

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH – 280th Edition – March 29th, 2009

Created by Sherron Jones sherronjones@shaw.ca

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



Klondike at Night

Photo courtesy Doug Bell cheechako46@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)

SPEEDING

Although nothing is infallible, the radar sets were tested every day they were used. I am sure the radar set was working properly when responding to a complaint from the locals at Pelly Crossing of speeding trucks and I clocked a semi doing 70 miles per hour in a 30 zone. Is it any wonder the Pelly Crossing people had complained. I never had a problem with a vehicle going a few miles over the limit as most speedometers aren't truly accurate but more than double the speed limit wasn't even worth the driver's attempt at making an excuse.

I did stop a car for speeding one night and as I approached the car I found the driver to be female. I asked for her driver's license and registration and her husband who was seated in the right seat was trying to get my attention by saying "Officer, Officer". I acknowledged him and expected him to deny his wife was speeding. To the contrary, he told me he was a tax paying citizen of this country and that his wife speeds all the time and never gets caught and as a tax payer he demanded she get two tickets. Of course she was getting really ticked at him and was telling him to shut up but he thought it was really funny. I can't say that I didn't find it humourous too. I'm sure he didn't get any lovin' for a long time.

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



The RCMP Cemetery at Dawson City 1973.
George Bliss [jrsports*sasktel.net](mailto:jrsports@sasktel.net) (In Regina SK)



This picture is taken around 1948 - 50 in Whitehorse - I am assuming near the Old Log Church. They are Dianne & Donna Harbottle & Joy & Buck Fraser.
Photo courtesy Joy (Fraser) Denton [joydenton*hotmail.com](mailto:joydenton@hotmail.com) (In Whitehorse)

Yukon Arctic Ultra

Sherron, we stopped at Braeburn for a coffee and snack while flying the Quest trail. We came across some participants in the Yukon Arctic Ultra.

I've attached a few photos I took.

The event took place Feb 15 to 28, 2009.

Donna Clayson bdclayson*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)

YUKON ARCTIC ULTRA

February 15 to 28, 2009

www.arcticultra.de/en.php

This is the world's coldest and toughest ultra for mountain bikers, cross-country skiers, skijorers and runners. It is the organizers goal to put on the world's best and toughest human powered winter (ultra) marathon race.

The entry fee includes the pre-race banquet held this year in Whitehorse on February 14th. Also included are meals at checkpoints and transportation back from the finish.

The race is open to men, women and teams of 2 or more athletes. No minors are allowed. The participants can enter the following categories:

Marathon

The marathon finishes just off the Takhini River.

100 Miles

100 mile racers will go from Whitehorse to Braeburn.

300 Miles

The 300 mile racers will keep on going all the way to Pelly Farm. There they will leave the river to turn around and go back to Pelly Crossing on the farm road

430 Miles

The 430 mile athletes will not return to Pelly Crossing. Instead they will continue on the Quest trail to Dawson City. Please note: the 430 mile race is held every two years

The Yukon Arctic Ultra follows the Yukon Quest trail, the trail of the world's toughest Sled Dog Race. The trail is marked but a GPS is recommended. The race started in downtown Whitehorse on February 15 at 10:30 a.m. but it wasn't until the next day at Braeburn that we first came across the participants.

There were racers from many different countries including:

Germany
Canada
USA
England
Wales
Austria
Switzerland
Australia
Spain
Sweden
France
Italy

At each checkpoint the racers receive a free meal and hot water.

While flying over the Yukon Quest trail on February 16 we landed at Braeburn and spotted a few of the racers preparing to leave the checkpoint.



Photo courtesy Donna Clayson bdclayson@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Photo courtesy Donna Clayson bdclayson@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Photo courtesy Donna Clayson bdclayson@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Photo courtesy Donna Clayson bdclayson@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)

CHECKPOINTS	MILES BETWEEN	MILES
Whitehorse	0	0
Rivendell (marathon finish)	26	26
Dog Grave Lake	33	59
Braeburn (100 mile finish)	35	94
Ken Lake	44	138
Carmacks	35	173
McCabe Creek	38	211
Pelly Crossing	28	239
Pelly Farm	33	272
Pelly Crossing (300 mile finish)	32	304
Scroggie Creek (continues right from Pelly Farms)	65	337
Dawson City (430 mile finish)	99	436

Donna Clayson bdclayson@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)

*Commented to Les McLaughlin recently about the **Robinson Roadhouse** and he had this to say --- Sherron*

Bill Robinson

A small townsite on the Carcross road is named after a big man. Weighing in at over 300 pounds, Stikine Bill gave the community of Robinson its name.

William Robinson was a railroad man who was born in North Anson, Maine. He came north to Canada in 1898 when he was hired on as general foreman for the ill-conceived attempt to build a railway along the Stikine River from Glenora to Teslin Lake. The project never really got off the ground ... or on the rails, so to speak. But it was here that William Robinson got the name which followed him the rest of his days - Stikine Bill.

In 1899, Bill Robinson was hired by Michael Heney, who was in charge of construction of the White Pass railway. At six-foot-three, 300 pounds, Robinson was in charge of the operations of what was called the Red Line, a company which delivered construction material from the top of the White Pass summit to various points along the railway line. He was also in charge of laying the grade for the railway between Bennett Station and Whitehorse. Keeping one step ahead of the men laying the track was Robinson's key job and he did it well.

On June 29, 1900, the last of the track was laid at Carcross, while a large and well oiled crowd looked on. It was Bill Robinson who handed the last spike to Samuel Graves, chief executive officer of the railroad. As he did, Robinson shouted 'this ladies and gentlemen is the last spike, the spike of gold.'

The townsite of Robinson was surveyed in 1906 by William Grainger and H.W. Vance, two mining promoters from Whitehorse, when it became apparent that the Wheaton River valley would hold good mining prospects. A post office was established in Robinson in 1909, but was closed just six years later.

Meanwhile, Stikine Bill Robinson stayed on with Michael Heney as construction foreman in building the Copper River and Northwestern Railway in Alaska from 1908 to 1912. William Robinson remained in Alaska and was involved with mining and prospecting enterprises until his death in 1926.



