

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH – 199th Edition – April 1st, 2007

Created by Sherron Jones sherronjones@shaw.ca

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



Clear blue sky over Grey Mountain and Whitehorse General Hospital
Photo courtesy Doug Bell cheechako46@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)

The Stillness

By Rick Mortimer trapper@nemontel.net (In Saskatchewan)

Did you ever wander over to a meadow just at dawn
When the birds out in the willows, start the day with joyous song?
And the horses all stand shivering in their shiny coats of dew
To watch the first faint rays of light, bring forth the day anew.

A wolf upon a mountain howls, a moose gets up to see.
A raven croaks a lonely sound, atop some distant tree.
A rabbit sings its death song, in the grip of taloned hand
Now the sun is o'er the hill, and day is on the land.

You watch all this in silence, while standing still as stone.
You're out there in the mountains, yet you know you're not alone.
'Cause you hear your steady heartbeat and the pulsing of the land,
And you know the rhythm, long ago, was set by God's own hand.

And so another day has come, it's down the trail again.
The living's in the doing—and the knowing's in the pain.
For you've got to ride to sunset 'til the strength of horses fail
But you'll ride a lot more peaceful, knowing He who blazed the trail.

© Rick Mortimer

If you can use this in the MocTel, you are welcome to. Wish I could contribute more but seem to be running in about sixteen different directions now that spring is around the corner. Sure am enjoying “Packdogs to Helicopters” by Pat Callison.
All the best!

Rick Mortimer

Pack Dogs to Helicopters

Author Pat Callison – copyright

CHAPTER 27

THE MELOYS

The Yukon River was like the Yukon’s Main Street. Little settlements were strung out along its length, in some cases a community would consist of one or two people. The population of Coffee Creek 100 miles south of Dawson City consisted of Jack and Hazel Meloy.

My introduction to the Meloy’s took place when Jack telegraphed in from Coffee Creek to Carcross that they would like to be flown from their home to Whitehorse.

It was a 250 mile flight from Carcross and I had never landed at Coffee Creek before. The Yukon River freezes over in great lumps and chunks and there are few places where one can land a ski equipped aircraft. The thing to do was to look for a back channel or in the shelter of an island where the freeze up had been quiet. It was impossible to land at Coffee Creek and that was when I started peering around for somewhere to set down. About a mile down river and in a back channel there was a smooth stretch of ice, all carefully marked out with spruce boughs and at the end of the runway a fire was burning so I could tell which way the wind was blowing. In comparison with some of the runways people had laid out for me this was just like landing at LaGuardia. I was to learn that that was the way Jack Meloy did things - top notch.

Mrs. Meloy had little to say and stood off to one side - Jack explained that his wife wasn’t happy about flying, so that explained it. We loaded up and took off for Whitehorse.

Jack and I chatted all the way but there wasn’t a word from Mrs. Meloy - I couldn’t imagine myself calling her Hazel. When we landed at the airport and were walking over to the administration building I asked Mrs. Meloy how she had enjoyed the trip, and being in Whitehorse, which in 1943 was a bustling army camp. She stopped in her tracks, looked straight at me and said, “I didn’t like the ride, I don’t like this damn place and I wish I was back at Coffee Creek.” So that took care of me and Whitehorse.

When we were in the waiting room Jack took me to one side and asked me what he owed me for the flight. I said it was 5 hours flying time at \$85.00 an hour. As Jack was making

out the cheque he said “Don’t say anything to the wife about the cost. She will raise hell.”

After that I made other trips to Coffee Creek and when I started my business in Dawson I had the mail contract to Stewart River Post Office so I arranged with Jack that I would bring their mail from Stewart - 20 miles upstream, to Coffee Creek and if there were other supplies they needed Jack could send a message to Dawson over the telegraph line, I would make the purchases and he would pay me when I took the goods in. An indication of how trusting he was, every so often he would hand me a signed blank cheque to pay for what ever I had purchased for him. Completely honest himself, he took it for granted everyone else was the same.

Like a good many people who lived in remote areas, Jack listened to radio broadcasts and had a real interest in everything that was going on. He received a lot of mail including papers and magazines and he had some firm opinions about the world affairs and the people who were responsible. He was a great admirer of General Eisenhower and after Ike became President, Jack wrote him a letter.

One day when I delivered the mail Jack showed me a letter, signed by President Eisenhower in reply to Jack’s letter. The President of the United States was impressed by the opinion of the man who lived in an isolated spot on the Yukon River.

Mrs. Meloy was quite a person and over the years I came to enjoy her company. She was independent, capable, called a spade a spade or a dirty damn shovel depending upon how strongly she felt about something. One story about Mrs. Meloy will live on in the yarns about Yukoners.

During the days of the steamboats on the Yukon River, residents along the route would put up a flag on the riverbank to indicate they wanted the steamboat to stop to pick up mail or a passenger. Mrs. Meloy went down to the river landing and put up her flag, she wanted to send out some mail.

The big white steamboat came chuffing along downstream, slapping its sternwheel, and Mrs. Meloy waited for it to turn in. She stood watching it, and it seemed to have no intention of pulling in. So she walked up to her cabin, got her rifle, took careful aim and fired across the prow of the steamboat. There was a sudden reverse of the paddlewheel and the waters got churned up as the boat made a fast change of direction and headed toward Mrs. Meloy’s flag on the bank.

