

PRESIDENT'S LETTER Gary Keiser

After a mild November, winter finally arrived with temperatures regularly falling to zero and below. However, snow has been light. As I write this, roads are still open. But if predictions come true, the roads will be closed by the time you read this.

The 2007 long range plan was approved at the October meeting. The most significant recommendations are (1) investigate hiring a manager to reduce the work load on the board and provide continuity and (2) implement the committee recommendations to improve Hazel Lake.

The 2008 budget was also approved at the October meeting. The budget was balanced with the previously approved assessments increase of \$3 per month, an additional \$16,000 provided for the parking lot bathroom, and an additional \$23,000 for the equipment reserve. The equipment reserve will reach about \$100,000, which will be enough to replace the grader. Work on improving Hazel Lake is being delayed due to budget considerations. Both the long range plan and the 2008 budget have been posted to the web site.

The meeting schedule for 2008 will be the same as 2007: the third Saturday of January, March, May, June, July, August, September, and October. Officers for 2008 are: President-Kathy Leary, Vice President-Bruce Saunders, Treasurer-Paul McDermott, and Secretary-Randy Touslee.

This is my last president's letter as my term expires December 31. It has been an interesting and rewarding six years. We have achieved most of the goals I had when first elected, but there are always new challenges. I want to thank the many board members and committee members I worked with, particularly John Moseman and Lindy Lindner who are also retiring this year. I also appreciate the support received from the entire Arrowhead Community. In my new spare time I'll be doing more skiing, hiking and biking. See you out there.

WILDLIFE...DID YOU KNOW

The Pine Martin Total Length 19"-26" weight 11/4-23/4 lbs.

Like most weasels it is keenly carnivorous, but has been known to consume an entire apple pie left cooling outside a window and to steal doughnuts off a picnic table.

Pine martins naturally eat voles, squirrels, hares, bird eggs, and chicks, insects, and marmots. It hunts day and night.

The Pine Martin prefers mature, particularly coniferous, forests that contain numerous dead trunks, branches and leaves to provide cover for its rodent prey. Unfortunately, this animal's playfulness, agility and insatiable curiosity are not easily observed, because it tends to inhabit wilder areas. A litter of 1 to 6 are born in March or April. (Mammals of the Rocky Mountains 2000)

Fire Department News

FIRE CHIEF'S LETTER

Kevin Stilley



Winter is here again. As you know, our way of life changes up here this time of year. The fire department spent last week winterizing the summer vehicles and preparing the others for winter use. The red brush truck has been converted to mattracks for driving on the groomed roads and our two snowmobiles have been set up to pull the hose sled and ambulance sled.

For many of us winter means snowmobiling up country and having a good time. Please keep in mind that things can go from a great ride to a dangerous situation in no time. If you are prepared and keep a few things in mind, you minimize the risks. We suggest:

Always let someone know where you are going, when you expect to return, and when you do return let the people know you have returned.

Do not head up country after 3 pm.

Do not snowmobile by yourself.

If you become stranded, stay with your machine.

Because you might be stranded for a few hours, carry water, food, matches, dry socks and mittens, and a whistle.

Most importantly do not panic.

Remember, while we might be used to the altitude, our guests may not. Don't over work them when getting a machine unstuck and remember to drink lots of water.

Twelve dedicated members of the fire department are taking the first responders course. This course will better prepare us for medical emergencies. Delta/Montrose Voc-Tec School has been providing the instruction. Those members with medical backgrounds and those with no medical background have found this course of great benefit. It is a 48 hour course being taught on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for three weeks. We want to thank the volunteers for taking their time and effort to improve our emergency medical care on the mountain. The participants would like to thanks those on the auxiliary for providing wonderfully cooked lunches for us during our lessons.

Have a safe and merry Christmas.



Kathy Koeltzow and Joyce Boulter



Martha & John Cook, Joanie A., Lucia LeBon, Kevin Stilley, Joyce Boulter

Board Reports

DESIGN REVIEW

Gary Keiser

The Committee was busy this year, but approvals were down from the record approvals in 2005 and 2006. Approvals during 2007 were: 25 driveways, 12 houses, 11 utilities, 2 sheds and 2 external modifications. The Committee also approved new requirements for lot cleaning, new restrictions on rock walls, new Committee rules, and continued enforcement of sign regulations.





