



PARK WARDEN SERVICE ALUMNI SOCIETY

Spring 2018 Newsletter

BOX 1611, TURNER VALLEY, ALBERTA, T0L-2A0

E-mail: parkwarden2008alumni@hotmail.com



Our Mission Statement

“Maintaining the culture and tradition of the National Park Warden Service by fostering good will and assistance through mentoring, volunteerism, historical commemoration, advocacy, and social activities.”

This Year's A. G. M. - INVERMERE; Thurs., June 7th, 1:30 p.m.

In our on-going effort to bring the Annual General Meeting to members we have arranged to hold it this year in the Legion Hall in Invermere, B.C. To get there drive down main street to the out-of-shape intersection. The Best Western is straight ahead. Turn left and the Legion is on your right (see photo). There is a large - free - public parking lot down the alley on your left after you make this turn. The address of the Legion is 525 - 13th Street. The meeting starts at 1:30 PM; the bar in the Legion opens at 4:00 pm - just in time for socializing!

AGENDA ITEMS

The full agenda will be available at the meeting. Two items deserving advance notice are the election of officers and directors and by-law changes

Elections: Dale is stepping down as President after many years of successfully leading the society (see his e-mail below). The vice-president is stepping in for the final year of his term. This means a new Vice President needs to be elected. As well, several director positions are also coming open. If you are interested in letting your name stand for a director's position or for the position of Vice-President, please contact the Secretary-Treasurer.



Changes to the Society's By-laws:

➤ **NEW MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY**

The Board of Directors passed a motion at their November 23rd, 2017 meeting to include a new membership category as defined below:

By-laws Section 2 Membership. (New) Clause 4.5 – Supporting Member.

“A supporting member can be someone for whom the Association is important and wishes to participate in the Association's activities by lending expertise to assist in projects or provide advice.”

By-laws Section 18 No Vote.

“Supporting members are not entitled to vote at any meeting of the Association.”

Per Section 51 of our by-laws a Special Resolution must be passed at a Special Meeting or our Annual General Meeting in order to incorporate these changes into our by-laws.

At the Annual General Meeting these amendments will be discussed and voted on. Once approved by motion the Chairman will call for two additional motions. The first motion will be to repeal our by-laws. The second motion will be to approve the new by-laws as amended.

Additions to the Agenda: Future Direction of the PWSAS

There will be a presentation on where we are going. With the publication of Ya-Ha-Tinda: A Home Place and the celebration of the ranch's 100th, both successes, the executive is looking into ways and means of continuing the collection of oral histories as well as ways and means of including them in a book of general public interest. How can it not be interesting?: Do you remember the story of warden Jim Rimmer painting Clearwater Cabin. When he ran out of grey he carried on with pink. It all looked much the same to him being colour-blind!

Of course, there will be an opportunity at the

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This newsletter is published 2 or more times yearly for members of the society. Articles, membership enquiries and other matters may be sent or e-mailed to the society at the above addresses.

Executive:

President – Dale Portman
Vice-President – Dave Reynolds
Secretary-Treasurer – Marie Nylund

Directors: (2 & 3 year terms)

Don Mickle
Kathy Calvert – membership
Mac Elder
Jim Murphy
Perry Davis – newsletter
Scott Ward
Bob Haney
Perry Jacobson
Cliff White

Regional Representatives

Mountains – Gord Anderson
West Coast – vacant
North & Yukon – Tom Elliot
Prairies – vacant
Ontario – John Taylor
Eastern Canada – Bev Hunter

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Perry Davis
Davis99@telusplanet.net



opening of the meeting for members in good standing to add items to the Agenda should you have something on your mind. The A.G.M. is a good time to renew your membership.

ACCOMMODATIONS & ACTIVITIES IN THE INVERMERE AREA

Some members may want to combine this meeting with an overnight or longer stay. For them there are several motels in town or nearby in Radium and Fairmont. Two inexpensive ones are in Windermere: The Red Coach Inn and Valley Inn. If you are trailering there are half a dozen campgrounds including the Lakeshore Campground at Windermere which is operated by the local first nations or the provincial Dry Gulch.

The Invermere area offers plenty of outdoor activities for you and your grand-kids including mountain-biking, day-hiking, golfing and water sports of just about every variety, heli-hiking or sight-seeing by air. In addition to the beaches at Invermere and Windermere there are the hot springs and swimming pools at Fairmont and Radium with playgrounds and picnic tables. There is a pioneer museum in Invermere, Fort Steele is an hour away and the usual variety of shops, antique stores, an art gallery, restaurants and coffee shops including one in the Kicking Horse Coffee Company.

Some Social Notes

Warden Badge Designs. Rod Wallace has written a short but informative and illustrated article on this topic which, as you probably know, has been of much interest to him. It includes mention of the “Pregnant” and “Porky” badges. The article is available from him and on the PWSAS website.

Dorothy Carleton: This note from her son Mike: Jan 16.

“My mother, Dorothy, has been transferred from the Banff hospital to Bow Crest Care Centre in Bowness, Calgary. She is doing pretty good, but it will take her some time to get settled. She is in Room 135 and visits by warden service friends would be very welcome. Her new doctor Karen Packer knows Don Mickle’s family. I suggest not bringing gifts or flowers, etc. as the room is semi-private and space is limited – the visit is what is important. There is nice space in the courtyard to visit and take Mum for a walk. Visitors can also eat lunch with Mum if they give at least an hours’ notice at the reception desk.” Please call or email Mike at (403) 282-7004 (mike.carleton@shaw.ca) before you plan your trip to Calgary so that he can advise you of the best time of day for your visit with Dorothy.



