



ON THE TRAIL NEWSLETTER



June 2017

Summer Edition

Important Dates

- Potluck Supper
October 28
- Hike Season Ends
October 31

Remember that hikes after this date do not count towards your minimum.

- Shoulder Season Starts
November 1

From the Online Photo Gallery

- Sulphur Mountain 2017.04.01, nice and cool then.



- Fish Creek Park 2017.04.27, one very happy group.



From the President

by Doug Hackbarth

We are off to a good start to the 2017 hiking season. It is a bit difficult to compare to last year when the snow was long gone at relatively high elevations on April 1. Nonetheless, we are having a strong start again this year. Interest is high – members are anxious to get hiking!

I want to remind everyone that CWH provides hiking opportunities because of the efforts of our members. Please consider coordinating at least one hike per season as part of what you “give back” to CWH. Please do not just sign up for hikes put up by others but put on one of your own. It is not an onerous responsibility and we do have volunteers who will help you with setting up the web announcement and your first hike as a coordinator.

Additionally, I encourage you to give back even more to the Club by considering the Executive positions noted below. If you want to have an influence on the future direction of the Club please have a discussion with myself or any other member of the Executive about these positions.

Happy hiking this year!

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### Executive Committee Members Needed!

from the Executive

CWH will be requiring two new Executive Committee positions as of the end of 2017. Long-serving members on the Hike Planning Coordination and Membership have decided to step down at the end of their current terms. CWH is therefore in need of volunteers to fill these two positions. Our club functions are only accomplished through the generous support of our members themselves and I urge you to seriously consider contributing. Please contact Doug Hackbarth if you would like more information.

Our thanks to Shirley, Wendy and Barry for their dedicated service to making CWH run smoothly over the past years!

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From Our Hike Planning Coordinators

by Barry and Wendy Schur

Welcome to the 2017 hiking season. This season started with 4 hikes going out on April 1st with a total of 60 CWH's taking part!!

Last year was the first year of our “Shoulder Season Hiking”. During the 5 months

The 2017 Executive Committee

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



ON THE TRAIL NEWSLETTER



from November 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017 there was a total of 16 hikes with 106 members taking part. It was not an overwhelming start, but we think over time the popularity will grow.

This season's hike count is down a little from last year. During April & May there was a total of 80 hikes with 994 participants. Last season there was a total of 101 hikes completed by the end of May with just over 1,300 people participating.

We think part of this decline is due to the snow pack in K-Country and the National Parks which has limited the variety of hikes available.

We would like to thank all of this season's Coordinators, on behalf of the general membership, for leading hikes for the club this season.

By now some of you may have been witness to "Hike Sign-up Fever". We had hikes with 12 spots available fill within 60 seconds of opening registration. A wait list of 14 people occurred in the two minutes following this hike being full.

We know it is frustrating when you look at all of the hikes that are listed and they are all full. There is an easy solution to that problem. Pick a hike that you like to do, pick a day and list it as a hike. You will be amazed how popular you will be when some of your fellow Weekend Hikers join you.

Not quite ready to make the solo plunge in coordinating your own hike, our "Hike Mentors" are all more than willing to give you a hand in all aspects of coordinating a hike, including Co-Coordinating with you.

The success of our hiking season lies with our Hike Coordinators and I encourage everyone to do their part and coordinate some hikes.

We also have the "Hike Posting Team" who are willing to assist anyone getting their hikes on the website. We have an excellent set of instructions on how to list a hike, as well as how to manage your hike on the website. These instructions are located in the left hand index under "Other"/"Documents". Please check them out. Anyone who would like the ability to list their own hikes can contact us and we can make the necessary changes to your profile.

We would also like to take this opportunity to inform everyone that this will be our last season as Hike Planning Coordinators. It is time for us to step down and let someone new take over. It has been a pleasure to perform in this role for the past 3 years and we encourage everyone to consider being our replacements. It does not take a lot of time and is not very complicated. We would be more than willing to assist our replacements during the course of this hiking

season to ensure a smooth transition.

The snow pack in K-Country and the National Parks is slowly receding and is opening up more inventory of hiking opportunities. We hope everyone will be able to get out on the trails as often as possible.

There is a magic method of ensuring that you can get on every hike you want to do. The solution is simple, list it and others will join you.

Enjoy your hiking season and see you on the trails.

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## A Note from the Editor

by Dorothy Whitson

Hello all....I hope that you have been getting out and enjoying the trails, here in the city and to points further afield. Members have been posting lots of trips onto the website but if your favourite hike hasn't been posted, don't be shy....step up and post it....there are numerous hike mentors who will be happy to guide you through the process. So if you are seeing RED, post your hike instead!

I was fortunate to be hiking on the Whaleback recently... what a glorious day... and the balsam root were so prominent everywhere - a sea of yellow blossoms waving in the wind. We are so fortunate to have such beautiful spaces in our backyard.

If you have any stories arising from your hikes or ideas that you wish to share with the membership, please send them to me for publishing... this is your Club.

Summer looks promising - be sure to post some hikes and we'll see you on the trails.

