



BOX 1677, BANFF,  
ALBERTA, CANADA,  
TOL OCO

NEWSLETTER - MARCH 1979

Dear Member:

The past twelve have been productive ones for the Lake O'Hara Trails Club. This newsletter outlines the activities and projects of past year as well as some of the things that are planned for the future.

#### Plaque for Dr. George Link

On July 27th, 1978 a bronze cast plaque was unveiled at the Odaray Prospect in honour of the work done by Dr. George K.K.Link. It was a rainy day but a gathering of about forty people was in attendance to participate in the ceremony. Copies of the dedication and benediction are enclosed, along with a copy of the newspaper coverage. Dr. Link was unable to attend the ceremony but he did receive a comprehensive report on the events of day.

#### 1978 Annual Meeting

The 1978 Annual Meeting was also held on July 27th. A summary of the minutes has been included with this newsletter.

#### History of Lake O'Hara

Lillian Gest's History of Lake O'Hara has now been reprinted with a foreward by Elizabeth Gleason. Copies are available at the Lake O'Hara Lodge for \$2.50.

#### Maps

The 1974 Edition of Dr. Link's map of the Lake O'Hara Region has now been updated (with the assistance of Dr. Link and Alan Knowles) and reprinted. Its large size, geological information and interesting place names make a valuable possession for newcomers as well as regular visitors to O'Hara. Copies will be available at the Lodge this summer.

#### Crests and Pins

The Logo that appears on this letterhead was recently designed for us by Merle McKight, an artist in Lake Louise. We plan to have it incorporated into a crest and pin for club members.

### Informative Pamphlet

A short pamphlet outlining information on the O'Hara Region, some tips on visiting the mountains and the aims of the Lake O'Hara Trails Club, is in the production stage at present. It will be distributed free of charge to all visitors.

### Winter at O'Hara

The winter of 1978-1979 has seen several long stretches of cold weather (below -20 Celsius) and heavy snowfall in February. Avalanche conditions have been extreme due to very unstable lower layers in the snow-pack. To date two groups, of skiers have been caught in avalanches at O'Hara but fortunately no injuries resulted. The first incident occurred in Schaffer Bowl, the second on the slopes above Odaray Plateau. In both instances the skiers were exploring terrain beyond the established winter trails.

### Warden Service

The commendable work of the Yoho Park Warden Service has been continued through the winter at O'Hara. There has been a warden in the patrol cabin almost every weekend since Christmas and we are expecting Alan Knowles to continue his superb work this summer.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

#### History of Trailbuilding at Lake O'Hara

It has been suggested that a history of the trailbuilding at O'Hara, focusing on the work of Dr. Link, would make an interesting and informative booklet for visitors to the O'Hara region. A good deal of information is available in Dr. Link's manuscript and notes (presently at the Archives of the Canadian Rockies) and in a cassette tape of conversations between Dr. Link and Carson Wade, a historian, commissioned by Parks Canada to write a Human History of Yoho National Park. With the information at hand, we now need to locate a qualified individual who is willing to write the booklet and some financial support from our memberships in order to produce it. We welcome your suggestions.

#### Slide Library.

We would like to start a library of slides of the Lake O'Hara Region, to be kept at Lake O'Hara Lodge for periodic viewing by visitors to the area. If you would like to donate a few of your favourite shots, please have them duplicated and forward them to us. Credit will be given to all donors at each presentation.

### Donations

The Trails Club needs your continued support in order to continue carrying out projects such as the ones outlined in this newsletter. We are in the process of obtaining incorporation as a Non Profit Organization so that your donations will soon be tax deductible.

### Catherine Whyte Dies

We regret to announce the passing of Catherine Whyte, March 7<sup>th</sup>. Catherine has been an Honorary Director of Lake O'Hara Trails Club for many years. She was a well-known Banff artist. Earlier this year she was named to the Order of Canada. She was instrumental in the foundation of the Banff Library and Archives and had lived in a log house next to the library until her death.

### Next Annual Meeting

The next meeting of the Lake O'Hara Trails Club will be at 8:30 P.M., Thursday, July 26th, 1979 at the Lake O'Hara Lodge.

Good Hiking!

Tim Wake  
President

LAKE O'HARA TRAILS CLUB  
HI-LITES ANNUAL MEETING  
JULY 27, 1978

PRESIDENT, TIM WAKE, REPORTS:

Expressed appreciation to Canada Parks Trails Crew for construction of new Oesa Trail and improvements to Opabin Trail.

The major project of honouring Dr. Link has been completed by the Plaque dedication ceremony on Odaray Prospect.

That our membership is approximately two hundred and new "Life" members are joining every year.

That we received an excellent response to the first copy of the Lake O'Hara Trails Club Newsletter.

Outlined projects in the planning process to be submitted for approval.

Funds on hand will enable the Trails Club to proceed with some of the proposed projects.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President - Tim Wake                   - Banff  
Secretary - Beverley Brodie - Calgary  
Treasurer - Bob Taylorson       - Calgary

ELECTION OF ADDITIONAL HONORARY DIRECTORS

Anne Fielding                       - Toronto, Ontario  
Dr. Morris Shumiatcher - Regina, Saskatchewan

SPECIAL TRAILS CLUB PRESENTATION

Lester Aaron made a presentation from the Lake O'Hara Trails Club to the Lake O'Hara Lodge of two specially prepared books, by Mr. and Mrs. Horspool of Calgary, of the flowers of Lake O'Hara area. Michael Laub received the books on behalf of the Lodge and expressed his sincere appreciation on their behalf.

PROJECTS AUTHORIZED FOR 1979.

Continuation of the Newsletter.

Reprint Lillian Gest's History of Lake O'Hara - this publication will be available for 1979.

Reprint Dr. Link's Map of the Lake O'Hara Trails - to be available for 1979 Season.

Design and produce a new emblem - crest and pin - hopefully available in 1979.

#### FUTURE PROJECTS IN PLANNING

Create two separate slide shows of the Lake O'Hara area, which are to be retained by the Lake O'Hara Lodge for showings to guests during the summer season. Slides will be solicited from Club Members.

Publication of Lake O'Hara Trails brochure - outlining background and purpose of the Club along with trails etiquette, etc.