

# 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	Robin Rusaw (N)	456 7707	Dave Claxton (S)	456 2426
Treas. & Membrshp. Marie Kuyek		Rose Bourdin (N)	456 7478	Uli Junker (S)	456 2463
Grn Blt Chairman	456 2230	Fred Kuyek (S)	456 2230		
Gordon Labinsky	456 2310			Jack Wainwright (S)	456 2256

Summer 1999

### Annual General Meeting

GLARA

**Date:** August 7, at 9:30 A.M.

**Place:** Firehall #2 on the North Green Lake Road, Near Arrowhead picnic site.

**Agenda:**

- Proposed Forestry cut blocks in this area
- New water safety regulations
- Approval of financial report
- Election of officers
- Any new business raised from the floor to become GLARA initiatives

Everyone welcome. Memberships available on site. (See application form below. Make your concerns and points for us to research or act if necessary.

### 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? \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail? \_\_\_\_\_ 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, site Q, Comp. 5, RR1, 70 Mile House BC, V0K 2K0

### Comment from the President, Dennis Tupman

GLARA has been in existence since 1993. During that time we have had a number of talented directors serving both Watch and Green Lakes and the surrounding two km area of interest since that time.

We have tackled issues surrounding forestry, fishing, the environment, biodiversity, wildlife and fish, roads, beavers, water quality testing, signage for the public education, lake classification, land use, excessively high property assessments (back in 1993), roaming cows, noisy boats, neighborhood watch.

We are members of the BC Cottage Owner's Ass'n, The David Suzuki Foundation, the BC Lakes Stewardship Association, and in the past the National Association of Lake Management Societies - NALMS).

We have lobbied or had contacts with Forestry, Environment, Fish and Wildlife, Highways, two regional districts (CRD and TNRD), our MLA, the RCMP, Health and Welfare (hospitals), and Parks and Recreation.

Our data base of members' addresses is used by the post office, the RCMP, the ambulance service, and the regional districts. We have had memberships ranging from 200-400, making it one of the largest in BC. Currently membership is high.

All of this work has been done by busy volunteers who otherwise spend a lot of time traveling and working in their personal lives. It has been difficult, therefore, to have everyone in the Board of Directors get together at once.

In an effort to communicate with our membership we have printed 14 newsletters.

***GLARA is at a crossroads. We need new board members who wish to give "fresh legs" to our group. We need representation from Watch Lake and North Green. We need a secretary and a vice chair. Four of us now are the originals and we need to share the load.***

***If GLARA is to survive then the above needs will have to be addressed. The burden for the association is being carried by a shrinking number of Board Members.***

If you would like to make a contribution please contact me. Your name could stand at the AGM. If we fail to gain new board members we will seriously have to reconsider our future as an association. To stop our collective voice for the lake would be a shame. We have been able to speak for the whole zone here at a time when failure to do so would mean there could be possibly serious consequences.

Please give this some thought. I would love to hear from you.

Dennis Tupman  
President

## **A Report from your Greenbelt Committee**

By Gordon Labinsky, Chairman

For those of you who might be asking yourself "What is the Greenbelt Committee?" I would ask you to refer to the Fall, 1998 copy of your "Green Watch" Newsletter. Therein is what we are trying to achieve when dealing with the logging industry that will be cutting trees within our 2 km Greenbelt.

The logging and milling industry was part of the local economy long before most of us came here. This continues will do so into the future.

On Monday, June 7, 1999, three of your members of the GLARA board, Dennis Tupman, Dave Claxton, and myself met with officials of Ainsworth Logging Company as well as seven staff members of the 100 Mile House Ministry of Forests offices, to discuss logging related issues that affect our Greenbelt.

Ainsworth is the main private company that will be cutting timber in our area. The other two large logging companies in the 100 Mile Forest District (Weldwood and Lignum), for the most part, are active in other parts of the district.