FOREST HEALTH REPORT Gary Keiser

The 2007 Arrowhead forest health report has been completed by the Colorado State Forest Service. The report recognizes the progress being made to mitigate both private lots and common land. Thinning overgrown areas is the most important action we can take to protect our forest from both disease and wildfire. While bark beetles for all tree spe-

cies and bud worms have been found within Gunnison County, no new infestations were found at Arrowhead. Because of the age of much of our aspen growth, aspen cankers and trunk rot is common. The risk here is that a live aspen could fall onto a structure without warning. Owners are urged to examine aspens near structures for signs of these two diseases. The entire report has been posted to the web site.

MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENTS

Paul McDermott

Well, summer is over and winter is here. Most of the M&I activities occur during the summer months, so there is not a lot to report this time of year.

Our biggest project this past summer was trying to get the thistle infestation between the Alpine Road and Ponderosa Road under control. The contractor sprayed the area three times and also sprayed around Hazel Lake. There is still a lot of thistle to battle, and spraying is planned again next year. Hopefully, lot owners are also working at controlling thistle on individual lots.

Next year, in addition to the spraying program, we plan another work day to clean up downed materials along the filing roads. The volunteers who have worked the past several



years on this project have really made a difference in the appearance of the area.

Thank you to all the volunteers of Arrowhead who have helped this past year.



ARROWHEAD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Bob Rosenbaum, President

The biggest – and best -- news about the District was the overwhelming passage of the mill levy ballot question by 89%, followed by the passage of the term limits waiver by a bit more than 65%. This means the District will receive our tax dollars – although not until 2009.

Statutes require that the schedule for regular meetings of the Board be posted at least three days in advance in at least three locations in the District plus the courthouse. The three Arrowhead locations are the firehouse, the Inn and the warming hut/package drop-off at the parking lot. In addition, the schedule for regular meetings will be in *Smoke Signals* and on the website. The meetings are held at the firehouse, usually at 1:00 and the public is welcome to attend. Statutes also stipulate the same postings for special meetings of the Board, with such postings including the agendas.

Getting organized, learning the duties and reporting deadlines to various entities required of a governmental entity and preparing the 2008 budget has demanded most of the Board's attention so far. The budget is a public document and may be examined upon request either to Treasurer, Lucia LeBon, or myself.

ROAD AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT

Ralph Ambruster

Volunteers are wonderful. For my road report this month I am using an excerpt from a longer report by Road Committee Volunteer Rich Leary. He has been working several issues related to the Alpine with all parties having a vested interest in the Alpine. The following excerpt from Rich's report discusses a meeting he had with Marlene Crosby of Gunnison County. Thank you Rich, for your fine work.

"We did a tour of the Alpine with Marlene Crosby from US 50 to the stump dump on November 6th. That tour included inspection of the road surface and culverts as well as assessment of the road obstructions and remedies. She was accompanied by Will Hobson, Eric Johnson, and Rich Leary. Will was especially helpful given his experience caring for the road during the winter. His knowledge and expertise were instrumental in helping convince Marlene that our needs were urgent and valid.

Marlene, Gunnison County Public Works Director, agreed that several culverts needed cleaning, some need to be extended, and some new culverts are needed. She agreed to work those issues next spring and summer. Culverts will be cleaned using a hydraulic devise the county uses for this and similar tasks.

She also agreed that several places on the alpine, especially in the lower area, have overly restricted widths or sight lines. She will work to improve those areas next spring and summer. She has asked that AIA provide gravel to use in those places where the road is widened. Ralph Ambruster will bring that cooperative effort to the AIA board for approval and funding.

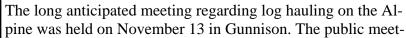
The widening and sight line improvement will be accomplished by selective use of low energy explosive removal systems available to the county as well as possibly actual blasting. Some brush trimming will also be preformed.

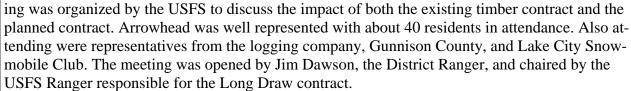
While we would like things to happen quicker we understand why action is not possible until next year. Most importantly, we are thankful for the cooperative efforts of the county."

Board Reports

LOG HAULING

Rich Leary





Following are highlights from that meeting:

- The logging company representative stated that they have no intention of hauling logs from the Ridge Stock sale this winter; however the contract is open until 2009.
- A proposal for an alternative snowmobile trail from Arrowhead to Willow Park has been prepared and is going through the approval process. It will not be ready for this winter.
- The Long Draw contract has been delayed and will not be released for bid until spring 2009.
- The USFS was asked to expend funds from the Surface Rock Replacement program on the Alpine from the parking lot to Spruce.

