



BOX 1677, BANFF,
ALBERTA, CANADA,
TOL OCO

NEWSLETTER - APRIL 1984

Dear Member:

You will find a number of enclosures along with your newsletter this year. We have included copies of correspondence from Parks Canada, photographs of Helicopter Trail Work and some newspaper clippings as well as the usual copy of the minutes of the last annual meeting.

Lake O'Hara Co-operating Association

The signing of an agreement in May 1983 between the Lake O'Hara Trails Club and Yoho National Park marked the formation of the Lake O'Hara Co-operating Association. It is hoped that this association will enable Parks Canada and the Lake O'Hara Trails Club to work together on projects aimed at preservation, trail improvement and further public education in the Lake O'Hara Region. In January, 1984 the association submitted a formal request to Parks Canada for contribution funding to initiate production of a series of pins and crests and a new topographical map to replace the existing two sheets that cover the Lake O'Hara area. A decision from Ottawa on the proposal should be handed down by late April.

Parks Canada Trail Crew

The Parks Canada Lake O'Hara trails crew, led by Doug Donaldson and Brian Hall are to be commended for their excellent work on the trails last summer. They seem to take their work as seriously as Dr. Link and Lawrence Grassi did and the resulting improvements to the O'Hara circuit and Lake Oesa Trails look as though they will withstand the test of time. It is hoped that the Opabin Plateau will be the focus of this year's effort and from all accounts we can look forward to continued excellence from this crew.

Volunteer Trail Improvement Program

In the summer of 1983, the Volunteer Trail Improvement Program was supervised by Allan Knowles, Dave Harris and the Lake O'Hara Trail crew. Efforts were directed at improving the Lake O'Hara circuit trail and by September, enough gravel had been transported in canvas bags by volunteers to complete trail resurfacing and reduce flooding in the two designated areas. The project was most successful and will be continued again this summer on a slightly expanded scale. Additional canvas bags have been purchased for this season.

Trail Fund

It was decided at the 1982 annual meeting to establish a fund to be used specifically for trail improvement. Donations were called for and the Club was to match any individual donations with an equal amount from its own funds and try to find a suitable way to assist Parks Canada in trail maintenance. By September 15, 1983 donations totalled \$526.00 which, with the Club's contribution meant a total fund of \$1,052.00. On September 7th, 1983 a meeting was held with the Park's Canada Trail crew to explore possible means of assistance. The result was that the Trails Club donated \$800.00 worth of helicopter time to transport large slabs of rock from Yukness Ledge to be used for hardening the Lake Oesa Trail near Lefroy Lake. See photos attached).

The purchase of additional canvas bags for the volunteer program cost \$86.00, leaving a balance in the trail fund of \$166.00. It has been suggested that the next trail fund project be one to commemorate the Parks Canada Centennial in 1985. This will be discussed at the next annual meeting.

Tommy and Lawrence

John Whyte's "Tommy and Lawrence" was printed in June 1983 and has been very well received. Close to 400 copies have been sold and we continue to receive orders from bookstores in Banff and Calgary. Copies may be obtained by writing the club - \$8.00 post-paid.

The Trail Ended for Some

Club members and lodge guests were saddened by news of the death of Anna Baetjer in February of this year. Anna and her sister, Ruth (who died last year) first travelled to O'Hara on horseback and have been regular visitors and keen hikers for many years.

Word has also been received of the death of Gifford George Horspool early this year and his wife, Grace, last year. Gifford and Grace photographed the many flowers of the O'Hara area, donating their work in album form for the enjoyment of the many visitors to Lake O'Hara.

Next Annual Meeting

The next annual meeting of the Lake O'Hara Trails Club will be held at Lake O'Hara Lodge at 9:00 P.M. on Wednesday, July 25, 1984.

Happy Hiking!

Tim Wake
President

LAKE O'HARA TRAILS CLUB

HI-LITES ANNUAL MEETING

JULY 28, 1983

PRESIDENT, TIM WAKE REPORTS

Recognized with appreciation, attendance of Al Fisk, Superintendent of Yoho National Park, Glen Webber, Park Visitor Services and Dave Harris, Park Naturalist.

