RANCHE GLANCE

DECEMBER 2022

In this month's newsletter

Guess Who - Halloween/Karaoke Party History - Annemieke's Farewell Party Website Update - Christmas Party Barn Quilt - Operations - Poem - Where
to Give - German Christmas Open
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CONGRATULATIONS to Jan

who won a bottle of wine by guessing this little cutie is Shannon!!



Thanks for playing along, Shannon! If you would like to play please email a Guess Who!? photo to nancyandrossbarrett@gmail.com



HALLOWEEN KARAOKE PARTY



















The land to the South of the road from Windy Point and west to the Ranger Station was sometimes used as a landing strip for small aircraft.

BIG HORN RANGER STATION

In 1907 the Bow River Forest Reserve boundary was set bordering the Kew district in Townships 20 and 21. The site for the ranger stations was on the South Fork of Sheep Creek. Harry Holness had squatter's rights on the land, so the government bought his interest and he moved away.

The first ranger was Mr. Brown and his wife, and they lived there for some time. He was followed by Mr. Greenfield and Bill Foran. Bill Ward was Bill's assistant, and he built the first cabin on the North Fork and lived with his wife there.

In 1915 a telephone line was put in between the Elbow, North Fork and Big Horn Stations. Fred Edger and Si Burroughs ran the wire, and this helped to keep the rangers in contact.

In 1918, grass was becoming very scarce in the foothills with so much land being taken by homesteaders. This was solved by forming the North and South Fork Stock Associations so the ranchers could acquire grazing leases in the Forestry lands. Some of these permits have been in the same family for over 90 years. At first there were more horse herds than cattle.

The rangers had the job of keeping tab on the stock, but Bob Carry and later Tip Johnson and Alec Murdock were range riders in the South Fork and the ranchers did there own on the North Fork.

After Bill Forn retired Mr. Fowler and then Henry Howey took over in 1920 and stayed for ten years. The first road to the North Fork Stations was built in 1921 from George Silvester's ranch to the cabin which was just above the North Fork Campground now.

In the late 1920's a new log house was built at the South Fork by Mr. Fitzsimmons. When completed Henry Howey gave a grand housewarming attended by ranchers from miles around. A Chinook had made the road around Windy Point icy and very dangerous, so the afternoon before the party Bob Carry cut a rut on the outer edge of the road to keep anyone from sliding over the edge and down the steep bank to the river below. However, a snowstorm that evening undid Bob's work, making conditions very hazardous. The party lasted until daylight, and the following morning on their way home many ladies decided to walk around the Point.

In 1929 Fred Nash came from the Highwood to take over and his wife and two daughters stayed for eighteen years until he retired in 1947.

Jack Butler was followed by Bill Balmer, Ray Mustard and Joe Machovec and new buildings were built at the South Fork.

Some of the assistants over the years were: John L'Hirondelle, Lloyd Weikle, Mac Mackenzie, Bob Fathergill, Lee Smiley, Jack Bird, Ron Steeves, Alec Fraser, Irving Frew, Buck Belanger, Bob Fletcher, Bill Jarvis, Jack Mickle, Murray Meister, Charlie Clark, Kilmeister, Leonard Kennedy and Joe Burritt.

Some of the Lookout Men were George Orbie, Charlie Waldon, Murray Meister, Milly Raymond, and Curley Sand.

The years have seen many changes and the rangers were moved out of the district to become town dwellers. With no residents the barns and houses have been removed but the Big Horn Sheep still roam the hills near the old building site. The contributions of the men and women that inhabited these remote stations can never be forgotten as they kept the districts the same as a rancher keeps his land, safe and productive. In my opinion, I believe we were better served by having these families in the area then making them commute to work from the small towns some distance away. But that is not the object of this article it is to honor the families that did a hard job for small pay and gave us these beautiful areas to hike, ride or just drive through to enjoy.