Much of the discussion centered on the safety of logging traffic on the Alpine and what could be done to improve safety. Numerous suggestions were discussed. It was agreed to form a small committee composed of representatives from Arrowhead, USFS, and the logging company to agree on methods to be used for both the Ridge Stock and Long Draw timber sales.

In summary there was a clear indication that cooperation was possible both during the current contract and for the future. While there is still much to do, the future looks much more positive than it did a few weeks ago.



Instructor Chan Clymer from the Delta/ Montrose Tech College teaching the First Responders Course at Arrowhead. Chan focused on practical experience and hands on skills. The group will be tested, with a grade average of 80% required for completion of the course.

Pictured here are: Martha Cook, Linda Goddard, Paul Forbes, Chan Clymer, Mike Bartlett, Rich Ostrom, Kevin Stilley, Joyce Boulter.

SECURITY NOTES

Lindy Lindner

The mountain is waiting for winter to happen. While we wait for the snow, it seems like a good time to share a few thoughts with those of you who weren't able to attend the winter residents meeting. Please contact security to get a red sticker for any vehicle you plan to park in the lot. If you are going out to play in the snow, let someone know where you are going and when you are expecting to return. Give them a call when you get back. Drive carefully on the Alpine. The uphill vehicle has the right-of-way.

Are you prepared if your sled breaks down while up country? The following is a list of tools and equipment you should carry to make minor repairs to your snowmobile:

Spare drive belt

Extra spark plugs and plug wrench

Tow rope

Basic tool kit (wrenches, screwdrivers, pliers)

Leatherman tool

Starter rope

Duct tape

Electrical tape

Bailing wire

Snowmobile operating manual





The following items are recommended to carry for winter survival:

Extra socks and gloves

Whistle or air horn

Candle and an empty soup can

Several butane lighters

Toilet paper

Space blanket

Rope

Shovel

Granola bars, candy bars, or trail mix

Water



The roads are closed. We have posted the road closing on the website. Security will have the latest information on the roads. Email Security @ arrowhead1.org or call 970-862-8262.

This is my last Security Notes for the Smoke Signals. I have enjoyed working on the Smoke Signals for the last few years and know that my replacement will do an outstanding job of keeping you informed.

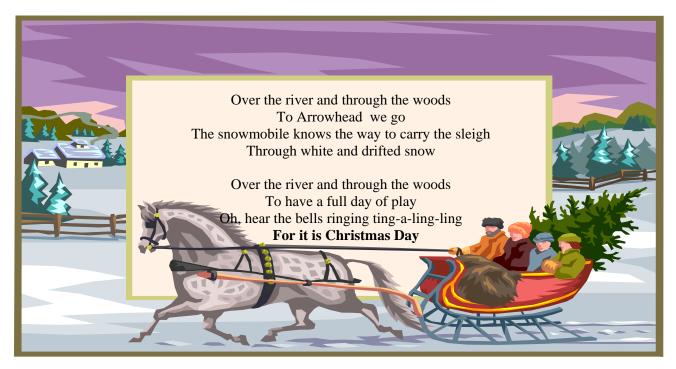
Community News

Snowmobilers Code of Ethics

- 1. I will respect all private and public property and the rights of all winter recreationists to enjoy winters beauty.
- 2. I will park considerably without blocking other vehicles or impeding access to trails.
- 3. I will keep to the right when meeting another winter recreationist and yield the right-of-way to downhill traffic.
- 4. I will slow down and use caution when approaching or overtaking another.
- 5. I will respect designated areas, trail use signs and established ski tracks.
- 6. When stopping, I will not block the trail.
- 7. I will not disturb wildlife, avoiding all areas posted for their protection or feeding.
- 8. I will not litter and I will pack out everything I packed in.

I realize that my destination and travel speed are determined by my equipment, ability, terrain, weather, and traffic on the trail. In case of emergency, I will volunteer assistance. I will not interfere with our harass others, recognizing that people judge all snowmobilers and skiers by my actions.

