

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH – 292nd Edition – September 13th, 2009

Created by Sherron Jones sherronjones@shaw.ca

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



Labour Day on the Dempster Highway

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

THE CARIBOU CHARGE

Gus Barrett sourdoughs2@shaw.ca (In Qualicum Beach BC)

*The following story was told to me,
As we sat in the campfire glow,
Telling old tales of our glory days
In the Klondike, long ago.*

It seems that a man of the Mounted,
A trooper, stalwart and true,
With a buddy of his from the local garage,
Went hunting for Caribou.
Since gas was so darned expensive,
At least this is what I was told,
The Mountie decided 'twas cheaper for him,
To make an "Official Patrol",

So they packed all their gear in cruiser,
Food and water and juice,
With a great big bottle of overproof rum
(For emergency medical use.)
Then last to go in, were the rifles
Cleaned and polished and neat,
Secured for easy access,
Standing between the seats.

Those two old cronies were happy,
To be out in the wild once more,
Telling their tales of hunting trails,
That they'd travelled together before.
And the miles sped by as they rushed along,
With only a stop, if they must.
For a bathroom trip, or a little nip
Of rum, (just to settle the dust).

When late in the day as the sky grew grey,
While rounding a curve in a rush,
The driver quaked and he hit the brakes,
As a bull charged out of the brush.
Dust and gravel flew 'round about
As the car went into a spin.
They hit the bull and a gun discharged,
Creating a thunderous din.

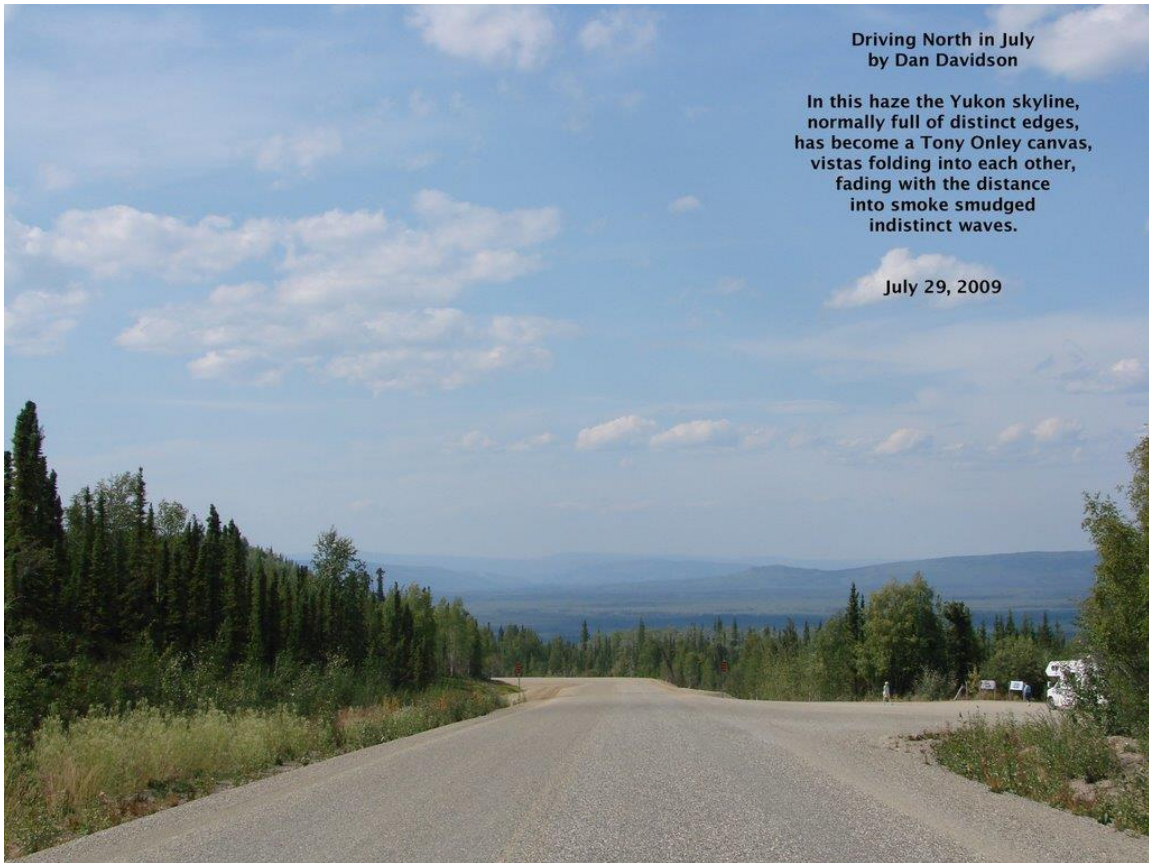
Then all they could see of the caribou
Was a glimpse of its ample sized tush,
With a roar of pain and fury
It dived back into the bush.
So our heroes inspected the damage,
Caused by their sudden stop,
A broken grill and headlight,
And a bullet hole in the top.

Quite sobered they retraced their journey,
A sadder yet wiser crew.
With a slightly damaged patrol car,
And a lot of explaining to do.
While somewhere north of the timberline,
A big bull roamed that night,
Wondering what the hell happened,
When it challenged that rival to fight.

*That is the story, as told to me,
And although I can offer no proof,*

*I'm sure that I've seen a patrol car
With a bullet hole through the roof.*

© 2009 Gus Barrett



Driving North in July
by Dan Davidson

In this haze the Yukon skyline,
normally full of distinct edges,
vistas folding into each other,
fading with the distance
into smoke smudged
indistinct waves.

