

108'ER

Box 85
108 Mile Ranch BC

Winter 2003

Inside . . .

Photo by Silvia Appel

Newsletter of the 108 Ranch Community Association

Articles, news, invitations, humour, all from your
neighbours on the 108.

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- Sore Feet!
- Race Trac: New Owners
- RCA Board Minutes
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THE RCA PUBLIC MEETING

The RCA will hold a public meeting February 19 at 7:30 PM. This meeting will centre on information from Duke Energy on the oil and gas pipelines that cut through the community. In addition the RCMP will be present to speak about crime prevention in the area. Al Richmond will report on the activities of the CRD as they relate to the 108 Ranch.

Please make an effort to come out and see how these issues effect our lives on the Ranch.

YOUR RCA EXECUTIVE FOR 2003

The RCA Executive for 2003 has a full slate of 12 members. To all of these community people we say thank you for giving the community such a high priority in your lives. The Executive are: Barb Bailey (791-6306); Al Blannin (791-5757); Dan Fleming (791-6344); Rick Jones (791-6305); Kathie Knutsen (791-6382); Joni McLeod (791-6379); Jeffrey Newman (791-9206); Valerie Nickless (791-6616); Martin Sarich (791-5540); Walt Sherry (791-5786); Joy Silk (791-5790); and Michael Thomas (791-5254)

FROM THE LIONS DEN

Mark your calendar for another 108 Lions Spaghetti Dinner, February 22, 5:30 in the 108 Community hall. Good food, good friends and good entertainment for only \$7 per adult and \$4 per child. Come and meet your neighbours and have a good time.

Everyone knows the weather has been impossible to predict, but the Lions believe we are an unusual bunch on the 108 and that we can predict when the ice will go out of the 108 Lake. Again this year the Lions are sponsoring an "ice Off" contest where the lucky winner will win \$100 for the closest time that the ice melts on 108 lake. Watch for the envelopes left at businesses on the ranch where you can tuck in your loonie and make your prediction.

Another calendar date to mark is March 20 at 7:00 PM when the Lions are hosting an open house in the Lions den at the community hall. This is our chance to see what the Lions are up to and they are providing snacks for your enjoyment. Come and learn of some of the things the Club does for our community. One plan the club is working with is to install lights at West Beach to try to curb vandalism. Two lights will face the parking area and one the picnic area.

Watch for the next huge Flea Market in May that comes complete with their famous pancake breakfast. Lions members operate the break open tickets at the Friday bingo; provide bar services for weddings and parties in the Community Hall; have 30 tables available for rent and are the local sponsor of the 108 Boy Scouts. And, as if this is not enough, they will install memorial benches anywhere on the 108!

Thank you lions for a job well done.



Sore Feet

We have a surprising and unusually diverse lot of home businesses on the 108. I recently heard of one of them and decided it was something to share with readers of the 108'er. Ingrid Meyer, an immigrant from Germany, is the lady to call if your feet are giving you a problem. Back in 1986 while still living in Germany, Ingrid established a 'foot care' business where she specialized in helping people cope with corns, warts and calluses. Now she has transplanted herself and her expertise to the 108. If feet are your problem you can contact Ingrid at 791-5663.

NEW OWNERSHIP

Under New Ownership by Raj Kamoh

The 108 Race Trac gas station has changed hands. As of January 11, 2003, the Kamoh family, who have lived in this area for the past 30 years, have taken over the business. The Kamoh family also own and operate La Pizzaria located in the same building.

This is a true family operation as all members have other full time jobs and pitch in to make sure these two small businesses operate smoothly.

WASHINGTON POST

The Washington Post's Style Invitational asked readers to take any word from the dictionary, alter it by adding, subtracting, or changing one letter, and supply a new definition.

Here are some winners:

Intaxication: Euphoria at getting a tax refund, which lasts until you realize it was your money to start with.

Sarchasm: The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.

Inoculatte: To take coffee intravenously when you are running late.

Giraffiti: Vandalism spray-painted very, very high.

Hipatitis: Terminal coolness.

Karmageddon: It's like, when everybody is sending off all these really bad vibes, right? And then, like, the Earth explodes and it's like, a serious bummer.

