

Bar-K News



Vol. 7, Issue #1

Bar-K Association Newsletter

Spring 2004

Goin' Fishing? Join the Bar-K Association

It's springtime! Soon the lakes will be full of fish ripe for the catching and the Bar-K common lands will be alive with wildflowers. If you'd like to take full advantage of the Bar-K fishing and hiking amenities, you must be a paid member of the Bar-K Association. It only costs \$90/yr. to join and in return you can fish the ponds and hike the Bar-K common lands (all 58 acres), use the stables, toast to the season at the Bar-K Holiday Party or cast your vote and enjoy a cold beer at the Summer Picnic. And, most importantly, you'll be contributing to the health and future of our community.



If you need to renew your membership or would like to join the Association, please contact Cary Bush at 303-459-0524.

Black Gold — FREE for the taking!

Enhance your garden soil and compost heaps with peat moss. It's expensive to purchase at your local nursery, but it's FREE for the taking at the north and west sections of Rock Lake. Just be careful, as the lake bottom can get a bit mushy. If you want to bring in heavy equipment, contact Jack Kutscher at 303-459-3568 to find out more.

Somethin's Fishy

by Scott Stanberry

Confucius, or somebody really smart once said, "Give a man a fish and you feed him for the day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." You'll be able to do either sometime in May — baring an extended winter of course.



We were hoping for a stock of Browns this year, but unfortunately they won't be available until next year. Instead, we purchased Brooks because the crop is exceptional, according to the fish advisors at Cline Trout Farms in Boulder.

Just how many Brooks are going to be stocked and what will their average size be? The answers are 239 fish ranging from 10 to 12 inches.

Once the stocking has been completed we want to give our fishy friends at least twenty-four hours to adjust to their new surroundings to ensure a higher survival rate — so should you be present for the annual "fish dump", please be considerate and let the fish be for a day or two. After that, happy fishing!

Brookie Facts:

Description: The unmistakable markings on the brook trout are probably the most striking of all trout. These beautiful fish are 8–12" long, 2–5 lbs and have a squared off tail. **Habitat:** They are the native trout of the east, but have been transplanted over most of the United States. They require very cool water to survive, like the water found in spring fed headwater streams and high elevation lakes. Brook trout populations are rare outside mountainous regions and even rarer in coastal areas. **Feeding:** Young trout feed mainly on insects and crustaceans and are voracious feeders. As the fish grow and mature they add larger aquatic organisms, like fish and crawfish, to their diet. **Spawning:** Brook trout spawn from mid September to late December. Lake trout spawn in shallow water where females excavate nests in the gravel by rapidly brushing their tails above the stones.

When fishing, please remember to bring along a Bar-K Association membership badge for yourself and your guest(s).

Newsletter Mission Statement

This newsletter is produced entirely by volunteers — with the support of the Bar-K Association. Our goal is to promote membership in the Bar-K Association and to give residents and property owners in the Bar-K information regarding issues pertinent to our area.

Articles of an editorial nature published in the *Bar-K News* are the opinion of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the *Bar-K News* staff or the Bar-K Association.

Please feel free to contribute original ideas, concepts, advertisements and stories for future issues. The next issue will be published this summer. Check the bulletin board and/or the QT for the article submission deadline.

If you would like to help with production or distribution of the newsletter, please contact any of the following volunteers:

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Twenty Years Ago in the Bar-K

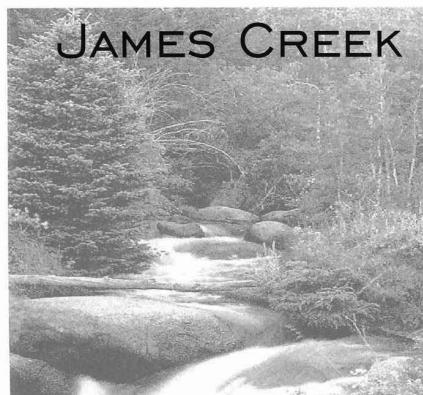
by Cary Bush

According to the Bar-K newsletter of July 10, 1984 (let me paraphrase):

- Tom Buell was President of the Bar-K Association Board of Directors.
- According to the "Recreational Lake Report" by Dennis Fishburn: Rock Lake was experiencing weed problems but had no budget to do anything about it. Rock Lake was stocked with 400 Brown Trout (7-9")
- The "Fire Department Update" by Dennis Fishburn states that Terry Rice was the Fire Chief of the Lefthand Fire Protection District and all the five (unnamed) firefighters who lived in the Bar-K. LHPD had recently purchased a new pumper truck capable of pumping approximately 1,000 gallons per minute for 2,000 feet using 5-inch hose.
- The "Forest Management" article by Karen Feary claimed that the US Forestry was working to thin the Federal lands around the Bar-K.
- The "Mountain Address Reminder" reads (this is the actual text): "Please mount your green and white address number close to the road by your lot ... This is the fastest way your lot can be identified in an emergency."
- The 1984 Bar-K Dues revenues were \$1,800.
- Running for the Board of Directors were: Karen Bowie, Tom Buell, Larry Damon, Susan Haskins, Barbara Lish, Okey Payne and Susan Tuttle.