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From the Membership Coordinator

by Shirley Marsh

New Members' Evening

New Members' Evening was held on Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at the Marda Loop Community Hall





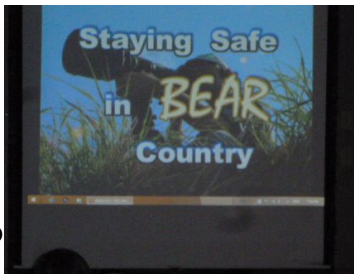
ON THE TRAIL NEWSLETTER



from 7:00 - 9:00 PM. It was another successful evening with around 50 new, active and executive members in attendance. Thank you to the Executive for their presentations and displays. Thanks to Lois Henderson for again being our cheerful greeter. As always, a big thanks to Doris & Gerry Cyre and the social team for providing the tasty treats



enjoyed by all. The evening concluded with Fritz Kiessling showing the excellent video on "Safety in Bear Country" that is always a hit. Thank you to everyone that came early to help with the set-up of tables and chairs, and to those who helped clean-up at the end of the evening.



Appreciation goes to the new members who were able to join us as we enjoyed meeting you. Finally, a hearty welcome to all new members. We look forward to seeing you on the trails.



Name Tags

Important Notice: Beginning with membership renewal for 2018, the CWH Executive Committee has passed a motion that there will be a \$4 cost for replacement name tags for current members. New members will continue to receive one free name tag when they join. This cost is to cover the printing, laminating and mailing of name tags and will appear on the Membership Application Form.

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. New members were able to pick up their name tags at the New Members' Evening. For the new members not at this event, their name tags were mailed the following week as were the name tags for current members who ordered a new one.

Prospective Members on the Wait List

There continues to be a very strong interest in our club with many prospective members on the wait list. We encourage prospective members to go on hikes as a guest of the hike coordinator or an active member. Hike coordinators are able to check that the prospective member is on the wait list by logging into the website and then scrolling down to the Volunteers' Area. There you will find Club-Join WaitList, which lists all of the prospective members. The prospective member **must** bring a signed Waiver to the hike coordinator before they are able to go on the hike.

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## Notes to Hike Coordinators from your Webmaster

You have a couple of new features that should make your communication regarding your hike easier and more timely.

First new, when you are posting a hike and you select "Send Notification to Subscribed Members", that notification will now be sent immediately when you click <Submit>. In the past there were sometimes delays by the program that we had received complaints about. With some programming magic we have found a way around this problem.

Second new, on the <Coordinate Upcoming> page, the right hand <E-Mail> link for the particular hike will now give you an email-form page with options to include sending: a) to Signed-Up", or b) to Waitlisted, and/or even c) to Cancelled.

The email traffic will actually be handled by the website, so it will not place any strain on your computer or personal/mobile device.

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CALGARY WEEKEND HIKERS

What Happened At The Map Course?

by Steve Thor

I'd like to report that thousands of people showed up and the crowd went wild, with everyone thrilled at the charismatic instructor and all became fans, but alas, I fear, there will be no repeat customers. (Because they learned the stuff the first time through.)

We did the theoretical details of maps and magnetics in the world and how our little compasses record all faithfully and then it was hour after hour of exercises and practice in the room, in the library and then we really did leap tall buildings with a single bound with some of the new skills in the field trials.

The plans were to have :

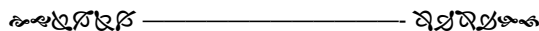
- Orienteering described
- Map and compass skills explained
- Map concepts and reading
- Concept of true north and magnetic north
- Examples of how map skills have saved lives

BUT the biggest part was how we would be able to use the maps and compass to get us out of squeaker situations (life threatening lost situations- always trust the compass and your tools, but after you test them out in the field). Those squeaker situations that were given in class with the maps and descriptions come from my real life experiences and since I am here I know I can use them to solve my problems. In class I relied upon the participants to help one another out so that there is a diversity of presentations so that even the arcane manner I teach with will not stop someone from learning. There may be a few pulling out their compasses on some hikes this summer with me or with classmates and that should be good to reinforce the concepts and skills that the course started.

There should be another course coming whenever I settle down in my holidays lifestyle so we hope there will be another full slate of graduates coming to our club soon. The handouts are all ready and it is just the time and place that has to be gathered. Note that we have a short map reading walk after and that did make it into an overtime event so it changed to an optional walk. The finish time may be able to be

adhered to the next time and the course is set up to count into your required 4 hikes for the year.

Bring your hiking boots and get ready to learn how to jump over tall buildings, lakes, cliffs, bears, and restricted areas.



Another Point of View

by Johanna Van Hal

8 women and 7 men met on April 22/2017 for the map & compass reading course held by Steve Thor.

- who says men don't ask for directions????
- who knew there are so many different compasses out there???
- someone needs to put all the features into one compass!!!!
- after telling us how a compass works, we were paired up and had to practice within the library, to go and find the "secret object".
- we got some odd looks from the library patrons as we were walking around with the compass and clipboards!!!!
- after lunch, a walk had been mapped out and we had to figure out how to get from a to b to c.
- easier said than done!!!! However, we all managed to find the route in the end.
- seeing that most people in the group had little knowledge of map and compass work, it was a comfortable setting to learn in.
- we were given handouts throughout the presentation, which had been well thought out.

Considerable time had been put into the presentation by Steve and we all said a heartfelt "thank you" at the end of the day.