July 29, 2009

Driving North – July 29, 2009

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



Fall Colours – Ski Trail behind Carcross

Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)

Fort Selkirk: One the Yukon's Historic Gems

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

August 24, 2009

Coming down stream from Minto Resort, Fort Selkirk appears first as a smudge of buildings set back from the bank of the Yukon River. Three flags fly in a healthy breeze this July day, denoting the joint custody of the site. Canada, Yukon and the Selkirk First Nation have contributed to the survival of this once thriving trading town, and the latter two governments now share custody and development of the site, which contains over 40 structures in various stages of repair.

On this day the breeze is most welcome as it keeps the bugs away, but it still hot in mid-July and most of our party shed the jackets they wore for the river journey in Pat Van Bibber's boat.

Fort Selkirk gets only a few visitors. You have to know someone to get there. It's about a hour by boat from Minto Resorts, closer if you drive into the Pelly Farm and arrange for someone there to take you on a shorter river crossing.

Canoeists and rafters can maneuver into the steep bank and tie up there if they want to visit. There are several landing spots. One can also get there by plane or helicopter. That said, it's still not a spot that gets a lot of traffic.

This seems a shame, since the place is ready to be visited even though restoration work is still under way on a number of structures.

Two buildings, one at either end of the long walk through the village, provide a lot of information. Stone House, at the north end of town was built by government telegraph operator Charlie Stone in 1935, and is now a reception centre with lots of good placards and posters on display, as well as a video history worth seeing in the back room. It tends to focus on the village's years as a trading center.

Big Jonathan House at the far southern end of the village was originally built by the Yukon Field Force as a barracks in 1898 and was later used as the home of a former Selkirk chief. It is now filled with wall plaques and photographs discussing the traditional lifestyle of the first nation people.

In addition to these buildings there is a series of information pillars placed strategically along the path from one end of the village to the other, each dense with text and photos showing the history of the site and the way both natives and non-natives live.

It is not certain how long the Fort Selkirk site has been in use, but it seems sure that it began as a trading center, one of the places where the Northern Tutchone met the coastal Chilkat Tlingit.

Robert Campbell noted this and made the first attempt to build a Hudson's Bay Post there in 1848. Four years later the Chilkats responded to this commercial rival by attacking the post while the local natives were not there and driving the traders away.

It was 1889 before the ubiquitous Arthur Harper opened another post there, and thus laid the foundations of a village that would thrive until, like other places along the Yukon's river transport system, it was superseded by the development of highways in the 1950s.

As a trading center, Fort Selkirk became the permanent home for several generations of Northern Tutchone, as well as white traders, missionaries of the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches and, around the time of the Gold Rush, both North West Mounted Police the Yukon Field Force, who were there for a season before moving on to Dawson City.

The Mounties would return in the 1930s, but the YFF left its mark only in buildings that were cannibalized and recycled into homes and in the two large indentations in the cliff across the river, where they practiced firing their cannon.

The Hudson's Bay Company came back too, buying up one of several stores that prospered in the village and finally erecting a more substantial building above a concrete foundation in 1946/47. Bad timing for HBC as it turned out, since the roads were coming. By 1951 they were gone again, and all that remains of their store today is the basement, looking for all the world like an oddly shaped and abandoned swimming pool.

Other buildings have fared better. The two churches, St. Andrews (Anglican) and St. Francis Xavier (Roman Catholic) still stand, the former in better shape, but the latter still attractive and welcoming.

The home where former Senator Ione Christiansen lived while her father was the RCMP constable in Fort Selkirk remains, as does the Taylor and Drury Store, several other homes and a number of log cabins of various sizes. The school was being restored this summer and all its furnishings were in storage in one of the other buildings.

Our party spent three hours at Fort Selkirk on this fine summer day, and they were three hours well spent. More people should have the opportunity someday.



Fort Selkirk - Homes

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



Fort Selkirk - graveyard - The First Nations graveyard shows a number of different memorial styles.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Fort Selkirk - St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Fort Selkirk - Target Practice - The Yukon Field Force left its mark here.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Fort Selkirk - Anglican Church - St. Andrew's Anglican Church
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Fort Selkirk from the Yukon River.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Looking north past the frame houses of Fort Selkirk.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



