



BOX 1677, BANFF,  
ALBERTA, CANADA,  
TOL OCO

## NEWSLETTER - APRIL 1986

Dear Member:

### RECOGNITION

The Lake O'Hara Co-operating Association has received a commendation from Steve Kun, the Director of Parks Canada Western Region, for it's work in the Lake O'Hara Area during the Parks Canada Centennial Year, 1985.

### NEW BRIDGE TO OPABIN

This spring will see the completion of a new bridge on the East Opabin Trail just above Lake O'Hara. The new bridge is of the suspension type and replaces two old bridges which will be removed. The trail now climbs from the lake through a boulder field west of Opabin Creek and makes a single crossing above the fork in the creek.

Materials for the bridge were provided by the Trails Club and the Co-operating Association. It was constructed by the Parks Canada Trail Crew led by Diny Harrison and Larry Breeze.

### TRAIL WORK

Parks Canada Trail work this season will focus on the revegetation of areas disturbed or re-routed by recent trail crew projects. The areas concerned include Huber Ledges Route, Yukness Ledge connectors (East and West), All Soul's Route (Opabin End) and the Morning Glory Trail as it passes Morning Glory Lakes. Trail surfaces will be upgraded on the Opabin Highline Scenic Route and the new Big Larch Route. There will also be a program to improve Alpine Route markings.

Brian Hall, who has worked extensively on the trails at Lake O'Hara is the new Back Country Maintenance Co-ordinator. His summer plan includes continuation of the Volunteer Gravel Bag Program on the Lake O'Hara Circuit Trail as well as the work mentioned above.

### TRAIL MAP

LAKE O'HARA - The new Co-operating Association Trail Map, which replaces the two sheets previously produced by Parks Canada has proven very popular and sold well in the 1985 season. It provides a good alternative to the Link Map for day hikers and short term visitors to the area.

## "DON'T STEP ON THE FLOWERS"

Our message is getting through. Pin and crest sales were better than ever in 1985 and will probably increase again this year as they will be sold in the Jasper area as well. There appears to be an increased awareness of the fragility of the O'Hara Region and the importance of its protection. We hope this trend will continue.

## FOUR MOUNTAIN PARKS PLAN

The Minister of the Environment, Tom McMillan, unveiled the framework of the Four Mountain Parks Plan in January. Indications are that there will continue to be funding available for trail maintenance and improvement in backcountry regions such as O'Hara.

## AMALGAMATION

The idea of amalgamating the Trails Club and the Co-operating Association is still being pursued. It is hoped that a draft agreement will be available for review at the Annual Meeting in July. The amalgamation would serve to reduce this duplication of effort in administering two organizations with essentially the same goals and objectives.

## YOHO PARK CENTENNIAL

While last year was the 100th Anniversary of the formation of the National Parks system, 1986 marks 100 years since the formation of Yoho National Park. Plans for commemorating the centennial are being made by Parks Canada under the direction of Cathie Findlay and Kirn Hall. Some events will take place at Lake O'Hara.

## NEXT ANNUAL MEETING

The 1986 Annual Meeting of the Lake O'Hara Trails Club will be held at 9:00 P.M., Thursday, July 24th at Lake O'Hara Lodge.

HAPPY HIKING!

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

President	Tim Wake
Vice President	Louise Palmer
Treasurer	John Hutchinson
Membership Secretary	Elsie Snell
Acting Recording Secretary	Paul Mulloy
Newsletter Editor	Bob Taylorson

### ELECTION OF DIRECTORS:

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



Lillian Gest  
1898 -- 1986

Lillian Gest, a Lake O'Hara Trails Club Director, author of "The History of Lake O'Hara, and a longtime visitor to O'Hara, died January 4th at the age of 88.

A resident of Philadelphia, Miss Gest was well known at O'Hara. She climbed extensively in the Canadian Rockies, usually with one of the Swiss Guides and also enjoyed trail riding. In more recent years she wrote about history, ecology and birds.

Her treatise on the Birds of Lake O'Hara is in the Trails Club library at the Lodge. She made her last visit to O'Hara in 1981. Miss Gest will long be remembered for her contributions to the work of the Lake O'Hara Trails Club.

"Tim Wake" president of Lake O'Hara Trails Club.

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