

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH – 130th Edition – October 2, 2005

Created by Sherron Jones sherronjones@shaw.ca

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



SS Klondike historic site in Whitehorse

Photo was taken Sunday 25th Sept from the escarpment –
overlooking the SS Klondike and surrounding area.

Renovations of the Klondike have been completed. Construction buildings, materials and fence have been removed and she is presently receiving a fresh coat of paint. She's looking pretty good. Cheers, Tim Kinvig kinvig@yknnet.ca (In Whitehorse)

THE FUTURE

By Gus Barrett sourdoughs2@shaw.ca (In Qualicum)

When I was just a little boy,
I stood beside the sea,
And wondered what the future
Would have in store for me.

The moonlight on the ocean,
As I walked along the strand,
Seemed to whisper that my future
Was not in Newfoundland.

I asked that moon to guide me,
In what should be my quest.

The moon looked down and smiled at me,
Go west young laddie, west.

So when I reached my adult years,
I happily sallied forth,
But on the journey westward,
I diverted to the north.

I reached the Klondike Valley
And there beside the stream,
I found a golden nugget,
The girl of all my dreams.

Many years have passed since then,
We're settled in the west.
That same old moon shines down on me,
And figures he knew best.

He may not be so smart at that,
Though his advice I sought,
For though my future's in the west,
My heart is in the north.

© 2000 Gus Barrett.



This picture was taken by my daughter Lorraine Butterworth, on the **Dempster Highway** on **September 5th 2005**. - Myrna Butterworth myrnab*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



**Henry Breaden's father 'Spot Cash' Breaden
who also worked on the overland trail.**

Photo courtesy Les Somerton (Ernie Somerton photo)

It is quiet at this end as I have not been putting out at all. The place is starting to look like maybe somebody lives here! The only thing left is the silver on the fuel tank that we will get Monday. I am trying to figure out how that Van Gorda ever came into being? I think it was Jeanne that had a photo of him at Ross River. Ira Van Bibber and Del Van Gorder came into the country together after the gold rush, and decided on the Pelly River for hunting and trapping. The McMillan River is a branch off the Pelly River, and that is where they originally trapped. After a period of time Van Gorder was offered the management of the Taylor and Drury Store in Ross River which he took, and I think he was in Ross for the rest of his life. Ira Van Bibber took another partner by the name of Steel, as it is foolishness to be out in the bush alone. He is the one that shot himself

accidentally with a 22 calibre rifle. Ira was quite concerned, for if Steel died, Ira could too easily be blamed for it.

As the ice was running in the Pelly, it was a major job to get Steel down to Fort Selkirk. When the ice stopped running, Ira cut and laid trees across the new ice to get his partner across as the new ice would not hold just feet, especially with the weight of both men. It was too slow going and Ira decided to head down river to get assistance after making his partner comfortable. He met Lord Talmash with a couple of French fellows, but they thought the brush too heavy for their dogs and declined to help.

So Ira headed down to my grandfather's cabin at Braden Canyon to get assistance. Once there and having something to eat after my grandmother cooked something up for them, they took off with what Ira said was a team of "No Account Dogs." When they got to Lord Talmash's camp, he and the French fellows decided to accompany them using both teams. Steel was still alive, and they got him down to my grandfather's cabin. But the ice on the Yukon River was too thin to cross, so they spent the next ten days at my grandfather's cabin.

When the main river ice was safe to cross, they got Steel to Fort Selkirk and on the stage heading to Dawson. As there was telegraph available, they were able to alert Dawson and the doctor had everything ready for the patient on his arrival. The bullet was removed and any internal damage repaired, and after a time Steel was back to good health. But he did not return to the Pelly trapping.

It would be about this time that Ira teamed up with his new wife that he called, "Short", and I never heard any other name. Good reason for that, as Ira was well over six feet and she would be lucky to be near five feet. They built their headquarters at the foot of Mica Creek on the Pelly, just upstream of the present bridge. They were able to hunt and trap the Pelly valley and fish Lake Tatlamán for lake trout and white fish. The fishing became a major industry, and the stage would pick up loads of fish for Dawson. Ira and Short had quite a large family, and every one of them were good looking men and beautiful women. As they grew up, each had their own team to tend to and run on the trap line. To this day the Van Bibber name is very well known throughout Yukon.

