

## **“THE MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH” – First Edition - February 16, 2003**

### **Yukon Websites –**

<http://www.yukonalaska.com/history/ship.html>

<http://www.explorenorth.com/library/yafeatures/bl-boats.htm>

If you were in Whitehorse in June of 1974 check out

<http://www.explorenorth.com/library/weekly/aa030801a.htm>

### **Interesting Notes from folks:**

I assume you have Bill & Martha Kerr in Kelowna. They do not have a computer, but their phone (250) 762-9935 – **John Murray**

One note: you are all saying ex-Yukoner. There is no way I'm an ex-Yukoner. I call myself a 'former Yukoner and still a Yukoner at heart'.

- **Donna Clayson**

Are we really "Ex-Yukoners"? I thought we were Yukoners until we died! "Displaced Yukoners" I would agree with. Just a thought. – **Dave Gairns**

I remember well the burning of the boats as I first saw it from the spillway and thought it was the hospital. I was real concerned and quickly drove across the dam and to the hospital area. Quite relieved to find it was not the hospital after all. That was a sad day for Yukon history. Murray Lundberg of Carcross has many websites on Yukon history, and excellent ones I might say. In the roster of Yukon Riverboats it shows a group of photos of the boats burning, and the only one I had seen to that point was the one on the White Pass Calendar. The Date was June 20, 1974 and I have this group printed. In was interested in the roster as my grandfather was skipper on the Taylor and Drury Steamer Thistle in 1921. Under another skipper the Thistle was lost in Lake Leberge in 1929. Do you have the URLs for Murray's websites? If you do not, I would be delighted to send them to you. (see site addresses above) As I spent nine seasons on the old boats from 1942 to 1950 I had a great interest in them. In 1960 I was part of the crew that took the Keno to Dawson, and there is a write-up in this series of that trip. - **Henry Breden**

I also have another great connection with the Yukon. Madame Emilie Tremblay, my great-aunt & adoptive grandmother (she raised my mother, who was the child of her sister, Laura), was the first Caucasian woman to climb the Chilkoot Pass. In fact, she did it twice, once in 1896 & again in 1898. I look back fondly on my childhood days in the Yukon, as do my two sisters. I thought you just may be interested to read something off the Net about my grandmother Emilie Tremblay, so I am forwarding you a Web page I found a while back. The Ecole Emilie Tremblay School in Whitehorse was named after her. The dry goods store building in Dawson City (corner of King & Third) that she owned in the early 1900s, was restored as close as possible to it's original design some years ago & is now a Parks Canada Heritage Site. (see [http://edimage.ca/edimage/grandspersonnages/en/carte\\_v02.html](http://edimage.ca/edimage/grandspersonnages/en/carte_v02.html) ) - **Joan (Poirier) White**

Warren -Taught school in Dawson 1958-60

-Taught school in Whitehorse High School 1960- 61

-Taught school in F.H.Collins 1961-63

-Taught Whitehorse Elementary 1963-64,65-67

-Depart. of Education 1967-69

Jean -Taught in Whitehorse Elementary 1963-6 - **Warren & Jean Rongve**

Don't know if we ever met each other, but I was born and raised in the Yukon. It was my home (in Whitehorse) until 1978 when my late husband (Gordon) and I bought a home on Vancouver Island, in Saltaire, B.C. between Ladysmith and Chemainus. We still came back and mined in

the Dawson area summers for a year or two. Gordon passed away two and a half years ago, after 58 years of marriage. Recently I have remarried, and live in a Condo in Nanaimo. I have two books published on the Yukon, one "Crazy Cooks and Gold Miners", the other "Yukon Riverboat Days."

Yes! Sorry I forgot to mention that I was a Richards. (no relation to T.C. tho!) My Dad worked as manager of the drygoods dept. for T&D's store for 18 years. I married Gordon Yardley at 16 years of age in 1942, and went to school with Fred Blaker. Dated Denny a couple of times before I met Gordon. Knew Al Clarke well. Always admired Doug Bell and his newspaper articles! Oh yes, I knew Gert Squirechuck and her sister Nancy when they lived in Carcross in the 1940's with their parents the Roses. George Rose was the Engineer on the "Lou-Ann" the small boat that ran from Carcross to Taku Arm. He took Gordon and I there on our honeymoon, where we caught the tiny train to Scotia Bay. Ted Smyth met us there and took us to Atlin in his motor boat. My daughter, Norma (Waddington) went to school with Carole Clarke, (Al Clarke's dau) and still sees her when she visits Vancouver. Norma is still living in Whitehorse and has been in Real Estate for many years. - **Joyce Yardley** <http://members.shaw.ca/joyceyardley/>

Well Hello 2 U 2 Sherron:

I remember. Perhaps not as clearly as I should but it's there. I know we met when I was on council - anyway good to make contact and as I said yesterday thanks for such a great idea. I'll be sending hello's to some of those Yukoners, and who knows we may get them on the mailing list of the Sourdough Chronicle - the Yukon Council on Aging's newsletter - if they're not already on. It's another way to keep in touch and maybe we can get them to tell some of their Yukon stories. We have a couple of pages just for that. We call it Memory Lane. It costs though - \$10. for a membership and 4 issues. - **Doug Bell**

