

## **MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH – 197<sup>th</sup> Edition – March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

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

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



### **My Strange Thermometer**

Photo and poem by Dan Davidson [uffish@northwestel.net](mailto:uffish@northwestel.net) (In Dawson)

Moisture dripping from my chimney  
forms a frozen crown;  
extrudes a sceptre to my roof  
to lean its head upon.

Looks so strange against the sky  
milky white on blue or grey.  
Looks so fragile in the wind  
you wonder it can stay.

Winter's chilly decoration  
sends a signal clear,  
forming when the days are short  
when air is sharp and light is dear.

And when the weather warms again  
of that it offers proof.  
It melts, lets go its hold and then  
it thumps upon the roof.

February 9, 2007

# **Pack Dogs to Helicopters**

Author Pat Callison – copyright

## **CHAPTER 25 AMBULANCE**

Many people in the Yukon are alive today thanks to the fast transportation to hospitals provided by aircraft. I certainly carried my share of accident victims (some reached the hospital in time, others I only flew out the bodies) and several cases of communicable diseases.

I realise now I never gave a thought to the risks to my own health when I would be enclosed for 2 or 3 hours in a small, practically airless aircraft cabin with cases of tuberculosis, meningitis or polio. I carried literally hundreds of Indians infected with T .B. many of them stretcher cases.

In 1949 there was almost an epidemic of T .B. around Dawson and in all the villages in northern Yukon. CP Air found that their passengers objected to having patients on the regular carriers, so I would fly the patients to Whitehorse from where Canadian Air Forces aircraft would take them to a hospital in Edmonton.

One day early in November 1949 the doctor told me he had 3 tubercular patients, local people, and that it was important that they get to Whitehorse to catch the Air Force flight out the following morning.

At that time of the year daylight hours are short, so I would just barely have time to reach Whitehorse before dark.

It was pretty routine until we reached Lake LaBarge, 50 miles north of Whitehorse when we ran into a really bad snow storm. Visibility dropped to 1/4 of a mile and there was no way I was going to get through it.

About 50 miles back there was an airstrip at Braeburn Lake. The Federal Government was building a road between Whitehorse and Carmacks and the strip had been put in to service the construction camps. By the time I got back to where the wilderness runway was it was getting dark and it was no cinch finding that little unlit strip. We landed and I taxied to the end of the runway and there was a little building about 10 x 12, nothing in it, just a shelter. I knew there wasn't another human being within 30 miles so decided to make the best of it, because it looked as though we would be spending the night there.

I got the 3 people settled in the shelter and went and cut down a couple of dry trees near the edge of the runway, dragged them over and built a big fire just in front of the open doorway of the building. I had some emergency food and a bedroll in the aircraft; I cut some spruce boughs and put them in the cabin for us to sit on. As long as we could keep the fire going out front it was warm in the cabin. The last thing these people needed was to get a chill and catch cold.

We were sitting around talking, I kept replenishing the wood on the fire and about 2 hours had passed when we thought we heard a truck coming down the partly constructed road from the direction of Whitehorse. I ran over to the road and hailed the driver who was one of the construction crew on his way to the road camp at Carmacks 40 miles north of here.

I told him what had happened and the urgency to get these 3 people to Whitehorse to catch the flight to Edmonton. He said he would take his load to the camp, get another vehicle and take us into Whitehorse.

He got back about 1 o'clock in the morning and loaded us into a car. The road was so rough it took about 3 1/2 hours to drive the 50 miles to Whitehorse, where we arrived about 4:30 and my passengers caught the Air Force flight at 8:30.

The weather improved so my friend Gordon Cameron took me in his aircraft back to the Braeburn airstrip and I flew my aircraft back to Dawson City.

(As a footnote to this story all three recuperated from their disease and returned to Dawson after a year or two of treatment.)

During **1953** there was a serious outbreak of poliomyelitis in the Yukon, and it was a terrifying time for people, particularly parents - there seemed to be nothing to prevent the disease from striking. There were cases where death occurred 24 hours after diagnosis. As is the case with people living in some degree of isolation, Yukoners had little immunity to communicable diseases.

During that summer I was in close contact with several patients and in one instance I left Dawson at 2 o'clock in the morning, landed on the river at Whitehorse at 5 a.m. where a young fellow whom I knew, Nipper Murray, a big strong fellow, saw me land and walked down to the dock to help me tie up the aircraft, then helped me unload my passenger who was on a stretcher.

Two days later I was back in Whitehorse with another polio patient, I asked where Nipper was . . . "He died of polio".

Even after that I never really felt any concern about becoming infected. I wouldn't be so indifferent if I had to do it now, great to be young and confident.

To be continued .....

## **HOTEL ROOM KEY CARD ALERT A HOAX**

*I apologise to all – it seems that the message passed on in the last edition of the MocTel is a hoax. For further information see this web address. – Sherron*

[http://urbanlegends.about.com/library/bl\\_hotel\\_keycards.htm](http://urbanlegends.about.com/library/bl_hotel_keycards.htm)

Hello Sherron ...

### Hotel Key Card Alert

I found the above-noted article in the last MocTel very interesting and alarming regarding the personal information supposedly imprinted on the magnetic hotel/key cards. So alarming, in fact, that I passed it on to several friends thinking I was doing a good thing! I have had to send the information below from 'Urban Legends' to those same people as a follow-up. I also understand that there could be a fee charged by the hotel if its guest(s) did not return the card. I leave this information with you, Sherron, in case you also wish to follow up on the original article.

We are just recovering here in Whitehorse from the Canada Winter Games. We were pleasantly surprised that our lives were not disrupted nearly as much as had been anticipated. The Games went well and all Whitehorse/Yukon citizens can be proud of the hospitality that was extended to all of Canada and of how the North was portrayed. I am sure there will be pictures sent in to the MocTel and I hope that many of the non-resident Yukoners caught some of the action and the opening/closing ceremonies on CBC and/or TSN.

