

## **MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH – Ninety-Second Edition - Dec. 12, 2004**

Created by Sherron Jones [sherronjones@shaw.ca](mailto:sherronjones@shaw.ca)

To use an e-mail address from the MocTel, substitute the \* with @.



### **The Robin is still here.**

Photo taken 10 a.m. 21 Nov 2004, after our first snowfall of a couple of inches of wet clinging snow.

Photo courtesy of Doug Bell [dougbell@yknnet.ca](mailto:dougbell@yknnet.ca) (In Whitehorse)

### **Stranded**

By Gus Barrett [sourdoughs2@shaw.ca](mailto:sourdoughs2@shaw.ca)

While I was flying south for winter  
I was grounded by a storm,  
Now I perch here cold and lonesome on this limb.  
The owner tries to feed me but  
Where could he find a worm?  
When he's living here beside the polar rim.

I like it here in Whitehorse,  
The people are so nice,  
They stop and take my picture, every one.  
But I am just a robin,  
I'm not built for snow and ice,  
I should be in Arizona in the sun.

Maybe folks will catch me  
They will put me on a jet,  
And fly me to the south where I should be.  
My tail feathers are freezing and  
My feet are cold and wet.  
Oh God, that would be heavenly to me.

But I'm stranded with the raven,  
With the stories that it tells,  
And the barren, frozen landscape that I see.  
Still, it's Christmas time in Whitehorse  
And I think I hear the Bells,  
I hope they'll have a birdseed treat for me.

I fear that if I stay up here  
My voice will freeze and crack,  
You will never hear my robin's song of old.  
I'll be as loony as the other bird  
By the time that spring is back,  
Singing "kee kee kee keehrist but I am cold."

© 2004 Gus Barrett



**Five Finger Rapids – July 2004 – Note Smoke Haze**  
Photo courtesy Gerald & Buelah Newsham [gbnewsham\\*silk.net](http://gbnewsham*silk.net)

## **FIVE FINGER RAPIDS**

The only comment I can make is that whether you were in the wheelhouse or not, anytime going down through the fingers all the crew puckered up! The steamboat channel is on the near side (in the Newsham photo above) where you can see the large rock island. Directly above is a smaller rock island, and between the two is a terrific cross current. Going down you stayed tight against the islands as that cross current would push the boat to the right about 10 feet. You were always happy to see the lower end where you went astern and drifted the next corner to stay clear of the island below. A lot of rock work was done at the Fingers and Rink Rapids each spring.

Henry Breaden [hjbreaden\\*shaw.ca](http://hjbreaden*shaw.ca)

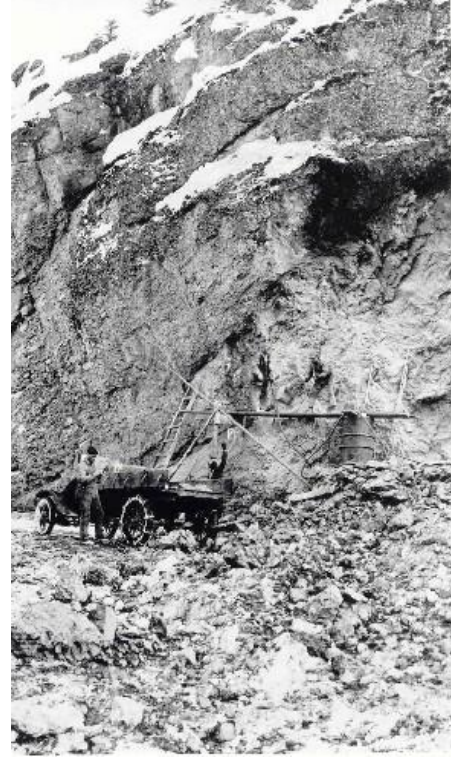


Left – Frank Kostoph, ?



Right – F.E. Harbottle

**Widening Five Finger Rapids** likely early 1920's - photos courtesy Jeanne Harbottle



L to R- F.E. Harbottle, Oliver Wilson, ? George Howett.



L to R – Frank Kostoph, Charlie Thomas  
Photos courtesy Jeanne Harbottle



L – Frank Kostoph

### **Joyce Yardley's saga, to California and back. Notes on Our Fall 2004 Car Trip, Sept. 2004**

Driving along the beach from Astoria we passed Seaside and lovely names like Cannonball, Tillamook, Rockaway Beach. More breath-taking ocean views with steep rock islands topped with the odd tree or two. I could have stayed here for a day or two. At Depoe Bay we saw the best waves of all. It just kept getting better.



**Oregon Seashore**

Photo courtesy Joyce Yardley [Joyceyardley@shaw.ca](mailto:Joyceyardley@shaw.ca)

Lincoln City – We had heard of this town of 7,000 population and were not disappointed. (I gave it 4 Stars.) We walked around the plaza, and then took in the town. All the amenities were here plus a delightful “Old Town” with lots of quaint shops and seafood restaurants. We had lunch at the “Lighthouse Brew Pub” Fred had a “Terminator” to drink and a Hamilton Burger. I tried their Fish Sandwich. Very good.