Mrs. Meloy was a man’s equal in the woods. She had her own dogteam and ran her own trap line. Jack had his and both were very independent about this part of their lives. But there was another facet to this interesting lady. She had the most beautiful garden and tended it with loving care. When she made a trip to Dawson on the steamboat she would be dressed to the nines, wearing a smart suit and silver fox furs or a sable jacket, the pelts of which she had trapped.

In the late 60's the Meloy's decided that they should move into Dawson so bought a nice house and became part of the community. Every year during the winter carnival, Sourdough Rendezvous, the Yukon Order of Pioneers selects a couple who have been long time Yukoners, designate them "Mr. and Mrs. Yukon" and they attend all sorts of functions during the year representing the pioneers of the Yukon. One year the Meloy's were selected and were they ever pleased - they represented the Yukon well wherever they went.

Shortly after that Jack died while on a hunting trip which was the way he would have preferred. Mrs. Meloy still lives in Dawson, a resident of the Senior Citizens home.

To be continued



No Mail Service – Dawson – Feb 2007

Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)

Uffish Thoughts: Life at the End of the Road

by Dan Davidson
February 26, 2007

As I pondered the sign on the Post Office door, which announced that, once again, there was no mail service due to the cold weather, I realized that this is the time of the year where we are at the end of a very long road, and that a lot of the things we take for granted depend on other people being able to travel that road - or to bridge the gap by some other means.

The subject came up at the annual general meeting of the Klondike Visitors Association, and has been a regular topic at the chamber of commerce as well.

It's just not as easy to get to Dawson City as it used to be.

Once upon a time we were part of a scheduled bus route, but that died and was replaced by a home grown alternative, Dawson City Courier. In turn, that fell victim to loss of the mail hauling contract, which underpinned the rest of the operation so that it could survive rising gasoline prices and the high overhead involved in hauling passengers.

The Courier disappeared a day at a time and finally vanished altogether about a year ago.

A similar fate seems to be overtaking Air North, which used to fly in and out of here six days a week. Then the weekend vanished, and now we're down to Monday - Wednesday - Friday service. Part of the problem was the elimination of the Fairbanks portion of the route. There was a press release about that, but it seems Tuesday and Thursday disappeared without much fanfare.

The air access cutbacks are not a good thing, but it seems that the land access is more critical. There is a general feeling that one of the reasons for the shortage of summer workers here last summer was the lack of any means to get here short of hitchhiking.

It's probably true that the demise of Tent City - the low rent summer tenting ground in West Dawson - may have been a factor in this worker shortage, which began the year the tenting area was closed and got worse the next year, when the word of mouth negative advertising got around.

But it's also true that a lot of the tenter/workers came and went on the bus, were not among the affluent lucky ones who had their own wheels.

It's not just Dawson that's affected by the lack of a bus service any way. The Courier and the old Greyline service used to stop at Carmacks, Pelly Crossing and Stewart Crossing as well, providing some sort of regular access to points north of Whitehorse. Now there's nothing.

Governments have been willing to subsidize all manner of projects for providing power and highway access to mining prospects along the Klondike Highway, but no thought seems to have been given to subsidizing scheduled highway transportation on that same route.

In the winter there's really no alternative at all. TheCityofDawson.com forum has a subsection called Dawson Rides, which encourages people to share rides. I had passengers both ways on my last expedition to the city, but it's hardly a secure and scheduled means of transport. Hitchhiking in the winter, at the temperatures we've been enjoying lately, could result in a whole new series of roadside exhibits - at least until spring thaw.

The greatest amount of travel is in the summer any way and, while it may be a lot safer, it's no less inconvenient. It's just too bad when it's come to a situation where the easiest way for anyone without their own wheels to get to Dawson City in the summer is to start by building a raft in Whitehorse.

“HIS BACKYARD”

Hello Sherron Jones,

I was given your name from the Yukon archives as someone to contact. My son is researching "his backyard" for a heritage fair project. We live at Judas Creek on the Alaska Highway. Would you have any information about the highway camp that was located there in the 40's or about the original Crystal Palace road house that burned in March of 1961. I also understand that Johnny Johns also lived at Judas Creek at one time and am trying to contact Art Johns in regards to that. We purchased the property from the Berfelo family that had an antique store for awhile. Would you know anything about that? Any bits to add to his collection would be appreciated. I was also wondering if you know Jim Robb's e-mail address and be able to forward this to him as he may be able to add to our knowledge.

The Crystal Palace was owned by Roman "Jake" Chaykowski, who was a very "colorful personality" in his time.

Thanks for your time,

Karla Davidson karlaatyukon@hotmail.com (At Judas Creek)

Hi Karla

To my knowledge I have not come across any facts or stories about 'Jakes Corner or the Crystal Palace" I do however have the e-mail address for Jake Chaykowsky's daughter Carolyne. She lives in Whitehorse. I am sure she could give you some information about your son's 'backyard' to help him with his school project.

To my knowledge Jim Robb does not have a computer and is not on e-mail.

I would like to place your message in the next Moccasin Telegraph and note your e-mail address in case there are others who may be able to add some comments. Will also pass your message on to Joyce Yardley who with her husband Gordon lived at 10 mile ranch in the early days and may have some comments to offer. If I remember correctly Gordon may have been successful in obtaining a building from that property.

Really hope your effort to contact folks through my project the 'Moccasin Telegraph' will yield your son a good mark. Last week I had a report back that someone else that I was able to give leads to for his fifth grade grand daughter in Ontario received an A+ for her project.

