

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH – 217th Edition – August 26th, 2007

Created by Sherron Jones sherronjones*shaw.ca

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



**Grizzly Bear fishing for lunch – Aug 19th, 2007 – Chilkoot River, Haines Alaska
This one looks like it was already caught.**

Photo courtesy Betty Sutton elizabethsutton*yahoo.com (In Whitehorse)

Andover-Harvard Yukon Expedition 1948

Continued

Field Notes of Elmer Harp Jr. Dartmouth College

North to the Yukon Territory via the Alcan Highway in 1948

Monday 5 July 48

Up usual time–day clear, bright, and warm. Jim had to round up the string way N up the valley and 3 turned up missing. Becky my mount for the first day—a stout-looking old mare with a Morgan nose. Packing slow; much organization necessary the first day but finally got on our way at 1 PM. Decided on short first day’s run of about 9 mile up to good pasture at confluence of Bridge Creek [Mineral Creek] with Little Arm River [Brooks Creek].

Some old Indian fish camps here on Little Arm R. where first riffles are. [**Sam Johnson's father, Jimmy Johnson, had a fish trap here according to Frederick Johnson field notes.**]

Trail followed up W-side of Little Arm all the way. Extremely rough going thru muskeg and spruce woods along the slopes of the ridge that encloses the valley. Lost a couple of packs at narrow points. Pack horses driven on loose ahead. Each pack horse loaded with 2 panniers weighing about 70 lbs each, plus a light top pack of duffles, etc, all secured with a diamond hitch. Becky a pretty surefooted mount but her wind isn't too good. Came to the Bridge Creek camp at 4 PM. Set up Aberlite in spruce grove on edge of the meadow.

Fishing after supper—perfect: took 5 grayling, ranging from 14"-18" (up to almost 3 lbs.), using Leadwing Coachman. Tough landing them without a net, so took off my rubbers and waded for an hour. Water not too cold thru heavy wool socks. Wonderful time; those big grayling fight hard and jump often, although they don't strike hard, but rather seem to swallow the fly safely; trying to set hook too fast is mistake. Then they must be played carefully because their mouths are soft. Took me 10 min. to land the 18" one. Turned in about 10:30.

Four of my Grayling catch of the 5th [July] at Camp #1



Tuesday 6 July 48

Hugh decided to collect on mountain so party saddled up. Fred and I remained behind to do a bit of recco in the valley.

Fish camps (formerly used at time of whitefish spawning runs) on both sides of river here. Tent frames still up on W side—these recent with old tin cans around. On east side, just above our meadow, the signs are older, and several of the old stumps were cut with stone axes. Hiked back east onto the old gravel fan of Bridge Creek and there on ridge between 2 runoff channels located some sort of campsite: much burnt bone, 2 quartzite chips, and a semi-lunar stone skinning knife. This stuff on surface, disturbed by old burn, and apparently on top of the volcanic ash which itself lies just under the duff. No other signs: tough hunting, because everything covered deep with moss and dried muskeg. Very hot afternoon.

Party back from the mountain about 7:30, minus Moose and Jimmy who stayed up to get a Dall ram. We saw their smoke up on the ridge at 8:20 and by 10:30 they pulled into camp with over 100 lbs. of meat, split between them in burlap packs. Favorite gun up here is lever-action Winchester carbine .30-30; in winter they say a .30-06 carries farther, but it is less convenient to pack. Sat around the fire for an hour talking with Jimmy and Moose and Fred. Jimmy says best place to look for old people is at the sheep licks along the east ridge here—trail over to Big Arm goes across divide above Bridge Creek. Jimmy mentioned stone axe found at Klukshu, across the river from the village and just upstream of the bridge. Both again talked of the battle that took place “long ago” at Dezadeash Lake between Interior Indians and those up from the Coast. (These 2 peoples still don’t like each other). Battle at outlet of Dezadeash River, on east bank, on sandy point sticking out there. Jimmy said all the Coast Indians were killed, except for one who was allowed to take the word back down, and their bodies piled up and burned. Much bone, etc. still visible today. Then Moose said that the people don’t burn their dead anymore: His grandfather remembered a man who, after having been dead for 4 yrs., returned to life for 4 yrs. and told of conditions in the afterworld: people there were running around only half-burned, with no clothes, with nothing to help them live on—so people should stop cremating. After 4 yrs. this man died a second time, this time for good. After that the people stopped burning their dead and began to bury them and construct the little grave houses with the lace-curtained windows. (All of the houses that I’ve looked at are just dressed up exteriors –the insides are barren and there is no floor, just the gravel fill of the grave. I wonder what the relationship between these houses and cache burials is?) Apparently there is also strong feeling up here about tampering with burials: **Gene Jacquot** tells story of man who dug one up (10-12 yrs. ago?), don’t know whether recent or old, and they “just barely succeeded in getting him out of the country alive.” Quotes are on Fred, who heard the story from Gene. That explains Fred’s unwillingness to excavate the grave out on the -40 Alesk beach.



*My horse, 'Pepper', (once owned by Moose)
a dark roan, 12 yrs. old*

Wednesday 7 July 48

Delicious ram steak for breakfast. Day bright, clear and hot. Broke camp and packed up. Small cache left behind: Jimmy put it high in branches of an old spruce, about 15 ft. off ground; then cut off all branches for 10 ft. up and completely stripped off bark for about 6 ft. up—all to discourage bears.

