

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH – 263rd Edition – August 17th, 2008

Created by Sherron Jones sherronjones@shaw.ca

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



Riding on the White Pass & Yukon Railway.

Photo courtesy Joyce Yardley Joyce@dataspan.ca (In Nanaimo BC)

RIDING ON THE WHITE PASS & YUKON RAILWAY

By Joyce Yardley

Hi Sherron, sending you this story of trips by train to Skagway. Hope it will bring forth memories from other folks who made the trip in 1997.

Fred and I returned recently from a trip by car from Nanaimo to the Yukon and Alaska, all the way to Seward on the Kenai Peninsula. All told we put over 9000 kms on our car, and Fred did all the driving...

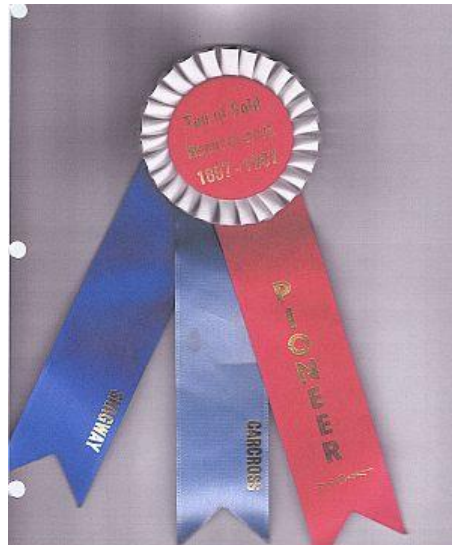
On our return trip, we rested up at our favorite spot - Norma and Cal's summer home in Carcross. While there we took a trip on the White Pass and Yukon railway which of course is once again in service and it was like old times. Reminded me of the last time I rode that train. ... It happened in 1997.

My daughter, Norma, and her husband, Cal Waddington, mailed a package from Whitehorse to my late husband, Gordon, and myself which contained an airline ticket to Whitehorse, along with a pass to ride on the historical White Pass and Yukon Route train from Carcross to Skagway. It was a present for Gordon's 80th birthday. We were living on Vancouver Island at the time.

That piece of track hadn't been used in over 40 years, but it was repaired especially for that occasion - which was a re enactment of the famous "Ton of Gold"...the 100th birthday of the first shipment of gold from Dawson City, Yukon, to Seattle, Washington. The gold (yes, a ton of it) was shipped at that time via Paddlewheeler from Dawson to Whitehorse - then by railroad to Skagway, Alaska, and from there by steamboat to Seattle.

This time there wasn't quite a ton being shipped, but enough so that security was fairly prominent! And apparently there was quite a ceremony when it arrived in Seattle at this time, too.

The White Pass issued the free passes, and invitations to 'ride the rail' to all remaining 'Pioneers' and any of their relatives who had come to the Yukon before 1950. (They had to cut it off somewhere!)



All the Pioneers on the train had this emblem, which says:
“Ton of Gold – Reenactment – 1897 – 1997”

There were literally hundreds of people on the Carcross platform, waving us off. They had come from all over the Yukon, to see and hear the old steam-engine again. It was the same one on which Gordon and I had met each other, 55 years earlier, when it was still running all the way from Skagway to Whitehorse. In fact, a lot of the old telephone line poles that he had supplied for the U.S. army in 1943 were still standing. Probably many of the railway ties were some that he had produced years ago, when he had the tie contract with the W.P. and Y.R

We rode with friends (some we hadn't seen in 40 years) and it's impossible to describe the feeling of community and reminiscing that enveloped everyone. The "boy" from Skagway (J.D. True) who had escorted me to my very first (chaperoned) dance in Skagway was actually on that train. He remembered me. Said he had taken the train to

Whitehorse that next weekend, hoping to take me out, "But of course," he said, "You had a date already with this 'big guy' here, and I wasn't about to get in his way!" (quite a line, right?) J.D. True was an Engineer on that line for over 40 years and has a book published about his experiences during that time.

Some folks were wearing "Old Time" costumes, and singing "Rag Time" songs. The train ride lasted six hours. When we arrived in Skagway we were starved, even though we did have snacks on the train, so we went to a café for dinner. We grilled halibut (caught that same day,) then we rode back to Carcross in Norma and Cal's car, they had driven to Skagway to pick us up. We arrived at their place around midnight. Certainly a memorable day in 1997.

(And also in 2008.)

Joyce Yardley Joyce*dataspan.ca (In Nanaimo)

MOCTEL 262 BRINGS BACK MEMORIES

We'll certainly miss you and Bill at the picnic, Sherron.

By the way, what a fantastic Moctel again this time! I was so delighted with Jim Kirk's old photographs of Whitehorse and the airport in 1941. At that time, my "husband-to-be" Gordon Yardley worked at the Whitehorse airport for Pan American Airways. Part of his job was to keep the engines of the war planes (on their way to Alaska) from freezing up, because if I remember correctly, some of them overnighted there that winter. Before that he worked on the SS Tutshi out of Carcross in the summers, and returned to his home in Langley, BC in the winters.

The picture of the first "Regina Hotel" brought back so many memories in particular. Especially Goody Erickson's (Sparling) birthday parties. In the picture I can almost see her father sitting in the lobby, reading his newspapers. Half a block from there towards the shipyards was old John Sewell's small store. I wonder how many on this list remember Mrs. Vioux, who owned and ran the White Pass Hotel in those days. And Larry Higgins, who was the liquor vendor and government agent? Anyway I speak of all these people in "Crazy Cooks and Gold Miners" so won't go into it now.

