

THE BULLETIN

March 2016



Editor & Publisher: Stuart R. Watkins

THE RIDES OF 2016

This summer we will have three, six-day trail rides in Waterton Lakes National Park (a World UNESCO Site) in south western Alberta, Canada. Our base camp, will be located just outside of the border of Waterton Lakes National Park. (Parks policy will not allow us to have our camp within the National park) Our outfitter, Deb Watson, has been busy securing a camp location for our trips. Our camp will have our own teepees, tents, kitchen, doughnut, electricity and privacy!

Deb has suggested we have day rides into the spectacular backcountry of Waterton Lakes National Park. Each day we will be shuttled from camp to the corrals, about ten minutes and longer on some days as we go to different trail heads. Our 2016 website has all the details, but here is a brief itinerary:

(Note: more rides will be added in July as demand permits.)

- Depart the Acclaim Hotel near the airport in Calgary by bus with a stop at The Bar U Ranch, a National Historic Site for a guided tour on our way to Waterton. (<http://www.pc.gc.ca/eng/lhn-nhs/ab/baru/visit/visit1.aspx>)
- After a hearty lunch at camp, we will have a short three-hour “primer ride” on the Golf Course loop.
- During the next five days we will have some spectacular rides to Lone Lake, Goat Lake, and Addison Lake. Back by popular demand we will be repeating the ride into Blue Lake and the spectacular Spionkop Ridge.

- On Thursday, riders have the option of a shorter ride up “the Lion’s Head” or taking a fantastic cruise on Waterton Lake to Goat Haunt in Glacier National Park U.S.A. followed by two hours of shopping in the Village of Waterton.
- Each day will we will return to our camp by a shuttle for the usual standard fare of great food and fellowship.



We will again have the opportunity for different types of live entertainment in our Doughnut at night. Details to follow, but in addition to the great music, skits, and silliness, be assured that we will be trying to get our cowboy poet, Doral Lybbert, back again as well as a naturalist.

We have some incredible rides this summer! This is truly a summer you will not want to miss. We are not holding space for our membership so bookings will be on a first come first serve basis. We strongly suggest that you complete your registrations as soon as possible.

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Dear fellow Trail Riders:

We have had two rather precarious spring starts over the last two years. In May of 2014 we did not have enough bookings to go into Scotch Camp, so switched to a new location and through the support of Julie Canning who took over Ron Warner's "Holiday on Horseback" we were able to take 85 riders into Flint's Valley in Banff National Park. Your club lost money, but it was good summer.

Last April was looking very precarious again, but after some last minute strategies and the complete cooperation of Deb Watson and her incredible family (staff) we managed to pull off the best summer in memory, and made just enough money to get through another winter! My sincerest thanks to Deb Watson and her family with special thanks to Dee Barrus (our amazing head guide), Ashley Watson (our amazing chef) and a group of volunteers as well as our Board of Directors. My thanks to Ted Watchuk who without his help, we never would have had a camp. Ted and I cut and hauled 60 teepee poles out of the bush, and then he trailered them to Waterton. Our Vice President, Gary Sandbeck, and his team of Ted, his son Kevin, myself and our ever hard working secretary-treasurer, Robert Vanderzweerde, spent four days putting the camp up in time for the first ride. Thank-you team! (Thanks to Gary, Ted and Joel Lipkind for taking it down 3 weeks later in record time!)

It was our intention to go to the Tonquin Valley in Jasper this summer. Unfortunately we were not able to secure a contract with the outfitter that was viable. In reviewing the positive feedback from the surveys that we gave our riders last summer, we decided to return to Waterton. As fantastic as the Waterton Valley rides were, we want to maintain our tradition of treating our riders (especially returning riders) to new sights and wonders each year. With that in mind, I sat down with Dee and Deb last October and developed a plan for some new and exciting rides for this summer. (See Pg. 1 and our website.)



I read everyone one of the surveys and sincerely thank-you for your feedback. There were LOTS of positive comments and I would have to say it was the most successful summer in 30 years. We're always improving our rider's experiences, and are implementing the following suggestions for this year:

1. Locating our camp on private property will enhance privacy. We will have one hot shower, lots of hot washing water and dry toilets. A small generator will be used for refrigeration and allow guests to charge camera batteries.

2. The biggest concern last summer was that the rides were too lengthy, making for excess fatigue after a full day of fresh mountain air. With that in mind we are having some shorter rides and a "day off" where we can sleep in and then take a leisurely boat cruise down Waterton Lakes.

