



## THE OLD LOG CHURCH MUSEUM

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# The Belfry Post

Volume 6, Issue 1

Summer 2009

## Reverend Arthur Privett

Written by Conrad Tiedeman



Reverend Arthur Privett. *Credit:* Old Log Church Museum Collection, 2003.5.541

Arthur Privett was born in Toronto, Ontario on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 1913. He grew up in Willowdale, Ontario; just north of Toronto. By the end of high school Arthur entered the family market garden greenhouse business. This started his life-long passion for gardening.

At the age of 25, Arthur left for Toronto to work odd jobs, where, coupled with his love for God, was eventually led to study religion and be commissioned with the Anglican Church Army. Arthur soon graduated and was sent to work in a small church in Timmins, Ontario.

While serving in Swastika, Ontario, he met his future wife, Muriel Sut-

ton. Arthur was then accepted into Wycliffe College in Toronto, and when he completed his studies in 1946, he and Muriel married at Sioux Lookout, Ontario.

Arthur's first parish was in Garden River, Ontario., a First Nations Reserve just outside of Sault Ste Marie. While in Garden River, Arthur developed his second passion, that of building churches and congregations. After five years the family moved to Saskatoon, where the third son, John was born.

In 1957 Arthur came to Christ Church Cathedral in Whitehorse, Yukon where their daughter Ruth was born. In 1973 Arthur took a new position at the new Wolf Creek Young Offenders Facility. Arthur's last church construction project was building St. Columba's in Beaver Creek. He was one of the early boosters of the popular Braeburn Christian Camp. Until the age of 92, he continued assisting at Christ Church Cathedral.

In 2006, Muriel Privett died, but Arthur continued to live in their house. He was determined to remain independent as long as possible and was able to with the help of his family and friends and home care. After a trip to Whitehorse General, the nursing staff of Copper Ridge Place fondly welcomed him.

On May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009, Arthur Privett passed away peacefully at Copper Ridge Place surrounded by friends and family. His eulogy was given by Mr. Mal Malloch. He described Arthur as a loving husband, a loving father, an avid gardener, a truck enthusiast



Unfinished gravesite of Reverend Arthur Privett at Grey Mountain Cemetery. *Credit:* Eilidh Fraser



## A Word From the President

Well, spring has passed and we are well into summertime at the Old Log Church Museum. Taryn has been busy hiring staff for the summer season. We were very lucky that Alison has returned to the museum for another summer. We also welcome Barb Forsyth back to do the summer interpretive programs and the cemetery tours.

Our Annual General Meeting was held on April 15. I would like to thank and welcome back the returning Board members: Len Beecroft, Marjorie Copp, Tara McDowell, Millie Jones, Arlene Kubica, Claire McDowell, and Suzanne Blackjack. I would like to thank Arlene for serving on the Museum Advisory Board for the last two years.

The Board and staff are currently working with a local company, Aasman, to complete a Brand Strategy, Marketing and Tactical Plan for the museum. We would like to thank Tourism & Culture, Special Projects Capital Assistance Program, and the Community Development Fund for providing funds to complete the project. A marketing plan was identified as a need in the Strategic Plan we completed a few years ago.

The Stringer Traveling Exhibit had a successful run at St Albert, AB and will now be on display at the Peterborough Centennial Museum, ON, for the summer and fall. If you have family or friends in that area it is well worth seeing!

I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy summer. I encourage you to bring your family and visitors for a visit to the museum. Hear about the lives of women in the Yukon, as preformed by Barb Forsyth or go on a guided tour of Pioneer Cemetery, and of course check out our gift shop.

Linda Thistle  
President

### **New Accession!**

A wooden communion set with fluted glass cups used at the Presbyterian Church in Dawson City and Whitehorse (c. 1900), donated by Dave Hobus.



*Credit: Eilidh Fraser*

## From the Curator...



As I write this it is sunny and warm outside. What a nice summer so far 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.

The 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 Conrad Tiedeman, Alisha Kuipers, and Eilidh Fraser join us for the summer. Thank you to the Young Canada Works, Canada Summer Jobs and STEP programs for their support.