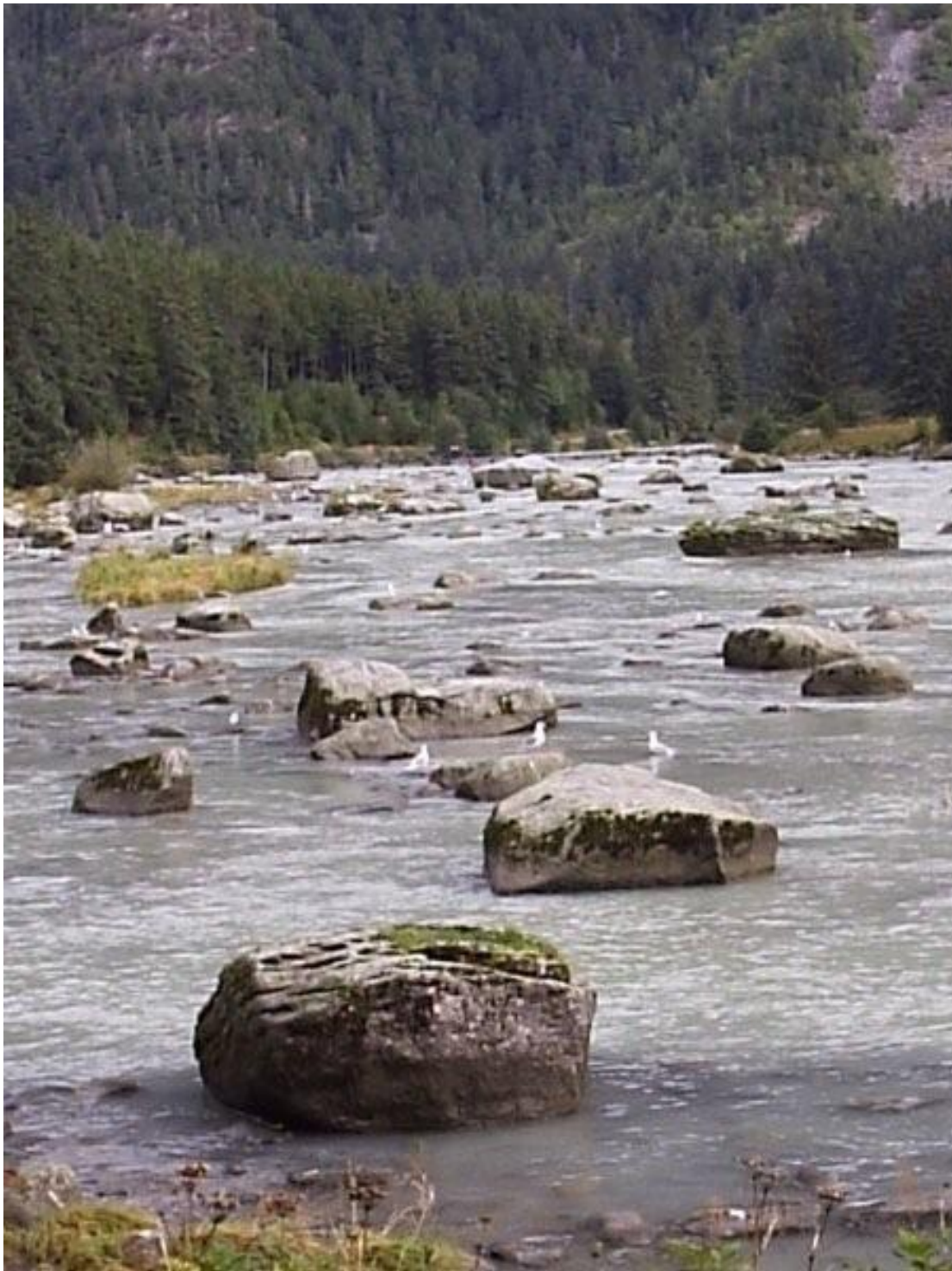
Fort Selkirk - Taylor & Drury was long a name known in Yukon's mercantile history.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Fort Selkirk - One of many information pillars at the site.
 Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)

CAMPING TRIP TO SKAGWAY AND HAINES – SEPT 2009

Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Chilkoot River

Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Bear eating Salmon – Chilkoot River
Photos courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Approaching Chilkoot Park – 2



Approaching Chilkoot Park
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Chilkat River

Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Chilkat River in Eagle Preserve

Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Haines Road - 1

Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Haines Road - 2

Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Haines Road - 3

Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Haines Road – Approaching Blanchard River

Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Haines Road – Approaching Blanchard River - 2
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard*northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Haines Road – Past Customs - 1
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard*northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Haines Road – Past Customs - 2
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Haines Road – Nearing Summit
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Haines Road Summit - 1
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Haines Road Summit - 2
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Haines Road Summit - 3

Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Haines Road Summit - 4

Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Haines Road Summit - 5
Photos courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Haines Road – Leaving Summit – 1



Haines Road – Leaving Summit – 2
Photos courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard*northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Haines Road – Leaving Summit – 3



Haines Road – Leaving Summit – 4
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Haines Road – Leaving Summit – 5
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Fish at Kluksu

Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Takhini River going to Kusawa

Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Takhini River going to Kusawa
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Kusawa Lake
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)

DC-3's IN MAYO – 1950's

Hi Sherron. Thanks for the great job with the paper sorry we are so slow getting a chequ to you but we will. Have not read the last MocTel yet, I see it just arrived. I noticed in the last few MT you have had some pictures of CPA's DC 3 's I am attaching some pictures I took at the Mayo airport back in the 50's

there was some kind of a morning meeting at United Keno and they flew in three DC 3's. Lots of excitement for Mayo. I scanned them from our 35 mm slides.



CPA – DC 3's at Mayo airport – 1955 or later
Photo courtesy Bill Chapman cwchapman@twifi.ca (In Devon AB)



3 - CPA – DC 3's at Mayo airport - 1955 or later
Photo courtesy Bill Chapman cwchapman@twifi.ca (In Devon AB)



3 - CPA – DC 3's at Mayo airport - 1955 or later
Photo courtesy Bill Chapman cwchapman*tbwifi.ca (In Devon AB)



CPA – DC 3's at Mayo airport - 1955 or later
Photo courtesy Bill Chapman cwchapman*tbwifi.ca (In Devon AB)

Thanks again,
Bill and Colleen (CASSIDY) Chapman (Born in Dawson 1937, high school in Mayo) Devon AB

Hi Folks,

This article appeared in our national daily newspaper the "Daily Mail" last Wednesday. Have attached a couple of cuttings of the article for your information together with the appropriate web site addresses relating to the article.

I would be interested in your observations, the film 'Alone in the Wild' will be shown on our TV channel 4 on the 10th September, it should be interesting viewing.

To me it all seems like an adventure for a 'Boys Own' comic.

Kindest regards,

Dennis Eve denmeve@aol.com (In England)

ALONE IN THE WILD

In this remarkable documentary, Ed Wardle is dropped into the unforgiving Yukon wilderness with just basic provisions and cameras to film himself as he attempts to survive completely alone in the wild.