Proceeded on N along the W side of Little Arm Creek. Left 11 AM. Going rough, thru muskeg all the way along the bottom of the ridge which rises at least 2000 ft. above valley floor and closes it in to a narrow strip. Short stop at 1 PM for a breather. Gradually worked into a kettle-hole topography: many ponds and sloughs paralleling the creek. Strong signs of slope wash (solifluction) all along, only recently partially stabilized by new forest of spruce, some birch and some poplar. Much dwarf birch and dwarf willow in the muskeg. Very hot for the first several hours, then clouded over with storm clouds and began to thunder and rain.

Looked like a good blow setting in so decided to stop at 3 PM (some 2 hrs travel short of the planned goal). Set up camp on a small spruce covered ridge that surrounded a kettle hole which was about 60' in diameter. Just east of us the creek (here 6' across) and at the base of the ridge on the west, a wet muskeg. Everyone turned to in the rain, and the whole camp was set up in about 45 min. This looked like a hell of a place when we first struck it, but once we were organized, it didn't seem half bad. This site was about a mile S of the E-W transverse ridge that heads the Little Arm valley; Whisker Creek comes down from W [unnamed creek flowing into Brooks Creek about 10.5 km north of Mineral Creek, as the crow flies]. At the rate of about 3 1/2 m.p.h. we came about 15 miles today.

Had roasted forequarter of sheep for supper—delicious! The Indians spiked it up before the open fire. Fooled around with the .22 after chow, and the rain cleared off leaving us a pleasant evening. Rode Pepper today—good horse.

Thursday 8 July 48

After breakfast, saddled up Pepper and rode on ahead with Fred and Bill to check the old camp sites at Whisker Creek. Many signs there of recent camps, and also old ones, in the stumps that had been cut off with stone adzes. Photographed one of these in situ: they have characteristically conical tops, as if the tree had been gouged out all around.

Near a recent camp site which still had a few pieces of rotting canvas around, I found a beautiful example of an Athabascan birch bark cradle (see following pages for description). Bill lost his horse here and had to chase him back to camp on Pepper.

The pack train came along at 11 and we joined up. Forded Whisker Creek and cut east along the base of the ridge. At this point the trail to the Big Arm (about 15 mile over) and Aishihik cuts east. across the pass, but we skirted left around the ridge and continued

in a northerly course. Bore NW and climbed a high ridge which gave us a remarkable view down the valley of Tin Cup River .



North - up Little Arm River valley through Camp #1



Camp #2 (near Whisker Crk.) - Indians around fire, roasting sheep quarter

Descended into tableland of kettle-hole country—classic taiga—with vast muskegs running all the way up the mountain sides and the earth a quaking bog surface that shook for 5 ft. around every time the horse put his foot down. Even the trees shook, showing how unstable the surface is on top of the permafrost. At 3 PM came to Henry Creek and set up camp—a lovely spot—Fred and I pitched the Aberlite on the stream bank, on deep moss and a layer of spruce boughs to make it extra good.

Took a bath in the creek and washed out a shirt. Our camp here on the east side of the creek which here runs south and into Red Tail Lake [Kiyera Lake]; Sam says the lake is “about 3 miles” down. Made about 20 miles today, in 5 hrs., and have a stiff right thigh. Although as I ride I only feel fatigued around my knees; my bottom holding out in pretty good shape. Another good supper of mountain sheep. Thick moose sign here at this spot. Small biting flies bad and seem to thrive on smudges. Fred and I tried to figure out our route on Bostock’s enlarged map, but we can take it accurately only as far as last night’s camp: beyond that point the map’s drainage pattern doesn’t jibe with our travel.

Moose says that Red Tail Lake is so called because the fish (grayling?) have red tails.

Close-up of roasting sheep quarter



Athabascan Birchbark Baby Carrier

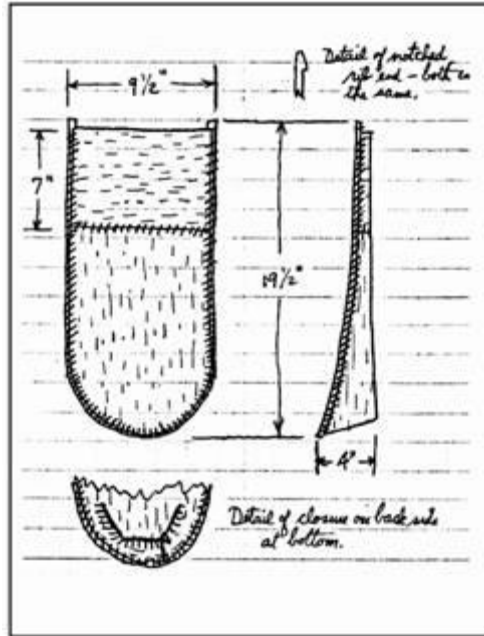


*Main outside edge rib is willow half-round about 5/8" diam. Stitching is simple loopover type with split willow as material. Sinew reinforcement at top on each side (NB: red markings)
Note change of grain in the 2 pieces of birchbark covering.*

Found 8 July 1948, on Whisker Creek, Y.T., near its confluence with Little Arm River which flows S into Little Arm of Kluane Lake .

On S and W bank of Whisker Creek at this point are many remains of Indian fish camps, some old (stumps cut with stone adzes), some new (tin cans, etc.)

I found this cradle about 200 yds. from creek on high ground that rises gradually into the W ridge. It was turned upside down, with the head end directed against the base of a small spruce about 5' tall; underneath was a pile of dried spruce needles. This was in a sort of flood swale coming down off the ridge. Perhaps 30' farther W, just within edge of the spruce woods were the rotted remains of an Indian tent—pieces of canvas, moccasin leather, and old cloth, lying there all reduced to shreds; also a small tin bowl 5" in diam. Cradle was probably associated with this recent camp, as no others were in immediate vicinity. A piece of rotten blue cloth stuck to inside of cradle appeared to be the same as a larger piece which I later found amidst the old tent canvas.