It would seem that the names have changed, but the issues have remained much the same. ♦

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Springtime in the Rockies

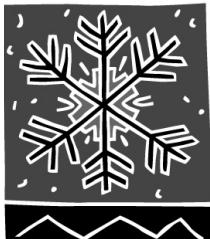
by Karen DeVincenzo

It was just about a year ago that we all had the wonderful (or not) experience of witnessing the record snowfall of 2003. Each of us has a unique story to tell about how we coped with all that snow. I've collected several stories since then and would like to hear yours. If you would like to share your story for a possible future compilation, send it to me at karen@bar-k-ranch.com or Karen DeVincenzo, P.O. Box 79, Jamestown, CO 80455, or call 303-459-3359. ♦



Looking down Ranch Road.

The Blizzard of 2003 — A Photo Essay



The meadow on Ranch Road.



Ahhh, finally free!



A Blast From the Past

by Silvia Pettem

The Jane Doe Mystery

Fifty years ago, a young woman was found murdered in Boulder Canyon. The community contributed funds and buried her in Columbia Cemetery under a gravestone that reads "Jane Doe". She is still there today.

Several interested people are working with the Boulder Sheriff's Office and the Boulder History Museum to raise the funds to exhume her body and obtain her DNA. Our theory is that, with enough publicity, someone may come forward who may be related, and their DNA could be compared.

Why watch fictional cold cases on TV when you can help solve a real one in Boulder County? Please help by sending your tax-deductible donation to the Jane Doe Fund, Boulder History Museum, 1206 Euclid Ave., Boulder CO 80302. Any amount is very much appreciated. You can also read more about the case, and donate online, at <http://www.boulderjanedoe.com/index.cfm>. Thank you! ♦

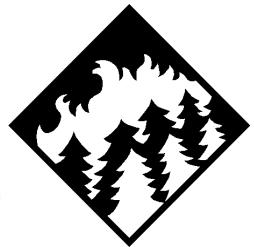
Clean out your closets.
It's GARAGE SALE TIME!

If you'd like to have a garage sale on Sat. May 15, let me know. We can attract more shoppers if we sell ourselves as a "NEIGHBORHOOD SALE". Interested parties contact Shaun at 303-459-3028.

FIRE MITIGATION UPDATE

by Marilyn Fagerstrom

A Bar-K home was recently lost to fire; we are thankful no one was hurt and a heartfelt sympathy goes out to Karen Feary (owner) and Karen Auvinen (renter). Coincidentally, the 911 call came in just as I was sitting down to write this article regarding recent fire mitigation news.



To date, our Fire District has still not heard whether or not there will be matching funds to help homeowners with mitigating their property. We will keep you abreast regarding these developments. A second public meeting on the James Creek Watershed Mitigation Project was held early in February at Camp Tahosa. At least three Bar-K properties had attendees at this meeting. This US Forest Service project is still in the planning stages; work should begin in certain areas next fall (after fire season). A plea was made to give attention to those properties in our Fire District subdivisions that border Forest Service, including several of us on the Bar-K. It was also suggested that it is unfair to ask residents to spend time, money and effort in making their own properties more fire safe when the Forest Service is not willing to do the same — perhaps mitigate a 30 foot area just beyond their boundary in our subdivisions. It was also pointed out that access to this boundary often involves going onto private land and could be considered an invasion of privacy and would require the property owner's permission. (Hopefully, if any of us are approached to give such permission, we will gladly grant it.) Additional information regarding public meetings and/or progress on this project will most likely be posted or mailed to property owners.

An excerpt from a February, 1994 letter sent to the Bar-K

The following is an excerpt from a February, 1994 letter that was sent to the Bar-K Association in reply to inquiries by the Association regarding their response to a January 2, 1994 house fire on Rock Lake Road. (Italics or parens are mine.) "We appreciate the Bar-K Association's concern for their community with regard to fire ... The continuing development of the mountain area will greatly add to the LHFDPD call load. It would be very helpful if your association would make new residents aware of the natural hazards associated with living in a remote area ... Most people moving to the mountains from a city environment do not understand their vulnerability due to the lack of timely services. The fire department has continued to upgrade its services in all areas, but you must remember it is a volunteer fire department. Personnel are not always available 24 hours a day.

Homeowners in remote areas currently assume responsibility for where and how they live. Unfortunately (*many*) people do not make the mental transition from urban city/municipal services to those of a non-urban remote mountain living situation. We expect (*these*) conditions will become more crowded, they will most likely not become urbanized. Mountain living can be made safer. (*LHFDPD*) took ... steps years ago ... to (*educate*) homeowners about trimming, trees, fire proofing property, installing dry hydrants, cisterns, etc. (*and recently, indoor sprinkler systems*). Not all homeowners have shown interest ... protection is only as good as the percentage of people participating ... most people move to the mountains to get away from the closeness of the cities, they want independence, elbow room, etc.; the prevention of a natural fire from becoming a disaster of

great magnitude in a mountain area depends on 100% participation in fire mitigation measures years before the actual fire.