Our meeting with Ainsworth officials went well with both sides of the table having an opportunity to discuss matters that are a concern. We learned that the



five Ainsworth cut blocks in the area of the Sani-Station at the west end of Green Lake (that we were dealing with last year) may not be cut in the year 2001, as originally planned. There may be a delay in harvesting these blocks because of the two *natural events* that have happened since these blocks were put into the logging plan.

Pine is the main species to be logged in these five cut blocks. Pine is now in oversupply in Ainsworth's milling in the Cariboo. Outbreaks of insect infestation in pine trees are being found throughout the 100 Mile Forest District. Fortunately, none yet within, or close by, our Greenbelt. Read the Article "Logging in our Greenbelt" in your Fall 1998 newsletter for additional information on how Ainsworth is required by the government to log and mill these pines before the next insect fly out cycle in June.

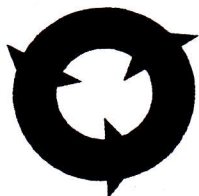
The other natural event that happened in large sections of the 100 Mile Forest District this past winter was severe damage to many of the pine stands. A weather pattern of heavy, wet snowfalls followed by freezing, caused the snow to freeze to the needles and branches. Trees became top heavy. Mother Nature's strong winds extensively damaged the trees. Many trees had broken branches or were decapitated.

Ainsworth is now required to go into these areas to "salvage log" the damaged trees. Hence, the over supply of pine will be with them for the next couple of years and will probably lead to a delay in logging plans for pine stands that were not severely hurt.

We also had a very productive meeting with some of the staff members of the Ministry of Forests in 100 Mile House. We covered a wide range of topics: progress on Lake Classification; the Cariboo/Chilcotin Land Use Plan (CCLUP); the 5 year Consolidated Development Planning Process and the 15 proposed cut blocks southwest of Green Lake in the area of Mt. Jack and the Snowmobile Clubhouse. It was stressed to us that these last cut blocks are shown on the map at this point for discussion purposes and, based on feedback from the public and from your Greenbelt Committee, will be modified. The modifications to the cut block will affect the size, location and timing of the logging of the mature and over mature pine stands in this area. It should be stressed that some logging WILL happen in this area, and in other areas of our Greenbelt in the future.

The Greenbelt committee is interested in getting some feedback from those of you who feel this future logging will have impact on your enjoyment of the forests within our 2 km Greenbelt.

In the fall of 1998, a 28 hectare (about 75 acres) cut block was logged and a short section of new logging road was built to access the block. The road was deactivated after the logging was completed. This cut block is located about 2 kms. south of the South Green Lake Snowmobile Clubhouse. This was a mature pine stand and is classed as a "clear cut with reserves". This cut block closely resembles what many of the future cut blocks will look like after logging takes place. We ask you look at it and let us know what you think. Phone me or other members of the committee for instructions on how to get



there. We are interested in hearing your opinions, both for and against these cut blocks.

A major part of GLARA's AGM in August 7 will be devoted to this subject. Try to be there. This will be the beginning potentially of a lot more activity in our Greenbelt all around the lake.

I (Gordon Labinsky) can be contacted at (250) 456-2310 or fax (250) 456-2477.

### **Noisy Boats**

New boating regulations were passed by the Feds on April 1, 1999 (See later in newsletter). Of particular interest to GLARA was the noise regulation. No boat may be operated without proper muffler within 5 nautical miles from shore. In other words not at all on Green and Watch Lakes.

Three years ago the GLARA Board was instructed by an AGM to forcefully act on eliminating excessively noisy boats from our lakes. This was difficult in the past because there was no law against it. Now there is.

This is our recommendation. If you see or hear a boat that is unmuffled, and wish to report it, record this boat registration and/or towing vehicle license number and report it to the RCMP in Clinton. P.O. Box 429, Clinton, BC V0K 1K0. Phone 250-459-2221. Fax 250-459-7055. It would also be very helpful if you can see the address of where the boat is parked and also give this address. The RCMP cannot go chasing a noisy boat all over the lake.