Love, Joyce Yardley Joyce*dataspan.ca (In Nanaimo)

Otter Falls

On August 15th, Mike and I were on our way home from a few days spent tenting and researching, in a decidedly wet Haines, Alaska. Upon seeing the sunshine for the first time all week, we decided to make a lovely detour into Otter Falls to see how the famous Falls were doing. The turn-off is located at approximately Mile 995 of the Alaska

Highway. We had to travel about 30 km (17 miles) up the graveled Aishihik road to get to the Falls, with an option to continue on for a total of 75 miles to see Aishihik Lake itself. We appreciated the well maintained road, but also saw very little traffic. We were really delighted to hear and view the thundering Otter Falls despite stories that the Falls are just not worth viewing any more. We took our photos, walked around the Falls on one side and enjoyed a lunch nearby. Mike recalled camping right next to the Falls back in the 1970's when he was undertaking Archaeological digs nearby, and being jolted awake as the Falls were "turned off". Today there is just a "Day Use" set-up and if you want to Camp, then you travel a further 200 metres or so and enjoy the calm waters of Canyon Lake.

Here is what the interpretive sign says about Otter Falls:

Water flows over the Otter Falls have been affected by the development of the Aishihik Hydroelectric Project which was commissioned in 1975. Water from Canyon, Aishihik, and Sekulmun Lakes is now routed through a 5.6 km canal which parallels the west side of the East Aishihik River. Water from the Canal drops 174 metres through a pressure shaft and tunnel to generate electricity in a 30-megawatt underground power house. The water then leaves the plant through a 1463 metre tail race tunnel and joins the West Aishihik River downstream from the falls. This rerouting of water for use in hydroelectric generation has reduced the level of flow in the upper portion of the East Aishihik River, where both Otter Falls and Rainbow Falls are located. During summer months water passes over the Falls at a minimum rate of 25 cubic feet per second. During winter months, the flow over the Falls is reduced or cut off. In years where the storage levels in the Lake have reached their maximum, higher flows of water are spilled over Otter Falls.

Most MocTel readers will recall with pride when the Royal Canadian Mint issued a series of new bills back in 1954, Otter Falls were depicted on the reverse side of the Canadian five dollar bill.

As a side note to this item, when we were driving in both directions along the Aishihik road C.B.C. radio from Whitehorse could be picked up very loud and very clear along the entire length...something that the Bison and other wildlife would probably have appreciated very much had they thought to take radios along on their perambulations. It is too bad that you can't do the same driving the entire length of the Klondike Highway up to Dawson City.

Just sorting through the photos from this last trip. Mike clambered up on a knoll to get a photo of Canyon Lake from afar and in this one you can see, on the left, the gravel Aishihik road along which we traveled to get to Otter Falls and beyond.....you definitely get an idea of "wilderness travel" !!!!

Kathy Jones-Gates kmgates*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Otter Falls, Yukon, on August 15th 2008
Photo copyright Michael Gates [mvgates@northwestel](mailto:mvgates@northwestel.com) (In Whitehorse)



Canyon Lake, Yukon on August 15th 2008

Photo copyright Michael Gates msgates*northwestel (In Whitehorse)

1st Hockey Team to Fairbanks

I received this photo from my sister, "Hy". Don't know what year? She & I thought that it may be of interest for the "Moctel". You may wish to ask Joe Redmond and Sharon Redmond, also Blanche Barrett, (her uncle was "Samuelson") also some others may be able to identify the people that Hy could not. Do as you see fit. Vivian Stuart would be the niece to "Virginia Burkhard"(i.e. Vivian's Mom's sister) Thanks for all that you do.

Tina (Brasseur) Parsons artinap*shaw.ca (In Victoria)



1st Hockey Team to Fairbanks

Photo courtesy Hy (Brasseur) Seeley and Tina (Brasseur) Parsons artinap*shaw.ca

Back row 1. ?

2. ?

3. ?

4. top row (4th from left) Johnny Dines

5. ?

Front row 1. Samuelson

2. Kenneth Owen (Virginia Burkhard's husband)

3. Ralph Zaccarelli

4. ?

5. Joe Redmond (Les Butterworth behind him)

6. Norm Reid

7. ?

8. Reg Wynes (married Frances Kazinsky)

9. Jim Johnston (postmaster in Dawson City)

Re: The picture from Hy/Tina was 1935 or '36.

Back row: 1. ?

2. ?

3. Jack Cody

4. John Dines Sr.

5. ?

Front row: 1. Helmer Samuelson

2. Ken Owens

3. Ralph Zaccarelli

4. Ralph (Sox) Troberg Sr.

5. Joe Redmond Sr.

(behind Dad is goalie Roy Butterworth)

6. Norm Reid

7. Jack Cunningham

8. Reg Wynes

9. J. K. "Jimmy" Johnstone

Mom identified these names a few years ago.

Jimmy Johnstone was our neighbour in the 40's. I was intrigued to read Don Reddick's "Dawson City Seven" 15 years ago. It recounts the Dawson City Nuggets' trek to Ottawa to compete for the Stanley Cup in 1904. Jimmy was a member of that team. He died in Dawson in 1948.

Keep up the good work.

All the best,

Joe Redmond [yukon43*telusplanet.net](mailto:yukon43@telusplanet.net) (In Sylvan Lake AB)

MEMORIES OF THE CALEY'S

WOW! a terrific write-up. Of course, most of my recollections of growing up in Dawson City was Caley's store, and the N.C. Co. (Northern Commercial Company).