To be continued

CARIBOU CROSSING THE RIVER AT OLD CROW – 1987



Caribou in the Porcupine River - Old Crow – fall of 1987.
Photo courtesy Rose Scrivens rscrivens@eastlink.ca (In Kentville , NS)



These are pictures taken of the Caribou crossing the Porcupine River when I was in Old Crow in the fall of 1987.

The River was right behind my Nursing Station.

Photo courtesy Rose Scrivens [rcscrivens*eastlink.ca](mailto:rcscrivens@eastlink.ca) (In Kentville , NS)

DISCOVERY DAY PARADE PHOTOS INSPIRE MEMORIES of Discovery Day Ball Tournament

Just enjoyed the pictures of the 1956 Discovery Day Parade. I lived in Bear Creek at the time and was probably watching this parade. My Dad, Ken Hilton, played in the ball tournaments as backcatcher. I am attaching a picture of his old jersey - Klondike Bears.

I am also attaching a picture of one of his curling patches. He and my mother Daisy curled in Bear Creek for years (see attached picture of Daisy kneeling on right, and (possibly) Delva Telep kneeling on left. Behind Daisy is Jean Gould and the other standing lady is Teresa Cole. This was in 1959.

My Dad passed away November 7, 2005 and Mom followed on May 18, 2006. They made a few trips back after Dad retired and often talked about their old friends.

I am also attaching a picture of Mom and myself in front of her greenhouse in Bear Creek of which she was proud. She gardened and surrounded their house here in Cedar with flowers right up until the end - she was well named.

Bryan Hilton willowjay*shaw.ca (In Ladysmith area)



Photos courtesy Bryan Hilton willowjay*shaw.ca (In Ladysmith area)





Top L to R: Teresa Cole & Jean Gould
Kneeling L to R: (possibly Delva Telep) & Daisy Hilton
Photos courtesy Bryan Hilton willowjay*shaw.ca (In Ladysmith area)



Daisy and son Bryan Hilton in front of her greenhouse - Bear Creek 1952.

A MESSAGE FROM KEN JONES – Aug 18, 2007

Hi Sherron

I am back in Chilliwack as the White Pass has shut down the Carcross to Bennett run due to the high waters. While in Carcross I was involved with setting up a Webcam on the White Pass website (www.wpyr.com), click on Multimedia then Webcam and there are five to choose from. You will also see the new (under construction) walk/fishing bridge that is being constructed this summer.



The water is the highest ever in Carcross and you can see that by the sandbagging in the Webcam views. Will have more to send later. Hope to see you soon

Ken Jones k29j32@shaw.ca (In Chilliwack)

RAIL SERVICE SUSPENDED

Extract from <http://www.wpyr.com/news/july232007.html>

July 23, 2007

SKAGWAY, AK - The White Pass & Yukon Route Railroad announced today, July 23rd, that it will be curtailing its operations between Bennett, British Columbia and Carcross, Yukon effective Friday, July 27th or before, if conditions warrant, due to the unprecedented high water levels in the Southern Lakes District of Yukon.

Gary C. Danielson, President of the White Pass & Yukon Route said that the risk of high water levels compounded by wind loads was threatening its railroad bridge in Carcross.

Passengers already holding reservations on the service will be transported by motorcoach to and from Carcross, and arrangements are being made to take those passengers in and out of Bennett by rail from either Fraser or Log Cabin, British Columbia .

Danielson also said that after the waters recede, the White Pass & Yukon Route would bring in an engineer to inspect the bridge prior to resumption of service.

The White Pass & Yukon Route narrow gauge railway was built in 1898 during the Klondike Gold Rush and is an International Historic Civil Engineering Landmark – a designation shared with the Panama Canal, the Eiffel Tower and the Statue of Liberty.

The WP&YR is Alaska 's most popular shore excursion and North America 's busiest tourist railroad, carrying more than 431,000 passengers in 2006.



White Pass , Carcross webcam, Aug 18, 2007
Photo courtesy White Pass Web Cam

CB JAMBOREE – WHITEHORSE - 1977

This was not quite what I wanted to be printed but this is what they put in the paper without my consent or perusal, but it does accomplish what I set out to do with the help of Betty Thomson (pictures) and my not so reliable memory and a collection of newspaper articles that will now go to the archives. The Bursary that was put in place is still there at the Department of Education and after 10 years + the remaining bank account was taken out of dormancy and given to the Salvation Army in 1988. The only signatory left on the account was Rick Stark. I worked at the Royal Bank at that time and found it as a dormant account. Hope some people will remember things they haven't recalled for many years and pat themselves on the back for putting on such a wonderful event in this town and 1200 people showed up in 1977. We done good when you consider it took 4,000 "volunteers" to put on a show for 3500 athletes and coaches this past winter. Florence Roberts [yapper*klondiker.com](mailto:yapper@klondiker.com) (In Whitehorse)

City councillor recalls days of the CB

By TREVOR WALES

In what language does “bubble gum machine” mean police emergency light, “shakey town” refer to Los Angeles , and “pregnant roller skate” translate into Volkswagen?

The official citizens-band (CB) radio guide has codes for numerous terms, and 30 years ago today, one could’ve gone to the Yukon Transportation Museum , the old Whitehorse Recreation Centre at the time, and possibly heard some of those terms being used.

