

A History of FLC Seniors Cycling Club “Old Spokes”

by Murray Karn

1989 - Records show FLC Seniors Outdoor Club was formed for walking, hiking, cross-country skiing, birding and cycling.

2001 - A group separated this organization to form the Skyline Outdoor Club, but this was disbanded by 2014.

2002 - FLC Seniors Outdoor Club was reorganized under President Fred Fawcett, with Marion Halpen as Secretary, Ron Chambers as Treasurer and Gordon Traub as Cycling Co-Ordinator. The first seven members of the FLC Cycling Club were Gordon Traub, Donna Millican, Barbara Hay, Terry Adamson, George Horne, Murray Karn and Susan Karn. At this time all cyclists were in one group with no levels.

2003 – Gordon Traub asked Murray Karn to co-ordinate the Cycling Club. Gordon died in 2005. Most city cycling now occurred on Tuesdays, and bus trips were usually held on Thursdays. Membership at this point had grown to 30.

2004 – The FLC Outdoor Club began combined school /coach bus trips for walkers, hikers and birders, using funding from FLC Senior’s Club Casino Funds. Thus began 10 years of trips to explore Banff, Canmore, Kananaskis Country including William Watson Lodge, Red Deer, Okotoks, Drumheller, Lethbridge and Rocky Mountain House.

2005 - Cycling members now totaled 45 as a large number of cyclists from Skyline Outdoor Club had returned to rejoin FLC Cycling.

2006 - Membership was over 50 and we divided into Fast cyclists and Easy cyclists under Barbara Hay.

2007 - Membership exceeded 60. We cycled from Lake Newell to Brooks and toured K Country.

2008 - With over 70 members in the cycling Club, Bob Anderson coordinated a Level 2 on Tuesdays; Larry Patterson formed a Level 3 group on Tuesdays, and Murray Karn continued to lead a group on Wednesdays.

2009 - Members topped 90.

2010 - The cycling group became registered as the FLC Cycling Club and adopted the ‘Old Spokes’ title. Murray continued as Cycling Club Coordinator. Bob Andrews as Cycling Communications Co-ordinator used an Evite system to register cyclists each week. Sharon Isaak was the first Secretary. Ron Schaus became Treasurer and Judy Mitchell became Membership Co-ordinator. Later Noreen Avey, Beth Wilson and Audrey Kyle became Social Convenors for our Annual Win(e)d Up each Fall.

2011 - With over 100 registered members, Lise Hubbard became Membership Coordinator. Ron Schaus assumed the Bus Coordinator role, with Sahalla Bus providing our out of town bus and trailer. Rick Simons formed an Easier Cycling group.

2012 – Rick Clarke formed a Thursday Level 2 Cycling group. Larry White became Membership Coordinator with over 150 members in the club.

2013 - Mike Woolnough and John Horan became Coordinators of Tuesday Level 1 Cyclists. Larry and Mary White co-ordinated the “Old Spokes” Jersey design and looked after sales of the Jersey to members. Marilyn Patterson coordinated the concept of Member nametags. After design selection was approved, Marilyn promoted and sold them at each FLC Cycling Spring Workshop. Pauline Schaus took over the Secretarial role from Sharron Isaak.

2014 - The Evite system evolved into an FLC Cycling Website provided by the FLC Seniors Club and coordinated by Pam Lester. Murray Karn presented to the Cycling Club a new concept of Transitioning Executive roles, where each Executive position within the club would change its officers every year. Murray Karn resigned. Colleen Walsh-Leier became Secretary. Larry Lappalainen took over as Membership Coordinator with membership exceeding 200..

2015 - Membership approached 300 and Larry Patterson became Cycling Coordinator, with Secretary Janet Hamilton, Treasurer David Horne, Social Coordinator Carole Benoit, and Membership Coordinator Julie Ann Biggs. Most others continued in their positions. Ken Melville took over Bus Coordinator to seek other bus companies that could provide a bus and trailer for out of town trips but D.O.T. regulations halted the search and the club discontinued the out of town cycling bus trips.

2016 - Ron Schaus became Cycling Coordinator, with Membership coordinator Laurie Longay, Linda Edwards-Green as Social Convener, Tyrone Lester as Cycling Website Coordinator and others continued in their same positions. A Saturday Level 3 group was formed under Brock Burwash. Membership was over 300.

2017 – Hazel Banush takes over Level 2 Cycling Coordination on both Tuesday and Thursday from Bob Anderson and Rick Clarke.

2018 - Ron is replaced by Tyrone Lester as Cycling Co-Coordinator, with Peter Whitehead assuming the Website position, Membership Dorothy Whalen assuming membership coordinator and most other cycling coordinators maintaining their same positions.