent University, she continues independent research on northern subjects.

JASON, Victoria: A Grandmother's NW Passage by Kayak

Winnipeg MB

- has kayaked in the Arctic for four summers and is called the "Redhead Kabloona in the Yellow Kayak". Her journeys have taken her from Churchill to Repulse Bay to Gjoa Haven. In 1993-94 she kayaked solo down the Mackenzie River from Fort Providence to Tuktoyaktuk and eastward through the North West Passage to Gjoa Haven. Love of the north country and the Inuit people are her passion.

KRUGER, Verlen: "One Incredible Journey"

Lansing MI

- from Lansing, Michigan, is a canoe designer and builder who paddles his own canoes. In 1963, at age 41, he got badly bitten by the *canoe bug* on his first trip into the Ontario bush country. Since then he has travelled a world record 87,000 miles all over this hemisphere. And loved every mile of it. His fascination with the fur trade history led to his first major expedition, following the old fur trade route out of Montreal, and for 6,716 miles to the Bering Sea.

LEWIS, Ken: In La Salle's Historic Footsteps

Elgin IL

- likes going out in canoes; he also likes finding offbeat ways to share his passion for wild places, silent sports, and North America's French-Canadian heritage. The 1973 Joliet-Marquette and 1976-77 LaSalle re-enactment expeditions gave him the chance to pursue these inclinations on an epic scale. More recently, Ken and his somewhat skeptical wife, Sandy, cut loose from cushy corporate jobs so Ken could put their golden years at risk by returning to the vagabond lifestyle of an outdoor adventure writer. [seat B25]

LEWTAS, Pat: Solo Winter Crossing of the Barrens

Toronto ON

- is a Toronto lawyer who has canoed and winter-camped in Canada's north since the mid-seventies. From 1987 to 1991 he worked on resource development issues for native organizations in Sioux Lookout, Northwestern Ontario.

LUSTE, George: [Chair]

- is a physics professor who has an abiding enthusiasm for wilderness and the northern landscape; its lakes and rivers, its tundra and mountains, its beauty and solitude, and its native people, for whom it is home. He has been fortunate enough to have experienced a small part of the north during his many summer canoe trips and a few winter treks over the last 30 years.

LUSTE, Tait and Tija: From The Bay to Ungava to Labrador

Toronto ON

- are twin brother and sister who paddled together on many family canoe trips in Northern Ontario when they were children. More recently, in 1993, Tija paddled across the Northern Quebec peninsula, and, in 1992, Tait paddled around and across the Northern Labrador peninsula; both trips with their father. Tait works for an outdoor equipment and outfitting store. Tija finished her Masters in Environmental Studies in 1994 and now works for the Waterfront Regeneration Trust, an agency of the Ontario Provincial Government.

MacLAREN, Ian: George Back - an "Arctic Artist"

Edmonton AB

- has made several canoe trips in the Northwest Territories, the history of which bit him as hard as any other bug. He teaches in the Canadian Studies Program and in the Department of English at the University of Alberta, and researches the literature and art of explorers and travellers to the Arctic and West; most recently, George Back, Paul Kane, and Lady Vyvyan. He is co-author with Stuart Houston of Arctic Artist: The Journal and Paintings of George Back, Midshipman with Franklin 1819-1822.

McGUFFIN, Joan: "Where Rivers Run" Revisited

Goulais River ON

- together with her husband Gary and malamute "Kalija" live on the shores of Lake Superior in the Algoma highlands where they enjoy the four seasons canoeing, hiking, skiing and kayaking. In 1983-84 they journeyed 6,000 miles by canoe from the St. Lawrence Gulf to the Beaufort Sea. Their book, Where Rivers Run, describes that journey.

MORSE, Pamela: [Chair]

- is a retired biometrician, living in the Gatineau Hills, Quebec. With her husband, Eric Morse, who died in 1986, she has canoed many of the fur-trade routes, and extensively in the NWT.

NISHIMURA, Akitoshi: My Solitary Northern Sojourns

Japan

- is a 40 year old construction worker (with qualifications as a veterinarian) who works and lives in Tokyo. He started his first solo trips in 1985, from Jasper, Alberta to Tuk, NWT via the Mackenzie River. Every summer since then he has made a solo canoe trip in the Canadian Arctic: Great Slave Lake-Hanbury-Thelon, Yellowknife-Back-Gjoa Haven, Yellowknife-Coppermine, Yellowknife-Hood-Bay Chimo, Selwyn Lake-Elk-Thelon, Stony Rapid-Kazan-Arviat.

PEAKE, Michael: [Chair]

- is a photographer with the Toronto Sun and publisher of the canoeing journal Che-Mun. Along with his brothers and other members of the Hide-Away Canoe Club he travels historic canoe routes throughout Canada's north.

PERKINS, Robert: A Northern Reading

Cambridge MA

- has canoed extensively in the Canadian Arctic and Siberia. He has written several books and made several documentary films of his travels.

POHL, Herb: [Chair]

- is a retired biologist who, for many years, has spent his spare time in the map library and his holidays on canoe or snowshoe trips in Canada's northland.

SCHNELLER, Lydia: Arctic Tales by Lydia and Hans

Germany

- is the daughter of a miller and married a miller. Hans and Lydia run their wheatmill with great success in Bavaria. They have been kayaking together for 30 years, including some 20 years in the Arctic: the Coppermine, Burnside, Horton, Ellice River and Queen Maud Gulf, Dease Strait, Coronation Gulf, and Amundsen Gulf in the NWT, as well as the coast of Greenland from Thule to Kane Basin.

SEAGER, Sara: Endless Northern Summer By Canoe

Toronto ON

- is an avid outdoorswoman and canoeist who has spent much time in Ontario's backcountry. Currently she is at Harvard University working on her PhD in astrophysics. She spent this past summer canoeing in the southeastern NWT.

SOUCHUK, Peter: "Magnetic North" Revisited

Chicago IL

- is planning to build a log cabin near the Berens River in Manitoba. He joined David Halsey in his extraordinary Trans-Canada journey of 1977-79, described in Magnetic North. He currently works as a paramedic for the Chicago Fire Department and is a pilot. He has set a personal goal to read every book on the Northern Books' list.

WIEBE, Rudy: In the Land of the Tetsot'ine

Edmonton AB

- is a writer living in Edmonton, Alberta. His twelve books of fiction include The Blue Mountains of China (1970) and The Temptation of Big Bear (1973). Two recent publications are the book of essays Playing Dead: A Contemplation Concerning the Arctic (1989) and the novel A Discovery of Strangers, which tells the story of the Tetsot'ine (Yellowknife) encounter with the first Franklin expedition, 1819-22. This book won the Governor General's Literary Award for fiction in November, 1994.

WISSINK, Rene: Ellesmere Island National Park

Pangnirtung NT

- has lived in Nunavut (Canada's Eastern Arctic) for 15 years, working as a teacher, consultant, outfitter, and national park warden. In 1987 he led the Qitdlarssuaq Expedition, a 3,000 km dogsled journey from Igloolik, NWT to Qaanaaq, Greenland. Since 1989 he has managed Ellesmere Island National Park Reserve, which includes Canada's most northerly lands.