

# YUKON AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION (YAA)

## September 2002 PLOWBOY NEWSLETTER

203 - 302 Steele Street, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C5

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### President's Message

By Bill Drury

With the leaves changing colour and frost at night we know that summer is over. For forage producers it wasn't very good, with a dry spring and then rain when it was time to make hay. The drought in Alberta has made hay scarce all over, but there is always the option of pasturing out horses if hay can't be bought.

There have been some changes in the Whitehorse YAA executive over the past month or so. We regret that Fred Herzog submitted his resignation as Director, due to an on-going legal issue with the territorial government which he felt might pose a conflict of interest. We appreciate his concern, and accepted his resignation, and wish him the best in his situation.

Our Executive Director, Deborah Cassidy, also submitted her resignation as Executive Director of the YAA office effective September 13, 2002. We accepted her resignation with regret, as she has been with us for over two years and has patiently seen us through many ups and downs in the office! Thank you Deborah for all your hard work! And we wish you all the best in your continued position as Executive Director of CARD and new job with Rural Team Yukon.

We will be posting a notice in the newspapers soon advertising for another office manager. The position is part-time, 10 hours a week. In the meantime,

the office will be closed from September 9<sup>h</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2002.

Congratulations to all those who worked on the Klondyke Harvest Fair to make it such a success! I heard that there was a great turnout on Saturday (smaller on Sunday) and that the public had a really good time and enjoyed the entertainment, animals, Midway, Bench Show and Crafters booths. I was busy trying to get the last of my hay off in those two good days we had, but I'd like to thank everyone who volunteered their time to help out at the Fair. A great job done by all!

#### YAA Whitehorse Chapter Executive:

Bill Drury, President	668-1045
Doug Craig, Vice-President	668-5774
Susie Rogan, Sec.Treas.	667-4088
Dave Andrew, Director	667-7844
Wayne Grove, Director	393-1942
Jim Dillabough, Director	no phone

#### Stewart Valley Chapter Executive:

Ralph Mease, President	2M - 3470
Jack Smith, Vice-Pres.	996-2273
Norma Mease, Sec.Treas.	2M - 3470
Rick Cocks, Director	996-2445
Barry Van Pouche, Director	996-2623
John Reid, Director	996-2924
Dan McDiarmid, Director	996-2721
Herb & Gudrun Davies, Directors	996-2468
Kris Pavlovich, Director	996-2023



### Klondike Valley Chapter

#### Executive

John Lenart, President

????, Vice-President

????, Secretary-Treasurer

Please get back to me with info!

### Student Assistant Returns to School

The Whitehorse office has lost its student assistant, Mark Millar, who returned to university in Edmonton on August 28<sup>th</sup>. We will miss him, both for his attention to everyday tasks and his knowledge of the computer. He was a genius on the computer, and got our YAA website up-to-date and looking very professional. The trick will be for those of us who remain to keep it up!

Do check out the website at :

[www.yukonaa.com](http://www.yukonaa.com) We welcome your comments and suggestions.

### Deborah Cassidy and Valerie Whelan to do road trip

Deborah Cassidy, (in her capacity as Executive Director of CARD and Rural Team Yukon secretary), and Valerie Whelan, (representative of Agriculture and AgriFood Canada, CARD ex-officio and Rural Team Yukon Chair), will be visiting Mayo and Dawson City from September 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> to see CARD projects in those communities, tell Yukoners what **Rural Team Yukon** is all about, and meet with members of the Stewart Valley and Klondike YAA chapters.

They have already visited Carmacks on August 12<sup>th</sup> to see the CARD project that the Little Salmon, Carmacks First Nation is doing. This excellent project

combines a root cellar, greenhouse and vegetable garden. They were very impressed with what they saw, and with the enthusiasm they encountered by all they spoke to.

In Dawson City, they will visit John Lenart's orchard project (see July newsletter), and MaryAnne Davis's Saskatoon berry project.

