

## **MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH – 269<sup>th</sup> Edition – October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

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

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



Robins nest built on the light fixture by the door – they touch their heads on the roof overhang. This co-operative pair share the feeding duties. Looks like they have success in raising three in one batch.

Photo courtesy Doug Bell [chechako46@northwestel.net](mailto:chechako46@northwestel.net) (In Whitehorse)

This nest was above our back door on the light fixture, so, as one of our neighbours called them our "boarders". I have dozens of pictures of the family tho' not the eggs since the nest was so close to our overhang they hit their heads on it when feeding the young ones. We had to go Outside for a week, and that's when the young ones flew the coop, so missed that. We love the robins, but hadn't watched them so closely till this summer, and discovered they work together. They'd move off the nest when we came out the door which was only about six inches below the nest but only about ten feet away on the deck railing, nor a nearby birch tree, and preen a bit till we moved a few feet away. I've left the nest to see if they'll return in spring.

Doug Bell

### **UPDATE ON THE SOLAR CIRCUS**

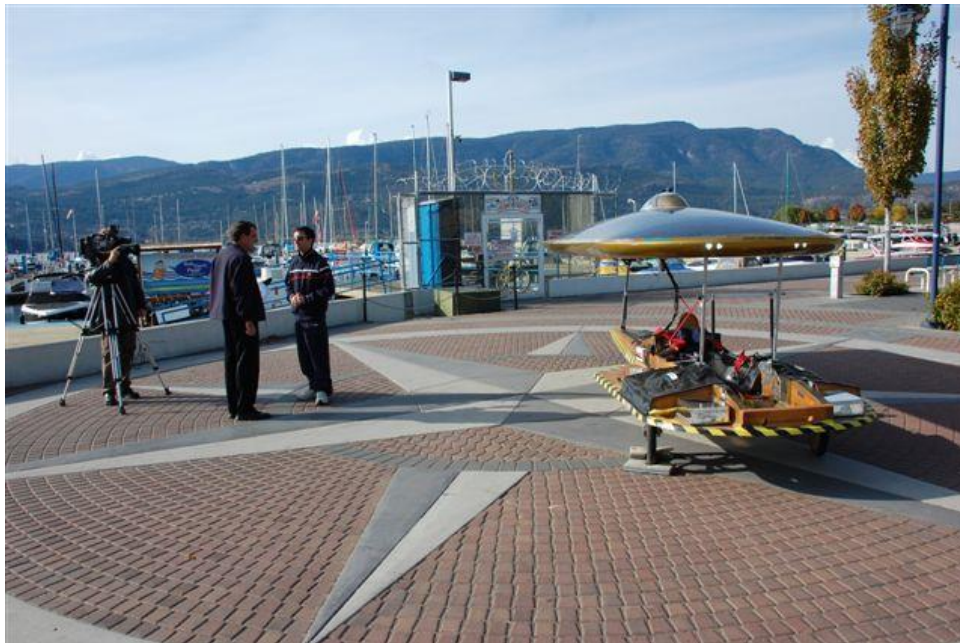
Earl L Brown the Milepost Man from Fort Nelson here again. (Oct. 21, 2008)

Earlier this month I ran away to join the circus. The "Solar Circus" that is.

After reading about the travels and adventures of Marcelo da Luz and his solar car "Xof1" in the Moccasin Telegraph, I ran into Marcelo in Fort St John near the end of September. A few days later, I hopped on the bus from Fort Nelson and caught up near Prince George with Marcelo and his volunteer gang of one, Taro from Japan, and spent the next nine days traveling with these guys. My task was that of driver of the support vehicle, making sure that no one drove into or over the solar car in traffic, helping out with some media contacts... and in general had a terrific time as we wound our way down the road through Williams Lake, Lac La Hache, Clinton, Cache Creek, Kamloops, Chase, Salmon Arm, Vernon and into Kelowna. (Travel depending solely on "sunshine juice" is not for the impatient, ever recharging the batteries, often with the sun devoured by clouds meant for some days travel of only 30 - 70 miles. But ... the incredible interesting people one meets along such a journey is fabulous. (I had to leave the expedition after Kelowna). The attached photo is at the Kelowna Yacht Club, a sunny occasion, where a local TV station was interviewing Marcelo about the venture. As of Tuesday Oct 21, Marcelo is in Vancouver, and within 300 kms of breaking the existing Guinness World Record of 15,070 kms for distance traveled on a trip by a solar powered vehicle. More information at [www.Xof1.com](http://www.Xof1.com) Watch out for this rig on Vancouver Island next ... if you'd like to help out, volunteer to drive the support vehicle. Marcelo can be reached at [mdaluz@Xof1.com](mailto:mdaluz@Xof1.com), or by voicemail 416-465-9459.