Dopeler effect: The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.

The Kamoh family are very pleased with their new venture and are looking forward to serving the 108 community with both gas and tasty pizza. Make sure you stop and say hi the next time you need either gas or pizza.



BINGO BINGO BINGO

We all know the Friday bingo raises money for the community. But do we know what that money gets spent on? In 2001 money contributed to hall maintenance and upkeep, the operation of the beaches, trail improvement around the lakes, and our Legacy of the Land celebration September 29. This coming year we will contribute to further trail work including a proper pump-out toilet along the lake trail. We owe great thanks to our bingo volunteers without whose commitment and hard work many things on this ranch wouldn't happen.



Please note: *Volunteers are needed who will commit to one Friday evening a month. Please call Pat Babineau at 791-6411.*



Lake Update by Bonnie Winter

In late January the State of the Fraser Basin Report was released and it contained good news and bad news. In an area that is home to ourselves and 2.6 million other folks, and accounts for 80 % of our provincial economy, the good news is that ½ the salmon stocks are increasing and that generally, water quality is improving. The bad news is that ½ the salmon stocks are in decline and that the number of “boil water” advisories is far higher than 20 years ago.

108 Mile Ranch is in the Fraser Basin heartland of thousands of waterways of every possible kind. Within our subdivision we have 2 lakes and a major wetland. On our perimeter are two more lakes. Upstream is a myriad of lakes, ponds, streams, creeks, and wetlands of every description. Where we live, work and play, we are never very far away from fresh water systems that are an integral part of the Fraser Basin. It seems that water issues were never more important and fortunately for us there are several major projects happening in our area that we should know about and which we could support.

Ducks Unlimited (DU), an organization having a long history of wetland conservation in our area, will very soon begin a major project in the San Jose River Watershed. This project is designed to increase the quality and quantity of shoreline habitat and decrease unnatural toxins entering the waterways via lakeshore developments. DU will be hosting Open House/Clinics and visiting owners of shoreline property to provide information about the importance of protecting and restoring bird, fish and other wildlife habitat along the shoreline. They will also provide on site assessments, labour, expertise, and funding incentives for on the ground improvements. A major objective is to increase public awareness and to prevent the degradation of riparian habitat and water quality. The Greenbelt

Commission has responsibility for several kilometers of shoreline in this watershed and has expressed support for the project.

The DU shoreline enhancement project will use an assessment model developed by the Living By Waters Project, the brainchild of Sarah Kipp and Clive Callaway of Gardom Lake, BC. In 2002 Kipp and Callaway received from Canadian Geographic a top environmental award for their book “On the Living Edge”, a handbook for waterfront living. This book has become a best seller and is a valuable tool widely used by real estate agents. This book will be on display at the RCA General Meeting Feb. 19.

One of the partners in the DU project is the BC Lake Stewardship Society (BCLSS). BCLSS has gained considerable experience and expertise during a two year shoreline restoration project on Okanogan and Christina Lakes and will provide DU with valuable information and support. BCLSS will also have a presence in our community with their lake stewardship project. The society recently received funding for a 3-year project to provide volunteer lake keepers with stewardship training and to produce lake specific information brochures for 41 lakes in the province. Our volunteers on 108 Lake and Sepa have collected three years of clarity measurements and we will be one of the first recipients of a BCLSS informational brochure that will be made available to all 108 Ranch residents. Our Ranch Community Association has been a supporting member of BCLSS for a number of years and has participated in the annual Great North American Secchi Disk Dip-In. Sepa and 108 Lakes were among 26 BC lakes participating in the continent wide 2002 snap shot of lake clarity in North America.

Another exciting event happening this year is the BC Wildlife Federation (BCWF) Wetlands Institute. In late July, BCWF will bring 15 students, four instructors and

many guest speakers to the 100 Mile House area for 7 days to study and teach about wetlands.