If any "hardy riders" want to ride on that day, we have a trip up "Lions Head" planned.

3. In order to prevent noise, we are not putting rain flies on the tents. Instead, we are going to erect the tents and then coat them with water proofing.

4. New breakfast items are on the menu and Ashley has some new ideas for dinners.

There is lots more information in this edition of "The Bulletin." Please take to read it and then get yourself booked! It is going to be another fantastic summer with the T.R.C.R.!!!

Happy Trails

S.R. Watkins
President, T.R.C.R.

Riding in the Rockies

Poem by Stephanie Barrington & Rachel Bauer
(Ride #3)

We're in the Rockies on the 92nd year of trail riding.
Canadians, Americans, and some awesome trail guiding.

Stuart rounded us up and soon got things going,
With his ideas for tradition and marketing always flowing.

We all joined the trip for different reasons, BUT...
It was clear mine was for a donut in the doughnut.

Matt, the American hunter, always scanning for a ram,
Soon became known as "binocular man".

Marah rode her horse, Bailey, with a big ole grin.
Her gold locks shining and flowing in the wind.

Chase started quiet but perked up more and more,
The next thing we knew he was break dancing on the floor!

Saige came to camp with her John Lennon glasses,
She enjoyed the cold water, while some froze off their...
behinds.

Ket, who'd been wondering what trail rides were about,
Gave us a first class rodeo when the wasps came out.

Reagan was always pretty mellow, UNTIL...
She became the hooded ninja and rolled off the hill!

Rachel, who kept dropping stuff and causing trouble,
Quickly learned about Timbits and a hot double double.

Yodeling Charlie after resting his back,
was almost a victim of a black bear attack.

Sweet Mary Ann is the best dressed cowgirl,
Whether in the saddle or in a allaman twirl.

Jacquelyn was a trooper on the ride today,
She said she's a writer, but we think she's CIA.

Handyman Allen is just a super guy!
If anything needs a fixin' he'll give it a try.

Two stepping Nina is the life of the party,
Always dreading the switchbacks with a laugh so hearty.

If you are on the trail and you hear a "click, click",
Smile and say cheese 'cuz Judy's taking your pic.

Our "best vacation ever" is coming to an end.
We'll treasure the memories and all of our new friends.

CALLING BACK ALL
TRAIL RIDERS!
IT'S REUNION TIME!

The Board of Directors decided that this is a golden opportunity to welcome those members who may not be willing or able to do any riding, but may wish to join the fun. Our camp location will allow for easy access for "alumni riders" who are welcome to join us using the "Companion Option" below as an unaccompanied guest.

THE 'COMPANION OPTION'

This option allows long time, returning riding guests who no longer ride to bring a friend, spouse or other family member for activities that are not on horseback. Or, if you are already a T.R.C.R. member, join us at camp! Utilizing our daily shuttle, our companion guests and T.R.C.R. members can ride to the Town of Waterton, go on small day hikes, take a boat cruise to Glacier National Park, take a much shorter ride or perhaps just stay in camp and relax for the day. Please see our website for further details.



Tell us about your ride from last summer. Share your thoughts, pictures and questions about the T.R.C.R. We will keep you posted with the current news too!

TALES OF THE TRAILS OF RIDE #3

By Stuart Watkins, Emcee

We left the Acclaim Hotel bright and early on a Monday morning in August with a crew of excited trail riders from across the country and as far away as South Carolina! The Barrington family (all six of them) had spent ten days touring Banff National Park, taking in the sights of Moraine Lake, Lake Louise and Banff before joining us for six days in the saddle. Matt and his wife Stephanie brought: Reagan, Marah, Saige, Chase and Ket and as well, Stephanie's sister Rachel Bauer from Washington state joined us. From Calgary we had Allen, Jude our photographer; Nina the horseman and all around bush lady from Ontario; and Mary Ann and Charlie from Boyle Alberta. What a great crew! After the tour at Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump and a hearty lunch at camp, we had a "primer ride" in the afternoon so that everyone could meet their horse and get accustomed to the saddles!

It never ceases to amaze and amuse me that after a few days in camp, people seem to "fall into" their "roles" on the ride, which of course often leads to much fun and joking. Allan was our "man about camp" fixing and helping out where ever he could. Thanks Allan! You can come and help set-up camp this summer! LOL Nina talked about her fear of switch backs, but hey, after switch backs and wasps all on the same day, she conquered her mountains! Literally! Mary Ann won the award as best dressed cowgirl and Charlie kept us entertained with stories and yodeling. Jaqueline joined us part way through the week and wrote a story about the ride. It was a bit creepy actually; someone would say something and the next thing you knew Jacqueline was taking notes! We concluded she was an uncover reporter really working for the CIA!

