

THE GREEN WATCH

The Green Lake Area Ratepayers' Association Newsletter

Representing property owners and residents in the Watch and Green Lake Area

Bruce Gilmour, President	250-456-2140	Dunham Craig, Director	250-456-2133
Alan Boyd, Director	250-456-7651	Fred Kuyek, Water Testing	250-456-2230
Lorrie Fleming, Secretary	250-456-7566	Kathy Stanley, Director	250-456-7404
Judy Cole, Director	250-456-7708	Marie Kuyek, Membership/Treasurer	250-456-2230
Dave Schwarz, Director	250-833-0074	Mark Tener, Director	250-456-6055
Roy Allan, Director	250-456-2438	Cheryl Groves, Director	250-456-2112
Jack Keough, Director	250-456-7725	Marie Kuyek, Editor	250-456-2230
Karyn Greenlees, Director	250-456-7404		

WINTER 2012

President's Report



The Green Lake Ratepayers Association works in an advocacy role in formal partnerships with a variety of government levels mandated with land use policy. The health in these relationships is understood in how the implementation of the policies protects and brings returns to you, the residents of the Green and Watch lakes area. The returns are how you experience your enjoyment of the water quality; the natural ecology tied to this water, and all of the values experienced no matter what your pastime is in the meadows and trails you travel.

The lakes and the backcountry are cared for through policy and through an equally important opportunity supported through education. For example, to maintain designated trails for horseback riding, snowmobiling, snow shoeing, mountain bike riding, quadding and hiking; to ensure that these ecologically sensitive recreational values are publicly accessible and sustained, it is important for the individual to understand and respect attitudes towards the natural ecology. Proactive and safe outcomes for the natural ecology are possible through education.



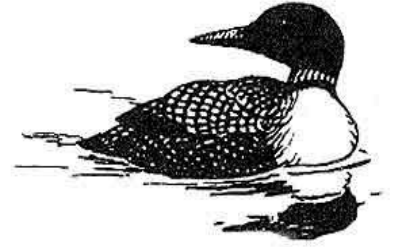
This past spring, summer and fall the backcountry trails were maintained thanks to the commitment of the trail users and Conservation Volunteers. Examples are: Using gates and cattle guards, reporting broken fences and safety issues, clearing wind falls, and traveling with an axe or saw to clear debris off a fence. Thanks to you and your support, we are able to continue to return from season to season for whatever form of enjoyment that draws you to the area. Be it escape time or the exhilaration or enjoyment of the natural beauty, the water quality and the natural ecology continues to be assessed as healthy and this is in large part, thanks to you and your understanding of the sensitivity of the natural ecology.

GLARA thanks you for protecting important natural places, which we can all enjoy today, and what

you experienced through your children's excitement and discovery will continue to be shared in the same manner in years to come.

Thank you for being a part of GLARA's force for nature and the values it supports - owning the legacy!

Bruce Gilmour, GLARA President



GLARA now has a website

take a look at www.glara.ca

The site is until construction and far from finished. That being said, the website will endeavor to be fluid and ever changing with fresh information and photos from the community throughout the year

The focus of the website will expand upon the focus of our mission statement:

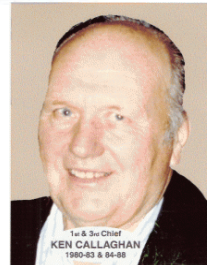
"GLARA is non-partisan and partners with the government of the day to provide input on such important features as the function of transfer stations, monitoring lake health through the vital work of water sampling and testing, road improvements and wild fire interface safety, through to assisting the processes for policies that will formalize a long term vision for sustaining what is important to the area through land use planning."

Your submissions and photos will be welcomed and included as the site grows. Please send your comments and photos to admin@glara.ca.

A Sad note

CALLAGHAN, Kenneth Roy

It is with great sadness that we hear of the passing of Kenneth Roy Callaghan. He was 87 years when he passed away peacefully in Kamloops, B.C. on October 24, 2012. A longtime resident at South Green Lake he made many friends in the area. Ken was predeceased by his loving wife Margaret Louise Callaghan in 2002. Ken was an Air Force Veteran, having served in WW11. He retired as a Captain from the Vancouver Fire Department in 1978 and when he moved to Green Lake where he was the Fire Chief at the SGLVFD for the years 1980-1983 and again from 1984-1988. Ken was also a member of the Masonic Lodge in Vancouver, Kamloops, 100 Mile House & the Shrine Club where he was known as "Snuffie" the clown. There was no service according to his wishes. Ken will be dearly missed by all who knew him.