In this opening episode, Ed is flown into the Canadian wilderness. As the plane disappears, he's instantly overwhelmed by the realisation that he is completely alone. He finds it hard to make decisions, but manages to set up camp. He's frightened and nervous of every sound and movement around him. As the days go by, it dawns on Ed that the escapist dream is a lot harder than he ever imagined.

[He was dropped off by float plan at Dog Pack Lake, and hiked to Tin Cup Lake.]

Channel 4 survivor who nearly starved to death in the wild

Daily Mail – Wednesday August 26, 2009

By Richard Simpson

Showbusiness Editor

It promised to stretch reality television to the limit: one man pitting his wits against the Yukon wilderness with just a camera for company.

But hopes for an epic three month contest between man and nature were dashed when adventurer Ed Wardle failed to go the distance.

Seven weeks after striding out into the rugged forests of western Canada armed with a rifle and a fishing rod, Mr. Wardle had to be airlifted back to civilization suffering from starvation.

He sent out a distress call five weeks before he was due to finish [3 months of] filming for his one man survival programme Alone In the Wild for Channel 4.

Last night the broadcaster faced criticism for allowing him to attempt the expedition unaided and apparently unprepared, to entertain viewers.

During his adventure, Mr. Wardle, 34, was permitted to send out a daily posting on the Twitter website and transmit a single electronic signal confirming he was still alive.

Channel 4 handlers tracked his progress through the 500,000 square mile wilderness using a GPS satellite tracking device.

To make the survival challenge as authentic as possible he avoided all human contact and left video tapes at drop-off points to be picked up by collection teams in a helicopter.

Mr. Wardle lived off berries and any animals he could catch while trekking between hand-built shelters made out of fallen trees.

At first he appeared to be weathering the challenge, despite his lack of survival training.

He had been confident of finding regular food, telling the Daily Mail prior to setting off; 'I imagine I have a long future of fish-eating in front of me. It's going to be trout and grayling for 12 weeks.

But meat's a relatively easy thing to get your hands on too. There are hares, squirrels and gophers. They're good to eat because they're fatty.

"The porcupines are easy to catch because they don't move very fast. As long as you're careful with the spines, they're a good source of food. You hit it with a big stick, roll it over, slice it open and peel the skin back, the same as you would any mammal."

However friends following his progress on Twitter – including long-term girlfriend Amanda Murray who lives with him in Islington North London – became increasingly concerned when he appeared to start losing his grip on reality, hallucinating and talking to insects as starvation set in.

Two weeks ago he tweeted about losing weight rapidly, saying his muscles were 'disappearing'. Most alarming of all, he counted his heartbeat at just 32 beats-per-minute. A healthy range is between 60 and 100 beats per minute.

His condition eventually deteriorated so much that he used his emergency satellite telephone to call for help. He was airlifted out after 50 days, and arrived back in London on Monday. He is now being treated at home....

LATEST ON Ed Wardle

Wednesday 26 August 2009

This remarkable series starts Thursday 10th September at 9pm and it shows that exhilaration, fear, liberation and loneliness are just some of the conflicting emotions Ed Wardle experienced as he took himself to the limits of his physical and psychological capabilities.

Ed didn't go into this experience unprepared. In addition to comprehensive survival, medical, hunting and Yukon specific training, Ed is a specialist in making TV in extreme environments. However, despite this wealth of experience, Ed is not a survival expert. A survival expert would tell you how to survive in the wild; Ed wanted to tell you what it actually feels like.

After a phenomenal 50 days surviving alone in the wild, it was decided that Ed Wardle should be pulled out of the Canadian wilderness on Saturday 22 August. Following his removal, Ed saw a doctor immediately before returning to the UK on Monday. He is in good spirits and happy to be back with loved ones.

From the outset, Channel 4 and Ed aimed to explore whether it was possible to survive in the wilderness without human company and in this knowledge established a detailed safety protocol. This involved a back-up team on hand 24 hours a day, local emergency services, a GPS tracking system, emergency satellite phone and a SPOT alert system to monitor his movements and which he manually triggered every 24 hours to indicate that he was OK. You can read full details in [How the Programme Was Made](#) where you'll also find a map detailing his movements, a Twitter diary and interactive diagram of his camp and safety equipment.

To see online photos and video, by going to this link:
<http://www.channel4.com/programmes/alone-in-the-wild>

Submitted by: Dennis Eve denmeve@aol.com (In England)

Keeping in Shape (Also in the Okanagan Yukoners Newsletter)

I was told “exercise is good for the heart” so I took up going to “fitness classes”. They got a little boring so I decided to get involved in Senior’s Games. I signed up with the Penticton Track and Field club and it’s anything but boring now. I entered into the Canada Masters Games in Kamloops in July and will be going to Richmond in September for the BC Senior’s Games and then off to the World Masters Games in Sydney AU in October. This has kept me busy all summer and my garden is starting to look a little “rough”. For a while it was practice twice a week, but we have it down to once a week now. That doesn’t include all the time I spend at the airport or weight room working out. It must be paying off, because I feel like a 50 year old again.

Myrt and I didn’t do too badly at the Canada Masters. She came away with five gold medals, and the best I could do was two gold, two silver and a bronze. The bronze was in the 100M and I lost by a nose. (.05 sec)



This is Myrt and Me showing off our Medals at our practice in Penticton. Look out Australia here we come !!