I never knew of Del Van Gorder having any family, but that upper Pelly was his domain that he covered well. There is no doubt in my mind that Van Gorda Creek at the Anvil properties was named after him, but some clerk in some remote office made a mistake. I note that the school was originally named Van Gorda because of maps, and Lorna Walmsley put a lot of effort to have it corrected. She must have been successful before she passed away to have it changed to Van Gorder School. I hope also that the maps have been changed to name the creek correctly.

You might say that great care is taken on maps and a mistake not too likely? I will give you a first class example right on my doorstep. In the winter of 1898 - 1899 my grandfather built a cabin on the Pelly River twenty miles up from the Yukon River. The name given to that fast running stretch of river that runs past the cabin is Braden Canyon.

That is the way it is pronounced, but the proper spelling is Breaden. The thing started when Clarence Craig Sr. in Dawson was keeping track of people in and out of Dawson following the gold rush. Because of the pronouncing of the name, my grandfather became Harry Braden who was a lumberman, and my grandmother Caroline Braden. They can be found in the Alaska-Yukon Goldrush Participants in Dawson with that spelling. But Harry can be found in the same list at Fort Selkirk as H. Breaden at the Seattle Hotel. The one was the way it was pronounced, and the other was from the hotel registry in his own hand. So a mistake can be too easily made. Cheers,

Henry Breaden hjbreaden@shaw.ca (In Nanaimo)



This picture was taken in Dawson City on the 17th of Aug. celebration (1957?). All of us had traveled up to Dawson to be on a float in the parade. We slept on the floor of the Madame Trembley building, (I think Lois Cole's dad Mike owned the building at that time). It was empty but we managed to make the best of it by the looks of our bedding that was on the floor. In the photo from left to right the names are.... Sheila Scambler, Margaret Scambler, Penny North, Lois Cole, Karren North, Mary Jean Morrison. I think Mike Cole took the picture of this "motley crew".

Karren Crowley kbcrowley@telus.net (In Sidney)

CBC BUILDING – MURAL – PICKET LINE - WHITEHORSE

Yes - the size of the CBC staff has grown up the years. There are 35 people locked out of the station and on the picket line.

If any readers want to keep up with how the CBC Yukon folk are doing during the lockout they can check out the Canadian Media Guilds northern web site at - <http://www.cmg yukon.com/>
Cheers, Tim Kinvig



22 people in this **CBC Picket Line – Whitehorse – Sept 21, 2005**

This photo speaks many words.

Photo courtesy Doug Bell dougbell@yknnet.ca (In Whitehorse)



I supplied most of the images for the CBC mural - I will follow up with the details as to the CBC staff on this mural. - Tim Kinvig kinvig@ykn.net (In Whitehorse)



The people in this section are - starting from the seven gathered around the old CBC "Wings" log - from the top and going clockwise - Terry Delaney (in the hockey commentators box in the old Jim Light Arena), Ron McFadyen, Tim Kinvig, Pam Buckway, Bob Charlie, Bill "Wee Willie" Anderson and Cal Waddington. On the lower left is Chris Brown and Pam Buckway and to the right - from the top are Norman Shorty, Gertie Tom and finally Joe Loutchan with Peter Gzowski (who was a special guest at the CBC's Fiddle Contest in 1978).

Photos Tim Kinvig kinvig@ykn.net (In Whitehorse)

SLEEP

By Fred Aylwin fbaylwin@shaw.ca (In Vernon)

Through the trees to the cabin wall,
driven by the wind,
The snow builds up to the window ledge,
trying to get in.
The tree boughs snap with the winter cold,
and the lights dance in the sky.
The husky's howl is answered by
a lone and distant cry.
The sound of the crackling fire,
that keeps me warm this night.
I listen to all this,
and it fills my heart with peace,
As the winds still blow and the huskies howl,
and the stars shine in the sky,
I lay my head on a spruce bough bed,
and I sleep.

A MESSAGE FROM (PAT &) BARB DIXON re MocTel 125

Pat and I have just returned from a wonderful driving trip to the Whitehorse and surrounding areas where we visited our son Geoff and his wife Shelley. Drove up the Alaska Hwy and came home on the Stewart/Cassiar. The colours along the way were magnificent and Yukon hospitality was great as usual.

It was really interesting to come home and find the web site for the CP Air houses. 411 Hanson St. has certainly been renovated and doubled in size. A big addition has been put on the front. Our kids own it and have updated it immensely and so now there's room for them, one huge dog and company.

Just thought that this was interesting.