Expressed appreciation to Michael Brown for assuming responsibilities of President during his absence and to Elsie Snell for her work as membership committee and mailing of the newsletter.

Active membership as end of 1982 was 346 and anticipated this will be over 400 by end of 1983.

Trails Club sponsored book "Tommy and Lawrence" available, revenue of which will be used for other projects.

Agreement has been signed with Parks Canada enabling us to co-operate with them in producing a new lapel pin depicting "Do Not Step On the Plants".

The volunteer gravel distribution program is going extremely well and plans are to continue. Hikers are showing good interest in the transportation of the sandbags. It is expected that funds received for the trail improvement program will exceed \$1,000.00 by the year-end.

A railing for the bridge near the Warden's cabin was given consideration.

PROJECT REPORTS

The trail maintenance program was discussed with Al Fisk. The Parks Department have men working on the trails and it is hoped to implement a monitoring system so that the Trails Club will be able to help wherever possible.

It was voted that any two Trails Club Officers serve as Trails Club representatives along with Parks Canada representatives, Al Fisk and Sue Wolfe, to form a steering committee for the Co-operating Association between the Lake O'Hara Trails Club and Parks Canada.

The Trails Club expressed appreciation to Al Fisk for what has been done to date, to Jon Whyte for his efforts on the book "Tommy and Lawrence" and to Canada Parks Department for the maintenance of the trails in this area and also for their co-operation in providing filling materials for trail maintenance, special mention to be made of Allan Knowles in this connection.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President Tim Wake
Vice President Michael Brown
Treasurer John Hutchinson
Membership Secretary Elsie Snell
Recording Secretary Opal Taylorson
Newsletter Editor Bob Taylorson

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Maxine Aaron, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Eileen DesBrisay, Vancouver, B.C.,
Ann Feilding, Toronto, Ontario.
Lillian Gest, Newton Square, Pa.
Minuetta Kessler, Belmont, Mass.
Morris Shumiatcher, Regina, Sask.

 Assistant Deputy Minister Sous-ministre adjoint
Parks Canada Parcs Canada

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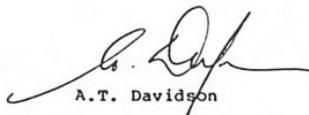
Mr. Tim Wake
Secretary
Lake O'Hara Trails Club
P.O. Box 1677
Banff, Alberta
P0L 0C0

Dear Mr. Wake:

I wish to extend to you and your Association my congratulations for a job well done. Having read the latest Cooperative Activities Information Bulletin and Annual Report, I am impressed by the dedication and progress of your Association and by the projects undertaken. The long association of the Trails Club with Yoho National Park entered a new phase with the signing of a co-operative agreement in May, 1983. The protection and preservation of the O'Hara area and the development of educational material contribute significantly to the Park and to Parks Canada.

May the New Year be a happy and prosperous one for the Lake O'Hara Trails Club.

Yours sincerely,


A.T. Davidson

 Parks Canada Parcs Canada

P.O. Box 99
Field, B.C.
VOA 1G0

January 5, 1984

C 8595/Y3-102

Mr. Tim Wake
Lake O'Hara Lodge
P.O. Box 1677
Banff, Alberta
TOL 0C0

Dear Tim:

In the event you may have use for them, I enclose several copies of the various articles describing the contribution of funds, by the Lake O'Hara Trails Club, to the maintenance of trails, during the fall of 1983.

I want also to express the gratitude of the Park, to the Lake O'Hara Trails Club, for their assistance. Without this assistance, the work would not have been done. Thanks very much.

We look forward to meeting with you and your club in 1984.

Yours truly,



A.N. Fisk
Superintendent
Yoho National Park

ANF:ca
Encl.

Canada

 Parks Canada Parcs Canada

P. O. Box 99
Field, B.C.
VOA 1G0
October 18, 1983

Tim Wake
President
Lake O'Hara Trails Club
P. O. Box 1677
Banff, Alberta
TOL 0C0

Dear Tim:

On behalf of the Lake O'Hara Trail Crew I wish to convey our gratitude for your involvement with the September 29th helicopter project.