The Barringtons were in a class of their own; the most adventurous bunch of trail riders I have seen in a while. They all went swimming in Blue and Twin Lakes! Matt, told me that prior to leaving home, he had to read to Stephanie (from our website) of a typical day on the ride which included time in the Doughnut tent in the evening. When they arrived at camp, Matt told me quite seriously that Stephanie was disappointed in our Doughnut tent. Matt said, "she thought you were going to serve us doughnuts!?" After I burst out laughing, I realized that he really was serious! I decided this was too rich to let go! The next day Sherry our breakfast cook picked up two dozen doughnuts from Tim Horton's to share with the group in our Doughnut tent. I presented them to Steph after a big line about having "a disappointed guest,

and we take that very seriously..." :) We don't normally eat doughnuts in the Doughnut but we do always try and go the extra mile to make peoples' ride the adventure of a lifetime! Too funny.....

I cannot remember a ride when we have seen more wildlife. Thanks to "eagle eyes" Matt who spotted most of the game, we saw: goat, sheep, deer, elk, moose, ptarmigan, and bear. Jude got some great pictures! I think the highlight of the ride was going up Spionkop Ridge after lunch at Blue Lake. I have seen a few views in my day on TRCR, but that one was one of the best! We also saw a herd of sheep.

Another highlight of the week was John and Pat Curzon joining us mid week and teaching the riders how to Square dance! The idea was met with much enthusiasm and in twenty minutes John had taught the crew seventeen dance moves and it was onto "Allemand left your corner" and "dosido your own." A great time was had by all, so much so, that we danced again a second night!

I would like to thank everyone that attended the ride. You were such a fun group and I do hope that you will be back to join us this summer for more fun and frivolity! As President, I especially want to thank the incredible support that we had from Deb Watson and her terrific team - all family members - who gave us just the best summer that I can remember in many years. I especially wish to acknowledge Dee Barrus who was "head guide extraordinaire." I don't think I have ever met a "mountain man" with more passion for the wilderness and with a bigger heart to show off "his country" and teach others about it. You are a legend in your own time Dee, and we thank you for your amazing family which you have trained, for one incredible month of rides. I look forward to working with the Barrus/Watson clan again this summer.

See you on the trails everyone!



OUR COLOURFUL HISTORY...



ROYALTY ON THE TRAIL RIDE!



by Constance Davis

What would you say if you found yourself face to face with a King of a foreign country?

If you've ever seen the Broadway musical "The King and I" you will recall the central character being the King of Siam. Now visualize the stately King of Siam on a horse in the wilds of the Canadian Rockies and being tasked with showing him a good time.....

That's exactly the job that a rugged cowboy named Myron "Mike" Crosbie was given with the King of Siam (now Thailand) back in the year 1932. Think of the rough and tough Clint Eastwood attending respectful and polite Asian royalty.....got the picture?

During those early years of the 20th century there were only two choices for trail riding in the Canadian Rockies and they were both owned by the Canadian Pacific Railroad (CPR); one of which our organization, Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies, can look back on as our proud historical roots.

Mike Crosbie's daughter, Barbara Louhela, shared some entertaining stories in a recent interview with our club President, about her father's experience with the King that she delighted in revealing to him.

Although Mike's mother was a direct descendant of Sir Francis Drake, Mike's life was one of working the land and braving the harsh elements primarily as a farmer/rancher/logger. He was born in Minnesota in 1904 before his family migrated to Calgary, Alberta in 1906 and homesteaded in Three Hills, Alberta in 1907. Leaving school at age 15, he became a cowboy at the age of 17 when he took a job herding horses.

Mike was weathered by a life of hard physical labour that included helping dig the first swimming pool at The Chateau at Lake Louise, cutting and putting up ice from the Bow River (before the days of electric refrigerators),



and as foreman of a road crew of fifteen men who cut the first roads gaining access to construct the dam at Kananaskis Lake, Alberta.

Mike's employer in 1929, Mr. George Brewster, asked him to serve as the guide to the King of Siam during a trail ride. Mike was not happy about the idea after seeing the numerous pages of protocol required with accompanying the Asian royalty. However, after making the agreement that he would be responsible for the King, and only the King alone, he consented to guide His Royal Highness and his entourage of eighteen attendants on horseback to Victoria Glacier under the watchful eye of General Panny of the Canadian Pacific Railroad Police.

