

# The GREEN WATCH

## the GREEN LAKE AREA (CARIBOO) RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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

Pres. Dennis Tupman	456 2302	Don Brown (S)	456 7626	Bob Christie (N)	456 7336
V.P. Robin Rusaw	456 7707	Gordon Labinsky (S)	456 2310	Art Watson (N/W)	456 7426
Sect. Jackie Stroud	456 2337	Fred Kuyek (S)	456 2230	John Tutte (N)	456 2391
Treas. Marie Kuyek	456 2230	Helen Denning (N)	456 7318	Jack Wainwright (Nsitr Ed)	456 2256

**JUNE 1997**

### OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD IN FIREHALL #2

(on N Green Lk Rd, across from Little Arrowhead)  
**1:30 pm SATURDAY, JULY 12 1997**

The agenda will include updates on our activities, committee reports and topics arising from the floor. Elections will be held as well for two year term positions.

To have topics placed on the agenda prior to the meeting call Dennis Tupman 456 2302

To be nominated for office, call Mary Greenwood 456 2246. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor

### LAKES CLASSIFICATION MEETING. ??????

Last fall we were scheduled to meet with Forestry to classify Watch and Green Lakes. Our Fall newsletter outlined our brief in good detail. At that time we requested a postponement because our survey of all property owners was still underway. Forestry was happy to grant a delay as they were also behind. Now however, with Forestry experiencing staff cutbacks, they are not ready. It may be next Fall before we officially meet on this topic. Meanwhile...

**LAND USE PUBLIC MEETING** ...was also postponed by Forestry, with no date in sight. However, our brief has been submitted in great detail. It follows the tenor of our Lakes Classification brief which is attempting to retain the recreational uses of our surrounding Crown Lands, retain the ecology, and not unduly curtail historic grazing and timber cutting activities.

Gordon Labinsky has prepared maps of our area based on Forestry's computer printouts. He has also determined what categories will best suit our goals and is quietly negotiating with Forestry on our behalf. Gordon will say he is not negotiating, but he has met with Forestry and they are very aware of our wishes, through his efforts. (Map making was one of Gordon's activities with Fisheries prior to retirement)

### ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD NOMINATION

GLARA was one of 202 individuals, organizations and businesses nominated for the 1997 Minister's Environmental Award.

Winner in our category of Community/ Non-Profit Organizations was The Okanagan-Similkameen Parks Society. They played a key role in protecting environmentally sensitive areas in the Okanagan and Similkameen watersheds. Their Society has actively participated in cooperative efforts to promote sustainability and biodiversity in the region, and has played an important role in raising public awareness and understanding on a wide range of issues.

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**CHECK THE MAILING LABEL** on your envelope. The date in the corner is your membership expiry date. If this date is flagged with a coloured Highlighter pen then your membership has just expired and you will have to renew to vote.

Memberships may be renewed at the meeting or by mail to GLARA Comp. 5, Site Q, RR 1, 70 Mile House BC V0K 2K0. Dues are still only \$10 per year. Most are opting to pay \$30 for three years.

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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?

\_\_\_\_\_ is cheque enclosed?  
fax available? \_\_\_\_\_  
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, site Q, Comp. 5, RR1, 70 Mile House BC, V0K 2K0



## Birdhouse Store Opens in 100 Mile

The Birdhouse was an idea born out of a need to either build something for ourselves here in the Cariboo - an area that we loved or return to the big city and get in the fast lane. It was a choice easily made. We couldn't bear the thought of a return to city life.

It was also an idea born out of the reading of a book advocating that if a person does what they love and loves what they do, happiness and success will follow. So the question became what did we love and the obvious answer was wild nature, specifically the wild birds.

So, The Birdhouse concept grew out of those dilemmas and we decided to turn our ideas into a reality. Step by clumsy step we started the process. Fortunately our way was sprinkled with coincidences that lead us along in the right direction. We generated capital, found a great location and received a great deal of support for our ideas. We had found a niche.

As it turned out, our idea was not nearly as original as we had first thought. There were wild bird stores throughout the United States and in most major Canadian cities. This only encouraged us. We found that there are 84 million birders in North America and that excited us. Maybe we were onto something.

Since our opening in early May we have met many nice people who support our store and the concept of enjoying the wild birds and enhancing wild bird habitat. We have heard of some interesting, sometimes rare, bird sightings which we record on our sightings board and we have received some welcome suggestions from people on how to improve our store.