15th That night we stayed in Florence, OR at the Holiday Inn Express, and ate at the Firehouse Restaurant. Couldn’t get over the outstanding quality of the meals that we enjoyed on this whole trip... (will have to diet for a month to make up for this!)

16th Stopped at the Lookout on Umpquah Bay, and took pictures of the lighthouse, then along Gold Beach, where there was a Salmon Run in progress . We looked out on hundreds of fishing boats there. A little further on we saw the best surf yet!



**Oregon Seashore**

Photo courtesy Joyce Yardley [Joyceyardley@shaw.ca](mailto:Joyceyardley@shaw.ca)

We took our coffee break at Bandon, OR; another small, but excellent bakery (still remember that pea-soup with ham and fresh-out-of the oven rolls.)



**Bison**

Photo courtesy Joyce Yardley [Joyceyardley@shaw.ca](mailto:Joyceyardley@shaw.ca)

We visited Crescent City, our first stop in California, and then we went on to Fortuna CA.

On the way there I stopped to take pictures of some Bison that were in a fenced enclosure close to the road. I'd never seen a Bison up close up before. I could have reached out and touched these animals.

We stayed at the Holiday Inn Express. We'd recommend these hotels to everyone. This particular one was located close to a "Comfort Inn," a "Motel 8" a "Denny's" and an "Eel River Brewing Co. Pub,"( where ate in the Tap Room and Grill and had Fish and Chips to die for; blonde Ale, and Raven's Eye Stout; one of Fred's favorites.)

(To be continued)

## **OUR TRIP BACK HOME TO THE YUKON – PART XI**

By Donna Clayson [ytdogteam@telus.net](mailto:ytdogteam@telus.net) (in Ardrossan AB)

Note: all photos courtesy of Donna Clayson unless otherwise noted.

After taking pictures of Venus Mills we headed back to Whitehorse. We intended on spending a few days in Whitehorse reacquainting with old friends and meeting new ones.

On July 20 we met with Tim Kinvig. This fine gentleman is a wealth of northern information and stories. Once we got home Tim was kind enough to send me some fantastic photos of the WP&YR. You can see them in Part IX of my memories.



**Tim Kinvig**

Photo courtesy of Tim Kinvig

Also on July 20 we met with a former schoolmate of mine – Mark Wyatt. Mark and I attended school in Haines Junction together. Included in our group were Sherry Marvin, Norm Bastien and Linda Kettley. We kept busy just hanging out and curling besides the mischievous trouble we got ourselves into. That's a story for another time.

I'm sure he was a bit surprised I tracked him down after not seeing or corresponding with one another since I left the Junction in 1963. Mark is a member of the Canadian Rangers

and I knew nothing about them until I saw a television program on their trek to the North Pole. With a bit of prodding Mark opened up and told me about his trips to the pole.

He's been with the Rangers for ten years. Snow machines and 303 rifles are supplied to the men and women including rations. Mark once ate raw caribou when out on one of these patrols. On this particular trip there were 34 members that went. Mark's been on 50 patrols over the Yukon so far. At one point the Inuit brought polar bears in for a photo op. That was a bit unnerving. The men have repaired snow machine engines on the ice at minus 35C and didn't freeze their hands. He's also seen 4 sundogs with 4 corners – usually they are in a row. They have searched for downed airplanes, all terrain vehicles and snow machines. When the Canadian Forces can't search then the Canadian Rangers go. Mark indicated that the Rangers are the largest land force in Canada.

The Canadian Rangers are part-time and are responsible for protecting Canada's sovereignty by reporting unusual activities or sightings, collecting local data of significance to the Canadian Forces, and conducting surveillance or sovereignty patrols as required. They are reservists who provide a military presence in remote, isolated and coastal communities of Canada. There are currently 4,000 Canadian Rangers in 165 communities across Canada. Canadian Rangers provide a military presence in sparsely settled northern, coastal and isolated areas of Canada that cannot conveniently or economically be provided for by other components of the Canadian Forces. The tasks assigned to the Rangers include providing a military presence in support of sovereignty including:

- Reporting unusual activities
- Collecting local data of significance in support of military operations
- Conducting surveillance/sovereignty patrols
- Rangers also assist Canadian Forces activities by providing local expertise, guidance and advice
  - Conducting Northern Warning System patrols
  - Providing local assistance to Search and Rescue activities.

When Mark isn't involved in defending our border he is doing road construction. It was such a thrill to see Mark again.



**Donna Clayson & Mark Wyatt**

July 21 was our 18<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary so we decided to take a tour on the M.V. Schwatka. We were married on the boat in 1986 so thought it fitting we spend our special day going on a trip. When we were picking up our tickets I mentioned to Bryan that it was a shame Bruce Horning and Rachel Madran couldn't be with us. They were the owners/captains when we were married. The couple was kind enough to cancel a tour the night we were married so we would have the boat to ourselves.

We were married by Red Hannah with the wedding party consisting of Vic and Rose Card, our daughter Verena, my dad who was best man, and a fellow we didn't know. Perhaps he was a friend of Vics'. We said our vows as we floated on Schwatka Lake then Bruce and Rachel guided us through Miles Canyon as we toasted one another under the swinging bridge that connects the walls in the Canyon. A good, long "toot" from the horn sealed our communion.