Best Regards!

Earl L Brown [autumn\\*pris.ca](mailto:autumn*pris.ca) (In Fort Nelson BC)



Solar Car in Kelowna

Photo courtesy Earl L Brown [autumn\\*pris.ca](mailto:autumn*pris.ca) (In Fort Nelson BC)

## **More Snowy Driving**

Another time I was headed back to Whitehorse from Watson Lake. The roads were icy and it was about 45 below. Just south of Rancheria there were some hills and the south ditch was about 100 feet deep. The road had been cut out of a clay bank so at the north edge of the road it went pretty much straight up. As I approached the top of one of these hills I saw a reflective triangle on the side of the road. I immediately started braking and as I came over the hill I noticed a semi twisted sideways on the road. The back end of the trailer was only about three feet short of going over the edge and there was just enough room for me to go through between the grille of the truck and the clay bank. I got some flares set up in the direction from which I came to warn other drivers and then tried to find out what happened. The driver, a Texan headed home after hauling pipe to Alaska, had fuel problems and his truck stalled just before the top of the hill. He dynamited (emergency application) all his brakes and was standing on the running board about to jump from his truck when it stopped just short of going over the edge. As I said, it was 45 below and here's this guy standing in running shoes, blue jeans, a T-shirt and a little nylon windbreaker. Not only was he totally unprepared for our weather, I had to show him how to chain up his wheels.

## **Yukon Truck Rodeo**

I was involved in the Yukon Truck Rodeo for several years and it was a great show. It was hosted by the Yukon Freighters Club and held in the Cassiar Asbestos trailer yard which was just east of the Klondike Inn. I think it later became the Sandman Inn. I don't know if the Yukon Freighters Club is still in existence or not. There were several classes of truck driving skills such as straight truck, semis, as well as timed events for such things as chaining up a set of duals. This event was open to women as well and some of these ladies did very impressive times. Too bad they weren't around to give the southern drivers a lesson or two.

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

## **James Harbic**

When James Harbic became the Parliament Hill Correspondent for the Whitehorse Star, Lester Pearson was Prime Minister, Erik Nielsen was gaining national prominence as an opposition backbencher, Canada was in the midst of the great flag debate and the Canada Pension Plan was just being implemented.

Flo Whyard, Editor of the Star, called Harbic's story on the introduction of the pension plan "the only one of the many I read that I could understand." According to Whyard, "James Harbic's reactions were on a par with the average voter."

The trouble was that in 1964, Harbic wasn't an average voter. He wasn't old enough to vote, and he'd never been to the Yukon. At fourteen years old, the Ottawa high-school student was the youngest member ever, of the Parliamentary Press Gallery.

How did it happen? While comic books inspired most 14-year-olds, Harbic had become captivated by Pierre Berton, Jack London and Robert Service. He wrote away for everything he could get his hands on about the Yukon, including the Whitehorse Star.

Flo Whyard remembers one day getting a letter from a kid in Ottawa who wanted to write a newspaper column. He said he read our paper, and that he was fourteen. Publisher Bob Erlam and I thought he had earned something, so the Star wrote and said "You're on."

Today James Harbic is a well known Ottawa defense lawyer, but fondly remembers his days as a columnist for the Whitehorse Star, for which he was paid five dollars a column. He says he always tried to put a twist on his stories. Flo Whyard recalls that the 14-year-old thought like an adult. Whyard said that the Star started putting Harbic's age under his picture after they discovered that most readers thought he was a grown-up member of the Press gallery.

As the Yukon correspondent, Harbic frequently interviewed Erik Nielsen. In the summer of 1966, Nielsen arranged a bus trip for Harbic to travel to the Yukon. When he finally arrived in Watson Lake, he saw a copy of the Whitehorse Star with the headline, "Harbic is Coming".

The young reporter, who had never seen the Yukon, was dumbfounded. In Whitehorse, Flo Whyard met him and gave him the tour, and it was just like Robert Service described it. His last column for the Star was about the centennial celebrations of 1967. Then the youngster's romance with journalism waned, and the Press Gallery's youngest-ever member decided to study law in university.

Nevertheless, the one-time Whitehorse Star Ottawa correspondent still finds time to write. He published a book called "Profiles in Nobility, the 125 Greatest Canadians." Not surprisingly, Robert Service is on James Harbic's list.

