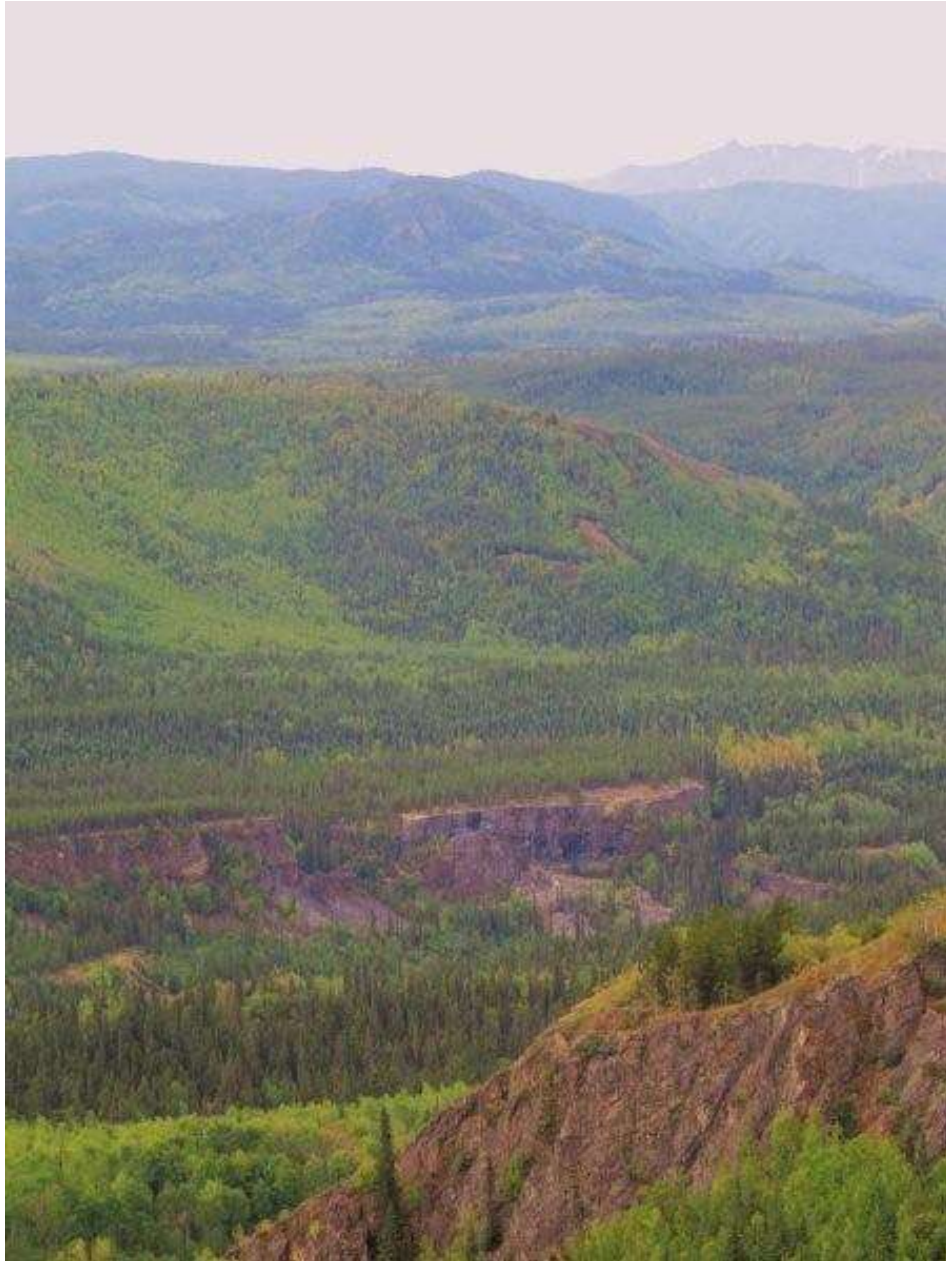


MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH – 362nd Edition – September 16, 2012

Created by Sherron Jones sherronjones*shaw.ca

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



Telegraph Creek 017 Stikine Valley

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

Military vehicle buffs salute highway’s history

Members of the Military Vehicle Preservation Association (MVPA) were in Whitehorse over the weekend as part of their convoy celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Alaska Highway.

By Ainslie Cruickshank on August 27, 2012 at 3:33 pm



Photo by VINCE FEDOROFF

GET YOUR TAGS HERE – Brad Nelson, a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, joined the MVPA 4 1/2 years ago. Along with restoring and collecting military vehicles, Nelson makes dog tags and sells them at military shows.

Members of the Military Vehicle Preservation Association (MVPA) were in Whitehorse over the weekend as part of their convoy celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Alaska Highway.

On Saturday, under a persistent drizzle, the MVPA members displayed their restored vehicles at the Yukon Transportation Museum.

But a few could be found in the museum parking lot on Friday afternoon as well.

Brad Nelson, a U.S. air force veteran, was having the tires on his former maintenance truck-turned-camper inspected.

He was also selling personalized dog tags from an old communications shelter hitched to the back.

A veteran of Vietnam, Nelson was a fighter pilot in the air force from 1970 to 1981.

He joined the MVPA about 4 1/2 years ago.

The Alaska Highway route is his second convoy with the association. He participated in its 2009 convoy of the Lincoln Highway from Washington D.C. to San Francisco.

“We needed another excuse to drive our trucks a long way, so what better way than the 70th anniversary of the Alaska Highway?” Nelson asked.

After the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941, the Alaska Highway was planned as an inland route to the northern state.

“It’s a great way to see the country and to remember the guys that built this thing,” Nelson told the Star.

“And you really have to see it to appreciate what they did in eight months. It’s unbelievable to build this road in eight months.”

It’s the “immenseness of the land” that has impressed him most during the northern convoy.

“The sheer size of the wilderness is mind-boggling.”

But there is one thing that’s disappointed Nelson slightly.

“We’ve driven over 3,100 miles so far and I’ve only seen two moose,” he said. “Saw some bears, saw some grizzlies and some black bears, but only two moose. We have 900 miles to go, so hopefully we’ll see some more.”

If they were not at the museum or driving around Whitehorse, exploring or stocking up on supplies, members of the convoy could be found at the Pioneer RV Park and Campground on Friday afternoon.

In an interview at the RV Park, Wendy Rowsam, the convoy’s public relations officer, said “military vehicles played such an important role in the building of the highway that it’s just a natural for us to celebrate that anniversary with this convoy.”

She said they’ve had a great time so far in the Yukon, noting that all of the communities have been very welcoming.

Rowsam said it was her husband, Jeff, who first got her involved in collecting military vehicles.

Jeff originally began collecting tractors and bulldozers, but soon realized the impracticality of taking a bulldozer out for a Sunday drive.

Having a veteran for a father and a keen interest in military vehicles already, the switch was natural.

“They have more of a historical significance, and you can drive them to the Tastee Freeze on Friday night,” he explained.

Jeff said it was only about 20 years ago that the hobby really took off. It shows by the availability of reproduced parts.

“We’re restoring vehicles today that would have been junk 30 or 40 years ago,” he said. “The joke is if you have the original data plate and one rivet hole, you can call it original.”

It's not just the vehicles themselves that give value to the hobby, it's also the people you meet and the stories you hear, Jeff said.

He shared the story of a 96-year-old Haines Junction man who worked as a surveyor on the highway.

"He knew exactly what that truck was that I was driving, and he clamoured right up in there like he was 18 and we had a big chat," said Jeff.

"Those kind of interactions put a little deeper spin on a hobby."

A deeper appreciation for the restored vehicles is also easily found in their individual histories.

Jim Sewell travelled from Perth, Australia with his wife, Sandy, for the Alaska Highway Convoy, shipping their 1943 CMV truck (called a blitz truck in Australia) all the way to Vancouver.

Sewell said the trucks were made in Oshawa, Ont. and thousands were shipped to the British Commonwealth.

"This was a fairly standard truck in the commonwealth forces," he said, but its history is much more involved than that.