There are several projects in the Whitehorse area that they also plan to visit this fall, but times as yet have not been arranged. These are Mike Bailey's hydraulic pump system, and the Zgeb's raspberry and strawberry trials.

### Marsha Flumerfelt Resigns

Marsha Flumerfelt, long-time Yukoner and resident of Destruction Bay, has resigned her position as Chair of the CARD committee. It was a difficult decision, but family responsibilities had to come first. She is happy to have had the opportunity to serve on the committee, and wishes all her fellow members the best of luck..

### Joyce Scott Retires

Joyce Scott, long time Yukoner and owner of The Feed Store/Pet Junction, retired this summer from the business due to ill health. She has always been a great supporter of the Yukon Agricultural Association and agriculture in general, and her presence at the store will be greatly missed. Her daughter (and business partner) Lisa Triggs is now running the Feed Store.

We would like to thank you Joyce for all your support of the agriculture industry in the territory, and wish the best for your good health.



## Carlene and Gordon Kerr move to Whitehorse

Gordon and Carlene Kerr (owner/operator of Hoofbeats Equestrian Centre) have moved to Whitehorse. Gordon is going to Yukon college for advanced training. This leaves a gap in the horse world of Dawson!

## Klondyke Harvest Fair A

### Success

By Barbara Drury, KHF coordinator

The Eighth Annual Klondyke Harvest Fair was a success, thanks to a combination of good weather, and hard work by many volunteers! Saturday was "mostly sunny", and the day started off at 10:30 am with a great demonstration by Erika Rozsa's Canine & Company group of obedience, agility, and a selection of breeds. People were enthralled watching the dogs go through their paces, and vendors could also watch and enjoy the spectacle.

At noon Jack Cable, Commissioner of the Yukon, the Honourable Scott Kent, Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, and Larry Bagnell, Liberal MP, welcomed everyone to the Fair and the Bench Show opened.

A great variety of musical entertainment went on all afternoon, and folks could also enjoy the Farmers & Crafters booths, the animals in the petting zoo, horse rides, the displays, kids colouring corner, and free balloons in the YAA tent, the displays in the Bench Show, and the delicious food available at the Midway booths. Petunia the Urban Milk Cow was a bit of a fizzle, as her washers for her teats weren't tight enough, and she leaked. She'll be overhauled this

winter, and be in milking trim for next year!

Sunday was slower than Saturday, but we were still lucky with the weather...no rain! Sunday saw the popular Kiss the Pig contest won by Duke Connelly, who acquitted himself in discharging his duty! (and the pig only squealed a little bit!)

The Auction, featuring the baking and preserves of the Bench show entries, went well, and a number of lucky people went home with delicious baskets of goodies.

Congratulations to Rose Berndt who won Grand Aggregate Champion in the Senior division, and to Alan Lebedoff who won Grand Aggregate Champion in the Junior division. Well deserved by both of you!

(Other Bench Show results and the Garden Competition results follow on next page).

An appreciation luncheon was held for the KHF Committee on Friday, August 30<sup>th</sup> at the TC Richards building boardroom. Most members were able to attend, and pizza and fresh garden veggies were enjoyed by all.

Financially, this was the best KHF ever for the YAA in terms of \$\$\$'s made by admissions, catalogue sales and venues.

**In conclusion, I would like to thank the many volunteers who helped make the Klondyke Harvest Fair a reality this year, beginning with the KHF Committee:**

Donna McBee, Midway Coordinator  
George Green, Midway & Judge  
Elaine Thompson, Midway



Rebecca Fenton, Bench Show  
Dave Beckman, Bench Show & Setup,  
Judge  
Valerie Whelan, Bench Show & Setup  
Tony Hill, Bench Show & Setup, Judge  
Rosie Drury, YAA tent & Setup  
Annie Avery, Entertainment  
Mark Miller, General & Setup  
Deborah Cassidy, General, Office, Setup