Participants will learn about the importance of wetlands, practise field techniques to inventory wetland vegetation, water quality, soils, birds, and amphibians. In addition, they will discuss ways to raise public awareness and influence conservation policies. Five wetland sites will be chosen for skills training and results of their investigations will be reported to the landowners. Walker Valley is a prime site for wetlands training and it's possible the Greenbelt Commission will be asked to allow their land to be part of the summer program. There is also an opportunity for someone from our area to be a student in the program. The BCWF Wetlands Education Program has it's headquarters in Nelson. Ducks Unlimited is a major funding source for this program.

These are some of the things happening in our area that will impact water quality and shoreline restoration. And it's happening in the volunteer sector of our economy. These are not government directives; these are the initiatives of ordinary people, just like us, who want to make a difference. There will be a number of private sector jobs created as a result. You can become a part of any of these organizations and support the work they do.

If you want to know more about any of the projects, you can reach me at bwinter@bcinternet.net or at 791-9240. If you would like to take a look at any of the project proposals, I will have them available at the RCA General Meeting on Feb. 19.

These organizations can be found on the web:

BCWF: www.bcwf.bc.ca

BCLSS: www.nalms.org/bclss

Living By Water: www.livingbywater.ca

Ducks Unlimited: www.ducks.ca

Fraser Basin Council: www.fraserbasin.bc.ca

"A few days ago Jack Witty called and explained the idea of occasionally having locals write about their past life or experiences so that neighbours get to know each other better. Well – prior to my life in the RCMP and time spent as your local RCMP Detachment Commander, I did have another life, albeit short given that I left home at 18 years of age. During my first couple of years of life (maybe more) I was dependant on my parents, thus little to report from that period of time! The following experience in my earlier life will serve to show I was not always your conforming man in Blue.

TURNING BACK TIME

my story,
my history:

Martin Sarich



The time period: late '60's. The situation: Prairie farmers' wheat not selling. Yours truly – a 16/17 year old kid from a farm south of Kenaston Saskatchewan. Those from the old country (Sask.) may remember the situation. Those who travelled through the province and got caught in one of the demonstrations will definitely remember the event. A lack of wheat sales led to financial difficult times. Farmers, who were famous for complaining but short on action, planned protests. There were various forms of protest: driving tractors up and down the highway to impede traffic, driving to the provincial Gov't Buildings, holding protest rallies at venues visited by key Gov't Officials, dumping rotten wheat at Gov't Buildings or speaking venues.

I convinced my conservative-natured father that we should take part and show our support. He eventually relented and said I could take part. I next had to convince him to let use our newer 'International 806' tractor which had a cab; the other option was the old Minneapolis 'U' tractor – not 'cool' to be seen driving this old baby.

Having made a sign for the tractor "Our Wheat Moves a Helluva

Lot Slower" I joined the demonstration. There was a strong turn out as we set our tractors into motion on Hwy 11 north of Kenaston. We formed an oval which as I recall was approx. a mile long. The travelling public, going north or south would fall in behind a tractor with another tractor falling in behind them. They would then have to crawl at a snails pace for approx. a mile before breaking free at the other end of the oval. The day was very hot and air conditioning was not common in the average car or truck. The snail's pace of travel was frustrating to the melting motorist; but I'm sure appreciated by snails, gophers and other slower moving creatures crossing the hwy!!

If a motorist or trucker tried to sneak past on the shoulder an observant farmer would move out of line and block the path. Frustration on the part of motorists showed. One trucker hauling watermelon threw one at a young farmer who stopped got off his machine and picked up the large intact pieces of melon. A refreshing treat on a hot day! Another trucker waved a hammer at one farmer who calmly reached down for his hammer shouting back "mine is bigger than yours".

If a motorist or trucker tried to sneak past on the shoulder an observant farmer would move out of line and block the path.

The RCMP were present and began re-routing traffic via the back roads. When the organizers learned of this they informed the RCMP that we would relocate to the "dreaded Blackstrap Canyon" at the base of Mt. Blackstrap. Okay it is not a canyon! However it would pose a bigger traffic problem. At a protest east of us many farmers received tickets for "impeding traffic" however; by nightfall they were being told by the police to tear up the tickets.

