



WASKAHEGAN TRAIL ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday, April 7, 2017, Central Lions Recreation Centre, Edmonton

AGENDA

1. Welcome: JoAnne Burek, Past President
2. Minutes of AGM, April 15, 2016 (pages 2–3)
3. Audited Financial Statements for Year Ending February 28, 2017 (pages 4–5)
4. Committee Reports
 - a. President: JoAnne Burek for Buck Buell (page 6)
 - b. Membership/Donations: Sandra Carruthers (pages 7–8)
 - c. Trail Maintenance/Landowner relations: Karen Bell (pages 9–10)
 - d. New Initiatives “Jubilee Push for New Members” and “Protecting the Trail”: Terry Elrod (pages 11–12)
 - e. Newsletter: JoAnne Burek (page 13)
 - f. Website: Lee Stickles (page 14)
 - g. Hike Coordinator: Lee Stickles (pages 15–16)
5. Announcements
6. Nominations and Elections: JoAnne Burek (page 17)
7. Order of the Laces
8. Honorary Member Induction (page 18fa)
9. Adjournment

INTERMISSION

PROGRAM

“Memories and Reflections”
Featuring a panel of long-time Waskahegan Members



WASKAHEGAN TRAIL ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 131
Edmonton, Alberta,
T5J 2G9
www.waskahegantrail.ca

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Friday, April 15, 2016 at 7:00 PM, Strathcona Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB

Members: JoAnne Burek, Lee Stickles, Sandra Carruthers, Terry Elrod, Bev Stokowski, Geoff Fleck, Johanna Fischer, Darlene Barnard, David Mutch, Ben Newman, Bonnie Guo, John Scotvold, Fran Scotvold, Oscar Zawalsky, Peter Verhaar, Phylis Verhaar, Gary Buchanan, Rob Faulds, Lorraine Faulds, Helen Whitson, John Raposo, Karen Bell, Hans-Peter Kunzle, Jerry Shaw, Brad Jordan

Guests: Stephanie Weizenbach

1. Welcome: JoAnne Burek called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM
2. Introduction of the Board
3. Minutes of April 17, 2015 AGM: Karen Bell moved that the Minutes be adopted as read, seconded by Oscar Zawalsky. Motion carried.
4. Audited Financial Statements for the year ending February 28, 2016: Approved by JoAnne Burek and Gary Buchanan; audited by Sanjiv Thapar and Helen Whitson. Jerry Shaw moved that the financial report be accepted, seconded by David Mutch. Motion carried.
5. Committee Reports:
 - a. President: JoAnne Burek
 - b. Membership/Donations: Sandra Carruthers
 - c. Permissions: Geoff Fleck
 - d. Trail Maintenance: Karen Bell
 - e. Beyond Events: Karen Bell
 - f. Newsletter: Marilyn Tichkowski, delivered by JoAnne Burek
 - g. Publicity: John Raposo
 - h. Website: Lee Stickles
 - i. Hike Coordinator: JoAnne Burek
6. New Business
 - a. River Valley Cleanup: Bev Stokowski
 - b. Skyline Summer Hikes: Oscar Zawalsky
7. Nominations and Elections: the following people were elected to the Board
 - a. President: Buck Buell
 - b. Treasurer: Alizah Bright
 - c. Secretary: Johanna Fischer
 - d. Membership: Sandra Carruthers
 - e. Trail Maintenance and Events: Karen Bell
 - f. Newsletter and Landowner Administration: Marilyn Tichkowski
 - g. Webmaster: Lee Stickles
 - h. Publicity: John Raposo

- i. Director: Terry Elrod
 - j. Director: John Scotvold
 - k. Director: Jerry Shaw
8. Order of the Laces was presented by JoAnne Burek. Congratulations to Darlene Barnard for top attendance at the hikes for the year.
9. Adjournment moved by Karen Bell at 8:30 PM

Following the meeting there was a presentation by Stephanie Weizenbach, Outreach Coordinator on the Edmonton and Area Land Trust.

