

PARK WARDEN SERVICE ALUMNI SOCIETY  
**Spring 2019 Newsletter**  
BOX 1611, TURNER VALLEY, ALBERTA, T0L-2A0  
E-mail: [parkwarden2008alumni@hotmail.com](mailto: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.”

### **Warden Alumni A.G.M. Coming Up!**

Where: the Banff Legion

When: Thursday, June 6th, 2019 starting at 1:30

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

The Legion is located on the east side of Banff Avenue, last building before the bridge. Parking can be a problem. There is a large parking lot across the street behind the museum. Check the ‘permitted time.’ By-law enjoys ticketing vehicles as our members have found out. Across the street is the post office and a block behind it is a Parkade.

An agenda will be available at the meeting.

With the New Year on us (what were your resolutions?) it is time to renew your membership with the Park Warden Service Alumni if you have not done so already. How good a deal is it? - compare your membership fee to a 12 pack of beer or a haircut to be reassured of its value. Also read the newsletter or check our website to see what good things the society is up to and the good use the executive (volunteers!) are putting your funds to. What about bragging rights too?

Membership fees remain at \$25/ year.

### **PARK WARDEN SERVICE ALUMNI SOCIETY**

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Alberta, T0M 1X0

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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 to the society at the above addresses.

#### **Executive:**

President – Dave Reynolds  
Vice-President – Cliff White  
Secretary-Treasurer – Marie Nylund

#### **Directors:** (2 & 3 year terms)

Dale Portman  
Don Mickle  
Kathy Calvert  
Colleen Reynolds  
Perry Jacobson  
Gordon Anderson  
Perry Davis  
Dennis Herman  
Jim Murphy

#### **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

**From: Ghost Valley Community**

The Ghost Valley Community's film *Forests, Fins & Footprints*

- was accepted into its first film festival, Red Deer's Central Alberta Film Festival, February 23-25.
- was screened at Alberta Wilderness Association, where our friend Lorne Fitch of Cows and Fish saw it: *"I am so impressed with the talents of the film makers and the universal appeal the film has. Well done to you and the Ghost Valley group for the perseverance shown to get the film on the road."*
- See more on the film's accompanying website: <https://www.forestsfinfootprints.com/>.

**OUR FEDS:**

**Doing It Right;**

Culvert re-installation in Kootenay Park at Dolly Varden picnic site now allows fish passage upstream. The same thing was done in Banff during the widening of the highway.

“Historic investment” in Federal Budget 2018

OTTAWA, ONTARIO – In its 2018 budget the federal government set aside \$1.3 billion dollars of new federal funding over five years was to protect Canada’s land, ocean, and wildlife. This is going to support Canada’s efforts to achieve its commitment to protect at least 17% of our land and 10% of our ocean by 2020. It was the first time, the federal government allocated funding for action on nature conservation as well as to support conservation efforts by Indigenous governments, provinces, territories, and other partners.

This cost-shared model is similar to the approach used to deliver on other shared priorities in Canada such as infrastructure, climate change mitigation, and health care.

**Some Highlights:**

- \$500 million over five years for a new \$1 Billion “Nature Fund” to support conservation partnerships and which will leverage funding from other government and non-governmental sources;
- \$800 million over five years to support:
  - New federal protected areas
  - Increased capacity for national park management
  - Increased capacity to protect species at risk
  - Funding to establish a coordinated network of conservation areas working with provincial, territorial and Indigenous partners.



**And Not So Right;**

March 14, 2018: Canada Failing Wood Buffalo N. P.

The situation facing Canada’s largest National Park is dire. In 2017, experts from the World Heritage Centre and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature concluded that impacts on the park from development are “far more complex and severe than previously thought.” Since then Wood Buffalo National Park was determined “to have the worst conservation outlook for a Natural

World Heritage Site in Canada and is in danger of being put on the List of World Heritage in Danger.”

“When our community heard Minister McKenna tell us that the mission report was a ‘call to action’, we were hopeful,” said Melody Lepine, Director of Government and Industry Relations at Mikisew Cree First Nation. “A year later, there is little concrete action to report . . .”