My mom would order her groceries, or (before we got a telephone) it was my job to run to the store with a grocery list, and Caley's or the N.C. store would deliver the items. Everything was put on my Dad's bill, and hopefully, my Dad would pay the bill at the end of the month. I can remember Dad & Mom discussing the grocery bill, and Dad wondering how he was going to be able to pay it! We always ate very well, believe me.

Thanks again for a wonderful special edition. Mr. Caley was a fine gentleman, and of course, all his family were special to Dawson City...I attended school with Doreen, although she was a grade or two ahead of me, and her little brother Gordon, was younger than I was. Hy went to school with Irene, so we can think of the family very fondly. Mrs. Caley had a special talent for doing water color tinting on black and white photos, I believe, and I do have some family portraits, which I am sure were colorized by Mrs.

Caley. She was always very pleasant to all we children growing up in Dawson, as was Mr. Caley. My memories....Tina (Brasseur) Parsons artinap@shaw.ca (In Victoria)

FRED CALEY – THE “TREASURES” HE “HOARDED”

Wow!!! What a spectacular piece of history. What an incredible man, and what a legacy. To those who knew Fred, they were so blessed to have their lives so enriched.

I have printed this edition to send to my dad, Glen Campbell, as I know for sure, that he will remember the Caley store, and no doubt, shopped there a time or two.

There was truly something magical about the types of stores of the "old days". They catered to just about anything that you could think of. I think of the first time I walked into Watson's Store in Carcross. It, too, had just about anything that you could ever want. Livesey's store in Beaver Creek, was that kind of store as well. It was a living museum, and with the wood stove in the center of the store, and the certain smell, you got the feeling that you were family, an eagerly anticipated visit.

These types of stores were the local meeting grounds, and "gossip grounds", but yet it was a place for people to interact.

I got a real chuckle about the cereal, and the offer that expired thirty years prior. I recall being told about the "gimic" that Quaker Oats put in the Rolled Oats.....the coupon gave you "title to 1 inch square of Canadian land, because it was really the only way to get people to move there...", and meeting people years later, that had come from the "south" to view and claim their 1 inch of land....

The picture of Black Mike is truly a treasure as well. He in his own right, is a "treasure", and a legacy. Someday, we might be blessed with a story or two of Black Mike. I only met him once, and at the time, did not know that I was being introduced to "Klondike Royalty" of sorts. He, too, was a gentle, unassuming, and generous man in many ways.

Thank you to the Caley - Gates , and the Jones for making this available to all of us that would otherwise not have known who Fred Caley was, or that buildings that he "saved", or the "treasures" he "hoarded". Thank you Fred. One day, I will stop by and say hi.

Sandy Campbell northernlyght@shaw.ca (In Langley)

MocTel Special Edition - Fred Caley

Hi Kathy

Just read the Moc Tel Special Edition to Fred Caley and you have once again done an awesome job!!! The placement of the pictures was great and the material content was wonderful and so informing. Hopefully it will bring back fond memories to the many Moc Tel readers from the Dawson area. May even get some feedback with their stories and memories of dealing with him. He was a very gentle man.

Thanks again for your part in spreading Yukon history. We really appreciate your family being a part of our Plaque Dedication Ceremony and letting the world know about some of Dawson's past.

Just a miniscule correction: The Caley pictured with Chester Kelly is Bruce not Ray as the caption said. *[Corrected as soon as advised 11:15am Aug. 9, 2008 - Sherron]*

Would love for you to forward any further comments that you may receive, too!!!

Take care.

Judy (Crayford) Kelly, Fred Caley's granddaughter
Kelly*whtvcable.com (In Whitehorse)

Hi Judy

Have made the correction from Ray to Bruce. Thank you for advising of the error. Have only received two messages from readers about the special and forwarded them to Kathy for forwarding to family as I didn't necessarily have all the family addresses. They are pasted in for next weeks regular Moccasin Telegraph.

If you have not received them from Kathy, I would be happy to send them to you.

Sherron Jones

Thanks for your very quick response and for the correction. I actually have received the two messages from your readers from Kathy and will forward them and any others on to my family.

You are doing an awesome job of preserving Yukon's history and keeping Yukoners in touch. I look forward to each week's edition and the memorabilia it contains.

Keep up the great work!!!

Judy Kelly, an avid reader of the MocTel.

Special Edition – Fred Caley

Wonderful, really so enjoyable reading about Fred... He was such a kind man... I was telling Kathy recently that when I arrived in Dawson City I think it was my 2nd Season there at the Palace Grand Theatre...I was cooking for the Cast...12 to 16 people a Day 2 meals.. always a few deserts too.....also looking after my two sons, and doing the

Show...we lived in the Flop House...opposite Laura Moy's house... she was a good Buddie and April was going with Danny Moi.. Anyway...I wasn't paid to cook and look after everybody....I was given free Rent and food for my two young sons and myself. And I also did everyone's washing too...bedding etc. etc.

I went into Caley's for some tomatoes.....and Madge Dear Madge was there... and I asked if I could buy some tomatoes.....and also how much were they.... She said just a minute.. She went to the old Fire boiler there and the pipe went right up into the ceiling and she banged on it.. And said...Dad how much are the tomatoes.....he yelled down and asked who is it for.....so she told him they were for me.. And he said.. Oh she can have them for so much... very reasonable....always such a gentle man I loved going into the Store. I was fascinated by the whole scene...coming from England it was a whole new world to me.....God Bless him and Madge.

Another time.. Madge was working at the other grocery Store!!...and I went into buy some groceries and she said.. "Do you want to buy this Leg of Lamb.....so I said how much and she said you can have it for a \$1.50...wow what a bargain....so I said wonderful Thank you....so I made Roast lamb and the next day I made Scouse which is a recipe from England, Liverpool actually...a big stew.

