



ON THE TRAIL NEWSLETTER



June 2015
**Summer
Edition**

Important Dates

- Saturday
October 17 --
Pot Luck and
Volunteer
Appreciation
Night
6:00 - 9:00 pm
Parkhill/Stanley
Park Comm. Hall
- Saturday
October 31 --
End of Hiking
Season
- Monday
November 30 --
Membership
Renewal
Deadline

From the Online Photo Gallery

- Has seen better days, but business is swift on trail to Hummingbird Plume Lookout

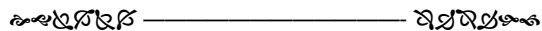


- Anyone know P.W. from July 6, 1941?



From the editor...

When the starting gun went off April 1st, the CWH membership stampeded to our website. Busy, busy and getting busier all the time...having said that, if the hike is full, ALWAYS sign up on the wait list. Why? Because the vast majority of hikes are going with less than the maximum number of hikers noted for that hike. Also, do check out our web page under Members Information/Members Guidelines. There are updates to 6 of the documents that give you all the information you need or want...everything from registering for hikes, through to trail maintenance opportunities and much more. Have a great season... Cheers! Robyn



The 2015 CWH Executive



Back Row L to R: Elke Schapansky, Fritz Kiessling, Terry Wilson, Barry Schur, Doug Hackbarth, Peter Morgan, Richard Walker
Front Row L to R: Robyn Hay, Wendy Schur, Shirley Marsh

The CWH Executive Committee

President: Richard Walker
Vice President: Doug Hackbarth
Secretary: Peter Morgan
Treasurer: Terry Wilson
Hike Coordinators: Barry and Wendy Schur
Membership: Shirley Marsh

Membership Assistant:

Brenda Makinson
Social Convenor: Elke Schapansky
Communications Coordinator: Fritz Kiessling
Archivist: Janet McMaster
Newsletter: Robyn Hay
Webmaster: Fritz Kiessling



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President's Message

Hi Weekenders! Well, this has certainly been an interesting Spring in terms of the early season participation of Club members on our hikes. The early end to winter has meant that enthusiastic trekkers have filled virtually every hike in April and May. It's great that so many of you have dusted off the boots and hit the trails! We now have hikes listed on almost every day of the week, so there are lots of opportunities to get out there.

Thanks to our Hike Coordinators, Barry and Wendy Schur, and their team, the hike Calendar had a large variety of hikes available when registration opened on March 28. Many of these hikes filled to capacity in the first few hours. Two things about registrations: don't be discouraged if you are on a wait list for a hike because there is a very good chance openings will occur due to cancellations. Secondly, please only register for hikes that you truly know you will be able to attend and complete. I know that life circumstances occur that require you to withdraw from a hike. Those cannot be helped, but if you are not sure you can attend a future event, please do not register for it. In addition, if you cannot find a hike with available spaces, consider listing your own hike! Our Hike Coordinators can help you list the hike if you need help. If you are nervous about leading a hike, then consider co-leading with a more experienced hiker.

I also wanted to acknowledge Marlene Wiens, our Past President, who put a tremendous effort into leading the Club over the last three years. She has made my job easier due to her careful record-keeping and guidance. Thanks, Marlene! Kudos also to Fritz Kiessling who has put in countless hours maintaining and improving our website. This year, with the implementation of the 10-hike registration limit, Fritz has successfully met the challenges that have arisen with efficiency and diligence. Thanks, Fritz!

Finally, I want to acknowledge the efforts of Shirley Marsh, Elke Schapansky, Robyn Hay, Peter Morgan, Terry Wilson, and Doug Hackbarth who have performed their duties as Club Executive members exceptionally well. We wouldn't have a Club without them.

Happy trails and may your days on the trail be sunny and bright!
Richard

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Hike Planning Coordinators

Wow! It is hard to believe that we are already into our third month of hiking.

I must say that our season started off with a tremendous initial registration. By 9:00 AM registration day we had over 900 hikers signed up for hikes. At the end of that day, we had hit 1,500 members registered on hikes. 48 of the 141 hikes listed at that time were full by the end of the day.

During April and May 2015, more than 85 hikes were enjoyed by more than 1,200 Calgary Weekend Hikers members.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Hike Coordinators who have stepped forward and agreed to lead hikes this year. More than 85 individuals have already listed hikes for this hiking season. We currently have more than 210 hikes listed, and more likely to be listed. It is through these individuals' effort that makes our club as successful and popular as it is.