Keep up the good work, Sherron; it just wouldn't be Saturday without the MocTel!

Regards, Laverne Rasmuson [rasmuson@klondiker.com](mailto:rasmuson@klondiker.com) (In Whitehorse)

## **WHITEHORSE JAYCETTES**

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

In 1972 my former husband, Rick Ross, joined the Whitehorse Jaycees. As his wife I thought it would be fun to join the other wives' as members of the affiliate Jaycettes.

I had no idea what we were in for and as the years passed by I must say I really enjoyed my time as a Jaycette.

The Jaycees offered a wide variety of programs such as Effective Speaking, Parliamentary Procedure, Executive Training, etc. Some other programs that the members were involved in included raffles, city wide clean-up and an annual Christmas tree pick-up. Some of these were one-time projects proposed by an individual member and part of their requirement for being a Jaycee. One of the most well-known involvements of the Jaycees was the Keystone Kops during Sourdough Rendezvous week.

I recall how excited we all were when Sourdough Rendezvous came around. Rick would dress up in his Keystone Kop outfit and, along with his baton go out looking for those

residents breaking the law. A van would pull the jail that was on skids along the roads around town. Those residents that did not grow a beard or the women that did not have a visible garter were subject to go before the Keystone Kop Judge. Court would be held on the spot. The gavel would fall when the Judge ordered the offender, whether they were men or women, to spend 30 minutes locked up in the 'jail' on trumped up charges. The sentenced convict could try to get a friend or co-worker to come bail them out but most of the time they had to serve their sentence.

I remember one year during the Rendezvous I was down by City Hall watching the boys set up the jail. The van was parked on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, close to City Hall and all the Keystone Kops were busy preparing the jail and where the Judge would sit. They didn't notice anything unusual happening, but I did. I saw an RCMP vehicle park on a side street, and other vehicles parking silently on all the surrounding streets, giving the "Men in Blue" full sight of the Keystone Kops jail. Just as I yelled to Rick that something wasn't quite right, all the RCMP simultaneously converged on the Jaycees. Rick was slammed onto the hood of the van and his arm pulled forcibly behind his back while the Mounties' other arm jammed into his neck. Rick couldn't move. All the Jaycees were roughly gathered together and thrown into their own jail amid the laughter of the 'real' cops. The Mounties didn't come after me thank goodness, and after all the years that the Keystone Kops expressed their authority it was time they were paid back. The Jaycees were stunned as this had never happened before and while they looked through the bars the cops were roaring with laughter. I don't recall how long the Keystone Kops spent getting back their own medicine but it really was quite funny. For some reason the Jaycees didn't find that much humor in it and to them, there was a bit of a damper put on for the rest of the day. Their enthusiasm had been dealt a real blow.

The awarding of certificates was a big part of being active in not only the Jaycees but the Jaycettes as well. We also took part in conventions. I remember seeing some Jaycees wearing their vest that was covered in buttons, pins, crests and stickers, collected over the years. It was really a game to see who had the most memorabilia covering their torso. Covering the vest seemed to hold more meaning for the men as I can't recall the woman holding much importance in collecting. Now in hindsight I wish I had kept some of these items but at least I still have my membership pin.

The Jaycees and Jaycettes were very active in the community. There were ongoing photos and articles in the Yukon News and Whitehorse Star of the club's activities.

The Whitehorse Jaycettes were chartered by the National President on February 8, 1969. I joined in 1972. Our responsibilities included:

- ❖ Being an auxiliary to the Whitehorse Jaycees
- ❖ To promote friendship among the wives of the members of the Jaycees
- ❖ To familiarize Jaycettes and Jaycee wives with the objectives and programs of the Jaycees
- ❖ To provide the members of the Jaycettes with an opportunity for self-betterment.

I remember how proud I was when I was inducted as a full member and read the Jaycee Creed:

*“We’re Jaycee wives, one purpose in view  
To help our husbands in all that they do  
In social endeavors our efforts we’ll bend  
To help each member call each other a friend  
With financial help, we’ll do our part  
For we work with our hands as well as our hearts  
And we know so well the work that is done  
When husband and wife work together as one.”*

The activities we were involved in included projects that provided assistance to the Jaycees; individual development projects, such as courses in effective speaking and parliamentary procedure (similar to the Jaycees); community development projects, such as self defense programs and fellowship between members and other community groups. The Jaycettes also visited other Jaycette units, both in Canada and the United States.

I was quite shy when I joined the Jaycettes and was appalled when told I was expected to participate in public speaking. I joined the Toastmasters and was soon quite comfortable speaking in front of a crowd. My first attempt at speaking was in front of the other Jaycettes. Everyone wrote a subject we were to speak about onto a piece of paper that we drew out of a hat. We were expected to talk for 15 minutes on the subject. The piece of paper I drew had the subject *“speak about a toilet seat”*. I was horrified that a nice, decent woman would write that down and expect someone to talk that long on the subject. I recall I started out:

*“This evening I will be talking about a toilet seat. Sometimes they are adorned by a knitted cover and sometimes not. Sometimes they are left up by the men in the house and when slammed down by an irate wife, then they break. When you sit down it pinches.”*

By this time I was in tears and couldn’t think of what else to say. I was so embarrassed. I lasted one minute at the most and went and sat down. Everyone clapped and told me I did a good job for the first assignment. As the months went by I became quite comfortable talking about any subject but refused to ever again talk about a toilet seat.

Several months after Rick joined the Jaycees the club held a contest. The winner and his wife would attend a conference in Quesnel, B.C. Being a new member, Rick was surprised when his name was drawn.