Yes many happy memories....and I also loved all the Photos. Thank you. So nice to share.. Love Gillian

Gillian Campbell gillianklondikekate*shaw.ca (In Burnaby BC)

Missing Boat

In July of 1976 I went to Marsh Lake on a Friday evening after work. It was cool and the wind had been blowing from the south most of the day with intermittent rain showers.

I left my boat tied out the previous Sunday about 100 feet off shore in front of Bob and Nancy Parent's cabin at Army Beach. As I walked past the cabin towards the lake I could readily see my boat was not where I had left it. Was it stolen?

As I got closer to the water I could see it about three cabins to the west tied out to some one else's buoy. I didn't think anything too serious was going on but I was a little concerned that my boat had been moved. I went down to the cabin to the west and found Bill and Rusty Reid there. They had come out to the lake several hours earlier and Bill said for some reason he decided to walk down to his dock and scan the shoreline. It was then he saw that my boat was being pounded against 45 gallon gas drums that had been set along the shoreline to prevent erosion. He told me he and Rusty had donned their bathing suits and with some difficulty in fighting the waves got my boat out to their buoy. There was a heavy rubber bumper that ran around the boat at the gunwale and that had been hitting the gas drums. As such, there appeared to be no damage to the boat. I

had a Mercruiser stern drive with an inboard engine and once I put pressure to the hydraulic trim, the side of one hydraulic cylinders blew out. These were just made of aluminum so it must have banged against the drums pretty hard.

It would have been very easy to just ignore the boat banging against the gas drums but Bill and Rusty, so much like the Yukon spirit, saw something needed doing and did it. I was very grateful for their actions and that the repairs only cost about \$40.00. It certainly could have been a lot worse.

George Bliss [jrsports*sasktel.net](mailto:jrsports@sasktel.net) (In Regina)
Whitehorse Highway Patrol 1973-1978



The Museum is housed in a former school that was built in 1902.

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

Atlin's Museum delivers, inside and out

By Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)

Local museums, no matter how small, will often give you a pretty good idea of what a community thinks about itself and its roots.

The Atlin Museum is located in a building which started out as the town's schoolhouse, and that's fitting, because its aim remains the preservation and passing on of knowledge. It's seen 108 years as a school, teacherage, community hall and museum, and tries to

reflect some of those uses in the tableaux that the members of the Atlin Historical Society have created in the big main room.

An elegantly dressed mannequin next to a table set for tea, and a fancy china cabinet welcomes visitors to begin on either side of the divided room, proceeding in a 'U' shaped tour that takes you past a doctor's office, a collection of mining memorabilia and photographs, a small two-seat school room, and a shop display crammed with period goods and tins.

The staff are quite willing to dash to the paper archives next door and pull out samples of some of the nine newspapers (most recently the Nugget, the Claim and the Rag Times), which have served the town over the years. The most recent effort, the Atlinite, will be web-based once it's up and running but, for now, it's just a placeholder website with some design elements on the page and a link to the Weather Network.

On a fine day it's worth your time to wander through the boneyard of old machinery which occupies what would once have been the school playground. The restored and preserved steam shovel near the front of the lot forms a stark contrast to the decaying model at the back end, and really does show you what can happen to the past if no one tries to preserve it.

The Museum opens at 10 o'clock during the summer months. There's lot to see here, both inside the building and outside.



Welcome to our Museum, this display seems to say.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)



This display is a reminder of the building's original function.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)
(The flag in the photo below wasn't the Can flag until the 1970's. – Sherron)



Shop displays always make a great place to show off historic cans, bottles and boxes.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



This shovel has battled the elements on its own.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Shovel has been lovingly restored as a project which is described in one of the displays inside the museum. Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



The side lot is littered with interesting old machinery.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)

One Fine Morning in Atlin - the Walking Tour

By Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)

How does a fine little gold rush era village show off its history when it does not have Parks Canada to do the job? In Atlin the answer has been the formation of the Atlin Historical Society, a dedicated group which does a miniature version of what several major organizations have done for Dawson: running the local museum, restoring and maintaining a large passenger and freight boat, renovating a decaying theatre and running a major historical building which serves such useful community purposes as being the local library and a seasonal art gallery.

None of this would have been accomplished without the assistance of grants from the province of British Columbia's Heritage Trust, but it is still an impressive bit of work to be managed by volunteers. They also do walking tours, which begin at the Atlin Museum. Once you've sampled what that building and its grounds have to offer (see Atlin's Museum delivers, inside and out Star, July 4, 2008) all you have to do is ask, and the staff person contacts a volunteer for the service.



Island and the glacier dominate the view past the former Branigan clinic.

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

One of the most obvious buildings in the town is the pyramidal structure that was once Dr. Don Branigan's clinic. Like many other prominent buildings in Atlin it is now owned by people who use it only seasonally, our guide says, but it provides an interesting visual contrast to the view down the street, with the MV Tarahne peeking up over the curve and Teresa Island dominating both the town and the lake.

The Tarahne restoration is a truly ambitious project which certainly saved the boat from the inevitable decay that would otherwise have crumbled it in the years since 1936 when it was last beached. It has, over the years, been the setting for an annual tea and a murder mystery dinner.

Located next to it is the much smaller and less well preserved Atlinto, a tourist cruiser which had its heyday in the 1920s. The Globe Theatres is another major project of the society, which began its restoration in 1995 and completed it in 1998 for its own Gold Rush Centennial. Most of the funding came from B.C.'s Heritage Infrastructure Program and the Vancouver Foundation, but it is interesting that the town itself raised \$10,000, not bad for a town of perhaps 450 permanent residents.

