

# SEINE RIVER Meanderings

April 2015

## SOS ~ Celebrating 25 Years

2015 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Save Our Seine. Rather than holding a one splashy event to celebrate this milestone, the planning committee is organizing a series of grassroots volunteer-led events and activities to showcase different stretches of the greenway throughout the seasons.

The first event was a winter walk at the Riel-Lagimodière Mill site on February 28. Twenty keen and hardy folks explored the location of the mill site on this brisk winter day. Don't feel bad if you missed our first event. There are many more to come. Check the SOS Web site for postings or join our e-mailing list to receive the SOS newsletter and event notifications.

Throughout the Year

- ◆ Amateur photography contests on Facebook (Save Our Seine River Environment)
- ◆ Seine River Memories—tell us your stories about the river

April 22 (Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.)

- ◆ "Earth Day—Focus on the Seine River" featuring the photography of Mike Grandmaison (St. Boniface Library)

May 2 (Saturday, noon)

- ◆ Jane's Day history walk (Lagimodière-Gaboury trail to Gabrielle Roy House)

May 13 (Wed.) or May 27 (rain date)

- ◆ Shoreline cleanup

May 23 (Saturday, 8 a.m.) or May 24 (rain date)

- ◆ Spring Migration Birding Walk with Christian Artuso

May 30 (Saturday)

- ◆ Weed-pulling event (several "hot spots" along the South Trail)

June 13 (Saturday)

- ◆ "Fishing the Seine" Family Fishing Day (John Bruce Park)

Late spring or summer

- ◆ Botany Walk with Charles Burchill
- ◆ Biking the Seine with Denis DePape and friends

Early fall

- ◆ Rain garden project unveiling

September 26 (Saturday)

- ◆ Celebrate Culture Days with SOS (Bois-des-Esprits). Meet the



*Come experience the Seine River at one of our many anniversary events!*

wood carvers (Walter Mirosh/Robert Leclair and Murray Watson) whose original creations bring the spirits of this magical forest to life.

October (TBA)

- ◆ Save Our Seine Annual General Meeting

Other possible events that are in the early planning stages include:

- ◆ Canoeing the Seine
- ◆ Marlene Park event
- ◆ Shoreline cleanups

If your school, community group, or family is interested in organizing a shoreline clean-up this year, please contact [saveourseine@gmail.com](mailto:saveourseine@gmail.com).

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**Please share this newsletter - then recycle**

## Earth Day—Focus on the Seine River—Wednesday, April 22



Photo: Mike Grandmaison

The beauty of the Seine River is an inspiration to amateur and professional photographers. You are invited to attend a special photography presentation by Mike Grandmaison on Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 p.m. “Earth Day – Focus on the Seine River” will feature the artistry of one of Canada’s finest professional photographers. The presentation will include some

of the many images that Mike has taken during photographic forays along the Seine River over the past 10 years. Two of his latest books (*Mike Grandmaison’s Ontario* and *Mike Grandmaison’s Prairie and Beyond*) will be available to purchase (cash or cheque) at this free event at the St. Boniface Library (corner of Taché and Provencher). Doors open: 6:30 p.m.

### SOS Awards

2004 Canadian Environmental Award for Restoration and Rehabilitation

2004 Mayor’s Volunteer Award for Environmental Stewardship

2003 Prairie Crocus Award, Nature Manitoba

2000 Certificate of Environmental Citizenship, Environment Canada

1996 Award of Excellence, Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development

### History Walk—Saturday, May 2

Explore Winnipeg’s history from the early 1800s to present day on a guided walk from Lagimodière-Gaboury Park (Thibault and Notre Dame Street) to Gabrielle Roy House Historic Site (375 Deschambault). J.P. Brunet will share his vast knowledge of the early settlement along the Seine River—beginning with Jean-Baptiste Lagimodière

(voyageur, trapper, hunter, and messenger) and Marie-Anne Gaboury (the first European woman to travel 3,200 km by canoe brigade to settle permanently in the west). Denis Gautron—President of Save Our Seine—will be on hand to pay tribute to Gabrielle Roy (1909-1983)—a writer whose stories were influenced by her early life growing



Meet at the entrance to Lagimodière-Gaboury Historic Park

up near the Seine River in St. Boniface. Her books have gained international acclaim especially in the francophone literary community.

### SOS Volunteer Wins 2015 Mayor’s Award

SOS has many long-time volunteers who have dedicated their time and energy to the organization. We had an opportunity this year to recognize one of these volunteers in a special way by nominating him for The Mayor’s Volunteer Service Award. This award recognizes

volunteers who demonstrate imagination, extraordinary effort, long-term commitment to community life, and leadership or enthusiasm that energizes other members of the community. We felt that this described Denis DePape perfectly and the review panel agreed. The nomination elaborated on

his many attributes including leadership, vision, relationship-building, and ability to recruit new board members over a cup of coffee or green tea. The award will be presented by Mayor Bowman at the Annual Volunteer Awards Dinner on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 at the RBC Convention Centre.