"This belonged to a chap, an Australian soldier; he was captured in North Africa; he was wounded and captured there. His name was George Smith.

"He did about three, 3 1/2 years, I suppose, in a prison camp in Germany.

"When he came home, we can make out he bought this truck in probably 1946-7, and then he went bush ... this was his home until 1990."

Sewell said he lived much like a prospector would have during the days of the Gold Rush in the Klondike.

"He wasn't a hermit or anything; if you spoke to him, he was well-educated because he listened to the radio all the time, he was always well-dressed and so forth, but I think he liked open spaces after that."

Sewell bought the truck from Smith in 1990, but it wasn't until 2008 that he restored it. Unfortunately, Smith died in 2000, so was never able to see it.

In 2009, the Sewells took the truck on a European adventure, visiting a First World War site in Turkey important to Australians, and driving through Greece, Italy, Switzerland, France, Normandy for D-Day, and Belgium before shipping the truck home.

Today, the convoy was set to arrive at the Liard River Hot Springs in B.C. before moving on to Fort Nelson and Fort St. John tomorrow and Wednesday.

The convoy will end Aug. 30 in Dawson Creek, B.C., back where it started.



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



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

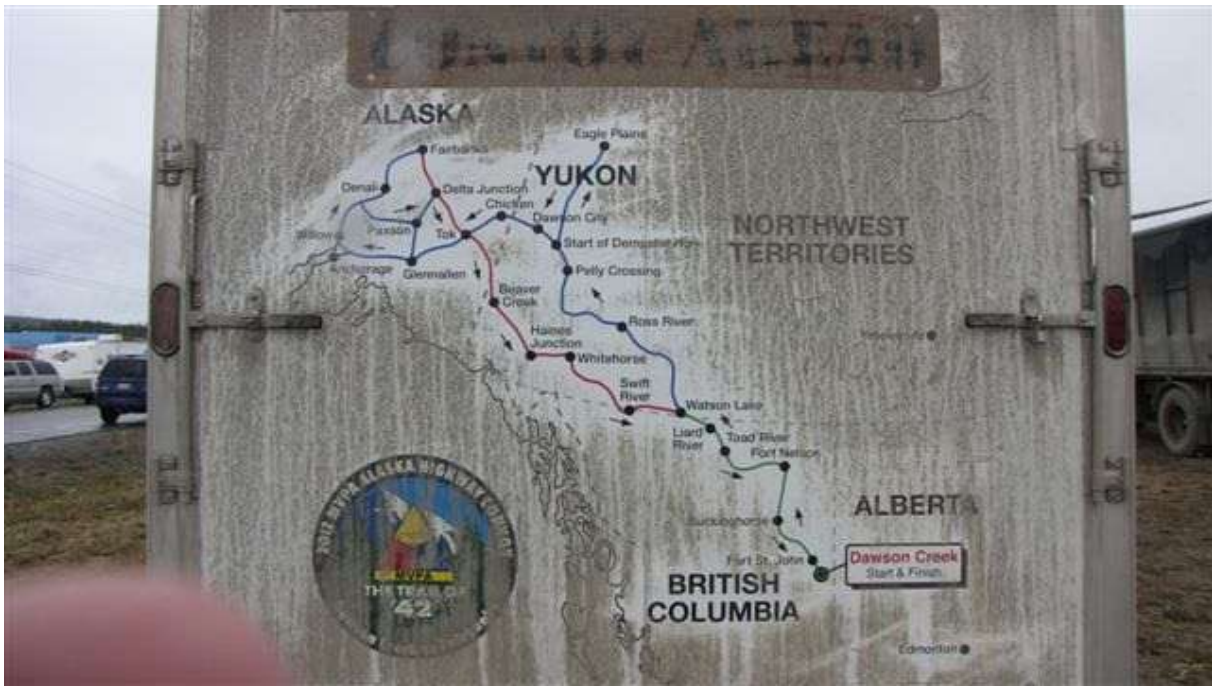


Photo courtesy Donna Clayson bdclayson@northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



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



OLD CROW GROCERY PRICES - 2010

A couple of years ago I was teaching at the school in Old Crow and also took a tour of the town. I was curious as to the price of groceries as I had heard it was very expensive to live there. I couldn't believe how expensive groceries are. Take a look at the photos.

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)



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



From RV Living http://www.betterrv.com/article/rv_living/tough_girl_little_guy?keywords=1014214



BY MARY D. SCOURTES JULY 2012
Tough Girl, Little Guy
Photography Courtesy of Judy Nadon



At an age when most people settle into retirement, Judy Nadon heeded her own personal call of the wild.

Judy traipses about the unpopulated, untrampled roads among the mightiest mountains of the Yukon, all by herself. How unusual is this? “It’s Noah’s ark out there; everyone travels in pairs,” she says.

Judy is a field editor for The Milepost,[®] which details lodging, camping and roads through the peaks and deltas of Canada’s Northern Territories and Alaska. “I have the largest territory, probably because I’m willing to do it,” she says of the work she’s been doing for the past five years.

With some two million travelers driving through Alaska every summer, Judy has made many friends, has experiences that others only dream about and is footloose to travel on a whim.



She travels 300 to 400 miles a day, and sometimes won't see another car for hours. But she doesn't mind the solitude: "I love being alone; I don't even have the radio on. Driving is so soothing." At night, she unwinds in her trusty Little Guy teardrop trailer, towed behind her '05 Pontiac Grand Am. "I park, open the door, climb in, lie down and giggle," she says of her rolling abode. She paid \$4,520 to a guy who was able to coax it around behind his Smart® car. Repairs have only cost about \$450: she replaced two tires, added two spares and repacked the bearings. She puts 17,000 miles on it every year.

"I take that thing where nothing should go. Those little wheels bounce around. It's the perfect solution. I beat the crap out of it, and it forgives," she laughs.

Judy is skilled, practical and economical. She is a huge proponent of the Little Guy, which has wiring to plug in her coffeepot and a heater. She travels light: two dresses, one skirt and lots of tops. With a bed on wheels, "It's a hell of a savings." She spent \$2,000 on campground fees last year, sleeping in her little rig for 70 nights.

She fills the car tank daily for \$60. Thanks to its aerodynamic shape, the camper adds only about 50 pounds to its load, and doesn't affect gas mileage. "Gotta love it, eh?" she adds.

Her travels bring jaw-dropping vistas populated by prancing mountain goats, moose, buffalo and caribou. Her trailer protects her from the local wildlife, as well as rain and bugs.



Second night camping with trailer - Dunvegan Provincial Park

An avid explorer herself, Judy delights in chatting to others about their travels. She's happy to show off her little "tree house on wheels," as she affectionately calls her trailer. "I don't think there's anyone out there who uses it for such long periods at a time," she says. One trip was for 40 continuous days. She doesn't carry pots or pans, or do any cooking. She eats one meal out, usually a big breakfast. Otherwise, a typical meal consists of "deli chicken with some raw cauliflower, tomatoes and Triscuits." Once a week, she treats herself to a big, juicy steak.

However, she has been known to exhibit some rustic culinary skills. One time, she bought an onion, butter, potatoes and a white fish from a native fisherman in Fort Simpson, Northwest Territories. She chopped the veggies, wrapped the ingredients in foil, grilled them over a camp fire and shared her dinner with a German couple. No need for plates; they ate off the foil.

When Judy is not on the road, home is either a cabin without water or electricity in the Yukon or, during winter, an apartment in Vancouver. Travel is in her DNA: "My son, now 40, was only 6 weeks old when my own mother took me along to make sales calls for The Milepost. I know my way around, and this is the perfect job."

How long will she travel? "Until I find husband number three. And then, maybe still."

The above article was submitted by George Bliss former RCMP member in Yukon.

My reply:

Thanks, will use it next MocTel.

Judy is Flo Whyard's daughter. Flo was the editor of the Whitehorse Star and Mayor when I left Whitehorse.

Gutsy lady. She was also the wife of John Anton a young lawyer in Whitehorse when you were there.