This past year we've had a lot of exciting events happen at the museum. On November 7, 2008, the opening reception of the new photo exhibit titled, *Connection to the Past, Legacy for the Future: 150 Years of the Anglican Church in the North*, made its debut in the Hougén Heritage Gallery at Arts Underground. The museum partnered with Yukon Archives to present the exhibit. This exhibit features themes such as: Early Missionaries, The Vanners, The Church During the Gold Rush, The Legacy of the Alaska Highway, Anglican Church in the Communities, and Notable Visitors to the Diocese of Yukon Churches. It consists of 27 frames which are comprised of photos and text. There is also a 60 min DVD which accompanies the exhibit. Umbelulla on the River did the catering. The opening was emceed by board member Arlene Kubica with guest speakers Elaine Taylor, Minister of Tourism & Culture and Sarah Usher, Diocese of Yukon. Thank you to all who attended. The photo exhibit was on display until the end of January and was well received by the public. We hope to have it tour various churches, museums and other institutions in the Yukon in the coming year

On November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008 we held a new event "Old Fashioned Christmas Sale". During this special event, our gift shop had a fantastic new selection of beautiful and unique Victorian inspired Christmas decorations, ornaments and other gifts for sale. Visitors to the museum also enjoyed a wonderful festive atmosphere, snacks and goodies donated by Jeff Thistle and Millie Jones, listened to Christmas music and viewed a new Christmas themes exhibit with photos and artifacts from our museum collection. This event was a resounding success and we hope to make it an annual event.

This spring/summer we are working on a Brand Strategy, Marketing and Tactical Plan. We are working with Aasman to complete this project. More updates the status of these projects in the next Winter issue of the Belfry Post.

My thanks to the board of the Yukon Church Heritage Society for their participation and support of the museum this year. Our thanks to the Department of Tourism and Culture, Government of Yukon for their financial assistance this year. Thanks again to David Pritchard and crew for taking care of the grounds again this summer.

Best wishes to everyone for a wonderful and exciting summer.

Taryn Parker



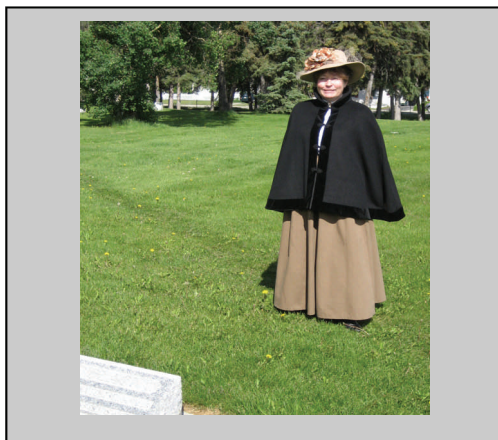
## OLC Summer Programs



This summer we once again have the pleasure of hosting historical interpreter Barb Forsyth's summer interpretive programs. In previous years these programs have been very well-received, and continue in their popularity this year.

### "Mrs. Bompas, Bowen and Stringer: Women of the Early Church"

This program has Barb tell the story of one of these 3 pioneer women who had profound influences on the north. The historical aspect of their stories is addressed, as are the emotions of these missionaries, as well as the struggles they and their families endured. It runs Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 2:30 p.m.



### "Who Lies Beneath"



This guided cemetery tour takes visitors through Whitehorse's Pioneer Cemetery with Barb Forsyth, acting as the Klondike's own Martha Black. This tour explores the intriguing lives of some of the Yukon's most interesting and colorful characters. It runs Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m., and Fridays and Saturdays at 7:00 p.m.

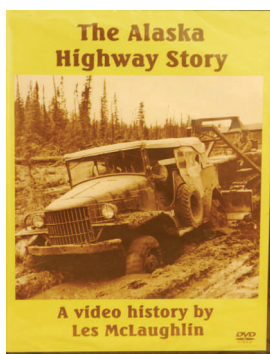
### "Bishop Who Ate His Boots" Travelling Exhibit Update

From June-August 2008, the Bishop Who Ate His Boots travelling exhibit was at the Maritime Heritage Museum in Port Alberni, B.C. Then it travelled to the Musee Heritage in St Albert, AB where it was on display from December 2008-March 2009. Currently it is at the Peterborough Centennial Museum & Archives in Peterborough, Ontario. This exhibit is nearing the end of its tour and has been well received by the museum and public alike in the various communities it has visited. We would like to thank the Museums Assistance Program, Department of Canadian Heritage for funding for the Circulation Phase of this exhibit which assisted us with shipping costs to tour this exhibit across Canada.

