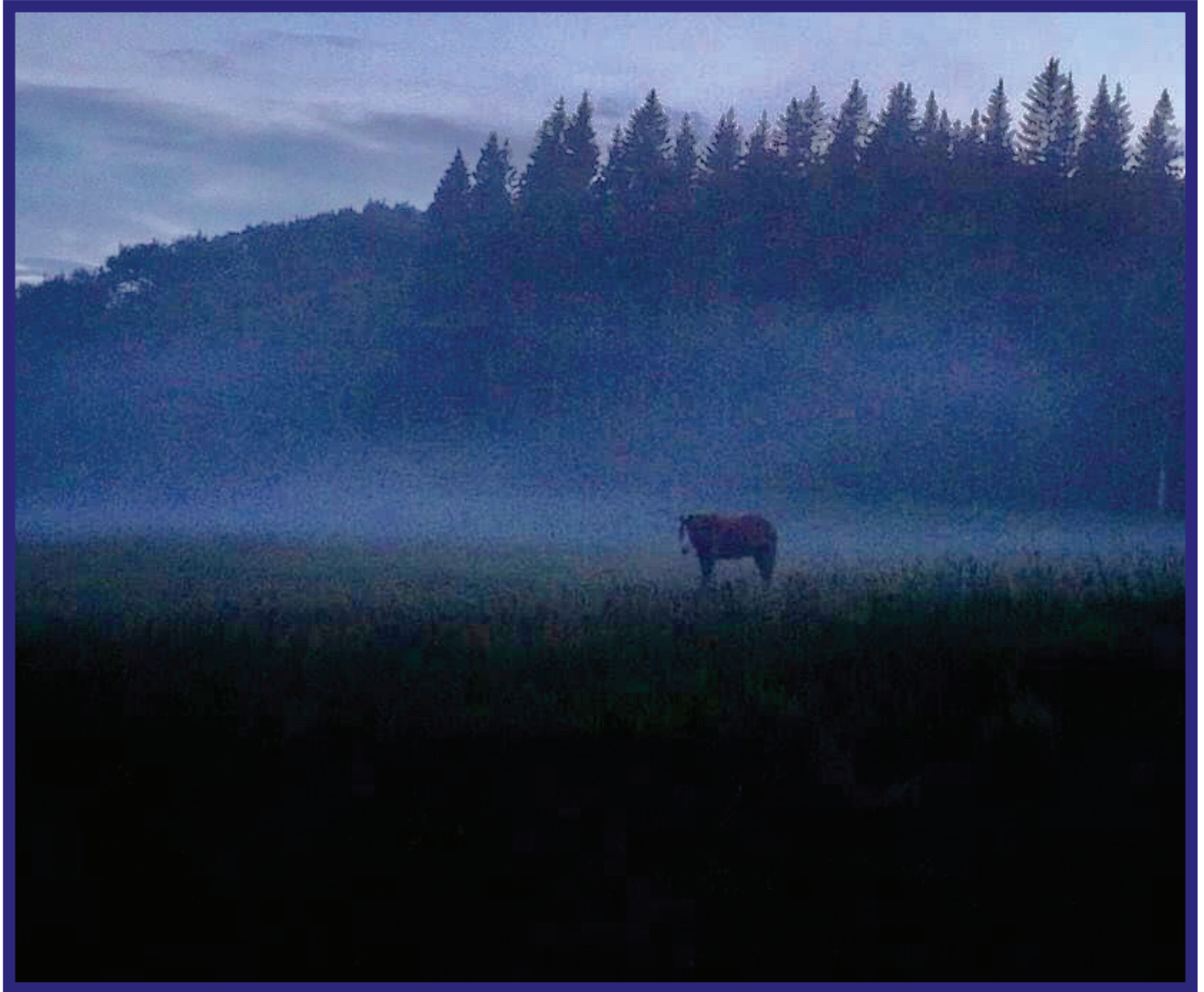


**RANCH AT A GLANCE**  
**JUNE 2022**



**Ranch Life**  
**Otherworld**  
**First light touches the edge**  
**Of a waking day**

Photo and poem by talented resident Jan Elgar

### **In this month's newsletter**

News from Leandro  
Community Garden News  
Birder's Corner  
Barn Manager  
Ranch Club  
Wildlife at the Ranch  
Two Welcomes to New Residents  
Equine Resident  
Operations  
Did You Know?