WASKAHEGAN TRAIL ASSOCIATION

BALANCE SHEET As Of February 28, 2017 - Year End

ASSETS

Year End Feb. 28, 2017

Cash Assets:

GENERAL Bank Account Balance	19,118
CASINO Bank Account Balance	7,625
TOTAL Cash Assets	26,743

Investments:

GENERAL Invest. Account (Term Deposit)	0
CASINO Invest. Account (GIC's)	0
TOTAL Investments	0

TOTAL ASSETS 26,743

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Current Liabilities

Outstanding Cheques	0
TOTAL Current Liabilities	0

EQUITY 0

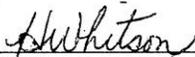
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 26,743

Approved for the Association by:

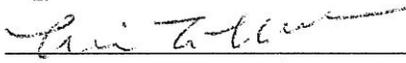

 _____ Date: APRIL 01, 2017
 WALTER BUZZELL President


 _____ Date: March 25, 2017
 Lee S. Sibley Treasurer

Audited by: 1.


 _____ Date: March 25/17
 Helen Whitson

2.


 _____ Date: 03/25/2017
 LIN L. KEENAN

WASKAHEGAN TRAIL ASSOCIATION**STATEMENT OF INCOME - GENERAL ACCOUNT**

As Of February 28, 2017 - Year End

Year End Feb. 28, 2017

REVENUE (GENERAL)	
Donations	591.55
Interest Income	0.00
Grants	0.00
Membership Dues	2,020.00
GST Rebate	137.90
Sales - Pins, Crests, etc.	27.00
Sales of Guidebooks	501.00
TOTAL REVENUE (GENERAL):	3,277.45
EXPENSE (GENERAL)	
GST Expense	202.76
Bank Discrepancy	0.50
Meetings	561.00
Misc. Expenses	81.05
Newsletter	287.76
Office Expense (Non Newsletter)	659.95
PayPal fees	21.09
Printing & Reproduction (Guidebooks)	1,838.00
Volunteer Appreciation	491.01
Website	527.00
TOTAL EXPENSE (GENERAL):	4,670.12

STATEMENT OF INCOME - CASINO ACCOUNT

As Of February 28, 2017 - Year End

Year End Feb. 28, 2017

REVENUE (CASINO)	
Interest Income	0.00
Casino Income	2,426.68
TOTAL REVENUE (CASINO):	2,426.68
EXPENSE (CASINO)	
Casino Administration	1,449.00
Casino Event	2,918.16
Equipment (Purchases)	929.10
Sales of Equipment Assets	(300.00)
Brochures	580.00
Equipment Maintenance & Repair	2,603.37
Equipment Storage	2,828.97
GST Expense	348.59
Leases & Licences	413.00
Transportation - Work Crews	4,204.93
Transportation - Scouting	371.25
WCB Fee	200.00
TOTAL EXPENSE (CASINO):	16,546.37

President's Report

Last year at this time, our biggest concern was retaining and growing our membership. You'll see in the reports that membership is increasing.

One major factor was we removed a barrier to registration. Once we realized that more and more people don't write cheques, we added online registration and payment to the website. It's been very popular.

Attendance on hikes has gone up too, now that we're tapping into a community of 2700 people who publicly declare their interest in hiking. We started promoting our hikes on Meetup.com under the Edmonton Hikers Group. Some of these people have come out to the hikes repeatedly.

It wasn't long before we realized we should have our own Meetup group. There are tens of thousands of people in the region who have an interest in hiking, fitness, and nature. In the reports, you'll read about the launch we have just completed. If we're successful, hundreds of Meetup members will be introduced to the trail by attending a hike. From there we can help them discover the benefit of showing their support—by becoming Waskahegan members.

As for retaining members, we realized that we needed to work harder at keeping in touch so that they would continue to renew. We couldn't count on people visiting the website regularly or following us on Facebook. That's why we started sending emails to talk about what we're up to. And we don't just email the membership. Everybody who attends a hike or expresses an interest gets on our list.

Finally, we looked at the newsletter and decided that it no longer provided value to the members. But landowners were also in the audience and we still needed to keep them up to date. So, we created a newsletter just for landowners, to be sent out every year in the spring. We sent out the first one a few weeks ago. About 40 landowners got the email version, and the rest received a printed copy in the mail. You'll find the print version in this package. Landowners are also invited to get on our email list.

