

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH – 157th Edition – April 23, 2006

Created by Sherron Jones sherronjones@shaw.ca

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



Sun Dogs over Fox Lake

Photo courtesy of Elwood & Kerry Lyle

Elwood Lyle elyle@telus.net (In Kelowna)

THE HERO

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

They gathered at the landing field,
To bring their hero back.
Short weeks ago, he'd volunteered
For fighting in Iraq.
They'd cheered him then, this teenaged boy,
As they wished him God speed,
Then he went bravely to the front,
That a nation may be freed.

Now they stand in silence,
As the boy comes home once more,
Borne on the sturdy shoulders
Of his comrades in the Corps.

They speak of glory, bravery,
Of victory and of pride,
But somewhere in the crowd,
A broken hearted mother cried.

They buried him in Arlington,
In a hallowed hero's grave,
Far from those for whom he'd
Traveled half a world to save.
And as the mournful music flows
From bugles, drums and pipes,
His mother's tears flow down
Upon the folded Stars and Stripes.

So, welcome all our heroes home
When this bloody war is won.
They've served their country admirably,
Their duty has been done.
But give a thought to those who've died,
And when the canons cease,
Let's all get on our knees and pray,
Please God, let there be peace.

© 2002 Gus Barrett

Carol and I Go Mountain Climbing

By Moge Mogenson elgolfo*shaw.ca (In Cranbrook BC)

Carol and I have the day off, so decide to go rabbit and gopher hunting, a normal everyday pastime for us girls up north. We had been looking at Paint Mountain for some time too, thinking it would be a pretty easy climb as from a distance it looked like a large round bump of a mountain, nothing too serious.

We took our 22's some water and hiked to the base of the mountain, about three miles, once there it was soon decided we should try and climb it. At first it was easy climbing, we being 15 and 17 and very active. Some how or another it wasn't long before we had to start looking for hand holds and something to stand on, we were soon in the upright position on the side of this mountain, looking desperately for anything to hang on to and stand on, I remember saying to Carol I couldn't find anything to hang on to and she had the same problem. At this point it got a little scary as we couldn't go up any farther and couldn't see to get back down. We were kinda hanging on the side of the mountain. Opps!!!

We soon decided that we had to get down some how, although it was very slow going and real scary. Little by little we worked our way back down the mountain. Funny for some reason or another that mountain never interested us again after that. We finally

made it back to the bottom by this time we were tired and hungry so we decided to get us a gopher and roast it. This went much better, we shot a couple of gophers skinned and cleaned them, cut some wiener sticks and roasted them over an open fire. I must say this being my first gopher on a stick; I decided to pack a little salt with me on these trips from then on. But otherwise much to my surprise it was very good, filled the spot, and certainly wasn't my last one. After lunch we hiked back home.



Inside - Easter Cactus

Photo courtesy Doug Bell dougbell@ykn.net (In Whitehorse)

Sherron: Speaking to a friend today I said it was a surprise. She said, "No, it was a shock!"

She was right.

Doug



Outside – Merry Easter - Good Friday Snowfall in Whitehorse 2006

Photo courtesy Doug Bell dougbell@ykn.net (In Whitehorse)

RCMP ON PARADE

I do not have Tom Thompson's E-mail Address. Perhaps you could pass this to him and ask if he could identify the RCMP officers I know in the picture - Tommy Thompson, Gus Spohr, Brick Bradford, Bud Harrison, Johnnie Johnson and, I think, Jones.

Regards,

Rolf Hougen marg@hougens.com (In Whitehorse)



RCMP on parade.

Photo courtesy Rolf Hougen (In Whitehorse)

I will attempt to list all the members marching in the parade in proper order. The parade is being led by Cpl. Dave Bolger and the members are identified from the left as follows: Front row: Constables Ray Bradford, George Jones, Bud Harrison; Second row: Marshall MacKinnon, Tommy Simpson, Johnnie Johnson; Third row: Tommy Thompson, Jimmie Simpson, Gus Spohr. The proud little mascot dog belonged to Cpl. Horace Brabant.

This picture taken by Rolf Hougen at 4th & Main in Whitehorse also shows the Canadian Army very much in evidence and the lovely T.C. Richards home in the background; brings back many pleasant memories from the late 1940's.