**Congratulations to Denis DePape, long-time SOS volunteer and winner of The Mayor’s Volunteer Service Award**

## Amateur Photography Contest

As a part of its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Save Our Seine is planning an amateur photography contest to highlight the beauty, biodiversity, and value of the Seine River to local residents and visitors. This is your opportunity to showcase the photographic beauty of the river, its secret places, and its wildlife.

Entries will be posted on the SOS Facebook page and the public will select winners by “liking” their favourite photos in each category. Unlike other contests, you may enter photos taken in 2015 as well as your best shots taken in past years.

Categories include:

- ◆ Fauna
- ◆ Flora
- ◆ Wildscapes – landscape photography
- ◆ Macro – very close up photography

Deadlines and details of the contest will be posted on the SOS Web site and Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/SaveOurSeineWinnipeg](http://www.facebook.com/SaveOurSeineWinnipeg)).



Like us on: [facebook.com/SaveOurSeineWinnipeg](http://facebook.com/SaveOurSeineWinnipeg)

So, look through your photo collection for your best shots and be sure to visit your favourite places along the river to take some new images.

The deadline for spring photos is June 7 and the judging period will end on July 7. Stay-tuned for summer, fall, and winter contest deadlines.

The entries and results of the seasonal contests will be featured at the 2015 SOS Annual General Meeting in late October or early November.

## Fishing the Seine—Saturday, June 13

The Seine River provides valuable habitat for 32 different species of fish. Many of these fish are minnow-sized and serve as a food for larger species like bass, perch, sauger, and walleye.

You are invited to join Liam and Kevin at John Bruce Park on Saturday, June 13 for a fun day of fishing the Seine. Since this is

Family Fishing Day Manitoba, a fishing license is not required. Just bring some basic fishing gear and perhaps a portable chair or a blanket. Bait will be available. Enjoy displays and demonstrations related to fish and fishing. Experienced and novice anglers are encouraged to participate.



Kevin B. fishing the Seine River



### Save Our Seine Board

<b>Denis Gautron (President)</b>	<b>Sisters of Our Lady of the Mission (Secretary)</b>
<b>Alain Cenerini (VP)</b>	<b>Sandra Stewart, Denise Kuyp, &amp; Veronica Dunne</b>
<b>David Venema (Treasurer)</b>	
Kevin Boreskie	Tari Muvingi
David J. Danyluk	Chris Pearce
Denis DePape	Wilma Sotas
Liam Mulhall	Marc St. Laurent

### Interested in Volunteering?

- ◇ Action: “Eyes on the River” (observers), riverbank and trail work, tree plantings, European buckthorn/weed removal, water quality testing
- ◇ River education programs (Adopt-a-River and Waterways)
- ◇ Creative communication: Web site (design and updating), newsletter (writers), photo library
- ◇ Organizing: Bookkeeping, membership lists, volunteer management, events
- ◇ Planning: Board member, research, networking, community meetings, fundraising, awareness events and activities
- ◇ Special Projects: Rain garden committee, GIS maps, new ideas

Circle your interests, clip and mail this slip to the address on the back page or send us an e-mail

## SAVE OUR SEINE

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**We're on the Web and  
Facebook!**  
**Saveourseine.com**

## MISSION

Our vision is for a sustainable and protected Seine River Greenway that provides a healthy habitat for vegetation and wildlife and contributes to the quality of life of all citizens.

## GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATION

SOS depends on community volunteers and community contributions to help protect, preserve and enhance the Seine River Environment through education, awareness and hands-on participation. Your contribution assists SOS in enabling all citizens to reconnect with their local environment.



*Volunteer-in-Action:  
Denis DePape*

*Winner of the 2015  
Mayor's Volunteer  
Service Award!*

## GOALS

1. Preserve, protect and enhance the natural environment & heritage resources of the Seine River.
2. Restore & repair features of the environment that have been degraded.
3. Improve water level, flow & quality of the Seine River.
4. Raise the public's awareness of all aspects of the Seine River.
5. Improve the environmental behavior of private industry, governments and the public.
6. Improve appropriate public access along the Seine River (by low-impact nature trail & by canoe).

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### Your Donations Make a Difference!

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### Many Ways to Donate

- Complete this form, clip, and mail
- Ask your payroll administrator to direct a portion of your United Way donation to SOS
- Donate on-line using credit card, Interact, or PayPal. Go to the SOS Web site, select donate, and click "**Canada Helps**"

**Tax receipts will be issued for donations over \$10 (name/mailling address required)**