After arriving at the corral, the expedition began with extensive protocol and formal salutes with numerous dignitaries. Impatient with all the official fanfare, Mike

said to the King “Come on King, here’s your horse – let’s go!” and they galloped off leaving the formal event in a trail of dust. Proceeding to Victoria Glacier, Mike was assigned to stay with the horses while the royal party hiked up the mountain. Upon the party’s return General Panny exploded and informed Mike he was being fired for his informal behaviour toward the King.

The King and Mike went ahead of the rest of the royal party on the return ride from Victoria Glacier on the trail that had been carefully prepared for the royal event by hauling in pea gravel to prevent dust and mud from soiling the visiting dignitaries. The King asked Mike if they could canter the horses. Mike retorted “Sure!” and the pair took off with gravel flying right into the face of the King. Mike didn’t care since he knew he was being fired anyway. Arriving breathless at the corral and shaking the gravel out of their clothes, the King announced to Mike “That was the best part of the whole ride!”

Mike was fired in an evening meeting that same day, when the King’s bookkeeper announced they would need the King’s consent to terminate him. Upon returning from advising the King about the news, the King’s bookkeeper informed the group that the King liked Mike and insisted that he remain the King’s personal guide on the trail rides. In fact, General Panny of the CPR Police was fired and replaced by Mike as the “boss” in charge of the King’s party!

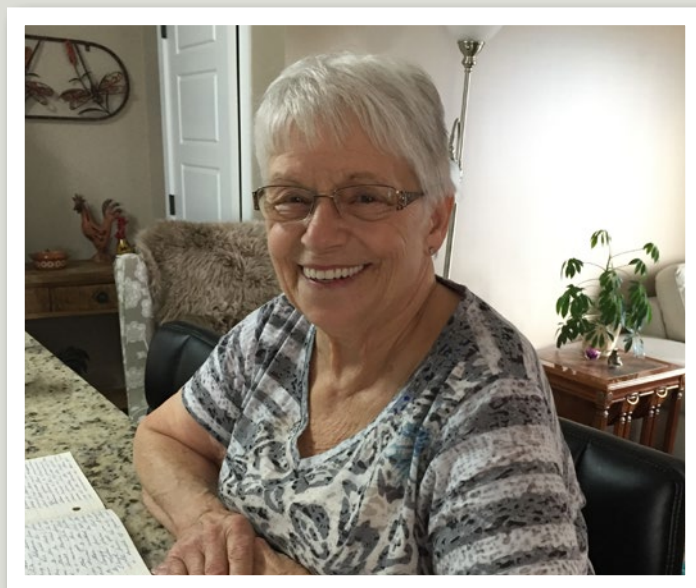
On another expedition, the Asian King and his entourage of escorts were taken on a fishing trip to Lake O’Hara. It was a slow fishing day with not even a nibble of activity. Mike asked the King “Do you REALLY want to catch some fish?” The King said “yes,” so Mike steered their boat to the nearby Lake O’Hara Lodge where he knew the owner kept

a supply of fish for lodge meals inside a rock pool in the cold mountain lake. Mike scooped up a bucket of lake water from the pool, borrowed three fish destined for hungry diners at the lodge, and sped off to join the rest of the fishermen.

The King asked the group “Are you catching any fish?” They wearily replied “no”, to which the King was very proud to display his bucket of three fish, repeatedly delighting at his impressive achievement! Then the King said to Mike “Let’s get out of here!” After returning the borrowed fish to their confinement, Mike and the King completed the day in the King’s room downing glasses of whiskey.

Mike’s last encounter with His Royal Highness was escorting him on a trail ride to Flow Lake high in the majestic Canadian Rockies. As the horses climbed the trail the King asked “Can’t we get away from the party?” to which Mike replied “Follow me!” He took the King to a clearing up the trail and the pair hid among the rocks and trees sharing a drink of whiskey, silently laughing as they watched the royal party continue past them up the mountain. That was the last time that Mike saw the King of Siam.

The Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies has a rich history of treating each guest as they, too, are royalty. To be clear, we won’t be hiding in the trees drinking whiskey or charging horses down a gravel trail, but we do guarantee that you will return from your experience with fond memories that will last a lifetime!



