

THE OLD LOG
CHURCH MUSEUM

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The Belfry Post

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Summer 2008

Northern Reflections Book Launch.



Marion Carroll and Old Log Church Curator/Director Taryn Parker take some time out from the festivities for a much-deserved photo op.

Photo by Sarah Murray

June 15th was an exciting day at the Old Log Church. More than 55 people turned out to hear Marion Carroll launch the book, *Northern Reflections*, Writings by the late Desmond Carroll, Illustrated by Ted Harrison. It is comprised of a selection of vignettes that were written for the Sunday bulletin during the years he served at Christ Church Cathedral in Whitehorse.

Desmond Carroll was the Dean of the Yukon for 17 years. He was raised in Ireland and received his education there. After serving as an Anglican priest in Castlegar and Vancouver, British Columbia, he arrived in the Yukon. During his time in the territory, he worked at the Christ Church Cathedral in Whitehorse and served as chaplain to the Yukon division of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

He was well known to the congregation of Christ Church Cathedral, past and present, and they, in large part, supported Marion's presentation and the Old Log Church by filling up our little museum on the afternoon of the 15th. The crowd gathered, as part of "the healing community" that Carroll spoke of in one of his articles, to listen to selections from the new book. Marion read three selections from *Northern Reflections*, neatly encapsulating the breadth and depth of the collection. Her selections emphasized the book as a work that covers the entirety of the human condition, from the inevitable passage of time to fair play at sporting events.

Afterwards, Marion signed newly purchased copies of the book to add a personal touch to everyone's copy.

The Old Log Church Museum would like to thank everyone who attended and wish you all happy reading. *Northern Reflections* and many other wonderful titles are still available at the Old Log Church Museum gift shop. Proceeds from the sale of this book will be divided between The Ted Harrison Artist Retreat Society and the Old Log Church Museum.

By Sarah Murray & Taryn Parker



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An Exciting Acquisition...



This new addition is a picture of the Stringer family, c. 1932 (Herschel is taking the photo). A sincere 'thank you' to Kathy and Elizabeth Neilson for this donation.

OLC Summer Programs 2008



Photo: OLCM, 2007

We are delighted to have Barb Forsyth back this summer to deliver her interpretive program '*Mrs. Bowen, Bompas and Stringer: Women of the Early Church*'. The program recounts the many trials and hardships endured by these early settlers. Enacted completely from the first person, it is, quite literally, an *inspired* performance. Last summer Barb's performances were well received by our visitors and provided those lucky patrons with a unique interpretation on the history of the Yukon. Barb will be appearing as Mrs. Bowen, Bompas, and Stringer during July and August, beginning on the 15th. Performances are scheduled Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 2:30 pm. This program is given free with admission to the museum.

Barb has also developed a tour called *Who Lies Beneath*, an historical walking tour of Pioneer Cemetery, which will be offered Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 10:30am. Come for a short jaunt through history and learn about the ordinary and extraordinary people who contributed to our city's past. Tours cost \$2.00 per person, which includes a guidebook to the cemeteries of Whitehorse, and the stories of the many colourful characters resting there. The rest of the week (Sunday, Monday, Thursday) a summer student will be offering the tour at 10:30 and 2:30pm.



Marion Carroll chats with some of the guests come to celebrate the release of her husband's book

Photo by Sarah Murray

New Accessions :

Here are some examples of objects that were recently donated:

- A photograph of the Stringer family c. 1932, given by Kathy Neilson (granddaughter of Bishop Sovereign) (see front page for photo)
- Photographs of Bishop Sovereign and family, given by Kathy Neilson
- Drawing of the Old Log Church, given by Fern McKay

The Yukon Church Heritage Society wishes to thank all those that have offered donations to the Old Log Church Museum this year.

Canada Day Celebrations

Many people took advantage of the free admission on Canada Day to check out the Old Log Church Museum. While waiting for another event to start or looking for an interesting visit in downtown Whitehorse over 50 people passed through our picturesque museum.