When we talk about a successful and popular club, there are currently over 70 individuals on our waiting list to join us. I want to remind everyone that to maintain your membership, one member of each unit must participate in a minimum of 4 hikes per season.

It appears that the 10 hike registration limit has been successful. The number of individuals withdrawing from hikes has been materially reduced, thus allowing individuals on the wait lists to be given adequate lead time on whether or not they will be able to go on the hike.

There has been one issue that has become more prevalent this hiking season. We have had a number of double bookings occur. A double booking occurs when an individual has registered for two hikes on the same day. In some instances, an individual has registered for one hike and has placed their name on a wait list for a 2nd hike on the same day. As that hike day approaches, cancellations occur and / or the hike coordinators increase the number of hikers on their hike and this individual ends up being double booked. As a result, they are occupying a spot on two hikes thus denying another member the opportunity to participate in one of the hikes. This also increases the amount of work required by the Hike Coordinators as they must try and figure out which hike this individual is going to attend.

The executive is currently looking at this issue and further guidelines/rules are being considered to try and alleviate this problem.



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CALGARY WEEKEND HIKERS

I know the last couple of months have been frustrating due to the limited number of available hiking opportunities. Many of the scheduled hikes are currently full but as the snow continues to disappear in the mountains our inventory of available hikes will increase.

Hikes do not have to be planned and listed on the website weeks or months ahead of time. The current policy is that a hike should be listed two days prior to the day of the hike. This gives our members a full day to consider signing up for the hike. When these hikes are listed, an e-mail is broadcast to everyone who has set their preferences to receive them.

IMPORTANT:

Event Auto-Notification Emails (Sent as new events are posted)

Check the boxes beside the items that interest you.

Note: If you do not check a box, you will NOT receive auto-notifications of events of that type.

Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mid. Week Hike	<input type="checkbox"/>
Multi Day Hike	<input type="checkbox"/>
Restoration	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sat. Hike	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sun. Hike	<input type="checkbox"/>

You can arrange to receive these e-mails by adjusting the following area within your preferences.

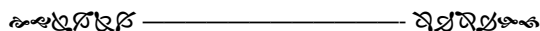
By ticking the various boxes, you will automatically receive an e-mail when one of these opportunities is listed on the website.

The Weatherman is predicting a hot dry summer, so I hope everyone will get out and enjoy themselves this hiking season.

Barry & Wendy Schur
Hike Planning Coordinators

Webmaster's Note:

While on the preferences page, please check the other boxes on the page to review your privacy settings.



New Members Orientation Night

The New Members' Orientation was held on Friday, March 20, 2015. This was well attended by over 50 new members as well as active and executive members. Fritz Kiessling welcomed everyone with a slideshow of his travels set to music. A nice start to the evening.

Thank you to Elke Schapansky and her team of Jackie Morgan and Julie Tsang for setting out refreshments and providing a tasty punch.



Shirley Marsh happy at Sign-in Desk

Lois Henderson was there with brochures for Skyline Hikers of the Canadian Rockies and Durrand Glacier. New members were very interested in both. Terry Wilson displayed a collection of maps and hiking guidebooks. Barry Schur demonstrated a what is important to take in your pack and what are optional items. CWH pins were available as well as the sale of crests. New members were able to pick up their name tag that evening.

This reminds me, members please remember to attach your name tag to your pack. Put it on at the beginning of the hiking season and just leave it there. This identifies you as a CWH member, and helps us to get to know you.

Richard Walker (President) welcomed the new members and introduced the executive members. He then gave a brief history the CWH club. Shirley Marsh (Membership Coordinator) outlined the different types of membership and explained how to retain active membership. Terry Wilson (Treasurer) explained the mandatory insurance coverage, described the Back Country Emergency Course, and discussed Trail Maintenance. He covered the 'Three New Rules', which included the hike minimum requirements, the no-show and pre-booking of hikes policies. Robyn Hay (Newsletter Editor) talked about frequency of the newsletter and importance of contributions. Elke Schapansky (Social Coordinator) described our yearly social events. Fritz Kiessling (Webmaster) discussed updating your profile and web documents. Barry Schur (Hike Planning Coordinator) covered topics on how to read the hike schedule, registering for a hike, removing yourself from a hike, meeting places, carpooling, mid-week hikes, inviting guests and the waiver form. At the end of the evening Fritz showed the "Beware of Bears" video.

Thank you to everyone that came early to help with the set-up of tables and chairs at Braeside Community Hall - a good venue for the event, and to those who



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helped clean-up at the end of the evening.