Sherron Jones

YUKON NUGGET

A CKRW Yukon Nugget by Les McLaughlin

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

Lilias Farley

One of the delights in attending the Whitehorse Elementary High School on Fourth Avenue, back in the fifties, was taking art class. Strangely, as I recall, art was a mandatory subject until about grade ten. I can't imagine why because I doubt there many students that would decline to take art class.

After all, the art teacher was one of the Yukon's great treasures, Miss Farley. Oh, how we all loved Miss Farley. Now there was a teacher who cared if we cared. And in the spring, she made sure the arts classes were held outside the classroom. What a delight to spend part of the school day down by the river under the watchful eye of Miss Farley, as we tried to capture on paper the Yukon's flora and fauna.

Lilias Farley's background in art was something we never knew until we were long graduated and gone. She was born in Ottawa in 1907. She moved to Vancouver with her family in 1924, when she was seventeen, and attended the Vancouver School of Decorative and Applied arts. In her own right, Miss Farley was an accomplished painter and sculptor who studied with the best in Vancouver and counted among her friends, famed Group of Seven artists Fred Varley and J.W. MacDonald.

In the mid-1930s, she taught at the BC College of Art, which was founded by these two men. She also worked in theatrical design. It is said that in 1937 she designed the first uniforms for stewardesses for Trans-Canada Airlines (now Air Canada). During WWII she worked for Neon Electric Co., which was manufacturing depth sounders for the British navy.

She moved to the Yukon in 1948 and taught school until her retirement in 1972, while continuing to exhibit her sculpture in Vancouver. In 1967 she was awarded the Centennial Medal for service in the arts.

When she passed away in 1989, many a Yukon student of an earlier time fondly recalled the impact Miss Farley had on their careers even if they did not become artists of renown. The memories of outdoor art excursions were enough.

A CKRW Yukon Nugget by Les McLaughlin

Beat Ledergerber's 80th birthday

On August 25th, current and former residents of Beaver Creek, friends and family gathered in the Beaver Creek Rendezvous show's Dinner Theatre at the Westmark Inn to celebrate Beat Ledergerber's 80th birthday. (The actual birthday was a few days earlier.)

Beat, originally from Switzerland, arrived in Beaver Creek in 1961. In the 50-plus years since then, he has filled many roles - often simultaneously – such as gas station owner, mechanic, sawmill operator, Justice of the Peace, coroner, pilot, all-around handyperson, and the longest-serving employee of the Westmark. He's not ready to slow down yet!

For this special occasion, the Westmark provided a fabulous buffet dinner. It took two strong men to carry in the dessert. Sylvain Demers was the emcee for the evening, reading messages from well-wishers who couldn't be there. Hank Karr came up from Whitehorse to entertain, and was joined at one time or another by a fiddler, a mandolin player, a guitarist, a percussionist, and Willy Joosen, keyboard player from the Rendezvous show.

The room was beautifully decorated – the centrepiece was the White Pass and Yukon Route railway chugging past stops of particular interest to Beat – home in Switzerland, Beaver Motors, Sanpete Creek Sawmill, etc.

Beat didn't stop smiling the entire evening.

Regards, Pam Buckway buckway*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Beat Ledergerber

Photo courtesy Pam Buckway buckway*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Beat Ledergerber, Sid Vandermeer Sr. and Archie Lafleur.

Photo courtesy Bev Buckway balc*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



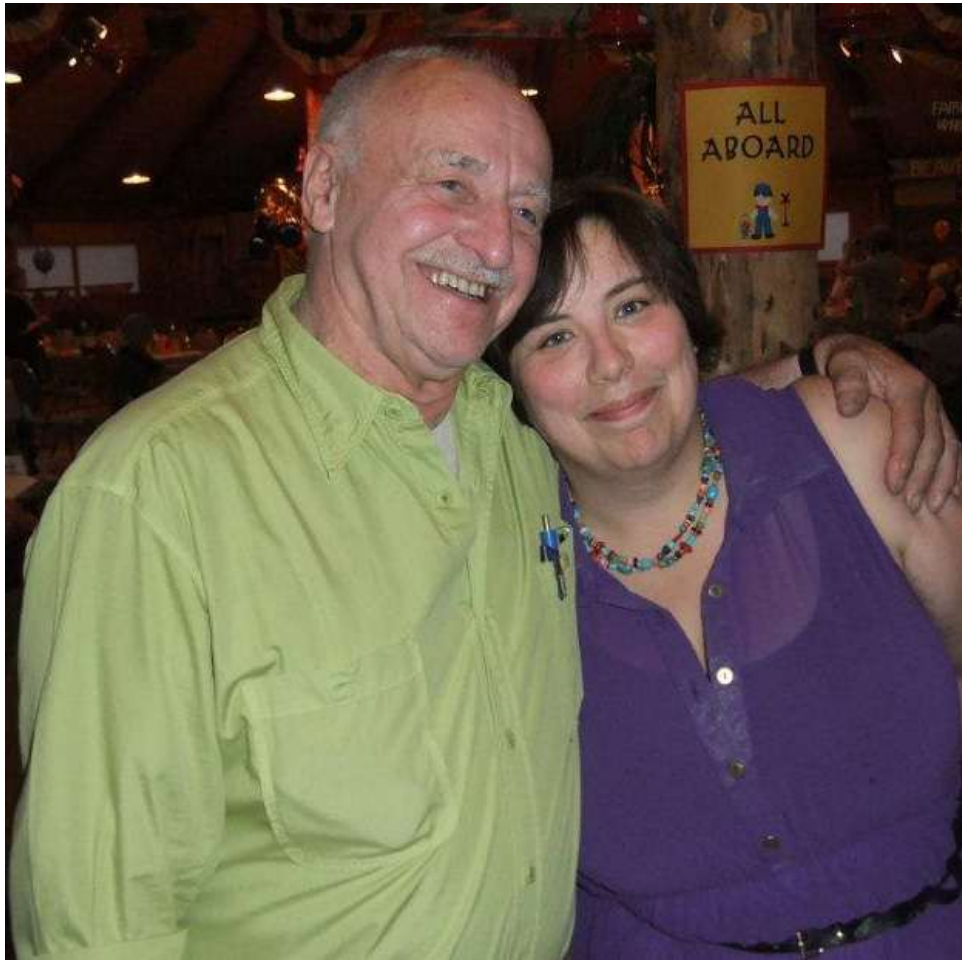
Beaver Motors

Photo courtesy Pam Buckway buckway*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Sanpete Creek Sawmill

Photo courtesy Pam Buckway buckway*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Beat Ledergerber and Jyl Wingert, his partner and chief organizer of the birthday celebration Westmark Inn Beaver Creek. When Beat first arrived it was the Alas/Kon Border Lodge. It was originally built and first operated by Clyde Wann.

Photo courtesy Bev Buckway balc*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Mile Post 1202

Photo courtesy Bev Buckway balc*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Drykes and Michaels – front Row, **Doris and Walter Dryke**, back row, their daughter **Donna Michaels and her husband Carl Michaels**. They operate Far West in Beaver Creek.
Photo courtesy Bev Buckway balc*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)

McCrae Chinese Restaurant closed its doors

Thought your readers might want to know that McCrae Chinese Restaurant closed its doors for good at the end of August, after 35 years in business. George Chan bought the restaurant from Phil Todd.

George, who lives in Vancouver, and his daughter Yvonne, who lives in Whitehorse, had leased the restaurant to Wing and Su Lee in the last few years.

On Labour Day weekend, Yvonne held a “garage sale” at the restaurant, and people dropped by to reminisce about good meals and happy times at the pool table in the tavern – and perhaps to pick

up a set of dishes as a souvenir. Several also stopped in for cold beer, and were dismayed to realize that the offsales is gone too.

Does anyone have stories to share about McCrae Restaurant? George and Yvonne would love to hear about them.

Rumour has it that the sign on top will go to the Transportation Museum in Whitehorse – I hope that's the case!

I've attached a photo of George, and a photo of the front door and sign, both taken by Tim Kinvig.

Regards, Pam Buckway buckway*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



George Chan

Photo courtesy Tim Kinvig kinvig*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)



Does anyone have stories to share about McCrae Restaurant? George and Yvonne would love to hear about them.