I had nothing to do with the contest and didn’t know anything about it until late that night when he came home. To this day I still don’t know any details of the contest or how Rick won.

Along with one of the other members, we flew to Kelowna; I believe it was, for a short layover before continuing on to Quesnel. The member had a friend that lived in Kelowna

and since the layover was for a couple of hours we decided to go with him in a cab for a short visit. We were enjoying ourselves and lost track of time. With urgency we called for a cab and got to the airport hoping the plane hadn't taken off without us. As we ran into the terminal we spotted our plane on the tarmac, readying for take off. We told the employee at the airline counter that our plane was leaving without us. She made a quick phone call and the plane turned and headed back to the terminal. We boarded the plane amongst boos and a very stern-looking stewardess. Whoops.

We spent the weekend in Quesnel. The President's wife showed me around the town. I was very impressed by the Hoodoos. After a lunch and small conversation I headed to the hotel where we were staying. All the men were tied up all day and most of the evening with the conference and drinking with their new found friends. Wives were not permitted to join so I sat in the hotel room feeling quite sorry for myself.

Once back in Whitehorse I was asked to write a report on my trip. As I recall the only thing I could write about was my short visit with the President's wife. My report was barely half a page long. Rick had to also write a report and ended up with pages of exciting events. If he would have written about the partying after the conference I believe the report would have been several pages longer.

Jaycettes were expected to volunteer for various projects. I volunteered at MaCauley Lodge. I organized bingos for the senior residents which were a tremendous amount of fun. I shopped for little items I could give as prizes and the delight of winning in the winners' eyes brought more joy to me than them I think. I also organized for people to bring in their dogs, cats and birds for the residents to pet. One elderly gentleman asked if I would take him shopping so he could pick up dog biscuits and cat treats for the next visit. I would take the residents grocery shopping and to buy gifts for their loved ones for Christmas and birthdays. There was one elderly fellow I was very impressed with. I asked his name and he said, "Just Bob" so that is what I called him: "Just Bob". I never did ask his last name. He liked to imbibe in a bit of whiskey but it wasn't allowed in the lodge. Bob asked me if I could pick him up a 'mickey'. He had lost all his fingers in an accident years previously but he had no problem lifting the bottle to his mouth. Volunteering at the Lodge was the best experience I had as a Jaycette, and then I moved to Alberta in 1978, I must say I still miss it. The seniors brought me so much joy and their stories were wonderful to listen to.

Another project I was on in 1973 was the organization of a Jaycee/Jaycette history book. I had a member knit a beautiful cover for the album. I collected the history of both the Jaycees and Jaycettes. The project took a year and something I was very proud of. We submitted the history album to Nationals and won. For my efforts I received two trophies. One for "Jaycette of the Year" and the other for "Outstanding Jaycette".

The Yukon News, May 16, 1974

## Jaycees, 'cettes, install lead

The annual Installation dance for the Whitehorse units of Jaycees and Jaycettes, Officers banquet and



Outgoing Jaycette President Pat Stefanek, left, presented Donna Ross with the Jaycettes' top award, Jaycette of the Year. Mrs. Stefanek was honored with the group's Fellowship Trophy.

Outgoing Jaycette President Pat Stefanek presented Donna Ross with the Jaycettes' top award, Jaycette of the Year. Mrs. Stefanek was honored with the group's Fellowship Trophy



Jaycette of the Year Award  
Outstanding Jaycette - 1974

It was wonderful being recognized by my peers and for all the hours spent in volunteering and working on various projects. I must say that volunteering was the most satisfying thing I've ever done.

I became Secretary of the Jaycettes 1974. It was a challenge learning Parliamentary Procedure. The Jaycettes were very strict Parliamentarians and everything had to be politically correct. The minutes had to be recorded properly as they were submitted annually along with the Financial Records to the National Organization.

The Whitehorse Jaycettes ceased operations when the all women Gold Nugget Jaycees were chartered in 1978.

I would love to hear from any readers that were a Jaycee or Jaycette and hopefully they will have some photos they will share.



My membership pin and perfect attendance pin.

Ed. Note : Hoodoos

[Pinnacles Provincial Park](#), just 8 km west of the city limits of Quesnel, is best known for its intriguing twelve-million-year-old geological rock formations, known as **hoodoos**. The hoodoos are formed from the effects of natural erosion and weathering around volcanic lava, which often produces vivid bands of colour. The park is a popular day-use picnic area with a pleasant 1-km hike along a well-maintained trail to the hoodoos viewpoint, and a picturesque view of Quesnel and Baker Creek.

## **MESSAGE FROM MOGE – re MocTel 196**

I thought that was one of the most interesting News letters yet, read it from top to bottom before I could put it down. The story from Gordon Berberich really had me going as I knew almost everyone he mentioned and I partied with Dave Allen lots at D Bay, but when I got to the end I didn't recognize the name yet he knew so many people that I did. It was a great story and sure hope to hear more from him and others on that last 303 mile stretch from Whitehorse to the border. I really enjoy the paper when people relate their personal stories in it as Gordon did here, and there was one a while back that was super interesting with lots of stories. We need to hear more from Alice also as I'm sure she has many many stories to tell us and I'd sure like to hear them. Once again great paper and thanks for putting the notice about Grace in and also the pictures as they do detect the fun

we had up there without TV's and PC's etc, and the times that are only fond memories as history is not relivable. - Moge



**'Tiggs'**

Photo courtesy Moge Mogenson [elgolfo@shaw.ca](mailto:elgolfo@shaw.ca) (In Cranbrook BC)

Actually this is one of my favourites I just washed and folded the warm laundry and who has to come, inspect it, and accept it, and call it a fresh made bed but Tiggs. Tiggs is what is called a marbled Bengal Tabby, his chest goes to spots rather than strips he has a cheetah type spotted lower chest. This picture doesn't show his spots as they are up higher.  
Moge



You can sort of see his spots here.