Larry Chalmers aksala49@telus.net (In Oliver)

CANOL PIPELINE – BILL BRAGA PHOTOS – MOCTEL 291

Hi Sherron - Yes the two trucks were taken at Johnson Crossing. They belonged to Tommy Campbell from Dawson. I drove one of them and Jimmy Allen the other one. I think I sent you a picture of some Quonset huts we lived in. I remember one morning I woke up, was the only one left in the hut as the oil heater line froze up and the other fellows all went to the kitchen as the heater was working there. Had to take my clothes in to bed to thaw them out before I could put them on. The huts were on the Canol Road left by the American Army when they put the pipe in to Norman Wells. There was no huts at Carcross, that is where we hauled the pipe off the Canol Road to Carcross to put on the train.

Bill Braga bill.braga@live.com (In Edmonton)

Salvation Announced for Old CIBC Building

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

September 2, 2009

After 7 years spent battling criminal charges which were ultimately dismissed in court, Mike Palma is ready to pay detailed attention to some of his properties in Dawson City, properties which have been the subject of constant complaints by the business community and by visitors to the town.

Palma came before Dawson's council on September 1 to assure them that the exterior of the former bank building will be improved and restored by the end of 2010.

"I just came back from a nightmare," Palma told the council.

In a letter addressed to council he wrote: "During the time I was in litigation I was unable to access any funds to complete the intended work nor pay taxes on the property.

"Since I have been cleared I have paid the outstanding taxes as well as begun work again on the building. Two years before litigation I spent money and stabilized the building securing it to work on and eventually occupy.

"At this time I have approximately \$150,000 invested in this building."

Palma owns the building, which he acquired from the CIBC when it moved to the Dawson Plaza, but the territorial government owns the land on which it sits, lot 1024.

Dawson's council has recently requested that YTG transfer the ownership and control of that land to

Dawson City. Palma is aware of this and indicated that he is "interested in working together with the City to see the building restored to its historically significant original condition."

To this end he has begun scraping the old paint from the building and has ordered molds for the pieces of faux-stone metal cladding that are missing.

As for what happens to the interior of the building, Palma has always said that this will depend on who wants to rent the space from him and what they want to do in it. He has no interest in running a business there himself and merely wishes to be a landlord.

"I'm open for ideas," he said.

"This is good news," said Mayor John Steins.

Councillor Ashley Doiron added her appreciation of Palma's plans for the exterior.

"In my estimation that's really the most important part of the project right now, because it's the one thing that anyone ever comes to me and talks about."

Councillor Rick Reimer also praised Palma for his plans, but reminded him that there are other properties in town which he owns and which Reimer receives a lot of complaints about.

One of these is Amica's Ristorante, at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Craig Street, which has been closed for several years now.

"Amica's is gonna be open next year," Palma replied, saying that the once popular restaurant would be operating again and that he would be doing work on the building before that.

"I appreciate your coming to council," said Councillor Diana Andrew, "because we take a lot of heat from citizens. We've spent a lot of time and money on the heritage thing, and you are the owner of one of the key properties, so we are paying close attention to make sure not only that there is a plan to restore it, but also that the bylaws are enforced as to how it winters and how the windows are covered during the reclamation."

She cautioned him to make sure he is up to date on the latest bylaw information. He pledged to do just that.

The Old CIBC building is recognized as being of national significance by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board, which erected one of its plaques in a small garden plot some years ago. The plaque cites the building as follows:

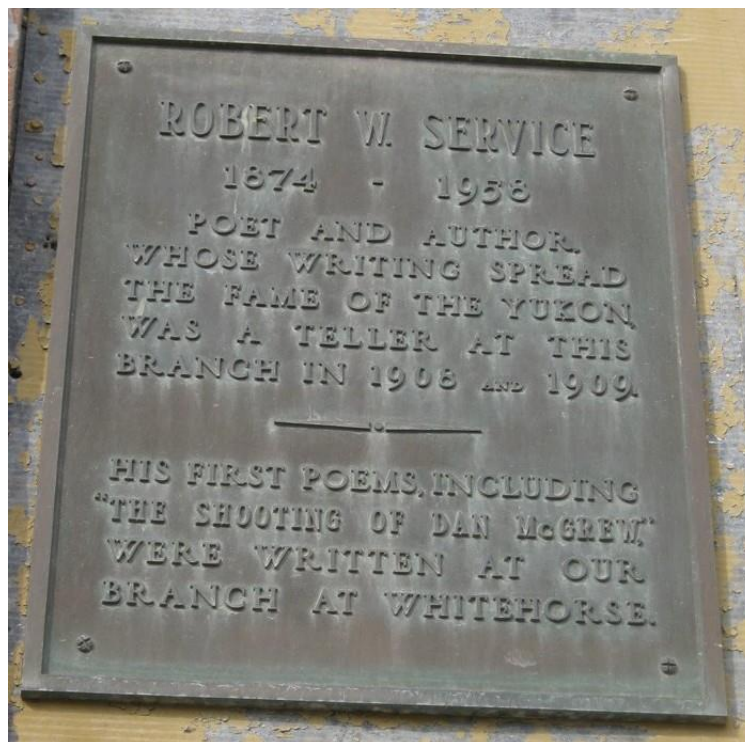
"Built in 1901, this Renaissance Revival building is one of Canada's finest surviving structures clad in decorative pressed metal."

The plaque also notes the bank as having been the workplace of the poet and writer Robert W. Service, who first came to Whitehorse and then to Dawson as a bank clerk. He worked there in 1908 and 1909.



The scaffolding arrived in the early spring and was erected about a month later. Some work on scraping off the old, damaged paint was done in July. Much more remains to be done in September and early October.

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



This plaque about Robert Service is mounted on the actual building.

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



This Historic Sites and Monuments Board plaque was damaged years ago when the small crest in the upper left hand corner was removed. While the small flower garden is attractive in the summer, the plaque is easy to miss and could stand to be mounted upright as it is covered with snow much of the year.

