

# The GREEN WATCH

The GREEN LAKE AREA (CARIBOO) RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

representing property owners and tenants within two kilometers of Watch Lake or Green Lake

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**SUMMER 1996**

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Check your mailing label for your membership expiry date. If you only got this first page, then your membership has expired. If when you renew, you note that you want the full edition of the last newsletter, then a copy of it will be mailed to you, forthwith!

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**Ode Owed Owing to the Open Range**

Oh, where have all the wildflowers gone?  
 Why, they've been recycled  
 through a cow!  
 Where once in gay profusion bloomed  
 They lie as cow pies now.

**Last Minute items**

- 1. Watch and Green lakes will be "classified" at a meeting on Nov.16. GLARA will present a brief asking for the highest and least intrusive classification.
- 2. Upper Bridge Creek Watershed Society has formed patterning itself after our Water Stewardship format.
- 3. Our water studies are continuing. Signs are up at key intersections. BC Parks is cooperating with our efforts at maintaining water quality.
- 4. Reminder - report all sightings of bears in our residential areas to our Conservation Officer (395 5511)
- 6. Report ALL B&Es and thefts to the RCMP.

**Wanted for next Newsletter:** data from our local birders re local species sighted; best references; cares and concerns....hey, why not even write us an article?

Yardley sez:

He used shampoo in our lake.  
 He said he didn't care.

Our vigilantes paid him back  
 By shaving off his hair!

Don't be mean, help keep it clean

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**Green Lake Area Ratepayers' MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM**

name of member applying (one per lot) \_\_\_\_\_ signature \_\_\_\_\_

legal description of lot if known \_\_\_\_\_ fire number & street \_\_\_\_\_

full mailing address (one newsletter per membership) \_\_\_\_\_

home phone \_\_\_\_\_ lake phone? \_\_\_\_\_ work phone? \_\_\_\_\_

fax available? \_\_\_\_\_ is cheque enclosed? \_\_\_\_\_

Make cheques payable to Green Lake Area Ratepayers Association. Fees are \$10 per year (most members are opting to pay \$30 for three years) Receipts will not be mailed, but will be available for pick-up at any general meeting, or from the treasurer. Membership expiry date is noted on your newsletter mailing label. Mail to GLARA RR1, 70 Mile House BC, V0K 2K0

**OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE SNOWMOBILE CLUBHOUSE**

**7 PM WENESDAY AUGUST 21 1996**

The agenda will include reports on our various activities plus elections of officers, Mary Greenwood is acting as nominations chair. To volunteer for election to a GLARA executive position, call Mary at 456 2246. All positions are for two year terms. To have items included on the agenda, call Dennis Tupman at 456 2302. This is our official AGM as the May meeting did not include election of officers. The annual treasurer's report was submitted in May.

## HI-LITES OF GENERAL MEETING of May / 96

**1. Community Policing:** Art Watson introduced RCMP Corp. John Frost (Clinton), Const. Ted Boeriu (100Mile) and Al Duncan retired RCMP now a volunteer organising community policing programs.

—**all RCMP emphasised the need to report all criminal activities** as the force is driven by statistics. Manpower allocations and attention are given to the area with the greatest perceived need. Unreported crimes give a false picture that all is well, when the opposite may be true. Statistics for Green and Watch Lake areas are:

1993 8 Break & Entry; 5 thefts; total \$9680  
1994 5 B&E ; 2 thefts; total: \$3925  
1995 14 B&E; 3 thefts; total \$21,150  
to May 1 1996—6 B&E; 1 theft; total under \$1000  
2 solved in '96, none solved '93 to '95

**(it is generally accepted that most B&Es and thefts go unreported in our area)**

Definition of Community Policing is "Police and Citizens working as a partnership to stop crimes" and is a North America wide concept.

RCMP suggest each community send a delegate or two to a regular monthly meeting with RCMP to be briefed and provide input. "neighbours looking out for neighbours"

**Community Policing Program** (formerly Neighbourhood Watch): police will train residents; signage posted; operation identification- RCMP have engravers available and suggest that Drivers Licence be inscribed on articles of value. RCMP do not have access to SIN numbers.

A Radar Board is available upon request. It requires supervision and training. It lets drivers know how fast they are going as clocked by Radar.