## New in the Gift Shop...



**Looking for unique gifts or interesting books? Then be sure to stop by our Museum Gift Shop!**



### **The Alaska Highway Story DVD**

Enjoy this fascinating look at the agreement between Canada and the United States in 1942 to build a highway to defend the isolated North during WWII. A combination of archival footage, historic photos and present day film scenes are woven together in this video history by Les McLaughlin.

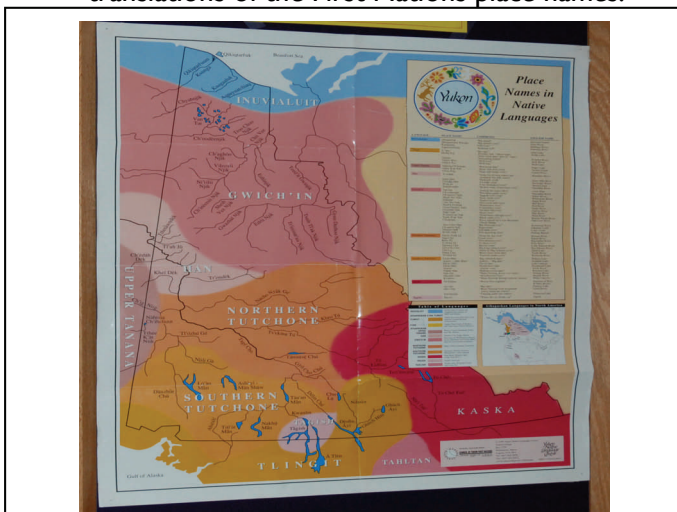
### **Water Colour Painting Postcards**

Send one of these postcards to your friends and family to admire. The postcards are reprinted water colour paintings inspired by local scenes and created by Yukon artist Daphne Menell.



### **Yukon Place Names in Native Languages Poster**

Available in two sizes, and produced by the Yukon Native Language Center, all posters feature a unique map of the Yukon that highlights the First Nations of the territory and their respective languages. The posters include an interesting legend with the translations of the First Nations place names.



**The Museum Gift Shop is a vital source of revenue for the continued operation & maintenance of the Old Log Church Museum. We greatly appreciate your patronage.**

**Don't forget, Yukon Church Heritage Society members receive a 10% discount on shop purchases!**

Credits: Eilidh Fraser

## Book Reviews

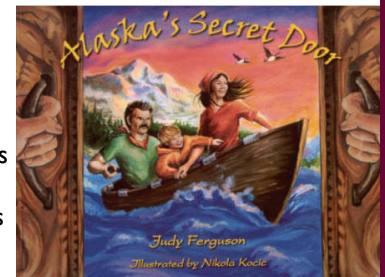


All of the following books are available at the Old Log Church Gift shop.

### **Alaska's Secret Door**

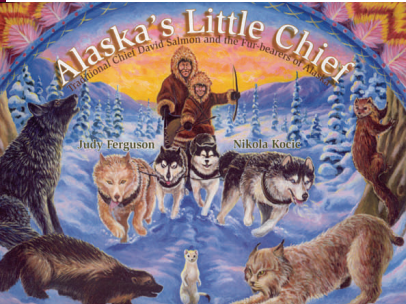
Written by Judy Ferguson and Illustrated by Nikola Kocic

Dive into the adventurous voyage the Ferguson family embarked upon through Alaska's secret door out into the land of the Yukon. A young boy named Clint will share the story of the people they meet and the places they visit along the Yukon River. This story illustrates the Athabascan's culture through the eyes of an artist's vibrant brush strokes. The book is an enjoyable read not only for kids but also the traveller or tourist at heart. It gives the reader an insight to what Alaska and Yukon looks like to the person who lives there. Anyone who loves to read about culture and travel should read this book because Alaska's Secret Door highlights the cultures of Alaska and Yukon while showing this through amazingly detailed landscape paintings. So come and follow the Ferguson family's adventures to learn something new and exciting about Canada's great north.