Speaking of landowner relations, we're currently looking at how we can improve our signage on the trail. You'll read about that in the reports.

An important event this year was casino. On the weekend of February 4 and 5, 24 volunteers stepped up to fill the positions. It went smoothly and it was fun. From their participation over single weekend, we're assured of funds for trail maintenance for the next several years.

While all this has been going on, we're organizing ways to celebrate our Golden Jubilee, our 50th anniversary. There will be more on this to come.

I want to thank our board for all their work. If you've ever thought about ways to give back to your community, you should consider joining this board. It's lively, it's productive, and everybody gets to speak and is listened to. It's a friendly and welcoming place for new board members.

Respectfully Submitted
Buck Buell

WASKAHEGAN TRAIL ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP REPORT AGM

APRIL 07, 2017

Sandra Carruthers, Membership Secretary took over duties as of April 11, 2014 is beginning her Fourth year . The duties of the Membership Secretary include being the primary contact for membership, mailing of the cards and books as required. Keeping records and statistics are also part of the duties of the Membership Secretary.

Membership activity for year end March 31, 2017.

Memberships as of March 31, 2016	107
New Members	38
Reinstated Members	03
Resigned / Expired Memberships	37
Memberships as of March 31, 2017	111

Historical trend in number of memberships and book sales

Trends in Membership and Book Sales				
AGM in April	Number of Members	New/Reinstated	Resigned/Expired	Books Sold
2013	116	26	62	18
2014	109	22	31	22
2015	111	35	34	20
2016	107	29	33	25
2017	111	41	37	28

Membership numbers have been fairly consistent since 2013 with a slight increase in 2017. The number of new members and resignations each year is likely the result of folks who join to purchase guidebooks so they can hike, not just with the WTA group but at their own will with like-minded friends.

The past year saw WTA move ahead with online membership application, as well as online renewal with payment made through PayPal. Application forms are completed, forwarded directly to WTA membership secretary, who can process immediately with membership cards, books, etc. being put in the mail within no more than 2 days. To facilitate efficiency with applications and renewals coming via Canada Post, WTA membership secretary receives the mail at home address. Once again, these can be processed and popped into the mail without delay. Moving ahead with new procedures.

New members are always welcome so please take a few of the new brochures to pass along to friends and family.

We are always grateful for the donations so generously given and note that the yearend showed a total of \$381.75.

Thank you also to those board members for their support this year and as we move ahead we look forward to working with new board members. I look forward to another year serving as your Membership Secretary and with the enthusiasm of our new and old board members, it promises to be a great year!

Submitted by

Sandra Carruthers

Trail Maintenance 2017

-This past season we did a lot of building. The boardwalk at Miquelon we added to twice and now it is 10 sections long! We did bridges, boardwalks and stiles along the Battle River, Kopp Lake, Saunders, Coal Lake & Ross Creek.

-In order to access areas we needed permission from landowners. We talked to current landowners like Ron Currie, Warren Lyle, Lloyd Schnick, Clarence Jevne, Laurie Cridland and Mrs. Lucas as well as enticing new supporters: Ken Bilobrowska and Terry Scribner, Chris Allem, Michelle & Thomas Naef, Racene & Jerry Eidick. We even had Ken Bilobrowska and his brother help us build a boardwalk over a bog in Ross Creek, supplying a telephone pole to go underneath and the two of them joined in hammering!

-We were unable to get permission to maintain in Elk Island National park and have started talks with the administration to write up a stewardship agreement.

-We purchased a larger second hand trailer in 2016 for \$700 and sold the old one for \$300. Most of the equipment is in pretty good shape. We plan to buy another Ariens mower as our 2008 model has proved its' worth and we have had it fixed likely for the last time. We have been using the predator brush cutter a lot and find it also works great to pull the cart filled with wood and supplies rather than struggling ourselves to manhandle the cart over rough terrain.

-There was lots of donated wood and shingles with a large load of wood coming from Gene Miskiw. As well Linda Pruden gave us some tools including a compressor. We currently have a good supply of wood in the garage for upcoming projects but we are always on the lookout for free or discounted used wood in good condition.