He is over tree feet long from nose to tail and check out those feet. Moge

## JIMMY KANE PHOTO



Jimmy Kane

Photo courtesy Joyce Yardley [joyceyardley@dataspan.ca](mailto:joyceyardley@dataspan.ca) (In Nanaimo BC)  
*(Joyce had intended this photo to be with the story about Jimmy in MocTel 196)*



Snow Clearing on Green Crescent – March 2007

Photo courtesy Bill Weigand [bweigand@shaw.ca](mailto:bweigand@shaw.ca) (In Steveston BC)

## SOFTBALL TEAM PHOTO IDENTIFICATION

*Can anyone help name any of the remaining unidentified players ???*

Since we have not been able to get any names for the ladies' city team, nor any of the Army or Airforce teams, I would like to suggest that you re-run the two city mens' teams with the names we have (as attached).

I don't think we can do any more.

Credit for these names go to Les & Tom McLaughlin and Helen Fitch for all the players names.

Cheers. Ralph Lortie [rlortie001@sympatico.ca](mailto:rlortie001@sympatico.ca) (In Mississauga ON)

## Whitehorse Softball Teams, pre-1953

These photos were taken at the oldest city ball park at 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue & Main St.



### Whitehorse Men's Team #1 – 1949

Front row : George Kolkind, Scotty Munro, Tom McLaughlin, Jackie MacIntosh, -----,  
-----, Les McLaughlin (batboy).

Back row : -----, Kenny Johnson, Al Jardine, George Krautscheinder, -----, -----, John  
Erickson, -----.

Photos courtesy Mike Paolera



### Whitehorse Men's Team #2

Back row : -----, Ross Craig , -----, Bud Harrison, Brick Bradford, Norm Smith .

Front row : ----- (batboy), -----, Mickey Seraro, -----, -----, Dick Carswell.

## CANADA WINTER GAMES – WHITEHORSE, YUKON



Snow Sculpture carved by an international team of carvers.  
Photos courtesy Doug Bell [cheechako46@northwestel.net](mailto:cheechako46@northwestel.net) (In Whitehorse)



Atco Place, site of the opening and closing ceremonies witnessed by many of us far away from Whitehorse, via satellite TV. – Doug Bell photos.



Atco Place – With large snow sculpture  
Photo courtesy Bill Weigand [bweigand@shaw.ca](mailto:bweigand@shaw.ca) (In Steveston BC)



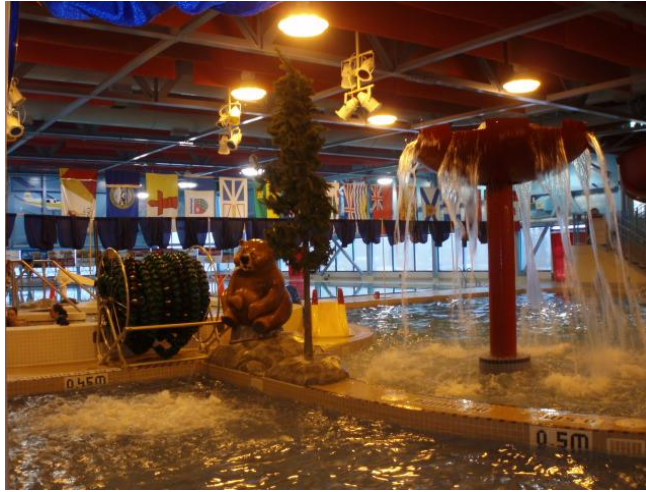
Bill & Jeri Weigand and Grant Bossenberry heading for the opening ceremonies at Atco Place with our "pillows"! “We were warned about the cold seats.” – Bill  
 Photo courtesy Bill Weigand [bweigand@shaw.ca](mailto:bweigand@shaw.ca) (In Steveston BC)



Torch & Flags - Canada Winter Games Sports Centre - Whitehorse Feb 23-Mar 10 2007  
 Photo courtesy Bill Weigand [bweigand@shaw.ca](mailto:bweigand@shaw.ca) (In Steveston BC)



The three Relay Torches – N W T – Nunavut – Yukon at Atco Place  
 Photo courtesy Bill Weigand [bweigand@shaw.ca](mailto:bweigand@shaw.ca) (In Steveston BC)



Canada Winter Games – March 2007  
Photos courtesy Bill Weigand [bweigand@shaw.ca](mailto:bweigand@shaw.ca) (In Steveston BC)



The Aboriginal crafts, art and entertainment was a highlight of the Winter Games.  
Photo courtesy Bill Weigand [bweigand@shaw.ca](mailto:bweigand@shaw.ca) (In Steveston BC)



Arts & Crafts tent

Photo courtesy Bill Weigand [bweigand@shaw.ca](mailto:bweigand@shaw.ca) (In Steveston BC)



This one with Pearl Keenan might be interesting to folks that know Pearl Keenan (Teslin) has just been honored with the Order of Canada Jeri stopped by to congratulate her. She and Jeri worked together at the Yukon Pavillion at Expo 86.

Photo courtesy Bill Weigand [bweigand@shaw.ca](mailto:bweigand@shaw.ca) (In Steveston BC)



Lynn Blaikie (artist) was very busy with her designs as were all the artists and crafts.