Thanks for the E Mail Sherron and appreciate Rolf sending the picture of the RCMP on parade. Rolf supplied the names of all members, with the exception of Cpl. Dave Bolger [leading the troops], Csts. Marshall Mackinnon and Tom Simpson in the second row and Jim Simpson in the third row. The proud little mascot dog belonged to Cpl. Horace Brabant.

I must have searched in all the wrong places, but was unable to locate information in the Archives relating to the George Milne plane crash in 1954.

We thoroughly enjoy reading your very interesting weekly Moc Tel and appreciate all your good work. Enjoy your trip south.

Best regards, Maxine & Tommy Thompson [1946-55] mactom@shaw.ca (In Surrey)



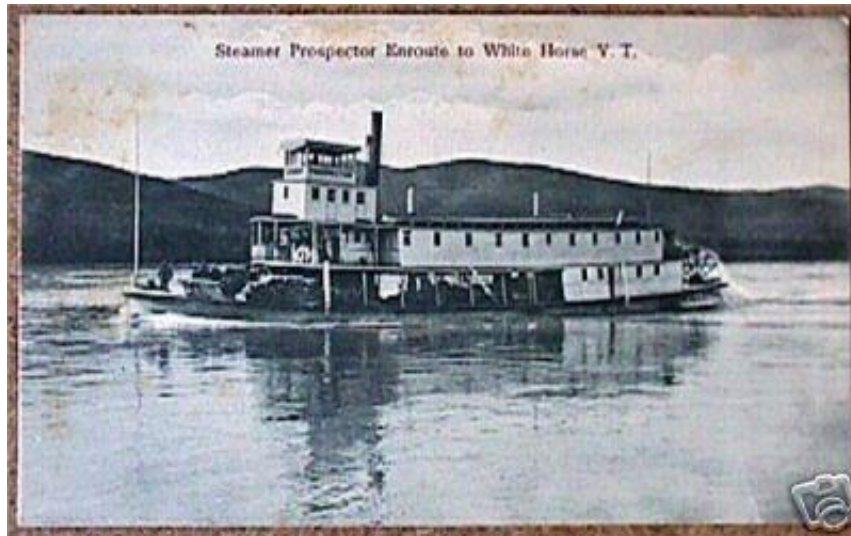
Gina Hughes – In front of Jamieson’s Store – 4th Avenue Whitehorse – 1956-57
Photo courtesy Gina (Hughes) Span ginaspan@yahoo.com (In Coquitlam)

I remember seeing the Horse on the inside of Jamieson’s store when we came up for the big FHC reunion in 1996 but the store was closed up. I saw it through the window. It's likely in storage somewhere there. I think every kid that I knew took a ride on the Horse. Gina Span

RE MOCTEL 156

I think the picture of the white bearded fellow standing by the White Pass train is Charlie Fox. He was a long time employee at White Pass and looked after the trains with Jack Croft and Fred Good. They worked at the freight sheds during the day. Charlie lived with his little wife in one of the small houses at the far end of First Avenue. (I mean the south end across from where Closeleigh Manor now sits. For old timers it would have been across from the old Post Office on First Avenue.)

Bobbi Morgan bjservices@yt.sympatico.ca (In Whitehorse)



Another photo found for sale on e-bay.

Steamer Prospector Enroute to White Horse YT

Can anyone shed any light on where this photo may have been taken and which route this steamer was used on?



Another photo found for sale on e-bay.

White Pass & Yukon Route, Steamer 'Tutshi' at Ben My Chree, south end of Taku Arm.



BOUNDARY BETWEEN ALASKA and YUKON - FLAGS OF FREEDOM and FRIENDSHIP.

Boundary Between Alaska and Yukon – Flags of Freedom and Friendship.

Image courtesy Bonnie (Brown) Wright bonruby*telus.net (In Port Hardy)



Back

of the postcard above to my mom from my dad.

Courtesy Bonnie (Brown) Wright bonruby*telus.net (In Port Hardy)

ABOVE PHOTO -

Gus thinks this photo is on the top of the world highway at a point known as Freedom. - Sherron

I have asked Dad [Glen Campbell], and he agrees with Gus Barrett. It is the Top of the World Highway, between Dawson and Tok, Alaska.