As we boarded the M.V. Schwatka at 7:00 p.m. on July 21, 2004. I was again wishing Bruce and Rachel could have been there. As we passed by the pilothouse, Harry our captain, was getting ready to move the boat onto the lake. I noticed a man sitting on the bench talking to Harry. I thought he looked rather familiar and as our pilot eased the Schwatka into the open water I thought I'd go talk to Harry. I mentioned we were married exactly 18 years ago in this spot at this same time. The stranger on the bench interrupted saying he was pilot of the boat at that time. It was Bruce! There were a few tears and lots of hugs. We chatted the entire trip catching up on the news of 18 years. Harry even let Bruce take over the wheel for awhile. It was only by a fluke that Bruce happened to be on that trip at that time. He almost missed the boat, as his dinner was late. Unfortunately Rachel couldn't bring herself to come as the memories of by-gone days hurt and she felt staying back at the motor home was a better idea. Bruce bought us a glass of wine to commemorate our anniversary. The evening ended on a perfect note. We later visited them both at their campsite.



**Bruce Horning Piloting the M.V. Schwatka**  
July 21, 2004



**Bruce Horning, Donna and Bryan Clayson**  
M.V.Schwatka – Miles Canyon - July 21, 2004

The next day we went to see Craig Tuton at the Casa Loma in Porter Creek. My dad was the care taker for years and this was where we spent our wedding night. Naturally after spending our anniversary on the Schwatka we had to check out the Casa Boo Boo as my dad called it. I wanted to get some history on the motel and managed to catch up with Craig. I asked him how the motel got its name. Apparently the hotel was once called, it's believed, the Westmount. In the 1960's it was a service station and highway lodge with two gas pumps out front. In later years the lounge replaced the service station. The small eating area had two booths with a grill directly behind the counter. It was Roy Jamieson that added on to the building, creating pretty much what it is today. The only thing left of the original building is part of the front wall and some of the cement floor.

Roy wanted a neon sign and in 1961 talked to some contacts in Vancouver who had one for sale. Roy went to Vancouver and found one for \$100.00 that said "Casa Loma Motel". Roy called his partners and told them to wire the money but they informed him there wasn't enough money in the account to pay for it. With no way to pay for the sign Roy was offered shares and then asked to manage the sales of neon signs. It's believed Roy was the first neon sign agent in the territory. At this time Roy bought out his partners. The rest, as the saying goes, is history.

The motel has been a gathering place for 30 years and the saying goes, the customers even have their own table and chair. If someone is sitting in their spot the customer will stand there and glare at the person until they vacate the spot. The lounge has a nickname of *Wax Museum* because you can go there anytime and see the same faces year after year in the same spot. The evening I was there the place still looked exactly the same with the same familiar faces from before I left the north in 1978. It was as if time stood still for the last 26 years.

Roy passed away June 20, 1994 at the age of 84. His wife, Jean is 91 years young and still lives in her own home. It is said that employees have seen Roy's ghost wandering

the facility. Craig Tuton took over the Casa Loma in 1991. The band Yukon Jack has been playing there for 10 years.



**Casa Loma Motel – Porter Creek - Whitehorse**

Note: I'd like to do a story on Roy Jamieson. If anyone has memories of Roy could you please send them to me at [ytdogteam@telus.net](mailto:ytdogteam@telus.net)

To be continued .....

## **SMALL WORLD**

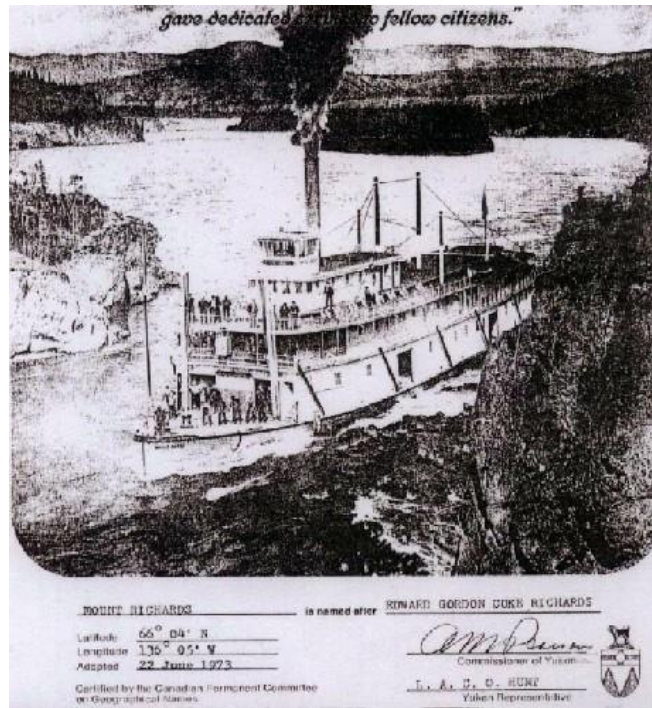
My brother-in-law, Dave, travels a lot in his position as Woodworkers Union Rep. He had the chance to get up to Whitehorse while we were there and we toured him around a bit. Out to the junction, black forest cake at the hot springs, even saw deer on the Atlin road. But the highlight of his visit was when we went down to the Travelodge and Gillian got him into the "Walter, Walter" thing. He still talks of it.