Photo courtesy Bill Weigand [bweigand@shaw.ca](mailto:bweigand@shaw.ca) (In Steveston BC)



NWT Throat Singers

Photo courtesy Bill Weigand [bweigand@shaw.ca](mailto:bweigand@shaw.ca) (In Steveston BC)



NWT Throat Singers 084

Photo courtesy Bill Weigand [bweigand@shaw.ca](mailto:bweigand@shaw.ca) (In Steveston BC)



Jeri- Larry Bagnell – Bill – F H Collins Gym. Inuit Games  
Photos courtesy Bill Weigand [bweigand@shaw.ca](mailto:bweigand@shaw.ca) (In Steveston BC)

## **A MESSAGE FROM CAROL BUZZELL IN HAINES JUNCTION**

Happy St. Patrick's Day to both of you. Yes, the past weeks edition came thru without a hitch. Maybe now that the Winter Games are over, we won't have any more problems. Had alot of problems with our cell service, (Bell) as well as long distance with Northwestel.....all circuits being busy, so it got to be challenging after awhile, thank goodness there were no emergencies and had to rely upon the long distance calling. We are experiencing more daylight hours now, a blessing, but the snow can be gone anyday, am tired of the extension of my arm - a shovel - The temps are getting to the + side during some days, alot warmer in Whitehorse at times, but they have such terrible winds there. Am so looking forward to Spring time in the mountains, need to see the flowers again. Quite a life-style change moving here, down in Cranbrook - my neighbour is already talking of starting plants etc and riding horses in the arena.....I gifted her one of my babies (a horse) prior to my leaving there, they loved him and used him over the years, so he has gone to a good home.

We are hosting the Silver Anniversary Native Bonspiel this weekend with 32 rinks participating and a lot on stand-by. It will be around the clock curling for the round-robin. Should make for a wonderful weekend filled with laughter, seeing old buds, having sore bodies etc. We will be curling with our regular teams until the 3rd of April, then the ice maker will be turned off for another season. Will give you an update on the Bonspiel after it happens.

Have a great day, think green, keep in touch.

Thank you, hugs.

Carol Buzzell [buzzy.cj\\*northwestel.net](mailto:buzzy.cj*northwestel.net) (In Haines Junction)



**Grace Chambers**

Sherron, I don't know if you noticed but the picture of Grace when she was younger on the memorial notice, she is riding on the back of a dog team. They had no roads then only dog teams in winter and horses in summer. It used to take her 4 days to go to Whitehorse by dog sled. She would stop at Silver City the first day, the Junction the second day and Champagne the third day and on into Whitehorse the last day, now it's only a 3 hour trip, actually now it's probably only 2.5 hours.

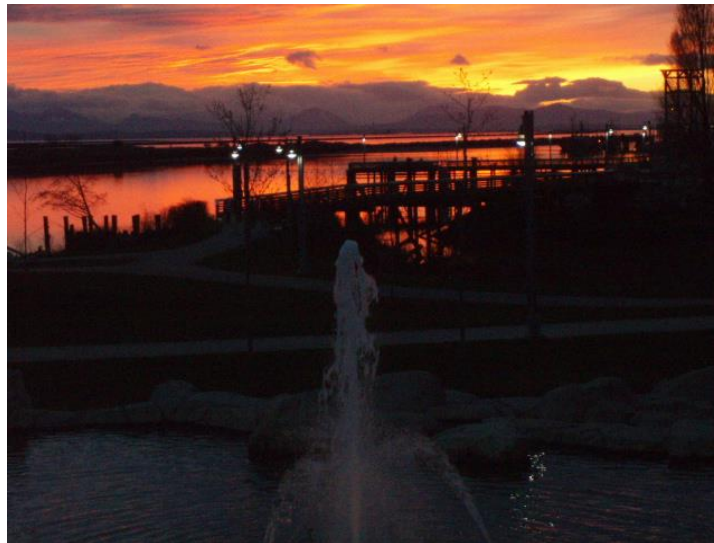
Moge Mogenson [elgolfo\\*shaw.ca](mailto:elgolfo*shaw.ca) (In Cranbrook BC)



Finally, sunshine today. Took a couple of photos from our living room and deck of the sunset on the mouth of the Fraser at Steveston Village.

March 12, 2007– Bill

Photos courtesy Bill Weigand [bweigand@shaw.ca](mailto:bweigand@shaw.ca) (In Steveston BC)



## **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

Thank you for sending me the Moccasin Telegraph. Somehow my E-mail address [Kurlee16@hotmail.com](mailto:Kurlee16@hotmail.com) does not seem to work **I have not received any responses** to the announcement in your paper due to (I think) my Junkfilter. I would like to try our other E-mail adresS [Slim\\*hawk.igs.net](mailto:Slim*hawk.igs.net) . I hope you don't mind to put that in your next edition.

I did some "flash" reading earlier, of course I am going to sit down this week-end to really take the time and read EVERYTHING, I am amazed with the volume of stories in the paper. It is wonderful to see how many there are out there. I am also very impressed

with all the work and time you must be spending on this project, but by the looks of it it makes a lot of peoples happy.

I was reading Gordon P. stories and recognized the names Harry and Mae, I remember serving them in the summers of 1970 and 1971. Mae I remember as a very gentle spirit, but when I went back to work at the lodge again for the summer of 1972 I was told that Mae had passed away the past winter.

Also Gordon mentioned the name Dave Allen, would that be the Dave Allen who married Beverley in the summer of 1972? If it is I was their witness, unfortunately the marriage didn't hold. But they had 2 beautiful daughters named Annette and Rose. I still have contact with Beverley.

Well that it's for now, my thank you for the work you do Sherron, much appreciated,  
Annette Gougeon-van Zaanen (In Beaver Creek 1970-73) L'Orignal, Ontario

## **THE LATEST AVIATION HISTORY OF CANADA'S NORTHWEST BY CHRIS WEICHT**

Hi Sherron, Here is the cover and info about my latest book, 407 pages of fact filled history and anecdotal information with hundreds of archival photographs on the development of the air route from Lethbridge to Vancouver which was surveyed in 1928 and constructed by the Unemployment Relief Scheme during the depression. Airfield's were built every fifty miles. Each of the thirty chapters in the book represents a community airfield and its participation in this exciting aviation history.