-Crews go out weekly usually on Wednesdays from April to October. It is always great to have more people out for maintenance. Check the website to see where we are working next and let me know if you can make it. The first crew will be by April 19 going to Battle River Duhamel.

-Trail maintenance jobs include mowing, weed eating, chain sawing, clipping, signing and clearing debris as well as building stiles and boardwalks. Details for each work party are on the website.

-We are also looking for trail maintenance people that have a vehicle with a hitch to pull our trailer on work crews

-Thank you to all the volunteers that made trail maintenance a big success last year. Volunteers were: Oscar Zawalsky, John Scotvold, Gary Davidson, David Mutch, Bonnie Guo, Darlene Barnard, Rose Marie Jalbert, Brad Jordan, Terry Elrod, John Chase, Scotty Malcolm, Linda Pruden, Garry Wagner, Wing Leung, JoAnne Burek, Johanna Fischer, Rejane Wagner, Gladys Vogel, Kirsten Newman, Mike Pye and Karen Bell.

-I would especially like to thank my left and right hand Oscar Zawalsky and John Scotvold who are such a help in the garage getting equipment ready as well as Gary Davidson for doing some much of the driving with the equipment trailer.

-Please contact Karen for 780 642-6372 k-bell@shaw.ca if trail maintenance interests you.

Events 2017- Beyond the Waskahegan Trail

-Last year our September Membership BBQ & Hike at Cardiff Park was a great success, with 35 people. The hike was a fun self-guided challenge of questions with prizes for the winners.

-We have already spiced up our regular Sunday hike schedule this year. In addition to that I do plan on adding a few one-day beyond trips.

-This year we will visit some of the Edmonton trust land like Glory Hills and Bunchberry as well as a road trip to Whitney Lakes with interest stops along the way like Frog Lake National Historic Site and Fort George-Buckingham House Provincial Historic Site. I may redo an old favorite the Genesse Fossil Trail along with another hike along the North Saskatchewan. .

-A BBQ is scheduled for Saturday September 23rd with the location and details to be announced later in the season.

-Other events I am still in the process of planning will be announced on the website when they are confirmed.

Karen Bell

Event Coordinator

Permissions 2016-2017

Since we do not have a designated Permissions person, Sandra Carruthers and I took on a winter project to update our landowner records. With the aid of 2016 County maps, we have discovered at least 13 new people we need permission from as well as current owners that need new contact information. We will continue to update in 2017.

It would be great to have a board member take on this portfolio to help keep the landowners current.

Our Jubilee Push for New Members

The Waskahegan Trail was conceived fifty years ago, the year of Canada's Centennial. This makes 2017 the trail's Golden Jubilee year, which serves as a good occasion to celebrate the trail's contributions to Albertans and also reach out to new hikers who have yet to discover the trail.

Meetup.com and new hikers

In order to connect with hikers in central Alberta and inform them about the great beauty of our trail, we have started a group called *Hike the Waskahegan Trail* on [Meetup.com](https://www.meetup.com) (<https://www.meetup.com>). Meetup is a website where people learn about activities in their area that are of interest to them. Signing up on [meetup.com](https://www.meetup.com) is free. When signing up, you indicate your interests (such as hiking, nature, golf, bridge, French conversation, etc.) and Meetup will inform you about local groups on Meetup that have events matching your interests. You can then visit any of those groups on [meetup.com](https://www.meetup.com) to learn more about them. If a group and its events interest you, then you may join the group on [meetup](https://www.meetup.com) and you will be notified about their events and can decide whether to participate in each one.

Already, many new hikers have joined our Meetup group and signed up for May hikes

We launched *Hike the Waskahegan Trail* on March 14, listing six hikes, on both Saturdays and Sundays, for May 6–21. (These same hikes are listed on our WTA website.) As of March 31, only our 18th day on Meetup, **133** people have joined *Hike the Waskahegan Trail*. This is more than our current membership in the WTA!