Anyway, he was in Calgary and waiting for the LRT late at night. There was another fellow there waiting too and he appeared to be a native. Dave asked where he was from and the fellow said "from up north, you probably haven't heard of it. Old Crow". Dave told him that his brother-in-law had told him about Old Crow and he knew about where it was. The fellow asked what the brother-in-law did and Dave said that he used to measure rivers and then did maintenance for the nursing station.

The fellow said "That must have been Bill Maylor". Dave was so taken back that he didn't get the name of the fellow. From Dave's description I think it was Willy Thomas, but that proves that it is a small world.

Bill Maylor [b.maylor@sasktel.net](mailto:b.maylor@sasktel.net)

## A TRIBUTE TO A FALLEN AIRMAN



**“Mount Richards”  
Yukon Mountain named for “Ted”  
Edward Gordon Coke RICHARDS**  
Certificate courtesy Joyce Yardley (in Nanaimo)  
*(The top was cropped because it was not legible)*

**Mount Richards**, located at Lat: 66 04 N; Long: 136 05 W, east of Canyon Creek, Yukon was named to honour his memory on June 22, 1973.

*(The certificate above and the poem below shared with us by Joyce Yardley in memory of her brother ‘Ted’, who was killed in a raid on Lutzendorf March 15th 1945.)*

### Chaplain Deacon Lord

You ought to meet our Chaplain, we call him Deacon Lord.  
He's a rootin' tootin' preaching fool, words mightier than his sword.  
When boys are feeling heartless, and say life's not worth while,  
Then Deacon Lord starts talking, and we listen rank and file.  
He'll stand up on a soap box and yell "Come join the fold!"  
Just a cocky little devil that's worth his weight in gold.  
When he is standing upright he reaches to your chin;  
A conscious Deacon, who is really death on sin.

But Deacon Lord is more than man, he's god and devil too.

For when the going gets really tough, he's there to see us through.  
He'll fight his way through thick and thin to save a harried man;  
A touch, a look, a word is all - as only the Deacon can.  
In times of war when nerves are taugt and men revert to beasts  
They need some kindly kindred soul; they need some saints and priests.  
And when at last in death they lie; when life for them is through,  
They call upon the Deacon Lord in this last rendezvous.

© Flt. Sgt. E.G.C. Richards

## ANGLICAN CHURCH IN MAYO

Hi. You had an article in the M.T. a few issues back about the Anglican Church in Mayo. This reminded me of a picture I took about 1957 while I was still living in Mayo of the Alter in the Church and the Alter Cloth that I believe was made of moose hide. I am attaching the picture ...Bill Chapman [Cwchapman\\*aol.com](mailto:Cwchapman@aol.com)



Alter in Anglican Church – Mayo – 1957

Photo courtesy Bill Chapman [Cwchapman\\*aol.com](mailto:Cwchapman@aol.com) (In Vegreville AB)

## Yukon Stories

By Alf Bilton [abilton\\*polarcom.com](mailto:abilton@polarcom.com)

Many tales in this land  
Tell of trails and black sand,  
Of hardship and hidden gold;  
Of the dreamers and such  
Who gave up so much,  
Even of souls that were sold.

Some are dull and some shine,  
Some boggle the mind,  
Mostly they're quickly forgot;  
But a relative few  
Really latch on to you,  
Filling some void that you've got.

Maybe searching for these  
While just "shooting the breeze",  
We patronize coffee shops;  
Or are drawn to the light  
Of a strange camp at night,  
Out there on the mountain tops.

Like a nugget in dust,  
Having something we must  
Respond to with special concern;  
Such are wealth to be shared  
With all others who've cared  
To wonder, those loving to learn.

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Gillian Campbell, David Algotsson and Pete Foth  
Photo courtesy Brownie Foth [lfoth@shaw.ca](mailto:lfoth@shaw.ca) (In White Rock, BC)

What a super afternoon we had with Gillian, Richard, her son on the drums, and Bill, personal pianist at the Pacific Carlton, White Rock.

David, our 22 yr. old grandson from Dawson City was singing with Gillian, and says he'd be happy to have you put his picture with Gillian in the Moc. Tel. He's Debbie's youngest son.

What a glorious hour we had with Gillian, her son Richard on the drums, (whom we knew when he was just a wee boy with his brother Jason) living in Dawson, and of course her talented personal pianist and singer. My, how everyone loved them all. It was hilarious, but we knew it would be. It was like old times sitting in the Palace Grand on a Saturday night in a Box Seat. Pete loved it all, she made a real fuss over him, I doubt if he will forget that for awhile. Tears of Joy rolled down his cheeks. – Brownie

That was Brownies Grandson.. looks 16.. but he is 20.. something.. when I was messing about with him.. he was shaking.. so nervous.. I felt BAD for him.. BUT I had to do it.... didn't I !!!!..for Brownie & Pete.. he is a nice young man.. bless him.. - Gillian



Herb Gaensbauer on the 'Monitor' – 1944 – McKee Creek – Atlin  
Photo courtesy Herb Gaensbauer [herbgaen\\*cogeco.ca](http://herbgaen*cogeco.ca) (In Peterborough ON)



Now this is a moose  
Photo taken by Eric Arnette

Hold on to your hat for this one....75 inch rack ! ! ! The moose in the photo is an Alaska-Yukon moose taken by Eric Arnette on September 5th. It was taken in the Kilbuck Mountains, which is 380 miles west of Anchorage, AK. The rack is approximately 75 inches wide, has about 36 countable points. In the near future it'll be posted on the Boone and Crockett Club's web site on "Trophy Watch" where the official score will be announced once it is entered.