Barb Dixon pgdixon@mars.ark.com (In Courtenay)

<http://www.yukonalaska.com/yhma/houses/cpair.htm> (web address in MocTel 125)

Came across the following a few days ago while doing some research. Thought the readers of the MocTel might be interested.

I just happened upon the information after reading the discussion between Harvey and Don and was interested to find that the Masons were in Mayo from the 1920s boom time.

The building is mentioned in the Mayo Walking tour booklet. The last sentence is still applies in 2005.

Cheers, Lyn Bleiler mayohistoricalsoc@yahoo.ca (In White Rock)

Northern Lights Lodge No. 157

Freemasonry in the Mayo, Elsa and Keno district of the Yukon Territory dates back to approximately 1921, when a group of Brethren active in the practice of Freemasonry formed a Masonic club. These Brethren kept active by assisting those who were either sick or had found themselves in bad financial circumstances. In 1925, the Grand Master ruled that, while he approved of their charitable work, they could not continue to use the name "Masonic" and so the name was changed to "The Ashlar Club" and only Freemasons were accepted as members. The Ashlar Club continued to function through and beyond the depression years of 1929 to 1934, when mining activity nearly ceased to exist.

In 1953, MW Bro. Lawrence Healy granted a dispensation to form a lodge in Mayo, Yukon. This lodge operated under dispensation for two years until June 23, 1955, when it received its charter and adopted the name of Northern Lights Lodge No. 157.

Unfortunately after many years of inactivity, in August of 1980, the Grand Master lifted

their charter, the furniture and regalia were given to a lodge in Stewart, B.C. and while their old building still stands today, it was sold and is now being used as a storage warehouse by the Yukon Government.

HAINES JUNCTION SENIORS

Hello there, we seniors in Hines Jct. YT, sure know how to enjoy life!!!

July 1st 2004 we all got goofy on two floats and won prizes.

This year in 2005 we got goofier!!, the Golden Girls as we women are called dressed up as Can-Can dancers, rented costumes from Whitehorse. Picture 70 & 80 years olds trying to kick up a storm to the music. One hand always holding on to the railing, laughing and screaming our hearts out.

The Grumpy Ole men acted as miners sitting on bales of hay on their float and gambling. They really dressed and acted the part, of course they had a younger sexy Can-Can who cosied up to them all. Of course they loved it too.

Another grumpy ole man (Rod Tait) hauled their float with his tractor. They won first prize this year and we won second. We have a big dinner with the prize money and here are some pictures of us.



* left to right - Enid Tait, Irene Braun, Laura Kelly, Marion Wakefield, Jennifer Bakke (apprentice), Diane Farynowski, Joann Graham, Katie Eckervogt (Note camera date is incorrect.)



*] left to right - Bob Braun, Janice Netherton, Trig Bakke, Jim White, Heinz Eckervogt (with his back to you) (Note camera date is incorrect.)



* left to right - Bob Braun, Trig Bakke, Jim White, Heinz Eckervogt, Janice Netherton (Note camera date is incorrect.)



Rod Tait (Note camera date is incorrect.)

This is all for now, Joann Graham joannaham@ykn.net (In Haines Junction)

CHALLENGE TO BE FREE



In MocTel 111 Joyce shared a clipping about the Mad Trapper. - Sherron

The Mad Trapper story is what the movie "Challenge to be Free" was based on. My late husband, Gordon, had a role in it; also my son Ted. (in 1971) Fairly recently, it has been "remastered" and produced on a CD/DVD and I sent and got a copy from Amazon.com. I'll send you a copy of the cover of the CD I ordered. Of course the story of the filming of the movie in the Dezadeash area is covered in "Crazy Cooks and Gold Miners" as you know. So I was most interested in this article in the Globe and Mail.

Joyce Yardley joyceyardley@dataspan.ca (In Nanaimo)
www.dataspan.ca

A MESSAGE FROM DENNIS EVE (In England)

I thought you might enjoy reading this article, it is certainly different.

Dennis.

This information came from our Channel Four TV station 'Richard and Judy Show' this afternoon. The gold panning web site is given as:

<http://www.worldgoldpanningassociation.org/> Take care to refuse 'cookies' at this address. I made the mistake of not doing that and started getting a lot of unwanted UK e-mail. So went in and deleted all cookies and the unwanted e-mails stopped. - Sherron



How to find Gold...