Some museum-goers enjoy the Stringer Family Photo Album before the *Northern Reflections* book launch.



Photo by Sarah Murray

A new DVD

On your next visit to our museum be sure to check out the new DVD, *Connections to the Past, Legacy for the Future: 150 Years of Anglican Church in the North*. The DVD celebrates the work the Anglican Communion has carried out in the north for the past century and a half.

A Word from the President.



The Yukon Church Heritage Society spent much of last winter working with a consultant in developing a five year strategic plan. We developed a mission, mandate, and vision statement:

Mission

The Old Log Church Museum fosters the appreciation and understanding of the pivotal role played by the church in the Yukon since 1861.

Mandate

The Yukon Church Heritage Society governs and operates the Old Log Church Museum. The Society exists to collect, preserve, interpret, and exhibit historical material of the church in the Yukon through museums, historical buildings and display situations. The Society also provides literature and information regarding the collections.

Vision

The Old Log Church Museum is a unique entity, a gateway to understanding the historical relationship between the Church and people of the Yukon.

The YCHS recognizes the importance of drawing support for the museum from its 'community'. The community can be museum members, church members, tourists, people of Whitehorse, people receiving this newsletter, etc., it doesn't matter. What we do need is your support. Support is welcome and appreciated in many forms. Whether it is stopping by to view the exhibits, attending events, gift shop purchases, signing up for membership, offers of donation, contributing/partnering to produce projects/publications, or spreading the word to friends and acquaintances about the museum and our programs.

This summer, take a few minutes to visit the museum and gift shop. Take a cemetery tour with 'Martha Black' or meet some 'Women from the Early Church'. In the fall we hope to see you at the grand opening of a new exhibit which will be showing at the Hougen Heritage Gallery.

I would like to thank all who came to the Museum to attend the book launch of 'Northern Reflections', writings by Desmond Carroll. We thank Marion Carroll for doing readings from the book. And thanks to Marion, proceeds from the sale of the book have been divided between the Old Log Church Museum and the Ted Harrison Artist Retreat Society. We would also like to thank Marion Carroll and all those who were involved in the development of this book, for their support.

Photos: OLCM, 2003

Linda Thistle

From the Desk of the Curator

Well, it has been a little rainy and cold so far, but we haven't let that stop us from enjoying the summer here at the Old Log Church Museum. We have some interesting programmes for visitors to enjoy. In addition to our usual guided walking tours of Pioneer Cemetery, we have the Women of the Early Church Interpretive programme. Please refer to our events/programmes page for more details.

This summer season we are lucky to have a great batch of students. I'm happy that Alison Lindsay has returned again this summer, and am also pleased to have Owen Thompson, Sarah Murray and Joelle Hodgins join us for the summer. Read more about them in the Staff bio section.

I am thankful to the board of the Yukon Church Heritage Society for supporting me in attending many different training and professional development opportunities this year. In April, I completed the Exhibition Design and Installation course at the University of Victoria. I worked on team and individual projects related to the exhibition development process, and I hope to utilize this knowledge for our museum and our upcoming exhibit project. Immediately following this course, I attended the 2008 Canadian Museums Association conference which has held at the Empress Hotel in Victoria. It was a wonderful and informative experience. I was able to attend a lot of great sessions including Museums as Community Partners, Looking Ahead: Museums @ 2020, Building New Audiences with the Internet, Creating Sustainable Funding, and Engaging Youth, among others.

Continued on page 4...

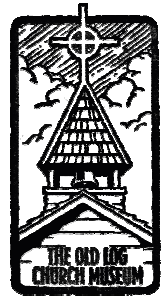




Photo: OLCM, 2007

The Bishop Who Ate His Boots Travelling Exhibit:

From January to May 2008, the exhibit was at the Kamloops Museum in Kamloops, BC. It was well received by the museum and public alike and was visited by a large number of school groups as well. Currently it is in Port Alberni and it will be making visits to places such as St. Albert, Alberta and Peterborough, Ontario in 2009.