## **RCCS**

Hello to all:

After reading Sherron's latest MocTel, featuring the Army Signal radio system in the North, and seeing mention of Sgt. Bill Lockhart in one of the photographs of personnel at the Mayo Station, I thought I should pass this on.

I have a bit of coincidental "trivia" to contribute to Michael's research and documentation of the NWT&Y Radio System.

I was a radio operator with Department of Transport in Whitehorse having arrived there with my family in 1957. In January 1960, I was transferred to Mayo and became one of 4 operators involved in the handing over of the station from the Army to DoT in February.

Station Mayo then changed its designated call sign from VEB to VFM8. Dawson City then became VFD2. Whitehorse became VFW.

After 7 years in Mayo, I transferred to the Department of External Affairs, Communications Division in Ottawa. We were responsible for running the vast communications network between all the Canadian embassies and High Commissions world-wide.

One day when in classroom, undergoing cryptography training as part of my indoctrination, my instructor told me that I was to report to "The Colonel" for an interview. The Colonel (none other than the former Sgt. Bill Lockhart in the MocTel photo) was the supreme commander of the total system and all of the communication centres. He had designed the whole network with a RCCS format and flavour.

So, with trepidation, I reported to his office as instructed. He invited me into his office and asked me to close the door. The conversation that followed took me totally by surprise. The first thing he asked me was to confirm (as he perused my file) that Mayo was my previous home, and when I assured him it was, he broke into a grin and asked if Archie Close and Joe Longton were still alive. He then informed me that he was instrumental in the establishment of the Signal Station at Mayo, as well as other sites throughout the NWT&Y system back in the 1920's. And so, I had a very enjoyable half hour with The Colonel as everyone employed in the system referred to him.

This happened in 1967. I found it quite incredible that his recollections of people and places were still so prevalent in his mind.

I wish you great success in your research.

73's

George Howell [howellgm@shaw.ca](mailto:howellgm@shaw.ca)  
Westbank B.C.  
Tel (250) 768-8855

## **RCSC - NWT & Yukon Radio System**

Sherron, I thought you might be interested in this message I just sent to Michael Martin after reading his very interesting history about the NWT & Yukon Radio System, the links to which were in the last edition of the MocTel. Please feel free to include it in a future edition if you think it of interest to others.

Take care, Harvey Burian

Hello Michael,

I just wanted to let you know how interesting your project about the history of the RCSC - NWT & Yukon Radio System was to me. I was born in Dawson City, Yukon and lived much of my younger days in Mayo, Yukon, both communities that were home to two of the original stations of the radio system. Though I was only a young boy during the time the RSCG personnel ran the station in Mayo, I remember many of the families connected with the station before it was turned over to the Department of Transport (DOT).

It might interest you to know that a couple of the children of George C. Siteman, who is included in your member listing, were school friends of mine in Mayo. I have a photo of the local Girl Guide Brownie troop with them in it and I could not, for the life of me, remember their last names. I remembered it ended in "...man". Another friend of mine from that era thought that it started with "Site or Syke". Looking at your list of those who were part of the system confirmed that their name was "Siteman". Your project has, in addition to providing much wonderful, heretofore unknown to me, information, also helped to clear up a mystery regarding the names of these two former school friends.

I do have one observation about your listing of those who served in the various stations in the system. I recall another name of someone who does not appear in your listing but who I know served in the Mayo station prior to it being taken over by the DOT. His name was Aubrey Lewis and he hailed from Nova Scotia. His son, Wayne, became one of my best friends. I cannot recall his rank for sure but seem to remember it being a

Sergeant or maybe a Staff/Sergeant. Either prior or subsequent to serving in Mayo he served with the UN Peace Keeping Forces in the Congo. He has since passed away and I believe his widow still lives in Halifax.

Some of the other members of the radio system I noticed on the list that I knew were R.J.H. (Jim) Cripps, Matthew Henry (Harry) Ewing, and F. (Fred) Warren. It was Harry Ewing who, in December 1944, called the Whitehorse to Dawson bound flight in the air and had it re-routed to Mayo so that my pregnant mother, who was having complications, and her two attendants could be flown to Dawson where I was born shortly thereafter. After later retiring from the signal corp Harry, who was from Quebec, settled in Mayo, ran a transportation business with his son, John, and remained in Mayo until his passing in 1985.