Right next door the Garrett Store provides a glimpse of what the layout of an old fashioned general store might have been like. There are a few items in the store but there's not much on display - yet. Like many of the older commercial buildings in Atlin, the Garrett seems to be waiting for someone to do something with it. Unlike many of the others, it isn't boarded up.

Atlin has a town clock that's a little out of touch with reality. It was about 20 minutes slow on this particular day. It's outside what was once Jules Eggert's Jewelry Store, which now doubles as a residence and the post office.



The town clock doesn't keep great time, but that's not too important on long summer days. Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)

St. Martin's Anglican Church is a pleasant, airy chapel with lots of light wood paneling and pews on view and a splendid stained glass window above the altar.

Near the end of the tour the Provincial Building and Courthouse provided a number of pleasant surprises. It is another of those reclaimed prominent buildings that began with several official purposes (court, mining recorder, gold commissioner), was abandoned by government in the 1950s to become a private residence and shop and was rescued by the historical society in 1972.

The town's public library takes up about half the ground floor and has a good selection of books as well as letting out video tapes and DVDs, but its catalog is limited by the fact

that the provincial library system no longer sends out rotating block shipments the way the Yukon's system does.

Court is sometimes held in the former courtroom, but its main use in the summer sees it turn into a splendid cooperative art gallery featuring the work of Atlin's many artists. An impressive array of paintings, carvings, ceramic and textile work lines the walls and display tables.



Today the courthouse houses the public library and a summer art gallery.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



The Tarahne was in much demand from 1917 to 1936, when Atlin was a popular high-end tourist destination.

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



The Atlinto took smaller tours around the lake.

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



The Globe Theatre.

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



The Globe Theatre is home to drama, concerts and special events.

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



The Garrett Store

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



The Garrett Store is vacant at present, but in good shape.

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



St. Martin's Anglican Church.

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



The interior of St. Martin's Anglican Church boasts a fine stained glass window.

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

Thanks Dan for showing that Volunteers do so much to preserve history where Parks Canada is not involved like they are in Yukon. – Sherron

MEMORIES INSPIRED BY THE MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH

Dear Sherron,

First, I'd like to thank you for all the work you've done on the Moccasin Telegraph. It's been very helpful for me to find old friends whom I haven't seen since 1961 that is 47 years ago.

About the subscription fees, I can't believe that Yukoners would balk at paying their dues; the oldtimers would not think of doing anything like that.

It was in the spring of 1948 that Curly Graham and I were putting the yokes and blades on the cats to take across the Klondyke to the campsite on the north side to start the road to the Dempster. I was there again when the ice took the Bailey Bridge out. Then, my next trip up the Dempster was in the winter of 1962 hauling freight to the cat train. We ran into a very large snow drift, so we slept overnight in our trucks. The next morning, we were looking down the valley, when I spotted a caterpillar, walked down, and found it belonged to Dick Gillespie. After a bit of time, I finally got it started, drove it back up to where the road was blocked, dug it out, then put the cat back where I'd found it, and we carried on our way.

In Boyd White's article about hauling dirt on the Whitehorse dam, I was on the cat for General Enterprise pushing the dirt.

Willie Braga bill.braga@shaw.ca (In Calgary)

EDITION ON FRED CALEY

I enjoyed reading the Edition on Fred Caley and finding a few people I'd known in the photos. Coincidentally, my godfather, Willie Braga, had recently shown me some of his numerous photos of Dawsonites taken in the 1940's and 50's, and among them were a few of Irene Caley Crayford, prior to her marriage to Will, when she and Les (Dad) were seeing each other. Les, like everyone else, liked and respected the Caley's.

I didn't know Fred personally, but his legacy of helping others was carried forward through his children. When my younger sister, Teri Millen McNaughton, was in Guides, Irene, a Leader, invited her to her home and showed her how to bake bread. At the end of the day, Teri brought home loaves that were still warm, and we ate them in pure delight.

And, when I was a teenager, Gordie taught me to use a standard shift. One summer afternoon in particular stands out. He had told me to pull over onto the side of the road and turn off the truck, which I did. Then he told me to start it and continue driving, but, as we were on a steep incline next to a steep embankment and two feet from the edge, I imagined rolling backwards down the hill and over the side, becoming so terrified that my legs started to shake, and I could not do it. He was patient, however, giving me plenty of opportunities to recover from this fright, but it was not possible that day, and, in the end, I asked him to take over.

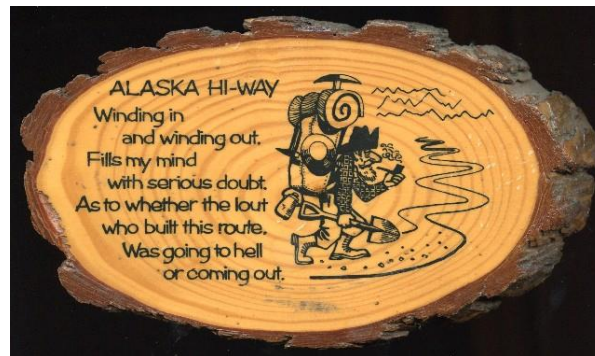
Another time, however, when he was giving me lessons in driving his motorcycle, I did manage to keep it upright for about 30 seconds before rolling it off the dyke, breaking many of its parts including the turn signals and roll bars, and bruising myself from head to toe. He was surprised at the amount of damage both the bike and I sustained for this minor accident, and he scrapped the bike.

Gordie was an excellent friend, and everyone I knew enjoyed his sense of humor, his thoughtfulness, and his generosity.