Now I do not recall the final results of our efforts as nothing happened overnight. The event does nonetheless stand out in my mind. Little did I know that 1½ to 2 years later I would join the RCMP and be looking at a protest through a different set of eyes. When called upon to keep watch on a protest/demonstration whether it was legal or near a state of riot I had a better appreciation for the situation confronting me. I had insight into group mentality (mob mentality in criminal situations); I could better relate to the feelings and frustrations of the average protester; and I seen the need for communication between the organizers and Police. Oh – one more observation – some 30 years later the fact that I got to drive the 'cool new tractor' is of little consequence. In fact in retrospect I wish I had operated the tried old machine that never let us down."

GALLO NERO

- Formerly venue of the Heritage Tea House
- Cariboo Highway casual fine dining
- Catering
- Small group functions
- Barbecues
- Stephan's excellent home-made pasta and recipes using organic ingredients

791-5700

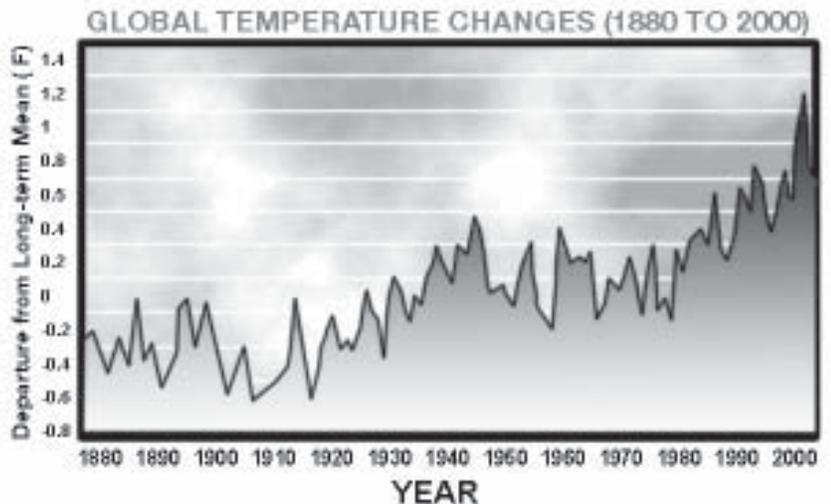
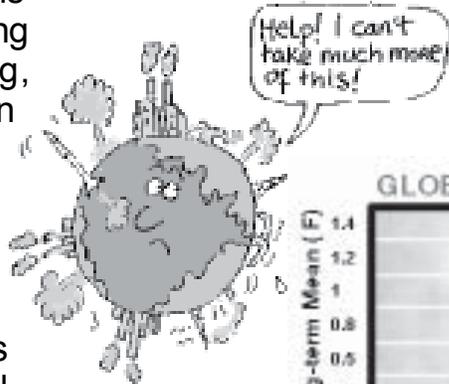
Stephan Wittmer enjoys local recognition of his culinary expertise, and hopes Cariboo Highway travellers from elsewhere will also learn of Gallo Nero and stop for a meal.



From the path around the 108 lake, an inviting stairway leads the way to the Gallo Nero log building restaurant.

REQUEST FOR YOUR STORY

All of us know Canada is committed to do something about global warming, primarily in the reduction of energy use. For the next issue of The 108'er (probably late May) I would like stories from residents on what individuals are doing as part of a personal commitment. If you have any comments on the topic and would share them with other residents please send them to Jack Witty 791-6456 or fax 791-6459 or e-mail jnrwitty@bcinternet.net.



FOREST HEALTH UPDATE

Mountain Pine Beetle Survey Completed –by Al Richmond

The Ministry of Forests recently completed a mountain pine beetle survey on the 108 Ranch. A total of 353 infested trees were located on lands owned by the 108 Ranch Resort, Elleair Canada Inc. and the 108 Greenbelt. The Ministry of Forest has recommended that those trees be harvested while the ground is frozen. It is important that the infested trees be removed by June 2003 before the beetles take flight and infest more timber. The Greenbelt Lands behind "U" section in the West Beach area has the largest number (approximately 180) of the infested trees. The Greenbelt Committee has authorized the harvesting of the trees and the CRD is working with the other affected landowners to coordinate the harvesting efforts.

The Mountain Pine Beetle is the largest problem in the 100 Mile Forest District with 250 main infestation centres covering almost 16,000 hectares. Surveys indicate that for every red tree there are 10 green newly attacked trees.

