

2023 Calendar



2021 Townsend Trophy Winner Sarah Butson

WHO'S TOWNSEND???

THE TOWNSEND TROPHY STORY



The Townsend Trophy
Courtesy of Haylie Guinn

Reginald Townsend (1890-1977) first rode in the Canadian Rockies, with his wife, in 1923. He was part of the party that was stranded that year by weather in Wolverine Pass near Tumbling Glacier. It was during that ride the idea of the 'Order of the Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies' was born. Although he had been stranded it did not deter him from returning many times in subsequent years.

At the end of World War I, Reginald Townsend had been appointed Editor of the *Country Life in America* magazine. During his decade-long tenure with the magazine, Reginald gave much publicity to the TRCR.

During those early years, Reginald Townsend was the official photographer for the TRCR. In 1929, he donated the Townsend Trophy to be awarded annually to the best amateur photographer taken on the trail. The Townsend Trophy winner will receive a small replica trophy with their name engraved on it. The Townsend Trophy contest has changed over the years. There are 5 categories: On the Trail, Scenic Views, People and/or Horses, Fun in Camp and Flora and Fauna.

'The Trophy is still being awarded today with the photographs being judged this fall. The photographs that are entered from this year's rides are the inspiration for the yearly calendar.

Would you like to be in next year's calendar?

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE AN EXPERT TO ENTER!!

The acceptable Townsend Trophy photograph should epitomize Trail Riding, including elements that are distinctly representative of the TRCR (horses, riders, teepee town, campfires, etc.) Colour and/or Black & White are acceptable. All entries must be taken from the previous years ride. Only one plaque is awarded, with the winner and runner-up being guaranteed a page in the current year calendar. All entries will become the property of the TRCR for our calendar, albums or advertising.

TRAIL RIDERS OF THE CANADIAN ROCKIES

Historical Highlights

Adapted from Historical Highlights by Michelle Tilly

The Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies, affectionately known as the TRCR, enjoys a long and prestigious history. The 2023 rides will mark our 100th year anniversary! Stay tuned to the website for information about the many events that are planned to commemorate this historic milestone. Following is a brief history of the TRCR.

TRCR continues to uphold our original constitution; encouraging travel on horseback in the Canadian Rockies, promoting fellowship and maintaining the environment. TRCR is lucky to be one of the three non-profit organizations that National Parks' policy allows to have semi-permanent tents in Banff National Park.

There have been many changes in the TRCR rides since the beginning. Between 1924 and 1945, there was only one ride in late July with an average of 65 riders. It was a moving camp which would set up a new camp each evening. During World War II, it was decided that a stationary camp would better suit the organization, the outfitters and the environment. Throughout the years the single ride was expanded to four, six, eight, ten and now twelve rides during the summer months.

1923 – A party guided by Walter Nixon (an outfitter based in Windermere, BC) went up to Wolverine Pass near Tumbling Glacier. The party included Dr. J Murray Gibbon (General Publicity Agent of the Canadian Pacific Railway – CPR), H.B. Clow (President of Rand McNally Map Makers) R.H. Palenske (a well known Chicago artist), Reginald Townsend (editor of Country Life in America magazine) and his wife. While the party was stranded by weather, the group came up with the idea to start the Order of the Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies`

The idea was well received and the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) readily agreed to sponsor Trail Riders. An organizing committee was formed with Dr. Charles D. Walcott (Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution as Honorary President and Dr J Murray Gibbon (General Publicity Agent of the CPR) as Secretary-Treasurer. Along with an advisory committee they organized the first official ride.

1924 – 207 people attended the first annual meeting of the TRCR, known as `The Pow Wow`, that was held in Yoho Valley. The CPR supplemented the Bungalow Camp (Located at Takakkaw Falls) with 20 teepees and a Sundance Lodge. Thus began the tradition of using teepees as accommodation. It was natural for the CPR to use teepees rather than tents as the colourful `teepee towns` attracted tourists. Another tradition that continues today, the one of handing out `buttons` for the number of miles a rider had ridden, was talked about in Wolverine Pass and began on the first official ride in 1924.

Tradition also plays an important part of TRCR in music. At the first Pow Wow in 1924, a piano was hauled up from the trailhead to Takakkaw Falls. In subsequent years, portable organs were used.

More recently, we have relied on more portable instruments such as guitars, accordions, and even battery operated CD players for sing-songs and square dancing.

One of our most famous musicians was Wilf Carter who was a packer on various rides. In 1932 he came along as the Trail Ride musician and in 1933 he was made the Official Trail Songster. Playing for TRCR rides helped Wilf Carter begin his career as Montana Slim. Several versions of the TRCR song book have been compiled by TRCR musicians over the years so as to keep the music current with the times.

1929 – Reginald Townsend donated the Townsend Trophy thus beginning the yearly amateur photography contest that continues through today. TRCR has been blessed with incredibly beautiful trail ride photographs that have been reproduced in various magazines, brochures, publicity material and now a calendar!

Our publicity coverage has continued with a visitor from the CBC in 1943, photographers from National Geographic and Time Magazines in 1946, features in several movies, press releases and feature magazine articles.

1953 – The annual Spring Round-up commenced. Its a chance to see friends not seen since the previous summer, enjoy dinner, entertainment and to vote on the photographs for the Townsend Trophy.

1961 – The CPR notified TRCR that they would no longer sponsor the association because of financial burden. A group of Calgarians banded together and established an independent non-profit organization. At the end of the 1961 season the threat of an equipment auction aroused concerns. Quick letter writing on the part of the TRCR President ended in all the equipment being sold to the TRCR for \$1.00

1973 – The Golden Anniversary of the TRCR was celebrated at the end of the first ride with a `super Pow Wow`.