CRD Update - October 2012



We are pleased to advise that over the past few months we have seen the final Approval of the Green Lake and Area Official Community Plan (OCP) and the Completion of the CRD Solid Waste Management Plan. These documents will Provide guidance for land use planning decisions and future investments in the solid waste management system. Over the coming year, we will be following up by realigning boundaries of the neighbouring OCPs to reflect the watershed approach of the Green Lake and Area OCP and making changes to the zoning bylaw to reflect direction from the OCP. Similarly, implementation plans will be developed for changes to landfills and transfer sites to control access and increase recycling opportunities.

The CRD Board has established a target of 0% increase in overall tax requisition for the 2013 budget year, excluding new or significantly enhanced services. Budgets for individual services may go up or down depending upon the specific circumstances however the overall target is for no increase. As a result of last year's weather-related problems, the Board is also changing the schedule for budget consultation meetings. The proposed 2013 budget will be presented at a public meeting in 100 Mile House in January/February. Town Hall meetings normally scheduled at that time in each area will be moved to the following September/October to address other service issues and to obtain suggestions for development of the 2014 budget. It is hoped that this format will provide more opportunity for public input while minimizing winter travel and last minute cancellations.

GLARA members may be interested in three of the resolutions that the CRD sponsored at the recent Union of BC Municipalities convention. Two were for increased provincial funding for livestock fencing along secondary roads and for the existing residential/agricultural interface. The third was for reduced property assessments for small resort operators. The three resolutions were endorsed by the delegates at the convention and will be forwarded to the province with a request that they be considered by the relevant departments.

The CRD is continuing to collect local information for use in preparing for and responding to emergencies. If you haven't completed the Community Response Capacity Survey, you can find it and the Evacuation Sites Map at www.cariboord.bc.ca/Services/ProtectiveServices.aspx. Print the survey and when completed, mail or drop it off at a CRD office.

The Regional District continues to have concerns with recruitment and retention of health professionals and the funding of capital infrastructure. Discussions with the Interior Health Authority are ongoing.

Further information about things that affect you can be found at Al Richmond's website www.crd-director.com or Bruce Rattray's website www.brucerattray.ca. You can also request Bruce's email newsletter by writing to bruce@brucerattray.ca.

Bruce Rattray
Director, Electoral Area L
Cariboo Regional District
DirectorAreaL@cariboord.bc.ca



Al Richmond
Director, Electoral Area G
Cariboo Regional District
arichmond@cariboord.bc.ca



TNRD Bylaw Update November 2012



TNRD Board of Directors is wrestling with the concept of a dangerous dog bylaw. This is a real tough one, some of the more densely populated areas feel the need for this measure, and I have had requests from some of my constituents. The difficulty of enforcing a bylaw in outlying areas is of course beyond imagination. Insert from the BC Livestock Act Dogs causing injury or damage.

11.1 (1) For the purposes of this section, "**running at large**" does not apply to a dog that is under control by being:

- (a) On the property of its owner or of another person who has the care and control of the dog,
- (b) In direct and continuous charge of a person who is competent to control it,
- (c) Securely confined within an enclosure, or
- (d) Securely fastened so that it is unable to roam.

11.1 (2) A person may kill a dog if the person finds the dog:

- (a) Running at large, and
- (b) Attacking or viciously pursuing livestock.

The RCMP will of course answer a call after a dog attacks a human, but are not prepared to transport, keep or even handle dangerous dogs. The concept of having an animal bylaw officer and a holding kennel in each settlement is far too expensive to entertain. So, I am thinking that what we actually need is neighbours working together, dog owners agreeing to keep their dogs on their own property unless they are working dogs. Dogs running loose near roadways often have a very short life and may cause motor vehicle accidents, definitely not the best answer.



If you have any thoughts on this subject please share them with me director.watson@tnrd.ca or [250-456-2423](tel:250-456-2423) or Sally Watson Box 187, 70 Mile House V0K 2K0

NORTH GREEN LAKE AND WATCH LAKE FIREHALL UPDATE



What is that big tank for . . . ?

Well, that big tank sitting beside the Shorty Horn Fire Hall is going to be placed in an even bigger hole in the ground. Hopefully it will be in the ground and covered up before the ground freezes for the winter.