Here's a frame grab of Murray Lundberg at the Robinson Road House on the Carcross road. From the Youtube video.

CITY OF GOLD

Hi Sherron, I enjoyed the accounts in the last few issues of the Moccasin Telegraph. They brought back many memories.

In MocTel #277, although her experiences preceded mine, the descriptions that Phyllis (LePage) Simpson gave of living on the river while her father provided wood for fuel for the steamboats on the Yukon River, are not unlike my experiences when my father did the same for the steamboats that ran on the Stewart River. I did not have the good fortune to have a sister (or a brother) to keep me company, though, so when friends such as Allan Miller or Lowell and Sybil Bleiler or others would come to visit I was very happy to have someone to play with.

The account by Les McLaughlin submitted by Rolf Hougen, brought back many memories of our visits to Bear Creek to the L.L. "Bud" Rogers family. The last of these was in 1969 after the dredges had closed and I think Bud was the only one still living in Bear Creek as the caretaker. It was a weird feeling to walk around the old shops and other buildings with no one else around. I also had the privilege of visiting one of the dredges (#11) during its last year of operation on Hunker Creek in 1966. (Earlier readers will recall that Donna Clayson and I submitted photos and Henry Breaden

provided the knowledge for Sherron to assemble an article on the dredges which appeared as a Special Edition - Dredges #11 & #4 - August 2, 2005.)

In the MocTel #278, I was reminded of Al Oster's story. I remember listening to him and his music on CBC as a young boy and he may be interested to know that I still have a couple of his vinyl albums I bought about 40 years ago, "Yukon Ballads" and "Yukon Gold", I believe. They are packed away with my other memorabilia so I can't confirm at this time.

Readers may be interested in the following website. Those my age (and older) will remember that in 1957 the National Film Board produced a short (21 minute) film called the "City of Gold", narrated by Pierre Burton. It was apparently filmed in 1954. I remember seeing it in school projected from a 16 mm machine. What I liked about it was that it showed some of the ordinary people in Dawson City. Some of the "old timers" and some of the children at the ball park. Over the years I have wondered if one could somehow obtain a copy of it. Today I happened to be doing some research for another article and came upon it. The film has been digitized and is available for viewing on the NFB website at this address: http://www.nfb.ca/film/city_of_gold/. Former Dawsonites might be interesting in viewing it as it shows Dawson City in the mid 1950s and they might even recognize some of the people filmed. Read the curator's comments as well. I noticed that Art Nakano's father, Mitch, is mentioned by name.

I also came across the following CBC Yukon Network brochure in my "collection" (I use the term loosely!) of Yukon items. The brochure is designed to fold so the Radio Tune Up Guide and the various location names appear on the front. When you open it you see the frequencies and the ad about listening to "trail of 62". The back of the brochure will then show the CBC Northern Service stations and their languages. Some of the readers may remember when CBC was the only station in town. I think the brochure is from around 1962 as is suggested by the "trail of 62". If I remember correctly, at least the signal in Mayo and Elsa were repeater signals from Whitehorse. Perhaps all of the signals in the territory were repeater signals from Whitehorse. I'm sure someone, like Les McLaughlin, will be able to confirm this ... or correct me if I am in error. Incidentally, I don't know if it was my early experience with the CBC or not but I find that I still listen to the CBC most of the time. On occasion I even listen to the CBC station in Whitehorse over the Internet. I guess old practices die hard! (Disclaimer: I do not work for the CBC. I did do a short stint in the early 1960s as the roving reporter from Mayo, reporting on activities for the CBC for a month while the regular reporter, whose name I cannot remember, was on vacation!)

Take care.

Harvey Burian hburian@telus.net (In Parksville, BC)

PS The CBC Brochure mentioned in my message above is below as two images.

LISTEN TO
"TRAIL OF 62"

Broadcast Time
 At 6.40 P.M. Monday & Friday

Pre-Recorded at
 3.15 P.M. Monday & Friday

WHITE PASS & YUKON RAILWAY STATION IN WHITEHORSE

COME IN AND BE OUR GUEST
 AND BECOME AN HONOURARY SOURDOUGH

ON YOUR DIAL

DAWSON CITY
ELNA
MAYO
HAINES JUNCTION
WHITEHORSE
WATSON LAKE
CASSIAR
FORT NELSON

CBC NORTHERN SERVICE

RADIO TUNE UP GUIDE

BROADCASTS IN THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGES AND DIALECTS

- ENGLISH
- FRENCH
- ESKIMO
- BEAVER
- DOGRIB
- CHIPEWYAN
- SLAVE

YUKON NETWORK

NEWS
 ROAD REPORTS
 WEATHER
 MUSIC

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION
 NORTHERN SERVICE
 P.O. BOX 4000 MONTREAL

City of Gold, Cont'd

Hi Sherron. Interesting to read Harvey's comments. City of Gold is for sale through the National Film Board. A great documentary probably filmed in 1956 and released in 1957.

City of Gold (1957) received the Palme d'or at Cannes for best short film and was nominated for an Academy Award for best live-action short. City of Gold brings the Klondike gold rush to life in a unique style that integrates historical stills and live-action shots with text and narration by Pierre Berton.

Harvey's CBC brochures bring back memories of one of many programs conceived by Cal Waddington and produced each summer into the late 60s. The Trail of '62 (63-64-65-etc) was aimed at tourists with touristy news, weather and road reports, interviews with tourists, bouncy Yukon music and the like.

The last gold dredge in the Klondike ceased operations in 1966. That summer Cal and I travelled to Dawson, conducted a bunch of interviews and produced a one hour radio documentary for the network called The End of an Era. The Yukon Archives has a copy of the program. Al Oster wrote Buckets of Steel for that show.