Best of luck.

Sherron Jones

Sherron,

Thankyou so much for your speedy reply. I have been in contact with Raymond Chaykowski and through him, we are going to have a little interview with his Mother and hopefully his sister as well. I understand that Carolyn has a lot of photos. The stories about Judas Creek I am sure will be interesting. I again thank you for your help. How does one receive the Moccasin Telegraph?

It sounds very interesting.

Karla Davidson

JAKE'S CORNER – CRYSTAL PALACE

Hi Sherron,

We didn't acquire any material from Jakes Corner. It was at Johnson's Crossing that we bought a building from the Porsild family when they were first building their Lodge there, from the vacated U.S.army camp. We hauled it to Carcross and converted it to a rental cottage, right across the road from our house. The building is still there, in Carcross, and in use - altho' I don't know the people who live there now.

I certainly remember the name "Crystal Palace." But I may be getting it mixed up with what we used to refer to as "Jakes Place," We always fueled up our vehicle there, on our way to Whitehorse from 10-Mile Ranch or Carcross. The Tagish road wasn't paved yet in those days, and very dusty and rough. It was always a treat to stop at the lodge and have a cool drink before continuing on our journey. I remember that the upper floor of the building was a super (for those days!) swimming pool; very popular at the time for Whitehorse folks to visit on week-ends. Eventually they had to eliminate the pool, as it started leaking to the downstairs café'.

Now maybe someone out there could kindly set me straight on whether the Crystal Palace was the same building as "Jakes Place" or whether Jakes was built after the "Palace" burned down. We're going back around 60 years ago now...

(My memory is not what it used to be!) But so much fun reminiscing just the same!)

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

To answer what I think I know is that the swimming pool was in the Crystal Palace at Jakes corner, not in the original road house. The roadhouse I am referring to was not located at Jakes corner but at Judas Creek (about 10km. further north on the highway).

The original burned down on March 30, 1961 according to the Whitehorse Star news article I found.

Cheers,
Karla Davidson

JAKES CORNER BUILT AFTER JUDAS CREEK CRYSTAL PALACE BURNED

Jakes Corner was built after the Judas Creek “Crystal Palace burnt down in 1961. In building Jakes Corner Dad bought the old Army camp at 855. I remember straightening out nails so that we could re-use them for construction. I sent Karla a bit of history earlier.

My mother has had a few strokes recently and I’m trying to capture some of her history and stories. Time is not on my side lately.....

Carolyn (Chaykowsky) Thompson cthompson@northwestel.net

This is what I sent to Karla.

Carolyn

Hi Karla,

Your name was passed on to me regarding Judas Creek and the roadhouse located at that property. My father Roy (Jake Chaykowsky) and mother Helen purchased the old roadhouse known as the Pines in 1951 and renamed it the Crystal Palace. It was a very run down piece of property and with my father’s talent as a carpenter he began renovations. The ownership trail was: Johnny Johns who sold to Eckles who sold the one-room lodge to my parents for \$20,000.

Neither of my parents knew anything about running a lodge, cooking meals for visitors or speak very good English. They had both immigrated to Canada soon after World War II because they did not agree with Stalin’s oppression and came to Canada for a better life. The Highway lodge business was a very hard but a fulfilling one as they had freedom of choice that communism back in the Ukraine would not have allowed.

In August 1953 my sister had just turned three was taken from them in a freak accident involving a truck. Earlier in the day she had been playing with the son of the driver of the vehicle and as they were getting ready to pull away from the gas station she ran in front of the truck. My father never got the chance to reach her in time to pull her out of harms way. This tragedy was a pure accident and one that is so hard to understand as to why such things happen especially to one so young and innocent. This stress may well

have been the reason my father never was the same afterwards and became driven to build things.

Four other children came along, Carolyne (Thompson) in 1954, Sandy (Magnuson) in 1956, Raymond in 1958 and Joanne 1960. All but Joanne live in Yukon.

Spring of 1961 another strategy struck when the lodge burnt to the ground while our family sat in a vehicle watching flames destroying their 10 years of hard work. There was no insurance.

A few years later the family moves six mile's south to Jake's Corner and built a lodge where they operated in until it sold in the late 70's. My father built an indoor swimming pool and for many years we entertained large groups of people who came to have fun in the pool. Peter Burfello being one of the party goers!

We had a very interesting life at Jakes Corner, besides operating a tourist stop we raised goats, sheep, cows, chicken and geese.

Roy Chaykowsky AKA "Jake" died in 1994 and Helen resides in Macaulay lodge.

Let me know if you need more.

Carolyne (Chaykowsky) Thompson cthompson@northwestel.net
Whitehorse, Yukon

Hi Karla,

The best time to talk to our mother would be after lunch. I could set something up for 1:00 on Wednesday. Let me know and I could meet you at Macaulay and make introductions and head back to work.

Johnny Johns owed the property pre-1950. Mom could shed some light on this part. Kevin Barr would be a good resource on contacting Arthur Johns as they often "Jam" together.

Peter Burfello's wife died from brain cancer several years ago. Babette who currently owns G&P Pizza was a very close friend of Darlene. She may have some history to share with you or may even know where the family is today.