### **Alaska's Little Chief**

Written by Judy Ferguson and Illustrated by Nikola Kocic

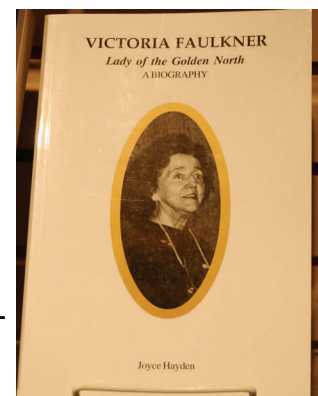


Join the incredible journey that David Salmon took with his father when an epidemic forced them leave their hometown for 18 years. David tells the story of how he and his father trapped for a living, and how he learned to use his own bow and arrow in order to save others in the Alaskan wilderness. This book gives the reader an idea on what life was like for the Athabascan people in the north, and how they survived the harsh winters. Anyone who enjoys adventurous books would love this one. This journey is told through fun and detailed paintings that include a map and illustrations that will help readers better understand the book. So come and learn more about Alaska and Yukon's history.

### **Victoria Faulkner: Lady of the Golden North (signed by author)**

By Joyce Hayden

Learn about the life and opinions of a loyal Dawsonite and Yukoner, who was a boundary pushing woman in Yukon politics. Anyone interested in the political history of the Yukon would like this biography. I enjoyed learning about the life of an independent woman whose importance is illustrated by the naming of the Whitehorse Victoria Faulkner's Women's Center.

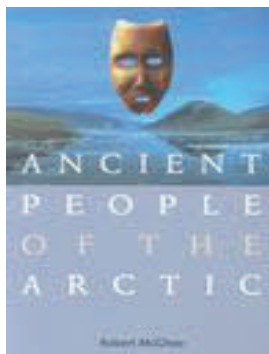


## Book Reviews

### Bridges To Statehood - The Alaska-Yugoslav Connection

By Judy Ferguson

This is the compelling story of how Alaska was transformed from a backwoods Russian territory to the 49<sup>th</sup> state of the Union. Each chapter is the story of an Alaskan pioneer told from the point of view of a family member. With detailed maps of Alaska and the Former Yugoslav, it's easy to navigate the pioneers' home and eventual destination. This is the perfect book for all Alaska enthusiasts. "Bridges to Statehood" is a great novel for anyone interested in Alaskan history or politics, from curious amateurs to students. As a Yukoner and frequent visitor to Alaska, I found this book quite compelling, especially the history the Yukon and Alaska share.



### Ancient People of the Arctic

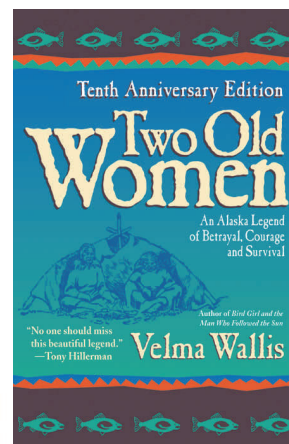
By Robert McGhee

Learn about one of North America's first settlers, the Paleo-Eskimos, in this interesting yet uncomplicated book written by the curator of the Canadian Museum of Civilization, Robert McGhee. Read through the culture and way of life of these ancient people, as well as the photos of ancient sites, tools and remains. This would be an excellent reference book for students researching arctic civilizations or just for somebody with interest in early Alaskan and Yukon peoples. I thoroughly enjoyed this book as a way to learn about these ancient peoples of the arctic, and recommend it to all patrons of the gift shop.

### Good Intentions Gone Awry: Emma Crosby and the Methodist Mission on the Northwest Coast

By Jan Hare and Jean Barman

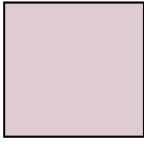
Delve into the life and mind of Fort Simpson missionary wife Emma Crosby through narrative, photographs, and letters composed by Emma; and determine what it was like to move to a remote territory with a foreign culture. The use of letters and their first person point of view was refreshing and impassioned. I particularly enjoyed the insights in this novel since taking a class on the history of women in Canada.



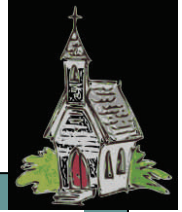
### Two Old Women: An Alaska Legend of Betrayal, Courage, and Survival (10th Anniversary Ed.)