Budworm

Final survey results are now in enabling the Ministry of Forests to predict defoliation levels for the summer of 2003. The 108 area is expected to experience light to moderate defoliation as compared to the heavy to severe levels experienced for the past years. Areas adjacent to the 108 that were treated with Btk are predicted to have very light to light defoliation (indicating that the treatment worked well).

The 100 Mile House Forest District expects that 6600 hectares located in the Loon Lake, Clinton and Jesmond areas will require treatment this summer. In the Williams Lake Forest District some 10,700 hectares in the Chimney Lake, Springhouse and Dog Creek areas require treatment. The Ministry is planning an aerial application of Btk over a total of 17,300 hectares for the Cariboo Forest Region.

Heritage Day

We had a wonderful time last September celebrating the 108 Heritage. It is time to begin thinking of planning another Heritage Day for 2003. The RCA Executive is looking for someone or ones who would like to lead this year's event. These community events cannot happen unless people step forward and say "I can do that." This is your chance to make a difference in our community! If you would like to know more call Michael Thomas at 791-5254.



Hey, 108'ers!
Please keep your pets safe by having an i.d. tag or tattoo on them, and by keeping them under your control: on a leash or in a fenced or kennelled area.

SIX CHIX



GREENBELT PLANNING FOR SPRING

–by Ron Soeder & Ann Swann

This spring the 108 Greenbelt Commission will start on projects which are in response to feedback received at the October 27th Public Workshop.

A review of final recommendations made by those present indicates that a very strong consensus had developed around the following four priorities:

1. Develop Land Management Plans for all three environmental zones found in the Greenbelt: Riparian, Grassland and Forest/Upland.
2. Manage the exiting Multiuse Trail System for the maximum enjoyment of the community as per the rules and restrictions currently in place.
3. Design and implement Greenbelt and Trail Usage educational, ethics and enforcement programs.
4. Design and install better Greenbelt Access and Usage Signs at all appropriate locations.

Projects suggested for 2003 include:

1. Trail and bridge upgrading through Heritage site;
2. Removal of dangerous trees;
3. Prioritize hazardous areas and undertake wildfire protection;
4. Continue thistle control;
5. Publish trail maintenance information in the 108'er;
6. Pack trail where needed; add more walk-through gates;
7. Install outhouses at Stewart and Sepa beaches...and more.