### **MEET the new EXECUTIVE CHEF at the BANFF CENTRE for Arts and Creativity**

**Leandro, Mel and Nina have a lovely townhouse located right in  
the Banff Centre.**

**We miss them at the ranch but wish them much success in this  
new adventure.**





# Community Garden News



Spring is heading our way (hopefully) although if the snow last week was any indication, it is a bit lost at the moment. Great news however, as the Community Garden Project has been given approval on a pilot project basis, so soon we will begin construction on the boxes. Keeping in mind water conservation, I found the following plan for filling the boxes which I thought worth the effort. Not only will it help maintain moisture while minimizing water usage, but it saves on the cost of soil, while adding to the quality of soil over time.

**In addition to saving money, the wood sublayer retains water and breaks down into quality soil.**

## How to Fill Garden Raised Beds and Save Money

Step 1: Fill about 20% - 30% good quality direct organic soil

Step 2: Fill about 20% with soft composted animal waste (chicken manure)

Step 3: Fill about 20% with green waste

Step 4: Fill about 20% with green waste

Step 5: Fill about 20% with green waste

Step 6: Fill about 20% with green waste

Step 7: Fill about 20% with green waste



### Ruby-throated Hummingbird



Ruby-throated hummingbirds are common visitors to feeders across Alberta in the warm months of the year. Fair weather friends however, they quickly disappear once the weather

cools heading south to Mexico for the winter. Incredibly, most hummingbirds fly across the Gulf of Mexico, a journey that takes 18 to 24 hours.

.Hummingbirds are unable to withstand freezing temperatures and if caught in a cold spell can lower their body temperature by up to 50 degrees by slowing their heart rate and shutting down all non-essential body functions.

#### The Secret Sauce

¼ Cup of White Sugar

1 Cup of Water.

**NO RED DYE**

Mix the sugar in boiling water and allow to cool before filling the feeder. Clean the feeders often as mold grows quickly in the sweet mixture.

Submitted by: Sandy Almberg



## **Barn Swallow-Species at Risk**

### **Sylvia Lambert**

### **Watch for barn swallows at** **Square Butte Ranch**



Glistening cobalt blue above and tawny below, Barn Swallows dart gracefully over fields, barnyards, and open water in search of flying insect prey. Look for the long, deeply forked tail that streams out behind this agile flyer and sets it apart from all other North American swallows. Barn Swallows often cruise low, flying just a few inches above the ground or water. True to their name, they build their cup-shaped mud nests almost exclusively on human-made structures.

#### **Nesting**

Peak nesting period is in June. Both male and female build the nest cup using mud. They collect mud in their bills and often mix it with grass stems to make pellets. They first construct a small shelf to sit on, then build up the nest's sides. If built against a wall or other vertical surface the result is a semicircular, half-cup shape. Nests built on top of a beam or other horizontal surface form a complete cup about 3 inches across at the rim and 2 inches deep. The birds line the cup first with grass, then feathers, and in colonies may steal nest-lining materials from neighboring nests. When reusing nests, Barn Swallows clean out old feathers and add new mud to the nest's rim. It is very important not to tamper with these mud nests since breeding season is very short. Destroying a nest or egg of a migratory bird constitutes an offence and is punishable under the Migratory Birds Convention Act. Chicks stay in the nest for 18-23 days. They defecate over the nest for only 6-11 days. Clean up the mess after they are gone. They are beautiful, fun to watch and control pests naturally. They fly very fast and have been clocked up to 46 m.p.h.

## Habitat

Barn Swallows forage in open areas throughout most of the continent, including suburban parks and ball fields, agricultural fields, beaches, and over open water such as lakes, ponds and coastal waters. They range from sea level up to 10,000 feet. Breeding habitat must include open areas for foraging, structures or cliffs to build nests on, and a source of mud such as a riverbank to provide the material for building nests.

