

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH – FIFTH EDITION – MARCH 16, 2003

Created by Sherron Jones sherronjones@shaw.ca

It has been brought to my attention that I could have the copyright police after me if I do not have first hand approval to reproduce material. The only item I have released without direct approval is that of Flo Whyard's article written in 1955 and placed in the Whitehorse Star that year. It was my thought that since I worked with Flo when she was Mayor of the City of Whitehorse, and that I did ask back down the line to where I had received it, it would be OK.

It is sad to think that in a group like ours there would be someone who would report me to the copyright police. Therefore any further stories that are sent in that are not written by you, will not be placed in this column unless the approval of the author accompanies the article. I suppose that in order to prove that it has their approval, it should also include their e-mail header. It really hurts me to make these comments as it runs totally against the kindness I stand for, and the intent of the project, which is solely to help you reconnect.

It has also been brought to my attention that I might better be preparing the e-mail address list in a program called Excel which would make it appear tidy and in columns. I am not because it would then require two lines for each entry when I place into the e-mail program and hence a waste of paper. I have been sending it within the e-mail because it has also been brought to my attention that many of you do not have Word and Excel programs and when I send a Word document your computer opens it in Wordpad. I am told that you are then not able to access the Hyperlinks to URLs (Websites) nor are the e-mail addresses interactive. That is my reason for sending the material within an e-mail. Yes it would look much more tidy if it could be successfully read at your end in Word or Excel. The package for those programs is very expensive and I am not suggesting you should buy them.

I have also been asked to give some sort of assurance that the list of e-mails does not fall into the hands of e-mail address harvesters. I am unable to give any such assurance, except to ask YOU to be careful who you send the list to. – Sherron Jones

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

As per your request, following is some information on the upcoming Yukoner's banquet. I would appreciate it if you would include it in your next edition. Thanks.

On behalf of the Vancouver Yukoner's Association, I extend a special invitation to all Yukoners to attend our annual banquet being held at the Hyatt Hotel in Vancouver on April 5, 2003.

The theme of this year's banquet will be the celebration of the Association's Diamond Jubilee (75th anniversary) as well as the centenary of Mayo. The **Mayor of Mayo, Shanon Cooper**, will be attending and will bring us up to date on the events planned for Mayo this summer. I'm confident that the Mayor would extend a special invitation to all

Mayoites and those who lived in Elsa, Keno, Calumet and Wernecke to come and join the celebration.

Mr. and Mrs. Yukon, Gordon and Rose Toole, from Watson Lake will also be attending.

We begin the festivities with a no host Happy Hour from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. followed by the introduction of guests. Awarding the door prizes and a short presentation of can-can dancing will follow. The remainder of the evening is spent “visiting friends”, a trait Yukoners are noted for.

Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased by sending a cheque to:

Mary MacDonald (daughter of Jack and Florence)
#309 – 5166 Halifax Street
Burnaby, B.C. V5R 2N6
Phone: 604 299-7533

In Whitehorse, tickets are available from **Gudrun Sparling** at (867) 668-3958

For those attending the banquet and staying overnight at the hotel, the Hyatt is offering Yukoner's a room a rate of \$140.00/night.

If you are over 65, inquire about the senior's rate. It may be cheaper.

Remember, you have to let the hotel know at the time of booking that you are with the Yukoners, or a senior in order to obtain the more favourable rate.

Dress for the banquet is business attire, although more casual attire can be seen. I've been told some folks are considering coming in period costumes of the gold/silver rush era.

A no host breakfast is tentatively planned for Sunday morning at the hotel. More information on the breakfast will be provided at the banquet.

Carol Clarke has been doing a super job of trying to arrange a mini reunion of those who lived and went to school in the Yukon in the late 50's and early 60's. Carol has told me that many are planning to attend. **Helen Fitch (nee Munro)** has been assisting Carol. More information on this can be obtained by contacting Carol, Helen, or myself. As a result, ticket sales are progressing very well and the event could well be a sell-out. If you are planning to attend, don't wait too long to buy your ticket, as there is a maximum number the room can seat.

If you have questions about the banquet or the Vancouver Yukoner's Association please contact me either by e-mail at donaldmurray@telus.net or by telephone at 604 574-5702.

See you at the banquet at the Hyatt on April 5.

Don Murray
President

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH – Story Section

Prepared by Donna Clayson (Storing) – Story Editor ytdogteam@telus.net

This week I would like to pay recognition to those brave men and women that flew the northern skies. In researching stories on those that flew the fixed wing and helicopters I gained even more respect for these people. The following are stories written by just a few 'who were there' and will give all the readers of the Moccasin Telegraph a mere insight as to what these pioneers of the north went through. I would like to thank these gentlemen for telling their story (with more to come I hope). Now, sit down, put your feet up and lets fly into these amazing memories – your story Editor Donna Clayson

A bit of history on our first storyteller: George Howell

--- Held Private pilot licence since '54 with Air Cadets Scholarship.

---Posted to Whitehorse in Aug '57 as a radio operator with Dept of Transport with wife MaryLou and son Timothy.

---Transferred to Mayo in Jan '60 when DoT took over operation of all the Army Signal stations. (Three children born in Mayo Gen Hospital).

---Transferred to Ottawa with Dept of External Affairs (in Expo '67 year) then spent 3 yrs in London in communications.

---Returned to Ottawa, purchased training course for Commercial Pilot Licence with Skyrotors Ltd, Arnprior ON, was hired by and flew with them 1970.