MOVED: Rusaw/Wainwright: that we ask for the Radar Board. defeated 12 to 10

Photo Radar will be travelling through the province, but will only be used in communities where it is requested.

MOVED: Wainwright/ Burwell: that we NOT ask for Photo Radar in our area. passed 20 to 10

It was noted that citizens can take licence numbers of offenders and call them in to police. Police may then issue warning letters, or issue tickets; but if the action is contested, the one turning in the complaint will have to testify in court as the witness of the event. This is not the same as Crime Stoppers where those calling in with information regarding a crime are given a coded number and their identity remains secret. We could join in with 100 Mile on Crime Stoppers.

COP means Citizens on Patrol. In this program volunteers are trained to observe and report. They patrol a specific beat by car on a regular basis. Volunteers must give a commitment of time and effort for COP.

Art Watson circulated sign-up sheets for those attending the meeting who wanted to get one of these programs going in our area.

[update: A meeting was held by N. Green / Watch to initiate a COP program. Nineteen have signed up. Linda Krupp, Watch L. is coordinator. At the AGM Aug 21 the COP program will be further discussed to see if there is interest by S. Green in joining the growing phenomenon of community policing.]

**2. Water Study Report:** D. Tupman recapped the results we published previously. It was noted that deep water tests are important for monitoring the long-term health and condition of our lakes. Green, it was noted, will absorb pollutants due to its marl nature, but when the buffering is exhausted, it will quickly become polluted and will be unable to recover. Comments from the floor said we should be highlighting this to the Lakes Classification Board.

### **3. Lakes Classification:** Al Kregosky

They hold monthly meetings where they hear citizen and group submissions regarding the lakes currently being discussed. Al said he was not aware our lakes were scheduled for Nov. but that is what BCFS told us. He says GLARA and individuals should not wait to the last minute, but to prepare their briefs and submissions now and get them in at least a month in advance, so they can be properly distributed.

Al says only pristine lakes untouched by logging can get an "A" classification. LC deals only with Crown Lands; only logging to 200m from lakeshore "riparian zones"; and "view-sheds". View-sheds are how logging lakeshore affects the view from across the lake. Riparian zones are the marshy transitions between lake and forest. [update: There will be a full discussion of lake classification at the Aug 21 meeting.]

### **4. Ducks Unlimited:** Bruce Gilmour

Bruce has info on life cycle of the Loon and nesting platforms for water fowl. DU has indicated they may come to Green lake and do a complete review re waterfowl habitat.

### **5. Roads:** Art Watson

Dept Hwys agree roads are in worst shape ever, however limited budgets will be spent first on hwys and next on secondary roads. Our N. Bonepart Rd. (70 Mile to Sani Stn ) is bad, but will only get patched. Rehab program that cleared Road allowance was not Hwys, but was a "make work" program to rehabilitate people (not Roads!) GLARA wrote Apr 26 to Zirmhelt & Dept Hwys ...eventual reply , a fax from Horsnell Dist Mgr Hwys said: no money; & logging truck traffic was curtailed once damage became apparent...said it was logging diseased area.

MOTION: R. Bourdin/Watson: that GLARA conduct a petition to get proper maintenance of our paved roads. Passed unanimously. [update: Thanks to Rose Bourdin's efforts, this petition was completed and sent to Highways with a copy to MLA Zirmhelt.]

Also we should get the names and addresses of where concerned owners can write with their complaints about the roads. [update: You can write to MLA David Zirnelt, Parliament Buildings, Victoria BC V8V 1X4, or to Mr. A.W. Horsnell, District Highways Manager, S. Cariboo District, Box 490, 100 Mile House, BC V0K 2E0.]

**6. Woodlots:** Jack Wainwright.

Noted that restrictions on qualifying for a woodlot were being relaxed so more locals would qualify. Noted that we support the concept of woodlots, but only after all appropriate studies had been done. BCFS reports an Archeologist has completed his report now and that inventory studies would be complete this fall. BCFS is planning another public meeting when all studies are complete.

**7. N Green /Watch fencing:** Art Watson

Art presented committee report on needs to keep open range cattle out of residential areas. Estimated cost \$15,000 for cattleguards was considered too high to be borne by the few affected. ACTION: WATSON to explore alternatives.