Photo courtesy Tim Kinvig kinvig*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)

Canada 55 plus Games – Sydney, Nova Scotia



Opening Ceremonies – Canada 55 plus Games – Sydney, Nova Scotia

Photo courtesy Betty Sutton elizabethsutton@yahoo.com (at the games)

We are at the Canada 55 plus games in Sydney, Nova Scotia... opening ceremonies were this morning... huge crowd and very well attended but I didn't see any big cameras there so I don't think we're going to be on T.V.

There are approximately 1600 people here from all across Canada... each province and territory has its own colour... the Yukon .. 80 plus in number... looked strong as the hornets took up the rear on the entry into the "stadium"... there was much music and entertainment here... we all left the track and started to dance to the 20 or so fiddlers that were in one corner of the track and field /soccer area. We are all having a good time as you can see in the picture attached.

Betty Sutton

From August 27th to September 1st, 2012 approximately 90 Yukoners were in Sydney, Nova Scotia for the Canada 55 Plus Games. It was an incredible event to organize and Nova Scotia (Cape Breton) did not disappoint. We had a Kitchen Party, a Dance and a trip to Fort Louisberg to check out the local culture and history. Here are a few pictures of Team Yukon gathering in front

of our hotel to catch the bus to Fort Louisberg. The weather was lovely most of the time with rain happening only at night. The organizers for Team Yukon were amazing and deserve a medal. Our closing banquet and ceremonies were wonderful with artists like Mary Jane Lamond, Wendy McIssac, Rita MacNeil and the Men of the Deeps. We made new friends, re-acquainted with old and look forward to the next games in Strathcona County, Alberta in 2014. Yukon established a new record for medals - we won 76 medals! Best per capita in the country and rumour has it that we even beat Ontario for total medals.

Betty Sutton elizabethsutton@yahoo.com (travelling)



Photos courtesy Betty Sutton elizabethsutton@yahoo.com (travelling)



Photos courtesy Betty Sutton elizabethsutton@yahoo.com (travelling)



Photos courtesy Betty Sutton elizabethsutton@yahoo.com (travelling)



Photos courtesy Betty Sutton elizabethsutton@yahoo.com (travelling)



Photos courtesy Betty Sutton elizabethsutton@yahoo.com (travelling)



Darts competition

Photos courtesy Betty Sutton elizabethsutton@yahoo.com (travelling)

MESSAGE FROM GILLIAN CAMPBELL

These are my Grand Children; they will be 7 this month. They auditioned for a Movie. Just waiting to hear back. You just never know.

It would help so much with their education..... MOMMY is a school teacher... Love Gillian xo

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



Gillian's twin granddaughters who live in California.

GILLIAN IS OFF TO SHANGHAI

Have to share our News with you...we are so excited and thrilled...

... We are off to China Shanghai to do a “Klondike Gold Rush Show”,.. for the Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai 15th September.....3.. 30 minute Shows.....also help out as the M.C...

...Can only take the Pianist as the Fares are so expensive.....but Edward is coming with me.....

....Stephen Harper will be there.. also many dignitaries.. Premier of the Yukon too.....so we will be able to Promote the Yukon.. in all her Glory.....as it has been so good to my Family and myself....**we leave on the Thursday Sept 13.. arrive on the Friday.. do the Shows evening of the 15th .. Fly home the 18th Sept on the Tuesday..** Bill will fly home on the Sunday.....we wanted to as well but the fares go up...so expensive.. boggles the mind...

Chat to you later, and I will make sure I send you lots of pictures....

Love Edward and Gillian xo

(Below is an ad from “**Snap Downtown Vancouver**”)

The Grande Dame of B.C. show business is off to the mysterious east!

Gillian Campbell, who has wowed audiences across Canada as the daring and darling Klondike Kate of the 1800’s for the past 35 years, has been invited to China for a one-night gig!

Apparently the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce has extended the invitation for her to perform an authentic Gold Rush show after viewing her colourful website. She’ll do three 30-minute shows on September 15th as well as some emceeing.

The scoop is that one of the VIP guests in the audience members will be the Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper Prime Minister of Canada along with several other Prime Ministers and premiers.



Gillian Campbell aka Klondike Kate

MESSAGE FROM WALLY & DIANE SUTHERLAND

We went up to the Yukon for are friends (Robert & Irene Braun's) **50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY** party Aug 18th (real date is the 20th). Their son Darren did all the cooking for everyone all weekend. Bob & Irene, were 25 years old when they got married in Melfort Saskatchewan.

Bob & Irene came north in 1971, went to Bullion creek first for the summer, then moved to Beaver Creek in the fall 1971-1979, then moved to Whitehorse. They lived til 1998, and then moved to Haines Junction, where they built a small cabin. Their daughter Darcy died in 2001 at age 35 years old; she is buried in Haines, Junction. Their son Darren works, and lives in Whitehorse. Bob built a larger log home close to the small one in 2004, where they live now. Bob worked for Y.T.G. highways retiring in 1997, 2 years before Wally retired. So we have known them since we moved to Beaver Creek in 1974.

There was family that came up from Lucky Lake Sask, Grand Dora, Sask.& Marinsville, Sask. Plus people from different parts of the Yukon.

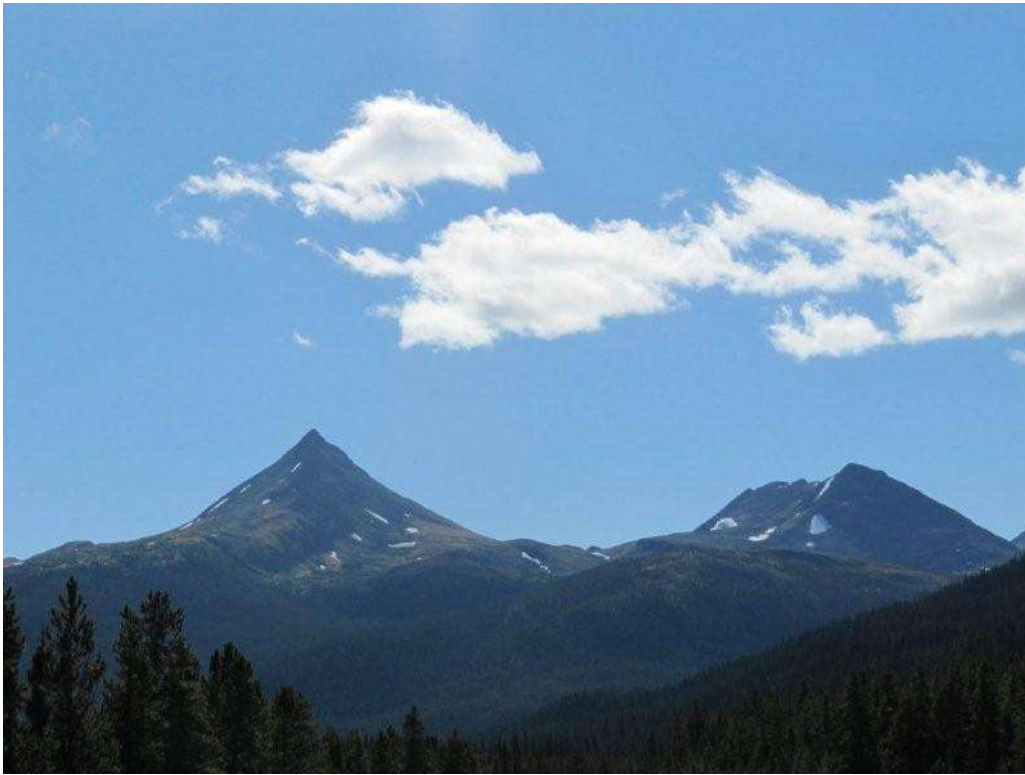
On another note has Whitehorse ever changed, it has been 10 years since we were there last.