---Hired by Trans Quebec Helicopters (Jan '71) and flew their first revenue hour on the James Bay Power Project.

---Returned to Yukon in March '72 with Trans North until Sept '86. Served as Chief Pilot for 7 yrs.

---Moved to Ft McMurray AB as base mgr with Highland for 7 yrs and finally moved to Richmond, BC as Chief Pilot until medically retired in November '94.

---Residing in Westbank (Kelowna) since Sept '95.

How's that in 250 words or less to cover 45 years of gallivanting??

The Day I Added Extra Stress to the Yukon Health System.

Written by George Howell

howellgm@shaw.ca

This is not a story of aviation daring-do. There is some wonderment at the nature of the events and the manner in which they occurred. Some readers will probably sit back, shake their heads and question whether or not anything was really gained in the process.

One day, in mid August, 1973, in Dawson City, a scruffy man (not an unusual sight in this town) was seen standing on various street corners, giving away some of his possessions to anyone who would accept them. Items like his camera, small transistor radio, backpack and more, which he said he no longer needed because he was going on a pilgrimage and that the Lord would provide his needs. He also apparently asked several people about the direction and distance to Inuvik. All of this I learn of later.

Approximately 2 weeks later, the local Yukon Forest Service Office chartered my company's (Trans North Turbo Air) helicopter, with me as pilot, to carry out their annual land use inspection, starting from Dawson City and gradually working northward and ending up at Herschel Island. The land use inspection involved flying over various sections of the Dempster Highway (which, after many years, construction was finally resumed by General Enterprises), with the head of construction now at approximately mile 175 (with about 125 miles left before reaching Inuvik), as well as touring old well sites and seismic lines from the '60s when the "oil rush" was on.

On the first day of our 3 day trip, after stopping at the last "cat" on the highway project, we flew northwest toward another abandoned wellsite about 20 miles away, a short distance from the Whitestone River on the west side of the Eagle Plains. Chevron, a major petroleum giant, had established a staging camp, complete with Atco Trailer units and a 3000' airstrip on the Plains. This was known as Parkin. General Enterprises, with their Twin Beechcraft, flown by Bud Harbottle, used this strip on a regular basis, flying out of Whitehorse, 2 ½ hours away, to support their crews working on the highway.

As we flew over the wellsite clearing, fairly overgrown with buckbrush and small poplar, we noticed what appeared to be something waving back and forth amongst the foliage. I turned around, and slowed the helicopter, allowing us to get a better view. Once again, we saw something like a piece of rag on a long stick being held by someone partially hidden under some kind of makeshift shelter.

We managed to find a small clearing and landed. We could see him through the alder, laying under some rotting plywood and rough lumber, waving weakly at us. He would not (could not) move. My two Forestry passengers waited until I shut down, before we **all** ventured over to check him out.

The sight that greeted us was a 90-pound apparition of a man in various stages of disrepair! He mumbled his name and said that he was from North Carolina. He said he got lost on his hitch-hike to Inuvik. He also commented that he knew (the Good Lord said) he would be rescued, but was a bit critical in that fact that we were later than he expected. He survived on a few berries and fetched water in a leaky can from a nearby spring.

Thoughts now were what to do with this "find". Our alternatives were to return him to Dawson City, terminating our trip, or bring in a "medivac" airplane to pick him up from Parkin airstrip.

As we lifted off from the wellsite, with our odorous passenger, I overheard Bud in GE's Twin Beech, advising Whitehorse Aeradio of his departure from Parkin. I made contact with him and he reluctantly agreed to return and await us (20 minutes or so), and then take our hitch-hiker to Whitehorse. It was with a fair bit of trepidation that Bud (with no co-pilot or any other passenger to help in case of trouble enroute) allowed us to offload this cargo into his airplane.

The patient became a long term resident at Whitehorse General Hospital approximately 3 hours and 20 minutes from when we first saw the piece of dirty cloth waving amongst the bushes at this wellsite located in middle of the north central Yukon.

A footnote to this saga: The stress on the Yukon Health System budget became very apparent as the General Hospital and its staff endured weeks, then months with this man who was insufferable in his demands for special diet (he did mention he was a vegetarian when he refused

a roast beef sandwich after we picked him up in the bush) and his threats to go on a fast if the Canadian Immigration Department continued attempting to have him deported back to the USA from where he was dodging the Draft. Deportation did take place, but it was a long, arduous and expensive burden.

When many of my friends on staff at the Hospital and various acquaintances in the Federal and Yukon Government learned of my "Samaritan" act, I had no problem understanding why our conversations (for a while anyway) were rather terse.

Great story George.

Cliff Armstrong worked for Trans North Turbo Air from 1968-1972. He lives in Cranbrook. Check out his website: www.benchtable.com

HELICOPTER BABY

Written by Cliff Armstrong
ss@still.net

In January of 1969 a Sunday, I got a call as duty pilot with Trans North to take a doctor to Eddontenajon (now Iskut) 50 miles south of Dease Lake B.C. On the route down we hit very heavy snow east of Telegraph Creek and arrived at Eddontenajon about an hour and a half before dark. I told the doctor we had 20 minutes to get back in the air or we would be overnighing, as I did not want to go through a 20-mile snowstorm after dark. at -40F. Minutes later the doctor said we had to go as Mrs. Louie was hemorrhaging and we had to get her to the hospital in YXY. As it very cold - minus 30 below F off we went. . At that time the helicopters had no navigation equipment on boards so it was by map reading only to find our way to to Atlin, B.C. It was getting dark by the time we got through the snow storm and I climbed to 10,000 feet on a nice clear no moon night. I tried to locate lakes or anything that would give map reading help with no luck. I was in radio contact with the Trans North hangar on 4441 and had them checking wind aloft and they said I should have 10 knot head wind. I had picked out a star that I figured Atlin should have been at and flew on.