**8. Nominations:** as the nominating committee had not completed their task, there was a call for volunteers to sit on the Board and elections will be held at a summer General Meeting 7pm August 21 at the Snowmobile Clubhouse.

**9. Restocking:** It was reported that Fisheries only could net 11 trout to strip of eggs for hatchery production of fish able to survive in Green L. It was noted that non-specific trout releases have an estimated 95% mortality rate. Kokanee on the other hand do ok and a restocking is expected in August. Some reports of Kokanee being caught in Green.

**10. Assessments:** a question was raised asking what we could do to ease the burden of massive lease fees created as a result of inflated assessments.

It was MOVED Wilson/Haines that GLARA write to government to request a cap be put on fees, or lease fees be reviewed as to the validity of the criteria used to set them, and that seniors or pensioners facing a hardship because of lease fees, be allowed to defer all or part of the fee, as is allowed with taxes. Carried with one opposed.

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**Treasurer's report June 13 '96:** Marie Kuyek

Paid up memberships: 310 with more coming in.  
Bank balance \$3560  
Cash on hand \$41  
Term deposits \$7460 total \$11,061

[reserved for 97/98: \$1840]

[reserved for 98/99: \$ 390]

Water stewardship fund \$ 3221 left from \$5000 grant  
Funds available for 96/97 (current year) \$ 5610

**South Green Fence Report**

D.Tupman

Some frustration was expressed in an editorial in the last newsletter about the bureaucratic hurdles that have to be jumped to get action on this fence. To review, a survey of S. Green owners by GLARA received general support. Forestry has given the green light, as has Highways, Environment, Lands and First Nations. The ball is now in TNRD's court. Jim Walch, our TNRD director, is carrying this ball. We started this initiative in 1993. It was referred to Jim Walch last September.

The current stumbling block seems to be the fence's official designation for Regional District purposes. Normally Regional Districts do not get into the fence building business. They are wary of future legal problems. At the moment the only designation appears to fall under "pest control". TNRD lawyers are nervous, or so we are told, that there could be possible litigation if anyone is injured on a fence that they have financed and designated as "pest control". The lawyers ask if this fence built to Forestry standards will qualify as a fence under "pest control"!

Mr Walch is also expressing frustration as they are having to deal with other levels of government to have this matter resolved and to put an official petition, or preferably a referendum, to S Green owners.

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**Mosquitoes:**

D. Tupman

Misery loves company. Apparently numerous businesses in the Cranbrook area protested that the Regional District should do something about their mosquito infestation this spring and summer. "Driving away the tourist dollars," the spokesman stated.

The cool spring had set off the worst mosquito blight in memory in that area so we were told in a recent news report. The current warm weather in Cranbrook fixed the problem, however. Let's keep our fingers crossed that the same happens here.

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**Regional District Directors**

D. Tupman

We have zone director reps on the two regional districts involved in the Green/Watch L. area. Our Thompson Nicola Regional District director is Jim Walch. Our Cariboo Regional Director is Greg Sehn.

Elections will be held in November for these positions. All property owners may vote in these elections, but must be registered to do so. Call the RD offices or the government agent for instructions on how to register to vote.

Directors get an indemnity of \$105 for each 5 hour meeting attended (24 per year); a \$3100 annual honorarium; mileage at 35¢ /km (max\$99 per trip). Approximate total annual recompense, other than mileage and meals is \$5620.

**Dog Poisonings?**

D. Tupman

There have been several instances of dog poisonings in the Watch/Green L area. Deliberate? Accidental? We do not know. Antifreeze and rat poison have been fingered as possible agents. It is worth noting that a teaspoon of antifreeze will kill a cat or small dog.

**S Green Fencing:**

For those S. Green owners who have been delaying building their own fence, you may wish to go ahead now. Even if we get TNRD approval, Mr Walch has said he is applying for TNRD to hold an official petition. Their petition requires 66% of all property owners to approve. We know from experience that it is next to impossible to get better than a 50% return, let alone approval. We have told them that our preference is to go right to referendum. A referendum to pass, requires 50% plus one of those who vote. We have over 80% approval of those who responded to our surveys, so we feel confident that a referendum will pass. Considering that this proposal will not cost TNRD anything, it is puzzling as to why we are not moving faster on this issue.