Snowmobile Clothing: Bibs made specifically for snowmobiling are a must. Waterproof all clothing, and layer clothing so that each additional layer is slightly larger in size to keep your clothing from becoming too tight and restrictive. Waterproof gloves and boots also. Avoid wearing any clothing made of cotton. It will quickly become wet and cold and dries very slowly. The phrase, "cotton kills" is well known within the search & rescue community. Polar fleece is an excellent replacement for cotton as long as it is not used as an outer layer. It can also quickly become wet, but it will dry quickly. Remember to add a layer of clothing before you become chilled and take off a layer before you become damp from perspiration. Western Slope Snowmobile Association



Community News



Last summer people worked on their lots, mitigating, cleaning, and hauling to the Stump Dump. All the hard work is making a difference at Arrowhead and making our homes and lots safer from fire danger. November 30th the Volunteer Fire Dept. burned the debris. It was lit in several places and burning strong after just 1 hour. Several people along with the Fire Dept. watched, listened to the crackle and warmed themselves! The call went out for hotdogs and marshmallows but since it was early morning, Betty Chrisman's hot chocolate went over better. Rich Ostrom, as well as others took advantage of the photo op. It was an exciting scene for those watching.



BEARS

Even though the bears are hibernating now, it should be kept in mind that they've been taught that there's food here at Arrowhead, and they will continue to forage and break into homes/cabins in the Spring.



Some facts on bears sense:

- 1. a bear can smell a rotting carcass from 20 miles
- 2. A bear can detect a human scent on a trail up to 12 hours after the person has passed by.
- 3. A bear's sense of smell is 7 times (7 TIMES!!) better than a bloodhound.
- 4. All food has an odor and a bear will detect it and stay in that area until he decides the food is no longer around. This means feeding birds, deer, elk, or whatever animal you choose will definitely draw bears.
 - 5. A bear sees in color, not black and white and hears better than a human.

These facts come from the American Bear Association at website www.Americanbear.org

According to DOW, it's against the law to feed wild animals, as detailed in Article XI - Special Restrictions

In the November 29, 2007 issue of the Gunnison Country Times an article on bears said that 60 bears have been euthanized in Colorado this year. The DOW operates on a "two strike" rule. Bears that become a "nuisance" are trapped, collared and relocated the first time they cause trouble. If caught again, they're killed.



Doug Cockes, a full time resident of Arrowhead, has spent the past three months flying ISR (Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance) missions over Iraq. The main purpose of the daily flights was to find and report the location of IEDs. Improvised Explosive Devices are responsible for killing or dismembering many of our soldiers.

Doug felt honored and privileged to work with the men and women serving in Iraq. He was truly impressed with their positive attitudes, willingness to serve and their sense of purpose. Reports indicated that the recent troop surge, the introduction and utilization of new technologies, and the willingness of the Iraqi people to finally do their part, have begun to make a measurable difference.

COLUMBINE REALTY at ARROWHEAD Cathy Maestas, Broker 970-862-8224 columbinerealty.com and countrypropertynetwork.com

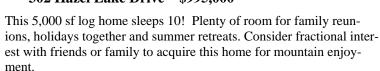


1303 Hazel Lake Drive \$875,000

This new 3,000 sf home is outstanding in finish and design! Viking kitchen, travertine, marble, cherry trim and doors. See extensive pictures at columbinerealty.com or Countrypropertynetwork.com. Handicap accessible for ease of use. Four wall mounted LCD Sharp flat screen tv's. Commercial copper color roof is maintenance free! Oversized 2 car garage with 9w x 10t doors for all SUV's.12' ceilings, 8' cherry doors dazzle this home. Century fireplace heats with wood, propane furnace. Schedule your showing soon.



302 Hazel Lake Drive \$995,000



On 2 acres, your privacy is assured with a buffer acre at Hazel Lake. 2 Century fireplaces heat with wood.

Commercial roof, granite kitchen, propane furnace, oak custom cabinets throughout. Wired for DSL, 4 phone lines, 4 satellite tv hookups. Pictures at:

Coloradologhomeforsale.com and columbinerealty.com

OTHER LISTINGS

\$1,500,000 1650 Hazel Lake Drive 3400 sf log home, furnished \$220,000 305 Wildflower Drive 1750 sf Fixer Upper on 1 acre \$185,000 1502 Hazel Lake Drive 1 acre VIEW LOT w/3/4 acre buffer \$125,000 751 Crest Drive 1 acre VIEW LOT level, easy build \$85,000 531 Crest Drive, 1 acre, all utilities & septic for 2 BR home \$58,000 850 Hazel Lake Drive 1 level acre, ready to camp or build \$58,000 851 Hazel Lake Drive 1 level acre, driveway in



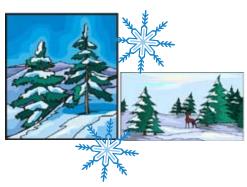


CABIN FOR RENT



This newer 1642 square foot cabin is completely furnished with quality everywhere. Downstairs there is one bedroom with a king-size bed, a full bath, a large fully equipped kitchen, laundry-utility room, and a living/dining area with a wood stove. The large second floor loft has a queen-size bed, a queen-sized futon, and a double bed. There is a full bath upstairs with a whirlpool tub. A full RV hookup is available immediately outside the cabin with electric, septic and water hookups. Available for rent year round. \$185.00 per night for up to four people. Extra people are \$25.00 each, per night.