The doctor was always into his medical bag and playing with a flashlight and said she was doing O.K. and when my watch said we were to be at Atlin there was no light to be seen. My thoughts were if I was too far east I would see Teslin too far left and I would see the lights of Juneau Alaska. At that time the Dr. asks me to land as Mrs. Lewis was going to have her baby with the temp. - 20 at 10,000 feet and about -40 on the ground I did not see any advantage to a night landing out in the big lonely so I turned left about 40 degrees and let down to 7,000 feet thinking I would go toward Juneau then on the new heading for about 5 minutes Atlin lights came in sight at 2 o'clock 20 miles. I was real concerned if the baby would be born the moisture would fog the windows so much it would be very hard if not imposable to see out. As we landed at the pad in Atlin the RCMP suburban was there to pick us up and as I spooled the engine down I said to the Dr. we made it and he said to my surprise we have to keep the baby warm this being the first I knew of the birth. The 3 of them all went to the clinic for a check up and I tied the helicopter down in a 10 MPH wind at -42 below then I went to the Connley's for a much needed caribou steak dinner then the Dr. called said every one was in good condition but

he wanted to get them to the hospital in YXY. I then Called Trans North and asked Ron Connley what he thought of a night flight to YXY and he said you just flew over 200 miles of bush and mountains and you now have a highway to follow so come on in. With the help of the Department of Highways and a 24 volt battery we got started refueled and was on route IFR (I follow roads) for a uneventful flight 'till I got to Grey Mountain and the control tower said that the airport was totally socked in from the dam so I flew to the passenger terminal and did a let down to the ramp via all the lights then air taxied to the hanger. It was a great experience and Bell Helicopter said there had been many births in helicopters but this was by far the most extreme conditions. The baby was named Curtis Lewie and now lives in Iskut, BC and when I was flying for TNTA a few years ago Curtis was working at Muddy Lake Mines and when we would get together I always told the people with us that Curtis and I went back a long ways.

Where were you, Cliff, when I almost gave birth on a dogsled? – Story editor

Gee I wonder what Curtis answers when he is asked where he was born? – Sherron

While Henry Breaden was not involved with flying in the north he had a harrowing experience as a 14 year old in Whitehorse. Read his story below:

The Crash of Les Cook.

Written by Henry Breaden

breaden@shaw.ca

The following story was written in the Whitehorse Star a couple of years ago. During the 1930s we all knew of Les Cook who was flying for Simmons in Carcross, and although we did not know him personally, we knew of his exploits. As communication in Mayo was by radio, run by the Royal Canadian Corp of Signals, news used to travel by "Moccasin Telegraph". You would hear that Les Cook was down again, and many would say, "He has had it this time!" But as aircraft engines were not that reliable, quite often it was a broken oil line and they had to find a lake to set down on. Being on skis they were okay and would make their own repairs, but before they took off they had to snowshoe a track to get off. Quite often it meant spending the night for the snow to harden, and the engine was covered with a canvas and a blow pot used to heat it. The next morning Les would have a hard track and take off for Carcross, and "Here he comes again!" Les survived many forced landings, but by 1942 was flying a yellow Norseman for the American Army Air Corps. In Whitehorse the Moccasin Telegraph worked as well, and we heard that he had engine trouble. My parents rented a cabin from George Ryder, which was between First and Second Avenue, and between Lambert and Elliott Streets. I was only 14 years old, and was just coming out of the alley to Second Avenue. I heard him take off and noticed, as the engine seemed to be making a lot of noise. After lifting off the airport he seemed to be having trouble climbing and swung towards town, and at that point from the alley I was looking at the nose of the aircraft. Scared the devil out of me and I was deciding which direction I should run. Just over 4th Avenue he swung south, and as he went by me, he would be no more than 100 feet away. Had things been

normal he would have landed on Second Avenue and Hanson Street beside the old hospital but a new telephone cable and poles had been installed on the airport side of Second. His left wheel caught and was ripped off by the cable and rolled the aircraft onto its left wing. The left wing crumpled and the fuselage ended upside down on Second, immediately bursting into flames. I think it is the most sickening sound I have ever heard, along with the most sickening sight. As the Fire Dept. at that time was no more than a White Pass truck driven by George Ryder pulling a hose reel, it was a while before water was available to control the blaze. Three men lost their lives in that crash, Les Cook, his flight engineer and a mechanic.

Isaac Taylor had a home on the corner of Second and Hanson where Taylor and Drury later had a service station, and the crash site was too close for comfort. I am amazed that I am the only one who saw the actual crash all the way, but apparently there was another person at 6th and Main that saw the aircraft go down. He could see the fire but not the crash itself. A sad day for Whitehorse and the loss of a man who had survived so many forced landings.

You were almost in the wrong place at the wrong time – Wow! – Story editor

Lyle Coleman was born in Whitehorse. Raised in Atlin, BC. High school, in Whitehorse 1957-1961. Returned in 1968 and left 1985. Now in Airdrie, AB. While in the Yukon Lyle flew for several companies, ending up as the Chief Pilot fixed wing for Trans North. He flew the DC-3 including CF-CPY which now resides on a pedestal at the Whitehorse Airport. He's still flying out of Calgary but will be winding down soon. He's presently on the 737-700.

