

Successful 10th Anniversary of the Lakefield Trail

It all started in January of 2010, when a committee began the planning for “An Evening of Good Cheer” – a gala celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Lakefield Trail. Meeting monthly, volunteers planned every detail.

At the same time, Lakefield resident and Canoe Museum volunteer, Denis Gagne, with assistance from Bill Buddle, Harold Baal, Merrilyn Lindsay, David Walsh and Al Smith, started building the beautiful Ranger Style 15’ cedar epoxy canoe to be the grand prize in the “River Raffle.” Included were two hand-crafted cherry paddles, two lifejackets and a safety kit for a total value of \$6,000. Volunteers sold tickets at various locations and festivals during the summer and many people admired the fine craftsmanship. Total funds raised from the raffle were \$7,596.30.

The gala evening proved to be a wonderful success with a fantastically decorated venue, food, music and a wonderful array of donated articles for the silent and live auctions. A total of \$9,209.87 was raised for future trail.

Volunteers helped raise more than \$16,000 with these two events last year.



Trail supporters enjoyed a gala evening on November 12 in Lakefield College School's dining hall.



“River Raffle” canoe made of western red cedar and created from a kit available through Bear Mountain Boats. L-R: Bruce Bellchambers, Denis Gagne and Edna Whitehouse.