For more information contact Mark & Missy Smith at mainstreetbagels@gobrainstorm.net





Burrichter's Painting Co.

Now accepting winter painting jobs. If you would like the inside of your house painted please call Jim at 862-8424.

No job too small.



Tamarack Group Inc.

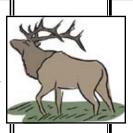
wdc13@earthlink.net

550 Ponderosa Way Cimarron, Colorado 81220

CABIN FOR SALE

201 Balsam Road, 1747 Sq. Ft. 3/4 Acre Lot 3 Bed. 2 Bath. Secluded lot,

but lots of meadow common ground. Beautiful up graded with all appliances, nice floor plan. Lots of Deck area, covered and uncovered. 12x16 Storage work shop.
Only \$339,500.00



CALL

Carol Bond or Walt Carnett
@ 970-862-8375

Or

Jeri Simms @ 970-208-6585 Keller Williams Realty



1495 SPRUCE ROAD

TRADE IN YOUR LOT towards a CABIN. Call for details.

140 LAKE RD. \$249,500.00. 1523 SQ. FT. Garage, shed. Hot tub. (Would trade)

1495 SPRUCE RD. NEW LISTING. 3 Bed. 1 3/4 Bath. Beautiful Up-Graded Mountain Home. With double French doors in living room to capture the VIEWS. 1.5 story, high ceilings, Aspen/Pine log trim, oak kitchen with all NEW appliances. Covered deck on two sides, plus 2 mud rooms, 26x32 ft Garage, built in 1993 with studio above with balcony. This comes ALL FURNISHED, down to the linens. WOULD CONSIDER A LOT AS A TRADEIN. Only \$379,500.00

LOTS FOR SALE......MANY WITH OWNER TERMS.....

380 Aspen Trail, 1 acre with lots of common ground on 2 sides \$49,500.00

413 Rim Rd, 1 acre view, \$52,900.00

413 Ute Rd. septic installed, water tap paid, driveway \$59,500.00

750 Balsam Rd. Nice flat lot, water & electric installed good RV site \$68,500.00

1553 Hazel Lake, interior lot, looks like a park, water tap paid. \$54,500.00

NEW. 621 BALSAM RD. great location, circle driveway, nice mix of trees, \$53,900.00

302 SPRUCE RD. THIS IS A BARGAIN. All the utilities are installed just last year, plus a foundation ready for a 2100 sq.ft. cabin, includes the plans and building permit. ALL this for only \$110,000.00, would consider a lot as down payment.

We have RV lots For Rent by week or month. Call for the list. 970-862-8375 or 970-208-6585





Hang Your Stocking With Care

In this 5BD, 2.5 BA home with a 1,008 sq. ft. unfinished basement. Enjoy the holidays snowmobiling or snowshoeing, and you're only 2 hours from great skiing. This one acre property is nestled peacefully in the trees. Please call Bernadette Waltrip at 970/249-5670 for more information.

Belair & Associates, Inc. 1832 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose, CO 81401 970/249-5670



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Down at the parking lot ...





The Christmas Party held December 11th proved to be another wonderful time at Arrowhead. Everyone brought food and drinks and the "White Elephant Gift Exchange" was fun for all. People also brought can goods for a needy family. Merry Christmas Arrowhead!

A ladies brunch will be held in January at the Inn. Contact Joanie for the date and time. 862-8415

Cheers go out to our Arrowhead First Responders, Kevin Stilley, Joanie Aufderheide, Rich Ostrom, Bob Rosenbaum, Joyce Boulter, John and Martha Cook, Kathy Koeltzow, Linda Goddard, Lucia LeBon, Paul Forbes, and Mike Bartlett.

Parade of Lights Dec. 22nd 5:00 p.m. Chili and drinks at the Inn afterwards. \$7.95 reservations 862-8206. Let Joanie know if you want your house on the tour. 862-8415











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The personal and financial rewards of owning a home are many. And you want to be sure your financing works best for your home and your life, for today and tomorrow.