Flying With the Brass Along

Written by Lyle Coleman

colemal@tc.gc.ca

One small story I can relate happened while flying the DC-3 around 1980. Trans North had taken over the Scheduled routes throughout the Yukon and into Inuvik left vacant by the demise of Northward Aviation. We were flying several representatives of the Air Transport committee from Whitehorse to Inuvik with stops at Mayo, Dawson City and Old Crow. As this was a new venture for Trans North, the Superintendent for Air Carrier Ops. with Transport Canada from Edmonton was riding in the jump seat doing a route check on us. As luck would have it on takeoff from Old Crow we blew a jug on the left engine just as we lifted off (the term means a cylinder broke off which results in the engine self destructing if not properly shut down even though these engines were 14 cylinder, twin row radials). The engine was shut down, the propeller feathered (which means the blades are hydraulically twisted so they create minimal drag). We did a single engine circuit to an uneventful landing back in Old Crow. The TC Inspector, a crusty old ex-military Brit. said nothing about getting everybody back on the ground safely but proceeded to scrutinize our load and weight and balance sheets and chew us out for having 150# of fuel (basically bilge) in our auxiliary tanks that was not accounted for. That was our thanks. By the way, The Air Transport Committee was suitably impressed and awarded Trans North the Licence. Those were the days before deregulation. I've had a few more similar experiences over the years. Probably why what little hair I have left is rather grey!

Big Brass sure don't appreciate the 'great ones', do they? – Story editor

Thankyou very much Donna for collecting up the Stories for this weeks edition of the Moccasin Telegraph; and also, many thanks to those gentlemen who shared their stories with us.

Donna has found her passion and is extremely excited about being the Story Editor and collecting and helping folks express their stories. She has spent a lifetime making notes from people she has interviewed, so this is nothing new to her. The stories relating to Yukon are her prime interest. Unfortunately her notebook has been lost or stolen. So she is starting over, so to speak. Please make her one happy lady by sending in your story or ideas, to her, so she can help you to share them with the group. She is perfectly willing, with your permission, to take the facts and write the story.

Donna also plans to group the stories in theme as she did this time. She is looking a various topics. So your help in forwarding material is vital. **Below is a summary** of some suggested subjects that she would like you to consider writing to her about. – **Sherron**

RCMP (interesting characters, interesting take-downs, the officer that went over and beyond the call of duty such as kindness, helpfulness. This section could be from members themselves or the general public that was helped in some particular way by member of the RCMP. Perhaps members that were part of clubs such as Legion, Jaycees, etc.

Farming, Gardens (feed for animals, flowers and vegetables) - the difficulty of growing your own, the rewards, the size of them. I know there are some green thumbs out there. I've seen them featured on garden shows on TV. Traditional healing with herbs, roots, etc. This is so important to discuss in story to get us back to health in the traditional way.

Animals - Wild and or domestic. Funny or otherwise incidents involving animals. Funny things you have seen them do. Did you have to rescue some from precarious situations? Polly the Parrot is a great story in himself. He came over the White Pass with the Klondikers and currently buried in Carcross.

Hunters / Trap Lines - how did this activity affect the north? Pros and Cons. Record trophies. (This may be a tricky subject but it is a fact of life). Did you have to hunt for fresh meat because it was the only way to get your protein?

What Made the Yukon What It is Today? - . What peoples made the Yukon what it is today? for example: Harry Fieck, Andy Hooper, Ted Harrison, Jim Robb, Kay McDonald, etc. etc.. All the old-timers who are no longer with us but will remain with us forever? Edith Jose and her memorable "Here are the News".

Newspapers in the North - when did they start? Who started them? How have the reporting processes changed the last 100 years?

Radio / TV - Who started the first radio station and TV station? How has broadcasting changed over the years?

Children and Education in the North - What was your childhood like? Did you find schooling different in the north compared to "Outside" programs. What was it like to teach in the north? What challenges did you face?

Healthcare - were you a nurse or doctor in the north? What challenges and rewards did you/are you facing? How many years have you been in the healthcare system? Does the north have a good/bad healthcare system? Were you in the healthcare system in the 20's, 30's, 40's, '50's, etc.? What was it like traveling to the different settlements to administer health care?

Alaska Highway - the construction of the highway. Were you there? Give us first hand account of the challenges of being part of this fantastic project. How many times have you traveled the highway? What changes have you seen since construction? Services along the Alaska highway (or any highway in the north). Was it difficult, rewarding, bringing food and gas service to the driving public? What funny stories can you tell about tourists. What they said, did, drove, etc.

Army in the North - Were you an "Army Brat"? Were your folks in the army? Were you? What was it like? How long were you in the north in that capacity? What was it like when the army shut down and moved out? Were you sorry, happy?

Send your stories to Donna at ytdogteam@telus.net

COMMENTS FROM NEW ADDITIONS TO THE LIST

➤ Hi Sherron; Sorry to have delayed so long in getting the bio data back to you. I lived in Whitehorse for 1956-1959 at 11 Normandy Road, Camp Takhini, Army child and attended Whitehorse High School grades 10-12. My dad was a **Staff Sergeant Robertson** at that time and was the Senior NCO for the Military Police on the NWHS. (North-West Highway System) In 1959 our family was transferred from Whitehorse to Vancouver. I am very much enjoying this journey back through history and getting re-acquainted with many friends from the past. Thanks for your great work in co-ordinating all this data. - **Mike Robertson**
dromedaryhouse@shaw.ca

➤ Thank you so much for your work on the Moccasin Telegraph.....it is just great reading. My name is **Geri Grant (nee Conoly)**. I lived in Whitehorse from 1946 until 1975 (the best years of my life). Whitehorse is where I was educated, married & where my son was born in 1967. Since 1975 I have lived in Dawson Creek BC & my telephone number is 250-782-7448. - **Geri Grant (Conoly)** gmgrant@shaw.ca

- Sherron I have just finished reading the forth edition which was forwarded to me from my sister in Whitehorse, **Madeline Boyd**, which I enjoyed very much. Would you please add **Dave and Louise Perchie** to your Yukoners List.