Prospective Members on the Wait List

There continues to be a very strong interest in our club with many prospective members on the membership wait list. We encourage prospective members to go on hikes as a guest. Hike coordinators are able to check that the prospective member is on the membership wait list. The prospective member must bring a signed Guest Waiver to the hike meeting place to give to the hike coordinator before they are able to go on the hike.

Shirley Marsh
Membership Coordinator

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A walk on the Wild Side!



Can't make it to the mountains this weekend? Well, try a hike in the City. You can even find bears to keep you company in this photo from Baker Park in NW Calgary... you can approach the park from the north side of the Bow River or park on the south side at Bowness Park. From there, just stroll across the river on the pedestrian Bridge under Stoney Trail.

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Are you kidding me?

No...the question is...are you kidding yourself?

These are the contents of Barry Schur backpack when he is hiking with the Calgary Weekend Hikers. He emptied the contents onto a table at the new member's night this past spring

Why:
Because we are all responsible for ourselves out there.



Because if something should happen, you should plan to not get out on the first night as most rescues in the mountains involve helicopters...

Could the contents of your pack keep you warm, dry and comfortable for a length of time in the outdoors?

Check out the CWH web page documents for what to have with you on a hike...

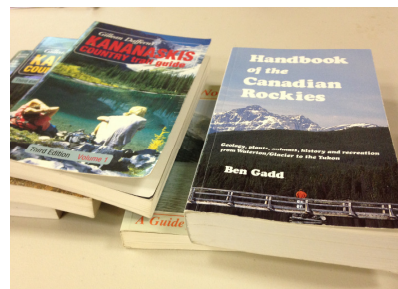
As the Boy Scout motto says...be prepared...pack that foil blanket, that extra- large orange garbage bag for shelter etc...

Think about it and do it because....
We are not kidding!
Robyn Hay

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Check it out first

You see a Hike listed that you would like to try
You don't know where it is, and really what is there
Check it out!



Hiking Books are a good investment and they make great gifts
You can read about what you are going to find, how steep the terrain is, what type of topography, geography and other

sorts of information that help you make the decision of whether you sign up or not.

Don't have the books? Try the Calgary Public Library or call up the leader.

Information is golden. It is especially golden if you are just starting out in the hiking world.

Trails go up and down and around and through many times from start to finish.

Best to check it out first, so that there are no surprises that you think you can't live with.

Robyn Hay

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CALGARY WEEKEND HIKERS

my apologies to them. Much thanks goes to all. And last, but not least, we should not forget that the software was created by the team at Andwa Consulting, and that we purchased a fairly full featured package. My efforts, an ongoing pleasure, have only been to “tweak” things here and there.

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Techy Bits

A quick note about our Photo Gallery. We have over 2600 photos on the website with about 430 for some 63 hikes alone for 2015.

If any member is inclined to get a better view of the spectacular scenery that can be reached on our hikes, then I recommend, say on a rainy day when you can't get out, to hook up your computer to your TV and view our photos in large format. Many photos will look very nice on a large screen. It is time well wasted.

When you submit your photos, please go to the Photo Gallery and click on “Photos to CWH”. This will open an email template and will also show you instruction regarding what to send. The notes on captions is particularly useful if you want more than something like 00001.jpg for the filenames.

Keep the photos coming, your webmaster.

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SEEKING A SOCIAL CONVENOR FOR 2016

If you enjoy organizing social events, please consider this opportunity! CWH is seeking a volunteer to replace Elke Schapansky who will be retiring from the position at the end of this year.

The Social Convenor organizes food and beverages for events such as the AGM, New Member's Orientation, and Potluck dinner. Other duties include booking the hall facility, purchasing supplies, and reporting to the Executive.

If you are interested or would like more information, contact Marlene Wiens at 403.202.0673 or wiens.me@gmail.com.

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SEEKING A PHOTO ARCHIVIST

If you enjoy the photos on our website and would like to help with posting them, please contact your friendly [CWH webmaster](#).

The task involves receiving the photos, adjusting filenames and folders, and uploading the photos to the website. Time spent 15 minutes, 2-3 times per week. Really, that's it. It's that easy.

Sometimes the photo files need to be adjusted for size. We have free software for that purpose. A desktop or laptop computer would be an advantage.

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Think Food - Think CWH Pot Luck in October! - Do plan to attend...

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And Think
Food again.
These little
goodies are
available at
the New
Members
Orientation
in March
2016



Have a Happy Hiking Season!