The actual property that the road house occupied should not be confused with the property that you owned. The lodge was adjacent to the highway and once it burned dad took the bulldozer and covered the hole that was left. He kept paying taxes for a few years then let it back to the crown. It was never sold. What exist today are trees and memories of a tragedy that is not far from our thoughts as we drive by on our way down

the highway. The road that runs from the property towards your property was pushed through by my dad as access to the lake.

Another interesting piece of history is that Dad had bought an old paddle wheeler that he was planning to restore. I remember this old boat sitting on blocks by the garage. He eventually sold it to someone else that fixed it and put it on the river; I believe it was not successful in staying afloat and sits at the bottom of some river. When I was about five or six I remember the earth shaking and noticing that this boat was moving...my first experience of an earthquake (summer of 1958 or 1959).

We are looking at photos that may exist. The fire destroyed everything including memorabilia that Mom brought from the Ukraine. What pictures we have are ones that mom had sent to our Uncle in England. He in turn sent them back to us just before he passed away. Otherwise no one would have known that I was one of those ugly bald babies on a bearskin rug...ugh!

Once I get the photos from my sister I will let you know if there are any lodge pictures? We do have one of Jake's Corner.

P.S. Sherron Jones has asked me to copy her on any correspondence regarding history.

I have so much history to share and so little time to write. I spent 17 years in the Government Tourism Office as a Travel Counselor and gathered/researched tons of info on Yukon history through stories from old Yukoners.

Carolyne Thompson
17 Arleux Place
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 3A9
(867) 633-5227

QUESTION FROM EMILY STILLWELL

Hi Sherron!

In a *word document* is it possible to *reduce the size of a photo* without reducing all of them? I don't mean cropping. The photos I had copied downtown are coming on bigger than on my first disk. Thank you.

The geese are still going over on their way north.

Emily Stillwell eistillwell@hotmail.com (In Regina)

Since my own husband didn't know the answer when I mentioned I had sent it to Emily and that I used to give these kinds of questions to Henry Breaden, here is my reply which may also help someone else.

The key is that it is in a Word document. – Sherron

Hi Emily

Yes you can adjust the physical size.

First click on the photo until you see tiny small squares in all four corner. Then place your mouse over one of the small squares until a diagonal double ended arrow appears. Then click down, making sure the diagonal arrow doesn't change to a four sided arrow which will just move the photo, and while holding the mouse key down drag the diagonal arrow toward the center of the photo. Doing this will decrease the size of the photo.

If you do too much or not enough just repeat the process.

There will be four more tiny squares half way along each side but using any one of those will only move that one side and distort the shape of your photo.

Sherron Jones sherronjones@shaw.ca (In Yuma)

BETTY SUTTON TRAVELLING DOWN UNDER

Hi Sherron, Betty here in Australia. I've been checking the MocTel every now and then when I can ...from down under... we have spent two months here now... first month in N. Zealand and the month of March here in Oz.. I'm not sure if you want to use the attached pictures or not but... the pictures of the river across the road are near Mossman, Northern Queensland... thought I'd show folks that the roads in the YUKON are not always that bad.. heh heh! Life is really different over here. They drive like bats out of "you know where" both here and in Australia and in N.Z. they don't believe in guard rails!!! It's been quite the experience for us driving on the other side of the road too!!



River across the road near
Mossman, Northern Queensland, Australia
Photo courtesy Betty Sutton

Also, the trees in Mossman are only 105 years old...and they are huge... love the trees over here (both countries) very very tropical in that neck of the woods.... so the trees grow very quickly.... note the church how little it looks compared to the trees... so hot and sticky most of the time.



Mossman, Northern Queensland, Australia– 105 yr old trees.
Photo courtesy Betty Sutton

Lake Burley Griffin is a man made lake in Canberra... which is a man made city... very interesting design... you always feel like you're in a park....my daughter and her husband live here... both doing their PhD's.. both are Canadian.



Lake Burley Griffin
Manmade lake in Canberra, Australia
Photo courtesy Betty Sutton

and, last but not least, the couple in the picture with me ... she used to work in the Yukon and lived in Res with me at the hospital years ago....35 years ago actually... her name is Margaret Graham and she married Graham Haslam from Australia 17 years ago.... and this was the first time we'd seen each other in a long time.



Margaret (Graham), Betty Sutton, Graham Haslam
Photo courtesy Betty Sutton

Take care,
Betty Sutton elizabethsutton@yahoo.com (Betty is home now in Whitehorse)

OTTER FALLS – FIVE DOLLAR BILL

Thank you for the kind words re. the Dorothy Thompson picture of Otter Falls. [in MocTel 198]
PLEASE make the Moc. Tel. readers aware again that BLONDIE HOUGEN took the picture & won the prize for the 5\$ bill.
My part in the process was very small.
KEEP UP THE GREAT & GENEROUS WORK YOU DO.
CHEERS Weldon

Weldon Pinchin pinchin@gulfislands.com (On Mayne Island)

Weldon explained in one of the early editions of the MocTel that he was present when Blondie Hougén took the photo which ultimately won a photo contest and was used on the rear of the Canadian five dollar bill. Weldon remembers the occasion well as he had to stand in the water to help steady Blondie while he took the photo. For those who do not remember the image, here it is. – Sherron



Image courtesy Moge Mogenson elgolfo@shaw.ca (In Cranbrook)

LES & JEAN WILSON

Sherron

Did you catch The National last week?