I was born and raised in Whitehorse, Worked on the River boats during summer holidays and Joined Canadian Pacific Airlines in 1952. I left Whitehorse in 1955 to become an air engineer with the airlines, returning in the summer of 1958 to fly as flt engineer on the DC3 (CF-CPY), which is now the weather vane at the airport.

We are now retired and living in Peachland, BC. Our e-mail address is dhperchie@shaw.ca - Regards **Dave Perchie**

- I most certainly would like to receive the back copies of the Moc Tel if you are able to send them to me. Also I have no objection to you printing anything I have sent to you. I enjoyed reading about Les Mc Laughlin's trip to Skagway on the WP&YR, as it brought back many thoughts of old times, when we made school exchange trips to Skagway during the 1940's. Please keep up the good work. Regards **Dave Perchie**

- Just use whatever you want, Sherron -- a little bit of our wonderful life together in the best town in Canada!

Pete arrived in Dawson summer of '39 and finally got work with YCGC, then with Clear Ck. Placers and the last 13 years with Canada Customs. I arrived in '51, a nurse from Montreal. Worked at St. Mary's hospital in the old NWMPolice barracks on Front St. Married in '52 and raised 2 girls in Dawson. #1 - Lynne Taylor lives in Kamloops and has 2 boys and 1 university girl. #2 - Debbie Algotsson still lives in Dawson works at Alex McDonald Lodge and has 3 boys. – **Pete & Brownie Foth**

- **Pete and Brownie Foth** -- Pete arrived in Dawson in ' 39 & I arrived in '51. We lived in Dawson, Whitehorse, Beaver Creek and back to Dawson. Retired in '80 to White Rock but have spent our summers in Dawson doing a little mining. Hope to return this summer to visit family and friends and celebrate Pete's 91st. birthday in June. Still have our cosy log cabin on Bonanza Cr. (604) 536-0554 We are now living in a beautiful Retirement Residence in the White Rock area and are very happy with our choice. Never thought we would end our years together living here, free of the chores of daily living, enjoying life to it's fullest.

Thank you, Sherron, for all the time and work you have spent in putting this wonderful LIST together. We have already found several friends whom we had lost contact with. It will be great corresponding with them again. Best wishes, **Pete & Brownie Foth** (lfoth@shaw.ca)

Check out a story in the Dawson City newspaper '**Klondike Sun**' of July 9, 1999 about the **Foth's**. Just click on this URL (web address) .

http://www.yukonweb.com/community/dawson/klondike_sun/july9-99.html#celebrating
– **Sherron**

NOTE: Les Sommerton tells me the Foth's have been in touch with him this week, via e-mail. Les and Pete first met when Pete arrived in Dawson. (abt. 1939) How is that for re-connecting?

- Howdy Sherron - What a great thing you have on the go here. I am a cousin to Donna and am trying to get her on the phone at this time I would like very much to be added to your list of has beens. I will also relate to Donna a story or two of life as a helicopter pilot for Trans North.

Cliff Armstrong TNTA Pilot 68/72 and 90/93 250-426-6686 ss@still.net
www.benchmarktable.com, Cranbrook BC

Thanks Sherron and any where I can help you gals out I will CLIFFFFFFFF

Check out Cliff's Web address www.benchmarktable.com - **Sherron**

- This is a great list. Could you please add me to the living in the Yukon list:
Yvonne Harris (Russell) ypharris@klondiker.com in Whitehorse, Yukon 867 668 7874

(Folks outside the Yukon)

Jim Boyes (not sure how long they lived in the Yukon - late 40s and in 50s) 1257 High St., Whiterock, B.C. V4B 3N4, 604 538 3175

F. Steele (Swift River, Yukon arrived in late 40s is living in lower mainland). He ran the Swift River Lodge owned by **Clyde Wann** and was well known along the Alaska Highway. His son **Gordon Steele** lives in Whitehorse. – **Yvonne Harris**

- Please add my name to your distribution listing. You may remember my Mother, **Florence Patriquin**, as she worked with your husband Bill at White Pass. I left Whitehorse in 1977 so have lost contact with most people. After living in Nova Scotia for 16 years we moved to Sarnia, Ontario. I would really enjoy hearing from anyone who might remember me from Whitehorse Elementary or FH Collins Secondary. **JoAnne**, my sister, also lives here in Sarnia - perhaps there are others on your mailing list that may remember her as well. Still missing the Yukon after this many years away - there is no place like it. Hoping to get back there for a long visit in 2005 when I retire. - **Fred & Charlene Scott (Patriquin)**
- I was with the RCMP in the Yukon from Dec. 1961 to June 1964 (approx. 2.5 years) & was stationed in Whitehorse, Watson Lake, Carmacks, Mayo & Carcross. Needless to say with all those moves, I was single. While stationed in the NWT, I got married in April 1966 & returned to the Yukon again with the RCMP from Nov. 1968 to June 1975 (approx. 6.5 years) & was stationed in Dawson City & Whitehorse. Enjoyed working in the Yukon & have maintained contact with a lot of people still living in the Dawson City & Whitehorse areas. My wife & I have returned to the Yukon for holidays on numerous occasions: 1980 - 1 month, 1995 - 3 months, 1999 - 1 month & 2002 - 1 month. We have been living in Calgary, AB since Aug. 01, 1988. - **Lynn & Jim Armstrong**
- Hi Sherron. **Don Murray** just sent us your e-mails with the list of Yukoners who have signed on, and the latest edition of the "Moccasin Telegraph". I think it is a great idea, particularly in this age of electronic messaging, and **Lloyd and I** would like to be participants. Our e-mail address is: marnyryder@whtvcable.com
- **Lloyd** is still learning the ropes, but I have been a user of the virtual highway for some time now. It will be interesting for both of us to hear and read about