We cannot afford to be frivolous about these complaints or we will demean the whole process. Simply phoning the RCMP to say there is a noisy boat on the lake without these particulars will probably not be effective. We must be more specific and helpful. This regulation is meant for really excessively noisy boats - the ones that can be heard all over the lake.

Phone Dennis Tupman if you need more information. But it should be noted that it is up to the complainant to make the report to police

### **Shorty Horn is Honored**

Shorty Horn of the Watch Lake Lodge was given a national award recently by the Women's Institute for helping on women's issues for many years.

Shorty and his family are long-time residents of this area and all have made a real contribution to the community.

Congratulations, Shorty, you are well deserving.

By the way, the log lodge/store at the junction of the Watch/Lone Butte Roads was built in 1917 according to Shorty. It was built by combining two log structures. It's really quaint inside. Take a look.

### **Green Lake Water Levels**

By Gordon Labinsky

In May of this year, I acquired a copy of some very interesting water level data for Green Lake. This data was recorded between May 23, 1969, and March 31, 1995 (a 26 year period.) The data was



sent to me by Environment Canada, Water Survey Branch, and contains a record of the changes in Green Lake water elevations measured to an accuracy of one millimetre for the entire 26-year period.

In that time the total change in water level on our lake from extreme high to extreme low has been 1.265 metres (or 4.1502 feet or 4'2" or 50"). Fifty inches of water in a lake the size of Green Lake is a lot of water. A brief summary of the ups and downs of Green Lake follows:

Recordings began May 23, 1969, with a lake elevation of 1.173 metres. The lake then went into a long period of losing water, reaching a low level of 0.466 metres on Nov. 21 1975.

There followed a period of slowly increasing water levels, year by year, with the lake reaching high levels in 1983, 1984 and 1985. The highest 26-year level was recorded on May 21, 1985 at 1.590 metres.

Lake levels then began to drop rapidly with the lowest 26-year level being recorded on Oct. 23, 1989 at 0.325 metres (a drop of 1.265 metres.)

The lake then began rising each year until the water recorder station was taken out of service on March 31, 1995. The lake level was then at 0.970 metres.

The high we experienced in the spring of 1997 was higher than the May 21, 1985 by about 75mm ((3"+/-), making it our highest water level in memory. It was even higher than when my property was surveyed in 1996.

On May 26, 1999, I measured the lake level to be able to tie it into the 26-year Water Surveys Branch Data. I found the lake level to be at an approximate elevation of 1.435 metres (+/-). This level is about 9" below the spring 1997 high water level.

Oh, incidentally, any waterfront property owners who are new to the lake (since the last low water level in Oct. 89), and who would like to know where their beach water line COULD be in the future, take a stick about 45" long into the water. When the top of the stick is level with the water surface and the bottom of the stick is touching bottom this is where your future beach/water line COULD be.

If you are building a wharf this year, my advice is not to make it too permanent.

If anyone wants more detailed information on Green Lake water levels, they can give me a call at 456-2310.

### **Olsen's Butte**

Many of you will recall that Olsen's Butte became the centre of a major controversy. Ethel Fouchier led a charge against stalled bureaucracies who were unable to stop mining development on the butte. With GLARA's help Ethel stopped the mining of patio rock.

At that time we were all under the impression that the butte was made into a park. Not so. We have found out just recently that it was given a five-year moratorium and placed into a reserve for that time. With the new Land Use Plan (CCLUP), everything in the area is now up for grabs. Olsen's Butte could be



logged as it stands and also could be mined for that matter.

Ethel, bless her heart, is aware of this and we are all making our objections. But at this writing the matter is far from settled.