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Monthly Massages at Arrowhead Inn for all property owners

Available appointments for: Friday, December 28, Saturday, December 29.

Gift Certificates can be purchased by phone or online.

50 Minute Swedish Massage \$65 50 Minute LaStone (hot & cool stone) Massage \$90

Holly Padilla, CMT 970-729-1287 heavenlyhands@bresnan.net Massagemontrose.com



Seasons Greetings



Notice

All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Law. The Arrowhead Improvements Association and its publication "Smoke Signals", will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is a violation of the law, both Federal or State. If you feel you 9have been discriminated against call the Colorado Civil Rights Division at 248-7329 or HUD 303-844-6158 or 1-800-669-9777.

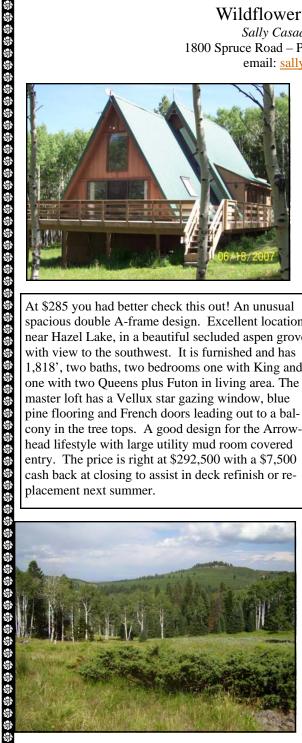
Wildflower Realty at Arrowhead

Sally Casad, Broker 970 862-8201 1800 Spruce Road - P. O. Box 100, Cimarron, CO 81220

email: sally@wildflowerrealty.com



At \$285 you had better check this out! An unusual spacious double A-frame design. Excellent location near Hazel Lake, in a beautiful secluded aspen grove with view to the southwest. It is furnished and has 1,818', two baths, two bedrooms one with King and one with two Queens plus Futon in living area. The master loft has a Vellux star gazing window, blue pine flooring and French doors leading out to a balcony in the tree tops. A good design for the Arrowhead lifestyle with large utility mud room covered entry. The price is right at \$292,500 with a \$7,500 cash back at closing to assist in deck refinish or replacement next summer.



690 Crest

Great price and easy site prep for a daylight walk-out design. What a view east! \$75,000



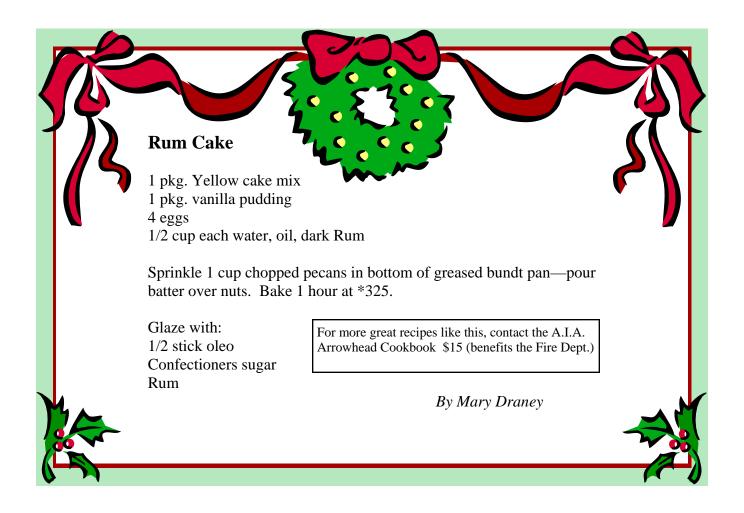
Rebuilt and more than a "remodel". Private location at 1800 Spruce Road. Fully furnished to sleep 6-8. It is compact and cute with cozy décor to fit a mountain cabin! Lots of extra touches. Just listed by Broker-Owner. \$249,500



103 Ridge Road

Sunny spot surrounded by a great mixture of trees including mature aspen. 103 Ridge Road accessed off a quiet private drive. The tap and all utilities are just waiting for you to park your RV. This is a very special lot with one ownership lasting 20 years! \$87,500

Wildflower has a beautiful wooded view lot at 140 Ridge Road for sale. Great home site in an area of gorgeous new homes. Great buy at \$79,500.



From: Arrowhead Improvements Association, Inc.

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Montrose, CO 81402

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