In the coverage of the sinking of Queen of the North they interviewed Les Wilson, one of the survivors. He used to live on Antwerp in Takhini when he worked for Indian Affairs, across the lane from us on Cassino. He was also a member of the Midnite Sun Pipe Band. In the interview they didn't really ask him why he was on the Queen that night.

That is not the first time that Les was interviewed on TV that I just happened to catch. Several years ago they were talking to last minute shoppers in Vancouver on Christmas eve, and lo and behold, there was Les. If any of our MocTel subscribers are in contact with Les and Jean, maybe they could pass the word that we would like to re-connect. The last we knew they were in the west end of Vancouver out towards UBC.

Bill Maylor [bill_maylor*excite.com](mailto:bill_maylor@excite.com) (In Neilburg SK)



Aircraft on the runway in Whitehorse

Photo courtesy Jeanne Harbottle

I asked Lowell Bleiler if he could help identify the aircraft in this photo and he referred to them as the T 33 training fighter used by the American's. So I have searched and find at this address they also referred to them as the 'T-Bird.'

<http://www.incredible-adventures.com/t33.html>

From <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/systems/aircraft/t-33.htm>

T-33 Shooting Star

The T-33 trainer, "T-Bird," came from the F-80 fighter which also bore the name Shooting Star. By adding three feet to the fuselage the world's first jet trainer was born. The cockpit grew to two places and the six machine guns came out.

Design work for the P-80 began in 1943 with the first flight on Jan. 8, 1944. The F-80, then P-80, was the first jet fighter to enter squadron service in the Army Air Force and saw action in Korea. As more advanced jets entered service, the F-80 took on another role - training jet pilots.

The two-place T-33 jet was designed for training pilots already qualified to fly propeller-driven aircraft. It was developed from the single-seat F-80 fighter by lengthening the fuselage slightly more than three feet to accommodate a second cockpit.

Originally designed the TF-80C, the T-33 made its first flight in March 1948. Production continued until August 1959 with 5,691 T-33s built. In addition to its use as a trainer, the T-33 has been used for such tasks as drone director and target towing, and in some countries even as a combat aircraft. The RT-33A version, reconnaissance aircraft produced primarily for use by foreign countries, had a camera installed in the nose and additional equipment in the rear cockpit.

Some T-33s kept two machine guns for gunnery training and some allies used T-33s in the 1960s, but T-33s continued to fly as currency trainers and test platforms right into the 1980s.

The T-33 served many missions during its time. It was used to transport pilots to other bases to pick up tactical aircraft, and afterward led them home on long over-water flights. The aircraft also provided realistic combat training. While deployed as the "enemy" during exercises, T-33 pilots flew far out to sea and returned to penetrate the radar defenses of Okinawa, testing the interception ability of jets defending the island. The aircraft also served as a high-speed courier service for the delivery of classified materials, as well as ferrying aircraft parts to various bases in the Pacific.

The T-33 is one of the world's best known aircraft, having served with the air forces of more than 20 different countries for almost 40 years. Many are still in use throughout the world. T-33s have also been built under license in Canada and Japan. A reconnaissance version, RT-33, was built for export.

Press release

April 2007 [coming soon ;-)]

"Sincerely"

Award winning ex-CBC radio producer, **Les McLaughlin** is pleased to announce the release of a Compact disc featuring twelve timeless ballads. Titled "Sincerely", the CD is the fulfillment of a life long ambition to record some of his favourite songs from the Fifties and Sixties.

Les grew up in **Whitehorse, Yukon** where the crackling sound of distant radio stations brought enjoyment, entertainment and a connection with the "great big broad world way down yonder."

“On cold wintery Yukon nights, the sounds of popular music on the radio warmed the soul and brightened the long winter, says Les.”

Now in tribute to those early day radio songs and stars, Les has recorded his versions of some timeless favourites.

Though not a singer by training or profession, Les was often involved in recording singer-songwriters during his long career with **CBC Northern Service**. While directing vocalists and backup musicians, he would often try to understand their hopes and dreams as well as their insecurities while working in a complex studio setting.

Now he understands even better having come out from behind the control room glass to the front of the microphone where the reality check begins. He has a new found appreciation for the complex and often difficult task of bringing life and meaning to a song.

The CD “Sincerely” features twelve tunes selected for their positive approach to the age-old story of love and relationships. With the able assistance of Ottawa’s premiere backup musicians, Jon Park Wheeler, Ed Bimm, Al Bragg and Peter Fleming, Les has crafted a musical album designed for your gentle listening pleasure.

He was blessed with invaluable vocal support from his long-time friend **Tracey Brown** of the famed Family Brown group who sings three duets with Les and provides backup vocals on many others.

“Tracey contributed a touch of class to the project in a way that only she can.”

Les McLaughlin sincerely hopes that you will enjoy his interpretations of some wonderful songs that will live forever in the hearts and minds of music lovers everywhere.

For further information.

Les McLaughlin leslorn@rogers.com (In Ottawa)
Phone: 613-828-3102

ELECTRONIC GREETING !



UPDATE ON CHUCK HANKINS

Hello everyone. Here is a quick update on Chuck. He continues to improve, however, not as fast as he would like! The staff on 3 East of the Vernon hospital all seem to think Chuck is the nicest guy in the world, and he seems to be their star patient. You can't take him anywhere in the hospital without all types of staff going out of their way to catch dad's eye and say hello.