former friends. **Lloyd**, as most of our friends will know, was born here in Whitehorse in 1922, and has spent most of his working years as a fuel oil distributor and bush pilot. I arrived in Whitehorse in 1959, as a fledgling nurse in the old (but not really old Whitehorse General Hospital), switched into community health nursing, and spent time in Dawson City, Watson Lake, and brief stints in Old Crow. We plan to attend the Yukoners Do in Vancouver in April, as we have for the past two years. My adopted brother, **Don Murray**, keeps us in touch with the news of many Yukoners, and we are looking forward to see him when he hosts the next reunion.

Thanks for being the impetus for the Yukon network. - **Marny Ryder**

- Feel free to use any of my comments. I am on my computer every dayLloyd, less so, unless I point out something that I know will interest him . I am Chair of the Yukon Hospital Corporation currently, so I am still attached to the business end of things. Will keep in touch. – **Marny**
- Hello Sherron Had coffee with **Elwood & Marion** the other day and he suggested we add our names to the list. It sounds interesting and would love to hear of old friends. **Richard(Dick) & Doreen Cinnamon** email - rdcinnamon@shaw.ca

Lived in Whitehorse from 1969 to 1980 (11 years). Spent the summers placer mining in the Dawson City area for the next two years. Left the Yukon in 1982 when we moved to Kelowna, BC. Now are retired. Looking forward to all the news. - **Doreen**

- I was born in Dawson City and completed high school there. After completing nursing school, I returned to Whitehorse and worked in the hospital from 1966 to 1968. I am now working in Vancouver at BCWomen's hospital. My maiden name is **Munroe**. Thank you for the list and for the reply **Carol Pearce (Munroe)**
- Elwood Lyle has suggested I take the time to add our names to the list as we had made lots of friends over the 10 years we spent in the Yukon. Also very many great memories of our life in the north. Rod and Susan Watt lived in Whitehorse four years Dawson six years 1974 - 1984 worked for Trans North Air and have lived in Vernon, B.C. 7371 Bellavista Road V 1 H 1C 2 545-9546 ever since..... Thankyou - **Rod & Susan Watt**
- Hello My maiden name was **Telep**--I was born in Dawson city lived in the mining camp Bear Creek from 1946--until I went "outside" to St. Ann's Academy in Victoria in 1961 to finish high school-- I now live in Vanderhoof B.C. I was referred to you by Blanche and Gus Barrett – **Clara Norila (Telep)**
- Hi Sherron-- **Brent Singbeil and Kathy Twa** forwarded a copy of Sourdoughs and ExYukoner list plus the 4th Edition of the Moccasin Telegraph which we found very interesting. We moved here in 1967 from Salmon Arm BC and in 1975 moved to BC eventually settling on Vanouver Island near Parksville returning here in 1987 and have stayed and i guess this is where we will be till the end. **Rick Griffiths** started Griffiths Heating Services, which is still in business but not owned by us. We have two daughters living here,

Christine Griffiths/McIntyre, husband **Angus McIntyre** oldest son of **Gordon and Ruth McIntyre** - **Gordon** a true Yukoner born and raised in Dawson, Mayo. **Gordon** was one of the first teachers in Mayo's school and **Ruth** was also later a teacher there as well. They both live here in Whitehorse. **Ruth** was "**Mother Mac**" to many of F.H. Collins kids, ours included. Our youngest daughter **Janet** is married to **James Duncan**, son of **late Desmond Duncan and Peggy Duncan** who still lives here. The 4 Duncan kids run Duncan's Ltd here in Whitehorse. Our son, **Rick**, lives in Surrey B.C. but visits here twice a year on business. Please add our names to your list, as we would like to continue reading all of the news. Great job you are doing. - **Rick and Diana Griffiths**