## Food

Flies of all types make up the majority of the Barn Swallow's diet, along with beetles, bees, wasps, ants, butterflies, moths, mosquitos and other flying insects. Barn Swallows usually take relatively large, single insects rather than feeding on swarms of smaller prey. They will also pick up grit and small pebbles, or eggshells and oyster shells set out by humans, which may help the birds digest insects or add needed calcium to the diet.

## Behavior

Watch for the Barn Swallow's smooth, fluid wingbeats and the way they pull their wingtips back at the end of each stroke. These birds feed almost exclusively in flight, flying lower than many other swallow species and often nearly hugging the ground or water surface. They catch flies and other prey in midair above fields, marshes, lakes, and coastal waters, and often follow farm implements, cattle herds, horses and humans to snag flushed insects. They occasionally feed on sluggish or dead insects on the ground, and in cold weather will pluck flies off barn walls. Barn Swallows also drink and even bathe on the wing, dipping down to take a mouthful of water or touch their belly to the surface for a quick rinse. Males defend a small territory around the nest site and aggressively chase away other males, even grabbing them with their feet and tumbling to the ground. Individuals or groups of Barn Swallows mob predators such as hawks, gulls, or grackles that approach nests.

## Migration

The Barn Swallow is the most widely distributed swallow species in the world. It breeds throughout the Northern Hemisphere and winters in the Southern Hemisphere. By August watch for flocks gathering on Telephone wires ready to migrate back to South America.



## **BARN MANAGER**

***I wonder what it would be like to live in a world where it was always June.***  
***Lucy Maud Montgomery***

Happy June Square Butte People! May was such a great month and working the Bar for the Kentucky Derby and meeting many of you and your families was great fun!

Erin and I have been busy Harrowing fields, keeping the Geldings and Mares separated in the West praying for lots of moisture so the front fields can grow and anticipating moving the herds up front where people can enjoy watching them and interact with them more for the summer.

A reminder as more people are out and about, please do not hand feed the horses. Hand feeding treats can cause some horses to get pushy and even bite, also we have some horses who are prone to chocking and some that cannot even eat the grass at this time of year as it is too high in Sugar. However,

if you would like to come join me on my morning chores please come and you can get up close and personal and help me feed buckets and I can teach you about our herd.

As teased for the past few months the Ranch Club is leasing 2 horses to supplement our herd to use to offer for Trail Riding, Lessons, and private riding for the Summer. Tao and Tango along with their tack will be coming to the Ranch on June 1st. I rode both horses on May 12th and they are lovely. 2 Geldings who know their jobs. We took a little tour down Fisher Creek Trails (known to many here as Frank's Trails) and it was lovely and I cannot wait to share the trails with you.

Horseback is a GREAT way to enjoy your property! Tango and Tao will also be available to take out on your own when you are comfortable and have had a session or 2 with me so we can assess ability and knowledge.

Scheduling a trail ride or time with these horses will be done through myself and Erin you can email us at [sbranchhand@gmail.com](mailto:sbranchhand@gmail.com). I have also found a local riding instructor who will come to the Ranch and provide lessons. More information to come on that shortly! I look forward to introducing you all to Tango and Tao and to Having a great summer on Horseback!

Peace Be Wild  
Lori





Can't wait till you can come with us..  
Coyote and Rogue

## **RANCH CLUB - Kym Penner**

The Ranch Club would like to start off with a huge THANK YOU to all those who attended and brought out family and friends to the Kentucky Derby event. Not only did the event see some amazing outfits, LOTS OF FOOD and provide some surprises and laughs but the Ranch Club was able to raise \$725.00 to put towards the Summer lease of horses for the ranch. This money together with a generous donation from resident Nancy Barrett and another donation from Denise McMullen will allow the Ranch Club to start the Summer Horse Lease program for all residents.



Starting June 1, 2022 two horses will be on site and available for trail rides and personal use. We also have some owners willing to lease out their horses for the program which extends the number we can accommodate for trail rides and lessons. The cost for use of the horses is currently set at \$35.00 plus GST/Hour. If you have a large group interested in going on trail ride, Lori will reach out to other outfitters for you and make the arrangements. If you want to ride a horse Lori is your woman!