Gold prospector Vince Thurkettle has these tips for Richard & Judy viewers:

There are 4 main steps to finding gold that I swear by:

- 1) **How do you know there's gold in a specific area?** – You must research your area and research can take many guises. It can be research in libraries – reading books, gossip in local pubs, word of mouth. But these days it's really easy to use the internet. There's no excuse not to!
- 2) **Reading the river** – Once you're there, you've got to know what to look for: You have to look at the flow of the river and look at the "gold line" (the way in which the gold would flow down a river and imagine it in a flood and see where gold may get trapped so you know where to look) Once you do this – you'll see the pockets where gold will be hidden.
- 3) **Physically attempting to find the gold** – There are three main ways you can find it.
Sniping: Hunting with a knife and the naked eye.

Panning: Using a circular meshed pan to sift soil, grit and stone in order to reveal gold.

Sluicing with a sluice box: Using a box to filter out the gold.

4) **Working out what to do with the gold once you've found it!** – You've got to decide if you want to keep the gold in it's original form / sell it on to make money / or learn another skill and turn it in to jewellery.

Please note there are things that you must take into consideration if you are going to look for gold:

Please please please respect the environment you are in and others that may be using it. You may be sharing it with many forms of wildlife as well as people who are working in the area such as fisherman.

You must check that you are not in an area where Salmon are breeding.

Do not damage any river banks as they are vital habitats of many forms of Wildlife.

Make sure you are not trespassing: Always get the landowner's permission.

Good luck!

Yukon Teachers' Association 50th Anniversary

Submitted by Warren Rongve jwrongve@shaw.ca (In Nanaimo)

From July 8 to July 10, 2005 the Yukon Teachers' Association and the Yukon Retired Teachers' Alumni celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Y. T.A. The gathering of over one hundred fifty current, former and retired Yukon teachers resulted in a most enjoyable occasion for all attending.

Following the opening of the first school in Dawson City shortly after the Gold Rush, the number of schools and the number of teachers in the Yukon increased steadily. In the fall of 1954 teachers in Whitehorse formed the Whitehorse Teachers Association with W. Shydlofsky as president. On October 8, 1955 the convention of Territorial teachers resulted in the formation of the Yukon Teachers' Association. They were sixty charter members. Alice Homewood Elston became the first president. The association was registered under the Societies ordinance on June 26, 1959.

In 1960 the Y. T.A. was granted the right to negotiate with the Yukon government on matters of salary. In 1962 tenure was granted to Yukon teachers as a result of Y. T.A. representations. A full pension plan was introduced in 1964 and in 1969 the Y. T.A. became a full member of the Canadian Teachers' Association.

During these years, the association has submitted briefs on matters concerning education, schools, students and teachers to the Yukon Territorial Government which resulted in major improvement in the education structure in the Yukon.

In 1980 the presidency became a full time position and in August, 1991, the association moved into its offices at 2064 Second Avenue in Whitehorse.

In 1998, under the leadership of Ruth Armson, the Yukon Retired Teachers Alumni was formed.

The activities of the celebration commenced on the evening of Friday, July 8 with a reception at the Mt. McIntyre Recreation Center. The center was full of exclamations of delight as old friends recognized each other after many years of separation. Stories of the "good old days" occupied much of the time. The enjoyment of all attending was obvious.

On Saturday afternoon, July 9, the stories, the laughter and the back-slapping continued at a drop in social at the Whitehorse Elementary School.

That evening, again at the Mt. McIntyre complex, a more formal dinner and dance included a short program consisting of a speech by Hank Bugara, the Association's fourth president and a former teacher and administrator in Dawson City and Whitehorse. He recalled the pupils, the schools, fellow teachers and association activities during the 50s and 60s. Gerry Bell also a past president, teacher and administrator in the early days of the Association's history and again in the 90s; entertained the assembly with a discussion of changes in the Yukon and in education after thirty years. Ian Oostendie, outgoing Y. T. A. president, finished the brief review of the Association's history with a thoughtful presentation on what lies ahead for Yukon Education and for the Yukon Teacher' Association.

On Sunday again the group assembled at Takhini Hot Springs for a bar-b-que and social to bring the formal activities to an end.



Charter Members in attendance

(L to R) Ellen (Haugland) Eby, Stan Hovdebo, Hank Bugara, Alice Patnode, Irma Bourassa, Claude Campbell, Edna (Jardy) Campbell, Sophia (Weigand) Jeffrey



Past Presidents in attendance

Back Row Ian Oostandie, Hank Bugara, Glenna Howard, Sandra Henderson, Gerry Bell, Warren Rongve, Claude Campbell
Front Row Terry Price, Fred Smith, Marita (Schmidt) Robinson, Carol Keddy

NEW ADDITIONS

I just heard about your Yukon e-newsletter, and being a former Yukoner, was very interested. Is it possible to hear more about it? subscribe? – Lynne Macara

Hi Sherron,

Thanks for replying! We both worked at City Hall at the same time - I was there 1979/80 and 81-84 (I think!) - were you in finance? Here's my bio.