That’s because between Aug. 12 and 14, 1977, Whitehorse played host to the Yukon CB Jamboree, which brought more than 1,200 people into town, and it was all because of the citizens-band radio. Organized by the Yukon Huskies, a citizens-band radio club which was active between the spring of 1976 and fall of 1977, the jamboree brought together citizens-band radio users from the Yukon, B.C., Alberta, and even a couple entrants from “shakey town” itself.

For Whitehorse Coun. Florence Roberts, it was 48 hours she’ll never forget. “I’d like to see some recognition for the fact we brought all these people into town,” Roberts said in an interview this week at her Crestview home, while surrounded by paraphernalia from her Yukon Huskies days. “We were such a wonderful group of people for the years we did this.” Individuals in the group had a wide variety of CB names or “handles”, including Diesel Smoke, Bulldozer, a couple referred to as Whip and Whiplash, Snowman, and Globetrotter.

Roberts’ handle was Yukon Yapper, which was given to her by some CB friends from the Sunshine Coast of British Columbia before she moved to the Yukon . To this day she maintains the handle as her email address. The citizens-band radio started in 1958. The new radio service made it possible to have far more effective communications with increased range and more reliability.

When Roberts arrived in the territory in the early 1970s, she originally lived 16 kilometres up the Alaska Highway and didn’t have a telephone. Her only method of communication was her trusty citizens-band radio. “I would sit on channel nine, which was the emergency channel,” Roberts said. “It was on 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

“My children were small and if I needed an ambulance or something, I needed to have it.” She had several citizen-band radios, one which was always left in her car, and another couple units which were always in the house. “There was only one real registered club up here, that we could call our own, and that was Yukon Huskies,” Roberts said. “I belonged to a bunch of groups. Another was called React, because that’s what they did: react. They

were an officially sanctioned club out of the States that responded to emergencies. “It did become a fad for a while; all the truck drivers used the CB radios. I got into it because it was my only means of communication. I met some people in town, and I met most of the truck drivers. My radio was on all the time, and I’d help people up the highway.”

One night, a sewage truck returning from Aishihik in minus-40 degree temperatures ran into trouble a mile down the highway from where Roberts lived. She awoke to her dog barking in the middle of the night and came into the kitchen to find the driver, who she’d already had contact with, warming his hands over her stove. They put out a call for help and managed to have someone come out and get the truck going again.

Another time, Roberts was in touch with a different truck driver who was celebrating his birthday all by himself. It was the middle of winter, and he didn’t want to leave his truck, so Roberts decided to bring a birthday gift to him. “He was at a pullout just down the road from us, and we had that old bottle of Napoleon brandy sitting around,” she said. “So we took it down the highway, gave it to him and said, ‘happy birthday.’”

Most of the people Roberts was in touch with were involved in the transportation industry.

“Back then, you didn’t have any of these fancy satellite phones. There was no other form of communication on the road, and if you broke down, you were out of luck until someone came along. And there wasn’t the traffic that there is now.”

The Yukon Huskies used to regularly meet at an old house called Bullwinkles, which was located where the Dairy Queen parking lot is today. Roberts and another CB junkie, Darlene Gaudet, wrote a weekly column for the Yukon News which profiled members of the Yukon Huskies. Darlene’s husband, Aime, whose handle was Firebird, was one of the key members of the Huskies responsible for organizing the jamboree. Other important figures were Richard Rotondo, who was known as Snowman and sold radios out of KR Electric, and Dave Shaw, who was called Mr. Magoo, was the Huskies president and ran Canadian Propane for a long time.

For a year in advance of the jamboree, the Yukon Huskies had numerous fundraisers including dances, raffles and bottle drives in order to put on the massive event.

“We filled up that whole field with motorhomes, trailers, campers, tents, you name it,” Roberts said. “And we packed that place full for three days. It was quite the party.” The Whitehorse Recreation Centre was booked from the Friday through to the Sunday, with volunteers co-ordinating parking and helping register everyone who attended. There were dances every night, and all meals were provided onsite. Local businesses donated products to the event, and there were hourly draws for prizes. Trophies were also given away in categories such as first entrant, farthest Canadian, farthest foreigner, best vest, and most Q.S.L. cards, which held everyone’s personal information.

It was the only jamboree that Roberts ever attended, and she said she often forgets it was 30 years ago that it took place. She had originally hoped to plan a reunion event to bring everyone together again, and possibly rekindle some of that old citizens-band radio magic. However, she gave up on that idea a while ago when she came to the realization that there are too few people still living nearby. "I think it was one of the biggest events to take place here, at that time," Roberts said. "It was such a great time, and I won't forget it anytime soon."

FISHING AND BEARS AT HAINES ALASKA – Aug 17th weekend.

Paul & I just spent the weekend in Haines , Alaska with lots of other Yukoner's fishing... or attempting to fish on the Chilkoot River .. and at the same time as the local bears. I've attached a couple of pictures so you can see how relaxed the bears are in very close proximity to us humans... scary really that this is the norm now.

As I recall years ago the bears would be on the river early or late when the humans weren't there but that's all changed now. This past weekend, we would be fishing and someone would yell "BEAR" and everyone would scatter leaving gear etc behind. Sometimes the bears would eat what you had already caught and left on the bank and break up the tackle boxes if they smelled interesting. Maybe they have changed their tactics.

Anyway, it made for some interesting wildlife viewing and a few traffic jams on the road.