Sandy Campbell northernlyght*shaw.ca (In Langley)



South Klondike Highway – 1984

Photo courtesy Heinrich Lohmann heinrich*lohmann.ca (In Airdrie AB)

RE MOC TEL 156

Just read the latest MocTel, and reading about Murphy and the honeywagon brought back to me a story I heard about 40 years ago. Many of you will remember Johnny Muskwa who owned Silver Creek Lodge. Even at that time it was pretty rundown, if I remember correctly, and it might not have even been open to the public, but occasionally he would throw a party. Towards the end of one of these gatherings, some of the people were getting ready to go home, (some were from the Junction, or 1083) and looked around for Johnny to say goodnight. They couldn't find him so headed out to their vehicle and in doing so, passed the outhouse, with the door open. Inside they could see Johnny fishing around down in the hole with a long stick, saying "BITE, Damn You, BITE!" When he was asked what he was doing, he said he had lost his teeth down the hole, and was trying to get them back!! Another story that probably didn't really happen, but it's given me a good laugh now and then when I think about it.

Marg (Bastien) Arnoeld margarnoeld*shaw.ca (In Calgary)



Heading North

Photo courtesy Doug Bell dougbell@ykn.net (In Whitehorse)

FIRE ON PEPSI EXPRESS TO BEAVER CREEK

Hi Sherron, after the fire at the old Pepsi Plant in Whitehorse this year I was reminiscing with the family about past experiences. The following story is one of them –
Keep up the good work,
Regards Con Lattin clattin@klondiker.com (In Whitehorse)

I was telling the family of the time; it would be around 1960 that I was taking a load of soft drinks to Beaver Creek which is about 300 miles north west of Whitehorse.

After driving a couple of hundred miles I pulled over to stretch my legs. As I got out of the truck I heard a – Puff - and looking at the truck I saw smoke pouring out of the engine. I quickly lifted the hood and saw that oil from my air cleaner had spilled and formed a pool on the hot exhaust manifold and was burning merrily away. Unfortunately it was burning under the carburetor which is made of soft metal and would melt easily. I was worried that it would melt and gas would pour into the truck and goodbye truck and maybe me also. I bent down to pick up some dirt to put out the flames only to find I had stopped on hard pan and there was not even two grains of sand to be found.

I did not have time to run to the back of the truck and get some pop to throw on the flame so I stepped on the bumper jumped on the fender zipped down my fly and peed on the flames hoping to put them out or wash the oil off the motor. It Worked !

-- But – As I was playing fireman a car came down the road and they could see what I was doing, slowed down and yelled encouragement and advice, but as they passed I broke down laughing as they, not knowing what I was doing would think that I was really pissed off with my truck.

ABOUT MOCTEL – (from snail mail)

“I really look forward to receiving it.” - Marlene Sudeyko

“I copy pertinent parts for my 87 year old neighbour, Isabel Worthy Loveless, who lived in Whitehorse, Carmacks & Mayo between 1941 and the late 1950’s.” – Bob Cathro

“Really enjoy it.” - Joyce & Earl Hayden

“It’s a fabulous thing!” – Pam Buckway

“Enjoy reading the Moccasin Telegraph.” – Dianne Lattin-Pelletier

“Always enjoy the photo to begin with.” – Chris & Jerry Simon

“I’ve printed out copies of all the Moccasin Telegraphs and very much enjoy reading them.” – Pat Besier

“Very interesting.” – Stan & Yvonne Bridcut

“Thanks for all your efforts in keeping the MocTel going. Guess I’ll never stop missing the Yukon. The photos and stories that you gather certainly bring back the memories of the good times I had while living in the North.’ – Mike Lytwynec

“I enjoy each and every issue.” – Cookie Morgan

“Enjoying very much the MocTel...” – Dennis Eve

“I print and read my MocTel faithfully every issue and enjoy them as much as ever.” – Lionel C. Brassier

“Much enjoyed MocTel.” – Maxine & Tommy Thompson

NOTE – DAWSONITES – PLEASE SEND MORE STORIES

Received a note from Lorraine Schrom and she is enjoying the MocTel but wishes there was more about Dawson; so current and former Dawsonites can you help ???

Would be nice if Lorraine would also send us some of her memories of Dawson.

MEMORIES OF DAYS IN HAINES JUNCTION

[Elaine Hurburt ehurlbur@yukoncollege.yk.ca has been looking for stories about Haines Junction and its people, so that she could put together some history for Haines Junction. – Sherron]

Elaine, I am sorry this took so long to get to. I should have done this a long time ago.

