



# Waterton Glacier International Peace Park Association Newsletter

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On June 18' 1932, the Waterton Glacier International Peace Park was officially dedicated at Glacier Park Hotel. The Rotary Club of Cardston set things in motion and invited Rotarians from Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba to a goodwill meeting at the Prince of Wales Hotel on July 4 and 5, 1931. The meeting was a success and a resolution was proposed by Canon Middleton that "be it resolved that the proper authorities be petitioned, to commence negotiations to establish the two parks indicated as a permanent International Peace Park, which shall be definitely set aside for this laudable purpose, pledging our loyalty and allegiance to foster all international relationships." In one year the governments of Canada and the United States made an official proclamation that the two Parks be henceforth re-designated as the "WATERTON GLACIER INTERNATIONAL PEACE PARK'.

Every year since then the Rotarians from District 5360, 5370 (Canada) and District 5390 (Montana) celebrate this achievement at an Assembly that is held alternately in Waterton and Glacier. At the end of the weekend, Rotarians from both sides participate in a ceremony affirming that we will not take up arms against each other and that we will work for peace.

The Waterton Peace Park Association is the governing arm and includes directors from each District. Over the years, the Association has worked with the Parks management to further the concept and to help out when needed. The association has helped build a tennis court in Waterton and has provided defibrillators to both Glacier and Waterton. This has been an association that has lasted 79 years and will continue to work to encourage peace and international understanding throughout the world. Since Waterton Glacier became the first International Peace Park, there are now over 150 similar parks around the world. This is something that the Rotarians from both sides of the border can be very proud of.

This is our first Newsletter. I have asked Glenn Coulter to write about the incorporation of the Association. Jim Dokken, Chair of this year's Assembly has provided an update on the weekend and Kristina Larkin has sent an invitation to the YEX students. We also have updates from both National Parks.

**Fran Leggett**

**President Waterton Peace Park Association**

## Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park Association Incorporation

The Board of Directors of the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park Association is pleased to announce that as of January 24, 2011, the Association is officially incorporated (#5015845200) under the Societies Act of the Province of Alberta. Incorporation under the Societies Act is important because it provides a degree of liability protection to the Association's Directors and Management. Further, it provides opportunities to apply for funding and will allow us to participate in many fund raising projects. A parallel application is in the

process of being submitted to the authorities in Montana for approval there.

**Glenn Coulter, Secretary/Treasurer, WGIPPA**

## Glacier National Park Exhibits

The National Park Service recently completed a new permanent exhibition at the Saint Mary Visitor Center that focuses on the traditional and modern relationships between local tribes and the place we today call Glacier National Park. Several years of



consultation with cultural leaders from the Blackfeet, Kootenai, Salish, and Pend d'Oreille tribes was critical in providing a Native voice for the interpretation. The National Park Service provides a brief introduction and then lets tribal leaders and cultural experts speak to a range of connections

with the park. The overall exhibition is entitled *At Home in This Place*. Exhibits include dioramas, original artwork, stories about animals, a series of provocative videos by tribal leaders, and a look at treaties and agreements that had a big impact on tribes and the land that became Glacier National Park.

The stories told throughout the exhibition help visitors



understand and appreciate the long and deep history tribal people have with park lands. Many visitors have been moved to tears by the very personal and emotional stories told by local Native people throughout the exhibits. Producing these exhibits was often a difficult undertaking, but the park made lifelong

friends and connections with members of all the tribes and the process helped heal wounds and bring park and tribes closer together in many ways. We hope this exhibition will continue to foster park-tribal relations and as help visitors better understand the



importance of Glacier National Park to the Native peoples of the area.

**Mark Wagner, Hudson Bay District Interpreter, Glacier National Park**

## Come Celebrate in Waterton this Year!

This is a year of celebration as Parks Canada is celebrating our centennial as the world's first national park service in 2011. There will be lots of events throughout the summer and fall, and we hope you'll come celebrate with us.

The summer starts with the celebration of Waterton's incredible plant diversity during the Waterton Wildflower Festival from June 18 to 25. This event features guided walks, education programs and workshops.

On Canada Day, we will be launching the new Xplorers family program, among other festivities. Parks Day, on July 16, will feature activities highlighting Parks Canada's work, a special performance of "It's a Warden's Life in Song and Poetry" and the launch of our new Geocache challenge.

