



ON THE TRAIL NEWSLETTER



Dec 2018
**Winter
Edition**

Important Dates

- ⇒ The AGM on January 19th, 2019
- ⇒ The new members orientation on March 18th, 2019
- ⇒ New Season starts on April 1st, 2019

From the Online Photo Gallery

- [The October Potluck Dinner](#)



From the President

-- by Doug Hackbarth --

Another hiking season has ended. Details can be found in Gerry's report in this newsletter but suffice it to say that lingering spring snow, hot temperatures, smoke and September snow certainly had their collective negative impact on the number of hikes.

Our waiting list is currently down to zero so if you have friends who are thinking about joining now is the time.

I want to point out that CHW exists and functions because of volunteers – on the Executive, hiking and assisting at our events. I want to make some comments in this regard:

- We will elect officers at our AGM January 19, 2019. If you are interested in serving CHW in these roles, please let Richard Walker know.
- Since we began keeping records by computer seven years ago in 2012 Lynn Andres has led 207 hikes and Terry Wilson has contributed 168. Make New Year's resolution to attempt to catch up with these two.
- I also want to point out those persons who lead 10 or more hikes in this past season:
 - Lynn Andres – 40
 - Gerry Cyre – 29
 - Naomi Camden – 17
 - Sue Korba – 12
 - Elizabeth Zeigler – 10

Many thanks to these members as well as to all the others who lead hikes this past season. Everyone's effort is appreciated.

Another effort that the Executive undertook this year was a review of our insurance. Details of this are found elsewhere in this newsletter, and will be discussed at the AGM, but, briefly, the Executive decided to upgrade our coverage. This will be reflected in our 2020 insurance cost but will take affect before the 2019 hiking season.

The Executive has also decided to put in place additional security measures on the website to protect your personal information (cont'd)

The 2018 Executive Committee

President:	Doug Hackbarth	Social Coordinator:	vacant
Vice President:	Mike Cogut	Communications Coordinator:	Fritz Kiessling
Secretary:	Peter Morgan	Archivist:	Janet McMaster
Treasurer:	Terry Wilson	Newsletter:	Dorothy Whitson
Hike Coordinators:	Gerry and Doris Cyre	Webmaster:	Fritz Kiessling
Membership:	Pati Roberts		



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stored there against the constant evolution of hacking. Fritz will explain it at the AGM. Basically, you can keep your current password until you forget it, then the reset will follow procedures similar to present-day resetting procedures.

The AGM is coming up on January 19 at Marda Loop Hall. Nominate yourself for an Executive position and come get elected!

See you on January 19! Doug

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## Membership

-- by Pati Roberts --

Congratulations to our New Honorary Members who have been members of the club for twenty years: Doug and Doreen Hawkins, Rudi and Christine Kincel, Stanley and May Lam, Link and Dee Oikawa, Bev Rumsey, Terri Scruggs, and Sheila Wolfe.

Membership renewal forms have been coming in slow and steady. As of mid-December, we have processed 300 applications, including 61 Honorary and 22 New Members. We have sent out offers of membership to everyone on the Prospective Wait List and they have until December 31, 2018 to respond. At that point in time, we will know how many vacancies we will have for 2019. Pati

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Hike Planning Coordinator's Report

-- by Gerry Cyre --

During the 2018 hiking season 7 new hike coordinators were added to the list of hike coordinators. Thank you to our new volunteers. We encourage other members to step forward for the 2019 season.

In 2018, the number of hikers and hikes are down from the past two years. The 2018 season had 2431 hikers on 254 hikes. There were 23 cancelled hikes. The smoke and weather conditions in 2018 contributed a large part to the

decrease in these statistics from the previous two years. We had 4 "between season" hike/snowshoe events.

The preferred hiking days were, in order of preference, Saturday, Wednesday and Sunday. There were about 57 hikes on all of these preferred days with the other days having about 20 hikes during the rest of the week.

Happy Trails and see you next season!

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## Social Coordinators' Report

-- by Doris and Gerry Cyre --

First of all, kudos to all the members who came forward to help us make the events possible.

There were 4 events held at the Marda Loop Community Hall in 2018.

The AGM on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018

The Volunteer Appreciation Evening on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018

The New Members Orientation Meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018

The Potluck Dinner on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018

All the events were well attended.

There was a concern raised by several attendees at the Potluck Dinner this year. When the last 2-4 tables were called upon to serve themselves there was a significant shortage or lack of hot entrees to choose from. The reason for this was that there were not enough hot entrees brought to the dinner. There have been several suggestions put forward by club members. The Executive will be considering this input while looking at ways to remediate the problem for next year.