Madeleine (Millen) Wakefield mwakefield@shaw.ca (In Calgary)

ALASKA HIGHWAY POEM

Sherron ... two sources to clarify:



1. The attached plaque which was bought who knows where or when
2. Alaska Highway Archives -- <http://www.alaskahighwayarchives.ca/en/chap2/> compiled by Yukon Archives.

I've known this poem since I was a kid, so more than 40 years easily. Never heard the "man" and "road" version before.

It's always been by credited to someone named 'anonymous' in the documents I've seen.

And then this there is this record of the Troy Hise Fonds with Yukon Archives
http://yukon.minisisinc.com/scripts/mwimain.dll/7/DESCRIPTION_WEB/REFD/1074?JUMP

Reference is made to the poem, but not in its entirety.

And another:

Hmmm ... the Alaska State Library also has reference to the poem, from a collection dated 1940-1950.

http://www.library.state.ak.us/hist/hist_docs/finding_aids/PCA472.doc

Top of page 4.

817 E neg

*Comic – “Alaska Hi-way, Winding in and winding out fills my mind with serious doubt as to **weather** the **dude** that built this route was going to hell or coming out!”*

Sue Thomas sue.thomas*shaw.ca (In Nanaimo)

From the Merriam Webster

Main Entry:

²lout

Function:

noun

Etymology:

perhaps from ¹lout

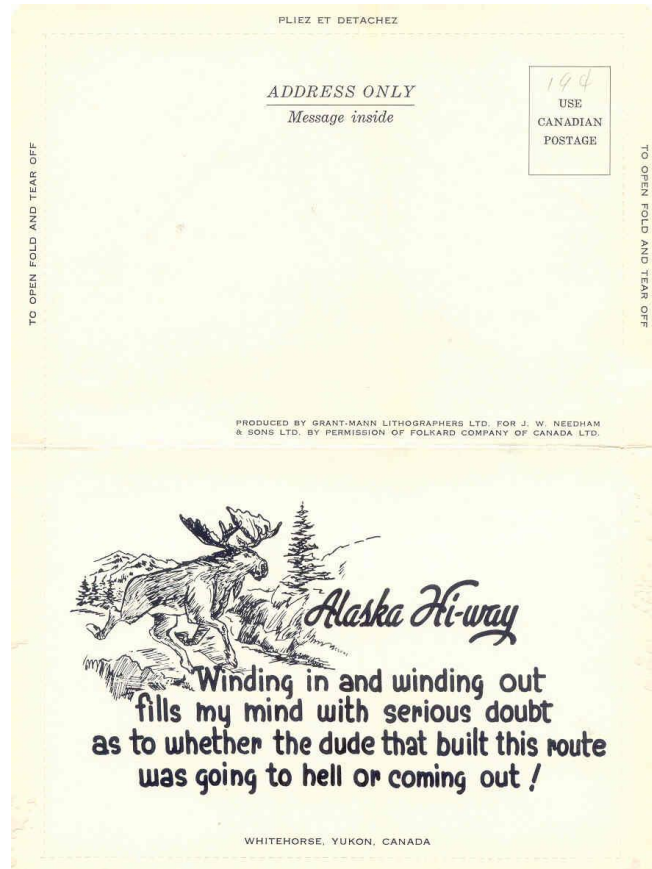
Date:

1542

: an awkward brutish person

Note: This site shows the verse on the back page of Troy Hise’s book and the wording he uses is not the same as that used on the plaque nor the old file material held in Yukon Archives. – Sherron

http://books.google.ca/books?id=TpS5gdTOiAkC&pg=PA9&lpg=PA9&dq=Troy+Hise&source=web&ots=bTtpsAWNMH&sig=CATsnpYOFMfhD1bKrCIspcbcm28&hl=en&sa=X&oi=book_result&resnum=4&ct=result#PPT1,M1



This postcard sold by J.W. Needham & Sons Ltd. in Whitehorse used the term “**dude**”. I expect this would have been available in the 1950’s & 60’s. Donna could tell more in that regard.

Image courtesy Donna (Needham) McLean djmclean1939@shaw.ca (In Victoria)
So we have three examples, using **dude**, **lout** and **man**. The latter being used by Troy Hise.

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH 262

Just had to go over the latest issue again - so many pictures of the Whitehorse I knew or heard about from the family!

Still scanning the family albums. Have finished all the Yukon ones at last. Just 4 Tubman-related ones to go before handing them over to Heather to store.

I really lucked out on getting the slides scanned. I had winnowed our 3 generations of slides down to 903 (1 1/3 boxes, down from 6) and waited for a deal at London Drugs. Instead of paying \$.98 per slide to have them scanned, I was alerted to watch for a print-from-slides deal that is offered from time to time (\$.39 per print this time) and then just purchase the CDs that they have to make before printing. Volume earned me some more

discounts and I walked away with 900 good prints and 4 CD's that I then burned selections from for assorted relatives.

I would caution any MocTel readers with slides from the 40's to 70's that colour processing wasn't as good then. They should get the more important ones saved to a more permanent format.

Maribeth (Tubman) Mainer mainerml@shaw.ca (In Burnaby)



Bill Maylor – visiting the Jones' in Vernon, Aug 11, 2008.

Photo courtesy Bill Jones ve7yi@shaw.ca (In Vernon)

NEW YORK TO NOME EXPEDITION

A workmate passed on your 261st edition and I really enjoyed reading Jim Kirk's story (Part III).

