



## NEWSLETTER

### THANKSGIVING FAMILY HIKE

The Mont O'Brien Association annual Thanksgiving Family Hike in October was a wonderful event. Forty-four hikers came out on what started out as a foggy morning. By the time we all stopped to enjoy the south view from the top of our beloved Mont O'Brien and partake in a group photo, we had beautiful sunshine. The leaves on the oak, popular and maple trees were out in their glory. We started hiking at 9:30 in the morning and we were back in our vehicles parked near Ross' Creek three and half hours later.

This was a special hike for many reasons. This was the first time we were able to do a complete loop up and over Mont O'Brien. Thanks to the leadership of Joe Jamison and several volunteers who selected and cleared the trail over a few weekends leading up to the hike, we were able to go up the east side of Mont O'Brien and descend by way of the north side.

This new trail off the north side of the mountain is named in memory of Mary Haydon, a dedicated Mont O'Brien Association volunteer, who passed away unexpectedly in September. The naming of this trail is a tribute to Mary's love of nature and her enthusiasm for the proposed Mont O'Brien park.



A big thank you goes to Joe Jamison and John Noel who orchestrated the hike and to the amazing volunteers, John and Alan Noel and Ron LaFlamme, who came out the day of hike to ensure we all came off the mountain safe and sound. To view more photos from the hike, visit the Mont O'Brien Association website: [www.danfordlakevillage.qc.ca](http://www.danfordlakevillage.qc.ca)

### Don't Forget to Purchase Your 2004 Membership

2004 Membership forms are now available. They are enclosed with the 2004 winter newsletter mailing or you can pick them up at the Miljour Store or the Alleyne-and-Cawood Municipal Office in Danford Lake. You can also download the form from the Mont O'Brien website ([www.danfordlakevillage.qc.ca](http://www.danfordlakevillage.qc.ca)) **Please note that we will be changing the lock on the Mont O'Brien gate. All members must sign the 2004 Membership Responsibility Acknowledgement Form to be eligible to receive a new key.**

The 2004 membership fee is \$15 – an increase of \$5.00. This is to help offset the costs of the new access key and the maintenance of the new road being planned through to Lac O'Brien.

Last year we had 175 paid memberships representing approximately 525 people. With your help we hope to have more than 200 memberships in 2004. For more information on how to become a member call Pam Miles at (613) 724-5959, Chris or Bertha Kirby (819) 467-4764 or Kim Villeneuve in the Municipal Office at (819) 467-2941. Corporate memberships are available for \$50.00

## Mont O'Brien Update

**Logging:** A fall meeting was held with representatives from Louisiana-Pacific and the Ministry of Natural Resources to review the status of the three-year agreement that the Mont O'Brien Association has with Louisiana-Pacific. The logging that was carried out by Louisiana-Pacific during the winter of 2002/2003 conformed to the specifics of our agreement. In addition, as agreed upon previously, LP has widened the Lac O'Brien Road for us. In the future LP has agreed to consider providing us with future road assistance. These details will be worked out in the coming months.

**Open Board Positions:** At the 2003 Annual General Meeting on Sunday, March 28th, two Board positions will be up for election. The election of the four officer positions (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer) will take place during the first Board meeting directly following the AGM. In you are interested in becoming a Board member, please make sure that you attend the AGM on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

**A Thank you for our Right-of-Way Access:** The Miljour Estates, a building lot development project, has generously provided members of the Mont O'Brien Association with the right-of-way on our road into the Mont O'Brien region. If you would like more information about the lots for sale within Miljour Estates, please contact Renato Livinal at (819) 827-5803 or visit <http://www.cottagelink.com/cottlink/quebec/qu10145.html>

**Want to make a charitable donation to Mont O'Brien Association and receive an official charitable tax receipt?**

**Make your cheque payable to Municipality of Allevyn-and-Cawood and send it to:**

Mont O'Brien Association  
c/o Municipality of Allevyn-and-Cawood  
10 Jondee Road, Danford Lake, Quebec, J0X 1P0

## Dates to Remember:

### ❖ Annual General Meeting

Sunday, March 28, 2004  
1:30 – 3:00 p.m.  
Allevyn-and-Cawood Municipal Office  
10 Jondee Road, Danford Lake, Quebec

Please note: family memberships have only one vote.

## Report Back: CPAWS – Mont O'Brien Workshop

During February and March, the Ottawa Valley Chapter of Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society will be holding public workshops in each of the Outaouais MRCs in order to identify parcels of Crown Land as candidates to protect under the Government of Quebec's Protected Area Strategy which aims to protect 8% of Quebec's public forests by 2005. CPAWS will be sending a submission to the Quebec Ministry of the Environment early this summer, which will propose areas in our region to be protected. The Government will begin evaluating the Outaouais submissions this fall.

Once CPAWS sets the dates and locations of their public workshops, the Board of the Directors of the Mont O'Brien Association will alert our membership via email. If you do not have access to email but wish to be informed of the workshop date for the MRC Pontiac, please call either Michele at (819) 467-2835 or Pam at (613) 724-5959.

The workshop in the MRC Pontiac will build upon what was decided during the community planning workshop we held with two CPAWS representatives on Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2003. The 25 members and friends of the Mont O'Brien Association who attended discussed the options for the legal status of the Mont O'Brien region and the group unanimously agreed that the Mont O'Brien region should be protected as a biodiversity reserve. CPAWS will be including our request in their submission to the Ministry of the Environment .

For more information about CPAWS please visit their website at <http://www.cpaws-ov.org>.

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## Mont O'Brien Fundraising Raffle

Watch for the raffle tickets going on sale soon for a **beautiful hand-crafted cedar hope chest** donated by Joe Jamison of Alcove, a Mont O'Brien Association board member.

The tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5.00. The winner will be drawn at the Mother's Day supper in May 2004 at Bethany Hall.

**For more information contact a Mont O'Brien Board Member:**

Michele Sura (819) 467-2835  
Roy Peck (819) 467-5473  
Pam Miles (613) 724-5959  
Harold Emery (819) 467-5251  
Ed Elliott (819) 467-2835  
John Noel (819) 459-2479  
Joe Jamison (819) 459-3933