I am planning to give a slide presentation at each of the communities along this route between Hope and Lethbridge during June 2007 (Vancouver and the Fraser Valley will occur in April) and would invite any interested parties to contact me for a date later in the spring when I hope to have my itinerary finalized. Each presentation will be different and will depict the aviation history of that specific location.

I again make an offer of almost 20% to Moccasin Telegraph readers the reduced price will be \$35.00 plus \$8.00 for Canada Post. On multiple book orders each additional book would require only \$2.00 extra postage. Readers could order any of my books during this offer.

Regards,

Chris Weicht [cweicht\\*dccnet.com](mailto:cweicht*dccnet.com) (In Roberts Creek BC)

*For further order information contact Chris at [cweicht@dccnet.com](mailto:cweicht@dccnet.com) – Sherron*

## **TRANS CANADA AIRWAY**

VOLUME FOUR IN A SEVEN VOLUME SERIES OF AVIATION HISTORY IN THE  
NORTHWEST

## A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO RECORDED WESTERN CANADIAN AVIATION HISTORY

### **THE BOOK**

The Canadian Air Board originally conceived a **Trans Canada Airway** in 1920 as a development of the trans-Canada-flight from coast to coast, which was successfully completed in that year.

The infrastructure of airfields and navigation aids necessary were non-existent at that time and it was not until 1928 that the Civil Aviation branch of the Department of National Defense decided to survey possible routes and sites for the construction of airfields for the British Columbia section of the proposed airway.

In October 1932 Prime Minister Bennett approved a proposal to use workers from the Unemployment Relief Scheme to construct airfields along the airway, and a workforce of over 2000 men began to clear and construct airfields every fifty miles between Lethbridge, Alberta and Vancouver, British Columbia.

By mid 1936 the Department of Transport had been created and assumed control of civil aviation in Canada.

The airfields at this time were largely completed resulting in the Relief Scheme projects being phased out. In 1936 the Department of Transport began the development of a radio range airway along the route with the first station completed at Vancouver in 1937 and the entire airway by 1939.

The construction of a chain of airfields along the route together with a system of radio range navigational aids across southern British Columbia could not have been timelier. With the advent of war in 1939 came a significant increase in the amount of air traffic across the Rocky Mountains from the coast to the prairies.

In the post war years aircraft sophistication resulted in the intermediate airfields receiving little use and many were abandoned. But even seventy years after the depression it is possible to find evidence of their existence.

### **THE AUTHOR**

Chris Weicht is a retired professional pilot with over 17,000 hours of flight experience, including over 6,000 hours in floatplanes and flying boats. Chris has flown in the Arctic, the Yukon, and Alaska, as well as the Caribbean and South America. He has flown in the bush and in floatplanes, airliners, and corporate jets.

In retirement, Chris travels extensively, lecturing on the history of his first love - aviation. During his travels throughout the northwest, he researches this history for inclusion in his forthcoming books.

In 1997 he published his first book, **JERICHO BEACH AND THE WEST COAST FLYING BOAT STATIONS** that became a Canadian bestseller. The first of a seven-book series on the aviation history of northwest Canada and Alaska, **NORTH BY NORTHWEST** was published in 2004 and has received wide acclaim. In 2005 **PACIFIC AIRWAY** detailed the aviation history of the west coast from Seattle, the BC coast, and southern Alaska. **AIR ROUTE TO THE KLONDIKE** was published in 2006 and tells of the early aviation pioneers in the Yukon. **TRANS CANADA AIRWAY** is the latest book in the series and outlines the early attempts to create an air route from the prairies to

Vancouver BC and gives a detailed, well illustrated history of each community along the way.

At age 67, Chris retired from commercial aviation and in September 2002 he celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his first solo with a flight above the coast mountains of British Columbia.

Hi Sherron,

I am offering it at a discounted price of \$35.00 plus \$2.10 GST plus \$8.00 shipping for single book orders. For additional orders in the same shipment add \$2.00 each additional book. (This offer extends to all five of my books).

Chris Weicht [cweicht@dccnet.com](mailto:cweicht@dccnet.com) (In Roberts Creek BC)

## **HAINES JUNCTION**

Hi Donna [Istchenko – at the Village of Haines Junction]

I hope all is well with you and the family. I'm writing to see if it would be all right for me to send the attached picture of Haines Junction (I put the text onto this copy of the picture) to the Moccasin Telegraph for Sherron (the woman who puts it all together) to show in the next edition. I'm not sure if you have read the Moc Tel before....I know Rhoda, Joanne Graham & Carol Buzzell are just a few of the members and I think I saw Harmony's address on the contact list. It's an e-mail that goes out weekly to all Yukoners and Ex-Yukoners who love the Yukon and are interested in reconnecting with each other. The history that is written in the articles are priceless...(I believe they are being archived by the Yukon Government also but not sure on that). I've read all about the lodges all the way up the highway from past owners and the like...brings back so many memories. It keeps us abreast of what's happening up in the Yukon and even has obituaries in it. Reading this little rag, I have learned of quite a few people I've known who have passed on. It's very well done! Here is a link so you can view one of the editions of the Moccasin Telegraph.

