

# First experimental snowshoe hike held

The gusty 40 mph winds sweeping across the Eramosa could not deter the 48 outdoor enthusiasts who arrived as per 10 a.m. schedule at the Rockwood Conservation Park to participate in the Grand River Authority's first experimental snowshoe hike.

Although the majority of the hikers were eager amateurs, several others were veterans at the sport which absorbed approximately four hours of

daylight and consisted of parkland trails which extended from the main entry to the new Fourth Line concession road across the banks of the river, up towards the Hortop Mill to double back again to the pavilion.

Invigorating and stimulating, the outdoor escapade brought together people of all ages as youngsters from 10 to 70 came in from Erin, Georgetown, Acton, and Burlington districts as well

as from the Kitchener-Waterloo area.

**Three groups**  
Dividing into three groups under the leadership of Joan Bell and Peter Kershaw from Waterloo University and Rockwood's Park Superintendent Jim Muir, the party donned the webbed framed shoes loaned especially by the authority's Training Schools, and started out. Numbing blasts could not force the hikers back as they gulped in exhilarating breaths of cold, clean, county air and plunged onward.

"Oh, it was fun!" After they had completed their ploughing trek through pre-arranged virgin snowpaths yet untouched by snowmobiles or other vehicles, they gathered in groups around the pavilion to consume a lunch of hot chili and deep brown chocolate.

"Another hike?" The group tried to convince Peter and Joan that soon again would not be soon enough and others wondered if the park could provide them with snowshoes regularly for freelance jaunting.

"At the moment," says Jim Muir, "the only snowshoes available are those belonging to the Training Schools but, maybe if the Authority sees the demand we could get some here." Meantime Saturday's shoes which had been brought down from Laurel Creek and Fergus were returned later.

Plans for another local hike have not been set. The next event on the Conservation Agenda is for date of February 26 at Laurel Creek. It'll be two miles of night hiking with "full moon guarantee from Peter Kershaw", Grand Valley's ardent outdoor organizer. There'll be midnight bonfires and barbecues with sing songs and fun.

"Just contact your local supervisor," says Peter, and he'll fill you in. With Peter and Joan at the helm the winter and springtime plans for the authority are off to a good start.

The Authority plans to continue the experience program with panel discussions and other activities and it is their hope that several conservation areas will be involved in an even greater expanded information program of the Grand River Watersheds.

## VON speaker

# Trend is back to home care Comin' and Goin's . . .

The January 27 meeting of the Sunshine Club was a highly successful one which many of the members attended.

With president Ralph Williams in the chair, Mrs. Early played the piano for a sing-song which was followed by a short business session.

The program was an interesting one and Mrs. McNabb of Harris Street and Mrs. William Early, R.R., Campbellville, had those present in a receptive frame of mind when they rendered a duet and Mrs. McNabb gave an amusing reading entitled "Cliniced".

**On VON**  
Representative for the Guelph Branch of the Victorian Order of Nurses Miss McLeod, gave a talk on the history of the VON when doctors and hospitals were scarce and people were, largely, looked after in their own homes.

"As time progressed care was taken over by the hospital," said Miss McLeod who continued by explaining that it has since been found that patients, particularly children, are happier in their own homes and the trend is back to the home care with the VON

## Appoint Recreation Committee

Eramosa township council introduced several new faces into the township recreation committee with appointments made at the February meeting Wednesday evening.

Deputy Reeve Dunc McPhedran and Councillor Ken Fair rounded up several new names for the committee which councillors thought could work hand-in-glove with the newly formed Lions Club in Rockwood, as well as performing other duties expected.

It was noted replacements were necessary for bank manager Jim Greenis who submitted his resignation to spearhead the drive for the village Lions Club and Monte Root and Herb Saunders of the village felt they had served their time and should be replaced.

After several minutes of discussion it was decided to stagger the appointments so they could be made each year, instead of all at once.

Appointed for a one year term were George Smith and Grant McRae.

Two years - Harvey Peart and Rodney Bell.

Three years - Harry Barber, Lloyd Dyer and Ron Martin. Councillors Bill Adsett and Ken Fair are also members of the nine man committee, which council hoped would represent all sections of the township.

playing a major role.

Mrs. Parlee, supervisor of the Home Maker Service, gave an account of how the service came into existence and its function and explained how its needs had graduated to requiring the services of 40 trained homemakers from Guelph who are dedicated in their profession.

**Great afternoon**  
The Sunshiners enjoyed the informative presentation and, at its conclusion, stretched the usual closing time to accommodate a period of games after which coffee and fruit bread were served with Miss Florence

Till and Mrs. Alice Duby officiating.

It was a great afternoon for a club which is growing and flourishing as it steadily becomes more established each month since its October 14 inception. The members enjoy the fellowship, the delight of having a place to meet, plus the added pleasure of regular bi-weekly meetings. They continue to invite everyone interested in joining to their club and advise that their next time of congregating at the Rockwood Town Hall will be on February 10 at 2 p.m.

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even Lloyd a dull boy. Eramosa residents hope that Clerk Hindley found his Hamilton convention not all work but that, when away attending to township business there were some interesting features that made his trip enjoyable.