Betty Sutton elizabethsutton@yahoo.com (In Whitehorse)

THE MAD TRAPPER

This company has a production in progress regarding The Mad Trapper. See below:

http://www.mythmerchantfilms.com/in_production.htm

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



Grizzly Bear– Aug 19th, 2007 – Chilkoot River , Haines Alaska
Photo courtesy Betty Sutton elizabethsutton@yahoo.com (In Whitehorse)



Grizzly Bear Looking for lunch – Aug 19th, 2007 – Chilkoot River, Haines Alaska
Photo courtesy Betty Sutton elizabethsutton@yahoo.com (In Whitehorse)



Young Grizzly Bear Scratching– Aug 19th, 2007 – Chilkoot River , Haines Alaska
Photo courtesy Betty Sutton elizabethsutton@yahoo.com (In Whitehorse)

JEFFREY QUAD

In reply to Emily Stillwell's photo of the Jeffrey Quad in the Discovery Day Parade 1956 photos:

Yes, this is the Jeffrey Quad that our museum proudly exhibits in the Waterwagon Shed at Fort Egbert here in Eagle. Since it came to Eagle, the Jeffrey has received some more TLC ... see attached photos.

After we acquired it from Fred, an antique auto buff here found a canopy in his shed, which turned out to be for a Jeffrey Quad -- and it fit perfectly! Undoubtedly it had once belonged to this same vehicle, which reportedly was in Eagle at one time. (We are still researching when, how and why.) So some of the fellows got together, restored it and put it on.

In addition, we later acquired a chassis from a second Jeffrey Quad, and its parts will be used to fully restore the 4-wheel drive to run in reverse as well as forward, as it originally did.



Jeffery_Fairbanks - The Fairbanks News-Miner reported in 1914 that 4 new Jeffery Quads were ordered by the Fairbanks Northern Commercial Company for use in freighting out on the trail. This was one of them (not the one in Eagle, as far as we know).



Jeffery_Eagle - This is the way it looks now (taken about 2 years ago).



Jeffery_parade - It's the star of the show every year in Eagle's July 4 Independence Day parade. This was 2004.

the end, it was Ted's son Roy Palmer that got grinding." Quad. "I must of told the story about it being a owning a second Quad.

Four-wheeled forerunner

Gen. John "Black Jack" Pershing stands in front of a Quad.

MASTER OF ITS TERRAIN
The Jeffery Quad was the first vehicle to have four-wheel drive, four-wheel steering and four-wheel brakes.

DISAPPEARING ACT
Not many Quads remain. There's a few at scattered locations in the US, including the Smithsonian Institute.

A detailed shot of Ted Palmer's Quad.

Short but memorable lifetime

1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918
First Quad rolled off assembly line at Jeffery Company of Kenosha.	Thousands purchased by British, French and Russian governments for WWI.	Truck sales double that of Jeffery's sales.	Gen. John "Black Jack" Pershing saw Quads to chase Mexican rebel Pancho Villa. Jeffery Co. sold to Charles Nash.	Kenosha-built Quads still roll off assembly line, sold mostly to U.S. Military for the bottles of WWI.	Production stops as government contracts end. 11,480 are built, making Nash the largest truck builder in the world.

Kenosha (Wisconsin) Bulletin - August 7, 2002

Jeffery_Kenosha news - a short bit of info from the Kenosha , Wisconsin newspaper. Production on the Jeffery Quad began in 1913 at the Thomas B. Jeffery Company in Kenosha , Wisconsin .

We invite everyone to visit our Jeffery in Eagle!

Jean Turner njturner@aptalaska.net

Eagle Historical Society & Museums - Eagle, Alaska www.eagleak.org

DISCOVERY DAY MEMORIES - 1949 & 1950



Anne Poirer & Vivian Lelievre

Aug 17 1949 – Dawson Discovery Days

Photo courtesy Vivian (Lelievre) Stuart [lornellis*shaw.ca](mailto:lornellis@shaw.ca) (In Victoria)



Little Miss Co-Op

Discovery Day Parade – Dawson – Vivian Lelievre 1950

Bunny Lelievre took over the Co-Op store in the summer of 1949.

Photo courtesy Vivian (Lelievre) Stuart [lornellis*shaw.ca](mailto:lornellis@shaw.ca) (In Victoria)

Sawyer Takes on Canada Council During Reading

by Dan Davidson

August 14, 2007

Robert J. Sawyer has a bone to pick with the Canada Council and the federal government in general. But he's very happy with Berton House and with the time he has so far spent in Dawson City working on his 18th novel, *Wake*.

Sawyer is Canada's most widely honoured science fiction writer, having won all the major North American writing awards, the Hugo, Nebula, John W. Campbell Memorial and the Aurora for his work, as well as major awards in China and Japan. He and his wife, the poet Carolyn Clink, arrived in early July and are at the midpoint in their three month residency in Pierre Berton's family home. But Sawyer was surprised and annoyed this week to find out that the financial arrangements for his residency are not quite the same as what has been happening for the last 6 years, since the Canada Council for the Arts began to fund the project a few years before Berton's death.

"How many of you saw the Yukon News this week?" asked Sawyer as he began his reading at the Dawson Community Library on August 14.

The audience of a baker's dozen began to buzz as Sawyer described the 72 point type red headline reading 'Berton House on shaky ground'.

The article, followed soon by a CBC report, indicated that the Council was no longer providing a block funding grant to the project, that individual writers would have to apply for funding after their selection by the Berton House Committee, and that Sawyer himself had been turned down for funding for his residency, which then had to be made up out of committee funds.

Sawyer had not known the last two pieces of information and was justifiably angry to have found out in this way. He was in the mood to vent a bit as he greeted his audience on Tuesday night.