Lori Collins has also introduced the Ranch Club to Lori Lohnes who is a certified instructor and is willing to come out to the ranch to give lessons. The cost of the lessons will be about \$65.00/Hour. More information on that to come.

### **A Little on Lori Lohnes:**

Lori has been riding for longer than she can remember. The first photo of her sitting on a horse is when Lori was just 6 months old. Lori's mother was a very accomplished horsewoman, competing in many disciplines and excelling at rodeo events, and this is of course who instilled riding and horsemanship skills in Lori.

As a kid, Lori was a 4-H and Pony Club member and took private lessons in the summer when those programs weren't in operation. She competed in both western and English disciplines – everything from Western Pleasure to Jumping and anything in between. By the time Lori left for college, rodeo had become her focus and she competed in Barrel Racing and Pole Bending on the Olds College Rodeo Team. From there, barrels became her event of choice, and she went on to compete in amateur rodeos, barrel racing jackpots and eventually taking out her Pro Rodeo card. During that time, she trained with some of the world's best, and never stopped learning fundamental horsemanship and training skills.

As her rodeo career was winding down, Lori focused on giving back to the horse community by sharing her knowledge as an instructor. She taught 4-H and Pony Club as well as private adult lessons for both beginner and advanced riders. She was also recruited to be a private barrel racing coach and barn manager. Some of Lori's students have gone on to compete at the highest levels of their disciplines and some have simply learned to love their time in the saddle!

The Ranch Club looks forward to a great summer of riding and engaging with the community through having Ranch Horses. If you are interested in making a donation towards this program please contact us at [squarebutteranchclub@gmail.com](mailto:squarebutteranchclub@gmail.com) or talk directly to someone on the Ranch Club Board.

Roping Clinic is scheduled for June 25 so save the date!

The Ranch Club would like to send our deepest condolences to Karen and John Sherbut. They had to make the hard decision to say goodbye to their beautiful gelding Shiloh who has been part of the Square Butte herd for many years. Those of us who visit the pastures often will miss his kind eyes and friendly curiosity.

***“Somewhere...somewhere in time's own space, there must be some sweet pastured place where the creeks sing on, and tall trees grow. Some paradise where horses go. For by the love that guides my pen, I know great horses love again.”***  
***Stanley Harrison***



## **WILDLIFE AT THE RANCH**

At this time of year we experience lots of wildlife both young and old.

Bears have woken up and visit the ranch. Carry bear spray and know how to use it. Moose and calves like the small treed areas in the townsite. Cougars have been known to travel the south boundary of Square Butte Ranch and have been spotted on Chinook Ridge.

Coyotes and their pups hang out in the culvert pipes and in the growth at the pond pasture. Coyotes have a den in the ravine pasture forest. They travel across the townhouse pasture and pond pasture. They can be aggressive especially toward dogs.

Some animals tend to be most active at dawn and dusk so best to avoid walking your dog in the dark.

For more details please visit the Parks Canada website at [pc.gc.ca](http://pc.gc.ca). **If you spot wildlife please alert everyone by posting on the Facebook page “Square Butte Ranches Residents”.**





Janet Annesley and Erik Langberg own 38 Horseshoe Bend and are under construction with a modern mountain log post and beam home that faces west to capture the ranch's outstanding views.

Built by Erik's brother Steve, owner of Langberg Log Homes, the home consists of large structural logs, more traditional framing and a large area of windows. All the cedar logs are sourced from Vancouver Island. The home also features some large west coast Douglas Fir logs, which is a stronger wood needed to span some of the longer distances.

Several of the logs are old, with a diameter of more than six feet. Sustainably-sourced, it's good to know that as a building material, the logs (and all wood building material) also provide long-term storage of carbon, locking up about one tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> in each cubic metre.

The home is expected to be ready for occupancy in July, with both Janet and Erik planning to spend about half their time at the home and the other half at their condo in Calgary where they work. Erik has a job with the federal government and Janet in energy, both oil and gas and power.