ANNEMIEKE'S FAREWELL







Greetings: News from your Website Team

Page	Page views	Site sessions	Unique visitors
Homepage / Landing Page / About Us	4,203	3,413	3,014
Gallery	2,579	1,474	2,388
Amenities	1,040	946	918
History of SBR	568	372	326
Current Listings	510	426	346
Community Newsletters	275	200	46
Contact	222	184	147
Upcoming Events	207	178	42
Alberta Foothills	93	72	71
Condo Corp (board members, communications)	67	54	40
About the Ranch Club	39	33	25
Condo Board AGM	34	32	11
Bylaws	31	30	23
Information Links	29	25	22
Condo Corp Board Mtg Minutes	27	25	20
Residents Guide	26	24	22
Emergency Response Plan	21	21	16
Equine Evacuation Plan	16	16	14
Reserve Fund Study	15	15	13
Ranch Club Board Mtg Minutes	14	14	9
Website Feedback	11	11	8
Ranch Club Membership Application	7	7	7
Ranch Club AGM	3	3	2
Pasture Mgmt Plan	2	2	2

Website Statistics - Relaunch to October 24

Website Administration Team

As a volunteer run website the Website Team is currently operated by two people. Shannon Gibbons is responsible for the technical and creative side and Yvonne Gaudet has the responsibility of board oversight while work continues on content development and the overall guidelines and protocols for the community website use.

Training of two "backup" technical administrators will be scheduled in the New Year so that we have a roster of people who can support Shannon when she takes time off. Watch for a formal call out on this coming soon.

Unit Owner Changes

It is important to welcome new owners and many thanks go out to the various ways we each informally greet new neighbours. The board and Renaissance are working on a new notification procedure regarding unit owner changes. When a property sells and, once Renaissance receives formal notice of a new owner's contact information, the website board representative will be made aware. A welcome letter will be sent to the new owner(s)

directing them to the website which contains a plethora of information about what you need to know about living at Square Butte Ranch.

Saloon Bookings

Previous boards and recently this board of directors have identified a variety of items pertaining to saloon use and bookings that should be addressed. The website team is interested in identifying ways to support ranch operations in this area. A small working group has formed (Yvonne Gaudet, Shannon Gibbons, Patricia Kelcher, Ada Morgan and Kym Penner) to bring forward recommendations to the board. Operations staff will be consulted during the process. An update will be provided in the near future.

Use of Website for Ranch Communications

The website platform we are using has the capability of supporting ranch communications in the area of Social Event Community Notices (SBR only functions). The website administrator is confident that this level of support can be provided with the development of clear guidelines and a process. The website team will take this on as a new development area. You may have noticed that Shannon has already started sending out some of the community event notices. Now we have to put the written guidelines in place. Stay tuned for a more formal communication to come.





BARN QUILT

A group of Square Butte residents/staff got together and decided to collaborate on producing a couple of Barn quilts for the Ranch. We were able to utilize a piece of leftover plywood from the saloon renos. A pattern and colors were chosen, and we have produced one of the two quilts. It has been put up on the hayshed.

It's as if barn quilts are contagious. They can now be found in great swaths across Canada and the United States and they continue to spread. There are hundreds in Ontario alone. And they aren't limited to barns anymore; you'll find them at museums, churches, schools and historical landmarks. And smaller versions are cropping up on cottages, gates, fences and sheds.

A barn quilt is a piece of wood or sign board that's been painted to look like a quilt block.

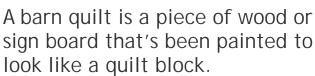
What exactly is a barn quilt? In simple terms it's a piece of wood or sign board that's been painted to look like a quilt block. And just like quilters have been showing off their creativity for years, the folks who are making barn quilts are doing the same. While some barn quilts are replicates of traditional quilt block patterns, others are unique designs featuring a favourite dog, type of livestock or a farm logo. The only limit is your imagination and what you are able to create with paint.

Barn quilts tell stories about individual farms, historical events or communities while also adding visual interest to the countryside and increasing rural tourism. They can come in a range of sizes. The ones on barns usually measure at least eight feet square so they can be viewed at a distance while those on a gate could be as small as one-foot square.

In some areas, neighbours and communities have come together to create barn quilts around a theme which together form a Barn Quilt Trail.

Please let us know your thoughts when you see us out and about.
Lori Y, Kym, Jan, Patricia, Yvonne and Lori C.