1983 – The Jubilee Celebration of the TRCR was marked with a 60th Anniversary Ride. A group of 16 riders rode from Banff to Jasper while a group of 14 riders rode from Jasper to Banff. After eight days on the trail, the two groups met with about 200 long-time riders for a Pow Wow on the Kootenay Plains to celebrate before finishing the second half of the ride.

The TRCR continues yearly to seek out new locations for riding. TRCR looks forward to a long life and hopes that you will continue to **Come Ride With Us!**



2nd Place - On the Trail
submitted by
Ashley Wynne

NOTES: _____



www.trailridevacations.com

December

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
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2022



1st Place - Scenic Views
submitted by
Judy Fleetham

NOTES: _____



www.trailridevacations.com

January

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
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2023



1st Place - Fun in Camp
submitted by
Judy Fleetham

NOTES: _____



www.trailridevacations.com

February

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
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2023



1st Place - People and Horses

submitted by

Svetlana Saitova

NOTES: _____



www.trailridevacations.com

March

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
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2023



**a. People and Horses
submitted by Renee Delorme**

**b. On the Trail
submitted by Ashley Wynne**



www.trailridevacations.com

| | April | | | | | |
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| | | | | | | 2023 |



People's Choice
submitted by
Nancy-Ann Outram

NOTES: _____



www.trailridevacations.com

| May | | | | | | |
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| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
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2023



- a. 2nd Place - People and Horses
submitted by Ashley Wynne
- b. 3rd Place - People and Horses
submitted by Ashley Wynne

NOTES: _____



www.trailridevacations.com

| June | | | | | | |
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2023



2nd Place - Scenic Views
submitted by
Judy Fleetham

NOTES: _____



www.trailridevacations.com

July

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
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2023



Flora and Fauna

- a. 1st Place submitted by Judy Fleetham
- b. 2nd Place submitted by Judy Fleetham
- c. 3rd Place submitted by Svetlana Saitova
- d. submitted by Judy Fleetham

NOTES: _____



www.trailridevacations.com

August

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
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| 27 | 28 | 29 | ☾ 30 | 31 | | |
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2023



3rd Place - Scenic Views
submitted by
Sarah Butson

NOTES: _____



www.trailridevacations.com

September

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
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2023



3rd Place - On the Trail
submitted by
Ashley Wynne

NOTES: _____



www.trailridevacations.com

October

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
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2023



**1st Place - On the Trail
and Townsend Trophy winner**

submitted by
Sarah Butson

NOTES: _____



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November

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
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2023



Fun in Camp

- a. 2nd Place submitted by Judy Fleetham
- b. 3rd Place submitted by Svetlana Saitova
- c. Submitted by Susann Richter

NOTES: _____



www.trailridevacations.com

December

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
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2023



submitted by
Judy Fleetham

January

NOTES: _____



www.trailridevacations.com

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
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2024

2024

June 2024

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July 2024

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August 2024

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September 2024

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October 2024

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November 2024

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December 2024

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January 2025

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February 2025

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March 2025

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April 2025

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May 2025

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- Jun 16, 2024 • Father's Day
- Jun 21, 2024 • National Indigenous Peoples Day
- Jul 1, 2024 • Canada Day
- Aug 5, 2024 • Civic/Provincial Day (Northwest Territories, Nunavut)
- Aug 5, 2024 • British Columbia Day (British Columbia)
- Aug 5, 2024 • Natal Day (Nova Scotia)
- Aug 5, 2024 • Saskatchewan Day (Saskatchewan)
- Aug 5, 2024 • New Brunswick Day (New Brunswick)
- Sep 2, 2024 • Labour Day
- Sep 30, 2024 • National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
- Oct 14, 2024 • Thanksgiving Day (Many regions)

- Oct 14, 2024 • Thanksgiving Day (Nova Scotia)
- Oct 14, 2024 • Thanksgiving Day (Prince Edward Island)
- Oct 31, 2024 • Halloween
- Nov 11, 2024 • Remembrance Day (Many regions)
- Nov 11, 2024 • Remembrance Day (Many regions)
- Dec 11, 2024 • Anniversary of the Statute of Westminster
- Dec 24, 2024 • Christmas Eve
- Dec 25, 2024 • Christmas Day
- Dec 26, 2024 • Boxing Day (Many regions)
- Dec 26, 2024 • Boxing Day (Nova Scotia)
- Dec 31, 2024 • New Year's Eve
- Jan 1, 2025 • New Year's Day
- Jan 6, 2025 • Epiphany
- Feb 2, 2025 • Groundhog Day

- Feb 14, 2025 • Valentine's Day
- Feb 17, 2025 • Family Day (Many regions)
- Feb 17, 2025 • Islander Day (Prince Edward Island)
- Feb 17, 2025 • Louis Riel Day (Manitoba)
- Feb 17, 2025 • Nova Scotia Heritage Day (Nova Scotia)
- Feb 21, 2025 • Yukon Heritage Day (Yukon)
- Mar 10, 2025 • Commonwealth Day
- Mar 17, 2025 • St. Patrick's Day
- Apr 6, 2025 • Tartan Day
- Apr 9, 2025 • Vimy Ridge Day
- Apr 18, 2025 • Good Friday
- Apr 20, 2025 • Easter Sunday (Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia)
- Apr 20, 2025 • Easter Sunday
- Apr 21, 2025 • Easter Monday (NT, NU, QC)
- May 11, 2025 • Mother's Day
- May 19, 2025 • Victoria Day (Many regions)

NOTES: _____



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