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



Mike Palma addresses Dawson Council on September 1, 2009.
Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish*northwestel.net (In Dawson)

Robert Service Visits His Cousin's Cabin

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

September 6, 2009

It's not every day that the Robert Service Cabin on 8th Avenue is visited by Robert Service, but that's just what happened on September 5, when Robert Service from Australia dropped in for Johnny Nunan's tribute to the Bard of the Yukon.

"The way I'm related to the Robert Service that lived here," he explained, "is that he was born two years before my grandfather, Robert. He was born in Lancashire and his family moved up to near Kilwinning and they both went to school together - same primary school. They were first cousins.

"My grandfather left Scotland with his family when he was 14 years old and moved off to Australia and Robert moved over here later on looking for a bit of adventure."

Working out just what relation that made the two was beyond the scope of the small group gathered at the cabin that day. Genealogy was no one's strong suit.

Aussie Robert isn't a writer but he is artistic, a painter in oils and pastels who does portraits and landscapes. He planned to take a good photo of the cabin which, with some preservative measures taken, is the very cabin in which his relative wrote several books, and do a painting when he gets home.

"I've always wanted to come here (to the Yukon)" he said, "and when we got this tour, I was very pleased that this was on our route."

His tour group of Australians had come to Anchorage by boat and then had rented a convoy of motor homes to take them through Alaska and the Yukon. While half a dozen of them were at the cabin for the scheduled Parks Canada presentation, others were getting ready to run in the Klondike International Outhouse Race.

"How many of Bob's poems do you know?" Nunan asked.

"Well, none off by heart," Robert replied, "but I've read many. I'm familiar with lines from different poems." He admitted to feeling a bit of tingle at being so close to his distant relative's one time home. He and his wife, Beverly, had also been to the Visitor Information Centre to view the typewriter which Service's great grand niece Peggy had donated to Parks Canada in 2005.

He noted Service's poetry isn't as well known in Australia as it seems to be in North America and England.

"There wasn't a lot of information about Robert W. for us in Australia," said Beverly Service.

The couple were delighted to be in Dawson City and quite anxious to be able to read about their visit when it would eventually be written up in the Yukon papers.

(I believe the relationship between this Robert and Robert W. Service would be grand uncle- once

removed and grand nephew – once removed. They would be without the “once removed” if the two Robert’s born in Lancashire had been brothers, rather than cousins. – Sherron)



This Robert Service, one of several generations with the same first name, is a distant relative of Robert W. Service. (Wife Beverly Service)

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

Janitors Clean Up at the Outhouse Race

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

September 6, 2009

The Janitors swept to victory in the 2009 running of the **Klondike International Outhouse race**, leaving their opponents in the dust on the two lap course. While winning times were not announced at the awards presentation, it was hardly necessary and the coverall clad lads were in well before anyone else was even in sight on Queen Street.

It was harder to decide who would win the Best Overall Team award.

The judges finally determined it was a tie which had to be broken with a rock-paper-scissors contest on stage. (The judges must have been Farscape fans.) In the end the boxing glove clad **A Bout with the Runs** triumphed over the **Ring of Fire** gals and guys in the nursing outfits.

A round of applause went out for the **Sh*theads**, a last minute relief team that took the place of the team of real nurses who were called away at the last moment to attend to a medical emergency in town. They managed to come in fifth place.

Saturday (a day early this year) did not look brilliant when it began. It was cloudy and chilly until well past noon, but then the clouds burned away and the sun shone brilliantly. This was luck for the Bout with the Runs team as they were clad mostly in boxer shorts and boxing gloves.

At the starting gun this team swerved all over the road, blocking everyone else's way and sending at least one other team into a nearby parked car. And this was before they'd even had a chance to visit the first bar on the route to pick up scavenger hunt items. The boxing boys were still making their first lap some time after the Janitors had run both laps to win the race but they still managed to come in ahead of the seventh place **Veggie Mite Express**.

This Australian team somehow managed to run the route in reverse and got quite lost for a time. Something to do with reverse polarity on the other side of the planet.

Other entries included the **Dump-lins** and the **Peace River Rats**.

The teams gathered in front of Diamond Tooth Gerties for outhouse judging at 1 o'clock. They also presented their team cheers and at least one team had an actual limerick. The actual decorations of the outhouses were not perhaps as imaginative as in some years, but the large crowd which gathered to see them all off, and which lingered until after the race was won, showed its appreciation for the work that had been done and the effort it took to put on a good show. In all, the race took about an hour to complete.



There was congestion at the **start of the race** as the boys in the boxing gloves somehow managed to take up the entire street.

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



The Peace River Rats

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



The Dump-lins

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



Ring of Fire

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



The Sh*theads bravely filled in for a team from the Nursing Station which had to withdraw at almost the last minute.



A large gathered to see the race.
Photos courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



The Janitors brushed aside all others to win the race.



The boxer clad lads of **A Bout with the Runs** managed to win the Best Overall Outhouse presentation award.

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

KAY & ERIC GEE

Hi Sherron, Sorry being so long in replying. It was because I was daunted by the prospect of looking back to my life in Bear Creek - soooo long ago and very nostalgic making me think of loved ones long gone and very much missed.

Anyway we did go north in 1998 but that too was mind boggling as Bear Creek was soo changed and nothing seemed to be where I remembered as a child, such as the gold room that Alan and I used to visit almost daily, mainly to visit with Benny Gladwin and watch him pour gold. Mind you he made us obey the rules - but we thought him wonderful which he was. A really nice kind gentleman like all the people we met.