### South Green Lake Road Watch

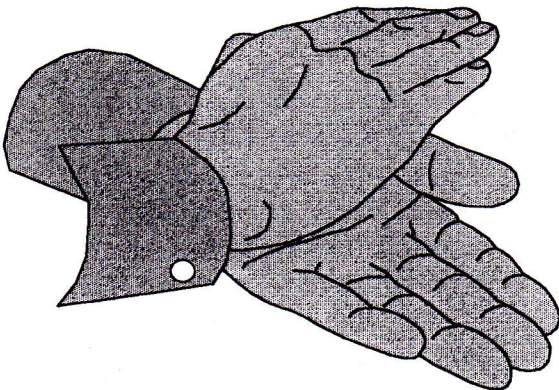
South Green received a lot of attention recently on the BCTV and CTV news. The 24 hour, 7 day road watch program worked well - no break ins. The plan over the summer will change to a random/ rotational plan as the 7- day, 24- hour scheme while effective was very demanding on the residents

The Clinton RCMP were supportive and helpful. They could not believe the public -spirited nature of the project, and how the residents pulled together.

The South Green plan complements what has been done for some time on the North Shore, although the strategy varied. The RCMP reinforced the idea that these watch programs work well. At Gunn Lake two thieves were cornered with hot goods and subsequently arrested. The Neighborhood Watch program was the cause of this arrest.

The South Green steering committee wants to thank all the residents who spent the many hours on duty. Much has been achieved in "target hardening" the area (as the RCMP call it). Vigilance has increased greatly and any prospective thieves will have to contend with a more aware and prepared population. They steal at considerably greater risk.

The following somewhat humorous letter was



given by Mary Greenwood at the recent meeting

on South Green. She was responsible for setting up the road watch schedule by phone. It indicates the effort as well as the challenges that such a hard-working volunteer as Mary faces in her community activity.

*" This is not meant to hurt anyone's feelings, it is just my view from this side of the fence. I've heard 3 months of whining so I figure I can whine for 5 minutes. So here goes.*

*But first I want to thank all the people who have been helping, and most of all you have been more than helpful. But I need 70 people a week and I have only 60 permanent shifts filled. So that means 10 people do double shifts unless I'm lucky and get a call from a visitor or a summer resident up for a few days. One kindhearted fellow did 4 shifts in 12 days.... Some people are really great and call me the minute they arrive and I can usually use them somewhere. I might even be able to give one of the regular guys a break. Not only do I need 70 people but also there is always someone either on holidays, ill, appointments, etc....*

*If everyone did a 5- hour shift, I would have a breeze of a job. I realize people have to go away, but let me know as soon as you know so that I have enough time to find a replacement. There is no age limit—teens to plus 80, as long as you can read or write you are hired. This is the only place you can get a job without references.*

*If you ever need an excuse for something, maybe I can be of some help - I've heard them all!*

*Of the 66 break ins [before], only 4 were permanent residents, so people need to show support and give the permanent residents a break.... I know you come to unwind and enjoy, but the rest of us would like to do the same. You might even enjoy yourself.... Some even had a birthday party on the corner watch for someone who was celebrating his birthday. I have received many calls from holiday people and thank you for the support. Some of the veteran residents on the shift need a break as they also have full time jobs and still manage to take a 5-hour shift.*

*The grapevine is alive and well on the lake. If someone flushes the toilet at one end of the lake, the whole lake knows it before the tank is full again. This is a help. If we watch that closely*



*all the time in the neighborhood then the community will be that much safer. It makes it hard for the crooks to operate. Bless the grapevine. I'm sure that you get a warm fuzzy feeling when you pass the road watch at the corner, slow down and wave, and then after 3-4 weeks holiday, drive into your driveway, unload your vehicle, struggle through the door, run to answer the phone and on the other end of the line a cheerful voice says, "Hi, this is Mary Greenwood. Would you like to sign up for a shift?!"*

*Thanks everyone for being there when I phone. I appreciate every one of you. Also thanks to Marg Bax who took over when I was away."*