We see a change in timing of the Potluck Dinner. Many people commented that they would like to see a 5:30 social time (appetizers) with the dinner served at 6:30. Look for a possible change for 2019. (cont'd)



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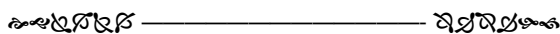


The 2019 calendar is as follows:

- ⇒ The AGM on January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- ⇒ The new members orientation on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- ⇒ The Potluck Dinner on October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- ⇒ There may be a Backcountry Safety Program in 2019. That date has yet to be determined.

There will be no Volunteer Appreciation Evening in 2019.

Cheers, Gerry and Doris



## **We need your help!**

Do you enjoy the season end Potluck Dinner? This event is organized by a Social Coordinator. Unfortunately, we no longer have one, which could mean that future social events will be cancelled. We need you to consider taking on this role, especially if you haven't been on the Executive previously. Don't worry, you will be given plenty of advice and help from our former Social Coordinator. The responsibilities of the position are outlined below:

Social Coordinator:

- ⇒ Will chair the Social Committee, whose responsibilities will include planning and coordinating our 4 annual social events as well as providing refreshments as required.
- ⇒ Will look after the booking of the hall and coordinate the actual event. (We have 6 to 8 members who regularly help at these events who would assist the coordinator.)
- ⇒ Will attend three one-hour meetings each year or, if absent, submit a report for the meeting.

In addition, we are looking for a Secretary. Peter Morgan has faithfully served in this capacity for years, but is looking to step down from the position. The responsibilities are outlined below:

Secretary:

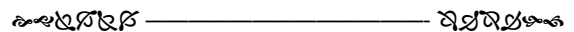
- ⇒ Will record and produce minutes of all meetings of the Executive Committee and all

General Meetings of the Club and will maintain minute books for both.

- ⇒ Will bring to the attention of the Executive Committee all incoming communications, either written or oral, and will process any outgoing correspondence as may be requested by the President or other members of the Executive Committee.
- ⇒ Will periodically send minutes of Club activities to a public archive as directed by the Executive.

These positions are a great way to give back to the club and meet people while not being too much of a burden on your time. Our past officers who could be available to show you the ropes.

If willing to serve, please contact Richard Walker ([rlw@telus.net](mailto:rlw@telus.net)).



## **Hiking the Haute Route**

-- by Dorothy Whitson --

Four members of the CWH, Lois Hinz, Lorna Jurgens, Holly Brown and I, realized a long held goal this past September by hiking the Haute Route, a spectacular high level traverse in the French and Swiss Alps, walking from Chamonix in France to The picturesque alpine village of Zermatt in Switzerland over 13 days. The 180 km route traverses below the summits of 10 out of the 12 highest peaks in the Alps. The Haute Route also meanders through green alpine valleys studded with flower box and picture book villages. One was never far from the constant melodies of the cow bells and lush meadows that look like green velvet. The hike begins under the formidable Mount Blanc and ends under one of the most photographed peaks in the world: The Matterhorn.

The route passes through the centre of both the French and Swiss Alps: two distinct cultural regions with different languages (French and German) and architecture....and food....from raclette to Rosti, and drink....did you know that Switzerland has some amazing wines? (cont'd)



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# CALGARY WEEKEND HIKERS

Our group consisted of ourselves, two gentlemen from the Canmore area and two women from Central Alberta along with our guide from Invermere. We quickly settled into a routine of rising early, breakfast and on the trail early, walking through incredible scenery surrounded by the ubiquitous Swiss cows contentedly eating, the sound of their bells permeating the air....our destination at the end of the day was always a welcome sight for it meant showers and cold beer and food and card games until sleep became the priority.

Accommodation varied -- small family run hotels similar to our backcountry lodges where one walked down the hall to the facilities (rather than outside!) -- on three occasions we were incredibly fortunate (and delighted) to have rooms with ensuite bathrooms and on several other occasions we stayed in mountain refuges: a spacious well designed new hut alongside a glacier; you could hear it creaking and groaning throughout the night; another one where one had to pay for light and water and get over our North American sensibilities of sharing a bathroom with fifty other folks from all over the world -- two urinals, two toilets and two showers! We all got over our modesty/shyness very quickly!!! And yet another one that fed us bread and jam for breakfast on a very big day - 18 kms and 3 passes to get up and over....that was a very challenging day! Food varied too but there was always lots of it to go around and for the most



part, it was all delicious! Our various hosts throughout the trip were very cognizant of food allergies/sensitivities and ensured that our party was well looked after in that regard.

Along the way we met hikers from all over the world - Spain, USA, Canada, New Zealand, many of them solo, others hiking with family members like the sister who hiked with her doctor brother from Portland who always had a cigarette or two or three at the end of the day....but those two could sure motor along! We were fortunate with the weather - a little bit of drizzle a couple of times; other than that we had glorious sunshine!

I wonder where we will go next!?!

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