Three things the Bar-K Association can do to make homes safer from fire are:

1) The Association should give serious attention to installation of additional water storage capability or better access to existing sources. Other subdivisions have done much to help themselves by adding water storage capability that provides immediate water on a year round basis ... subdivisions have also installed wet hydrant systems that provide easy access to stored water. Subsequent fire insurance cost reductions have justified the economic investments of these improvements.

2) Individual home owners should take responsibility for providing adequate fire lanes that allow fire vehicles quick and easy access to their homes. At least three mailings explaining How's and Why's have been provided by (LHFPD) and the county in the last five years (1989-1994).

3) Individuals should take a pro-active interest in learning to defend their property and that of their neighbors from fire by taking time to become aware of measures that can protect (*homes and neighborhoods*) from fire. Not everyone wants to become a trained volunteer firefighter; but a homeowner can make firefighters more effective by learning what to do ... before and during an emergency."

All of the above seems very apropos in light of the Overland Fire, the drought and the many other fires Bar-K residents have witnessed since 1994.

There are some great websites that provide more information on what homeowners can do to protect themselves and their neighborhoods. Try these two: www.firewise.org and www.nfpa.org. ♦

Who's New in the Bar-K?

by Bridget Johnson

The Bar-K would like to welcome all the new residents, (owners and renters) to the Bar-K Ranch that have moved here over the past two years. If we have forgotten your family or accidentally misspelled your names – please have mercy on us and let us know so we can get it right next time.

New Neighbors:

1. Tim & Joanna Crean
2. Pat & Dina Griffin

3. Matt & Bridget Johnson
4. Mike Puccia & Eva Charon
5. Peter Mitchell & Holly Shaulis
6. Mark & Heather Bromberg
7. Debbie Koch — Fritz's new wife!
8. Joel & Rose Ritkowski
9. Bill & Kristen Duncan
10. The Tarantino Family
11. David & Cam Boenig
12. George Wohlmaker
13. Jonathan Wiesel & Mari Szatkowski
14. Karen Auvinen
15. J. Ruch
16. Rob & April Judd
17. Greg Bauer & Brook Cholvin
18. Lewes & Greg Harrison

Welcome everyone!

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The Bar-K is home to several businesses and business owners.

Get the Word Out!

If you'd like to advertise your business (free) on the Bar-K website business page, (www.bar-k-ranch.com) please submit your information (web address, etc.) to webmaster@bar-k-ranch.com.

If you would like to advertise in the Bar-K News (for a nominal sponsorship fee), please contact Shaun at shaun@ss-media.com.

And the Oscar Goes to ...

Bar-K's Own

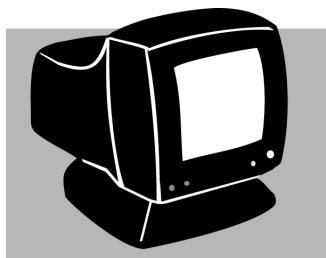
by Marilyn Fagerstrom

Peggy Martin --- featured on the CBS Sunday Morning show (February 22nd) having shoulder surgery.

Her surgeon prays with his patients before surgery; see Newsweek magazine November 24, 2003, "A Prayer a Day Keeps the Doctor Away". Peggy was a beautiful patient and is getting along very nicely.

Silvia Pettem --- featured on local TV speaking about her current "Jane Doe" project.

Silvia is an authority on Boulder County history and is spearheading this project with the Sheriff's department to help solve an old murder mystery. See "A Blast From the Past" on page 4 for details. ♦



Check out the new look!

To find out everything you need to know about the Bar-K visit the

Bar-K Ranch Website @

www.bar-k-ranch.com

ACUPUNCTURE

Daniela C. Van Wart, MA, Dipl. Ac (NCCAO), R. Ac.
Menla Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine, Inc.
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MenlaAcupuncture@yahoo.com

BABYSITTERS

Cassie Billinger
303-459-0844

Kristin Buell
303-459-3293

Lauren Lortie
(Pet-sitting and house-sitting too!)
303-459-0579

Nitzana Olsen
303-459-0245

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Karen DeVincenzo
at 303-459-3359

HOUSECLEANING

Cindy Billinger
303-459-3216

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Cassi & Dylan Cisneros
303-459-3028

Greg Rista
303-459-0363

RECYCLING

The Green Girl Recycling
A one-stop, front door, pick-up recycling program.
For details call Bridget Johnson at 303-528-1227 or 303-881-7835

If you're a member of the Bar-K Association and would like to be listed in the Local Services section, please e-mail your request to: shaun@ss-media.com or call Shaun at 303-459-3028.

BAR-K FUND RAISER: Bar-K resident Karen Auvinen recently lost her rental home in a fire. She had no renter's insurance and lost everything. If you'd like to help her out, contact Cary Bush at 303-459-0524.

Your generosity is appreciated.