For the record, every GLARA director on S. Green has already fenced, yet we still support a legal forestry fence keeping cattle off the roads and out of the lake.

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**Apologies and Corrections**

It was mentioned at the last general meeting that comments in my last Newsletter may have been misconstrued to imply collusion between Jim Walch and the resident requesting the zoning change. I have no proof of such and did not mean to imply collusion. My intent was to jump start perceived bureaucratic inertia and that to some extent worked. However it was not my intent to make life difficult for the unnamed resident, and for that I apologise.

Terry Burt caught me up at the mall and informed me that I always gave him the credit for testing Watch Lake and not his two buddies, Webb Raymur and Ralph Cole. My apologies gentlemen, had I known before, I would not have missed you, sorry.

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**Cariboo Gardening Tips**

There is a great little book out called *Gardening Between Frosts* by Dave Havard. He gets technical in one chapter explaining "degree days" which explains why corn and tomatoes won't produce here. Many plants will not start growing below 5.56°C. On the other hand some plants withstand cold temperatures that kill others. Here is a sample.  
 19°F (or -7°C):cabbage family damaged by frost  
 28°F (or -2.2°C) :seedlings threatened.  
 32°F (or 0°C) : frost occurs  
 42°F (or 5.56°C): Heat units start; most plants no growth below this temperature.  
 55°F (or 12.78°C): lowest temp for tomatoes  
 60F (or 15.56°C) : lowest for cukes  
 65-75 (18-24°C) :best for tomatoes  
 76-90°F(24-32°C) good for cukes; too hot for tomato

One plant that does phenomenally well in the Cariboo is **Rhubarb**. It weathers the worst winters, gives an abundant crop early in the year and the cows won't eat it. Plant roots with the shoots just barely below soil level as deep plantings always result in spindly stems.

**Excerpts from a 1976 Cariboo Lakes Study**

Lake	•volume hm <sup>3</sup>	•surface area km <sup>2</sup>	•mean depth in meters	•perimeter in km.	•flow through in years
Alexis	6	1.0	5.7	10.72	4.5
Blue	5	.5	9.97	4.3	none
Chimney	37	4.3	8.72	13.35	16.8
Dragon	13	2.2	6.04	16.4	30.4
Green	275.24	23.07	11.92	65.28	none
Keno	25	2.2	11.19	14.14	4.4
Lac La Hache	336.46	23.01	14.63	42.6	4.7
Rail	14	2.3	6.1	9.11	7.9
Ruth	20	2.8	7.28	20.77	15.4
Sheridan	114	16.43	6.98	51.45	257.2
Till	6	.78	7.83	7.	none
Timothy	59	4.44	13.5	17.72	10.3

page 43: Green L. commercial development is viewed as undesirable.

page 50: Lac La Hache -commercial development viewed as good.

page 65: The study emphasizes the importance of continuously re-evaluating water quality and user attitudes on a lake.

page 67: Lakes with a low capability to absorb pollution and accommodate activities should be preserved as natural areas.

page 68: If on a relative basis a lake is more capable of absorbing recreational activities than absorbing pollutants, development should be aimed at minimizing lakeshore alteration. Specifically, lakeshore development should be located well back from the lake thus creating visual barriers between the lake and shoreline development.

page 70: No further development should be allowed on Blue, Chimney, Rail, Green and Till Lakes.

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**BUSINESS DIRECTORY**

The following is a listing of members who provide services in our area. There is no charge other than membership (\$10) to be listed. Register with the treasurer. GLARA provides this listing as a service to members and has not screened for quality or reliability of services.

<b>BUSINESS SERVICES</b>		
Accounting & Tax Preparation	L. Caterer	456 7526
<b>CRAFTS and ART</b>		
Applique Sweatshirts	Pat Kent	456 7436
<b>PERSONAL SERVICES</b>		
Hair cutting	Karin Forbes	456 7740
<b>SUPPLIES</b>		
Food, Meals, Gas	Little Horse Store & Restaurant	456 7524
<b>ACCOMODATION/FOOD</b>		
B&B, Bakery, Grp Restaurant	Colleen Leyland	456 7457

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