The Blackfoot Canadian Cultural Society and Parks Canada are hosting an Exhibition Pow-Wow on August 3, with the Grand Entry at 2 pm. On the September 24-25 weekend, Waterton Wildlife Weekend celebrates our wildlife with a variety of events.

The celebrations will wind up with our "Parks Canada Thanks Canada" event: Super's Cycle Ride on October 1. Bring your family to ride a vehicle-free Red Rock Parkway, as far as like, a short distance or all the way (30km return), followed by a centennial celebrations BBQ.



restore our risk. We Volunteer

In addition to all this celebrating, we encourage you to participate in volunteer events such as the Knapweed Rodeo, Adopt-A-Patch to map or remove non-native plants, collecting cones or planting seedlings to help White Bark Pine, a species at are now offering Corporate opportunities, if your club would like to spend a day in the park together.

During Parks Canada's centennial year this, we are celebrating where we are world leaders. An excellent example of conservation leadership is the work we continue to do with Rotary International in the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park, the world's first. We're so pleased that the Rotary Peace Park Assembly will be held in Waterton this September. We hope to unveil an interpretive plaque commemorating Lester B. Pearson as a Nobel Peace Prize Laureate during that weekend.

Let's celebrate together in Waterton this year!

**Doreen McGillis, External Relations Manager,  
Waterton Lakes National Park  
403.859.5114**

## Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park Assembly – September 16-18, 2011

ALL FUNCTIONS WILL BE HELD AT THE WATERTON TOWNSITE. We are working with the Waterton Lakes Lodge Resort. Room information, costs, etc. are on the WGIPPA website. <http://sites.google.com/site/wgippa/>

We were able to get "off-season" rates, despite being earlier in the month than usual.

**Friday** - A barbeque will be held at the Community Hall, followed by entertainment by Calum Graham, who is a VERY accomplished guitarist at 19 years of age! (Bio on the website)

**Saturday A.M.** - Golf Tournament at the Waterton Golf Course (guys, bring a chin strap for your hat, just in case it's windy!)

**Saturday A.M.** - Speakers Pane - Presentations by Will Hammerquist, Glacier Park Program Manager and Parks Canada- Presentation of the 100th Anniversary of Parks Canada. One more speaker is still to be confirmed.

**Saturday P.M.** - Annual banquet will be held at the Waterton Lakes Lodge Resort. Keynote speaker is World acclaimed authority on living with Grizzly Bears, Charlie Russell. He has been the topic of TV Specials and numerous books regarding living with the Bears of Kamchatka, Russia and living among the white bears of Vancouver Island. He is a strong environmentalist. He also lives within 10 miles of Waterton National Park.

**Sunday A.M.** - Author and Photographer Bruce Masterman will be doing a presentation.

**Sunday A.M./P.M.** - Parks Canada are celebrating their 100th anniversary this year and are planning to unveil a plaque and cairn at the townsite and have invited us to be part of the ceremony. **Jim Dokken, Peace Park Assembly Planning Committee**

## The Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park Assembly: Youth Exchange Program

The University of Lethbridge Rotaract Club is hosting the 3rd Annual WGIPPA weekend for YEP students in district 5360 and 5390 (Montana). A fun filled, high energy weekend of mountain adventures, games, and most importantly fellowship, this weekend has been a hit with exchange students, Rotaractors and Rotarians for the past two years. Students get to meet fellow exchange participants living in Montana, and get to experience the beautiful Rockies with their friends.

Participants will join the group on Friday at Camp Columbus in Waterton National Park. Through the weekend, students will take part in Rotary WGIPPA activities, games, outdoor activities, and enjoy the surroundings with fellow exchange students. The U of L Rotaract Club provides the chaperones and coordinates the accommodations and activities for the whole weekend. As it is the beginning of their exchange year, this experience is not only a fun, meaningful weekend for students but also strengthens their friendships with other students, enhancing the rest of their year. Past participants always include THIS weekend as part of their favourite experiences of their year - don't let your new incoming student miss it!

**Date: September 16-18, 2011**

**Location: Waterton Glacier Park, Camp Columbus**

**Cost: Approximately \$150/student (exact cost tbd). Includes accommodations, conference fees, food and activities.**