Les McLaughlin leslorn@rogers.com (In Ottawa)

City of Gold, Cont'd

Hi Sherron:

Harvey Burian and Les McLaughlin's comments on the early days of CBC are interesting flashbacks. I remember Whitehorse radio in 1957 was somewhat to be desired. The station, before CBC, originated from the air force base and was operated by volunteer announcers. Joe Craig I believe was the self appointed station manager, and I recall Earl Stephanson, who was a Canada Customs Officer was a part-time announcer. The news and music broadcasts, even based on 1957 standards, were terrible. It was a happy event when the CBC came to the rescue.

CBC Whitehorse was the only radio in the Yukon, until the origin of CKRW, with the exception of maybe Dawson City. I'm not sure about the radio broadcast facility in that area. Whether it was there before CBC, whether it was a satellite by-product of CBC, or whether there actually was a station there. There appeared to be a station there however with the voice of Wee Willie Anderson as announcer. I can remember listening to Wee Willie music programs on CBC Whitehorse supposedly originating from Dawson playing his very old personal collection of early recordings. However it could have been a tape recording prepared by Bill Anderson and forwarded to CBC Whitehorse for replay. A few years later Bill Anderson ended up in Whitehorse, and I assume the Dawson City station, if any, became a satellite or repeater of solely Whitehorse radio. Be interesting to

have Les research the correct historical data background of CBC Yukon, and its current broadcast coverage facilities. I'm not certain of my facts. They are as I remember.

I remember Cal and his "Trail of 62" programs; Very professional. I also remember Les and Cal working on a dredge documentary and asking me if I could write a song about "The End Of An Era". I wrote two songs. "Buckets Of Steel" and "Looking For Silver And Gold". They used "Buckets Of Steel" which I recorded on the CBC LP album "Yukon Stars" at Expo 67, and the other song "Looking For Silver And Gold" is included on my soon to be released FRCD-09-1011 "More Yukon".

Re the "Yukon Gold" LP Harvey. About 15 years ago a Chicago record auction house received \$300.00 for it and \$100.00 for the "Northland Ballads" LP. A few months ago Les alerted me that a copy of my first 45 RPM "Midnight Sun Rock" b/w "Next Boat" sold for \$325.04 on EBay. The 45 RPM is also in the Nashville Rockabilly Hall Of Fame. You never know.

Best to you all,

Al Oster alosteryukon@jetstream.net (In Salmon Arm)

City of Gold, Cont'd

Hi Sherron. Actually Cal is a better source than I about CBC in the Yukon. Tim Kinvig is even better because he did a whole bunch of research on broadcasting in the Yukon. However, for the moment it goes something like this.

CBC Northern Service took over the community run radio stations in Whitehorse (CFWH) and Dawson City (CFYT) in November 1958. Bill Anderson was then a volunteer in Dawson and became a CBC staffer there. Later Cal was a staffer in Dawson (I think) and in 1960, the Dawson station was closed and they moved to Whitehorse.

Al is correct that both Joe Craig and Earl Stephanson were volunteers at CFWH (so was I going to school) and they became CBC employees.

CBC Whitehorse provided service to the entire Yukon with a system of repeater (unmanned) stations in every community.

Les McLaughlin leslorn@rogers.com (In Ottawa)

CITY OF GOLD

I have a copy of "City of Gold". A VHS version I purchased at Parks Canada in Dawson some years back. Your email sent me digging through my collection to take another look at the program. It is interesting. I am not sure - But I would think this is still for sale

around the Yukon - Possibly in Macs? I will scout around next week and see if it's available. I suspect Yukon archives has a copy that could be viewed there.

Re the piece on Al Oster - CBC North has produced a 4 hour series - "**Dancing with the Northern Lights: 50 years of the CBC Northern Service**" This program looks at music in the north and the CBC's part in recording and airing the music of musicians from across northern Canada. The series is currently being aired on CBC's Radio 2 network - airing 12:05pm Sunday afternoon. The first episode aired last Sunday and this first episode looks at the roots of various Aboriginal music in the North then goes on to describe the CBC's first efforts of broadcasting northern musicians. This first happened here in Whitehorse in the 1960's featuring the likes of Al Oster, Hank Karr and the Canucks. It also looks at Cal Waddington and Les McLaughlin's part in those broadcasts. In the program Cal has an interesting account on recording Al Oster's first LP - Yukon Gold. I think - a project where he was the producer, recording engineer and the session drummer - all at the same time - and how he did it all with mirrors.

The next part will air this Sunday. I knew this program was on the way but didn't know when and just found out at the last moment it was to be aired so was not able to get the info to you in time. However the program can be heard online from CBC's web site - http://www.cbc.ca/radio2/archives_ITM.html.

I understand this program is to be run again on the CBC's Radio 1 network. Maybe the CBC's Manager John Boivin could alert the Mocket list when it is scheduled.

Tim Kinvig

Checked around this morning and found Macs Fireweed has a couple of DVD copies of the "City of Gold" DVD in stock at \$12.95 each.

Tim Kinvig

Here is the link to purchase online:

<http://www.yukonbooks.com/shop/customer/product.php?productid=14800&cat=0&page=1>

Please refer anyone interested to that website (yukonbooks.com) or they can call our 1-800 number as well.

Sincerely,

Ken Searcy

www.yukonbooks.com

ksearcy@yukonbooks.com

Macs Fireweed Books

Toll Free 1-800-661-0508

CBC YUKON HISTORY, repeaters etc.

Harvey Burian's note mentioning the CBC repeaters sent me digging through my files and I found this note I had prepared for the CBC's 40th anniversary in 1998. This was put together with material from my files and some help from Pam Buckway.

Tim Kinvig kinvig*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)

CBC Yukon History

The first radio transmitter in the Yukon went on the air in Dawson City on October 20th, 1923. This transmitter was used for point to point communication, initially sending messages in Morse code between Dawson and Mayo and eventually, as technology improved, voice messages between various communities in the Yukon. However it was not until the forties before radio broadcast services were installed in the Yukon.

Although it took a while for broadcast services to arrive in the Yukon, they were available in the "outside" world and Yukoners were as keen as anyone to get into using this new technology. Through the thirties many Yukoners purchased radio broadcast receivers and, using long wire aerials, tuned into radio programs from distant stations - AM stations in Alaska, British Columbia and Alberta. Many people also had shortwave receivers and were able to tune in shortwave stations from all around the globe.