A CKRW Yukon Nugget by Les McLaughlin [leslorn\\*rogers.com](http://leslorn*rogers.com) (In Ottawa)

## **PHOTOS OF INTEREST – Etc.**

As I write this it's Thursday and you'll be on your way to warmer climates, lucky you. It just warmed up to zero here and the forecast is for flurries (bound to happen).

I'm glad Stan and Yvonne's story is getting more coverage. I've never heard a bad word about those two, they were thought well of by all, as they still are. When you send me a copy of your newsletter I'll make a copy for Yvonne as I'm pretty sure she doesn't have a computer.

Although I've never been to Vernon we get products sent to us from Natures Fare there, got some yesterday. We keep meaning to check it out when we're outside (of the Yukon), but never seem to be heading in that direction just the coast and the Islands.

Will send photos that I think might be of interest, have a couple in mind already (attached)

- 1) Watson Lake Signpost Forest from the air also showing the Watson Lake Hotel (now closed) and part of the Rec Plex.
- 2) Grizzly having a meal of young Bison. Seems this Grizzly has learnt to bring down the young, which there are quite a few of right now. Photo taken 80k from here, a short distance the other side of Contact Creek on the Alaska Highway.

Hope you had a great trip down to Yuma and look forward to reading your newsletter.

Regards

Paul Tubb [paul.tubb@yahoo.ca](mailto:paul.tubb@yahoo.ca) (In Watson Lake)



Signpost Forest – Watson Lake  
Photo courtesy Paul Tubb [paul.tubb@yahoo.ca](mailto:paul.tubb@yahoo.ca) (In Watson Lake)



Grizzly dining on a young Bison north of Contact Creek  
Photo courtesy Paul Tubb [paul.tubb@yahoo.ca](mailto:paul.tubb@yahoo.ca) (In Watson Lake)

### **Sophie Adams ???**

An article in your MT 263 shocked me. It was the obituary of Sophie Adams. Within the past year or so I had asked if anyone could put me in touch with Sophie who was THE teacher (Educator, as her daughter Belinda so aptly described her) at Keno, 1958/59. There was no response. If anyone could put me in touch with Belinda; (married name unknown) I would be most grateful.

Great to hear from you, Bill Dawson [yhuree@sympatico.ca](mailto:yhuree@sympatico.ca) (In Burlington ON)

### **DIEF THE CHIEF MADE HONORARY MEMBER OF YOOP**

Just read you latest issue of the telegraph. Dief the Chief also visited Dawson; he was made an honorary Member of the Yukon Order of Pioneers while here. Enclosed are a few photos.

Diefenbaker is shaking hand with Alex Adams, Alex in the early days danced on stage in the Palace Grand.



The "Chief" is showing that he can pan for gold, Mike Comadina is watching him. The man in the back ground is Benny Kinswell. Benny grew up in Dawson went to school here.

John Gould [jgould\\*northwestel.net](mailto:jgould*northwestel.net) (In Dawson)

## DO YOU HAVE PLANS TO WRITE A NON-FICTION BOOK ???

Hello Sherron

So, do you or any of the MocTel readers have plans to write a non-fiction book? If so,... Good News! Next month a retreat for authors and would-be authors is taking place at Toad River on the Alaska Highway. This year, Dan Poynter, author of "The Self Publishing Manual" has led workshops and made presentations in Las Vegas, New York, Miami, Washington DC, Los Angeles, Toronto, Edmonton, London UK, Durbin South Africa, Auckland and Wellington New Zealand, Malaysia, Singapore, United Arab Emirates, Belgium and a bunch more exotic places ... and he's coming to Fort Nelson and Toad River because I asked him to come. (And he's looking forward with enthusiasm to this northern trip!) Find out more about the retreat, the when, the how much, the how many (about 20 spots left as of today) with the following weblink... <http://www.autumnimages.com/toad.html> If there is a book inside you, you don't want to miss this incredible event! Yes is the right answer. (So far, attendees include folks from mature teens to mature seventies) CBC host Sheryl MacKay had me on her North by Northwest Show last weekend, and I received calls and emails from all over the province.

Be sure to click on the "Hear Dan speak on You-Tube" section of Speaker's Information.

Best Regards

Earl L Brown [earl\\*autumnimages.com](mailto:earl*autumnimages.com)

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Some folks have a book squirming and wriggling inside them, and don't know what to do to make it a reality. There is now an answer.

November 14 - 16 at Toad River (Population 72) on the Alaska Highway, the world authority on self publishing (Dan Poynter, author of 120+ books) will be leading a retreat there.