By Velma Wallis

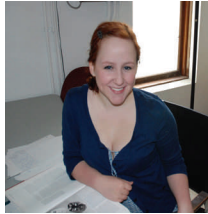
In a time before contact with Europeans, two old First Nations women abandoned during a tough winter rediscover their ancestral survival techniques and in their determination find passion for life again. I found this First Nations tale easily engaging with its pictures and triumphant, empowering message.



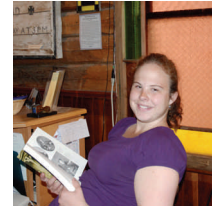
## Student Staff



My name is Eilidh Fraser and I am one of the museum attendants for the summer 2009 season. I was born in Antigonish, Nova Scotia and have lived in Whitehorse for 17 of my 18 years. I graduated from Vanier Catholic secondary School this past June, and will be attending Carleton University in Ottawa this fall. I will be entering the Journalism honors program, which I am very excited about. I am also looking forward to moving to a "real" city, and the welcome change of scenery that Ottawa will be. My work at the Old Log Church Museum, particularly that on the Belfry Post, will hopefully give me some kind of insight as to what some possible future careers would be like.



If you are a regular Belfry Post reader I should be a familiar face. My name is Alison and this is my third summer spent at the Old Log Church Museum. Each summer I have had a different position and this summer I am the Curatorial Assistant, which means I assist the Director/Curator with museum operation. I am also responsible for the posters and brochures you may see around the community about our summer programs. In addition, I am continuing work on the Herschel Island education kit I was working on last summer. In the fall, I am returning to the University of Victoria for my fourth year where I am planning to achieve a double major in English and History. Although I read a lot over the school year for my classes I enjoy coming back to the Old Log Church Museum and working my way through the new and old books in our gift shop.



I'm Alisha Kuipers and I come from the small town of Caledonia Ontario. I have just finished my first year of Museum Studies at Algonquin College in Ottawa was delighted to be able to travel to Yukon to work here for the summer. My position is the Collections Technician meaning I have the privilege of working with the newly donated artifacts to the museum, mostly photographs. I will be researching, cataloguing and storing these new acquisitions. It is an enjoyable way to learn about the history and culture of this museum, Yukon and the First Nations people here. I also get to do various other projects for the museum such as finding possible products for our gift shop. It is exciting to work in a museum in the Yukon and I am sure that this experience will help me know what I want to do after college.



My name is Conrad Tiedeman and I am the Museum Attendant for this summer season. I was born in Vancouver, British Columbia but was raised here in Whitehorse. I'm about to enter my 3rd year at The King's University College in Edmonton, with a major in Political Science and a minor in History. I am an avid traveler. I've been to Alaska, Hawaii, New York, California, Florida, Washington, England, Belgium, France, and throughout most of Canada. This summer I have had a chance to work on several projects, such as compiling a contacts database for the OLC Museum, when I am not working on my article for the Belfry Post. By working at the OLC Museum, I hope to learn more about Yukon history and museums in general. Since working at the OLC Museum I've learned a lot about history and culture.







### The Old Log Church Museum

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### Student Staff

Alison Lindsay  
Eilidh Fraser  
Alisha Kuipers  
Conrad Tiedeman

## 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 and operate the Old Log Church Museum.



## The Belfry Post



### Museum Summer Hours:

Daily 10 a.m. — 6p.m.  
Fridays and Saturdays 10 a.m.— 7:30 p.m. \*  
May 15 through September 7  
(extended hours only until Aug 22)

Linda Thistle—**President**  
Taryn Parker—**Director/Curator**

### Yukon Church Heritage Society Board of Directors 2009-10

Linda Thistle—President  
Len Beccroft—Treasurer  
Marjorie Copp—Secretary

### Directors:

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

Our sincere thanks to Special Projects Capital Assistance Program, Dept of Tourism & Culture, Community Development Fund, Dept of Economic Development, Government of Yukon, Museums Assistance Program, Dept of Canadian Heritage, and Parks & Recreation, City of Whitehorse for funding assistance for the Old Log Church Museum for this fiscal year.



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