In the late thirties some of Canada's broadcasters became aware of the potential listening audience in the north and radio stations like CKWX in Vancouver (broadcasting on both the AM and the Shortwave bands) and CJCA Edmonton (on the AM band) began to include programs produced for the northern audiences in their weekly schedules.

Radio Station CFWH started out as the first Army Expeditionary Forces radio station in the Northwest Service Command - operated for and by soldiers of the district under the Special Service Branch of the US War Department. The station went on the air in Whitehorse on at 7:00 pm (1900 hours), Thursday, February 24th 1944.

At that time, CFWH's studio and transmitter were installed at McRae as an integral part of the US Army operation. CFWH went on the air using a 100 Watt transmitter operating at 1240 kilocycles (now kilohertz) on the AM Band. The station operated from 7 to 10 p.m. weekday evenings, 7 to 11 p.m. on Saturday, and from 2 to 10 p.m. on Sundays.

Programming at the time was a mix of locally-produced record shows hosted by American Forces personnel and pre-recorded programs from the US forces network. Although this station was installed to serve the American forces working on the Alaska Highway, it also tried to serve the civilian residents of the Whitehorse area.

Canadian newscasts were first broadcast over CFWH in October of 1945. These newscasts originated from the PR branch of the 6th service command from Edmonton.

In June 1946, the control and operation of radio station CFWH was transferred from the US Army to the Canadian Armed Forces who by then had control of the Northwest Highway System. The transfer took place at a special ceremony held at 8:15pm on Saturday, June 1st 1946.

The station was handed over by Major Thos. H. McGrail of the US Army and received on the part of the Canadian Army by Brigadier General Walsh, C.B.E., D.S.O., commanding officer, Northwest Highway System, Canadian Army.

At the ceremony, tributes were paid to the US military staff that operated and programmed the station. Major Walsh pointed out that ... "While the station was established primarily to serve military personnel we have attempted to make it useful to the town Whitehorse in all appropriate ways"

Major Walsh also thanked the 843rd Signal Service Battalion, the Royal Canadian Air Force, and the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals for co-operation in the maintenance of the station.

Brigadier Walsh commented that radio station CFWH "...would continue to play a part of the life in this community but that could only be accomplished by community effort..." He pointed out that all personnel would be operating the station on a voluntary basis and invited the general members of the community to join in its operation.

As from June 1st, 1946 the station was operated under the supervision of Major William B. Martin. After the Canadian takeover CFWH continued to mainly be operated by armed forces volunteers, though as the years passed more and more civilian residents of Whitehorse participated in the operation on a volunteer basis.

After the transfer the location of the studio and transmitter was moved a number of times - from the American military complex in McRae to the Canadian Military complex in Hillcrest and the airport.

Programming on CFWH remained a mix of locally-produced record shows with many pre-recorded programs from the American Armed forces radio network. In 1951 - some of these "pre-recorded" gems included programs such as "Jimmy Durante" "Martin & Lewis", "Strike it Rich", "Life with Riley", "Sarah Vaughan", "Father Knows Best", "Roy Rogers", "Dragnet", "Phil Harris Show" etc.

In the late forties, arrangements were made with the Northwest Highway System to get feeds of the regular Saturday Night NHL Hockey radio broadcasts and eventually the CFL games - both of which CFWH carried live.

In Dawson City in March, 1947, Chuck Grey started up a radio station operating from his room in the Pearl Hotel, and using his own records. This was eventually to become CFYT.

Over the years CFYT studios moved from the hotel room to the Army Signals station, the Government Liquor store, and then finally to the Administration Building.

In 1951, fire damaged the NWHS Rec Hall which housed the CFWH studios at that time. The station suffered a fair amount of damage, and lost a good part of its record library. In October 1951, the Whitehorse Board of Trade sponsored a fund drive - "Radio Week" - to raise money for the damaged station. Whitehorse residents responded well to this effort and funds were collected to get the station back on track. Radio week proved to be so successful that the effort became a yearly event for a while in the early fifties. It is interesting to note that the Radio Week drive in 1953 raised \$4200 for CFWH operations.

During the early fifties most of the recorded programs from the American Armed forces were dropped and CFWH (and CFYT in Dawson City) began to receive recorded material from the CBC radio network. These programs were usually aired many weeks after their original airing on CBC. By the mid 50's CFWH was broadcasting about 17 hours a day, of which about 10 hours was recorded CBC material.

In 1956 the CFWH transmitter was replaced with a new 250 watt unit - it was still operating on 1240 kilocycles - and this new transmitter was installed on the Range Road Radio Site where the present transmitter is located.

Sunday 9th November, 1958 was CFWH's last day as a volunteer-operated community radio station, owned by the Canadian Armed Forces. Monday 10th November CFWH opened up as a CBC owned and operated Network Radio Station.

A special ceremony was held the evening of Sunday November 9th to mark the hand over.

Representing the Canadian Armed Forces were Brigadier J. R. R. Jones (Army Commander of the NWHS), Squadron Leader R. C. Staple (Commander of RCAF Station Whitehorse) and Major Ken Kaye (manager of Volunteer Radio Station CFWH).

Representing the CBC were Andrew Cowan (Director CBC Northern Service), Jack Craine (Program Supervisor for CBC Northern Service), Lloyd Moore (Technical Operations Supervisor for CBC Northern Service) and Rod Falconer, CBC's newly appointed CFWH Station Manager.

Also on hand representing the community were F. H. Collins (Commissioner of the Yukon), Gordon Cameron (Mayor of Whitehorse) and Erik Nielsen (MP for Yukon).

CBC's CFWH commenced operation with seven staff: Rod Falconer, Manager (transferred in from Prince Rupert); Ed Kerry, Technician; Joe Craig, Earl Stephanson,

Pat O'Neil and Terry Delaney, announcers (all were volunteers at the old CFWH) and Gladys Hentges, Stenographer.