"Normally," he said, "I would preface any remarks I would make this evening with thanks to all of the sponsors who are responsible for bringing me to an event and often and many a time I have said in a library and my thanks go to the Canada Council for the Arts, which is the national foundation in Canada, for sponsoring the event that I am about to participate in."

The Canada Council for the Arts has elected to no longer provide a block funding grant to Berton House and in fact, declined to fund my residency here, so private donors mostly, through a fund raising dinner held back last November and the redoubtable efforts of Elsa

Franklin, the Berton House administrator in Toronto, to raise funds from corporate and other sponsors, have made possible my being here tonight.

“But you do NOT have Mr. Harper’s government to thank for it, and I draw that to your attention, because normally you would have the federal government to thank for it and you can bear this in mind, and give it whatever weight you deem appropriate, when the next federal election comes which, in my book, can only be soon.”

Sawyer is certain that it’s no coincidence that the Canada Council waited until Pierre Berton had been dead for a while before making its decision. “They wouldn’t have had the balls to insult a national icon while he was alive,” he told his audience.

Sawyer urged the group to write to their Member of Parliament and to the newly appointed Minister for Canadian Heritage, Josee Verner, telling her that this was her opportunity to start off on a positive note and do something to correct a mistake that had been made under her predecessor’s tenure.



Robert J. Sawyer

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

DISCOVERY DAY PHOTOS – 1956

Emily, I did look at the Discovery Day Parade 1956, great pictures! I was helping to carry the ICEWORM. Delores Coombs, designed it, I remember it was very hot Day and it was even hotter under that beast.

You asked about the Baseball tournament, it involved all the YCGC Camps and the Dawson teams. During the summer, the camps -, Dominion(#10) Granville(#6) and Sulpher (#8&9) and Bear Creek which included Hunker (# 11). I think there were at least

2 maybe 3 teams in Dawson . They usually had the semi final game in the morning and the finals in the afternoon of August 17th. We didn't have long weekends for Discovery Day then. The Umpires were usually Mike Comadina from town and Jack Beggs from YCGC, although Fred Cook (Digger) would also fill in .In Later years when the Discovery Days Holiday became a long weekend it became a Yukon wide Ball Tournament.

I didn't recognize any of the Nutty Club but Charley Rendall used to drive that vehicle in the Parade every year. Anyway the Town is filling up and Old timers and ex-dawsonites are arriving.

Myrna Butterworth myrnab*northwestel.net (In Dawson)

DISCOVERY DAY PARADE - 2007

Since you're doing Discovery Days specials, you might as well have these as well.

Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



MP Larry Bagnell and his wife, Melissa. They were married in Dawson in June.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Klondike Fiddle Camp
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Fire Engines
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Gertie (seated) and her Girls
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Hells Angels Has Beens, including Madeleine and John Gould
(far left John and Madeleine far right)
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Triple J Mobile deck
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Panner chases Nugget
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Thinking of a vacation?

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



Moosehide Pirates

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



Ladies of the Afternoon

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



Pioneer Women of the Yukon – 100th Anniversary

In this photo, I was driving the truck. The members are Barb Hanulik (Robert Service) and Janel Leary with son Stuart. – Brenda Caley

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



A rear view on Front Street
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



YOOPs lead parade past Visitor Information Centre
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Parks Front

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

Discovery Days 2007 Eclipses Other Years for Busyness

by Dan Davidson

August 19, 2007

Things tend to slow down in Dawson City after the Musical Festival, and the events in August are often a bit of an anticlimax, but this years Discovery Day Weekend seems to have been intended to blow those perceptions away and leave every one exhausted.

On Wednesday, Aug. 15 things got under way with the judging for the Yard Awards, the KVA's Family Day celebrations at Gerties a street hockey tournament at Minto Park and a Slow Bicycle Race at the Museum.

All during the week the Museum was presenting a reenactment of an historic Miners' Meeting, while also offering its Families of the Yukon photo exhibit.

Thursday was a literary day, with the KVA's Authors on 8th celebration and writing contest taking up three hours in the afternoon at the Jack London Centre, Robert Service Cabin and Pierre Berton House.

On Friday it was batter up for the annual Discovery Days Fastball Tournament, which ran to the 19th. There were games and kids' activities all along the dike some of these being tied in with the Yukon Riverside Arts Festival, which ran from the 16th to the 19th.

The Klondike Fiddle Camp, which had been running all week, held a Friday night dance, their second event of the week.

Parks Canada added special programs over the weekend, including a presentation on the Yukon Ditch and its Sin in the City street theatre show.

Saturday also had the parade, one of the best in recent years, in which the entries showed a lot of thought and preparation.

For those with too much leftover energy, there was a 10 kilometre run, a hike along the Klondike Salmon Route and another Fiddle Dance.

There was also a Horticultural Show and the closing day for the Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre's "Where are the Children" exhibit, as well as the final 2007 performance of the "Luk T'äga Näche" ("Salmon Girl Dreaming") dance presentation.

Sunday was a day with a bit more rest in it, though it still contained a second Pancake Breakfast at the curling club, a Loonie Swim Day at the pool, and the ever-popular Klondike Valley Mud Bog in the North End.

For those about to become involved in the World Goldpanning Championships, which will take place here from the 20th to the 26th, there was no rest at all. They were busy registering competitors and getting their venue ready for competition, which will begin on Wednesday.

In Dawson , there is no rest for the weary this year- not until after Labour Day, at least.

Five dollar bill

I learned a new word today. It is difficult to pronounce, but it means a lot. The word is Paradoli. Never heard of it? Me neither until today. The word was coined in 1994 and means mistaking something perceived as recognizable. Like shapes of angels in clouds. Or the man in the moon. Or the face on Mars. They don't exist, but with paradoli, we are led to believe that they do. It is a psychological term for the mind's obsession with finding patterns in essentially random objects, from clouds to the face of Virgin Mary in a pizza.