<http://members.shaw.ca:80/moctelpast4/MT190.html>

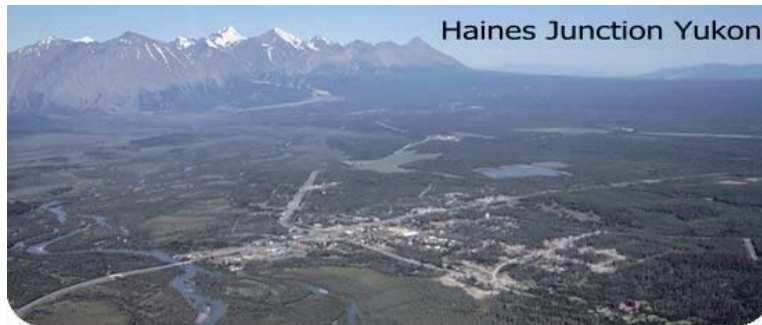
It's a wonderful e-mail full of articles, stories, poems, history and pictures from Yukoners and non-Yukoners alike. I'm not sure who took this particular picture. My concern is that it may be copyrighted and cannot be reproduced. I certainly hope not. I see Lloyd Freeze and Wolf Riedl took some of the pictures on the Haines Junction Web site but not sure who took the one of the view of Haines Junction. If it was Bruce it just might be protected as he has a photography business or did at one time if I remember correctly....BUT what wonderful exposure for who ever took the picture as they are given full credit under the picture and it will be seen by soooooo many people. It could be looked at as an opportunity to show their work!

If you could look into this when you get some time and let me know if this picture could go into the Moccasin Telegraph for all to see (I want to say our beautiful village after having lived there for 20 years)... I would appreciate it. Let me know ok Donna.

Debbie Nelson [celticme@sympatico.ca](mailto:celticme@sympatico.ca) (In Dundas ON)

Hi Sherron;

I thought I would forward the response from Donna Istchenko to you. Yes, we have permission to use the Haines Junction Aerial photo with the Beautiful St. Elias Mountain Range behind the town. Part of the Yukon Government Archives...



**Haines Junction with the St. Elias Mountain Range in Background**  
Yukon Archive Photo

We will put a link in the Moc Tel under the picture so more people can view the website and check out the village.

Here's the link folks: Haines Junction Yukon Territory Canada - Gateway to Kluane

<http://www.hainesjunctionyukon.com/>

Cheers....Deb

## **NOT YET RECEIVING MOCTEL**

Hi Sherron, I just received an E-mail from an old (Dutch-Yukon) friend, she asked me if I had had any reactions to the message in the Moccasin Telegraph. I told her that I had not received the Moccasin Telegraph yet. I seem to have some problems with receiving your newspaper. What is the E-mail website of your newspaper? I do have a junkfilter and anybody who is not in my address book automatically gets routed into my garbage can! I hope to hear from you, and I am looking forward to the news! My thank you in advance, greetings Johanna Gougeon-van Zaanen. [kurlee16@hotmail.com](mailto:kurlee16@hotmail.com)

**Photos from the Jones' in Arizona**



**Desert Life**

Oil painting by our next door neighbour Gladys Quast

Purchased by Bill & Sherron Jones

Photo courtesy Tom Quast (In Yuma) - Canadian snowbirds from Medicine Hat, AB



**Sherry & Brock Quast – Medicine Hat**

Brock is the talented son of our neighbours Tom & Gladys

Brock and his wife Sherry singing Country Music entertained us several times this past two months. Even had us dancing in the street (see below).



Block party dancing in the street – Yuma AZ – March 8, 2007  
Photos courtesy Bill Jones [ve7yi@adelphia.net](mailto:ve7yi@adelphia.net) (In Yuma AZ)

## **OBIT**

Hello Sherron, I am behind in my reading as I had my knee replaced 2 weeks ago and don't feel like doing much.

Our local paper, the Peace Arch News, ran an obit for Margaret Nell Tanner, on Saturday, March 10th. Although I did not know her, I noticed that she spent many years in Whitehorse and wondered how many of the Moctel folks knew her. Would you like me to send you the obit? Via e-mail, of course. Perhaps you're a couple of steps ahead of me and have the info already?

Thanks. Karen Shaw [kshaw@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:kshaw@interchange.ubc.ca) (In White Rock BC)

## **TANNER, MARGARET NELL (PEG) nee Lewis**

Peg was born on April 2, 1926 in Angusville, Manitoba. She died on March 6, 2007 at Peace Arch Memorial Hospital in White Rock with her family at her side, after a battle with cancer. As a child she spent several years in Ft. Chipweyan, northern Alberta, where she ran her own dog team. Peg trained as a lab technician in Winnipeg and worked in the Ottawa Civic Hospital lab. In 1946 she spent a season on the RMS Nascope, traveling to remote Inuit communities as part of a medical team that included her father, Dr. Harry Lewis. She then moved west to work at Vancouver General Hospital. In January of 1953 she moved to Whitehorse for a brief session as a relief lab technician. There she met Dr. Aubrey Tanner, and they were married that June.

Raising four children in Whitehorse followed, as did a memorable two-year hiatus in St. Lucia. In Whitehorse Peg was an active volunteer. She worked for several years as a Justice of the Peace, a Juvenile Court Judge and a coroner. Then Peg and Aubrey moved

to Papua New Guinea for a three-year adventure. Stints in Inuvik, Quesnel, and Vancouver followed before they finally settled at Nicowynd.

Peg loved books and words in general, and spent many hours reading and doing crossword puzzles. She loved seeing new places, meeting people and hearing their stories, especially over a game of cards. She had an amazing capacity for keeping track of family and friends - their plans, their interests, what they were reading ... Right to the end she had a great enthusiasm for life. In spite of her illness, Peg was determined to enjoy the Caribbean Christmas family reunion she had organized. She succeeded.

Peg will be much missed by her many friends, her husband Aubrey, her brother Bill Lewis (Helen), her four children Kim (Brian McWatters), Mark (Susan Smith), Jill (Colm Seviour) and Trix (Ken Knutson), and her ten grandchildren Kathleen, Eleni, Jamie, Laura, Declan, Grant, Joaquin, Casey, Aven and Tori.