There are 4 things that stand out in my mind when I think of my days on the Alaska Highway that relate to Haines Junction.

1.) Old Ray the cook at the Haines Junction Inn. The Backe family was running the place at the time and I remember at least 2 summers when old Ray would pull his stunt. He waited all year to do this and it made his whole summer when he pulled it off. The staff at the Inn were usually University students and mostly female. Ray would wait for a hot summer day and he would go into the fridge and get two link sausage. He would put one inside the button fly of his cooks pants and let the other one hang out. He always had an apron over his pants. He would wonder out into the main dining room when it was quiet and the girls were sitting around the table on break between tour buses. He would then say "Boy it sure is hot today" and lift his apron to wipe his brow. The girls would see the sausage and all hell would break loose with screaming and chairs fall over backwards. Ray would laugh so hard he would almost make himself sick.

It worked every year. I think it was the highlight of his whole year.

Although he did have a whole bag of other stunts that he pulled from time to time.

2.) I remember the dances at the Junction. Ray Davies would bring his Hammond Organ in his old van and we would come from all over the highway for the dance. I can remember going from Teslin and Beaver Creek and all points in between. Many a night I slept on the floor at The Marvin's house. Sometimes we slept at other peoples houses, but mostly at Marvin's.

3.) I learned to drive a tractor trailer at Haines Junction. There was a trucker by the name of Bill Bicum who was from Alberta hauling supplies up the Alaska Highway. We met in the bar of the Haines Junction Inn and got to talking. He took me out and showed me how to shift the gears and we made a few laps around town. While working for DPW, there was a time they needed to get a load moved and there was no one around to drive the truck. Somebody asked if anyone knew how to drive a rig. I said I did and I was on my way.

The learning curve was steep to say the least when the first sharp corner came along with a long steep hill on the other end. I managed to pull off that trip and a few more after that and always brought the rig back without a scratch, except for the flying rocks which I had no control over.

I found it interesting a number of years later, I was doing some safety training for Calgary Transit and there was a fellow in the class by the name of John Bicum. Good ole me, I had to ask the question. "Do you know a fellow by the name of Bill Bicum?" John

smiled and said he is my older brother, how do you know him?

I related the above story. A few years later, John came to my office door and said I thought you should know that Bill had an accident with his rig and died in the wreck.

4.) There was a time when I was passing through Haines Junction and I decided to stop in and say hello to John Backe and Sally at the Haines Junction Inn. I believe I was headed for Whitehorse at the time. I walked in the bar door, and I don't know why I did because I usually went in through the dining room first and then to the bar. I was barely inside the door when some guy came at me with a chair over his head. I side stepped and he crashed into the wall. He got up and grabbed the chair and came at me again. I ducked and moved to the side and he crashed into a table. This time he wrecked the table and chair. He got up again and came at me with another chair. This time I opened the door and he did a face plant in the gravel parking lot. I closed the door and he went away.

I believe that John Backe was in the bar at the time and called the RCMP. I remember John asking me who this guy was and I told him I never seen him before.

The RCMP came and we talked for a while. They picked this guy up trying to hitch hike north on the highway.

They asked me if I wanted to press charges against the guy. I said no because he never touched me. He nearly killed himself because he was so drunk. I just got a little exercise and some entertainment.

I was glad that John didn't charge me for the entertainment. John and I went to school in Whitehorse. I met the family when I went out on the highway to work during the summers.

I am sure there are other stories because I have fond memories of Haines Junction from my youth. They just don't come to mind at this time.

I can remember some stories of people that lived along the Haines Highway that didn't check in at the check stop at the Junction and got into some awful messes on the highway during the winter. I had the opportunity of working on the Haines Highway for a couple of years. We put up the camp foreman's house at 75 mile. I believe Toppo Topham? was the foreman at the time. He had a bad leg due to an accident.

I will close for now and hope this is of assistance to you Elaine.

I cc'd Sherron Jones as I learned of your project through the Moccasin Telegraph.

Cheers!

Gordon P. Berberich gord.and.em*shaw.ca gord.and.em*shaw.ca (In Okotoks AB)

SHOW US YOU'RE ARTISTIC TALENT

We know that some of you are artists and wondered if you would share a photo or scanned image of your work with us. It would be interesting to see your work and at the same time give you an opportunity to show what you have been working on. – Sherron sherronjones@shaw.ca

ARTISTS CORNER

I did send out a message to four people who I know that are artists and received this message first.