Dad did suffer enough cognitive damage that he will not be able to come home any time soon. As a matter of fact, he will likely be moving into a long-term care facility within Vernon. This may happen fairly soon, but the wheels of health care do not move at a consistent pace so we will likely have more news about that in the future.

With regard to emails, mom is not a computer person, so emails from dad's computer can only be sent and checked when someone who is familiar with email is around. To that end we will do our best to keep you all up to date, but in the mean time, if you have Chuck on an email list, we would appreciate if you could remove him for now as his account is getting choked up with the jokes etc. that he loved to get from everyone.

I hope everyone is well, and dad sends his best to everyone.

Greg, and Mom and Heather
Chuck Hankins family.

HANKINS, Chuck & Madeline hankinscm@shaw.ca (In Whitehorse (1950-1975) (250) 542-1416 Vernon

ARTISTIC TALENT - GORDON TOOTOOSIS

The photograph of Otter Falls in edition #198 reminded us of a particular art work in our possession.

In the mid 60's, Gordon Tootoosis was the Executive Director of Skookum Jim Friendship Centre in Whitehorse. At the time, I was the administrative officer of the then-named Department of Social Welfare of which the late Harry Murphy was the director. Gordon and I got to know each other quite well and I bought this picture from Gordon who is a well known artist and actor. Gordon had made the snowshoe frame, strung the moosehide and painted Otter Falls thereon. The last time we caught up with Gordon was at a coffee shop on the outskirts of Battleford, Saskatchewan shortly after he had left Yukon.

Over the last 35 years, Gordon has become a highly respected actor who has appeared on stage, in T.V. specials and in movies. I seem to recall that C B C's Life and Times also did a program on him. He has appeared in North of 60, Legends of the Fall and the four-hour mini-series Big Bear. According to a January 4, 1999 Maclean's article, Gordon's great-great grandfather was Chief Poundmaker's brother and Gordon was born on Saskatchewan's Poundmaker Reserve. Big Bear is buried on the Poundmaker Reserve as is, I believe, John Tootoosis, Gordon's father and an early Indian-rights activist.

Jean Besier jpbesier@shaw.ca (In Duncan BC)



Otter Falls
By Gordon Tootoosis
Photo courtesy Jean & Pat Besier (In Duncan BC)

ANNOUNCEMENT

Debbie Kelly wishes to announce the arrival of 2 grandpuppies - Salem and Sampson. My son, Sean Kelly, bought two Labrador puppies for his family, Lisa my daughter-in-law, and Madi my step-grandson, for Christmas. Because of their very busy life, Sean is in Mangement and Lisa Real Estate, I am not too optimistic about future grandchildren so am going to treat these two pups as possibly the only grandchildren I will have other than Madi. I have already been told by Sean via Lisa that "Mom is NOT to buy the dogs clothes"!!! So, of course, I bought a little sweater and sent it home with Lisa as a joke.



Lisa & Sean Kelly
Photo courtesy Debbie Kelly debbiekelly@on.aibn.com (In Ottawa)



Madi

Photo courtesy Debbie Kelly debbiekelly*on.aibn.com (In Ottawa)



Salem & Samson

Photo courtesy Debbie Kelly debbiekelly*on.aibn.com (In Ottawa)

Debbie Kelly
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Government of Yukon
707 - 350 Sparks Street
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Fax: (613) 563-9602

OBIT



Herb Wahl

This was taken by Fred Smith at Doug and Bertha Ayers' home in April 2006.
Herb always enjoyed a good game of cards.

Herbert Ernest Wahl

(September 7, 1925 to March 17, 2007)

This week we bid farewell to a long-serving Rotarian and Paul Harris Fellow. Herb joined the Club March 1st, 1979. For many years, his was the voice that led us in “O Canada”. Herb resigned a year ago because he felt that he was no longer contributing as much as he should. He was made an Honorary member. Herb died Saturday afternoon at Whitehorse Hospital, with Doug Ayers at his side. Herb’s funeral service is Friday afternoon, March 23rd at 3 p.m. at Whitehorse United Church. Please attend if you are able. Many thanks to Doug and Bertha Ayers for the biographical information about Herb, and to Fred Smith for the photo.

Herb Wahl was born in Edmonton, Alberta on September 7, 1925. He was the fourth of seven children born to Rev. Wilhelm and Emelie Wahl. After completing his schooling in Barrhead, Alberta, he went to the University of Alberta to obtain a degree in Honours Physics and then to the University of Toronto obtaining his Master of Arts in Meteorology.

In the summers of 1945 to 1947, he was employed by the Geodetic Survey of Canada along the Alaska Highway, and fell in love with Northern Canada. On being employed with the Canadian Weather Service, he requested a posting to Whitehorse, and was sent here in 1950. He was an operational forecaster and then became Officer-in-Charge in 1956 through to his retirement in 1986.

He met Dorreene Fleming in Whitehorse and they were married on September 3, 1953. Herb was active in sports, outdoor recreation, square dancing, music, Rotary and the United Church. Herb served in an executive capacity in most of these activities and in 1990 was awarded the Bert Boyd Trophy in curling. He served on the Recreation Board and the Yukon Sports Federation. His outdoor recreation consisted of hunting, fishing,

photography, and gardening. In gardening, he tested many varieties of plants and vegetables as to viability in this northern climate and was requested to present courses in Yukon Gardening.