A Celebration of Life was held at the Victory Memory Funeral Home on Saturday, March 10, 2007 at 2:30. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Peach Arch Hospital Foundation, the Yukon Foundation (Tanner Family), or a charity of your choice.

## REMOVED FROM THE LIST

Reason: <[jyeulet@telus.net](mailto:jyeulet@telus.net)>: User unknown.

YEULET, Colin & Joanne                      [jyeulet\\*telus.net](mailto:jyeulet*telus.net)                      (In Kootenays)

Reason: <[bwillis@telus.net](mailto:bwillis@telus.net)>: User unknown.

WILLIS, Rick & Vicki (WATSON)                      [bwillis\\*telus.net](mailto:bwillis*telus.net)                      (In Clinton Creek, Cassiar and Whitehorse) Chilliwack

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Doug & Pearl Bell   [cheechako46\\*northwestel.net](mailto:cheechako46*northwestel.net)

Tom Mickey   [tmickey\\*northwestel.net](mailto:tmickey*northwestel.net)

My new E-Mail address is   [vvchero\\*shaw.ca](mailto:vvchero*shaw.ca) Vic Cheropita

I will be on high speed on March 20 (afternoon). My e-mail will be: [dogmusher\\*albertacom.com](mailto:dogmusher*albertacom.com) however I will be retaining [ytdogteam\\*telus.net](mailto:ytdogteam*telus.net) for about 2 months. I will let you know when I no longer have my current address.

Donna Clayson

## NEW ADDITIONS

Hi Sherron; Your Moccasin Telegraph 190th edition was forwarded to us by our daughter-in-law who is living in Haines Junction. We lived in the Yukon from 1967 until 2006 when we retired to the little village of Champion in Southern Alberta. My husband worked in construction in Whitehorse in 1967 and 1968 when we moved to Mayo. He was Mining Recorder there until 1990 when he became Regional Manager of Mineral Rights in Whitehorse until his retirement in 1996. I had the Sears Agency in Mayo until 1989, I was also agent for Northward Airlines, then Trans North, then Alkan Air until they stopped scheduled air service into Mayo. In 1989 I took over the contract to operate the Mayo Airport when Transport Canada turned them over to the Territorial Government. In 1992 we, as a family, built the Bedrock Motel in Mayo which I was involved in until October of Last year when we retired. My son and family still operate the Motel. We would love to be part of your MocTel, and receive future editions. Our email is [rgrmayo@hotmail.com](mailto:rgrmayo@hotmail.com)  
Roland and Joyce Ronaghan, Champion, Alberta.

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*“TOUGH TIMES NEVER LAST.....But TOUGH PEOPLE DO”*

## RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Submitted by Lois Trembley [granny9t@shaw.ca](mailto:granny9t@shaw.ca) (In Cedar BC)

### Spread or Dip

2 small cans devilled ham  
1/2 cup mayonnaise  
8 oz. cream cheese, softened  
1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and diced  
1/4 cup green onions, chopped  
3 Tbsp. fresh dill chopped or 1 tsp. dried

Combine all ingredients in a small bowl and mix well. Chill before serving with crackers or crust bread pieces. This one sounded good to me.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### Vancouver Yukoner's Annual Banquet.

Note to any of you planning to attend the March 31st banquet. If you wish to stay at

the River Rock Resort we suggest you book NOW as they are filling up quickly. The weekends there are very busy as they feature live entertainment at their theatre. Yukoner's special rates are available to March 15th ONLY - we still have a block of ten rooms on hold for our event. In the meantime of course, please make your dinner reservations as soon as possible.

Cheques/Monies: Please send to:

Mary MacDonald,  
#309 - 5166 Halifax St.,  
Burnaby, B.C. V5B 2N6

For River Rock reservations call toll free:1.866.748.3718

For more info you can email [hmunro@shaw.ca](mailto:hmunro@shaw.ca) or [clclarke@shaw.ca](mailto:clclarke@shaw.ca)

### ***Okanagan Yukoners' Picnic***

*Summerland Ornamental Gardens June 24, 2007. 11 am to 3 pm, Pot luck lunch at 12 noon. Be sure and bring your own eating utensils. (Knives, forks, plates etc.) And lots of food !!*

### ***International Sourdough Reunion***

*Will be held at the Ramada Inn in Penticton from September 19 to 23, 2007*

*Rooms are \$99 per couple flat rate.*

*For reservations call :*

*Toll Free 1-800-665-4966 Code word is: Sourdough 3474*

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***ISR Registration*** is \$70.00

Registration limited to 175 People

Contact person is:

***Larry Chalmers PO Box 1095 Oliver, BC V0H 1T0***

***Phone: 250-498-6887 e-mail: [aksala49@telus.net](mailto:aksala49@telus.net)***

## **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).

## **MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH**

Who would have thought in early February 2003 that there would be enough to say to keep the Moccasin Telegraph going all this time. Well many of you have been receiving the newsletter for most of that time and can attest to the variety of topics we have covered and the amount we have all learned about Yukon and its former, and to a lesser degree, current residents.

Since there are many new subscribers in the last year it is time to cover a few topics once again.

- All editions of the Moccasin Telegraph are being archived by Yukon Archives. This provides each of you with an opportunity to have your treasured photos, poems, stories and even family connections preserved for future generations to read in your own words.

- A CD is made available each year and now contains all four years. It can be searched by using a 'Keyword' which enables you to find topics easily. This year the CD is available for the price of \$22.50 which includes mailing.

- The 'MocTel' is provided to you by e-mail as a labour of love and in fact is material shared by many of you. I do appreciate a donation from you to help me with the ongoing costs and for spending hours each week producing it. *FYI very few donations have come in this winter.*

- The Moccasin Telegraph winter address is #483 – 5707 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, Yuma, Arizona, 85365