We are in the process of developing a guided, wild bird walk along Bridge Creek to Exeter Lake. This walk should be available in the very near future and we anticipate that it will be the first of many wild bird tours to be offered by The Birdhouse.

(Bruce Hulsman, his wife and business partner, Carol Bruce, came to the Cariboo four years ago from Vancouver Island where he worked in Newspaper management and she had an active career as an artist. They now live on 83 Mile Road in a small house on a small acreage which they share with two dogs, three cats, several chickens and a wealth of wild birds and animals.)



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## South Green Fence:

The Cariboo is no place for a type "A" go go go personality, unless one is striving for a complete reversal to an uncommonly leisurely pace. Yes, "the fence" is still alive. Jim Walch has told Don Brown that when we confirm that the costing is still accurate and detail how maintenance will be handled, the TNRD will consider going to REFERENDUM! An official ballot! Which is what we asked for in the first place. We had given TNRD these details originally but the pace of progress has been so slow that our costs may have changed. Details will be reported at the July AGM. Hopefully the fence will be built before the next millenium?

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## FISH STORIES

Ken Legge reports that 300,000 Kokanee were released this spring; half into 83 Mile Creek and half into Watch Creek at the culvert. Also 75,000 4" Rainbow were released at the culvert and 50,000 more were put in Watch Lake.

Fisheries was disappointed at the Kokanee spawning return this year. They think perhaps they were gobbled by the Rainbows and Loons. Fisheries is closing down the Loon lake hatchery and moving operations to a facility at Clearwater. They had good luck stripping eggs from Green lake rainbows this year. The Rainbows they are introducing now are apparently a hardier breed.

Ice fishing in Green was good last winter with fish to 12 lbs reported. Watch produced the most fish in the recent June derby, but the largest caught was a 2 1/2 lbs Kokanee from Green Lake.

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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.

BUSINESS SERVICES		
Accounting & Tax Preparation	L. Caterer	456 7526
CRAFTS and ART		
Applique Sweatshirts	Pat Kent	456 7436
PERSONAL SERVICES		
Hair cutting	Karin Forbes	456 7740
Foot Reflexology	June Bourke	456 7752
SUPPLIES		
Food, Meals, Gas	Little Horse Store & Restaurant	456 7524
ACCOMMODATION/FOOD		
B&B, Bakery, Grp Restaurant	Colleen Leyland	456 7457
RECYCLING		
Gold Trail Recycling (100 Mile)	Ulrich Junker	395 1041
GARDEN NURSERY		
Shelby Gardens	Rafield Road, Little Pressy	456 7682



## NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS by D Tupman

### LAKE STEWARDSHIP

A new book is being written on lake stewardship by Clive Calloway, an environmental consultant who lives on a small lake near Shuswap. GLARA is having an opportunity to contribute. We will be hearing more about this later.

### NOISY BOATS

An update: J.M. Churchill, Supervisor of Office Boating Safety, Pacific Region, informs us that the Canadian Coast Guard is proposing regulations that could affect the operation of the excessively noisy, unmuffled boats. He will let us know when and if these are implemented.

### GLARA & HEALTH

GLARA wrote to David Zirnhelt and Joy MacPhail expressing concerns about proposed and real cuts in the health care facilities and services in 100 Mile.

### ART WATSON MOVES

We lament the departure of Director Art Watson to the Langley area. Art was a very active member of GLARA and in the community as a whole. Enjoy your grandchildren, Art and Margaret, as we understand they will now be closer at hand.

### FIREHALL DUES

Kathy Cole (Watch Lake) and Ken Greenwood (S. Green Lake) will be happy to receive your firehall dues. These folk in the firehalls are working on our behalf and are contributing in a very real sense to our welfare in this community. Of course, there is self interest involved because with the presence of volunteer and active fire organizations we have lower taxes by a substantial margin.

### CITIZENS ON PATROL

Congratulations to the folk on the N Green and Watch areas for their COPS program. It seems to be having a positive effect in residential security.

Brickbats to those nuts who stole the first batch of Citizens on Patrol signs.

## RECREATION CENTRE QUESTIONNAIRE

The Cariboo Regional District was looking into the building of a recreation centre in 100 Mile. This would involve an increase in taxes for N Green and Watch residents in order to cover the three million dollar tab.