So why am I talking about this on Yukon Nuggets? Simply because of a five-dollar bill. Why you ask. Well, the 1954 five-dollar bill was the first to have a likeness of Queen Elizabeth on the front. She had been crowned Queen in 1953, and the following year, the Bank of Canada replaced her late father King George's likeness with hers.

Well, it didn't take long for the conspiracy theorists to get in on the act. They saw the likeness of a devil's head in her hair. Thus, the 1954 series of Canadian bank notes became known as the devil's head series. Of course, there was no devil in her hair. It was a mass case of paradioli, seeing something that does not exist.

A story made the rounds that a French Canadian who designed the likeness, slipped a devil's head past the scrutineers because he opposed the monarchy. Wrong? But just to be on the safe side, the Bank of Canada had the plates from which the notes were produced darkened in 1956 so any chance of seeing a fictional devil's head vanished.

Still, you are right to ask "what does this have to do with the Yukon ."

In a round about way, plenty. You see, the 1954 five-dollar bill, long out of circulation, has a picture of Otter Falls on the back. As in Otter Falls, Yukon where I often fished for rainbow trout with my brother-in-law.

I have been trying to find out why Otter Falls is on the "devil's head" bill? Who took the photo? How was it chosen? When was it taken? Questions, questions.

A Yukon friend from my distant past says it was taken by Blondie Hougen, late brother of Rolf Hougen. He says he was there when Blondie took the photo. There can be no doubt that my friend was with Blondie that day and that Blondie took a photo. But did his photo end up on the five-dollar bill? It is possible, but I could not confirm that from officials at the Bank of Canada's museum.



Note the signature to the left on the bill. That's Gerald Bouey's signature, Governor of the Bank of Canada. He signed the bill for Rolf Hougen when he visited Whitehorse .



They tell me that in preparing for the 1954 issue, officials at the Bank of Canada reviewed literally thousands of images of Canada, searching for examples that would capture the diverse nature of the Canadian landscape. Various firms including the National Library, Canadian Pacific and several news agencies supplied the images. They say that they have no specific information about the source of the photograph used to engrave the image of Otter Falls .

So it remains a mystery - for now - how or why Otter Falls came to grace the 1954 five-dollar bill. It is of course no longer in circulation and as a collector's item; it is not worth very much. But to a Yukoner who has fished the falls and marvelled at their grandeur when the water used to rage over the rocks before they built the Aishik dam in the mid-seventies, the sight of the falls living forever as a famous image on an historic piece of Canadian currency is reason enough to hope that Blondie Hougen took the photo because whomever took it captured for Yukoners everywhere, the magic and the mystery of the land.

A CKRW Yukon Nugget by Les McLaughlin

Courtesy Rolf & Marg Hougen marg*hougens.com (In Whitehorse)

*Note: Weldon Pinchin pinchin*gulfislands.com was with Blonde Hougen when he took the photo and helped hold him steady in the water. It is his understanding Blonde's photo was used. – Sherron*

ARTISTIC TALENT



Spalted Maple Lantern – gift to Sherron Jones

Created by Ron Butler [ronb11*telus.net](mailto:ronb11@telus.net) (In Parksville)

Ron explained the watermarks in the wood are as a result of the decaying process.

For further information about spalted wood - see

<http://www.thewoodbox.com/data/wood/spaltedinfo.htm>

Photo courtesy Bill Jones [ve7yi*shaw.ca](mailto:ve7yi@shaw.ca) (In Vernon)

OBIT

YELL, Sister Mary Pamela, RSCJ - Born in 1918 in Victoria , B.C., Sister Yell died in Barat Residence, 1455 Summer St., Halifax, on August 18, 2007. She was the only daughter of the late J. William and Mary (Meaney) Yell. She was the last surviving member of her immediate family. Sister Yell received her early education at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Vancouver. She attended the University of British Columbia and graduated from the University of Ottawa in 1954. She entered the Society of the Sacred Heart in 1937 and made her final profession in Albany , N.Y. , in 1945. Born on September 8, the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lady, Sister Yell had a lifelong devotion to Our Lady and had a particular love for children which she exemplified in her many years of teaching. She began her teaching career at College Street School in Halifax in 1940 where she taught High Grade One until 1945. She then went on to teach in the Sacred Heart schools in Winnipeg and Vancouver . In 1970, she returned to Halifax where she served as Religious Education Co-ordinator in the parishes of St. Lawrence, Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Pius X. From there, **she held** a variety of **positions in Religious Education** in California , **Whitehorse** , Montreal and Ottawa . In 1997 Sister Yell retired at Barat Residence. She will be greatly missed by her sisters in Community and her many friends. A vigil will take place today at 4 p.m. at Barat Residence. The Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated at Barat Residence on Tuesday, August 21, at 2 p.m. Father Albert Cosgrove presiding. Burial at a later date. No flowers by request. Donations in Sister Yell's memory may be made to the **Sacred Heart** Boys' High School.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

I am wondering if you have an email for these people:

Sandie and Barrie Ravenhill

I do believe I went to school with a daughter... they lived out the Mayo road.

Thanks Jenny

Oh one more thing Sherron, can you update my email address to:

jiroberts@gmail.com

The only part that has changed is from shaw to gmail...

Jenny Roberts

Well, I guess the Yukon is celebrating Discovery Days today! I really miss the Moccasin Telegraph and must be losing my marbles as I was sure I had written you with a change of e-mail address but with so much going on with the move and my daughter having surgery...I must not have.