*Mary Greenwood. (phone 456-2246)*

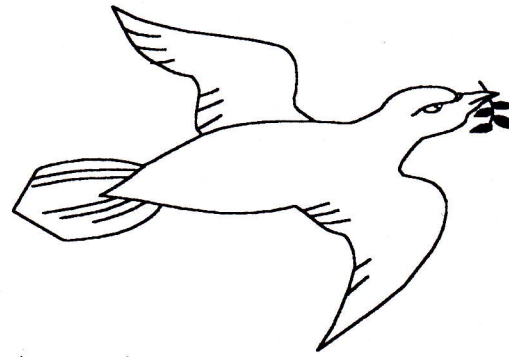
**THE WILD CREATURES LIVE HERE TOO!**

By Dave Claxton

The spring season is truly a marvelous time around Green Lake and vicinity, the waterfowl and birds are visible everywhere as they begin the process of nesting and raising their young. This is particularly true in the marshy areas of Green Lake at the north and south end of the lake. Partly, we believe due to the cool weather this spring, our bird feeders have been visited by literally hundreds of species of birds and each morning is a new adventure as we view the activity around the feeders while enjoying our morning coffee.

The spring season also brings more "people" activity and there are times when this activity comes in to conflict with the wildlife, waterfowl and birds. This was very apparent one afternoon during the recent long weekend. While sitting down to lunch we heard the penetrating "buzz" of dirt bikes and there, across the bay at the South end of the lake were two riders racing across a narrow strip of land that connects to a small peninsula. The riders made several high-speed runs stopping at each end to discuss the run. What they did not realize was that within a few feet of them a Canada goose was nesting. With head and neck flat to the ground in an attempt to remain unseen, she held her ground, no doubt frozen with fear until the two riders decided to move on.

I'm sure the young riders had no perception of



the stress they were causing this nesting goose. It underlines the responsibility we have as permanent and part time residents of this area to educate our children, grandchildren and friends about our relationship with, and impact on the wildlife. Dirt bikes, ATV's and snowmobiles in the winter are part of the experience and pleasure of living or visiting this paradise and most of us have no objection to them. In fact, we use and enjoy them ourselves. However, we should encourage riders to avoid the pristine marsh and meadow areas and confine their routes to well traveled trails. High-speed dirt bikes and ATV's scar the fragile grasslands and inevitably bring man and our machines into direct conflict with wild creatures. The wildlife always loses in these exchanges! So we encourage you to take some time to talk to your young people and visitors about living with wildlife. We can view and enjoy them without causing disruption and stress to their lives. We will all be better for it. Dave Claxton...9 Point Road, South Green Lake.

Substitute editor for this newsletter, Dennis Tupman while the regular editor, Jack Wainwright was away

**BUSINESS DIRECTORY**

The following is a listing of members who provide services in our area. There is no charge other than a 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
- Furniture Refinishing by Anna Louise Fortin 456 2472

**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

**GARDEN NURSERY**

- Shelby Gardens Rafield Road, Little Pressy 456 7682

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## WHO NEEDS THE PLEASURE- CRAFT OPERATOR'S CARD?

All Pleasure Craft operators in Canada will have to carry proof of vessel operator competency to operate a powered boat of any horsepower, and any length, anywhere in Canada . There are no exceptions for operator age, type of boat, or method of powering. This even includes a canoe with an electric motor. Those renting without a PCO card must complete a rental-boat safety checklist. Visitors are exempt for up to 45 consecutive days.

These regulations do contain restrictions as to age of operator and horsepower.

- Up to age 12 operators are restricted to under 10 hp;
- Ages 12 to under 16 cannot exceed 40 hp;
- No one under age 16 can operate a Personal Watercraft (PWC).

Underage operators may exceed the hp limits (not PWC restriction) only if they are directly supervised and accompanied by a person 16 or over.

The need for "proof of operator competency" will be phased in over 10 years. • All Boat operators born after 1983 have until September 1999 to qualify; • All other operators of boats under 4m (13.3') have until 2002; • Everyone else will have until 2009.