On Friday November 14th, 1958, another ceremony was held in Dawson City where the 100 watt, volunteer-operated radio station CFYT was also taken over by the CBC Network.

Long time volunteer announcer Bill ("Wee Willie") Anderson was appointed CBC station Manager for CFYT and this station was operated by CBC staff until 1960 when the network feed from Whitehorse was available through the new CNT (Canadian National Telecommunications) microwave facilities. At this point the transmitter was set up as a repeater, the production studio was shut down and the staff was transferred to other CBC locations. Wee Willie Anderson and Cal Waddington were transferred to Whitehorse.

CFWH was the first station taken into the CBC Northern Service Family on November 10th, 1958, followed on November 14th by CFYT in Dawson City. CFYK in Yellowknife joined the CBC Northern service on December 13th, 1958 and CFGB Goose Bay joined on February 22nd, 1959.

As the CNT microwave network spread through the Yukon in the late 50's and early 60's, CBC's Yukon Radio Network originating from Whitehorse was eventually expanded, with 40-watt "low-power relay transmitters" (LPRTs) in the smaller communities along the Alaska and North Klondike Highways. Residents from Watson Lake to Beaver Creek to the Mayo area welcomed the clear signals - no more straining to hear the Whitehorse transmitter when atmospheric conditions were good, or doing without local "survival" information entirely. With the opening of new mining communities in the late 60's, service was added to Cassiar, Clinton Creek, Faro and Ross River. Service was finally added to Atlin in the late 70's.

In 1963, CBC's Whitehorse transmitter - CFWH - was again upgraded, this time to a 1 kilowatt transmitter operating on a frequency of 570 kilocycles (now "kilohertz") with a new 286 foot transmission tower installed at the Range Road site. In 1986 this transmitter was upgraded to its present 5 kilowatt unit.

Not long after the CBC takeover in 1958, the CFWH studio facilities were moved from the Armed forces complex up at Hillcrest to Third Avenue in downtown Whitehorse next to the Canadian Coachways bus depot. The CBC building later was home to Archer Cathro and now The Java Connection.

In 1964 construction started on the "Casca Building" at 3103 3rd Avenue - (CBC Yukon's present home) and the CBC moved into its new location in April of 1966. At the time, the CBC used about a quarter of the building space on the ground floor. The Yukon Liquor Store had the Elliot Street entrance and much of the basement, while Eaton's catalogue store and Dr. Hanna's Optometrists office took up the rest of the ground floor. Yukon government and Crown Attorney offices were upstairs.

The CBC purchased the Casca Building in 1976 and eventually expanded to use the whole building space. Now, with cutbacks, CBC has reduced some of its space requirements and about half the ground floor space was rented out – first to Northwestel, now to the Taiga medical clinic.

Another broadcasting-related event happened in Whitehorse in 1958 that had great effect on the community. In October of that year WHTV began its Cable TV operation in Whitehorse. Starting up operating a single channel out of a basement room in the Whitehorse Inn, serving downtown Whitehorse, WHTV has slowly grown from a single channel service playing back pre-recorded programs to 2 and more channel service - to the multi channel live service they operate today serving most of the Whitehorse area. The WHTV operation was sold to Northwestel in 2007.

In July of 1960 CBC commenced airing locally produced newscasts. Originally these newscasts comprised of material put together by the editor of the Whitehorse Star (Flo Whyard) and rushed down to the station where is read by the local CBC announcer. This situation continued until 1967 when the CBC appointed its first news editor, Bill Morham, to produce newscasts out of the Whitehorse studios.

In late 1968 the CBC started up its own TV service in the Yukon. The "Frontier Coverage Package" (FCP) was commenced in Whitehorse in November of 1968, and shortly after in Watson Lake, Cassiar, Dawson City, Clinton Creek, Elsa and Mayo. The FCP was finally installed in Faro in early 70's.

The "FCP" was a small TV playback package consisting of a low powered TV transmitter and 2 Ampex 660 video playback machines. These TV stations were only on the air for 4 hours a day and the tape playback units, which used the old 2" video tape rolls, were modified to run a full night's program off one tape.

These tapes were recorded in CBC's video delay centre in Calgary and then cycled through the north from community to community. The bigger centres - Whitehorse, Yellowknife etc. - received the tapes first and played them back on a one week delay, then the tapes were sent on to a second community, for playback on a second week delay, then often on to a third community where they were played back on a third week delay. Occasionally special arrangements were made to get recordings of special events, such as the Grey Cup, out and played in each community as soon as possible.

This all changed in 1973. Canada's (and the world's) first domestic satellite - Anik 1 was launched on November 13th 1972. By January 1973 Anik 1 was operational and live CBC Network TV was finally on the air in many Northern Communities - including Whitehorse, Watson Lake, Dawson City, Faro, Mayo, Elsa, Clinton Creek and Cassiar. Live CBC Network TV was eventually added into Atlin a few years later.

Along with the CBC TV services, the launching of the Anik satellite allowed for the distribution of other Canadian (and US) TV signals throughout Canada and eventually the CanCom service came to be, providing alternate TV services to northern communities

In addition to the TV signals, Anik satellites carried broadcast radio and telephone services. Eventually the CBC moved the distribution of its radio Networks from the land-based systems (run by Northwestel in the Yukon) to the satellite, and by the late 1980's all CBC Yukon programs were distributed by Anik. The Anik service made it possible to get CBC programming to unserved areas such as Old Crow, Pelly Crossing and Stewart Crossing. CBC radio and TV are available in these communities through transmitters owned and operated by the Yukon Government.

The introduction of satellite services has also enabled the easy distribution of other sources of radio and TV services throughout the Yukon: Radio CKRW started in Whitehorse in 1969, CHON-FM started in the Mid 80's, and Television Northern Canada (TVNC) began in the late 80's

These signals are distributed to all communities of the Yukon through the Anik Satellite system. Along with, of course, the CanCom service which continues to go out to the cable systems around the territory.