Meetup requires members to RSVP "Yes" for events they wish to attend, and we have the capability to limit total attendance. We have capped RSVPs from Meetup at 15 people per event. *This cap does not apply to regular members*, but it does allow us to manage how many new people join each hike from our Meetup outreach effort. (We don't want to be overwhelmed!) The total of our attendance limits from Meetup for our first six hikes is 90. Already, **75** of these slots are taken and a further 15 are waitlisted for hikes that are full. So we're going to see a lot of new faces on the trail in May and hopefully thereafter.

So far, we have listed WTA hikes on Meetup only for the first three weekends in May. After the first weekend or two we will be able to decide whether to continue to list hikes on Meetup and whether to include Saturday as well as Sunday hikes. WTA Board members and hike leaders will value your suggestions as we start this Jubilee outreach adventure together.

Convincing Meetup hikers to become WTA members

People who join *Hike the Waskahegan Trail* are rarely WTA members, which is great — its purpose is to reach new hikers. While it will be great to see new faces on our hikes, we want them to become members and volunteers as well. We are hoping all of us will welcome these new hikers and show them that *the WTA is about discovering wonderful people as well as a wonderful trail*.

Finally, we invite WTA members to explore [meetup.com](https://www.meetup.com) to learn about events in our area and visit our group there. You are also welcome to join *Hike the Waskahegan Trail*. However, *please do not RSVP to WT hikes on Meetup* — those slots are intended for new hikers. As a WTA member, you are and always will be warmly welcomed on any Waskahegan hike, with no need to RSVP.

Protecting the Trail

The Waskahegan Trail has existed for nearly half a century. However, in the last few years we have lost a few segments of the trail. After conferring with a few landowners, we are making further efforts to alleviate landowner concerns that cause them to reconsider allowing the trail to cross their property.

A key problem has been abuse of the trail by people who either do not know about, or do not care about, the terms of trail use agreed upon with landowners. We therefore are implementing some changes that will better inform both landowners and trail users of landowner rights and the terms of trail use. In addition, we will be reducing the “drive-by profiles” of our trailheads so as to lessen trail use by casual uninformed individuals.

Better informing landowners and WTA members of landowner rights and the terms of trail use

We have developed a one-page document , *Landowner Rights & Trail User Responsibilities*. This document appears on the WTA website with a permanent link from the home page. It is also given to all new WTA members when they join, and is also being distributed to all landowners.

Improving signage on the trail

The worst instances of trail abuse are by people who have no connection with the WTA. To further protect landowners and the trail, we have designed a second sign to complement our original one. These two signs will appear together at all trailheads. Together, they provide a more complete but succinct statement of landowner rights and the terms of trail use. In this way, no trail abuser can plausibly claim ignorance of these terms.

Reducing use by casual trail users

Some landowners have complained that our trailheads are too easily noticed by people driving by, and thus attract unwelcome users. In the course of trail maintenance this summer, we will be reducing the drive-by profile of our trailheads. We want our trailheads to be findable by WTA members but low-profile otherwise. For example, a roadside WTA stile often serves as a sufficient indicator of a trail entrance, so a prominent yellow diamond at the same point is often not necessary.

Continuation of current policies

We will continue our current policy of selling the *Trail Guide* only to WTA members, and we will not be posting on-line either the *Trail Guide* or maps of the trail.

Dear Landowner,

Welcome to the first issue of the newsletter for landowners on the Waskahegan Trail. Every day, we are reminded that if it wasn't for you, there would be no trail. You're special, and we want our communications with you to be special.

That said, we don't intend to clutter your mailbox. We'll be sending the newsletter just once a year in the spring. This issue includes the announcement of the AGM, the hike schedule (on the back), and our approach to educating trail users in our partnership-in-faith.

In case you are wondering what happened to the old newsletter, we retired it. We have a strong and active presence on the Internet so that our members and the public have everything they need to stay current. More importantly, we're actively reaching out to our members and anyone who expresses an interest in the trail by emailing them at least 4 times a month (more about that later). In short, we're stepping up our game with communications—including communications with you.

Annual General Meeting

You're invited to this year's AGM at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, April 7, at the Central Lions Recreation Centre, 11113 – 113 Street NW, in Edmonton.