GLARA conducted a survey and forwarded the results to the CRD. From the 65 replies of 150 surveys mailed out, results were inconclusive. We formed the following conclusions:

1. Hardly any of our members use the Stan Halcro arena or curling rink in 100 Mile.
2. There was about 50% support for holding a referendum on taxes to build a recreation centre, either an arena or an aquatic centre. There was less support for a combined aquatic centre and ice arena.
3. 2/3 of respondents are not happy about being lumped in for tax purposes with 100 Mile in their capital projects and consequent tax increases to support them.
4. The majority of respondents were full-time residents of Watch or N. Green.

(D.T. note: It looks doubtful at this time that the CRD will proceed with this proposal of either a new arena and/or an aquatic centre. Thank you to all those who took the time to send in the questionnaire. The results of our questionnaire, along with input from others, were used by the CRD in making their decision.)

### GARDENING TIPS

Gardening is increasing in popularity on Green and Watch Lakes. There are always those challenges nursing our plants along in our short growing season. What grows well here? How can we develop a nice garden in this climate?

Answers may be found in the following excellent books: *Gardening between Frosts* by Dave Havard, published by Dave Havard; and another by Lois Hole, published by Lone Pine Publishers.



**RECREATION AND TRAILS** by Bev Felske

Some of the reasons most of us recreate at Green lake are: the variety of the scenery; wildlife; and the trails that surround the lake. We want to get away from it all and enjoy nature at its finest.

Well who looks after our trails, maintains them and signs them?

Your neighbours and fellow ratepayers, that's who. These people all belong to the Green Lake Snowmobile Club. Some are weekenders, but the majority are people who have moved here or retired here in order to enjoy the recreation around and on the lake.

In the past year, the Snowmobile Club received a contract to upgrade, clear and sign the trails, mainly on the south side of Green. On the North side a new 50 km trail has been opened going from 70 Mile House to the 100 Mile Snowmobile clubhouse. It should be noted that all trails are multi-use thus both summer and winter activities are occurring on them.

Whether you are a hiker, birder, biker, ATVer, jogger snowmobiler or cross country skier, all rate payers should appreciate the work done by your neighbours to help you have a wonderful time in the woods.

These newly signed trails mean that you may travel farther and see more scenery without fear of becoming lost.

We should as ratepayers help keep our recreation values high by ensuring that our trails are kept clear and the signs remain in place in order for all trail users to enjoy.

Having a signed off road trail network means that everyone should be encouraged to use them for all types of recreation. All snowmobile club members have copies of the entire trail network on both sides of Green lake.

The Club promotes safe and responsible use of all trails. This past winter the Club participated with Search and Rescue to try and find a downed airplane.

The Club has activities both summer and winter. Membership is very reasonable, and each family receives a monthly newsletter telling of the coming events.

If you want to meet your neighbours, help maintain trails for all year recreation, participate in the many family events, JOIN THE CLUB. Contact Don Kennedy 456 7409.

After all, isn't R & R the main reason we are ratepayers at Green Lake?

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**HIGH WATER** by Dennis Tupman

We have all noticed the higher water levels in Green and Watch lakes. Gordon Labinsky had photographs of rock formations showing water level back in September 1990. He measured at the same spot in June 1997 and found an approximate 44 vertical inch rise since 1990!

Terry Burt reports that the water is running briskly at the culvert in the east end of Green into Little Green. 83 Creek and Watch Creek were flowing briskly into the lakes (in addition to dozens of small freshettes), but they have slowed in recent weeks. With the recent heavy rains we can look for high water levels after which we expect they will subside, as they have in the past, as the summer unfolds.

Some residents who live in low lying areas have reported that their septic fields are sluggish with high water tables. At least we have avoided the major flooding that has been reported in many other BC lakes, including Lake Okanagan.

For some reason, there have been a few major winds this spring with the consequent danger of having docks and boats break loose. Suggestion: put your name and address and phone number visibly on all your boats and docks to quickly help in finding. Also, if you pull your docks up in the fall, make sure to secure them well to land in case of extra high water levels.

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**HISTORY:**

Art Watson passed on the following history which he said he got from Lynn Watrich, the daughter of Mrs. Gammie who was a former owner of the Flying U and Ace High.

Resort	date started	original owner
Watch Lake	1940	Mobbs
Ace High	1939	Gammies
Flying U	1931	Jack Boyd
Pinegate	1945	Bert Hill
Green Lake	1960	Ernie & Shirley Hills
Tall Timbers	1967	Howie & Joan Wormell

There may be errors or omissions in the above. Please let GLARA know of any corrections to be made.