Dianne Sutherland w.dsutherland@yahoo.ca (In Red Deer AB)

TRIP TO TELEGRAPH CREEK – By Eleanor Millard

This is for all you souls who always wanted to get to Telegraph Creek, BC, and never did. It took me 47 years in the Yukon to finally get there and it was a challenge on the road, but tremendous scenery and the road is kept in very good condition even in the rain. It is 650 kms to Dease Lake from Whitehorse on the Cassiar Road. The Cassiar is in the best shape I've ever seen it, couldn't be better. Then 113 kms to Telegraph. We stayed in a B&B 27 kms past Telegraph, called Up the Creek and enjoyed great hospitality from Barb and Rick (rickandbarb@telegraphcreek.com) <http://www.telegraphcreek.com/index.htm>.

Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



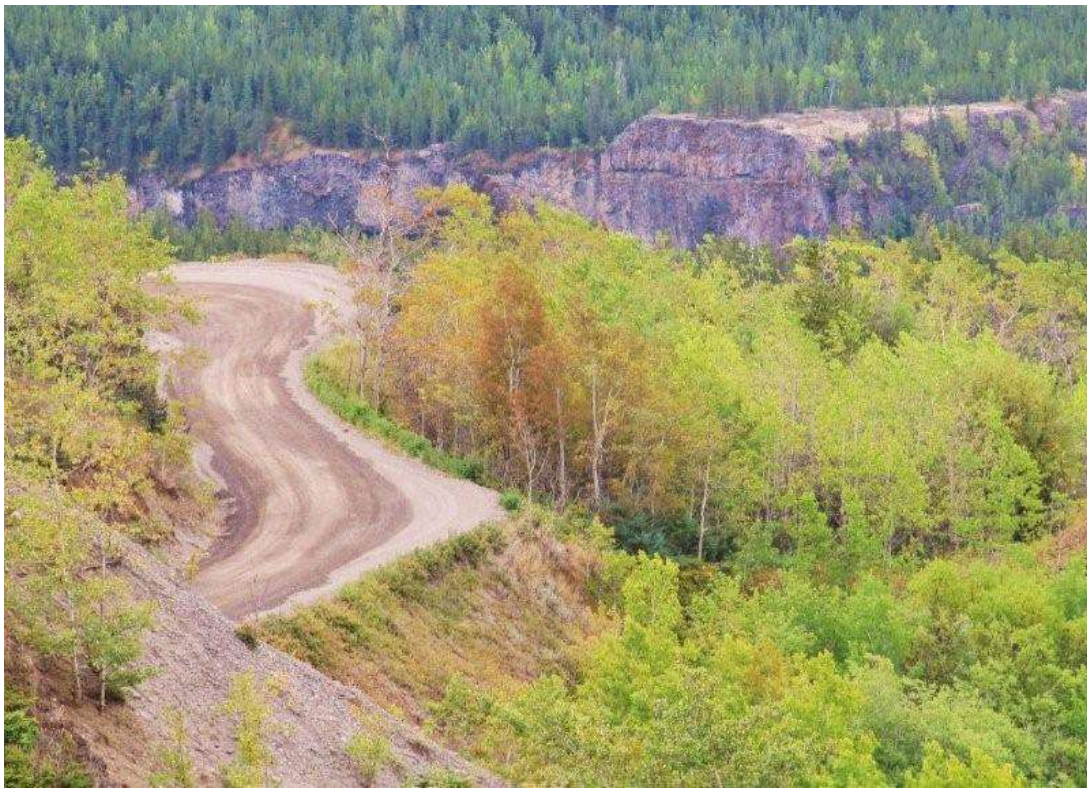
Telegraph Creek 011 on the Cassiar Road
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Telegraph Creek 012 looking ahead on the Telegraph Creek road
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Telegraph Creek 016 looking ahead on the Telegraph Creek road
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Telegraph Creek 018 looking ahead on the Telegraph Creek road
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Telegraph Creek 020 Day's farm
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Telegraph Creek 024 Stikine Valley
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Telegraph Creek 029 Tahltan--old First Nation village
Photos courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard*northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Telegraph Creek 035 in Tahltan



Telegraph Creek 052 Stikine
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Telegraph Creek 057 toward Telegraph Creek
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Telegraph Creek 062 Riversong Inn--old Hudson's Bay, Telegraph Creek, owned by the First Nation

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



Telegraph Creek 065 St. Aidan's Anglican Church, Telegraph Creek
Photos courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard*northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Telegraph Creek 073 Telegraph Creek buildings



Telegraph Creek 080 past Telegraph Creek
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Telegraph Creek 086 Telegraph Creek Road
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Telegraph Creek 087 Telegraph Creek Road
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Telegraph Creek 098 toward Iskut, Cassiar Road
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)



Telegraph Creek 091 fireweed dying
Photo courtesy Eleanor Millard emillard@northwestel.net (In Carcross)

I sent these photos with Eleanor's permission to Joan Roadschat hoping she could forward them to her Aunt Daisy Callison who wrote a book about a 1935 horseback trip to Telegraph Creek with her father, sister Doris and some others.

The book is called Mountain Trails. Daisy wrote it based on a diary she kept. The trip took them from the family home in the Peace River area to Telegraph Creek where her father mined. At the end of that summer Daisy took a boat down the river to the coast and a steamer to Vancouver where she met her mother and continued her schooling in the big city.

As you will see below Joan is unable to forward this to Daisy, but had some of her own memories with her own family. Joan's father was Pat Callison who was a brother to Daisy and Doris.

Pat wrote the most interesting book Pack Dogs to Helicopters.

Doris went on to marry a Simpson from Telegraph Creek, in Atlin, and they together ran Mile 710 Rancheria.

Sherron Jones

TELEGRAPH CREEK ROAD REMEMBERED

Hi, Sherron – I received those pictures taken by Eleanor Millard (she always does a wonderful job of photography) unfortunately; I cannot send these to my Aunt Daisy as she is living a senior's residence and has no access to the internet. She is now 93 and not in good health.

However, the scenery in those pictures is very familiar to me. When I was child of 4 I lived 12 miles from Telegraph Creek on the Stikine River –where my father worked for George Ball (Big Game Outfitter) on his ranch for a couple of years.

After that we moved to Dease Lake (there was no townsite at that time) My Dad and Mother ran a stopping place called "Lake House" and also a trucking business on the road from Telegraph to Dease. I have travelled that road many times.

Then in later years (1970's) I lived with my own family at Cassiar and we made a trip to Telegraph Ck. at that time. The road has not changed very much since we first travelled over it in the 1930's. It is still very scenic and scary!!

Once again, Sherron, thank you so much for forwarding the pictures. They bring back many good memories.

Joan (Callison) Rodschat northerner.2@hotmail.com (In Penticton)

KENO-ELSA REUNION

Sent a note to Brian and Fay McGeachy to see how the reunion in Kelowna this summer went.

Sherron – a brief note about the Keno-Elsa Reunion in Kelowna August 10 – 12 / 12 at the Capri Hotel – Brian and I visited with many friends from back in those days – event was very well organized and seemed to allow lots of time for catching up with folk, viewing photos from earlier days in those communities, and recording visual / audio interviews with Mike Mancini – you might try to contact him by googling the Keno City Mining Museum or the Keno City Snack Bar

or perhaps mmancini@northwestel.net for details – it was a really good time – we are glad we went.

Faye / Brian McGeachy bmcgeach@telus.net (Near Penticton)

I did not write to Mike Mancini, but did write to the organizers of the event and did not receive a reply. Sherron Jones

SERVICE HELD TO PLACE HEADSTONES

Rusty Reid phoned recently to report that she and Ken Mason had been invited to Champagne to play some music. A gathering was being held in memory of Sue Van Bibber with the plan to place her headstone. Dates were mixed up and Ken and Rusty arrived a day ahead of time.

Since a lot of family had arrived ahead of time Rusty and Ken played some music for those who were on hand.

During their visit a number of ladies put up a tent inside the Champagne meeting hall. Rusty explained they first cut poles to length then erected the tent and placed boughs inside on the floor of the tent. Rusty tried it out and invited Alex Van Bibber to join her, but he replied if he got down he wouldn't be able to get up. Alex now in his mid 90's seemed in good spirits.