Besides electing a new board, we're celebrating our Golden Jubilee. (The Waskahegan Trail was conceived as a centennial project.) We have a panel of long-time members who'll share their memories and reflections on special moments plus the men and women who made the trail what it is today.

Landowner Rights and Trail User Responsibilities

It's our job to make sure that everyone who encounters the trail understands the spirit in which it is made available. That's why we put together the one-page document enclosed.

We're mailing it to every new member along with their membership card. Visitors to our website can see it now on our home page. Over the trail maintenance season, we'll be updating the trail signs to include some of this information.

The public will have no excuse to be ignorant. We hope this never comes up for you, but if you do encounter problems with trail users, let us know!

Keeping in Touch

There are two ways you can contact us:

1. Email us at **information@waskahegantrail.ca**
2. Use the form on the Contact Us page at **waskahegantrail.ca**

As we mentioned, we send regular emails to members and other interested people. If you would like to get on the list, just send an email to **social@waskahegantrail.ca**

You can also follow us and post on our Facebook page—search for the Waskahegan Trail Association company page.

Wishing for you to have the best year yet.

Buck Buell, President

JoAnne Burek, Social Media

Web Site Report

The new website has been live for a year. The old one was officially retired when we didn't renew our hosting contract with the old provider.

Online payment for membership, donations, books and everything else we sell has been activated through PayPal. On PayPal transaction fees, we're getting the non-profit discount. Online payment has proven to be very popular with members, and it's quite a time saver for us as it cuts down on manual paperwork and cheque-handling.

All of our pictures are now on Flickr.com, a free cloud based service from Yahoo. We even moved the whole archive of pictures from the old online photo gallery to Flickr. You can find a link to our Flickr account on the web site. Several hike leaders have access to the account so that they can upload pictures without going through me.

Lately, there have been occasional performance problems with the web site. We use a shared hosting service, as opposed to a dedicated service and we rely on some Cloud based utilities to keep the website secure. And possibly because of the security utility, in early March it was impacted by the Amazon outage just like millions of other websites.

Nevertheless, our use of a commercial template and utilities is working well by giving us the ability to customize our website substantially with little effort. And our hosting costs are now a quarter of what we had been paying.

Submitted by Lee Stickle

Hike Coordinator's Report

The year 2016 was an excellent year for hiking on the trail. We had fine dry weather almost all the time so that we only two cancellations.

The average number of hikers per hike was 11.8, up 3.4 from last year. The most attended hike was May 28 at Blackfoot. We had a turnout of 31 people, a good number of whom were guests from Camrose. See the table on the next page.

The 2017 season for country hiking will be unique in two ways:

1. Saturday and Sunday hikes in the first weeks

We are anticipating a strong turnout of guests from our Meetup group, but in order to avoid chaos, we are limiting their numbers to 15 per hike. To avoid disappointing those who would otherwise miss out, we decided to add Saturday hikes for at least the first three weeks in May.

This means that members will have the choice of Saturday or Sunday as well. And we are hoping that members do come out and help out with signups and carpooling, make our guests feel welcome, and otherwise act as ambassadors of the Waskahegan Trail.

2. Novel hikes with themes and guest experts

To give you an idea of what we have planned, hikes include

- A visit to Duhamel church – May 14
- “Miquelon Mushroom March” featuring a mushroom expert – May 21
- Focus on wildflowers – June 25, July 2
- Saturday evening hiking and picnic at Wanisan Shelter – July 8
- Birding expertise at Saunders Lake – July 16
- Wood Bison Trail at Elk Island SOUTH of Highway 16 – August 17
- Nature outing and hike for the less mobile and non-hikers at Ministik – August 27
- Photographer's special at picturesque Coal Lake – October 1

and more.

I'd like to thank all the other hike leaders who participated in 2016—Helen Whitson, Elizabeth Bagdan, Johanna Fischer, Stella Cormier, David Mutch, Karen Bell, Irene and Scotty Malcolm, Kirsten Newman, Gladys Vogel, and Sandra Carruthers.

We are always looking for more hike leaders. Anyone can be a leader, and if you would like to “co-lead” a hike or help scout a hike with another leader, please contact us.