Held at the 8500 sq ft Stone Mountain Safaris Lodge, and limited to 48 persons, the retreat is about 40% booked already,

Sherron, it would be great to see MocTel members participate in the November retreat... let me know if this fits into your plans. Rattle my cage if any questions.

Sure, I wouldn't mind if you forwarded this invite to others. The Toad River Writers Retreat info now posted to my website ... spread the good word!

Cheers Earl L Brown  
250-774-3488 [earl\\*autumnimages.com](mailto:earl*autumnimages.com)

For more information on this fabulous opportunity, please go to:  
<http://www.autumnimages.com/toad.html>

## **OBIT**

**MAZURKEWICH Patricia Anne (nee Carmichael)** February 21, 1929 - October 10, 2008 Pat passed away peacefully on Friday afternoon at Penticton Hospital. Over the past six months, Pat had very bravely battled a rare, debilitating condition. Pat was predeceased by her beloved husband and friend Joe in 1993. She will be deeply missed by her daughters Anne and Donna; her son Joe (Anita); her 4 grandchildren, Ross, Sarah, Emily and Jager and many dear friends. Pat was born on the family farm in Saskatchewan, growing up with her mother, father, sister (Kathleen) and brother (John). **As a young woman she trained as a teacher, initially working in Saskatchewan and later in the Yukon where she met Joe. In 1963 the family moved to Ashcroft.** Joe worked as an accountant at Bethlehem Copper Mines, while Pat took care of the home front and volunteered her time and energy with many groups. Around 1989, Joe and Pat moved to Penticton where they made many more friends and enjoy lots of activities. After Joe's death, Pat remained in Penticton. She travelled frequently to Ashcroft and Richmond to spend time with her children and grandkids. Pat was a loving mother and Nana and she had a gift for making friends. She had many interests and hobbies. She was a golfer, bridge player, gifted quilter and a dedicated volunteer, most recently for the BC Cancer Society. Thank you to the staff at Westview Place South for their help in making Pat comfortable these past few months. A service will be held at St. Ann's Catholic Church, 1296 Main Street, Penticton, BC on Saturday, October 18, at 11:00 am. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Pat's name to the B.C. Cancer Society. God bless you, Mom. You will be forever in our hearts. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Providence Funeral Homes. Condolences may be directed to the family; [parkview@vip.net](mailto:parkview@vip.net).

Published in the Vancouver Sun and/or The Province on 10/16/2008

**BOLTON, Warren "Bud"** Late of Watson Lake, Yukon Territory. Son of the late Warren & Evelyn Bolton. Beloved husband of Helen (nee Clews). Dear father of Scott, Mayo, Yukon and Todd (Sept. 2008). Brother of Margaret Aubry, Windsor. Arrangements incomplete.

Published in the Windsor Star on 10/18/2008

## **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

Change of address would be [linnea.castagner@gmail.com](mailto:linnea.castagner@gmail.com)

Linnea Castagner (In Whitehorse)

I thought I'd send you my new e-mail address as I moved to another location.

It's [celticme77@sympatico.ca](mailto:celticme77@sympatico.ca)

Thank you so much as I really enjoy receiving The Moc Tel weekly and look forward to each posting.

Take care & cheers....Debbie Nelson (In Dundas ON)

## **NEW ADDITIONS**

Sherron; I am wondering if the Moccasin Telegraph is still around?

### **Claudia Bob**

First Nations Researcher

Yukon Archives

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Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6

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Can I be on that list....

My personal email is [claudia\\_bob@msn.com](mailto:claudia_bob@msn.com) and my mailing address is

Claudia Bob

1 Hanna Crescent

Whitehorse Yukon Y1A 6H9

and what type of material do you put in there, I could possibly contribute or gather!

Talk soon,

Claudia

## **QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

*The best way to predict the future is to invent it.*

## **RECIPE OF THE WEEK**

Submitted by Florence Roberts [yapper\\*klondiker.com](mailto:yapper*klondiker.com) (In Whitehorse)

### **Whole-Meal Biscuits**

1 cup whole meal flour (rye)  
¾ cup bran  
4 tsp. sugar  
1 tsp. baking powder  
½ tsp. salt  
½ tsp. curry powder  
¾ cup lard and butter (total is ¾ cup )  
¼ cup milk

Mix all dry ingredients. Blend in lard and butter until mealy, add milk. Roll out to desired thickness (1/8 inch). Cut and bake at 375 degrees for 15 minutes.

Gail Chester  
Yukon Nurses Society Cook Book

## **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](mailto:sherronjones*shaw).

### **MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH**

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