Also the bridge behind our house (now the Joe Boyle house) was somewhat demolished. Parks Canada now operates there as a national historical site and they knew we were coming and insisted on taking us into the house and I saw the bedroom where I was born - it was almost too much! But it was a great experience.

I went to the Dawson School only one year - Sophie Johnson was my teacher.

Alan was next door in Mr. Russler's room.

Mary and I ate lunch every day with your Mother and Isabel etc. I was very happy there most of the time.

We went into Dawson by bus driven by Mr. Hickey and that was a riot sometimes. The Fourniers - Emil and his brother got on before us.

Anyway it was a special time and place, no doubt about that. But I have been rambling!

All the best to you and yours. I did enjoy the picnic - thanks for all you did. Eric is going to send the photo separately.

All the best. Kay (MacMillan) Gee [ekgee*shaw.ca](mailto:ekgee@shaw.ca) (In Victoria BC)



Kay (MacMillan) Gee and brother Alan MacMillan, talking with Sharon Redmond
Photo courtesy Eric Gee [ekgee*shaw.ca](mailto:ekgee@shaw.ca) (In Victoria BC)

LABOUR DAY ON THE DEMPSTER HIGHWAY

Photos courtesy Dan Davidson [uffish*northwestel.net](http://uffish.northwestel.net) (In Dawson)



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





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





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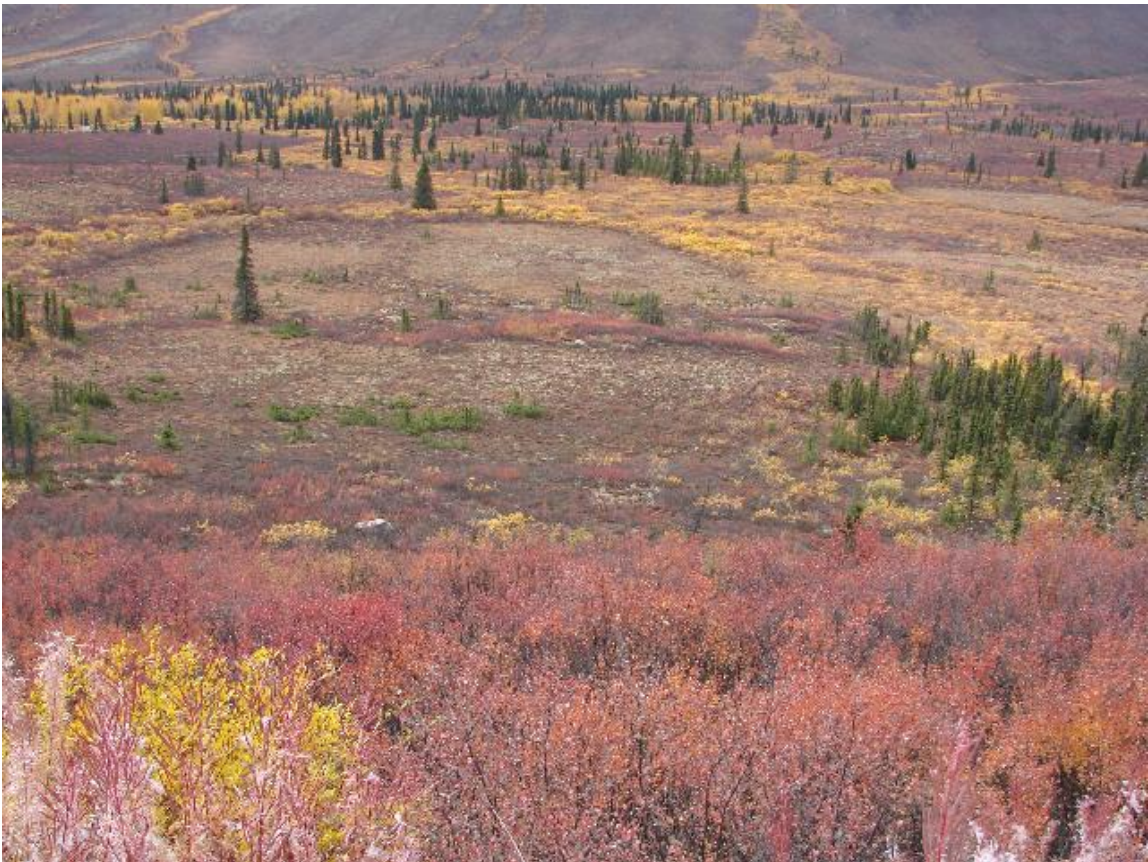




Photo courtesy Dan Davidson uffish@northwestel.net (In Dawson)



Kalamalka Lake – Vernon BC - Clear, crisp air again – Sept 8, 2009.

For the past several weeks the view was mostly blocked by smoke. We are really appreciating the air clear again. We thought we had lost all the rose bushes to last winters cold weather; so cut them down to the ground and most came back. Photo courtesy Bill Jones ve7yi@shaw.ca (In Vernon)

ARTISTIC TALENT



TRUST

Created by Madeleine (Millen) Wakefield

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

GARY IRELAND TURNS 80

Suzy Ireland has asked me to pass this on to whom ever may be interested. Gary turns 80 this month, and we are having a drop-in Open House on the 20th, from 1-6 in his honour, this open house at 2165 Merritt Ave in Merritt BC.

Larry Chalmers aksala49@telus.net (In Oliver BC)

If you care to pass on this information our phone number is 250-378-2128. He would be thrilled to see you and any other Yukoners who are near by. This is better than waiting till a funeral to come see someone!!