Elizabeth Schmidt, Chilli booth &  
decorations  
Mimi Scoretz, Chilli booth &  
decorations  
Vivienne Pelletier, Chilli booth  
Karen Pelletier, Chilli booth  
Marion Schmidt, Chilli booth  
Alan Lebedoff, Dart booth  
Kristen Innes-Taylor, Dart booth & Setup  
& Judge  
Dave Murray, Setup  
Kevin Bowers, Setup  
Matt Ball, Setup  
Bruce Nibecker, Setup  
Colin Nibecker, YAA tent  
Jim Dillabough, Petting Zoo  
Robert Bellon, Setup  
Alison Beckman, Bench Show  
Mandy Beckman, Bench Show  
Julie Ourom, Bench Show  
Pat Duncan, Bench Show  
Jenny Drury, YAA Tent  
Joan Craig, Judge & Registration  
Doug Craig, Registration  
Ingrid Wilcox, Judge  
Marnie Ryder, Judge  
Ruth Treskatis, Judge  
Ellen Harris, Judge  
Randy Lamb, Judge  
Pat Swainson, Judge  
Michael Delaney, Judge  
Corrine Wells, Judge  
Jaime Hanna, Judge  
Gwen Hanna, Judge  
Joanne Flynn, Judge  
Goody Sparling, Judge

Babe Richards, Judge  
Roy Ness, MC for Saturday  
Jeremy Harp, MC for Sunday  
Keith & Betty Dye, Auctioneers  
Ruth Headley, Judge  
Evelyn Church, Judge  
Leissa Gattie-Thurmer, Judge  
Barb Zaccarelli, Judge  
Muriel von Finster, Judge  
Evelyn Neave, Judge  
Colleen Duncan, Judge  
Rhea Stewart, Judge  
Elizabeth Hall, Judge  
Elisa Levy, Bench Show  
Susie Rogan, Setup  
Christine Miller, Admissions  
Bill Drury, Setup  
Jessica Jobin, Y2C2 setup  
Ryan Sylvestre, Y2C2 setup  
Amy Darling, Y2C2 setup  
Tyrel Hemsley, Y2C2 setup  
Riley Gibson, Y2C2 setup  
Jennifer Jay, Facility cleanup & General  
Shirley Odsather, setup  
Richard Odsather, setup

**Special thanks** to Marsh Lake Tents &  
Events for doing such a great job with  
Facility Management!

**Special thanks** to Kiwanis for helping  
organize the Kiss the Pig contest!

**Special thanks** to Jack Cable, Scott  
Kent and Larry Bagnell for being our  
guest speakers!

**Special thanks** to our key sponsors  
Lotteries Yukon, the CARD fund, Marsh  
Lake Tents & Events, Project Yukon,  
and the City of Whitehorse!

If I have missed anyone I apologize in  
advance, and ask for your  
understanding!



## Results of Bench Show

Vegetables Junior Aggr. Alan Lebedoff  
Senior Aggr. Roy Ness

Flowers Junior Aggr. Alan Lebedoff  
Senior Aggr. Diana Mulloy

Farm Produce/Field Crop Wayne Grove

Farm Produce/Other Joe MacGillvray

Trad. Native Crafts Junior Aggr. Alan  
Lebedoff

Senior Aggr. Pauline Frost

Preserved Foods Junior Aggr. Alan  
Lebedoff

Senior Aggr. Rose Berndt

Home Baking Junior Aggr. . Alan  
Lebedoff

Senior Aggr. (a tie) Rose Berndt  
& Amber Rix

Quilting Senior Aggr. Ruth Headley

Knitting Senior Aggr. Julie Ourom  
Best Original Design Judy McCarthy

Needlework Senior Aggr. Marilyn  
Whiting

Crocheting Senior Aggr. Julie Ourom

Homemade Wine Senior Aggr.  
Florence Roberts

Best Livestock/Poultry Senior Aggr.  
Deborah Cassidy  
Junior Aggr. Chris Buerge

Recycled Creations Senior Aggr. Ruth  
Headley

(Due to lack of entries there were no  
prizes awarded to Best Beer or  
Scarecrows!)