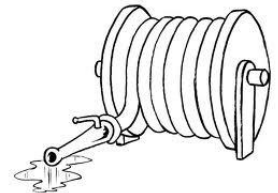
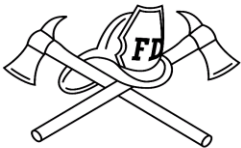
The Watch Lake – North Green Lake VFD received special projects grant from BC Lotteries to begin work on a water system for the Hall. The well is in and as more funds become available plumbing will be run to the building to complete toilets and showers. The tank is an integral part of this whole system, providing 8,500 gallons of in-ground water storage for emergency use. Initially the tank will be filled by the tenders and then it will be kept topped-up by a trickle feed from the well.

One would think since our community is on the shore of a large lake, there would be lots of water available for firefighting purposes. Unfortunately, this is not as easy as it sounds. The two tenders can be filled with 1700 and 1800 gallons of water respectively in less than three minutes each, but the problem often arises in finding a good access to the water. As the lake level declines this becomes more of a problem and the spring and fall muddy seasons create even more difficulties.



All six of the department's vehicles have an on-board water supply; the two tenders carry a combined total of 3500 gallons, the pumpers each carry 500 gallons and both one-one pickups carry totes with an additional 250 gallons each. This gives a mobile 5000 gallons for any fire emergency and with the tank in reserve there will be a ready access of a total of 13,500 before we have to start searching for lake access. This amount alone should be enough to smother any structure fire in our area. Hopefully we will never have to use it.

Roy Allan, President, Board of Directors





SOUTH GREEN LAKE FIREHALL UPDATE

The South Green Lake Volunteer Fire Department would like to thank the community for a safe and fire free summer. Although it was a relatively quiet summer as far as call-outs go, our volunteer fire fighters continue to meet bi-weekly to train and practice various scenarios. They are familiarizing themselves with our building and our newest fire truck, which is in the process of being outfitted with new hoses and fittings. We've had several additions to our roster, bringing our active list of fire fighters to 19.

The Wildfire Prescription, started in 2011, is still not completed. There is a small area left to pile and approximately 100 small piles still to be burned to fulfill our in-kind labour requirement with the TNRD. The burning will commence weather permitting. If you are interested in helping, please contact me.

I would like to thank Mike Balachanoff, Bob Bell, Dunham Craig, Art Groves, Roger Graham, Steve Gehl, Sandy Jamieson, Doug Hughes, Peter McKie, Larry Messaros, Dennis Nagy, Dwayne Parrent, Bill Rossum, Nathan Sizer, Vic Sizer, John Sullivan, Bob Walker and Del Westfall for their continued support and dedication to our fire department.

A special thank you to the firefighters who have retired from the department this year; John Nesbitt, Dale Dyck, Ernie Doyle and Dave Goodwin.



new cement floor in fire hall

We continue to fund raise throughout the year by way of our May Garage Sale, our August Community Day and our yearly Gaming Raffle. The extra money we raise goes right back into equipment and improvements to our Fire Hall. A big part of our fund raising is the Bottle Refunds. Thank you for dropping your refundable bottles and cans at the Fire Hall and the 70 Mile Transfer Station drop box.

We are always looking for new members. You don't have to be a full time resident to become a volunteer fire fighter. If you are interested in supporting your community, please don't hesitate to drop in at any fire practice. Practice dates are on our web site.

Please visit us at www.southgreenlakevfd.ca

Susan McKie – President
South Green Lake VFD

GREEN LAKE SNOWMOBILE CLUB

Despite the lack of snow we had in the early part of the sledding season last year we had a very successful season. From the Snow Flake Dance in November to the Windup in April, we held various events during the long winter months.

A big thank you goes out to all the residents of Green Lake that helped keep the trails cleared last year. Though we did not get enough snow for sledding until late February and half of March, it enabled the many quad riders in this area to use the trails a little longer.

Our Club's success is due to members who volunteer their time to convene events throughout the season. If you have any suggestions or ideas for events that took place in the past or have a new idea, please don't hesitate to let us know. We are always looking for new and interesting ways to improve our club and the snowmobile season around the Lake.



cont.....

The scheduled events for Snowmobile Members this season are:

Nov 10th Snowflake Dinner and Dance This event was a great success with many new people in attendance.

Dec 15th Christmas Dinner and Dance (pot luck with the club supplying the turkey)

Feb 11th Winter fest Poker Ride (All proceeds to BC Lions Club -Children with Disabilities). 50km ride on groomed trails. This event is open to all.

- Registration fee by donation
- Concession (Chilli, Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Pop and Coffee)
- Lots of great door prizes
- First sled out at 10:30am

Apr. 13th Pig Roast /Wind up Dinner and Dance

Our Clubhouse doors are always open, if you are interested in attending any of these events or wish to attend a general meeting, please visit www.greenlakesnowmobileclub.ca for our contact information and the latest information on meetings and events.