We have recently been approved for funding for the *Circulation Phase of the Bishop Who Ate His Boots Travelling Exhibit* which will help us with shipping costs to tour this exhibit across Canada. This funding was made possible in part through a grant from the Museums Assistance Program, Department of Canadian Heritage, Government of Canada.

Curator's Message, Continued from page 3...

Other training undertaken this spring and summer include Super-host Fundamentals and Service Across Cultures (through YTEC). Our students attended various training opportunities this summer including the Welcome Yukon course and Passport to Safety. I have also had the opportunity to complete various health and safety training included First Aid, WHMIS, Principles of Health and Safety Management and Leadership in Safety Excellence (Northern Safety Network). All of these courses will help us meet the requirements of the WCB Choices program and more importantly, help us to complete one of our next projects, Risk Assessment and Disaster Plan, which will be completed in the fall.

This fall/winter, we will be working on two new projects: Permanent Exhibit Research and Development Project and Risk Assessment and Disaster Plan Project. More updates on the status of these projects in the next Winter issue of the Belfry Post.

Our thanks to the Parks and Recreation, City of Whitehorse and Department of Tourism and Culture, Government of Yukon for their financial assistance this year.

Best wishes to everyone for a wonderful and hopefully dry and warm summer. :)

Taryn Parker

The Diocesan Crest



In 1992 the Old Log Church Museum acquired a painting from the Church of Saint John the Divine. It was then put in storage. The painting is of the Diocesan crest of the Yukon and, other than the donor, the only information we had was the artist's signature, Savery. After considerable research, we believe that this was painted by a B.C. artist who lived in the province from 1920 until his death, and was a member of the Church of Saint John the Divine's congregation.

Robert Hubert Savery (1902-1980) was a British-born artist and landscape architect. His work, upon his 1920 arrival in Canada, was exhibited regularly in the Vancouver Art Gallery, which included solo exhibitions in 1937 and 1939. After 1941 he was an instructor of art and applied arts for the B.C. department of Education. He died in Victoria at the age of 77. Besides being a painter, Savery was also a sculptor and landscape designer for the Provincial Department of Public Works. He designed several fountains including the one currently in front of the Vancouver Art Gallery.



What's New at the Gift Shop



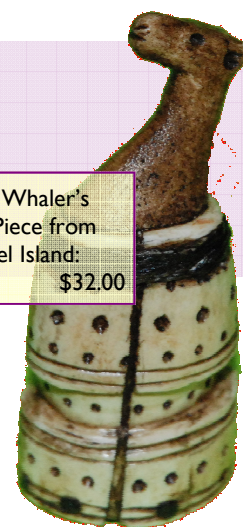
Ted Harrison Greeting Card \$2.00



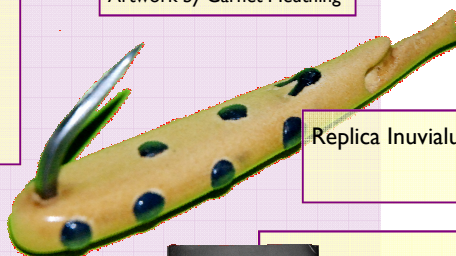
Inushuk Jewelry;
 Pendant: \$ 29.95
 Stud Earring: \$ 29.95
 Pins: \$ 21.95



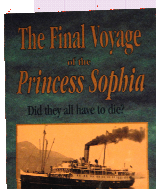
Hand-Carved Woodcut Souvenir Card: \$6.00
 Artwork by Garnet Meuthing



Replica Whaler's Chess Piece from Herschel Island: \$32.00



Replica Inuvialuit Fish Hook \$50.00

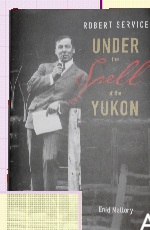


The Final Voyage of Princess Sophia
 By Betty O'Keefe & Ian Macdonald.
 The final voyage of Princess Sophia is a poignant memorial of this maritime disaster. Compelling prose and attention to detail make this book a comprehensive history of the shipping service along the Pacific coast of North America during the early 1900's. Informative and thought provoking, the tale of Princess Sophia brings the dangers faced by early northern mariners into public consciousness.