**Senior Grand Aggregate Winner**  
**Rose Berndt**

**Junior Grand Aggregate Winner**  
**Alan Lebedoff**

## Best Garden Competition

### **Best Greenhouse**

1st Barbara Drury  
2<sup>nd</sup> Doug Phillips  
3<sup>rd</sup> Rose Berndt

### **Home Grounds**

1<sup>st</sup> Doug Phillips  
2<sup>nd</sup> Linda Bierlmeier  
3<sup>rd</sup>(a tie) Marg Rose and Gloria Coxford

### **Vegetable Gardens**

1<sup>st</sup> David and Jane Wiebe  
2<sup>nd</sup> Doug Phillips

Winner of the **Special Draw** (names  
were chosen from Bench Show booklet  
sponsors) was **A Country Affair**  
**Crafts**. Prize is a dinner for two at  
CIRCLE D RANCH, cooked by Barbara  
Drury and made up of all Yukon meats  
and produce.

### **Random Thoughts....**

Democracy....three wolves and a  
sheep voting on what to have for  
lunch.

An elephant is a mouse drawn to  
government specifications.



This newsletter is produced bi-monthly.  
The next newsletter is due out in  
November.

Deadlines for submissions is the 7<sup>th</sup> of  
every publishing month, as our target  
date for mailing is the 20<sup>th</sup> of that month.

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### **Susie Rogan to APF Conference**

Susie Rogan, Secretary-Treasurer of the Whitehorse Chapter, has gone to Niagra-on-the-Lake to attend an Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) conference from September 5 – 7. It is an opportunity for industry rep's to decide where we would like to place ourselves and our CARD councils in terms of delivering the federal government's new action plan (APF) for supporting innovation, competitiveness, and adaptation in the years after CARD expires.

To put this into perspective, the government has an annual budget of about \$3 billion that they spend on agriculture one way or another.

The entire amount of money that went out to CARD per year was about \$60 million per year across the country. That's 2% of the agriculture budget. So the industry itself got to decide almost on their own (within guidelines) how they wanted to see 2% of federal ag. \$'s spent.

Now elements of the federal government in Ottawa are investigating the prudence of allowing the industry to continue to spend in this way. In other words, are CARD councils effective, efficient, accepted by industry, etc? These are some of the questions that will be considered at the Niagra conference.

APF seems to have a different focus than CARD. APF seems to be about branding Canada as a product you can trust...for food safety, environmental consciousness and product quality. It aims to do this by encouraging Canadian farmers to be bold and invest in new markets/practices and technologies. This will also (the plan is) allow Cdn farmers to access higher profit markets rather than competing in the bulk commodity markets like wheat, barley, oats, etc.

APF aims to educate farmers to be sharp, aggressive business people who are ready to take risks and invest in the latest technologies and innovations. Where does the Yukon fit into this?

APF wants to support research in order to pay off in higher profit product. Where does the Yukon fit into this? It's something to think about.

An emphasis in APF calls for "adapting to rapidly evolving consumer preferences and new scientific advances"...this shows potential for organic farming, alternatives to pesticides, interest in nutraceuticals, and so on.

We should all be thinking about how the new APF agreement and its goals are going to affect Yukon agriculture, and coming up with ideas of our own.



We look forward to hearing from Susie about the conference, and getting a report for the November newsletter.

### Game Growers News

Elk harvesting started in August and continues into September on several farms in the Whitehorse area. Smiley and Shirley Ford have slaughtered and sold several animals already, and Nowlans and Drurys have as well. Jim Kenyon is attending all slaughters in his capacity as federal meat inspector and ribbon branding the carcasses. He has been impressed with the quality of meat he has seen, and the good health of all the animals.