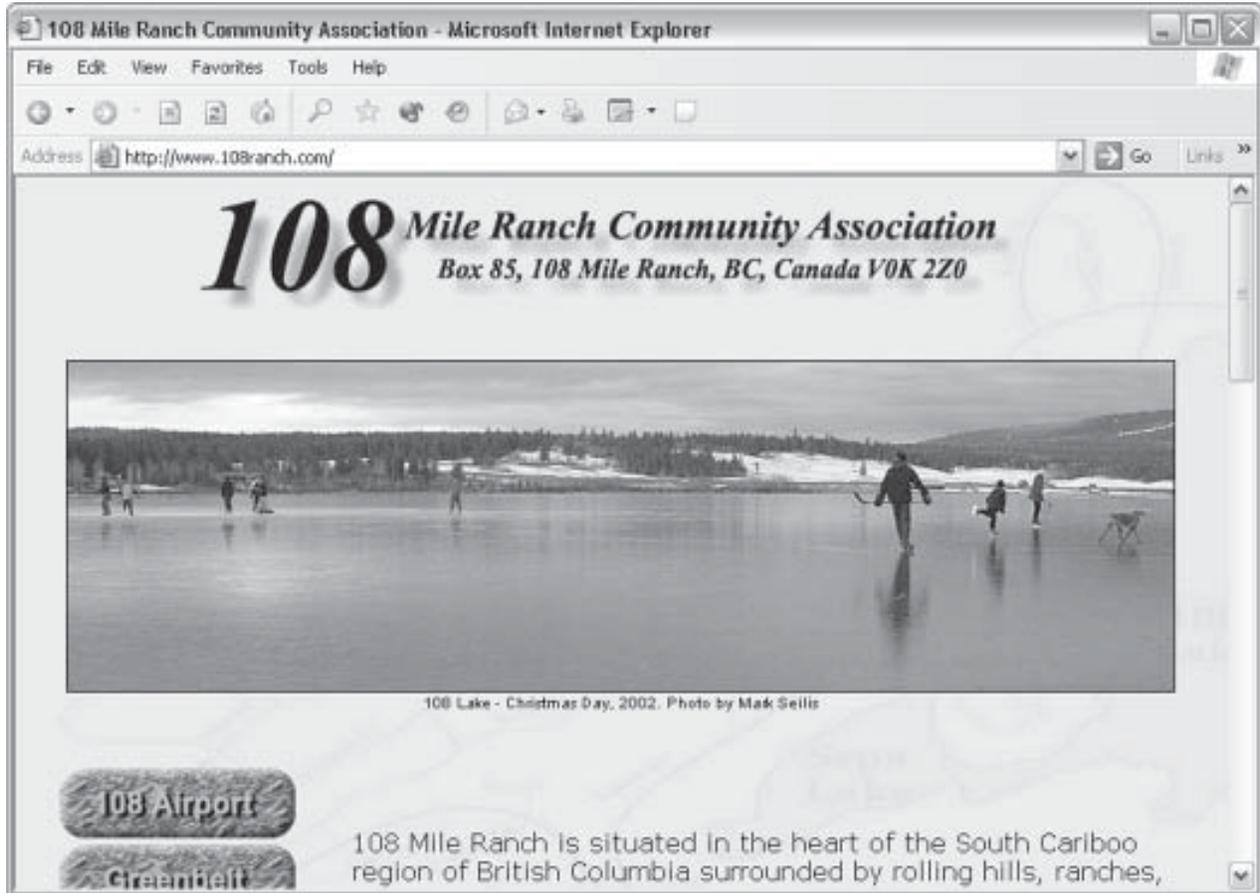


Jeffrey Newman of JN Web Design, a 108 Mile business, suggests web sites of interest in each 108 RCA Newsletter. He has recently taken on managing the 108 Ranch Community web site.

www.108ranch.com



Hey, have you visited our official 108 RCA web site?



STAY INFORMED BY EMAIL

Greetings 108 Mile resident:

On behalf of your Ranch Community Association, I'm inviting you to add your name to our e-mail notification list. This list will be an additional means to convey information about upcoming meetings and events – the same information that usually appears at the airport mailbox booth. This list is meant to complement what is already being done and will probably be more convenient to some of you.

Of course, your address will be used only for this purpose and you will be able to remove it from the list at any time.

If you would like your address added to the list, send an e-mail to rca-add@jnweb.com. Simply send the e-mail or include any questions or comments you might have.

To assist us in reaching all who might like to know about this new service, please pass this information on to any 108 resident you think might be interested.

I'd like to take this opportunity to invite you to drop in at the 108 Ranch Community Association web site, at www.108ranch.com. This site is still in its formative stages but your suggestions and comments are welcome. Send them to me, at jn@jnweb.com.

Jeffrey Newman

for 108 Mile Ranch Community Association
<http://www.108ranch.com/>

RCA DIRECTORS MEETING DEC 3, 2002

In the interest of space I have condensed these December minutes of the RCA for communication to the public. Any errors or omissions are my fault and not the fault of the RCA Secretary.
– Jack Witty

Directors Present: Mike Thomas, Al Blannin, Joy Silk, Walt Sherry, Rick Jones, Jeffrey Newman, Joni Macleod, Val Nickless, Barb Bailey, Dan Fleming and Kathie Knutsen.

The Directors dealt with a wide variety of topics at the outset. Working with the 108 Lions Club the RCA will share maintenance of the back patio. Although unsightly there is nothing to be done about the cement septic covers at this time. They are safe and do not present a problem.

The Department of Highways have stated that roadside memorials are not officially allowed. The old outhouse at Sepa Beach has been removed. The swimming float has been stored at the airport for the winter. Concern was expressed with the 108 Trail Map as some members thought it did not show all the trails on the west side of the highway. This will be followed up for any subsequent printing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Community Hall:

A letter has been sent to Ken Rose thanking him for his efforts as Community Hall Manager during 2002. A letter of

thanks went to Fred Dewick for the time he spent replacing the light ballasts. The Scottish Dancers are now down to 6 members and have moved to the upper hall for their dance evenings.

