

# Stewards of Alberta's Protected Areas Association (SAPAA)

## NEWSLETTER

No. 3 October 2000

- **SAPAA AGM**

The next General Meeting of the Stewards' Association (SAPAA) will be held at the Kerry Wood Nature Center in Red Deer on Saturday November 18, 2000. Further details are given on the enclosed sheet. Lorna Allen and Carn Hantiuk from the Natural Resources Service will give us some advice on how we can make the most of our Natural Areas, and how to improve communications with the powers-that-be, so that we can all work more effectively together. We hope there will be lots of time for questions and answers, so here's your opportunity!

After lunch, there will be a (hopefully brief!) business meeting, when we would like to ratify the bylaws. These were previously proposed, but there was insufficient time at the May meeting at Dinosaur Provincial Park to deal with them. See below for additional comments.

In the last half of the afternoon, three Stewards will highlight some of their experiences, so that we can all benefit from each others' work. Hope to see you there!

If you want to car-pool from Edmonton, please phone Alison - (780) 437-7183 or email Marilyn Shannon - mshannon@oanet.com.

- **MEMBERSHIP**

This newsletter is being sent to all those Stewards who had responded originally in 1998/99. Some of you still seem a bit confused between the Association and the Government Program for Volunteer Stewards. The two are quite separate, although obviously have many things in common. With the severe cutbacks and lack of Government funding, it was felt that the Stewards might be able to be more effective if they shared their experiences and problems, rather than feeling isolated, working away on their own. But to provide such communications, by newsletter, meetings or just 'net-working', we do require a small membership fee to cover the costs for mailing, newsletters etc. So if you haven't already done so, please return the enclosed Membership form, with \$15 fee. (If you don't receive a membership form, it means you have already paid.)

The Executive was asked, at the last meeting, to look at membership categories and fees. A Steward was defined as an individual who donated his/her time assisting in the management and care of Alberta's Protected Areas (as defined by the Acts), i.e. usually, but not necessarily under the Department Volunteer Stewards program. The Executive proposes that Members are Stewards, as defined, whose membership fee will be \$15, as originally proposed. For clarification, one or more may belong to a local 'Friends of...' society, but will be participating as active individuals. Families, where two or more members of the same household are active, will pay one \$15 family membership fee, but will receive only one newsletter. A reduced membership fee of \$7.50 will also be introduced for those of limited income, in recognition of their extra time devoted to active care and management.

It has also been suggested that a new category of Associate membership be introduced for those who wish to participate in the activities of the Society, but who may not wish to vote or hold

office, e.g. those who may find themselves in conflict of interest, (such as Government officers) or those who are actively associated with a Natural Area, but are under the age of 18. They would also pay the \$15 membership fee, to receive the Newsletters etc., but would not be entitled to vote.

These proposals will be put forward at the General Meeting in November, for ratification.

- **RECENT ACTIVITIES**

One of our successes so far was to help get the category of Natural Areas put back into the proposed Natural Heritage Act, when it was in danger of being dropped. Unfortunately, that Act never made it, and a new Parks and Protected Areas Act may be brought forward, possibly after the next election, so we may still have to do some more letter writing! I would like to thank all of you who did write to your MLAs and Ministers - your efforts really made a difference!

The Recommendations on Key Issues of the NHA put forward by the MLA Review Committee included the statement that "The Natural Area class should be retained and redefined. The redefined class should include natural areas of local or regional significance established for local conservation and educational purposes. This would include those areas that would have been placed in the 'natural recreation area' category." This gives us more significant recognition and we should make sure they are not allowed to forget it!

In the meantime, it might be a good idea to write, e-mail or fax, you local MLA and Ministers and suggest that now the Province has a considerable amount of spare cash, it should invest more money for the care of the public's Parks and Protected Areas, so that they can be managed in a more adequate manner, and to provide more assistance for protection of wildlife, monitoring and enforcement of regulations.

**Alison Dinwoodie**  
**(President, SAPAA)**

## Stewards of Alberta's Protected Areas Association

### GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, November 18, 2000

at 9:30 a.m.

Kerry Wood Nature Centre - Discovery Room

6300 - 45 Avenue - Red Deer

- 9:30 a.m. Registrations and Introductions
- 10:00 **Why 'My' Natural Area is Important and How can I Enhance Its Significance?**  
Speaker: Lorna Allen - Biologist, Parks & Protected Areas Division
- 10:25 Discussion
- 10:45 Coffee Break (Coffee etc. provided, but bring you own mug if you can.)
- 11:00 **Who's Who and Who is Responsible for What?**  
Speaker: Cam Hantiuk - Partnership Coordinator, Parks & Protected Areas Division
- 11:25 Discussion
- 11:45 Lunch - please bring your own bag lunch - there are no facilities on site.
- 12:30 SAPAA GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING - see agenda on reverse  
(Please plan to attend and provide your input.)
- 1:45 Break

#### **Presentations: *Learn from Each Others' Experiences***

- 2:00 **Dorothy Dickson:** Innisfail Natural Area - A small, 65 ha, wooded island surrounded by agriculture. Dorothy is a long time Steward and has had many experiences over the years.
- 2:30 **Paul Anderson:** Ole Buck Mountain Natural Area (*near Calgary*)  
Potential problem with large residential development nearby. Adjacent to an Indian reservation.
- 3:00 **Alison Dinwoodie:** Cardinal Divide Natural Area, now Whitehorse Wildland Park. Large alpine/subalpine natural area, major watershed. Experiences with Access & Wildland Park Management Plans, Cheviot Mine Hearings.
- 3:30 Wrap-up

**Stewards of Alberta's Protected Areas Association  
(SAPAA)  
Membership Registration Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Natural Area: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City or Town: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Address of organisation (if different from the above): \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you interested in joining an association for Stewards of Alberta's Natural Areas?**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Renewing membership \_\_\_\_\_

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**If a new member, please provide details below about your Stewardship Area:**

Natural Area: \_\_\_\_\_ Natural Area ID No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Approx. size: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description of significant natural features (please include a brochure if available):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How long have you (or your organisation) been a Steward? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing to help in any way with the association? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Issues of importance (old or new - this info would help for Stewards Conference discussion):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Any comments or other suggestions? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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Please return this form, with \$15 membership fee, to: Marilyn Shannon, 3928 - 117 St. Edmonton T6J 1T3  
(make cheques payable to SAPAA)

If you require more information, phone Alison Dinwoodie (780 - 437 - 7183)

OR phone Marilyn Shannon (780 - 438 - 8071) or e-mail: [mshannon@oanet.com](mailto:mshannon@oanet.com)