For a time, my parents and I lived 26 miles down the Stewart River from Mayo by ourselves at what was called 26 Mile. During the summers the river steamers stopped by on their way up to Mayo but during the winter we were virtually isolated from contact with any surrounding community. In the late 1940's my parents obtained a ham radio license and subsequently was able to maintain contact with the RCSC station in Mayo, as well as the RCMP detachment there, where there was another ham radio. Our call number was VE8AU. As a result we no longer felt nearly so isolated from the rest of the world.

One final bit of trivia may be of interest to you. After the station in Mayo was turned over to the DOT, some years later it was decided to relocate the radio equipment to the airport and so the station building in the town was sold and moved. In the course of the move, an old wind-up, pendulum Canadian Standard clock that had been hanging on the wall of the station for many years, was being disposed of and my father, Renny Burian, asked if he might have it. It was given to him and he subsequently gave it to me. It hung in my home for a number of years and when my son, Wes, went out on his own he asked if he could have it. I gave it to him and he still has it, proudly displayed in the living room of his home in Pasadena, CA. So one item associated with the NWT & Yukon Radio System has found its way to California!

Thanks again for your efforts in preserving the history of a system that had a very great impact on the North.

Harvey Burian [hburian@telus.net](mailto:hburian@telus.net)

Hello Harvey

Thanks very much for this most interesting memoire. If you don't have any objection I would like to post it to our Vignettes section. I have found that these little articles frequently trigger memories in others who then write in and contribute a bit more to the puzzle.

I initiated this project after reading Sargeant-Major Vince's official History of the NWT&Y Radio System. While it has great historical value in its own right I felt that it

needed some fleshing out with the stories of the real people who built and operated the system and lived in the North through that era. It is stories such as yours that bring these times back to life.

I will post your article to our site and if, after you've taken a look at it, you want to take it back down I can do that. If you want to edit or expand it that would be no problem.

Thanks again for the memories.

Michael Martin [versutus@rcsigs.ca](mailto:versutus@rcsigs.ca)  
Research Co-ordinator and Webmaster.

## MORSE CODE

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C Q C Q h e r e i s V E 8 B K (Sherron)

During the early 1970's Bill and I obtained our Ham Radio licenses as VE8 BJ and BK. A few years later the club petitioned to have the VE8 changed to something unique for Yukon. DOT made the decision that VY1 was to be the new prefix and we became VY1BJ and VY1BK.

My first morse code contact was with a person in Russia. Thank heavens English is the International Language of Communication.

My first voice contact was from our cabin at Marsh Lake to Antarctica. The person was on an expedition to the south pole.

The logic for asking for the call prefix change came about when the beam antennas were first being used and VE8 covered the Yukon and NW Territories making it difficult for someone in the south to know which way to turn their beam antenna.

After moving to BC we were allotted 3 letter calls and applied to get 2 letter calls when they became available. The prefix for BC is VE7, for Alberta VE6 and so on across Canada.

We are now VE7YI and VE7OP.

The communication from one Yukon radio site to the next whether it be via the radio signals or the telegraph line where code signals.

Maybe some of the other hams in this group would share their thoughts and explanation to terms such as 'silent key' and 'tin ears'. – Sherron Jones

Sherron:

In my occupation in commercial radio (I had a second class licence) we used (the same as ham radio operators) International Morse utilizing tone audio (dits and dahs). Railway telegraphers (CP, CN) used landline telegraphy with clacker signal sounders. Not all of the letter characters are the same in each system because of the audible means.

I'm certain that Harvey (whom I recall quite well from my years in Mayo, '60 to '67) well remembers being near the Signal Station in his youth, on a summer day, listening to the cacophony emulating through the open door as we the Operators received and sent messages from and to various individuals and talked to the aircraft as they came and went...

George Howell

## **NEW ADDITION LAST WEEK**

Trails North is the last gas bar on the way North out of Porter Creek. It's a few hundred yards before Mackenzie's RV Park on the same side of the road heading out. Among the regulars in the coffee shop are Curly Graham and a few other survivors of his generation. I was talking to Moe Grant there yesterday and told him about your project. He isn't computerized yet, but would like to know if you have a print edition available for subscription.

As to information about me, I'm not sure what you'd find useful. I finished high school in Yellowknife, then found my folks (George and Ivy Bilton) in the Yukon after riding my thumb around the world for a couple of years. Mom was a Palmer, sister to Wes and George Palmer, both of whom spent most of their lives in the Yukon from the mid or late thirties on. My brother Jack has stayed put here and I have been coming back whenever there was work to be had pretty much ever since. There were a few years in Edmonton teaching school before I remembered I greatly prefer jobs that get me outdoors and stay at work when I go home. There were also a couple of years in Saskatchewan when Scotty Carr and I tried cross-breeding a yak bull and some highland cattle. The cattle seemed to be having more fun than we were, so when I heard Faro was reopening, I was a lot longer packing than making up my mind what to do.

Thanks again, Sherron.