From Dale Portman, Retiring President of the PWSAS: “ On June 7th, 2018, I will be stepping down as president of the Park Warden Service Alumni Society due to personal reasons. I’ve certainly enjoyed working with the membership and the executive over the years and I will cherish those experiences always. In particular I would like to highlight the dedication and hard work that Marie Nylund has put towards maintaining a firm rudder, ensuring the survival of the warden alumni over the years and I hope that she and the executive will carry its torch into the future. I also extend my thanks to a dedicated and hard-working group of

executives. Thank you for all your support over the years and I look forward to finally filling the position of past president in the coming years.”

John Nylund Turned 80!

About 80 people who were able to attend Johnny’s surprise 80th B-day party. I had told Johnny that we were going to Redwood Meadows to have lunch with my sister for (our daughter) Nancy's birthday which was in fact that day. We were able to keep it a secret right until we pulled in the parking lot and there was Dale Loewen and Jane MacAulay standing there. Johnny said, "I smell a rat!" He knew that they wouldn't be there for a party for Nancy....

A lot of those who came had not seen each other for many years and so were able to get caught up. Johnny was “surprised indeed!” Marie



PJ congratulates John at his 80th



PJ entertains at the Mine Shaft Pub.

Perry Jacobson about to turn 80 too! Perry put on a performance of cowboy songs and one joke (it was about a bear turned Christian) at the Mine Shaft Pub in Canmore. Over half the audience were former wardens who live in town - and that made Perry nervous. He needn't have been as he put on a stirring one-man show keeping that music alive. He afterwards revealed that he will be celebrating his eightieth soon and also his and Elaine's 52nd wedding anniversary.

More Warden Music - Scott Ward reports on *The Wardens*.

-played various Folk Clubs -Calgary Folk Club, Bow Valley Music Club, Uptown Folk Club in Edmonton, Deep Cove Folk Club in Victoria, Rocky Mountain Folk Club in Calgary and Weaselhead Presents folk club also in Calgary

-toured Alaska in January to Anchorage then flew to Bethel, Cordova and Valdez for theatre shows

-toured Idaho, Wyoming and Montana in March for ten theatre shows

-attended showcase conferences in Kansas City, Edmonton, Bellevue Washington, Montana and Fort Saskatchewan

-Corporate shows in Edmonton and Banff

-major theatre shows in Calgary, Barrhead, Bassano, Bluffton, Salmon Arm, Cold Lake and Olds.

-last theatre show in April sold out two weeks prior; 530 seats

[Impressive. Brad Bischoff mentioned that they have bookings in San Diego and area - you read that right - coming up. The point here is that not only is the band successful but the warden life they sing about is widely popular - Parks. Canada. take note -ed.]

Jimmy Deegan's nephew gets help. Jordan Berg asked, "I'm thinking of possibly writing a short book on my uncle Jimmy and I'm trying to find out if there is still anyone around who knew him. I have a spectacular letter that he wrote to me when I was in grade 5 and I had written him a poem." Don Mickle and Edwin Knox were able to help him out. If there is anyone else who can his e-mail is <jordan.berg@uleth.ca>

Some Sad Notes - the Obits

June Burstrom. of Valemount, B.C., one of our Lifetime Members of the Park Warden Service Alumni Society passed away on January 3rd at the age of 85 years. Many of us had the pleasure of knowing June and will be saddened to hear of her passing. It was June's wish that no service be held.

Angus Spreull McLeod passed away on February 12, 2018, surrounded by family in San José, Costa Rica. He was born on April 24, 1953 in Montreal, Quebec, and was fortunate to be able to transform his love of the outdoors into a career as a Planner with Parks Canada, leaving a legacy of preservation of Canada's wilderness for future generations. On the morning before he fell ill in Costa Rica, Angus remarked on his pure happiness and joy of living in the moment. Pura Vida. Services were held Saturday, March 3 at Knox-St. Paul's United Church in Cornwall, Ontario.

Randall "Randy" John Lawrence Smith: 1952-2018. Randy was born and grew up in Kingston, Ontario. A few years after graduating from Queens University with a degree in Civil Engineering Randy moved to Calgary where he embarked on his much loved career with Parks Canada and later with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. While at Parks, his projects included construction of the Lake Louise Visitors' Centre, huge flood recovery projects in Waterton, and managing aspects of the G8 Summit in Kananaskis. In later years, he worked closely with Treaty 7 First Nations communities. He also tackled unglamorous projects such as water treatment plant and sewage lagoon upgrades that were greatly needed and much appreciated in the communities. Randy's life was a continual quest to learn new things, master new skills and travel new roads. When he was around there was never a dull moment. Funeral services were held at Fish Creek McInnis & Holloway funeral home on Friday, March 9, 2018.

Helen Dawson. Helen passed away in Kelowna. B.V. on Jan. 20 at the age of 97. She was married to retired warden Murray Dawson. They met in Point Pelee and after they were married lived in Yoho, Jasper and Kootenay Parks before Murray became Visitor Services manager in Banff. At her request, no formal service was held.

THE ARTWORK OF JOHN STRACHAN

Mike Eder of Jasper has initiated an interesting project. Mike would like to put together an art display for the Jasper Yellowhead Museum and Archives that would showcase select cartoons and stories by John Strachan. Mike is seeking comments, stories and copies of John's cartoons that people may still have on hand. Mike can be reached by telephone at (780) 852-5412. Or by email at mheder62@gmail.com.

REMINDER – memberships are due.

Most of you have sent your membership dues in for 2018. For those of you who may have forgotten, it is never too late. Memberships are still only \$25 per year. You can download the membership form from the website www.parkwardenalumni.com.