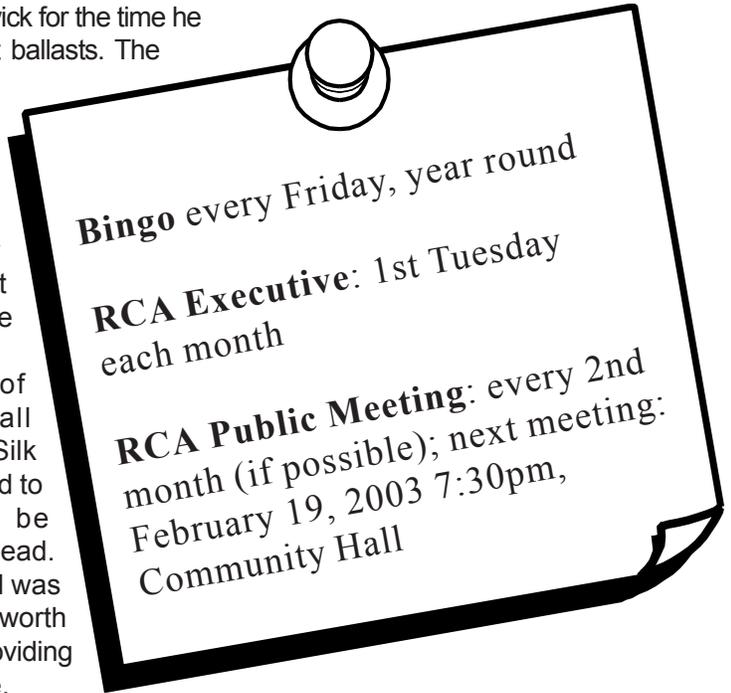
The Christmas Party for the children cost \$351.74 and was a huge success.

After 12 years of heading up the hall decorating work Joy Silk has asked to be allowed to bow out. She will be replaced by Joni Maclead. Another thank you card was in order for Mike Broadworth who will no longer be providing the Hall Christmas tree.

Airport:

Jeffrey Newman made contact with the CRD regarding the Airport Commission. The Commission will be very pleased to receive any input from the RCA. The Commission will provide the RCA with a copy of their 2003 budget.

Jeffrey Newman is setting up a list of 108 residents who have e-mail service and would like to receive information from the directors (see Page 7).



Treasurer's Report::

Beaches \$8928.77; Savings \$5495.70; Current \$7160.51 and in a Money Market Account (savings toward major capital expenditures) \$35, 926.60

Remember Director's Meetings are at 7:30 PM the first Tuesday of each month and they are open to any 108 resident.

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: **108'er**, Newsletter of the **108 Mile Ranch Association**, c/o Jack :
: Witty, Box 85, 108 Mile Ranch, BC V0K 2Z0 • Phone: 791-6456 • :
: Fax: 791-6459 • E-mail: jnrwitty@bcinternet.net :
:

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: We invite submissions and letters for future publications, however, we :
: reserve the right to edit submissions and letters for accuracy, space :
: and clarity. We request that all submissions and letters be signed by :
: the author and contain an address and telephone number. :
:

Be A Member:

To become a member of the 108 Ranch Community Association, you must be a landowner or renter in the 108 Mile Ranch. Members can submit and vote resolutions in accordance with the RCA Constitution. Absentee landowners/members are permitted one vote per property owned. Members can serve on the Board of Directors of the RCA.

Annual memberships cost \$6.00 per household. Please contact Joni MacLeod at 791-6379 to register your membership. Or complete the form, enclose your membership fee and mail to 108 Ranch Community Association, PO Box 85, 108 Mile Ranch, V0K 2Z0.

108 RCA Membership Request

Cost: One Yr. family: \$6.00 • Five-Yr family: \$25.00 •
Lifetime family: \$50.00 • (Enclose fees)

Name _____

Mailing address _____

Street Address _____

Phone numbers _____