Alf Bilton, Whitehorse [abilton@polarcom.com](mailto:abilton@polarcom.com)

## **A GRAHAM IN BC**

*When Herb Gaensbauer joined the MocTel group recently and indicated he spent time in Atlin in the 1930's and 40's before moving to Whitehorse to attend high school in 1947 and 48. I mentioned to him some of the Atlin connections that I was aware of. When I mentioned Daisy Callison had written about Rev. Graham and that I had worked with his grandson Chuck McKenzie, Herb replied with more information about the Graham family. That two of Mae (Graham) McKenzie's brothers were Charlie and Richard 'Curly' Graham.*



Dorothy & Charlie Graham in Merritt, BC

Photo courtesy Herb Gaensbauer [herbgaen\\*cogeco.ca](mailto:herbgaen@cogeco.ca) (In Peterborough ON)

*Herb also mentioned having been in touch with another former Atlinite Harry Gairns in Prince George, Dave Gairns' brother.  
Herb has indicated he will be away from his computer until Dec 20<sup>th</sup>. – Sherron Jones*

## **NEW ADDITIONS THIS WEEK**

Hi Sherron. It sounds like this Moccasin telegraph has become quite success story and yes, I would like to see the past editions. I won't attempt to make any changes but I think they might be interesting.

We arrived here in the Yukon in spring 1974 and I left the bank in 1977 as I wanted to see if I was good for anything else, or just good for nothing. Joined the Yukon Housing Corporation as their first Manager of Finance and Administration. That was a rather interesting job as they were in the intensive growing/building phase and hadn't exactly done some of their paper work properly with the end result that we had some houses built partially or fully on some properties we didn't own. Getting title to some of those were rather interesting exercises. I was with them for about four years and then went to the Department of Education as the Director of Finance and Administration. Spent 5 years there and then went on to a similar position with the Department of Renewable Resources where I also served as acting Deputy Minister from time to time. Was offered the Deputy position once but it's too close to the politicians and most Deputy Ministers don't exactly have a good record of longevity on the positions. I didn't think I needed the irritation so I stayed away from it and am glad I did. Retired from Renewable in May 2002.

Leona worked for Justice as a Deputy Clerk of the Court for about 13 years. She has a strong bent towards computers and became their Court Registry Systems Manager for her final 6 or 7 years. About 5 years ago some contractor used a solvent to strip varnish off the woodwork in the building. The solvent was only supposed to be used outside in well ventilated conditions. You guessed it - they used it inside in January. End result, they had to vacate the building and about 4 or 5 people were dramatically affected - Leona the

worst. She has ended up with a bad case of Chemically Induced Asthma and can't be around any smoke, exhaust fumes, perfumes, colognes, scented deodorants, etc. So, that has kind of curtailed our social life as far as going out to public functions. Oh well just have to do more fishing.

That gives you a basic synopsis of our lives, other than some other happenings in between, like I busted my back about 8 years ago, but that's another story. Lucky enough I have pretty well recovered other than the fact that I can't do housework anymore, which really breaks me up.

All the best.

Stan Marinoske [smarinoske@klondiker.com](mailto:smarinoske@klondiker.com)

Mark said sure he would like to receive the Moccasin Telegraph. Sorry the response took so long; just don't get to our emails always in a timely fashion.

You will have to email me to tell me what is all involved. I just downloaded the edition you sent but haven't had time to read it.

Thanks

Elaine (& Mark Wyatt) [smokeynpals@yahoo.ca](mailto:smokeynpals@yahoo.ca)

## **OBIT**

Obituaries (11/17/04)

PLAINE \_ Rev. Joseph Leo, Oblate of Mary Immaculate, age 91, died suddenly at Pandosy Place, Vancouver, BC on Friday, November 12, 2004. Fr. Plaine was born in Bedee (Ille-et-Vilaine), France on April 19, 1913, son of the late Jean and Mary (Houee) Plaine. He is survived by his sisters, Elise and Lucienne Plaine (nun); and brothers, Francois and Urbain, all in France. Following his ordination in France (La Brosse) on July 3, 1938 Fr. Joe was assigned to the mission fields of Northwestern Canada where he ministered for nearly 60 years in various areas of the North: Lejac, Telegraph Creek, Mayo, MacPherson, Old Crow, Dawson City, Atlin and Whitehorse serving here for several years as Chaplain while semi-retired. In 1997, Fr. Joe Plaine retired to Pandosy Place in Vancouver, BC after 59 years of dedicated ministry. Prayer Vigil will be held on Thursday November 18, at 7PM in St. Augustine's Catholic Church, 2028 West 7th Ave. Vancouver, where Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday November 19th 2004 at 11AM. Internment to follow at Oblate Cemetery, Mission BC. Kearney Funeral Home 604-736-0268

Vancouver Sun / The Province, Area Code 604

Sherron These are from Archives Search from Toronto Star. Used Yukon, Whitehorse and Dawson as keywords. You wouldn't believe how many kids are named Dawson. Any further searches will be from Dec 2004 onward. Bill Maylor [b.maylor@sasktel.net](mailto:b.maylor@sasktel.net)