No problem at all...here are a couple, one recent, **'Dunnottar Castle' in pastel**....and one from way back, **'Reflected Aurora' in oils**. Both paintings are of course copyright to myself, but you are welcome to use them for the Motel with a **copyright** notation with my name. If you need more in the future let me know. I have one or two with local scenes.

Brian Warner bewarner@shaw.ca (In Vernon)



'Dunnottar Castle'

Copyrighted photo courtesy Brian Warner bewarner@shaw.ca (In Vernon BC)



'Reflected Aurora'

Copyrighted photo courtesy Brian Warner bewarner@shaw.ca (In Vernon BC)

COMMISSIONERS AWARDS

Found a list of recipients online at -

<http://www.gov.yk.ca/commissioner/awards.html#recipients>

Congratulations to those who received this honor and quietly didn't let us know.

SINCERE CONDOLENCES

Hi Sherron: I trust you are back home by now and had a wonderful trip.

I just wanted to mention how shocked and disturbed I was regarding the message from Patty (Hannah) Miller in MocTel 156. How very, very sad on losing a child and under such awful circumstances. How my heart goes out to Patty and her family. I also want to thank Patty on disclosing all the details of this tragedy so that others may benefit from her loss. She must be a very strong person to be able to send this message to you only two weeks after the accident. Please pass on my condolences.

Donna Clayson ytdogteam@telus.net (In Ardrossan AB)

OBIT

Helen Rita WYATT April 18, 1928 - April 13, 2006. Helen passed away peacefully with loving family members at her side. Helen was born in Saskatchewan in 1928. She moved to Ontario when she was 6 years old. She came west to live in Vancouver when she was in her twenties where she worked at many jobs from VGH, various jobs in the hospitality industry and finally on the "Northland Prince", a cruise ship which operated between Vancouver and Alaska. Through this experience Helen found a love for the north and moved to the **Yukon in 1967, where she lived happily until 1995.** Helen's **best years were in the Yukon**, where she again did many different things and even **operated several successful businesses in Teslin, Haines Junction and finally in Whitehorse with her late husband Edwin Wyatt.** In September of 1995 Helen moved to warmer climes and retired in Penticton B.C., where she lived happily until January 2002. Helen spent a year in Sagebrush Lodge Retirement Home in Osooyos B.C. until finally coming to live at her final home, Columbus Residence in Vancouver where she could be closer to some of her family members. Many Thanks to ALL the dedicated staff at Columbus Residence and Sage Brush Lodge for all their help, care and support. Helen is survived by her loving family, sister Phyllis, brothers Lawrence and Robert, children Ronald (Cathy), Richard, James (Heather), Michael, Kelly, Jay and her many grandchildren and one great-grandchild. The Celebration of Mass was offered the repose of her soul at Columbus Residence Chapel on Monday, April 17, 2006. **As per Helen's wishes, she will be cremated and returned to the Yukon.** In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in memory of Helen, to the Alzheimer Society of B.C., #300 - 828 West 8th Ave, Vancouver, B.C. V5Z 1E2. Published in the Vancouver Sun on 4/18/2006.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Tom McLaughlin here with a new email address. It is now betmcl@shaw.ca. Enjoy the moc. keep up the good work. Tom

NEW ADDITIONS

I moved to FARO in June 9/71. I worked at the CYPRESS ANVIL MINES till they closed. I then went to school in Fort Smith and became an OBSERVER? COMMUNICATOR. I started working at the FARO airport, then went and operated the airport in Watson Lake for 9 years, then back to the Faro airport. AS of today, I have 67 working shifts till I retire. I will have 20 ½ years in with airports. Can hardly wait for the last day.

During my residence, I have seen some remarkable changes in various communities, including Whitehorse. In my humble opinion, all the changes were not always in the best interest of long time residents of the YUKON. A lot of the politicians that got them selves into office were bound to change things and have their name associated with the big changes. To bad these people didn't stay down south where they came from. Anyways I am proud to say I am a CANADIAN and a true YUKONER

Garry M.KIMPINSKI gmkimpin@yahoo.ca

My name is Irene Maruk and I would very much like to subscribe to your very interesting newsletter called the "Moccasin Telegraph". I have had the opportunity of reading a few, courtesy of Dolly Martchewa (my aunt). I am also a niece of Mille Jones. I am a born and raised Yukoner as was my mother (now deceased).