My new e-mail address is celticme@cogeco.ca I would be very pleased to be receiving the Moc Tel again as I truly enjoy each edition.

Thanks so much Sherron....cheers Deb Nelson

Just a quick update to add to the Moc Tel if you don't mind:

Dad's new address:

Mr. Glen Campbell		
(Mailing Address)	(Home Address)	Tel: 250-679-2826
PO Box 1686	#14-566 Coburn Ave	
Chase , BC	Chase , BC	
V0E 1M0	V0E 1M0	

He would love to hear from anyone in the area, and if anyone is passing through, the coffee is always on, and the door is always open.

Tomorrow I start a new position with the company. For the last two weeks, I have been training a new driver. I sure hope that this one works out. I am moving into the warehouse to take over the shipping and receiving position, and that entails taking over the parts dept as well. So, for the next little while, I will be on a real learning curve again.

By the way, I was so happy to see you both at the Islanders Picnic this year. You are both looking well.

Sandy Campbell northernlyght*shaw.ca (In Langley)

I just read the list and I have to apologize for not making this change a long time ago.

Our address is now: ruth&zoli*telus.net

You're still doing a fantastic job and we really appreciate the weekly Moc Tel. The poetry by Gus and the photos by Doug Bell are my favorites.

Thanks for all you do to make so many others happy.
Ruth & Zoli Kovacs ruth&zoli*telus.net (In Vernon)

NEW ADDITION LAST WEEK

Hello Sherron; Thank you for the Moc Tel issues, the photos, articles etc were great. I did recognize many faces and names, as well as getting to know several of the people.

Brief outline of my connection with the Yukon . My husband, John Trout and I moved to the Yukon in Spring of 1972. That same year John and a partner from Edmonton bought a lodge on the Alaska Highway , at that time known as Traveler's Services at Mile 1118. We renamed it Kluane Wilderness Village , commonly known as "Mile 1118." Our children attended elementary and secondary schools and graduating from F.H. Collins High School in Whitehorse . Joe Frigon passed away in the late 1990's. John passed away September 15, 2004. Unfortunately I had to close the lodge in August, 2006. It remains closed and is not operating, with intentions of selling. I moved from the lodge in July, 2005 and am living in North Vancouver , to be near my family.

I hope the information I have given you is satisfactory. I am open for suggestions if need be. In the meantime I look forward to another interesting "Moc Tel."
Thank you Sherron.

Regards; Liz Trout
liz*andreawaines.com

NEW ADDITIONS

My name is Karen Furniss. I was born in Whitehorse and lived there until I left to attend university at 18. My Aunt (Mary Nielsen) recently gave me your contact information and suggested that I request the Moccasin Telegraph. What is the process? I live at 5504 Westminster Avenue, Delta , BC , V4K 2J6 .

Regards, Karen Furniss
Dfurniss*telus.net

Roberta Speer is the former Bobbie Daily who once lived in Joyce Caley's house and whose father designed Dredge #4. I interviewed her yesterday and will eventually send you an article, but she is interested in the MocTel. Here's her address in Texas .

Dan Davidson
rspeer*mail.wtamu.edu

I would like to start receiving copies of your newsletter.

Keith Retallack justkr2002*yahoo.com

Yes, Tom & Athol are my folks.

I heard about the MocTel from friends of ours, Frank & Frances Taylor , who are friends going back to grade and high school and school band at FH Collins.

Mom died in May of '93 in Abbotsford BC and Dad in March of '02 in Victoria BC.

I was born a Klondiker. We moved to Whitehorse in '68 and then I left for the Big Smoke of Vancouver in '76. I have been here ever since.

When one is born up North the novelty of having to shovel it, dress for it, plug the car in for it, have the tires flat on the bottom for it, wears out very quickly. Not to say it was not a great place to grow up. We had opportunities that friends here (Vancouver) in the city only hear / read about.

However, I must admit I had a bit of an epiphany this summer as it relates to the North. As I said before, being born there is just a matter of happenstance. This summer I travelled to Whitehorse & Dawson City for the first time in many years, with my wife Laurie, who is a born & raised Vancouver kid. I was amazed how she fell in love with the place. I also had a chance to look at the Yukon from the visitor's perspective and I must say I was quite impressed with the scenery and the history, which I had previously just taken for granted. I think the best part, and the small town part in me was showing, was there were so few people around, anywhere we went. We are planning on going back next summer to carry on our touring.

I have started a project of going through all of the parent's pictures, many, many pictures. Are there any / certain time periods or events you are looking for ?. There are quite a few pics with groups, but are missing some names. It would be great to get the missing names filled in. They also photographed most events they were part of or were lucky enough to have observed.

Hopefully I have filled in the blanks for you and have met the entry criteria.

Thx Keith Retallack

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"The greatest discovery of all time is that a person can change his future by merely changing his attitude." —Oprah Winfrey

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

This is from the First Presbyterian Ladies Cookbook.
Submitted by Florence Roberts yapper@klondiker.com (In Whitehorse)

Graham Wafer Cake

1 cup brown sugar
1/2 cup butter
1 egg
2 shakes of salt
1 tbsp cocoa
1 tsp vanilla

Mix ingredients in double boiler and cook for one minute. Break 20 double graham wafers in a bowl and add 1 cup chopped walnuts. Pour cooked mixture over the same, then press into buttered pan and ice while warm.

Jo Bailey

DATES TO REMEMBER

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

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.

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH

c/o Sherron Jones

9205 Orchard Ridge Drive

Vernon BC V1B 1V8