“the World Heritage Committee is expecting Canada to deliver more than a ‘plan to plan’”, said Alison Ronson, CPAWS National Director, Parks Program. “With the commitments for environmental conservation in the new federal budget, Canada can and must develop an action plan with real resources.”

“Canada’s ongoing refusal to consider the impacts of the Site C dam on the Peace Athabasca Delta is astounding,” said Galen Armstrong, Peace Valley Campaigner at Sierra Club BC. “This is Canada’s largest National Park, but provincial and federal governments are still letting it fall through the cracks.” Canada now has less than eight months to develop an Action Plan to present to the World Heritage Committee.

#### OBITS:

**Murray Polley** (1948-2019) of Hinton, beloved husband of Mrs. Eveline Polley, passed away suddenly at home on Thursday, April 4, 2019 at the age of 70 years. Murray was born in Biggar, Saskatchewan on April 30th, 1948 to Blake and Gladys Polley. Murray and his family moved to Jasper where Murray’s sister Nora already lived.



#### **Harold Clayton Payne**

Harold passed away at the Bonne Bay Health Centre in Norris Pt, NL, on Thursday, May 2nd, 2019 at the age of 81 years.

Harold joined the Canadian Army forces, in the Signal’s Corps in July 24th, 1958 and became a Sergeant and went on many UN Peace Keeping Missions till he retired in October 7th, 1978, and then he became a Park Warden with Gros Morne Park, in Rocky Hr, NL.

In lieu of flowers donations made to The Royal Canadian Legion Poppy Fund, in Harold’s memory would be gratefully appreciated by the family.

**Stephen Frank Peter Kun** March 15, 1931 -- February 27, 2019.

Steve was born in Drumheller, Alberta and attended school there. He enrolled in the Faculty of Forestry at the University of British Columbia in 1950, graduating with a Master’s degree in 1958.

His thirty-year career with Parks Canada began as Assistant Warden in Banff National Park in the summer of 1951. With time taken for education he moved through the ranks serving as Western Regional Forester in Jasper, Assistant to the Western Regional Director in Calgary and Banff, Superintendent of Prince Albert National Park, Chief of National Parks in Ottawa for policy and planning, Superintendent of Banff National Park, back to Ottawa to work on developing new national parks, and finally to Calgary as Director General of the Western Region. During his career he visited every national park and historic site in Canada and travelled internationally representing Canada in conservation work. He loved traveling by horseback through the Rocky Mountains and came to know the backcountry well and the wardens who worked there.



After his retirement in 1988, Steve embarked on a new career ranching in the foothills of Alberta and raised pedigreed Canadian Pinto horses. He and Gail built a beautiful place that was enjoyed by his family and friends for 30 years. In 2017 Steve and Gail moved to Cochrane to live in a retirement community where they made many new friends. In 2019 they moved to Wakefield Quebec to be closer to their family and to live in the province they had enjoyed so much canoeing and on skis. At Steven’s request there will be no funeral. His immediate family held a private memorial. The contact address is: 2-106, Chemin des Collines, Wakefield, QC, J0X 3G0.



## Books of Interest to Our Members

### Ya Ha Tinda: A Home Place by Kathy Calvert.

This book is selling well and is available at many local books stores such as the Whyte Museum in Banff and the Blue Rock Gallery in Black Diamond. There may be some copies available from Jean Smith at the Ya Ha Tinda Ranch as well. You can also obtain a copy on line at Amazon <https://www.amazon.ca> or Chapters Indigo <https://www.chapters.indigo.ca>

### George Mercer Books

For the second year in a row George Mercer books have done well at the Independent Publisher Book Awards with his book *Fat Cats* winning the 2019 Gold Medal for Best Regional Fiction – Canada West and the *Dyed in the Green Series* taking the 2019 Silver Medal in the Fiction Series category! Congratulations George!