Barbara Louhela



Mike Crosbie

WHAT'S NEW IN MARKETING?

For 93 years, our best form of advertising has been word of mouth. That is still the same today. As club members, we rely on your good graces to do any/all of the following:

1. Come back this summer on a ride! (returning riders receive a \$500 discount!)
2. Bring friends, family members etc. (don't forget our \$100 off program if you refer a new rider)
3. Have a T.R.C.R. Round-up in your area; invite friends over, show pictures, talk about the good times you had on previous rides.
4. Write a story and publish it in your local newspaper or any magazine.
5. Post to our facebook account.

HERE IS WHAT THE T.R.C.R. IS DOING IN 2016 FOR MARKETING:

After three unsuccessful years of buying "print advertising" we have changed our strategies....

1. Your Board of Directors has hired, "Strong Coffee Marketing" an Edmonton based social media company that specializes in tourism. They have launched several campaigns using Facebook and Instagram so please do search for these and "like it;" add them to your own social media groups and help get the word out!
2. Stuart was interviewed by radio talk-show host Randy Sharman of "The Informed Traveller" on CHQR radio in Calgary on January 11th. The show is broadcast across Alberta and from Boise Montana. Randy has donated 4 months of 30 second commercials to us which Stuart and Strong Coffee Marketing produced. Click here to listen to the radio commercial.



← **CLICK HERE**

3. We are now listed on the Alberta Country Vacations website:

<http://www.albertacountryvacation.com>

4. We are now listed on the Equitrekking website:

<http://www.equitrekking.com>

5. We are now listed on the Hidden Trails website:

<http://www.hiddentrails.com>

6. Emails have gone out to 80 German tour operators.

7. Travel Alberta has the T.R.C.R. listed on their website and they are working with tour operators to "spread the word" about us.

8. If funds permit, we will be hiring a video company to attend a ride this summer and make a movie about us.

9. Stuart is sending an email he wrote that was edited by a professional writer to the travel editors of the top 100 newspapers in the U.S.A. Further, he has emailed 25 of the largest newspapers in Canada; 4 newspapers in Germany, 5 in England, 6 in Australia, and 5 in New Zealand as well as 15 horse magazines.

10. Our web hosting company is conducting "search engine optimization" on a monthly basis to attract more people to our website.

11. Jacqueline Louie who attended a ride, has written a story about her adventure last summer and is seeking to have it published.

12. With the decline of the price of oil, the Canadian dollar has fallen to its lowest in 20 years. That is a huge savings for our foreign visitors! We are very much "putting the word out" about that!

13. We are making connections with the Alberta Motor Association (AMA) to see if they can market our trips.

14. The website and Youtube video have been upgraded.

CAN YOU JOIN OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

Ah yes, the advent of modern technology....

Since 1961, when the T.R.C.R. became a nonprofit society, we have operated in the city of Calgary, Alberta, where most of our Board members live. However, we can now have anyone from any location be on our board via online video conferencing. Our sister organization the Skyline Hikers has one board member from Ontario who “attends” every meeting without leaving the comfort of their own home! If they can do this, so can we!! The T.R.C.R. needs members who have a passion for seeing that we continue to operate our club as we have for the last 53 years. Our meetings are two hours or less, once a month, usually the 2nd Wednesday evening starting at 7:00 pm MST. We can make arrangements for you to participate and of course there will be an expectation that you would be the chairman of one or more committees. Any volunteer administrative experience is an asset.

There is work to do..... If we are going to keep this organization alive, we need some help. Will you join us?

Send your inquiries to the President, Stuart R. Watkins at: admin@trail-rides.ca



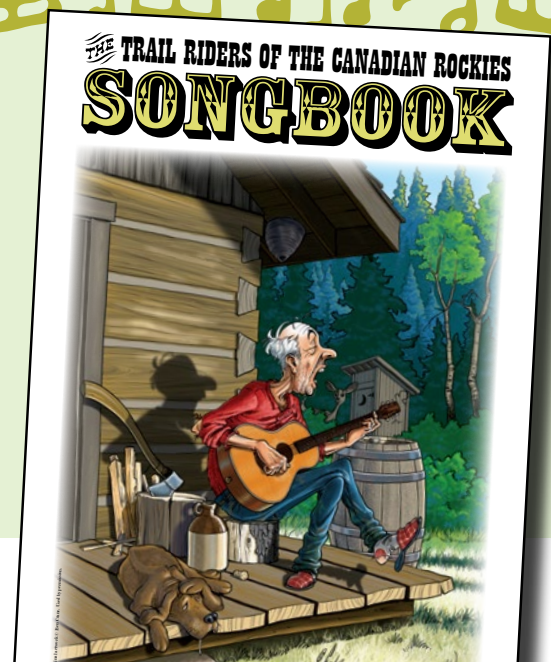
CALLING ALL MUSICIANS AND PROSPECTIVE EMCEES!