Rusty also explained that Kelly Hougen married to Alex's grand-daughter Heather Chambers used to play guitar with them at Macaulay Lodge and was convinced to borrow a guitar and play with them for a while.

Sherron Jones

PS Since initially being contacted by Rusty I have been in touch with Heather Hougen who has also provided some information. The event was also being held to honor not only her grandmother Sue VanBibber but her aunt Helen Hassard as well.



Rusty Reid, Alex Van Bibber, Ken Mason, Roy Wabisca, Kelly Hougen
Photo courtesy Rusty Reid rustyreid.yukon@gmail.com (In Whitehorse/Marsh Lake)



Family gather at Champagne Community Hall
Photo courtesy Rusty Reid rustyreid.yukon@gmail.com (In Whitehorse/Marsh Lake)



Kathleen Van Bibber, Rusty Reid, Alex Van Bibber, Ken Mason and Denise Beattie. Kathleen and Denise are holding up a poster signed by the family in memory of Sue. The photo of Sue is when she was heading out on a hunting trip on her favorite horse Smokey and leading a pack horse. This was a family favorite photo and so depicted Sue's life.

Heather (Chambers) Hougen

Rusty Reid (fiddle) and Ken Mason (guitar) played music and sang some songs after the supper. They fed us right away before all the people started to arrive.

We had Alex come up and sit with us while two ladies held the picture of Sue Vanbibber up behind us.

RUSTY

Photo courtesy Rusty Reid rustyreid.yukon@gmail.com (In Whitehorse/Marsh Lake)



Women putting up the tent.

You can't really see any faces so not sure that you want those names or just mention them as Helen's nieces, Sue's granddaughters. Else they are (l to r) Fran Oles, Susan Knight, Heather Hougen, Elaine Chambers, Natalie Oles. Erick Oles stands on the side. Regards, Heather
Photo courtesy Rusty Reid rustyreid.yukon@gmail.com (In Whitehorse/Marsh Lake)

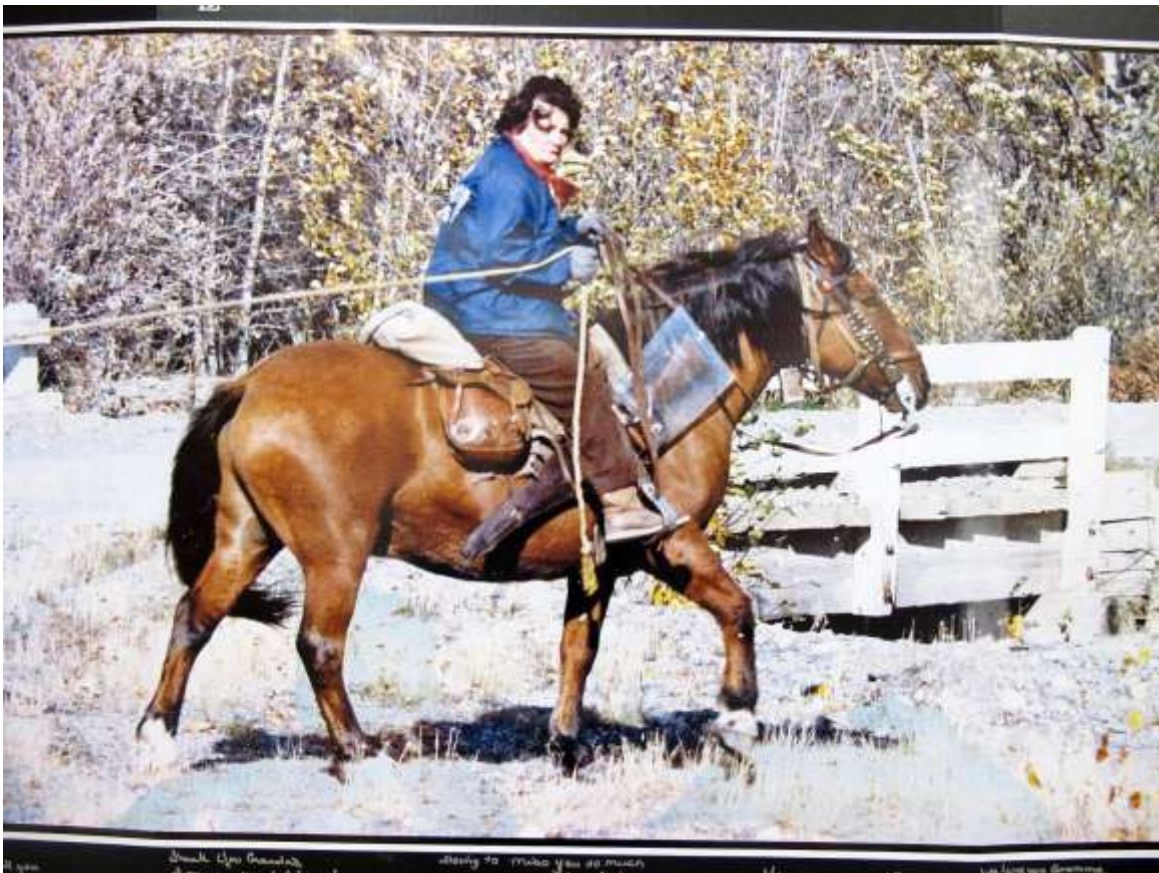


Rusty in the tent.

Note fire beside the tent with red lights to make it appear to be burning.
Photo courtesy Rusty Reid rustyreid.yukon@gmail.com (In Whitehorse/Marsh Lake)



Ken Mason, Alex VanBibber, Rusty Reid and Kelly Hougen
Photo courtesy Rusty Reid rustyreid.yukon@gmail.com (In Whitehorse/Marsh Lake)



Sue VanBibber

Photo courtesy Rusty Reid rustyreid.yukon@gmail.com (In Whitehorse/Marsh Lake)

Hi Sherron

I've attached two more photos to use as you please with the article. They are of the completed tent display. The following is a summary of the weekend for you to use as well.

A headstone placing and celebration of life was held for Helen Hassard and Sue Van Bibber at Champagne, Yukon on August 4, 2012. On Friday evening, as the family prepared for the Saturday event, Ken Mason and Rusty Reid entertained with old-time fiddle music and song. The grandchildren of Sue erected a tent display in honour of both Helen and Sue. As both women were avid outdoors-women, the display depicted a typical tent camp that either one of them would have used.

Helen Hassard (nee Van Bibber) was the eldest of two born to Sue & Alex Van Bibber. Helen grew up at Champagne and learned the ways of horses and hunting from her parents. She married Mike Hassard and they had three children. She is survived by her three children and five grandchildren.

Sue Van Bibber (Chambers nee Dickson) was born December 25, 1911. She was 99 years old when she passed on February 28, 2011. She was one of twelve children born to Louise Davis and Tom Dickson. Sue was a strong, independent women who grew up on the land. She was an

accomplished hunter, trapper, horse woman, and story teller. She married George Chambers and had eight children. After George passed on, Sue married Alex Van Bibber and they had two children. She was the matriarch of a large family; her pride and joy. She had 46 grandchildren, 73 great grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren. . Sue is survived by daughter Kathleen Van Bibber, husband Alex Van Bibber and brother Richard (Dick) Dickson.

Heather (Chambers) Hougen heather*hougens.com (In Whitehorse)



The grandchildren of Sue erected a tent display in honour of both Helen and Sue.
Photo courtesy Heather (Chambers) Hougen heather.hougen@gmail.com (In Whitehorse)



The grandchildren of Sue erected a tent display in honour of both Helen and Sue.
Photo courtesy Heather (Chambers) Hougen heather.hougen@gmail.com (In Whitehorse)



Sue Van Bibber

ESTEEMED ELDER MOURNED

(By [Sarah Niman](#) on **March 2, 2011** **Whitehorse Star**)

Funeral services for the late [Susan VanBibber](#) will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at Champagne in southwest Yukon. She died Monday at the age of 99.

Champagne Aishihik elder Susan VanBibber has died at the age of 99, after a long life spent out on the land.