While with the Weather Office in Whitehorse, he was instrumental in establishing an expanded network of weather observing stations throughout the Yukon and Northern B.C. to better understand the weather patterns in this part of the world. This led to Herb's co-authoring a publication "Climate of Yukon" which is used extensively as a reference manual.

Herb and Dorreene traveled extensively throughout Northern Canada, and partook in many adventures together. Herb loved the Yukon, its people, and its activities. He is survived by many nieces and nephews, and a sister, Betty Steinbring, of Wolseley, Saskatchewan.

Obit courtesy 'The Rotator' is the official newsletter of the Rotary Club of Whitehorse. As per.... Sherron, I was thinking last night that I should send this to you. The photo of Herb is courtesy Fred Smith, taken just under a year ago. The obit was written some time ago by Herb himself, edited and updated by Doug and Bertha Ayers. I merely pulled out the Rotary reference and put it at the front.
Pam Buckway
President, Rotary Club of Whitehorse, and Editor, The Rotator

Formerly received MocTel - WAHL, Herb wahlhe@klondiker.com (In Whitehorse since 1949)



It is with sadness that we announce the death of our Mother, Isabel Greenwood on March 13, 2007.

GREENWOOD, Isabel Dunham (Gilbert) September 8, 1908 – March 13, 2007-03-27
Born in 1908 in Buffalo, NY to Episcopalian clergyman, John Mills Gilbert and his wife, Mary Linn Starr Gilbert, Isabel was the second of two daughters.

She graduated from Connecticut College with a BSc in Chemistry and then, in 1930 attended McGill University, Montreal, graduation in 1935 with an MD, the only woman graduate in her class.

In 1934, she married Tom Greenwood of Luddenden, Yorkshire who had been studying for ordination at Trinity College, Toronto. Tom went that summer to Fort McPherson in the North West Territories and Isabel joined him following graduation. She took with her, Marie, the first Great Pyrenees dog to be registered with the Canadian Kennel Club. There they served as a missionary couple; Isabel working for the Federal Government as a medical doctor (possibly the first woman doctor to practice north of the Arctic Circle in Canada) to the Dene native community.

In 1937 Tom and Isabel left the north for St. Paul, Minnesota. A year later they were off to England; first to Harrow and then Hale in Cheshire, where their return was delayed by World War II until 1946. They now had three children and returned to Canada – to Fort McMurray in Northern Alberta – and later to Yellowknife in the Northwest Territories.

In 1952 Tom was elected Bishop of Yukon and the family moved once more; this time to Whitehorse, where they remained for nine years. Here the last of five children was born. Isabel became President of the Women's Auxiliary and in that capacity she actively served the Church, while also volunteering in the Hospital Auxiliary. She traveled to national Church meetings annually to represent the Anglican Church women of the Yukon and remained a Life Member of the Women's Auxiliary to the end. In 1959 Tom and Isabel, as representative of the Yukon, were invited to Ottawa to dine with Queen Elizabeth II. Twice, they traveled to England to attend the Lambeth Conference, a world-wide gathering of Anglican bishops that meets every 10 years.

In 1961, following the death of their son, Michael, they moved to Whitegate, Cheshire in England. Four years later they once again returned to Canada; this time to Kamloops in the Diocese of Cariboo. During this period Isabel set up the Church Women's Fellowship in Diocese of Chester and then in Cariboo.

Since 1969, in her retirement in Ottawa, Isabel remained active in many ways. She was a volunteer with Head Start and a driver for the Children's Aid Society. She supported the Anglican Church through St. Columba's and the Cathedral, served on the Women's Interchurch Council to promote ecumenism and awareness of global issues, and until 92 years of age, worked with the local Roman Catholic street mission, the Shepherds of Good Hope, helping in the office and also with food distribution.

Following Tom's death in 1974 she continued to live in her own home, supporting her family and visiting seniors' homes in Ottawa. As always, her home was open to frequent visitors from the North and other parts of Canada visiting Ottawa on business or pleasure. Driving brought her great enjoyment, from the age of 15 to 92 years of age – a 78 year driving career. At age 94, in 2002, Isabel moved to Blackburn Lodge, a seniors' residence in Ottawa, where she continued to receive visitors and to go into the city to occasional Diocesan events.

Isabel was predeceased by her sister Connie in 2003, her husband Tom (1974) and son Michael (1961). She is survived by her children David (Carolyn), Sally (Bob), Meg

(Ian), and Anne (Bruce) and her grandchildren, Judy (Don), Christine (Matthew), Stephen, Graham, Eric, Marcus, Nick, Sam, Drake, Jessica and 2 great grandsons, Quinton and Evan.

Funeral arrangements have been made with Hulse, Playfair & McGarry, Ottawa. A memorial service will be held at St. Columba Anglican Church, 24 Sandridge Rd., Ottawa on Friday, March 23, 2007 at 2 pm. Internment will be at Grey Mountain Cemetery, Whitehorse, Yukon where Tom and Michael are buried. As expression of sympathy, donations can be made to Anglican Primate's World Relief & Development Fund and emergency relief agency of the Anglican Church of Canada. 80 Hayden Street Toronto ON. M4Y 3G2 The family wishes to thank Dr. Nancy Clevette, Jennifer Cummins, Blackburn Lodge staff, past and present, CCAC, Bayshore. We Care and At-Home Hospice, for their caring support.