In response to Maribeth Mainer's question, here is a description of the New York to Nome expedition:

In 1920, the Americans ran a test to show that airplanes could travel great distances. Four two-seater deHavilland bombers were sent on a flight from New York to Nome, Alaska. In the Yukon they stopped at Whitehorse and Dawson City to rest and refuel. There was

no suitable airfield at Whitehorse so "all available hands" were called out to clear a landing field above the town. The planes arrived in Nome on August 23, 1920. These were probably the first planes to land in the Yukon. On the return trip, the plane ran into bad weather below Whitehorse and three returned while the fourth went on to Wrangell as the pilot was in love with a nurse there. When the weather cleared, the three left Whitehorse and landed at Telegraph Creek in a hay field where the undercarriage of one plane was damaged in landing. Parts had to be sent up from Wrangell. They waited for 20 days for acceptable weather to continue the flight. (Bill Miller, *Wires in the Wilderness: The Story of the Yukon Telegraph*. Surrey BC: Heritage House. 2004: page 192.)

Cheers, Sally

Sally Robinson
Yukon Historic Sites, Interpretive Planner
Phone: (867) 667-3458
Fax (867) 667-8023
Email: sally.robinson@gov.yk.ca

WILD FIRE NEAR VERNON

A wild fire brought us to attention on Thursday afternoon about 3 pm. Bill was just leaving the house when he noticed smoke in line with the our driveway so I called 911. They had already received the call so stood in the window to watch for someone to arrive at the fire. Before long one truck came and parked up above the fire, in the Forestry seed orchard compound. The fire was still at the bottom of the hill and quite a distance from this truck. Before long the fire spread and in a couple of minutes was to the fence line of the seed orchard. I called back to 911 and they said 3 trucks had responded. I countered that there was only one there so far and that fire had spread up the hill to toward the orchard. Within a very few minutes the Forestry helicopter was there and with a lake just a couple of blocks away made about 15 drops when he then landed up in the Forestry compound while what I suspect is a plane studying the fire pattern. He came round it a couple of times then flew low with his siren going and was followed shortly by a bomber dropping fire retardant. In all that process was followed with 5 drops of retardant, which were spread on the perimeter where further trees were located. Fire fighters continued to hose down the left perimeter which if it spread would proceed to the neighbouring new subdivision. Another truck was located at the end of the subdivision wetting down the grass adjacent to the houses.

We are thankful it was adjacent to the Forestry property which obviously has the equipment and clout to get such quick response from the air. Otherwise this could have been a repeat of what started Aug 16, 2003 near Summerland and spread to Kelowna and as far south as Naramata. I heard the Kelowna Fire Chief speak on radio this week and he recounted that the first night they lost 15 homes and the second 220 homes, his voice

breaking once more at loosing more than the one or two buildings which had been the departments previous experience.

In the photo below you will see a photo Bill took the morning after. The blue spruce on the lower right of the photo is located at the bottom of our driveway. Immediately below this fire is the railway and then a tent and trailer park, full of summer visitors.

This fire was covered on Global – Vancouver TV last night Aug 14, 2008, some of you may have seen the coverage.

Sherron Jones sherronjones@shaw.ca (In Vernon)



Wild fire near Vernon – in Coldstream – Aug 14, 2008. The two largest trees that did burn are hard to see in this photo as the largest evergreen is the backdrop to them. When ignited they projected flames 3 times their own height. The dead (brown) trees to their right would have acted as further fuel to spread this fire had the bomber not dumped retardant in time. The accuracy of the helicopter and the bomber was incredible.

However the helicopter did increase the flame at either end of his flight path. Former Yukoners Brian & Pauline Warners home is cut in half near the top left of this photo. Photo courtesy Bill Jones ve7yi@shaw.ca (In Vernon/Coldstream)



This will give you the proximity to Kal Beach, the houses and corner store, and the railway in the cut between the trees left of center. (Aug 14, 2008)

“AN AIR tanker dumps fire retardant on a hillside blaze above Kal Beach Thursday afternoon that was quickly contained.”

Carmen Tamas photo – from Vernon Morning Star. See more at -

http://www.bclocalnews.com/okanagan_similkameen/vernonmorningstar/news/27008414.html



Bill Jones & his nephew Rob Lazeo #68, center with the Calgary Stampeders CFL football team. Rob was travelling back to Calgary and stopped for a visit. (Aug 15, 2008)

Photo courtesy Sherron Jones sherronjones@shaw.ca (In Vernon)

ARTISTIC TALENT



Statues at the Drumheller Museum, using this approach they look almost real.
Photo courtesy Doug Bell cheechako46@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)

OBIT



Sophie Alexandra Adams June 15, 1930 - August 02, 2008 "It is the beauty within each individual that defines the heart and allows a single life to make a difference." Mother you are ever the Lady. Through your battle with Cancer you never complained, never gave up and always had a smile. Showing your family the strength, courage and dignity of which you held the gift of life. It is with heartfelt sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved Mother, Wife, Grandma, Aunt (Great) & Friend. There is a place where we will meet again. Sophie was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba to the parents of Maria & Daniel. Sophie is predeceased by her loving parents, sisters: Olga, Anne & brother: Raymond. Sophie had a calling to be an educator and started this career path by teaching in a one room school with grades 1 to 12 at the age of 18. **From there she accepted a position to teach in the Yukon** and went on to teach in Marville, France on the Canadian Air Force Base. In 1961 Sophie moved to British Columbia where she continued her career with the Burnaby School Board to retirement. Sophie earned her Bachelor of Arts in Education Degree with the University of British Columbia later in her life. She believed and instilled in her family that an education was the key to fulfilling your dreams. Sophie met her partner, William later in her life and was able to share many

years together in happiness. Sophie was kind hearted, quick witted and creative who treasured her family and friends Mother is survived by her loving daughter Belinda, son-in-law Drew, grandsons Dalton & Rhys, her beloved spouse William, adopted daughter & family; Alev, Cas, Asia & Kashtin, niece & family; Linda, Rick, Lisa (Patrick), Jason & Tim, nephew & family; Dan, Tina, Micheala, Katie & Emily and her brother-in-law Irvin. Published in the Vancouver Sun and/or The Province from 8/6/2008 - 8/9/2008