She is survived by her husband of 65 years, trapper and outfitter Alex VanBibber, their nine children, and a loving family of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was born Susan Dickson on Christmas Day, 1911, to a family that lived life outdoors, family friend [Kelly Hougen](#) told the Star.

“I met her as a young woman,” he said this morning. “She was a strong, robust bush woman: She was a competent trapper, competent guide and a competent horsewoman.”

[Kelly Hougen’s](#) wife, Heather, is one of VanBibber’s granddaughters. He worked with her husband and has been close friends with the couple all his adult life, he said.

The great outdoors had a pull on VanBibber, one that was shared among her 12 siblings, said Hougen.

Many went on to become trappers, outfitters and mushers. Later Dickson generations continue this work today.

[Kelly Hougen](#) said he got to know VanBibber best when he began working and hunting with her husband.

She wasn’t a woman to stay behind and keep home fires burning, said Hougen. VanBibber was often out in the bush running her end of the family business.

From 1948 to 1968, the VanBibber’s ran an outfitting business in their territory in southwestern Yukon. She was very involved, and ran her part of the outfit, guiding parties on horseback.

Indeed, she was most at home when she was out on the land, Hougen recalled. She continued to learn from and love the land as long as she was physically able.

While many may spend their retirement years living a life of leisure, VanBibber kept answering the call of the outdoors. She surprised many by continuing to trap, hunt and work horses well into her eighties.

In her later years, she was forced to slow down physically, said Hougen.

“She spent a lot of time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren,” he said. “She made each one feel very special.”

He said she found great comfort in spending her last decades passing on her skills and knowledge of the land, and was known as “Grandma Susie” to many.

She spent the last months of her life at Copper Ridge Place where, despite the “excellent care she received, she fought it. She didn’t want to be there,” said Hougen.

“I think she knew that if she ever ended up there, she wouldn’t leave.”

For women whose life was spent on the frontier, there was a certain surrender in entering a nursing home.

She enjoyed a trip home to Champagne over Christmas, and had family visit her in Whitehorse regularly. Her stay at Copper Ridge was to be decidedly short.

“She digressed quickly from there ... not in a way that we thought she would pass so fast,” said Hougen.

On Monday morning, Sue Van Bibber woke up and ate breakfast as usual, he said. That afternoon, she took a turn for the worse, and her family was called. She passed away at 4 p.m., surrounded by her family.

Indeed, it has been a difficult winter for Alex Vanbibber (Sue’s husband) and his family. Two of his daughters have died recently as well.

Hougen said he is concerned for his friend Alex Vanbibber, and planned to be by his side today. “In fact, I’m heading out to check the trap line with him this morning,” he said. “How about that: a 95-year-old heading out on a Skidoo?”

Alex, the nonagenarian, is a respected trapper and outdoors man across the Yukon. He was named to the Order of Canada in 1992 and the Yukon Fish and Game Association Sportsman of the Year Award in 1995.

As well, he won the Canadian Wildlife Federation Roland Michener Award in 1996 for his continued work with young people, passing on his knowledge about responsible trapping and respecting the land.

Today across the Yukon, friends and family of Susan VanBibber have begun amassing the anecdotes, highlights and stories of her long, full life, as they prepare to celebrate her this weekend.

Funeral services for the late matriarch will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at Champagne in the community hall.

At the late VanBibber’s request, there will be no potlatch. A dinner will follow the service, and the family says all are welcome.

There are many beliefs shared among those who call the outdoors their home as to what the northern lights signify.

Some say it is the spirits dancing, the ancestors of the land illuminating the sky, asking their descendants to remember and celebrate them.

Coincidence or not, each night since VanBibber's passing, there have been spectacular northern lights noted across the southern Yukon, dancing across the night sky.

Notes from Rusty Reid about KELLY HOUGEN:

Kelly is the son of Rolf & Marg Hougen who own and operated Hougen's store amongst many other things. They were operating a small store in Whitehorse, on Main Street when my husband, Bill, and I first arrived in May of 1951.

When the Hougen's had their son, Kelly, Bill & I got to know him very well as he grew up. He even played guitar with us over at the Macaulay Lodge Senior Home.

Heather Chambers, was the beautiful daughter of Frank Chambers. Kelly had his eye on her for many years and would see her when he went up to visit Alex Vanbibber and Frank Chambers. When Kelly was old enough, he married her.

I took my fiddle and my neighbour, Ken Mason, took his guitar and we drove about 50 miles up to the little town of Champagne to play some music. There was a gathering of many relatives and friends for a dinner they had to honor the memory of Sue Vanbibber. The next day (almost one year later) they were going to have 'Headstone Laying Ceremony' for Sue Vanbibber.

There is so much information and so many pictures about Alex Vanbibber because he is so famous and such a good friend of our family, that I am going to make a separate email and attachments for him.

Bye for now,
RUSTY REID

Larry Bagnell Statements in the House

Last in Parliament March 2011, as Liberal MP for Yukon (Yukon)

Susan Audrey Van Bibber - March 24th, 2011

On February 28, the Yukon lost one of its great matriarchs, Susan Audrey Van Bibber (Chambers), née Dickson, at 99 years of age.

We could not possibly write a history of the Yukon without mentioning her legendary contributions and those of her 154 descendants and the many others she took under her wing.

She was a hard-working, tough, gritty Yukon woman, trapping, wrangling and chasing horses well into her eighties.

She was a wonderful cook, making incredible moose stew, and her cinnamon buns were gone as soon as they came out of the oven.

Sue was an entertaining storyteller, and her family and friends could see the world through her eyes as she wittily shared her endless stories of people and places spanning a century.

Sue's pride and joy was her family. She was loved and will be sadly missed by her husband of 67 years, Alex Van Bibber, and those remaining of her 9 children, 46 grandchildren, 73 great-grandchildren and 26 great-great-grandchildren.

We all miss Sue. May God bless her. Massi.

(The following article was submitted by Rusty Reid and I have added some notes to bring it into perspective. – Sherron Jones)

ALEX VAN BIBBER SON OF: Ira VanBibber and Eliza Jackson

TOUGHEST TRAPPER IN THE YUKON

Uploaded May 2, 2007 http://www.fold3.com/page/613_alex_vanbibber/

[Since Alex is now in his mid 90's – this article must have been written in the late 1990's.]

Some say Alex VanBibber is the toughest trapper in the whole Yukon. At nearly 80 years of age, he's been trapping here since he was a kid. Now, he's doing his bit to fend off the anti-trapping groups by teaching Yukoners how to use more humane trapping methods. And after being a member of the Yukon Fish and Game Association for 50 years (he signed up in 1946), VanBibber has won the Clay Pugh Memorial Award for sportsman of the year.

"For the past 16 years, people have called for the betterment of trapping," says the stalky, fit resident of Champagne. "The industry had been getting pressure from the animal-rights groups, so the government formed the Fur Institute of Canada and chipped in money to use for more humane traps, quick-killing traps. "It was just to get the anti-trapping people off our backs but you can tell the difference with the quality of the fur now. "The hides are cared for better and the animals are taken more humanely." Yukon trappers must also now check their traps within five days of setting them. In other parts of Canada, it's two or three days.

VanBibber's family originally came from the United States. His father arrived in Skagway from West Virginia in 1898, when the Klondike Gold Rush was in full swing. He worked as a packer on the White Pass and was there when the great slide of April, 1898, killed dozens of people. When he finally reached Dawson City, he found there wasn't enough gold to go around. "He took off into the bush with his brother, who eventually went to Nome, (Alaska)," says VanBibber. "My dad came out to Fort Selkirk and eventually married a native woman, and that's where we come from."