David Greenwood, Sally Witty, Meg Sinclair, Anne Williams

MEYN, Ernest (Ernie) of Edmonton, AB passed away suddenly on March 20, 2007 at the age of 69. Born August 1, 1937 in Newbrook, AB, Ernie was well respected in every community he called home, namely Calgary, Airdrie, and **Whitehorse, YT**. Ernie will be sadly missed by his loving wife, Delores (nee Gallai); his children: Joe, Teresa (Lance), Leon (Rhonda) and Colleen; his grandchildren: Elizabeth, Alexander, Kaitlyn, Ethan and Stephanie. Services will be held on Thursday, March 29, 2007 at 1:30 p.m. at Beulah Alliance Church, 17504 - 98A Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta. HOWARD & McBRIDE WESTLAWN CHAPEL. Telephone: 1-780-484-5500.
Published in the Calgary Herald on 3/28/2007.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

I have changed over to Shaw for email. elyle*shaw.ca Elwood Lyle

REMOVED FROM THE LIST TEMPORARILY

Please take me off your mailing list for the next 6 month or so. There were some geese in the air heading north and I was told the swans are at M'Clintock, so it's time for us to pack up and go. We are leaving the computer here since we are gonna do some more travelling and won't have much use for it until we are back in Parker Cove.

All the best to you and Bill, and have a great summer!

Cheers

Rick Hoenisch rhoenisch*cablelan.net (In Vernon and Yukon)

NEW ADDITIONS

I'm sorry it takes me so long to get going on things!! It must be an age thing. I have been meaning to get in touch with you for awhile but they have sprung me out of retirement again at the office to help out with some training and now they are short staffed. I do intend to help out with memories of mom. It's hard to know where to start as there are so many of both the folks and our days on the trapline in the bush and of course Mayo. I would also like to receive the telegraph and need to know how or where to send you the fee and the amount.

I talk with mom every Sunday and she is doing well. She will license her car for May 07 and her and Oscar (oxygen tank) and Rascal (the dog) will be able to get out and about a little more. Mom is basically home bound in the winter unless someone takes her out. Needless to say she is looking forward to spring and summer. We are busy trying to get our place in the country landscaped and adding to the house that we moved from town. I will be going north sometime this summer but not sure when just yet. I need to help mom plan her 90th birthday which will be next March 6th and we don't know just where and when to have a little party just yet. Well I have gone on long enough. Looking forward to hearing from both you and Harvey.

Sincerely Betty Lone (Gordon) lonehbk*xplornet.com In Winnipeg

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Being happy doesn't mean everything's perfect. It means you've decided to see beyond the imperfections!

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Submitted by Florence Roberts yapper*klondiker.com (In Whitehorse)

Apple Charlottes

1/2 cup margarine
1 cup brown sugar
2 eggs
2 cups (or more) flour
2 tsp baking powder
1 tsp vanilla
plain sweetened cooked apples

Mix first six ingredients to soft dough. Roll out and cut in rounds to fit muffin tins. Fill with apples and cover with smaller rounds. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 mins or until brown.

B. Decembrini, Beiseker, Alberta

(From Whitehorse RCAF Woman's Auxiliary cookbook)

DATES TO REMEMBER

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

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

HELP PLEASE WITH ADDRESS CHANGES FOR THESE FORMER YKNET & POLARCOM CUSTOMERS

Moctel mail to YKNET and some POLARCOM customers is being returned. If you can help with any of these peoples new address, please either ask them to e-mail me the change or send it to me. – Sherron

This is the type of message I am getting

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living in Whitehorse since 1963)

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(Born in Dawson City 1954,

CHRISTIANSEN, Linda

vanevery@yknet.ca

(Born & raised in Dawson)

FRASER, Donald
Yukoner born in Dawson) Carcross Road

dfraser@yknet.ca

(“Buck” 4th generation

HILL, Dave & Glenella (REAR) Glenella born Whse – living in Whse)	gdhill*yknet.ca	(Dave born Dawson,
KLASSEN, Bill & Rayanne since 1966 & 1967)	wjk*yknet.yk.ca	(In Whitehorse, in Yukon
MILLEN, George in Dawson and Whse)	gmiller*yknet.yk.ca	(In Watson Lake, formerly
McROBB, Gary	gdmcrobb*yknet.ca	(In Kluane area)
VEALE, Ron & Catherine	veale*yknet.ca	(In Whitehorse)
WILSON, Ron & Iris 1968 -)	irwilson*yknet.ca	(In Whse, Dbay, Haines Jct
CURRY, Don & Cecile	dcurry*marshlake.polarcom.com	(Marsh Lake, YT)
JONES, Donna L. Also not working for Donna –	d.jones*yt.sympatico.ca djones*polarcom.com	(Teaching in Whitehorse)
WEST, Alan	pwest*polarcom.com	(In Whitehorse since 1968)
McINTYRE, Gordon & Ruth 1965 , Whitehorse 1965-)	rmac*polarcom.com	(Gordon born Dawson 1910, Mayo 1932 -
BILTON, Alf	abilton*polarcom.com	(In Whitehorse)

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.

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH

- The Moccasin Telegraph winter address is c/o Sherron Jones; #483 – 5707 32nd Street, Yuma, Arizona, 85365 (for those coming to visit before April 10th or mail that can arrived before that date.) Ph: 928-341-0690

- **Heading for home soon** so any mail sent to Vernon after April 3rd will be held in Vernon until we return. That address is Sherron Jones, 9205 Orchard Ridge Drive, Vernon, BC, V1B 1V8