I moved to Haines Junction in 1970 when I was 9. My dad, Murray Macara, was in the RCMP, and was transferred up from Alberta. We moved to Whitehorse in 1972, to Dawson City in 1974, back to Whitehorse in 1975, where I lived (excepting two years away at school) until 1989. I graduated from FH Collins in 1978, YVTTC in 1979, and worked at the following jobs: City of Whitehorse (Administration and then Recreation), Sport Yukon, YTG Recreation and then Public Service Commission.

I now live in Campbell River on Vancouver Island. You can let me know if that is too short or too long. And I got your e-mail from Alison Burns.

This sounds like a great project! I'm looking forward to hearing more.

Lynne Macara lmacara@yahoo.com

REMOVED FROM THE LIST

For many weeks now this address has transmitted this message. I was hoping he was just on vacation and would get things sorted out. – Sherron

Delivery to the following recipients failed. LAIRDJ@tc.gc.ca

LAIRD, Jim & Joan LAIRDJ*tc.gc.ca (In Mayo & Whitehorse 1973-87) Sherwood Park

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Life is like a ten-speed bicycle. Some of us have gears we never use.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Submitted by Vivian Stuart lornellisshaw.ca (In Victoria)

Onion Noodle Burger Skillet

1 lb lean ground beef
1 med chopped onion
1 can onion soup
1 to 1 ½ soup cans of water
3 cups uncooked fine egg noodles or vermicelli
¼ cup chili sauce (could use catsup with Worcestershire sauce)

In skillet, brown beef and cook onion until tender (use oil if necessary). Stir to separate meat, pour off fat.

Add remaining ingredients and bring to boil.

Cover and cook over low heat for 5 minutes or until noodles are done. Stir occasionally

DATES TO REMEMBER

The **Okanagan Yukoners' AGM is being held at the Southwinds Inn in Oliver on the 16th of October** this year. It will be on the Sunday at 12 Noon. If you are planning to attend you should contact either Myrt Acton (250-4 94-9542) or myself at 250-498-6887 or by e-mail at aksala49@cablerocket.com or you can send a fax to 250-498-6458.

We would like to know at least a week before (Oct. 9) if you are coming. The caterers need that much time to order supplies etc. There will be a no-host bar set up for those wishing refreshments.

The Hotel is on the East side of the highway at the South end of Oliver. There is a large parking lot and NO steps to climb.

The menu will include carved certified Angus Roast beef, Garlic Prawns, Mashed potatoes, Vegetable medley. Gravy, warm Rolls with Butter, Tossed salad, Caesar salad, assorted cakes, Tarts and Fresh fruit, Tea, Coffee (regular & decaf). All this for only \$17.95 all inclusive.

If you send a check with your confirmation it will save us a lot of time and hassle at the door. You can make the cheque out to Okanagan Yukoners and send it to the Secretary / Treasurer Larry Chalmers. But PLEASE let us know if you are coming. Joan & I will be away from Sept. 22nd until the 1st of Oct. attending the ISR in Everett, so if you don't get an answer in that time that will be why.

I would like to add a note to this; that you don't have to be a member to attend. Just let us know in advance that you will be attending, and send us a cheque.

Thank you, Larry Chalmers [aksala49*cablerocket.com](mailto:aksala49@cablerocket.com)

Vancouver Yukoners' Association Luncheon meeting to be held at the **Holiday Inn Downtown, 1110 Howe St., Vancouver** on *Friday October 21, 2005*. As usual, this is a "pot luck" affair, so please bring some sandwiches or cookies, or the like to share with others. Please note the meeting has been changed to Friday rather than the customary Thursday. Regrettably, the hotel could not accommodate us on our preferred day. Hopefully, this is a one time occurrence. For those who have internet capabilities, you may find Vancouver Yukoners' Events on our web page:
<http://www3.telus.net/yukoners/events.htm>

Regards: Lowell Bleiler [vanyukoners*aol.com](mailto:vanyukoners@aol.com)

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**. The goal of this project is to provide an opportunity for folks to reconnect.

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

CONTACT INFORMATION

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