News home to mom and dad are that Donna Hills is in Mt. Cook, New Zealand, enjoying the best of all worlds. Rabbit hunting, mountain climbing, scenic airplane flipping, and, for all the world to see, she landed on top of Fox Glacier Mountain and in deep snow, patriotically spelled

out the exciting word "CANAD A". It's called the liaisonry of youth and we're all for it.

All worriers about how Jean Meadows would get along after her terrible automobile accident will be pleased to see her out on the streets now visiting about and luncheon with friends and relatives. In a mask-like cast from waist to head she is in the best of spirits and hopes to cast-off come March 8. Just proves that prayer, plenty of spirit, and the right attitude can pull you through anything. Great going, girl, Rockwood friends are proud of you.

## Queries high cost road maintenance

Nassagaweya Council received a complaint from the trustee of the police village of Eden Mills when Council met on Monday evening.

Trustee Norman Marshall, who with Trustee Rodney Bell and Village Secretary John Turner appeared before Council Monday night, questioned a township road maintenance bill for \$450 for 1971.

The road in question is the Second Line Nassagaweya. The road passes through the village for 2,000 feet. Township road

crews rather than stop at the village border, continue on to the end of the road with maintenance programs such as snowplowing. The village is responsible for the maintenance of the rest of the community's streets.

Trustee Marshall told Council it cost the village \$743 in 1971 for the maintenance of roughly five or six miles of streets. Yet during the same period the township was charging the village \$450 for 2,000 feet of roadway.

Marshall told Council the township bill for the roadway in 1970 had been about \$150. He asked Council to look into the matter or the village would maintain the 2,000 foot roadway by itself.

## Eramosa council briefs

At the regular meeting last Wednesday, Eramosa township council:

—Approved a grant of \$30 to Wellington County Soil and Crop Association.

—Authorized Guelph Rotary Club to conduct a car lottery in the township.

—Instructed the clerk to advertise for 10,000 cubic yards of gravel to be delivered on township roads.

—Received a report from the road superintendent on the poor condition of the township grader. The grader needs rebuilding otherwise it could blow up and the township would need \$5,000 to put it in running order, the road super said.

—Was informed a steel fabricating plant would soon be erected on the Second Line above 7 highway, on property owned by the Grinnell company.

—Appointed John Benham as the Eramosa representative on the Guelph and Suburban Planning Board for three years.

—Reeve Warren Parkinson presided for the four hour meeting with the clerk, Lloyd Hindley and all councillors present.



WINTER-WOOLLIED and muffled warmly, outdoor enthusiasts from Burlington, Oakville, Acton, Kitchener and Waterloo districts gathered at the Rockwood Conservation Park to participate in the Grand River Authority's first experimental snowshoe hike. Left, set down; right, set down, and one Georgetown resident on Saturday's trek at the Conservation Park started as a novice but, after a few miles of practice he graduated to semi-expert. The weather was freezing cold but everyone warmed as the morning went on. — (Photos by Lorraine)

## Queries produce avid discussion

Last Tuesday's was a tremendously interesting meeting for the Rockalong Women's Institute when, as program convener for the evening, Mrs. W. Guild presented a series of topical and provocative questions for consideration and discussion.

Concerning local and world-wide controversies the questionnaire was composed of 10 leading queries which greatly affect today's mode of living and, reportedly, the avid discussions which ensued proved the all-round interest that today's Institute ladies share in current events.

**Welcome president**

As usual the meeting was held in No. 8 Community Centre with president Miss Helen Bayne spontaneously welcomed back by the members after several months of absence due to illness.

The roll call, with every member present, was answered by reading a topical and interesting news headline from local newspapers. Mrs. S. Trousdale of Harris Street displayed a sample of Irish moss which had been sent to her by a friend in Prince Edward Island.

In showing the moss Mrs. Trousdale explained how this product of the sea is a million dollar business for that island and how, as a gelatin substance, can be utilized in many food compounds.

Mrs. Lloyd Dyer of Guelph Street then gave an account of the Eland Lee Home in Stony Creek and, displaying pictures of the beautiful old homestead dining room, pointed out the very dining room table on which the first constitution of the Women's Institute of Canada had been drawn up. Plans for acquiring the property as a historical centre are already in the offing for the

organization and each group will contribute towards its purchase in their own way.

**Textiles subject**

Two poems were then read by members of the local Institute one "Noises" and a second poem, "I love old things." After this, members were informed that their next, March 7 meeting would be one of special interest to all homemakers as a representative of a nearby textile plant will be present to explain our modern fabrics and how best to use them. One other Institute is being invited for the evening as well as members of the 4H Club, with the No. 8 School the regular meeting place.

Mrs. Guild then presented her

## Recognize musicians

A couple of people called to identify most of the musicians in the old picture in last week's Free Press. It's likely they comprised the Methodist church orchestra, with soloists.

The man on the left is Charles Mason, long-time stalwart of Acton's musical circles, and one of the men at the back is another former bandmaster John Hill. A.E. Nicklin and Harry Jeans are also in the back row to the left, and the man with the bass violin is possibly Ray Watson. The boy in the centre could be Bert Smith.

The woman in white is likely Lottie Hemstreet, a well-known singer in the district, and the other woman, in a dark dress, is Ethel Coleman, now Mrs. Ralston Brown. H.P. Moore stood in the centre of the group which had posed on his front steps for the picture.

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