As I said at the outset, this was put together in 1998. Technology has moved on a lot since then - and the advances in digital technology have made it possible to deliver more broadcast signals through the satellite system - and over the internet - giving Yukoners many options to tune into radio and TV services. Things have come a long way since the day when CFWH (and later CBC Yukon) were the only game in town.

Another thing to note - The CBC now has to move its AM transmitter from the Range Road site as the land has to be cleared for the City's new Whistle Bend sub division. Last week the CBC announced they will be shutting down the AM transmitter in Whitehorse the Service will switch over to the FM band transmitting from the CBC Transmitter site on Grey Mountain. See a story on this in the March 11, 2009 Whitehorse Star.

In my research on broadcasting history in the Yukon I came across one of Jean Gordon's columns in the December 18, 1958 edition of the Whitehorse Star that was headlined "Mayo Had First Yukon Radio Station". In the column Jean writes "Dawson may have had the first licenced radio station in Yukon but it is believed that the first one to operate in the territory did so in 1931 when Mayoites broadcast a program for two months before the powers that be in Ottawa closed the station Down"

This little piece has intrigued me. I have tried to find out more about this - so far unsuccessfully. I would like to hear from anyone on the list who may know more about this story. I would also like to hear from anyone on the list who has more to add on the history of CFWH and CBC in the Yukon.

Tim Kinvig kinvig@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



CBC Yukon Network Publicity Logo used in the late 1960s.
Photo courtesy Tim Kinvig kinvig*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Les McLaughlin and Cal Waddington - Taken around 1967.
Photo courtesy Tim Kinvig kinvig*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Terry Delaney - about 1967
Photo courtesy Tim Kinvig kinvig*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Installation of the CFWH transmitter site - 1962
Photo courtesy Tim Kinvig kinvig*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Installation of the CFWH transmitter site - 1962
Photo courtesy Tim Kinvig kinvig*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Installation of the CFWH transmitter site - Antenna installation - 2 riggers on top of the 286' tower.1962
Photo courtesy Tim Kinvig kinvig@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Out along the Yukon Network - Technician Ed Kerry making adjustments to a one of the McCurdy 40Watt RRT2 Low Power Relay Transmitters (LPRTs) serving the Yukon Network - Dawson City - 1963
Photo courtesy Tim Kinvig kinvig@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Range Road Transmitter site - in 1970. This area is about to become the new Whistle Bend Sub Division.
Photo courtesy Tim Kinvig [kinvig*northwestel.net](mailto:kinvig@northwestel.net) (In Whitehorse)

MocTel 279

I appreciated the submission by Joyce Yardley entitled, "**I wonder if anyone remembers these people ??**" Of course, I am way too young to remember or know Joyce's mom and dad or Bruce Watson's wife. However, I do know of them and of Joyce's sister Wilda and her friend Lorraine Watson since they were also friends of the my dad's family. In one of my parent's old albums I found the following pictures taken probably in the 1936-39 time period in Whitehorse.



This was taken at the time of my dad's wedding to his first wife on June 25, 1936 in Whitehorse. From left to right are my Uncle Karl Burian, Wilda Richards (Joyce's sister), Renny Burian (my dad), Lorraine Watson, Mrs Grace Richards (Joyce's mom).



This is my Uncle Alfred Burian who was drowned in the Stewart River in December 1939 when, as Joyce said, his cat when through the ice. (I intend to write up what I know of this story in the future when I have a bit more time!)



This is my Aunt Rosie and Uncle Karl Burian with Lorraine Watson

Harvey Burian hburian@telus.net (In Parksville)

MocTel 279

I was just reading #279 of the MocTel and Joyce Yardley's story of the Watsons. I had been to Bobby Watson's house which was a little white house across the road from the store backing onto Bennett Lake. I occasionally spent time in Carcross on temporary duty when the member posted there would be away on holidays, as it was a one-man detachment. As I recall, Bobby's lovely wife Nell served me lemonade. It had to have been a social visit as Bobby never had any trouble with the law as far as I'm aware; however, his driving did leave a bit to be desired. That was around the summer of 1975.

I remember seeing a picture of a beautiful young lady in their living room and don't recall who they said it was. As they didn't have children perhaps it was a sister or niece. I was sure the picture could not have been more than a few years old but apparently it had been taken in the 1930s.

The details are a little vague but I clearly remember the picture and I'll always remember Bobby's ever present smile and easy-going attitude.

Bobby also gave me a full tour of the old store one day. He pointed out that on the frame of the back door his father, Matthew Watson, marked the growth changes of Bobby and his sibling(s).

I wonder if those marks are still there? I'm going to be in Carcross in June so I will have to check it out.

George Bliss jrsports@sasktel.net (In Regina)

YOUNG CARCROSS BOYS LIFE SAVED 50 PLUS YEARS AGO

Enclosed is a link to an amazing story. I think those who were living in and around Carcross at the time (mid '50's), may remember the incident when my husband, Larry, then a young boy, fell off the bridge and almost drowned. Larry didn't know the name of the fellow who jumped in those icy waters and saved him that day, but he always hoped they would find each other and he would get an opportunity to personally thank the man.

I work in the Carcross Visitor Information Centre. One day a man came in and we started chatting. I asked him what brought him to Carcross and he said he just wanted to see the place where his father had saved a boy's life when the child fell off the bridge. I said, "That's funny, my husband fell off that bridge when he was a child and a fellow from the military jumped in and saved him."

"My father was with the military." he replied.

We both were stunned by the possibility that his father and Larry were the two characters in this drama. We exchanged information and I could hardly wait to get home and tell Larry the news. When he called the fellow's father, Cy Carney, now 87 years old, it took only moments for them to verify they were indeed the people who shared that chilly adventure. As it turned out, Cy received a "Commendation for Bravery" from the Queen for saving the life of Larry Bratvold. For all those years, he knew Larry's name, but didn't know how to get in touch with him. The commendation hangs on the wall of his family home in New Brunswick.

One of the most amazing aspects of this "chance" encounter between Cy's son, Richard, and I, is the timing: exactly fifty years to the day, and within an hour or so, of when Cy jumped in the water and saved that young boy.