Ranch Barn Quilt

OPERATIONS

SNOW, SNOW AND MORE SNOW that came early to the ranch this year, so we have been spending our time moving that around and finding out our equipment needed some early season repairs. But we are back and ready for the next snow fall.

By now you probably have heard the majority of our new water meters have arrived and are being installed in each residence and up at the water plant. These were arranged for by your Board through a grant program offered by the County that saved us \$32,000 in capital cost and will ultimately save us thousands now that we can monitor out water usage more accurately. Thanks for making your residence available for our plumber to go in and take care of the installation for you.

As always, if you see something that needs attention please bring it to our attention.

Grant Kelba

403 681 7831



PLEASE REMEMBER the newsletter is your choice for BUY AND SELL.
Send to nancyandrossbarrett@gmail.com

It sifts from Leaden Sieves

by Emily Dickinson It sifts from Leaden Sieves – It powders all the Wood. It fills with Alabaster Wool The Wrinkles of the Road – It makes an Even Face Of Mountain and of Plain — Unbroken Forehead from the East Unto the East again – It reaches to the Fence – It wraps it, Rail by Rail, Till it is lost in Fleeces – It flings a Crystal Veil On Stump and Stack – and Stem — The Summer's empty Room – Acres of Seams where Harvests were, Recordless, but for them – It Ruffles Wrists of Posts As Ankles of a Queen, — Then stills its Artisans – like Ghosts – Denying they have been –

WHERE TO GIVE THIS CHRISTMAS!

Several organizations provide Christmas support to residents in the Foothills region. Please contact them directly for donation / volunteering options.

Oilfields Food Bank: 403-612-1291

Christmas Meal Hampers. Donations of food and cash are gratefully accepted.

Okotoks Food Bank: 403-651-6629

Christmas Meal Hampers. Donations of food and cash are gratefully accepted. You may also choose to Adopt-a-Family.

Baby It's Cold Outside: 403-660-3648

Toys and gifts for children - donations of new, unwrapped toys, gift cards and cash gratefully accepted. You may also choose to Adopt-a-Family. Volunteers needed!

The Salvation Army: 403-336-4387

Christmas Meal Hampers, Toys & gifts for children (18 and under).

Donations of new, unwrapped toys and gift cards are ratefully accepted. Financial donations welcome. Volunteers needed!

Seniors Secret Service: 403-257-8339

Supporting isolated seniors throughout the Foothills. Donations of cash or gift cards.

High River FCSS: 403-652-8620

Donations of gifts, gift cards and cash for single/senior adults

Magic of Christmas: @magicofchristmasfoothills

Christmas cheer and gifts to referred residents. Donations of cash and gift cards are appreciated or donate new, unwrapped toys For a list of drop-off locations in Okotoks, High River, Black Diamond and Turner Valley, please see our Facebook and Instagram page or call 403-921-0588 or 403-803-3085

Shop of Wonders: @mycitycareokotoks

Private Christmas shopping experience for children, teens & parents. Donations of new, unwrapped toys or stocking stuffers. For a list of drop-off locations please see our Facebook page.

Okotoks Family Resource Centre:

C: 403-995-2626 E: familyresources@okotoks.ca Help residents facing financial challenges "the other 364 days of the year. Donations will fund emergency gas and grocery

Rowan House Society: www.rowanhouse.ca

Help bring holiday joy to families affected by domestic abus Donations can be dropped off at The Highwood Centre Clubhouse Room. Contact Ellen at 403-336-9046, ellenj@rowanhouse.ca





Dear Square Butte residents,

We would like to invite you for a German Christmas Open House...

December 3 3 - 7 pm

Join us for grilled sausages in a bun, gulasch soup, mulled wine, Christmas cookies and cake.

Jim and Doris Kicking Horse Way 16

I am having an 'Open Studio' sale from 12:00 - 5:00 pm on Sunday December 11th 2022.

There will be original acrylic paintings on canvas from quite small to very large, smaller works on paper, Christmas cards and my book of nature photos.

Please come and celebrate the beginning of the festive season with a glass of wine, conversation and friendship.

Jan Elgar #61 Cowboy Trail