The Lost Patrol
 By Dick North

A book of northern adventure, Dick North's tale of the tragic journey undertaken by a Royal Northwest Mounted Police patrol in the winter of 1910 is both vivid and gripping. His compelling and detailed prose examines the leadership and circumstance that led to the demise of the patrol.



The Belfry Book Review

Under the Spell of the Yukon
 By Enid Mallory

A comprehensive view of Robert Service's life. This biography follows the legendary Bard of the Yukon from Scotland to California; from the Yukon to France. Along the way, the background and inspiration for his enthralling narrative poetry is revealed.

Five Pioneer Women

By the Anglican Church Women's Auxiliary
 The unique stories of five strong women: Sadie Stringer, Kathleen Cowaret, Susan Bowen, Charlotte Bompas and Charlotte Sarah Canham. These remarkable women dedicated themselves to the people of the north.

Victoria Faulkner: Lady of the Golden North
 By Joyce Hayden

That the women's centre in Whitehorse is named for Victoria Faulkner is only one example of how this pioneer woman affected life in the Yukon Territory. Her biography illustrates her independent spirit and shines a bright and inspiring spotlight on the extraordinary life of a woman who helped shape the territory as we know it.



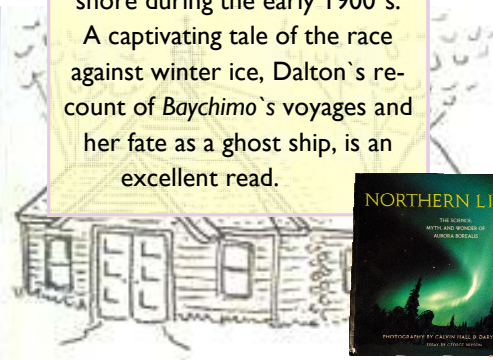
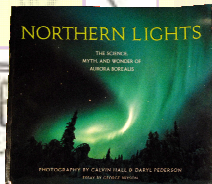
Baychimo: Arctic Ghost Ship
 By Anthony Dalton

The Hudson Bay Company's steamer, *Baychimo*, served remote trading posts on the Arctic shore during the early 1900's. A captivating tale of the race against winter ice, Dalton's recount of *Baychimo's* voyages and her fate as a ghost ship, is an excellent read.

Northern Lights

Essay by George Bryson
 Photos by Calvin Hall & Daryl Pederson

Beautiful pictures and informative text detail the many theories surrounding this eerie phenomenon. Read about the Aurora's effect on airplane navigation, and possible accidents it may have caused. The descriptions and exquisite photography might even help you on your hunt to glimpse the ever elusive *Northern Lights!*





OLC Summer Staff



Hello, my name is Joelle Hodgins, and I'm the Collections Assistant for this summer season. I was born in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan and have been here in Whitehorse for the past 11 years. I'm about to enter my 4th year at the University of Victoria, with a major in History. I had originally planned to teach my favourite subject, Grade 12 history, but since beginning my studies I have come

across many other options; such as working in Russia for CSIS (or another organization). I'd like to think I will find some lost war documents of Stalin's that will change history completely (I replaced every kid's astronaut dream early on). Thanks to the Old Log Church, working in a museum has since been added to that list.

My task this summer is to research, catalogue, and finally fully accession a group of "found" artifacts. Within the group were great historical photographs, old bible study notebooks, an 1857 organ sheet music book, some First Nations crafts, and some mementos from the Queen's 1967 visit. In my time here I expected to learn about Yukon history and the internal workings of a museum – I can now easily say that I've learned far more than I had first imagined.



