

IN MEMORIAM

Willem Snoek, 1938-2017



Trekker members since 2001, Willem and Johanna were trail masters from 2003 – 2008. During that time, they set up and revised many of the Trekker walks in Edmonton and St. Albert; walks that we still do, including the event from the Bellerose River Trail Parking Lot.

Willem took over the up-keep of the St. Albert permanently marked Historical Walk when Phil Sturges retired from volunteer volkssport positions.

A big project, as trail masters, was setting up the routes for the first events in Grande Cache - the 15th Alberta Majesty September weekend in 2004. New trails meant pre-walk trips to find mountain routes, often through wooded areas, memorable walks.

Willem enjoyed rugged walks, participating in the Sandhills walks during the Horse Creek Ranch events sponsored by the Barrhead club.

He, Johanna and friends looked forward to the BC Blossom walks for many years, walking several PT routes on the mainland before joining their favorite, the Pre-Blossom walks on the Island; followed by the Victoria Blossom events.

During his years of participating in walks, Willem completed his 750 event book and was working on reaching 9000 kilometers in his distance book.

Many Trekkers walked and talked with Willem over the years. He is remembered for being a fast walker, often speeding up near the end of the route. We found out that he was the fastest Sudoku solver of the Trekkers, loved playing bridge; willing to teach others how to play. He enjoyed music, often western, (probably one of the attractions for him at the St. Albert rodeo) and once shared a few dancing steps during an annual Oktoberfest.

As a skilled electrician, he came to the rescue in Grande Cache when an RV unit lost power and heat. In only a few minutes, Willem had all in working order.