- If you have ever taken a boating safety course and **can show proof**, you may have qualified. Call your instructor or the Coast Guard. Proof of course completion and operator's age must soon be carried while operating a powered boat. **Carrying your proof on board is all that is required. It need not be a wallet card.**

## HOW TO GET THE NEW PCOcard

- If you have never taken a boating course you must pass a Canadian Coast Guard certified test (by 75%).

**Canadian Power & Sail Squadrons administer this test.**

## OPTIONS to get the PCO card:

✓ **challenge the exam \$20.** The exam consists of 36 multiple choice questions and takes about 30 min. It is scored immediately and a temporary PCO card is issued to those getting 75% or more.

✓ **self study then do exam. \$30**  
The Boat Pro manual costs \$10 + the exam costs \$20 = \$30  
GLARA has manuals for sale. Call Dennis Tupman 456 2302 (or Jack Wainwright 456 2256 in July or August)

✓ **take the Boat Pro course**  
(8 hours) Lectures \$30 + manual \$10 + Exam \$20 = \$60

✓ **Take the CPS BOATING course** (39 hours, 13 weeks) \$150 ea or \$250 per couple sharing material.

• **BOAT PRO** is a short 8 hour "fair weather" boating course

The **BOAT PRO** manual covers all questions in the **Coast Guard Test** for a **Pleasure Craft Operator's** card. Subjects covered include: Boating terms and equipment, safety awareness, marine rules of the road, Aids to Navigation, trailering, leaving, docking, anchoring, preventive maintenance and weather. This is a short course mostly emphasizing rules and regulations.

**Boat Pro** will be offered at Green Lake 9 am - 1pm Saturday & Sunday July 24/25 by CPS registered provider, Jack Wainwright (250 456 2256) Location will depend on enrollment. Jack will also test anyone wishing to just challenge the exam anytime July 25 through August 7.

• **BOATING** (39 hours), usually done over 13 evenings. \$150 per person, The **BOATING COURSE** covers all of the material in **Boat Pro**, but in more depth. As well you learn how to: plot a course, take a fix, read charts and compass, tie knots, and respond in emergencies and adverse conditions (eg FOG). The student pkg. includes manuals, training chart, 3 reference books (Aids to Navigation, Collision Rules, Chart Symbols and Abbreviations) and a CPS Plotter. 80% is required to pass. Successful candidates will get their **PCO card**; may join Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons and become eligible for reduced insurance rates, advanced courses and other benefits.

The **BOATING** course is offered by Cariboo Power and Sail Squadron. Call Barry Casey 250 392 3797; Don Urquhart 250 392 7234. Canadian Power Squadron also has these courses by correspondence on line at [www.cps-ecp.ca](http://www.cps-ecp.ca) or toll free 1 888 277 2628



## **FLASH NOTICE! SOUTH GREEN ROAD WATCH**

**The South Green 24-hour/ 7-day Road Watch will cease for the summer on Wednesday June 30,1999.**

**Much has been gained in “target hardening” South Green by this road watch. No break ins have occurred while the watch has been in effect. The Road Watch Team encourages everyone to continue vigilance and note and report any suspicious activity on the lake. Record license numbers of suspicious vehicles. You may wish to do sustained road watch activity stints on your own. Highways will be placing neighborhood watch signs on South Green at our request. A light at the road watch corner will be installed.**

**There will continue to be spot checks by some members on a rotational basis indefinitely. A surveillance camera has also been employed. If there are any questions or if you wish to assist please call one of the names of the steering committee below.**

**This program has been very effective, has drawn the community together, and through our continued vigilance has made South Green a very undesirable target for would-be thieves.**

**Thank you to all who have stood watch. Thanks also to those who donated funds to help defray expenses. We collected nearly enough in donations to cover expenses. GLARA covered the rest. This has been an incredible community effort.**

**Road Watch committee: Barry Roman 456-2334; Frank Dixon 456-7529; Mary Greenwood 456-2246; Bob Craig 456-2375**