- Hi Sherron- Yes we are living in Whitehorse - Yes **Rick Griffiths** used to play softball on the ball field which was right across from our house at the corner of Rogers and 3rd Ave- across from **Hougen's** house on Rogers Street. **Rick Baker** use to work for my **Rick** at Griffiths Heating. He is in the NWT now we understand from his sister **Kathy**. I don't know if he played ball or not. I think my **Rick** played for Regina Hotel - he is not here to tell me for sure as he is out of town, **Gordon and Ruth (McIntyre)** live in Whitehorse at 50 Liard Rd in Riverdale. I will ck to see if they are line and ask them if they want to receive the newsletter. **Gordon** was the photo taker - he has been quite a photographer thruout the years but has given it up at the age of 92 years--- still does most of the cooking in their home-- quite a remarkable man. I ran off a copy of the # 4 Moccasin Telegraph for them and will do so for # 3. I also ran one of for **Peggy Duncan**. I know she is on line but don't know her e mail address. She will be away for awhile basking in the sun of Cancun. She may get in touch with you on her return. Yes you may add the comments to your next new letter. - **Diana Griffiths**
- Someone sent me your 3rd publication of the Moccasin telegraph. I am interested in getting the 1st and 2nd and any others. My name is **Doris Gates** and lived in the Yukon from Mar 1966 to July 2000 at which time my husband **Howard** and I retired in Clinton B. C., a very small town. In fact it reminds us of Dawson City in many ways. My name when I moved to the Yukon was Doris Gibson. I worked for Ole and Marie Christensen at the Occidental Hotel. I then leased the Bonanza Hotel (the old Pearl Harbour) from **Sid and Hilda Carr**. I was the last one to fully operate the hotel. I then married my present husband Howard and left Dawson City in September 1967 and set up house in Clinton Creek, Yukon. From there when the mine closed in July 1978 we moved to Faro Yukon. After that mine closed in 1985 we moved to Whitehorse. The only thing I really miss, are my Yukon friends. My claim to fame is I was the original **Diamond Tooth Gertie in 1971** when The Gambling saloon first opened. You asked who 2003 Mr. and Mrs. Yukon are and the answer is Gordon and Rose Toole of Watson Lake, Yukon Please put me on your email list . Thanks very much yukonbelle@canada.com - **Doris Gates (formerly Gibson)**
- That is correct and yes you may use my remarks for the next issue. There maybe one person who would argue that Gertie Facts But I know its true. **Frank Buckley** from Clinton Creek put **Gerties** together with **Don Willis** and **Ron Berberidge** and **Marge** and **Evelyn** and a gal named **Flo O'Neil**. I was pregnant at the time and the baby was born on June 17th 1971 just in time to be **Gertie**. In

Fact I taught the can can to some of the **Pink Ladies** in my 8th Month. What a hoot that was. **Doris Gates** aka **Diamond Tooth Gertie** aka yukonbelle

- Please add my father to your list, same address as mine. **Jack Cruden** omagh@telusplanet.net My family lived on the highway at Swift River before moving to Dawson. My father worked for CN in these two places as well as Whitehorse before retiring in 1990. I moved from Dawson in late 70's. – **Doug Cruden**
- I live in Hinton, Alberta (near Jasper) Jack is in a home in Edmonton , suffers with early Alzheimer's, but maybe I can reach some of his old friends with **CN or Northwestel** through this, I can't find any address books or such to call his friends except for the ones I knew. Thanks **Doug Cruden**
- Dear Sherron, I received your 4th Telegraph from friends in Edmonton so would like to add our names. We are **Dale Stokes (nee King) and Doug Phillips**. I came in 1955 and Doug came in 1948. Doug, a former politician, is semi-retired has a small business at home selling greenhouses, sunrooms, blinds etc. and I am co-owner of three stores in Whitehorse and working hard at trying to become retired.
- We live at Marsh Lake at the end of the South McKlintoch road. I bought a cabin years ago that belonged to **Paul Lucier** but previous to that I think was owned at one time by the **Vars** but am not positive. We are right on the lake about 3 lots from the Firth Compound. Right where the Swans come in in April. We love it here. I am looking out the window right now to bright sunshine on the mountains, the temperature has improved since last week but we still have lots of snow. I am going to Vancouver for Yukoners so hope to see some of you there.
- Note for **WENDY BERGERON**. Wendy I certainly remember your name but when I went to check yearbooks the only yearbook I can find is my graduation year of 1961 so would like to hear from you and maybe we can match memories. - **Dale Stokes (nee King)**
- **Mary "Lou" Zornes (nee Chapman, Carriss)** stanlouzornes@shaw.ca - lived in Whitehorse 1970-1975 – Whitehorse Star, Woolworth, Int'l Women's Year. Now in Victoria, BC.

TIDBITS:

- Dear Sherron, You are doing such a wonderful job of getting everyone together, I just wanted to thank you so very much, I will also SPREAD the word. E.MAIL is just WONDERFUL, so much to learn, take care. Love Edward & **Gillian** xo
- Dear Sherron,... I just heard from **Mark Smith** that **Ann Campion** passed away... Ann was one of the Frantic Follies Dancers, and was a wonderful warm girl, we all loved her. She was a rebel and so much fun, great smile and disposition. We toured with the Follies, when **Jim Murdock** was alive, it was a hoot. I always had my MOVIE CAMERA out, and the cast always used to bug me about it, but I am sure they are all glad I took footage of everybody, even **Helen**

Hoback and some of the old timers are on it. It's a real TREASURE. I have only one copy, Anne is front and centre ..Love **Gillian** xoxo

- Hi Sherron - I've been goofing off here - can't have that - had a foot of snow two days ago but it rained all last night so there isn't much snow left..

I'm sorry that picture of the Casca turned out so poorly - I'm going to give it another try - **don't know if anyone has mentioned the fact that the White Pass hauled the freight from Whitehorse to the lower end of Lake Lebarge and this helped them get the boat away earlier instead of having to wait for the ice to go out in the lake.**

Boy you sure have the tiger by the tail - Yukoners seem to be coming out of the woodwork - and all different eras - really makes it interesting . - **Marnie & Les Sommerton** rlsomerton@shaw.ca

- As we're on the subject of **Sternwheelers**, I have a first hand account of the sinking of the Klondike in 1936 by **Pauline LePage**, who was a passenger (pregnant with her second child) on that boat when it went down. Her story was recorded by **Cal Waddington**, and in turn I wrote it, in her own words, in my book "**Yukon Riverboat Days.**" It was quite an adventure. Many Yukoners probably still remember her husband "**Happy**" **LePage**. Details can be found on my website <http://members.shaw.ca/joyceyardley/> Hancock House published my two books on the Yukon.