Ideally we like to have an official musician on every ride. Historically this has been an accordionist and over the years that has changed to include fiddle and/or guitar players. Any additional skills in entertaining the riders is welcome too.

We need an Emcee for every ride. There is not a lot of “work” to do, but there is a bit of responsibility. We publish an “Emcees handbook” and the position is open to anyone that has attended one or more rides. It is helpful to have some administrative skills and of course you need to be a “people person” and be well versed in the history of the T.R.C.R. and our polices and procedures that are clearly written in the handbook.

Musicians and Emcees’ pay the full price of the ride in advance like every other rider. Emcees receive a \$500 rebate and Musicians \$1,000. (those rebates are subject to change depending upon the Clubs finances)

For further information and any questions, please contact our President, Stuart R. Watkins. admin@trail-rides.com





WE NEED YOUR VOICE !



The National Parks act clearly states that the Parks are for, “the enjoyment of the people...” The National Parks are not wildlife reserves or wildlife sanctuaries; they are for the use and enjoyment of the people of our great country and our international visitors. This does not mean that protection is not an issue. We, the Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies, have been ardent environmental stewards of this our valuable resource called, “National Parks.” The way we operate our camps today is a, “night and day improvement” over our treatment of the environment 40 years ago. We have been subject to stringent environmental policies and procedures with respect to our camps. Not only have we fully accepted those conditions but agree with them ourselves. However, Parks Canada continues to wage war against us in reducing the number of areas of Banff and Jasper National parks in which we can operate.

Your Board of Directors will be continuing to put pressure on the government bureaucrats as well politicians. However we very much need your help.

What your Board of Directors are asking you to do is write to the following government representatives and politicians telling them the following:

1. That you were a guest on a trail ride in 2015 (or any other previous year) and thoroughly enjoyed yourself. Further, you regard this as an important part of your summer vacation plans.
2. That you fully support the use of horses in the National Parks and that you are very much against the elimination of horses for tourism.
3. Please remind these government officials in your letter that The Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies bring tens of thousands of dollars into the Alberta and Canadian economies every year.

4. Please remind these government officials that the National Parks act is very clear and states that, “the Parks are for the enjoyment of the people.” Further state that the T.R.C.R. has as an excellent reputation for environmental stewardship and very much supports these measures. However, National Parks are not wildlife sanctuaries, and the people of this country and our international visitors have a right to see the backcountry of the National parks.
5. Please conclude your letter by asking the government to expand the number of campsites the T.R.C.R. can use in Banff National Park. As well as increasing the number of riders per day.

Please note, we have been told that a letter (the old kind on paper with a stamp!) will get far more attention than an email. It can be the same letter to each person. Thanks!

Please send your letters to the following people:

Mr. Glenn Kubian

Lake Louise Yoho Kootenay Field Unit
Parks Canada Agency
P.O. Box 220
Radium, B.C. V0A 1M0

Ms. Sheila Louey

Manager, Integrated Land Use Planning & Policy
Banff Field Unit
Box 900
Banff, Alberta T1L 1K2

Mr. Dave McDonough

Superintendent, Banff National Park
Box 900
Banff, Alberta T1L 1K2
Mr. Alan Latourelle

Parks Canada C.E.O.
Office of the Chief Executive Officer
25 Eddy Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0M5

The Honourable Blake Richards, MP
Room 602, Justice Building
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

The Honourable Catherine McKenna
Minister of the Environment and Climate Change
Room 458 Confederation Building
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons,
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

For our Canadian club members, please write your local Member of Parliament as well.

Thank-you.

WE NEED your voice !

Note to foreign members: Please do not think that your voice does not count since you are not a Canadian citizen! On the contrary, as a person bringing foreign currency into our economy, your voice is very much heard in Banff and Ottawa!

ROAD APPLES, LOOSE CINCHES & TEEPEE TALK...

AGM

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the T.R.C.R. will be held Monday May 4th, 2016 at the Danish Canadian Club in Calgary. All members are invited and encouraged to attend. Please R.S.V.P. to Robert by April 25th.