Larry and Cy are still in touch with each other. The photo in this link is of Cy and Richard. They are holding a copy of Larry's book, "Strange Things Done. ."

Always enjoy each issue, Sherron. Thanks for all you do.

Cheers,

Carol Bratvold cbratvold@gmail.com (At Tagish)

http://www.thememoryproject.com/IntheCommunity_CyCarney_LarryBratvold.pdf
(pasted below)

In the Community

Cy Carney still a hero 50 years later

Mintoo, New Brunswick – Veteran Cy Carney recently contacted the Memory Project with a remarkable story. In July 1955, while stationed with the 16th Company Royal Canadian Electrical Mechanical Engineers in the Yukon, Cy Carney and his family took a day off to fish at a nearby river. While fishing, Mr. Carney noticed a boy, apparently unable to swim, fall into the cold water and get swept up by the rushing current. Mr. Carney jumped into the water, grabbed the boy, took him to safety and then returned him to the safety of his parents. The boy, Larry Bratvold, never forgot Mr. Carney's good deed and remained thankful through the years.

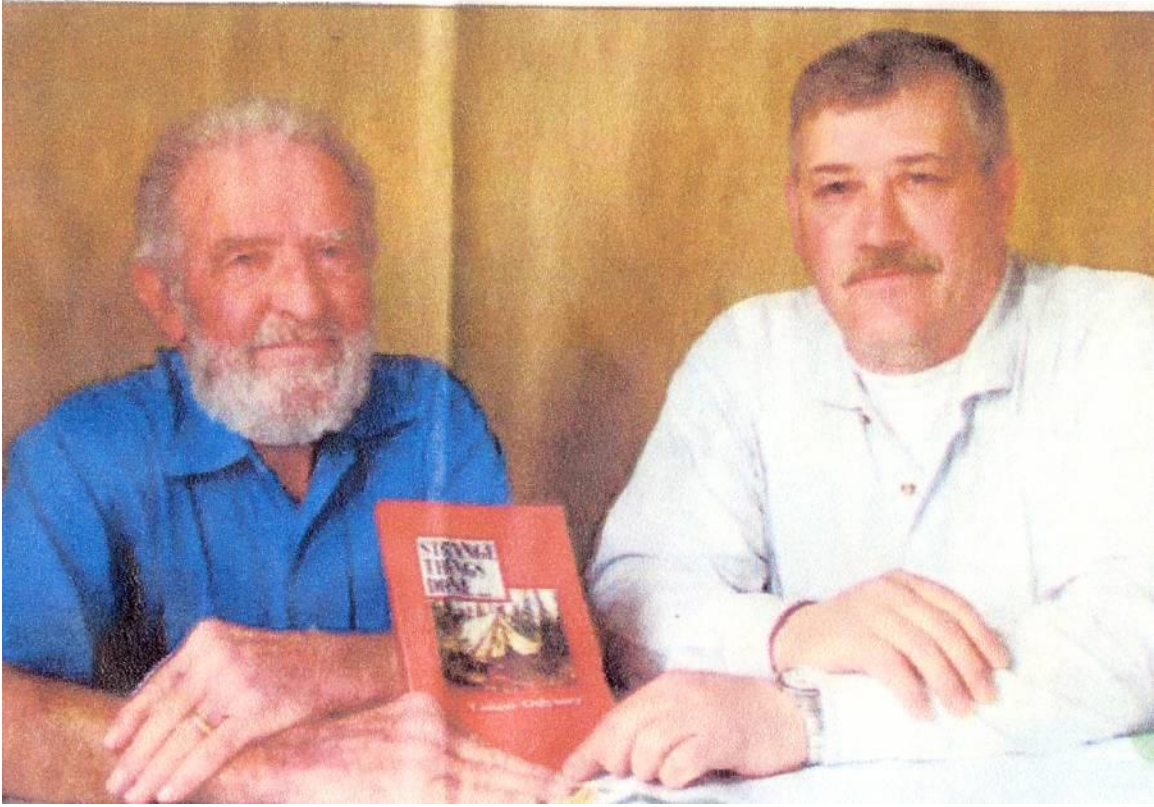
On July 31, 2005, exactly 50 years after that fateful day, Cy's son Richard Carney returned to the site where the incident had taken place. After visiting the local tourist information bureau and speaking with the woman on duty about the rescue, the woman stared at Richard and exclaimed, "That was my husband!" Carol Bratvold then took down Mr. Carney's address and telephone number and Larry and Cy spoke the day after. Recalling this strange coincidence, Cy Carney explained, "It was 50 years, and within two or three hours later. It is mind-boggling to me." Cy and Richard's story was recently featured in *the Daily Gleaner* of Fredericton, New Brunswick.

Cy Carney's veteran profile, with a transcript of his wartime experiences, can be found on the Memory Project Digital Archive at www.thememoryproject.com/digital-archive



Cy Carney received the Queen's Order for Brave conduct March 3rd, 1956 for saving the life of a young boy while stationed in Whitehorse, Yukon.

Courtesy of Cy Carney.



RYDER FAMILY

Thoroughly enjoyed the Ryder Family Story. Although I always knew who they were & what they contributed to the Yukon lifestyle - it was great to get all the little details. They are a great family & I am proud to have grown up in the same town.

Joy (Fraser) Denton joydenton@hotmail.com (In Whitehorse)

HANK KARR CELEBRATES 70 YEARS

Sherron there was a big birthday bash in Whitehorse yesterday for Hank Karr. His 70th birthday. Very large crowd in attendance I am told by Tim Kinvig who was there with hundreds of friends. I have put Hank's video TELL ME ROBERT SERVICE on Youtube.

It is at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vmMU9Y9ACF4>

Les McLaughlin leslorn@rogers.com (In Ottawa)

HANK KARR'S 70TH BIRTHDAY BASH

Attached are photos (minus video I took) of Hank Karr's 70th birthday bash held at the Sports Yukon building March 14, 2009. The place was packed and I have no idea how many people came to wish Happy Birthday to Hank. There was lots of delicious food and, of course, the birthday cake which was made by the Karr's neighbour.