The financial support and the help in preparing the lodge landing site were greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,



Doug Donaldson
A/Trail Crew Foreman
YOHO NATIONAL PARK

DD/lsw

General Works -
Trail Maintenance

Canada

In order to conserve energy and resources, the paper contains one-sided lines.

Avec des lignes unilatérales pour économiser l'énergie et les ressources.

Hikers make the trails

Crag + Canyon 19/12/83

Money, time and sweat are being lavished on lovely Lake O'Hara in Yoho National Park in B.C. by a North American group of trail hikers.

Besides giving \$800 to Parks Canada to defray helicopter costs involved in fixing up trails in Yoho, the Lake O'Hara Trails Club has reversed a Parks Canada "pack it in — pack it out" policy and persuaded hikers to carry bags of gravel into the back country and dump it at selected points for trail reconstruction.

In some of the wet and boggy areas, Parks Canada's crews are heaving large slabs of rock over muddy areas to create a raised trail tread. The gravel which hikers are asked to take up

to the high country, is used to fill around and stabilize the flagstones.

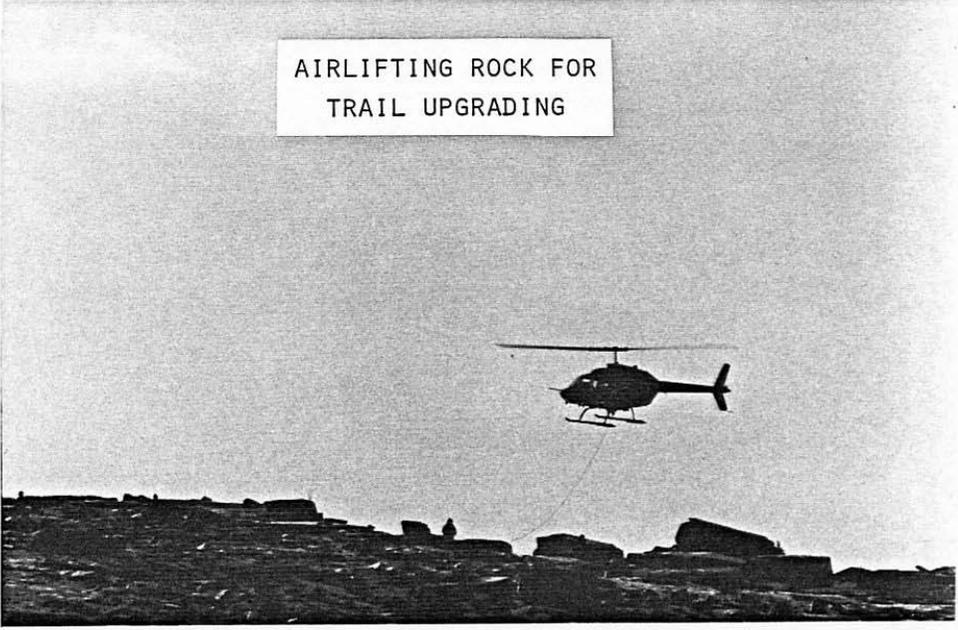
Work was done this fall on the Lefroy Lake and Oesa trails. Parks Canada air-lifted metal railway ties to create a new bridge for hikers at Opabin Creek.

"The \$800 donation from this hiking group is an indication of how well loved the area is," said Yoho Park superintendent Al Fisk. "It allowed Parks Canada to do more than our budget allowed."

Lake O'Hara resident

Tim Wake, who is also club president, says some of his members have been returning to the area for more than 40 years. "You soon develop a sense of stewardship about the place. We want to keep it beautiful."

AIRLIFTING ROCK FOR TRAIL UPGRADING



Trail

help
Calgary Herald
given
15/12/83

The Lake O'Hara Trails Club is donating cash and muscle power to improve the pathways around the popular Yoho National Park spot.

The hikers have raised \$800 to defray the cost of airlifting supplies into the backcountry to upgrade the Lefroy and Oesa trails. Club members also have helped out by carrying in bags of gravel on their hikes to elevate the pathways in muddy areas.