For the AGM, a package will be sent in mid- April. If you cannot attend, please send in your proxy that is included in the package.

DONATIONS

Our club is always in need of funds to continue to operate, repair and add equipment as needed. We expect to spend over \$30,000 in the next few years to replace canvas tents, teepees, and our kitchen. Your donation to our non-profit club is appreciated.

Are you re-writing your will? Please consider bequeathing some of your estate to help to preserve our club for future generations.

DON'T BE LEFT BEHIND!

The rides are filling up and we're looking forward to a very successful summer. Check the website for availability.

Get your registrations in soon!

...refer a friend is worth \$100 per new rider!!!

CAN YOU HELP US WITH A TESTIMONIAL?

We would like to add some testimonials to our website. Could you write us a few sentences and tell us about your previous rides, how much you enjoyed them and why you are planning to come back? You can also mention specifically what you like about the rides. Again, our best form of marketing over the years has proven to be word-of-mouth.

WANNA HAVE SOME FUN, FRIVOLITY AND FRIENDSHIP?

As part of our contract with our outfitter, we are required to send four to six volunteers to set-up the T.R.C.R. camp and then again to tear the camp down. We offer a free accommodation, meals, fun and silliness with a great team of people, lots of hard work, and... ..no pay. Working in camp under the direction of our Vice-President Gary Sandbeck, is a great job and Gary is a "dream boss" to work for. He never gets in a flap and works very well with people.

Come and join us! — Contact Gary for more information: admin@trail-rides.ca

ARE YOU A SOCIAL MEDIA GURU??!!

The board members are not of the generation of social media!! LOL We are looking for a volunteer to handle and build our presence on Twitter and Facebook. The beauty of this position is that the person does not need to live in Calgary. With modern technology anybody with a level of expertise in social media and an internet connection can handle this most valuable and needed position.

Conventional marketing is changing and we at the T.R.C.R. need to keep abreast of new technology and join the social media revolution. Can you help us?

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

"Join your fellow trail riders on the Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies Facebook and Instagram pages.

Share your experiences, photos, and tales of the trails as we count down this year's ride in Waterton Lakes National Park.

Find us at [@trailridersofcanadianrockies](https://www.instagram.com/trailridersofcanadianrockies) on Instagram and search "Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies" on Facebook. "

ODE to the Waterton Trail Ride #5

Aug 10, 2015 by Bruce Lukey

(sung on skit night with backup “do-wop girls” to the tune of Red River Valley)

Come and sit down beside me if you love me;
Do not hasten to bid me ‘Adieu’;
Just remember the Red River Valley;
And the cowboy who loves you so true
I have ridden many trails in the Rockies;
And most lately with the Trail Rider gang;
But the one guide who stands out among them;
That Dee Watson is the one in his prime
He has two grandsons that go riding with him;
Big strong Jerrod and slim Josh are their names;
Dee is teaching them all his trail secrets;
And maybe one will continue on Dee’s game
Well that Josh ain’t much good at fly fishing;
But he can fix a rock-jammed horseshoe in a flash;
That big Jerrod is so patient with his clients;
He’s a friend no matter what you happen to lose
Now that kitchen staff are really second to none;
Ashley and Sherry got us breakfast right on time;
And their helpers did the dishes not complaining;
And dessert was always oh-so-mighty fine
Last of all we get to riders Rick and Gary;
Rick’s our timekeeper and organizer strong;
And his nickname “Death on the Trail” is only
fiction;
Gary’s should be “Mr. Fix-It” all the time
From this campsite they say we are going;
When we go may you all have a happy lives;
And remember this Waterton Trail Ride;
And the friends you left so satisfied.

TENTING THOUGHTS

by Anonymous

(written and presented during skit night on the 2015 TRCR Waterton Ride #5)

Jam sandwich. Hot. People pose (for pictures). Beer into me.

May your hearts sing to the rhythm of the hoof-beats of horses.

May you find lightness of spirit in the sounds, Freedom of birds in flight.

When beset with cocktail chatter, may you recall the sound of breeze driven water lapping the lakeshore.

If harnessed by the weight of worry, may the mountain winds sooth the creases of your soul

May you escape to space from the press of the busy crowd by absorbing the immensity, grandeur and the serenade of silence of the mountains

And to avoid the sometimes petty meanness of the world may we be mindful of the generous character of the horse, which through the ages offers; cooperation for kindness and forgiveness for occasional abuse.