**ANTHONY WILLIAM MALONEY** The Honourable Anthony William "Bill" Maloney, Q.C., retired Justice of the Superior Court of Ontario, died peacefully, on Saturday, May 1, 2004, at home, of heart failure. He is survived by his loving wife the Honourable Senator Marian "Babe" Maloney, their three sons Patrick of Vancouver and his fiancée Sue, Michael of London, Ontario and his wife Lisa and their daughter Keira, and Jamie. He was predeceased by his parents Leo and Katherine Maloney, and is survived by his brother Victor of Thunder Bay and his wife Ann, as well as his two step-sisters Kay of Sedro Woolley, Washington and Eleanor of Saskatoon. Bill is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews. **Bill was born May 12, 1928 in Saskatoon** and was raised there and in Brandon, Manitoba before moving to Thunder Bay in 1942. He received his Bachelor of Arts from St. Paul's College at the University of Manitoba where he was "Senior Stick" and after that graduated from Osgoode Hall Law School in 1953. He joined the law firm Weiler, Weiler & Maloney, now Weiler, Maloney & Nelson, where he practiced for 22 years. He was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1962 and became President of the Thunder Bay Law Association in 1964. On July 24, 1975 he was appointed to Trial Division of the Supreme Court of Ontario in Toronto, where he served with pleasure and distinction until 1990 when he was appointed Senior Regional Judge of the Northwest Region and returned to his roots in Thunder Bay. **He sat as "Chief Justice of the North" until 1997 when he returned to sit in Toronto. In 1988 Bill Maloney's expertise was needed for a trial in Whitehorse, Yukon and he became a Justice for the Supreme Court of the Yukon Territory.** He loved the law, especially court room trials. Being a trial judge wasn't a job; it was more than a career, it was his passion and he continued sitting until he reluctantly retired on May 12, 2003.

**LIVINGSTON, Russell Grant** \_ Of Whitehorse, Yukon (formerly of Bolton). Suddenly on February 12, 2004 at the age of 54. Loved son of Russell and the late Jean Livingston. Partner of Dorothy Jack (Whitehorse). Father of Mark and Kim. Brother of Shirley and Ken Johnston, Barry, Diane, Alan and Jo-Ann Livingston. Sadly missed by nieces and nephews. Cremation. A celebration of Grant's life will be held February 19, Whitehorse, Yukon. Donations may be made to Heart and Stroke Foundation.

**MacKENZIE, Sheila Marie** (1949-2004) \_ Died peacefully in her sleep on February 29, 2004 at the age of fifty-four. Left to mourn are her parents **Catherine and Bruce MacKenzie**, brother Michael (Pat), sister Sandra, all of Calgary, nephews Scott of Toronto, James of Halifax and Mark Mackie of Vancouver, also her special friend Pat Coady and a wide circle of friends and associates in Toronto. **Sheila was born in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory and as a member of an airforce family**, she lived in many locations before returning to Toronto where she was employed by Ontario Hydro before taking early retirement.

## NEW ADDITIONS

I also would like you to add -

Stan Marinoske [smarinoske@klondiker.com](mailto:smarinoske@klondiker.com)

I ran in to him at a Trade show and he is interested in your work.

If you are ever going to come up with a yearly charge for your service let me know as I am very willing to help out

Thanks and keep up the good work

Cliff Armstrong [ss\\*still.net](http://ss*still.net)

Hi Sherron, good to hear from you. Yes, please do add me to your mailing list. And yes, I remember you and Bill well. The first tenants after you sold your house to the bank were Don and Jan McArthur (the first Manager of the BNS up here - I don't know whatever happened to them).

I retired 2 1/2 years back and Leona retired last year. We've both been so busy since that we don't know when we ever found the time to work.

You might also want to add Al Lueck to your list if he's not already on it. He's retired and living in Kelowna. - Stan

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*Never put off tomorrow, the fun you could have today.*

*Leonard Huxley*

## RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Submitted by Vivian Stuart (Lelievre) [lornellis@shaw.ca](mailto:lornellis@shaw.ca)

### Cottage Pudding

1 ½ cups brown sugar

4 tbsp butter

4 tsp baking powder

1 cup milk

2 ¼ cups flour

1 ½ cups raisins

2 tsp salt

2 tsp vanilla

Mix above batter and add to greased pan

Make the following sauce:

Put 2 cups of brown sugar in a deep bowl. Add 2 tbsp butter, ¼ tsp nutmeg, 5 cups boiling water and stir.

Pour sauce over batter. Bake at 375 for 45 min until the top is golden brown. This pudding bakes the batter, rises to the top and sauce stays on the bottom.

Recipe can easily be cut in half

## **SIGN UP TO RECEIVE THE MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH**

If you have received this copy of the Moccasin Telegraph from a friend and wish to sign up to receive future editions yourself, the criteria is that you **are or were a Yukoner**. **I need to know your name, e-mail address, when and where you lived in Yukon and which City you are living in now**. If you are female and were unmarried in Yukon please include your **maiden name** as well. It helps me to maintain control over safety of the material to know **who** told you about this project. I wish to keep that control since not only are you signing up to receive the **Moccasin Telegraph**, but you are also allowing me to **share your e-mail address** with the rest of the group. The combined **list of everyone's e-mail address** is then sent out periodically to all members of the list. The goal of this project is to provide an opportunity for folks to reconnect.

– Sherron Jones [sherronjones@shaw.ca](mailto:sherronjones@shaw.ca)