### Rocky Mountain Rangers: Guardians of the Wild (a children's book)



We received this note from “The Wardens”

*Rocky Mountain Rangers: Guardians of the Wild* is the name of the children's book and is illustrated by award-winning artist Lia Golemba. About a year ago Lia and Red Barn Books founder Ayesha Clough called us up and asked us if they could adapt our songs into books. We were excited by the idea right away and even more excited when Ayesha and Lia "got us", rolled up their sleeves and worked hard to create a book that reflects and respects our work...and will make for darn good bedtime reading. The illustrations are also based on photos that many of you have seen during our shows. Check out the video at the link below for a glimpse into the making of those incredible illustrations. You can order '*Rocky Mountain Rangers: Guardians of the Wild*' from Red Barn Books' Kickstarter campaign. The book can be ordered with a pledge of \$20 or more. It will be printed in June and mailed in July.

<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/redbarnbooks/rocky-mountain-rangers-guardians-of-the-wild>

## **NEW HUNTING REGULATIONS ON THE YA HA TINDA RANCH**

From Rick Smith, Ya Ha Tinda Ranch Manager

Hunting is permitted on the ranch. It is important that we know who is on the property, who is hunting, and who is not. It is now necessary for everyone who is hunting on the ranch to fill out a Parks Canada “Hunter Registration Form”. This form must be filled out and displayed on the vehicle’s dashboard. The people who are registered may be able to help locate poachers or other illegal activities. More information can be found on Parks Canada’s website. R. Smith



Dixon family photo collection

## **NEW PWSAS WEBSITE**

The website for the Park Warden Service Alumni Society has recently been upgraded by Trailblazer Web Services (Johanna Mickle) and has been moved to a new site. Should you log onto the old site there is a message that will direct you to the new site at: <https://parkwardenalumni.com>

We encourage members to post items of interest on the website.

The site now opens with a list of “categories” that allows you to go quickly to any of the listed areas. Recent postings appear first on the “Home Page”. Stories of warden life are posted in “Warden Journals”. These are short accounts well worth reading and if reading them brings back some notable event in your career please scribble it down and send it in.

## **PWSAS ON-LINE SILENT AUCTION**

We are planning a silent auction to raise extra funds and considering an “on-line” version. This matter will be brought up at this year’s AGM at the Banff Legion where details (not known at this time) will be revealed and the matter open for discussion. In the meantime, we are sending out the call for items to be auctioned. Look around; bring them to the AGM.

## **Parks Heritage Conservation Society (PHCS)**

As a member of our society you also qualify to be a member of the Parks Heritage Conservation Society (formerly The Second Century Club). There is no membership fee required by the PHCS. On Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> the Foothills Model T Club are planning a tour of the Perrenoud Homestead (north of Cochrane), and “Ice Cream Sunday” at the Heritage Barn Homestead in Cremona. As a member, you are invited to attend these events. Meet at 10 am for a guided tour of the Perrenoud Homestead by Rod Wallace. If you plan to attend the “Ice Cream Sunday” or want more information, please contact [lynneherzog@shaw.ca](mailto:lynneherzog@shaw.ca).

## **THE ORAL HISTORY PROJECT**

Progress has been steady over the past 12 months on Phase 8 of the Oral History Project. Fourteen interviews are in the works and almost to the completed stage. Thank you to Christine Crilley-Everts, Monique Hunkeler and Mary Dalman for their dedicated hard work interviewing candidates for this project. To date, over 60 interviews have been conducted since 2009.

A Provincial Grant has been applied for to assist with Phase 9 of the Oral History Project. The Province will make decision on our application in June. We have also received generous donations from members in support of the Oral History Project and gratefully appreciate these donations.

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY ANN!**

Congratulations to Ann Dixon-Bruder who  
celebrated her 93<sup>rd</sup> Birthday in April.

The photo at the right shows Ann enjoying a  
cookie at the Ya Ha Tinda Centennial  
Celebration in September of 2017.



## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS:**

2019 memberships are due. We will be accepting memberships (new and renewed) at the Annual General Meeting at the Banff Legion on June 6th. Membership forms are available on the website. Our executive is looking into setting up our bank account for e-transfer capability. Once this has been set up we will alert the membership to this service. In the meantime, you are welcome to send in your membership dues to the Secretary-Treasurer at:

PO Box 1611,  
Turner Valley, Alberta,  
T0L 2A0.