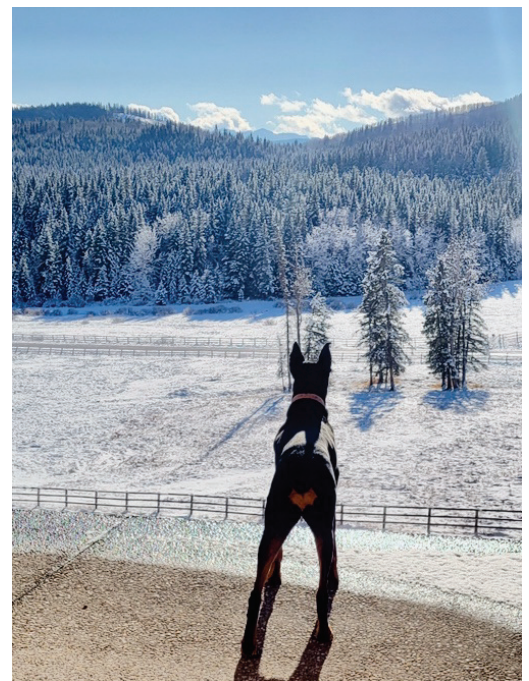
The couple has been planning this dream home for about 10 years, originally planning to build it east of the city near Drumheller, in the Red Deer River Valley. But following a short move to Ottawa, they decided to explore property options west of the city and found the ranch.



"We wanted a great view, access to utility services, good security, and space to walk and hike. We also wanted neighbours and community, so the ranch checked all our boxes," says Janet.

"It was daunting to break ground during COVID but we're glad to be almost through construction," says Erik. "I am looking forward to waking up to our new view, getting to know our neighbours and the surrounding area."

Neither Janet or Erik describe themselves as horse people, but ride occasionally with local outfitters. You will see them around the ranch with their dog, Martini, a Doberman Pincher who is almost 14 years' old and very friendly -- unless you're a squirrel.





# Millarville Horticultural Club

Annual Plant Sale

Saturday, June 4th, 2022

📍 Millarville Racetrack | 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.


Perennials, annuals and surprises!!

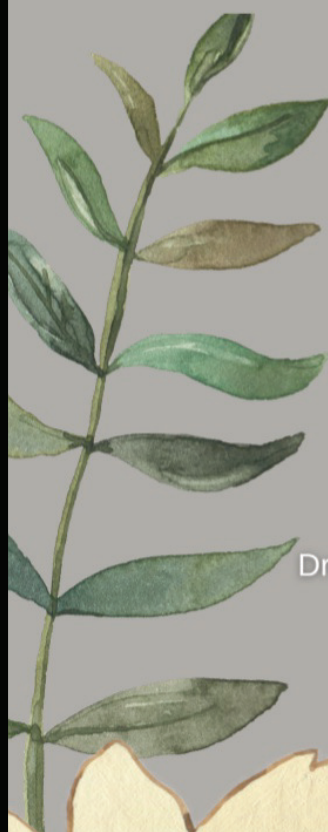
Very reasonable prices. All plant material is from  
Our local Horticultural members

Drop off your plant donations on Friday, June 3rd from 3pm - 6pm

Call Jill at 403-669-4609 for more info

[www.MillarvilleHortClub.com](http://www.MillarvilleHortClub.com)

@millarvillehortclub 







We are Shannon and Luc, your new neighbours at 39 Horseshoe Bend!

We are really excited to be out at Square Butte Ranches with all that it has to offer. Our original plan was to move to the foothills closer to retirement (coming in about 5 years), but when the opportunity to own a piece of heaven came up last fall, we couldn't resist and got a head start on our plans. We started moving in gradually at the end of January and recently moved the bulk of our possessions in April. Our goal is to be fully moved out to the ranch this summer once our condo in Calgary is sold. For now, Shannon is holding down the fort at the ranch full-time while Luc prepares the condo for sale back in Calgary.

Now for a little information about your new neighbours. Shannon is originally from Vancouver, BC but has called Alberta home for almost a decade. Luc hails from Ponteix, Saskatchewan (small French community south of Swift Current) but has moved around for education/work with stops in Saskatoon (twice), Regina, Winnipeg and Calgary (twice). Shannon works for Canada Life as a Credit Lending Specialist (mortgages) - being part of an Ontario-based team gave her the opportunity to permanently work from home. Luc is the Compensation and Benefits Manager for NOVA Chemicals and splits his work time between home and downtown Calgary. When they found out that 39 Horseshoe Bend was high up enough on the hill to provide good cell and wireless internet service it gave them the opportunity to make the permanent move to SBR even though they were a few years shy of their retirement (why wait to live your dream of being in the foothills!!!).