So, my dear reader, I shall introduce myself before a brief explanation of my summer job. My name is Sarah Murray. I was born in the City of Whitehorse and have lived in the surrounding area the entirety of my twenty years.

Throughout my time in Whitehorse I've been a member of the Yukon Ski Team and competed territorially and nationally in cross-country skiing. I completed my first year of university at the Augustana Campus of the University of Alberta, studying English Literature and competing for the Augustana Viking's Cross-Country Ski Team. If you are unsure of the location (as I quite expect you are), Augustana is in the Albertan town of Camrose, just outside the city of Edmonton. Next year I will continue my pursuit of education at St Thomas University in the province of New Brunswick. It is an excellent stroke of good fortune that I obtained this scintillating summer job, researching a painting from our collection. The Old Log Church Museum will help me practice a number of skills that will be helpful once I am no longer cradled in the comforting arms of post-secondary education.

Greetings and Salutations Belfry readers! My name is Owen Thompson and I'm your friendly neighbourhood Assistant Administrator. I hail from Owen Sound, Ontario, and was brought to this beautiful Yukon by a longing for natural wonders, warm hospitality,



and sheer animal curiosity. I'm a recent graduate of the University of Windsor with a degree in Philosophy (somehow I managed to get hired... I guess we're not all jobless, raving about human nature) and I hope, one day, to return to the world of academia for training in conservation and restoration. I'm an avid kayaker, and I'm told Five Finger and the Tatsheshini can be a pretty good ride so, when I'm not guiding Pioneer cemetery tours, or putting together this issue of the Belfry Post, I'll be tasting the waters as soon as I can. It'll be a great summer, and I'm looking forward to meeting you all, so come in, say hi, and enjoy the Old Log Church.

Having completed my second year of post-secondary education I thought it only fitting that I return to the building where I spent such a fabulous couple of months last summer: the Old Log Church Museum. My name is Alison



Lindsay and upon returning to the OLC (we, who have gained seniority may address the church as OLC), I have taken a leadership role and helped train the new employees, I have also taken on the task of spearheading the development of a new educational package. I lived in the Yukon for most of my life, and attended Vanier Catholic Secondary School. I also attended high school in Shawinigan Lake, from which I graduated. Now living in Whitehorse for the summer, I endeavour to protect our environment by walking to work everyday. I am looking forward to my summer's project, an education kit, which will aid in moulding children's minds and keep me out of the sun in the cool, quiet interior of the church.



The Old Log Church Museum

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President:

Linda Thistle

Director/Curator

Taryn Parker

Student Staff:



Joelle Hodgins
Alison Lindsay
Sarah Murray
Owen Thompson

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME !

Become a Yukon Church Heritage Society member and receive a yearly newsletter, free admission to the Old Log Church Museum and a 10% discount in our gift shop! We will also keep you up to date on Yukon Church Heritage Society news.

Individual memberships are \$10 and family memberships are \$15.

Donations are always appreciated and are tax deductible. Your donation goes to help maintain the Old Log Church Museum.

Membership forms are enclosed in this issue.

The Belfry Post



Museum Summer Hours:

Daily 10am – 6pm
May 15 through September 1

Yukon Church Heritage Society Board of Directors 2008-09

Linda Thistle, President
Len Beecroft, Treasurer
Marjorie Copp, Secretary

Directors:

Suzanne Blackjack
Millie Jones
Arlene Kubica
Clare McDowell
Tara McDowell
Archbishop Terry Buckle (ex-officio)

Trivia Time!!

What caused the explosion of the Sternwheeler *Columbian* in 1906 ?

What was the name of the family pet buried at Pioneer Cemetery?

What was the motive behind the Pueblo Mine Murder?

Stop in or take the cemetery tour to find out the answers!

Thank you to Reverend David Pritchard & crew for taking care of the grounds-keeping this summer. Our sincere thanks to Department of Tourism & Culture, Government of Yukon and Parks & Recreation, City of Whitehorse for funding assistance for the Old Log Church Museum for this fiscal year.