Reid, David Jeffrey September 17, 1947 - August 6, 2008. It is with great sadness we announce the sudden and tragic passing of David Jeffrey Reid, son of Martha and Ralph (Bill) Reid. David is survived by Lasha, his wife and best friend of 18 years, brothers John (Jeanne) and Richard, nieces and nephews Nancy, Malcolm, Owen and Lucas, and many other relatives, friends and colleagues. Characterized by his strong, quiet faith, Dave will be remembered for his passions in life: flying, hunting, sausage-making, mountain biking, gardening, exploring the wilderness and 'stirring-the-pot.' The son of a pioneer family from the Saanich Peninsula, he developed a strong work ethic early in his youth and had a life-long love of the outdoors. After graduating from Claremont Senior Secondary School in 1965, Dave worked briefly for the Engineering Division of the BC Forest Service. He began his 40-year flying career as dock boy for Victoria Flying Services at the floatplane dock in Victoria's Inner Harbour about 1967. His sense of adventure led him to pursue a career in flying fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters in Fort St. James, Northern and Coastal B.C. and the Yukon. Known as a respected and competent pilot, Dave flew for several companies including Trans North Air, Vancouver Island Helicopters and Prism Helicopters. Lasha would like to thank the following who assisted in a challenging and difficult recovery: the Juneau and Comox Search and Rescue volunteers, the local people who risked life and limb, and the R.C.M.P. Thank you Joy Sundin for your compassion. The family would like to express heartfelt thanks to the many friends and relatives who have provided support and assistance during this difficult time. A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, August 16, 2008 at Silver Lining Helicopter Services, 1541B Kittyhawk Road, Victoria International Airport. Access is from Willingdon Road near the Spitfire Grill on the west side of the airport. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to B.C. Search and Rescue Association (www.bcsara.com/donations.php).

REMOVED FROM THE LIST

Joined in July 2006

Thank you for sending me Moccasin Telegraph for the past year or two. Now I have to ask you to discontinue my subscription.

Sincerely,

Claude Campbell

CAMPBELL, Claude jccampbell2@shaw.ca (In Dawson & Whitehorse 1950's)

Please take me off the mailing list -- not because I don't appreciate it, but because I'm working in a different field now and have too much to read. Way too much!

Regards, Claire Eamer

EAMER, Claire claire*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse since 1984)

Would you please remove us from your mailing list to receive the Moc Tel. We have found that often there is little in there that is of real interest to us. While the articles are very well written and detailed – we usually just scan through and often don't read any of it. Myself – I was only in Dawson once, and have never been to Mayo or Faro, so a lot of what people send in is of no interest to me at all.

You are doing an exceptional job with this and we know how much everyone enjoys getting the weekly editions. Keep up the good work.

Linda and Carter Kelly (formerly in Whse 1976-2005)

KELLY, Carter & Linda stoneboys*shaw.ca (In Whitehorse near 30 years) Qualicum

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

For success, attitude is equally as important as ability.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Sandy: (re MocTel 262 recipe)

Well - I made the bread pudding today - and as you indicated - it is really yummy. I'm sure it will not last long in the pan.

My neighbour is British and of course they LOVE their bread pudding, so I gave some to her and she was thrilled. I'm sure she will be asking for the recipe too.

The only thing I did different was that I used raisins that have been soaking in sherry. I always have raisins in my cupboard that are covered with sherry (or brandy) - to use in recipes that call for raisins. VERY yummy and of course very moist. And because I did not use any walnuts, I put more raisins in.

So - thank you for submitting this wonderful recipe in the Moccasin Telegraph. If anyone else tries it - I'm sure they will be as happy with the result as I am.

Linda Kelly stoneboys*shaw.ca (In Qualicum Beach BC)
(formerly in Whse 1976-2005)

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

CHOCOLATE BREAD PUDDING

Put in double boiler top:

1 ½ cups milk

1 cup sugar

1 cup bread crumbs

1 ½ oz unsweetened chocolate

Cook over hot water till smooth, stir in:

1 tbsp butter

Beat until light 2 eggs and add:

¼ tsp salt

½ tsp vanilla

½ cup milk

And then stir above into chocolate mixture and cook until smooth and thick.

Pour into buttered baking dish and bake 20 minutes at 350 degrees.

Chill. Serve with whipped cream.

This is the “fatteningest” dessert I know. Also the classiest and best!

Judy Pakozdy

Yukon Nurses Society Cook Book

DATES TO REMEMBER

Vancouver Island Picnic at St Mary’s Hall, Nanoose BC, August 16th.

Time is 11am - 4pm.

Held rain or shine. There is indoor accommodation.

Bring your own lunch. Coffee and tea provided.

For further info contact:

Harriett Butterworth: 250 751-1194

harriett3@shaw.ca OR

Sharon Redmond: 250-390-1840

smredmond@yahoo.ca

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE THE MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH

If you have received this copy of the Moccasin Telegraph from a friend and wish to sign up to receive future editions yourself, the criteria is that you **are or were a Yukoner**.

The goal of this project is to provide an opportunity for folks to reconnect.
There is an annual subscription fee for the Moccasin Telegraph.

– Sherron Jones sherronjones*shaw.

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH

c/o Sherron Jones
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