This past year has been a busy one for the club. Over the spring and summer the executive has been working on changes that will allow the club to be better prepared for future years.



- Changes made will align our membership categories with the ABC Snowmobile Association and clearly define membership categories in the club.
- We have attended several meetings regarding a safe and legal road crossing at 70 Mile House and Highway 97. We are presently working with the Ministry of Transport to determine the feasibility of an underpass crossing.

-Club members have also been meeting with West Fraser regarding the condition of the North Side Trails after the recent Harvesting activities. Most of the existing trails, along with all of the new spur roads, have been mapped with a GPS and sent off to the RPF in charge of the area. With the assistance of West Fraser and a small signage grant from the CRD (\$750.00) we should be able to improve the north side trails affected by the logging activity last year.

-We have also been attending meetings with the New Pathways to Gold Society over a phased implementation of improvements to the GRST (Gold Rush Snowmobile Trail). We are involved with Phase 1 of this 10 year project. This pilot phase will leverage the existing trail systems in the 100 Mile/Green Lake/ Interlake's areas. These improvements to the GRST will create a cruising corridor to be used for multi-day touring and to access destination play areas.

Our club membership was at 85 members last year. The membership numbers are down a little from the previous year, but hopefully we can increase it this year with your help. Please encourage your friends and family to join the club.

If you have any suggestions or ideas to help us, please don't hesitate to contact either Peter McKie (250 456 6806) or Art Groves (250 456 2112).

We welcome all input. So, start getting your sleds ready for a great snowmobile season.

Peter McKie, President GLSC



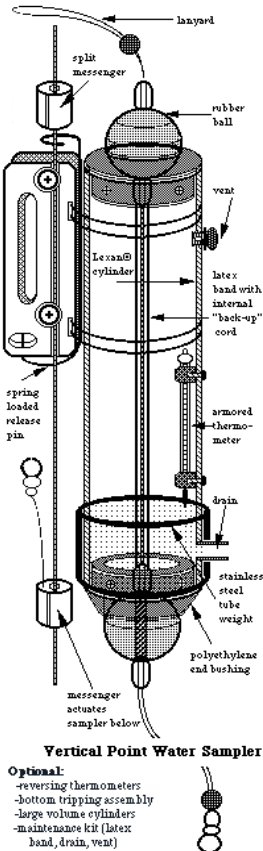
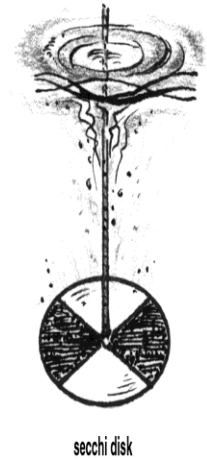
Water Report for 2012

Water testing of Green Lake began on May 25th with the last of nine tests ending on October 4th.

We are still looking for someone to resume the testing on Watch Lake.

If you are interested please contact me, Fred Kuyek 250-456-2230

This year we were testing for water temperatures at specified levels and testing for water clarity with a Secchi disk. The Secchi test involves dropping a Secchi disk into the water to show the clarity or turbidity of the water. This year the Secchi depth was at 8.2 meters May 25th and 10 meters in October with the levels ranging between these two depths all summer which are about average for Green Lake. Summer of 2012 brought us a lot of good weather with long warm calm days. This helps increase the depth of clarity in Green Lake.



Here are 4 examples of water temperatures in Green Lake this summer. These tests are performed with a Vertical water sampler shown at the left.

<u>Depth</u>	<u>.5 meters</u>	<u>12 meters</u>	<u>24 meters</u>
May 25 th	10°C	6.5°C	5°C
July 9 th	17°C	14°C	6.5°C
August 15 th	19.5°C	17°C	7°C
October 4 th	13°C	12.5°C	8°C

Green Lake has two dangerous rocks buoys located on the north side near Farmer's Bull pasture (Haywood-Farmer) and by Sunset View Park on the south side of Green Lake. These buoys were put back in the lake this spring with the help of Alan Boyd, Greg Roberts and Rory and Logan Richards. They were taken out for the winter with the help of Mike Balachanoff and Brian Stroud. Thank -you to everyone who helped me with this nessesary task. The movement of the ice destroys the decals on the rock buoys over the winter if left in the water.

Fred Kuyek, Green Lake Water Steward

Don't forget! If you have any inquiries you can email your questions to:
[**greenwatchlake@gmail.com**](mailto:greenwatchlake@gmail.com)

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