May they and we always go in peace



PASSAGES



Anne Wotypka

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Anne Wotypka, at the age of 84 years. Anne will be lovingly remembered by her niece, Karen and her children, Kea and Joshua, and by her niece, Joanne. Anne was predeceased by her parents, Frank and Betty Wotypka, and her little brother, Frank. We would like to thank all the staff of Units 43 and 53 of the Grey Nuns Hospital for their exemplary care, and also everyone at St. Joseph's Auxiliary Hospital, where Anne volunteered for many years.

A Memorial Service was held Wednesday, August 5 at 1:30 p.m. (2016) in the Social Room of Shepherd's Care Southside Manor, 10751-29 Avenue. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Anne's memory to the Cross Cancer Institute, 11560 University Avenue NW, Edmonton, AB T6G 1Z2 or the Edmonton Humane Society, 13620 163 Street, Edmonton, AB T5V 0B2

Anne Wotypka first heard about the T.R.C.R. from a story written in the Western Horseman Magazine way back in 1968. She attended a ride and loved it so much that she brought her brother Frank and his wife Barbara back the following summer. The three of them rode with us for over 30 years. For 20 years, the Wotypka's hosted a fall T.R.C.R. Round-up at their acreage east of Edmonton, with as many as 60 people in attendance. We, the Board of Directors, are most grateful to Anne and her continuing support of the T.R.C.R. in the role of an Emcee; a role she held for years. Happy Trails Anne.....



Dave Smith

Dave Smith - a past board member and manager of Fairbanks Morris, Cochrane where we have stored our equipment for 15 or more years passed away at age 57. I had many a great encounter with him over the years and, as Gary can attest, he was very generous with allowing us storage space for our equipment as well as always getting staff to help with the forklift to move our equipment to and from the mezzanine.

Regretfully I was not able to attend the memorial/celebration of life yesterday but have written the following on the Mc Innis Holloway Cochrane website to Debbie his wife, who I had met a few times over the years. Prior to Dave, his boss Dennis Welham was the one who agreed to take the equipment from Lipkind's storage site and give us a spot at Fairbanks Morris. Dennis was an active trail rider, on the board for many years and rode and helped with camp setup. Thank-you Dennis and thank-you Dave. Happy Trails....

(submitted by Past T.R.C.R. President Rick Godderis)

"Dear Debbie (and family)

Dave was a very special and giving guy, a privilege to know. I shed many tears as I heard of his passing as did my cohort Gary Sandbeck as we reminisced about what an incredible guy Dave was. Whenever we dropped into his office to access the Trail Rider (T.R.C.R.) stuff (that he graciously offered to store), every time in the midst of his very very busy business life, his door was always open to have great chats. And his kind assistance was so appreciated. Your loss is also the world's loss of such a fine personality. From myself in particular and the many from T.R.C.R. who had interacted with Dave, we offer our condolences. Dave will be missed.

From Rick Godderis and Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies club mates."



Cowboy Poet
Doral Lybbert

The Oyster Baxter Black

The sign upon the café wall said OYSTERS: fifty cents.
"How quaint," the blue-eyed sweetheart said with some bewilderment,
"I didn't know they served such fare out here upon the plain."
"Oh, sure," her cowboy date replied, "We're really quite urbane."

"I would guess they're Chesapeake or Blue Point, don't you think?"
"No ma'am, they're mostly Hereford cross . . . and usually they're pink
But I've been cold, so cold myself, what you say could be true
And if a man looked close enough, their points could sure be blue!"

She said, "I gather them myself out on the bay alone.
I pluck them from the murky depths and smash them with a stone!"
The cowboy winced, imagining a calf with her beneath,
"Me, I use a pocket knife and yank 'em with my teeth."

"Oh my," she said, "You're an animal! How crude and unrefined!
Your masculine assertiveness sends a shiver down my spine!
But I prefer a butcher knife too dull to really cut.
I wedge it in on either side and crack it like a nut!"

I pry them out. If they resist, sometimes I use the pliers
Or even Grandpa's pruning shears if that's what it requires!"
The hair stood on the cowboy's neck. His stomach did a whirl.
He'd never heard such grisly talk, especially from a girl!

"I like them fresh," the sweetheart said and laid her menu down
Then ordered oysters for them both when the waiter came around.
The cowboy smiled gamely, though her words stuck in his craw
But he finally fainted dead away when she said, "I'll have mine raw!"

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Head Guide
Dee Barris

Down the Blue Lake Trail



Over the Pass