I retired from the clinic in Oct 98 and am spending my winters in Indio CA. and summer in Whitehorse. I still own our home on Ponderosa Drive. June pass away of Cancer and I have remarried a Yukoner who was the X-ray Tech at the clinic for 26 years. Her name was Wendy Wildfong but is now Pollock. - **Jim Pollock**

My life is still touching the Yukon. Over the past 9 years I have been designing headstones and by working with Bob Armstrong before he passed away and now with Don Sipple in Whitehorse I have designed quite a few headstones now in Yukon Cemeteries. - **Sherron Jones**

#### **New "Stuff"**

I have a web page that you can add to mine. I started writing poetry (of all things) in my dotage and have put it on a the web. Some of my old Yukon acquaintances might want to have a look. <http://poetrypoem.com/sourdough> - **Gus Barrett**

I am Marilyn Taylor's cousin. My dad was Charlie Taylor. My mom, Betty Taylor still lives in Whitehorse as does my sister Verna Hart. We get up to see them a fair amount. We were there for this past Christmas. - **Barbara (Taylor) Conway**

I have placed a set of photos, that we bought in Whitehorse, on this website. I do need to go in and change the layout so you can view them larger and will do when I get some free time. If you click on the first set of three photos and then change the setting just above the photos, from 'fit window' to 'normal', the photos will increase to a legible size. If I redo them, they should go to full screen size. Take a good look at the first photo. Dave Gairns agrees it looks like him at the fence in his suit. And take a good look at the mast for what I understand to be one of the culprits on the Casca that day. Dave said there were lots of tears around the fence and he and Fred Blaker were discussing what they would do if they could catch the one who started the fire. In the second photo take a look at the ladder to the far side of the Casca. In the third photo, note Fred Blaker's Fire Chief vehicle and the fire truck have arrived. In the fourth photo you will see an RCMP vehicle has arrived. **Riverboats Burning** photos <http://community.webshots.com/album/63753939TzzZpc> - **Sherron Jones**

## Tidbits -

**Aksel Porsild** reported that his mother is still in Whitehorse and has just celebrated her 100th birthday.

**Gwen McFayden** reported that she saw **Ivor Mast** at the last Vancouver Yukoners get together she attended. I met Ivor when I was studying to be a ham radio operator and Ivor was an old time ham them.

**Bill Jones** had lunch with **Gwen McFayden** last weekend when he was down to the coast. Although we have only seen Gwen twice in the past 20 years, she said it still felt like yesterday.

I found **Linda & Larry Simenac's** e-mail address on a forward from **Shirley Keopke** and invited them to join the list. Linda said they retired last October and moved to Alberta. They have just moved into a new house and "Our neighbor here is an x-Yukoner. Its **Gerald & Darlene Gray**, he had the first Whitehorse Esso up on Centennial street in Porter Creek."

**Donald Murray** who is the President of the Vancouver Yukoners joined the list this week and has offered to tell the next reunion of the Vancouver Yukoner about this project. Their next reunion is April 5 at the Hyatt in Vancouver. He is expecting upward of 200 people. Contact Don whose address is on the list if you have any questions about the reunion. Don also indicated they would mention this project in their next newsletter which goes out in April.

**Sarah Warner** wrote yesterday that she and **Tom** have arrived back in Sydney AU after a 33 hour flight from Vancouver via Taiwan, with a 7 hr stop over at the Taipei Airport. If you know Sarah do ask her to add you to her list of those she mails when she and Tom make side trips. It is so Educational, they have told of trips to Tasmania, New Zealand and the Outback. The one thing I got a chuckle out of about their Tasmania trip was Sarah's horror and the high amount of road kill. Evidently the Tasmanian Devil is nocturnal and are stunned by headlights. Quite a shock for a girl who was raised in Yukon where there is not a lot of road kill. Sarah also had a very interesting experience a couple of months ago when she took a teaching post with a family in the outback. She explained that the rural children are taught via the radio and they bring in a teach about once a year. Sarah is substitute teaching in AU and Tom is creating Websites. (I hope you don't mind me telling your story Sarah, I think your life is very exciting.)

A note that has just arrived in my mail box from **John Gould** (note the temperature Feb 9, 2003)  
Dear Sherron;

Thank you for adding me to your list, and the newsy notes.

For those who don't know I was born in Dawson in 1919, except for a short time in Burnaby going to school and my stint in the R.C.A.F. as a pilot I have been in Dawson all my life.

During my time in the Air Force I met a girl in Toronto whom I married when I came back from overseas. Madelein came to Dawson on July 2nd 1946, we have lived here ever since and don't plan on leaving. except for one grand daughter, Nicole who lives in Calgary every one else is here in Dawson.

I recognized several names on your list. I first met Les Somerton in 1932 -33 when he moved here from Whitehorse I beleive.

Regards.John It is minus 34 here this morning.