Thanks for passing this on, and for your hard work and dedication in maintaining this list!

All the best, **Joyce Yardley (Richards)** born and raised in Whitehorse.
joyceyardley@shaw.ca

REUNIONS:

ISLAND YUKONERS PICNIC - Nanoose

I just got this from **Stan Hegstrom** in Nanoose. There may be some retired **CPA** employees who may want to attend. You will notice that the **Island Yukoners Picnic** is slated for **August 16** at St. Mary's Hall, **Nanoose**. Stan will be sending a map of where to turn in. We have used this site before and it is rather nice. - **Henry Breaden** - (More details to follow later)

YXYCP REUNION - Parksville

Henry, I found this on this on my airline web site and it is a reunion of CPA people and airport people who worked in Whitehorse. **Stan Hegstrom** From "**Phil & Marlie Kelsey**" pkelsey@saltspring.com Greetings all you YUKON Sourdoughs! The time & place has been decided for our **1st XYXCP reunion**: Beautiful **Parksville** B.C. on Vancouver Island. We need your registration ASAP to secure these prices. **Please forward this message on to any former CP employees who worked in YXY, flight crew, and line maintenance staff who regularly operated through our old stomp'in grounds.**

Friday, Sept. 26, 2003

16:30 - 19:30 Wine & Cheese Welcome & Registration
19:30 - Free time, socializing

Saturday, Sept. 27, 2003 All day Optional tours & activities will be available -
See registration form

18:00 - 19:00 No Host Reception
19:00 - ??? Dinner, Fun, Entertainment, Dance, Whatever?

Sunday, Sept. 28, 2003 All Day Open

Registration: \$50 per person (Includes Friday reception, Saturday dinner & dance, Prizes)

Not included: Accommodations, Saturday bar, optional activities. Transportation. (closest airport is Nanaimo YCD which is 30 minutes south of Parksville). Other airports are Comox/Courtenay or Victoria.

VENUE: Best Western Bayside Inn, Parksville BC www.bwbayside.com Book your own rooms at 1-800-663-4232 **Refer to CP Whitehorse Reunion Room** rates: From \$74. to \$89. plus 16% taxes per room for single or double. Limited number of rooms blocked at this price - book EARLY

Reunion Committee: **Marlie Field-Kelsey** Marlie@saltspring.com **Brian Walsh** Brian@Walsh.org **Donna MacFarlane** donna908@shaw.ca **Pat Besier** jpbesier@seaside.net Dig out those pictures and stories! It's going to be a great time! For more information and a copy of the registration form. Contact any of the above parties at their email addresses or call **Marlie** at 250-537-5261 or **Pat** at 250-748-7567. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

ARCTIC LUNCHEON - VICTORIA

On April 6th, the yearly Arctic Luncheon will be held in Victoria. This is an enjoyable lunch and get together, and the guest speaker is always worth listening to. This year it's Stephen Hume, ex-Edmonton Journal correspondent in Yellowknife. Anyone interested can e-mail Norma Alison at nalison@uvic.ca FMI. Phone 250- 386 6027. – **Aksel Porsild** yukoner1@shaw.ca

HELPFUL HINTS:

- **Have you ever seen this message at the bottom of an e-mail and wondered: This email was cleaned by emailStripper, available for free from <http://www.papercut.biz/emailStripper.htm>**

This is a really neat program you can **download free** and keep a copy on you desktop. All you need to do is copy and paste a messy e-mail into this stripper, click on 'strip it' and then click on 'copy' and you will have a cleaned up copy magically placed into your mouse, ready to put into a new e-mail. It cleans off all those >>>>>> markers. Well at least it seems like it is in your mouse, because when you RIGHT click into the text area of your new e-mail and chose 'paste' it magically appears all cleaned up. – **Sherron**

- **Computer Hoaxes:**

If you haven't been caught already by passing on a **Hoax Virus Alert** e-mail, you should know that sites exists to check to see if it is a legitimate warning or a hoax. Save yourself the embarrassment that many of us have felt; and read this.

From time to time you get Virus Warnings from friends, and you wonder if they really are something to be careful with or whether they are hoaxes. On the Internet, if you click on this link <http://www.symantec.com/avcenter/hoax.html> it will open a Symantec page of hoaxes. Scroll down through the alphabetic index till you find the one you want and click on it. A page will open with all the information on the hoax and likely the exact text that you have received in the warning.

If you would like an Icon on your desktop for quick entry to this page, while the page is on your screen, click on **File** top left. On the drop go down to **Send** which will give a side drop of Page by E-mail, Link by E-mail and Shortcut to Desktop. Click on **Shortcut to Desktop, which** will put an Icon on your desktop. Now you have a quick tool to check with should you get a virus warning from friends. For dial-up folks, you must remember you have to be on line to use this page from the Symantec Labs and it is always up to date.

If you FW this information to your friends, and they to theirs, eventually folks will be so well informed that **most Virus Alerts Are Hoaxes** and there will not be any joy for the Smart Alecks' to annoy good folks with virus **hoaxes**. On the other hand, if you got a warning and do not find it in the list, it is time to be careful. **–fwd by Henry Breaden**