Having lived in the downtown jungle of Calgary's beltline these last few years the couple is really looking forward to getting back to nature and a simpler life. With a little luck SBR will provide the right environment for them to slow down and enjoy life a little more. Shannon has numerous hobbies including photography, painting, arts and crafts and has also perfected the art/science of making her own all-natural bath and body products. While new to the ranch, Shannon has already volunteered to help the community with its website and is working closely with Yvonne on that project. Luc is looking to spend his free time on a list of projects around the house and getting a small woodworking shop up and running (eventually).

The couple does not currently have any four legged equine friends but they appreciate and respect them and love seeing them at the bottom of their lot. Luc has some experience with horseback riding, and while that was a long time ago...he hasn't closed the door to saddling up again one of these days. Shannon and Luc do have a little lap dog named Sofie, although she doesn't stay in anyone's lap for too long - she's a year and a half old little Italian Greyhound and, while she is an indoor dog, as the weather warms up you'll likely see all three of them walking around the ranch as they explore the property.

Shannon and Luc are still busy moving in and putting their stamp on their new home but they look forward to having that behind them soon and participating in more of the social activities that the ranch offers. Until then, if you see them walking about, stop and say howdy!



**Gary and Maxine enjoying the day**



# Mr. Square Butte June

*\*Distinctive and Colorado\**

AKA: Stinky and Balloo



*Stinky (a dark bay with a touch of grey around her face) was my first horse and I bought her from Spruce Meadows in 2000. She is a 1994 pure blooded Westphalian, born on the big Westphalian farm in Germany. Spruce bought her as a jumper but with her long back she was not able to stay sound in any kind of turn and burn events. I bought her as a hunter and she was quite successful in that discipline. Stinky is a dominant mare and such a large willful horse was a huge challenge for a beginner. I'm not sure she and I ever really came to terms and her greatest successes in shows came when she was ridden by more skilled riders! She used to have the gorgeous floaty trot of a dressage horse which is also part of her lineage.*



*Balloo (a Pinto with a black mane and tail) came from Frank Sellinger's barn. He is also a 1994 horse and had been brought out of England and shipped to Vancouver as a 4 foot jumper. In his day, he had the turn and burn fairly well in hand although the burn part is probably an exaggeration even in his prime. Balloo came to Calgary in 2004 and became my guy in 2006. He did both hunters and jumpers here and one year was second to the top Alberta hunter horse. (Again, when ridden by someone much better than me.)*

*Both these lovely old horses have landed in horse heaven here at SBR and I am so thankful to have found this lovely spot where I can keep them in comfort while allowing them to live out their golden years as horses are meant to live. An interesting fact -- Balloo came to SBR first and Stinky came about 3 months later. They had really never hung out together prior to being here and yet somehow they bonded quickly and tightly as if they had always had a connection!*

*Stinky and Balloo live the life of Riley with a small herd of elderly SBR horses and will happily accept a carrot or apple from anyone who offers.*



## **OPERATIONS - Grant Kelba**

Operations has been very busy dusting off the winter months and prepping for the summer season.

You will notice many improvements and repairs being completed as the ranch starts to glow in the summer foliage.

Windstorm repairs are ongoing with the Ranch perimeter fence being completed so our animals can roam more freely. The saloon is still coming along and there is no timeline on when that will be ready for occupancy again.

This issue is all about our team. You know, the guys that take your comfort and safety very seriously. Doug Peters and Clay Campbell.



## **ESPECIALLY FOR NEW RESIDENTS**

Doug Peters lives on an acreage 8kms from SBR on Hwy 549 with his wife, who works in real estate, and his three offspring. Two of his kids are pursuing higher learning in Calgary at SAIT and U of C and the youngest attends high school. You may see his youngest, Hanna, cutting grass around the townhomes this June so be sure to say Hi.