Suzy Ireland suzyq3@telus.net (In Aspen Grove BC)

TED & TRUDY (DEWOLFE) NORTH CELEBRATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to Ted & Trudy North (deWolfe) who are celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on Saturday, September 12. They were married in Whitehorse Yukon on September 12, 1959. They have four children, three sons and one daughter. Trudy & Ted currently reside in Nanaimo BC. A family celebration will be hosted by their daughter Kris at their favorite spot in Qualicum Beach.

Karren (North) Crowley kcrowley@telus.net (In Sidney BC)

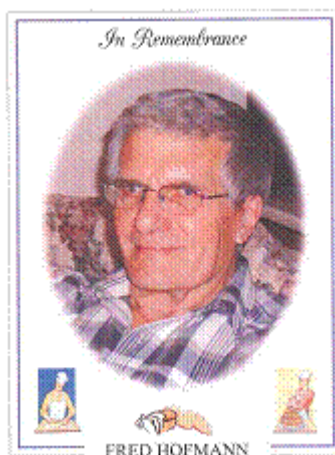
OBIT

ILA LEIGH (1921 – 2009). A long time Yukoner, she succumbed to a stroke and passed away on August 25, 2009. She is survived by her 4 children, Marilyn, Jamie, Sharon and David, 7 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.

Ila was born in St. John, N.B. She joined the Air Force as a Leading Air Woman (LAW) stationed at the airports in Yorkton, SK and Summerside, PEI. Upon marrying Sydney Leigh, she lived in the Yukon (Mayo and Whitehorse) from 1944 – 1974. She then moved back to her birthplace for 4 years before settling in B.C. in 1980. Ila loved action and helping other people.

Marilyn Hirsekorn elegantstudio@telus.net
South Surrey, B.C.

Message forwarded by Lowell Bleiler.



Alfred H. "Fred" Hofmann
1938 – 2009

It is with heavy hearts, much sadness and grief that we announce the sudden passing of Fred Hofmann on August 17, 2009 at 70 years of age. He was born in Giessen, Germany on December 22, 1938 and came

to Canada in 1948. Fred leaves behind to mourn his loss and cherish his memory his devoted wife of 46 years, Dorothy; his loving children Denise (her special man - Bruce), Dwayne (Patty) and adoring grandchildren Kaitlyn, Jarrett and Miranda. Also left to mourn are his sisters Lilo (Art) in Ontario and Ilse in California; sisters – and brothers-in law; nieces and nephews and countless friends.

Fred began working for Super Valu in 1958 as a baker eventually becoming a bakery manager. He worked in Vancouver, Ocean Falls, Whitehorse, Kamloops and Oliver. He was known as 'Papa Fred' by many of his co-workers and had many coffee buddies.

Retirement wasn't a word in his vocabulary and he worked up until the day before his passing.

Fred enjoyed bike riding, gardening, travelling and spending time with his family. He always liked to be busy and spent his spare time in his flower beds and yard. No matter where he lived, Fred always had beautiful gardens. He was able to get back to Germany twice in the last 5 years and made numerous trips to California to visit his sister and spend time in one of his favourite places - "The Living Desert Reserve" in Palm Springs.

Fred was a loving, kind-hearted, courteous, humorous and proud man who took much pride in his family. Fred will be forever missed by all whose lives he touched and always be in our hearts and memories. "The flower gardens of heaven will be more beautiful with you tending them".

A celebration of Fred's life was held on Monday, August 24 at 1:00 pm at the United Church, Oliver, BC with Rev. Gerry Foster officiating. A reception followed at the Oliver Elks hall.

In lieu of flowers, donations would be greatly appreciated to the BC Heart & Stroke Foundation or BC Cancer Society in memory of Fred Hofmann.

On-line condolences may be expressed on www.nunes-pottinger.com

Arrangements entrusted to Nunes-Pottinger Funeral Service & Crematorium, Oliver & Osoyoos, BC.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

mlcaddy@telus.net has been cancelled, and we both use ccaddy@telus.net

Chuck Caddy

REMOVED FROM THE LIST

Hi Sherron - please remove me from receiving the MocTel as I have been gone from Yukon for many years and don't get as much out of it as I thought I would. Thank you. Char Hughes

(Paid 2008)

HUGHES, Charlotte (WESTBERG) (formerly FLEURY) cwhughes@telus.net (In Dawson, Whse – 1975) Red Deer

Hi Sherron – Please remove me from your MocTel mailing list.

Thank you

Ronald Greenaway

(Paid 2005)

Good morning Sherron:

I haven't been receiving the MocTel for a number of months (suspect they might still be being sent to my old government address?). Regardless, I'm unable to scan (let alone read) any articles because I've been so wrapped up in self-employment. Please remove me from your distribution list. If I find that I'll have time to re-subscribe in the future – I'll email you.

Thank you and good luck,

Fred.

(Paid 2005)

HOENISCH, Fred fred.hoenisch@shaw.ca (Born in Whitehorse) Victoria

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

What would men be without women? Scarce, sir .. mighty scarce. ~Mark Twain

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Sausages in Batter

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

12 pork sausages

2 tbsp flour

1 tsp salt

½ tsp pepper

BATTER:

1/8 cup flour

1/8 tsp pepper

¼ tsp paprika

4 tbsp fat

2 tbsp salad oil

½ cup WHITEHORSE DAIRIES milk

1 egg (stiffly beaten)

Prick sausages and steam for 10 minutes. Roll in 2 tbsp flour and salt mixture. Into a bowl mix remaining ingredients. Let stand 1 hour. Dip sausages in batter and fry in hot fat till crisp, brown and puffy.

Dory Rotondo

First Presbyterian Ladies Aid

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 of (\$20 - \$25. your call) for the Moccasin Telegraph.

- Sherron Jones sherronjones*shaw.

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH

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