One of the videos I took was Hanks speech after the amazing video done by Les McLaughlin. Hank almost broke down when talking about his wife, Pam. It was a good opportunity for everyone to clap in appreciation, thereby giving Hank a chance to recover.

We stayed right to the end and must say, it's a birthday party I'll never forget. HAPPY 70TH HANK AND STILL GOING STRONG!

Donna Clayson bdclayson*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Photo courtesy Donna Clayson bdclayson*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Hank getting ready to blow out the cake.
Photo courtesy Donna Clayson bdclayson@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Hank's daughter Kerry and wife Pam
Photo courtesy Donna Clayson bdclayson@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Photo courtesy Donna Clayson bdclayson@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Ed Issac, Donna, & Hank Karr

Photo courtesy Donna Clayson bdclayson@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Rusty Reid & Hank Karr

Photo courtesy Donna Clayson bdclayson@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Merv Bales & Hank Karr

Photo courtesy Donna Clayson bdclayson@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)

MAD TRAPPER

I read with interest the press release about the TV documentary examining the Mad Trapper saga. I wish the producers well. However, I must say that since 1973 when I first produced a one hour network radio program about the event which included interviews with many of those involved in the hunt, I heard no one say then - or since - that they thought he was a Canadian.

Everyone assumed he was either Scanadavian or an American of Scandavian decent. So the promo saying the program has found fresh evidence to dispute the fact that he was Canadian is baffling.

In addition, I heard no one over these many years offer anything but praise for the native guides and individuals who aided in the manhunt for the Mad Trapper.

I hope the hype about these two (non)-aspects of the story does not detract from an otherwise interesting Canadian story.


Les McLaughlin leslorn@rogers.com (In Ottawa)



I thought this might give you a little smile as you sit down there in the warm climes. This is how my front yard looks today, March 19th.

Photo courtesy Barbara (Taylor) Conway barbaraac@shaw.ca (In Prince George)

OBIT



*Alice Lillian Patnode
(nee Hagen)*
October 5, 1911 – March 16, 2009

Alice passed away at Whitehorse Hospital on March 16th, with Sharon at her side, in her 97th year.

Alice was born in Farwell, Minnesota and moved with her family to Donalda, Alberta when she was very young, and lived there until she left home to become a School Teacher in various small villages in Alberta and B.C. In 1941, she married Larry Patnode and they lived in the Dawson Creek, B.C. area, on the farm, and eventually they had a daughter, Sharon, and a son, Bruce.


In 1953, they migrated to Whitehorse to, as they said, pay the bills ... and this is where they stayed. Alice taught school here for 37 years, and retired to be an artist, which she enjoyed until her later years. She lived alone until she moved to Macaulay Lodge in July 2009.

From teaching for so many years, and the many years spent in the Yukon, her involvement with the Yukon Art Society, gardening, Hospital WA and volunteer work, she made many friends and will be sadly missed.

Alice was predeceased by Larry in 1987, and by Bruce in 2007. She is survived by one sister, Helen Fisher in B.C., and one brother, Oliver Hagen, in Alberta; daughter, Sharon (Pete) Jensen; grandson Kirk Potter (Anne); great-grandsons Logan and Mac Potter, Peter Jensen (Grethe), Peter Joe and Trygg; and great-granddaughter Line Jensen.

There will be a graveside service at the YOOP plots in the cemetery at 2:00 pm on March 28, 2009, with a gathering to follow at the Golden Age Society.

In lieu of flowers, a donation can be made to the Alice Patnode Scholarship Fund at The Yukon Foundation, Box 31622, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 6L2.



CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Fred Hoenisch is now at fred.hoenisch@shaw.ca

ARTISTIC TALENT



Treed Lot at 24 New Street

Image courtesy Madeleine Wakefield mwakefield@shaw.ca (In Calgary)

REMOVED FROM THE LIST

Thank you so much for all the wonderful work you do. While I've enjoyed the telegraph, I'm one of those folks who should unsubscribe as I haven't paid my dues.

I'm leaving the Yukon in April, and will miss life back here. Maybe in the future I will contact you to subscribe to the telegraph.

Once again, mahsi cho!

Louise Ranger lranger@northwestel.net

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

'Friendship isn't about whom you have known the longest; but about who came and never left your side.'

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Tasty PEI Seafood Supper- Lobster Loaf

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

1 Can lobster (6 oz)
1 cup soft bread crumbs
1 can corn
2 eggs slightly beaten
½ cup milk
1 tsp grated onion
2 tbsp chopped pickles
Salt & pepper to taste

Dice lobster and combine well with bread crumbs and corn. Beat eggs slightly, add milk and combine with first mixture. Add onion, pickles and seasoning. Turn into a greased loaf pan. Bake in moderate oven until firm. Serve hot. 8 servings. Garnish with peas, ripe tomato and sliced lemon.

Ruby Warshick

Summerside PEI

From a Whitehorse RCAF Womens' Auxiliary cookbook

DATES TO REMEMBER

**Only a few tickets left to
VANCOUVER YUKONERS' ASSOCIATION
81st ANNUAL BANQUET
*River Rock Casino Resort
Richmond BC
April 4, 2009
Tickets - \$55.00 ea
Make cheque payable to
Vancouver Yukoners' Association and mail to:***

Vivian Stuart
217 – 3255 Cook St
Victoria BC V8X 1A4
Phone: 250 383-1349
lornellis@shaw.ca

Monday March 30 is the deadline to book seats at the dinner, so please call or email
NOW.

Whitehorse: Tickets available from

Gudrun Sparling
867 668-3958

AirNorth deal good up to 2 hrs. pre-flight but must have convention code from Vivian or Goody.

RiverRock rooms all booked but you'll find fellow Yukoners in some of the (very) nearby hotels.

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.ca

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH

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Ph: 928-341-0690

Will be heading back to Canada April 6th.

Sherron Jones

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