The Peters family is active in sports and the community. They own horses that are used for pleasure and hunting. Doug was born in Northern Manitoba and in addition to working at the ranch is employed with the Calgary Fire Department. As such Doug is expert in general and fire safety, electrical and other fire hazard identification and in training people in the preceding skills.

He is also skilled in making repairs, doing builds/rebuilds, operating machinery including small engines and heavy equipment and in general problem solving. Doug is experienced in working with vendors/service providers to gain consensus on project planning and execution.

Clay Campbell lives in the Priddis area on a large acreage/ horse ranch, he owns performance horses and has two top barrel racing daughters. His eldest daughter & son in law just had a beautiful baby boy in April and now Clay is a 1st time proud Grampa !

He is also a professional fly fishing guide and also provides driving services for the movie industry from time to time. Part of the movie job is supplying vintage vehicles as required. Clay has worked in the oilfield services management business for most of his life both domestically and internationally until retiring 15 years ago.

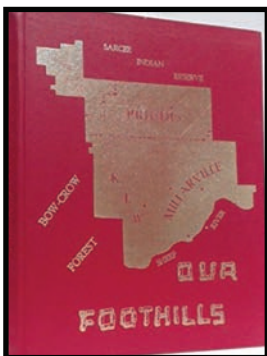
In his work life he has managed the workover and repair of hundreds of wells in Russia & Kazakhstan. He is familiar with large equipment and hydraulics, electrical, engine and safety management systems. On top

of that he has a great understanding of computers and their applications.

### **FOR ALL RESIDENTS**

We can truly be thankful for these two professionals who not only are extremely qualified to serve us here at Square Butte, but they also care enough about the property and the equipment that they treat it like it's their own. Finding these qualities in team players who require very little direction and take the initiative to get things done is very valuable, and we are lucky to have them.

Clay and Doug job-share the position, with Clay generally working an average of 20 hours a week and Doug generally working an average of 12 hours per week. They manage and clear our roads, maintain and repair our common area buildings, maintain our common areas including summer mowing, maintain and store our ranch equipment, assist with the maintenance of our water system (with the MD of Foothills, our water management contractor, and Alberta Environment), assist with the recording of water use and over use by owners and generally assist the Operations Committee of the Condo Board as necessary. They work cooperatively with Grant Kelba, our Operations Manager, and with Lori Collins, the Ranch Club's Barn Manager.



### **DID YOU KNOW?**

***Square Butte is located on the Treaty 7 Lands of the Blackfoot Confederacy and the Metis Nation, Region 3.***





## **From Community Book “Our Foothills” 1880s - 1940s**

**The General Store began in 1926. You could buy lots of rock candy at the store but not milk because you got milk from your cow on the farm. No ice cream was sold at the store because ice cream was made by milking your cow and then putting milk in an ice cream maker and turning the handle for a very long time. No juice was sold at the store and you had to make your own from fruit. The store had no electricity and the Eaton’s catalogue was the only magazine to read. Sometimes homesteaders would make trades because they did not have a lot of money to buy things.**

**In 1945 Back’s Service Station was the only place to get your gas in Millarville. It was very expensive for the homesteaders to buy gas and not everyone could afford a car. Here is a little about the Back’s family. The first Back moved to Millarville in the 1930s. Hans Back came from Hamburg Germany and Merle Back came from Minneapolis Minnesota. Hans worked in the oilfield when it was booming. He then bought land and started Millarville Motors and Supply Co. Ltd. He serviced vehicles, sold gas and sold bulk fuel. He then became involved in selling Massey Ferguson tractors. As he got older he formed a partnership with Robert Back at the garage and began to breed and raise thoroughbred racehorses.**

**Robert took over in 1967 when Hans passed away. He started selling Arctic Cat snowmobiles in 1969 and did extremely well at it. They raced snowmobiles all over western Canada.**

**LAST MINUTE ADDITION**  
**FROM GARY BENNETT**

**West of the Ranche riding**

All of the trails are passable and  
Curley Sands in good shape.  
Trail up to Square Butte okay  
and back to Ranche good.  
Met Paul the trail runner and his  
son, he reports they are  
continuing trail clearing west  
and south of campground.  
Regards  
Gary