## **YUKON AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION CANADIAN ADAPTATION AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (CARD) FUND**

### CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Government of Canada's \$60 million-per-year CARD fund was initiated in 1995 to foster the increased long-term growth, employment and competitiveness of Canada's agricultural and agri-food industry and agricultural rural areas. The Yukon Agricultural Association CARD Committee (YAACC) is responsible for the administration of the Yukon's CARD fund allocation. The YAACC was established in 1997-98 to foster and promote sustainable agriculture in the Yukon through the use of new technology, better farming practices, new products and marketing

opportunities, skills development and better environmental practices.

Funding is currently available to support Yukon agricultural projects from 50 to 75 percent of the total project costs. The YAACC is soliciting proposals from communities, producer groups or individuals in the following areas:

1. Agricultural projects related to the CARD priority areas of research/innovation, human resource capacity building, capturing market opportunities, food safety and quality and rural development. Examples of such projects include:
  - a) Research studies to investigate methods for increasing Yukon crop yields or to determine the feasibility of growing new types of crops in the Yukon.
  - b) Training opportunities to increase knowledge of Yukon agriculture through courses, workshops and seminars.
  - c) Marketing studies to identify and evaluate potential markets for existing and new Yukon agricultural products.
  - d) Community initiatives such as the establishment of community farmers markets, market gardens and root cellars for vegetable storage.
  
2. Agricultural Environmental Stewardship Initiative (AESI): Agricultural projects that address the regional impacts of agricultural practices on water, soil, and air quality, biodiversity and greenhouse gas emissions.



Interested communities, groups or individuals involved in Yukon agriculture are invited to submit proposals to the address below. For more information or to request an application package, please contact:

Deborah Cassidy, Executive Director  
Of CARD Tel.: (867) 668-6864  
Fax: (867) 393-3566  
E-mail: yukonag@internorth.com  
203 – 302 Steele St., Whitehorse, YT

Valerie Whelan, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada  
c/o YTG Agriculture Branch K14  
P.O. Box 2703  
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6  
Tel.: (867) 667-5272  
Fax: (867) 393-6222  
E-mail: whelanva@agr.gc.ca

The deadline for receipt of proposals is 4:00 p.m. October 4, 2002.

## **WORDS ON HERBS**

By Bev Gray

### **Herbal Skin Care**

Northern winters can be beautiful but the below zero temperatures, cold winds and lack of humidity in the air can be hard on our skin making it dry and itchy, so how do we take care of our skin naturally and herbally?

The skin is an organ – the largest of the body! Like all of our organs, it serves a purpose. It regulates our body temperature, protects us from bacterial invasions and carries out various chemical reactions like the conversion of Vitamin D from sunlight to a form our bodies can use.

The skin functions like the kidneys and bowels – it is an excretory organ. So protecting and nourishing this organ is important. Using nourishing oils topically like almond, grape seed or even olive oils which we typically use in cooking can help lubricate, heal and moisturize dry skin. Herbs, essential oils and natural creams are also very beneficial.

### **How can we use herbs on our skin?**

Using infused oils and creams is one of the ways to carry herbs onto the skin. The oil acts as a solvent and draws out the active herbal constituents to help lubricate, heal and protect the skin. Our face and hands are the most exposed place on our body where our skin can really take a weather beating.

For a herbal face care regime it is important to start with a good herbal cleanser, steam with herbs, and moisturize. A weekly mask can be used for different skin types.

### **What is the difference between natural ingredient face & body care products and more commercial big box body care?**

I wouldn't put anything on my skin that I couldn't put in my mouth! Most commercial creams are full of additives and preservatives that are absorbed into our skin and then our bloodstream. Often commercial creams will use mineral oil, which depletes minerals from our skin and alcohol which is very drying, and other ingredients such as formaldehyde and petroleum. It's best to nourish the skin with natural ingredients that are safe and free from



artificial colours, harsh chemicals and irritating fragrances.