Submitted by Lee Stickle

2016 Hikes					
Week	Date	Number of Hikers	Week	Date	Number of Hikers
1	02-Jan	-	27	03-Jul	13
2	09-Jan	-	28	10-Jul	-
3	17-Jan	-	29	17-Jul	20
4	24-Jan	-	30	24-Jul	11
5	30-Jan	4	31	30-Jul	6
6	07-Feb	-	32	07-Aug	13
7	14-Feb	8	33	14-Aug	11
8	21-Feb	-	34	21-Aug	8
9	27-Feb	8	35	27-Aug	15
10	06-Mar	-	36	04-Sep	10
11	13-Mar	7	37	11-Sep	6
12	20-Mar	-	38	18-Sep	9
13	26-Mar	13	39	24-Sep	-
14	03-Apr	-	40	02-Oct	13
15	10-Apr	-	41	09-Oct	9
16	17-Apr	-	42	16-Oct	9
17	23-Apr	6	43	23-Oct	15
18	01-May	7	44	29-Oct	10
19	08-May	12	45	06-Nov	12
20	15-May	19	46	13-Nov	-
21	22-May	-	47	20-Nov	14
22	28-May	31	48	26-Nov	-
23	05-Jun	16	49	04-Dec	8
24	12-Jun	8	50	11-Dec	-
25	19-Jun	10	51	18-Dec	-
26	25-Jun	10	52	24-Dec	-

Average number of hikers per hike: 11.8 total, 10.03 members (up 40%)

Number of different members who hiked: 51 (up 11%)

Most attended hike: 31 people on May 28th at Blackfoot (in 2015 the most attended hike had 13)

Percentage of hikes in 2016 with 13 or more people —30%

Nominations for the Board

The following candidates have been nominated for the board:

Candidate	Year of term
Sandra Carruthers	5 th year
Karen Bell	4 th year
Lee Stickle	4 th year
Jerry Shaw	2 nd year
Terry Elrod	2 nd year
John Scotvold	2 nd year
Johanna Fischer	2 nd year
Kim Cassady	1 st year
Lin Keehn	1 st year
JoAnne Burek	1 st year

If there are no changes to the above, the new board will look like this:

President: JoAnne Burek

Treasurer: Lin Keehn

Secretary: Johanna Fischer

Membership: Sandra Carruthers

Vice President: TBD

Trail Maintenance and Events: Karen Bell

Landowner Relations: TBD

Permissions: Karen Bell/Sandra Carruthers

Webmaster: Lee Stickle

Hike Coordinator: John Scotvold

Publicity: Jerry Shaw

Archives: Jerry Shaw

Director at Large: Terry Elrod

Director at Large: Kim Cassady

Lifetime Member—Louise Davis

Tonight, we are awarding a Lifetime membership to Louise Davis.

Long time hikers here will know Louise and remember her late husband Martin as they attended most country hikes.

Louise was a great contributor in many ways. Besides leading hikes and doing trail maintenance with Martin, she was active with the board and achieved some major undertakings.

Louise was responsible for writing our bylaws, which were the first.

She was the chairperson for our casino fund-raising event in 2009. This was a huge amount of work because we had not had a casino in a very long time. We had to proceed as if it was our first time, which included justifying our cause to the AGLC in meticulous detail. After the casino event, Louise passed on to the board a binder of documentation so that we would never have to scramble again.

Louise served at least one term as President and stayed on as Past President. She helped with redoing the Treasurer's books when Martin's health started to fail.

I remember hiking with Louise and Martin for just two years and when I joined the board she was Past President. But it wasn't until I took on the archives a few years later when I began to know Louise.

I flipped through the pages in every binder, and when I came to Louise's term as president, I was in awe. I saw many, many letters from Louise to volunteers, where she personally thanked them for their contribution or congratulated them for an achievement. Even the company that printed the 40th edition of the guidebook received a thank you letter with details of what they did that made it so great.

Louise, you not only made important contributions to this organization, but you've reminded us how to treat volunteers and everyone we deal with—with courtesy, kindness, and gratitude. We are delighted to give you this Lifetime membership.