If there is a fee for receiving this very valuable newsletter please advise me and I will happily forward same by return post. You can contact me as follows:

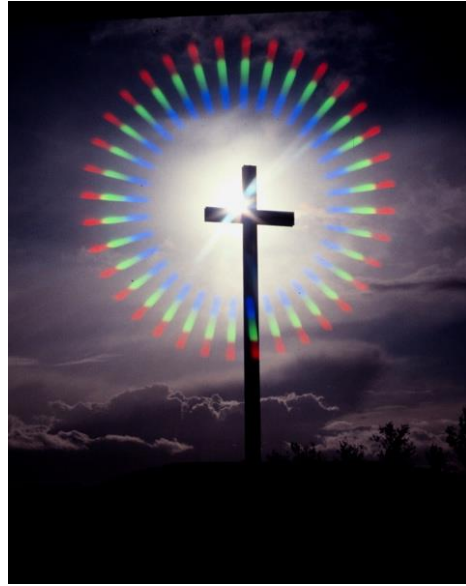
Irene Maruk
110-502 Wheeler Street
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 2P2
Or
e-mail: notarypublic@klondiker.com

Thank you

Irene Maruk

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

People go on vacations to forget things and when they open their bags, they found out they did.



Easter Cross

(colour ring done with a special filter)

Photo courtesy Doug Bell (In Whitehorse)

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Hope you had a wonderful Easter. We had the table set for 9, then 11, then 12. My daughter that lives at Alberta Beach kept inviting more people. I think if she had not run out of time there would have been more invited. Ha. Ha. I don't mind. Some of the people she brought had not had a proper meal for quite some time. I like to do ham and scalloped potatoes but Andrea usually invites people right up to the last minute so a large turkey is the safer way to go then if there's anything left over I divvy it up amongst everyone to take with them. We had a wonderful time and met some very interesting people. I also give everyone a basket full of goodies so everyone goes away happy. I received some beautiful flowers and basket arrangements. It was a wonderful day and I slept soundly that night. It's a great feeling to see the joy on those that have very little to nothing.

We combined Easter celebrations with my son-in-law's birthday on April 19. He has to leave the city for a job and will be gone for about 2 weeks cleaning all Alberta weigh station pits. I spent a week baking bread, buns and banana loaf for his birthday. At least while on the road he and his 1 employee will be well fed.

I have attached a recipe for a banana cream pie. I made it for the first time for Easter dessert and everyone raved about it. I had a small piece and must say it was pretty good.

Well, take care and have a great day.

Cheers,

Donna Clayson ytdogteam@telus.net (In Ardrossan AB)

Mile High Banana Cream Pie

2 cups	graham cracker crumbs	500 mL
½ cup	margarine, melted	125 mL
½ cup	granulated sugar	125 mL
1/3 cup	cornstarch	75 mL
¼ tsp	salt	1 mL
3 cups	homogenized milk	750 mL
6	egg yolks	6
2 tbsp	margarine	30 mL
1 tsp	vanilla	5 mL
4	bananas, sliced	4
2 cups	heavy cream, whipped	500 mL

In a 9" (23 cm) deep dish pie plate, combine graham cracker crumbs with ½ cup (125 ml) melted margarine. Cover with plastic wrap and press crumbs evenly over bottom and sides of pie plate. Discard plastic wrap. Bake in a preheated 400°F (200° C) oven for 8 minutes. Remove and let cool.

Whisk together sugar, cornstarch and salt in a saucepan. Whisk in milk until cornstarch is fully dissolved. Whisk in egg yolks until well combined. Warm over medium heat, stirring with a rubber spatula to scrape thickening bits from bottom and sides, until custard is thick and smooth. Remove from heat and whisk in 2 tbsp (30 mL) margarine and vanilla.

Smooth half into prepared pie shell. Place banana slices on custard and cover with remaining custard. Wrap with plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 4 hours. Before serving, top pie with whipped cream.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Okanagan Yukoners Picnic June 25, 2006 Summerland Ornamental Gardens. For further information contact Larry Chalmers aksala49@cablerocket.com

Island Yukoners Picnic Aug 12th at St Mary's Hall in Nanoose Bay.
For further information contact Blanche & Gus Barrett at sourdoughs2@shaw.ca

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

CONTACT INFORMATION

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