**Next issue: Foods and Supplements that can help dry skin.**

### **Canadian Food Celebration in October**

The federal government sponsors a Canadian Food Celebration every year across Canada in the month of October. Usually they have chosen a week or day in October to draw national attention to the important role that farming and food production plays in Canadian life. This year they have left it wide open for each province or territory to chose their own time for this event.

In the past the Whitehorse YAA has sponsored an "open house" in the lobby of the Elijah Smith building on Main street featuring farm products, informational displays, and hosted by volunteer farmers who answer questions by the public about what they see displayed. It has been a fun event, and offers another opportunity for the public to realize that there IS farming out there!

This year we would like to broaden the scope a bit, and also include a YAA sponsored lunch for the homeless at the Salvation Army soup kitchen the day before the open house at Elijah Smith. The lunch would feature Yukon-raised meats and vegetables made in a hearty stew. It is a good opportunity to illustrate in another way how Yukon farming helps and enriches the community.

We are planning the soup kitchen for October 10<sup>th</sup>, and the open house for October 11<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to

volunteer any meat or produce for the soup kitchen, or volunteer to help prepare and serve the food, please contact Barbara Drury at 668-1045.

Also if you would like to display your produce or products at the open house contact Barbara Drury as well. Remember that it is a good opportunity for you to let the public know what you do, where you are, and how they can buy from you. Please also let me know if you would like to help "man the booths" on the 11<sup>th</sup> for a couple hours. It's fun talking to the public about farming.

### **Upcoming Symposium in November**

The Agriculture Branch will be hosting their popular symposium on agricultural topics again this November 2 (Saturday), as well as their wonderful banquet which we all look forward to every year.

Mark your calendars for the banquet on Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, and buy your tickets early as they usually get sold out. The YAA always holds an Auction at the banquet as well for a fundraiser, and we are looking for donation items or services from our membership once again! Thank you for all your generosity in the past, and we look forward to your help again this time to make this another successful fundraiser for the association.

**Remember to phone or email me with your articles, classified ads or notice about a coming event that you would like to see in the newsletter!**

Barbara Drury 668-1045  
drury@yt.sympatico.ca



**Free**

**Classifieds**

**Free**

**For Sale :** D7E Cat great condition, well maintained, low hours  
Call Fred or Debbie Last at 633-3608

**For Sale :** Farm raised elk meat, tender and delicious. Available by the side or in 50 lb packages. Call Circle D Ranch at 668-1045

**Need to board horses for the winter?**  
We've got the pasture. Call Circle D Ranch 668-1045

**For Sale :** Cashmere goats – Adult breeding stock & kids available.  
Grass/Brome/Timothy hay for sale.  
Phone Tagish Farms 668-1885

**For Sale :** Full Dimension : Rough cut Custom Cut lumber. Fence posts, fence rails. Two sided cabin logs. Phone Lewes River Farms 393-2728

**For Sale :** 350 Remington Magnum with 3 to 8 Powerscope, laminated stock, \$700. 375 H&H Bruno \$800. phone Jim @ 668-6220

**Do you have something to sell or buy? Let us know!**

You can't sell it if nobody knows about it.

**Dog Thoughts.....**

“Dogs need to sniff the ground; it's how they keep abreast of current events. The ground is a giant dog newspaper, containing all kinds of late-breaking dog news items.”

- Dave Barry

“The average dog is a nicer person than the average person.”

- Andy Rooney

“Some days you're the dog; some days you're the hydrant.”

- Anonymous

“A dog is the only thing on this earth that loves you more than he loves himself.”

- Anonymous

We'd like to start a “Letters to the Editor” section where you can have your say about anything and everything... most farmers have an opinion and don't mind sharing it over a cup of coffee, so lets hear about what you think.

While our office is temporarily out of service, you can mail your letters to  
The Editor  
Yukon Agricultural Association  
newsletter  
Box 20723  
Whitehorse, Y.T.  
Y1A 7A2  
Or email to [drury@yt.sympatico.ca](mailto:drury@yt.sympatico.ca)