VanBibber went to school in Dawson City and then started working for a gold-dredging company in 1934. But he always returned to Pelly Crossing to trap in the winter. In 1942, he headed to the Whitehorse area to get work during the building of the Alaska Highway. He ended up working on the Canol pipeline project, surveying for a railroad that was supposed to run from Prince George, B.C., to Fairbanks. Eventually, he got on the pipeline survey team. "The army bought seven horses from Johnny Johns in Carcross and we had to walk the horses to Johnson's Crossing and cross the river on the ferry. "We met the survey party there and headed for Quiet Lake and eventually Norman Wells," he says. "It was well over a 500-mile trek. Late that fall, it was slow on the South Canol. "We were going ahead with the horses and the survey party was behind us, clearing survey lines with Cats. There were no axes or chainsaws; they just came through with Cats. "Right behind them, they were building and finishing the roads. You could go back a little ways and drive all the way back to Whitehorse." VanBibber also worked on the refinery in Whitehorse and received a small vial of the first crude oil to arrive in the city from Norman Wells. He has since donated it to the Yukon Transportation Museum.

He started outfitting in 1943, spending 20 years guiding near the Kusawa Lake area. He now lives in Champagne. "I was trapping all along, too -- off and on. In fact, I still trap and I still guide and I'll be 80 on the fourth of April." He says his secret to staying young is spending as much time as possible in the great outdoors. "I guess it's all the fresh air outdoors. It's a great life. I'm drinking good water, getting lots of exercise and I sleep well at night and eat well, too."

VanBibber is teaching his trade to students at many Yukon schools, he says. He also teaches sessions at the Fish and Game Association's camps. "I just like to tell them what the fur industry is all about, that there is no great fear. "It's being managed by the government and there is no depletion of any one species. "It's all being monitored. If the animals were just left to roam, they would multiply so much that they would suffer a worse death by starvation and disease." The kids learn mountain climbing, canoeing, rifle and bow and arrow shooting and first aid. VanBibber teaches them horsemanship and wilderness camping survival as well as trapping. "Living in the North country, it's always handy to know the outdoors and the ways of the bush. "These kids will probably never use it but it's good for them to know. It keeps them out of trouble, too."

And VanBibber is one of the best to teach bush skills. He's been the expert called in for some great adventures. He's climbed with Senator Robert Kennedy, when Mount Kennedy was named to honor his brother, and former president, in 1965. He was also involved in a search for a couple who survived in the bush outside Watson Lake on nothing but snow for 48 days after their plane crashed. He was also part of a team that brought elk back to the Yukon, trucking them here from Elk Island National Park near Edmonton in the early 1950s. But he hasn't been hungry himself. During a "starvation trip," where VanBibber had to take 25 soldiers out into the bush with only shotguns, he outsmarted the group. "I had a .22 so I just walked ahead of them all and started filling up my pack with rabbits and grouse," he says. "The last group at the back there was living pretty slim. They missed a few meals."

VanBibber has received the Order of Canada. He mentions it as an afterthought but admits he can't remember whether it was in 1983 or 1993. He seems more proud of the sportsman of the year award. "I was surprised they picked me. I just enjoy working with young people."

The Family of: Ira VanBibber and Eliza Jackson: At Mica Creek, on the bank of the Pelly River in Canada's south-central Yukon Territory, stands the old two-story log home of Ira and Eliza Van Bibber. Eight of Eliza's 16 babies were born there.

Now the big house is silent. Only one of the children Theodore, the youngest lives there during the winter. Eliza sits alone by her window overlooking the Pelly, watching the deep, swift waters of the wide river slip by, as the many years of her life have slipped by. During warm summer days, she often sits outside, even closer to the river, on the seat from an overland stage sleigh which once was hauled by horses over the winter trail from Whitehorse to Dawson City. Even when the river is frozen by winter, she sits inside her snug home for hours, gazing upon the Pelly and remembering. Always she remains unperturbed, like a serene island in the midst of the ever-changing river.

Eliza is a Tlingit Indian of the Crow clan, granddaughter of Chief Conone of the Taku Tlingits in the Juneau area. Eliza's mother, Alice, daughter of Chief Conone, was one of the five wives of Chief Jackson, Eliza's father. Because another wife was jealous of Alice and threatened to kill her, Alice left Chief Jackson before baby Eliza was born, and joined other Indians making a long trek over to the Yukon River.

Eliza was born in the Aishihik Lake area, probably in the early 1880's. There is no written record of her birth, but her family believes she is over 90. It was years after her birth that she and her mother registered in the white man's records and were given the names Alice and Eliza.

When they came to Fort Selkirk, near the mouth of the Pelly River, there were no white men around the deserted site of the trading post, which had been sacked by the Chilkat Indians by 1852 and abandoned by the Hudson's Bay Company.

In the nomadic way of the Tlingit people, she roamed widely with her mother and her stepfather, and later her half-brothers and sister, Susie, Peter and John. Through the Yukon and Pelly watersheds they hunted, fished and picked berries.

On one trek, when Eliza was very young, her family traveled up the Stewart River, then crossed over onto the Pelly. Eliza recalls that they were camped above Granite Canyon on their way down the Pelly, when she saw a white man for the first time. The little girl was deeply impressed by the stranger's unfamiliar language and the pale color of his skin. That first encounter with white people remains vivid in her memory.

[After Eliza's mother] Alice's second husband died, she married Copper Joe, from Copper City on the Yukon River below Fort Selkirk, but they had no children. They lived mainly around Coffee Creek, where Alice died about 1921.

When Eliza was a young girl, she accompanied her mother and step-father to the Aishihik area to attend a potlatch, where, according to custom, her marriage was arranged. Eliza didn't wish to

marry the man her parents had chosen. She slipped out of camp early one morning and returned with her uncle to the area of old Fort Selkirk. Several years later, she met and married Ira Van Bibber.

Ira and two of his brothers, Theodore and Pat, had left Chehalis, Washington, to join the stampede to the Klondike in 1898. There were originally from West Virginia.

After spending some time on the gold creeks, Ira and sourdough musher Tom Hebert hauled mail by dog team on the Yukon River between Whitehorse and Dawson City. Later Ira trapped and prospected in the Selkirk area and spent several years on the upper Pelly. In the early 1900's he met Eliza at Selkirk, and that was the beginning of their long adventure-filled life together.

Around 1908, Ira, Eliza and their baby, Leta, traveled to the headwaters of the Pelly and Ross rivers, and then crossed the rugged MacKenzie Mountains to the head of the wild, little-known South Nahanni. With Eliza's cousin, Tommy Joe, they spent three years trapping and prospecting on the Nahanni. Their daughter May was born there above the spectacular, higher-than-Niagara, Virginia Falls.

Returning from the South Nahanni in 1911, Ira and Eliza settled on the bank of the Pelly at Mica Creek, about 40 miles above the Pelly's mouth. Here Ira built the big log house in which they raised their family, and trapped, fished and hunted in the Pelly and MacMillan watersheds, where Ira operated a big game guiding business. Van Bibber became a respected name throughout the Territory.

Eliza bore none of her 16 babies in a hospital. Some were born on traplines, some at hunting or fishing camps. Ira assisted at most of the births, and elder daughters Leta and May helped deliver the younger ones. Their first son, Abraham, was born near the head of Ross River, on the long trip back from the Nahanni. Dan was born at Tatimain Lake, and Archie at Beaver Lake. Alex, Helen and a stillborn baby were delivered at Mica Creek, and then John ("J.J.") entered the world at Russell Creek, below the forks of the MacMillan River. Pat was born at Mica Creek, and Kathleen at Selkirk. George arrived at Pelly Crossing, where the Van Bibbers lived for a time. Lucy, Linch, a baby who died at birth and "Dode" (Theodore) were born at the Mica Creek homestead.

Twelve of Eliza's children are still living, 11 of them in the Yukon. All the Van Bibber family have contributed greatly to the development of the Yukon; their exploits and remarkable experiences are both legion and legendary. Alex, for example, is highly regarded as a big game guide and outfitter and as a dog musher in the Yukon Sourdough Rendezvous Races. Lucy and Linch are well-known artists. "Dode" -- who lives with his mother during the winter -- mans a fire lookout tower near Whitehorse in the summer, and despite severe disabilities caused by a crippling disease, is known to have the keenest eyes in the forestry service.

The eldest son, Abe, died in the Northwest Territories about 1933, after traveling from Mayo to Great Bear Lake by dog team during the Eldorado uranium stampede. He drowned while running a net to catch fish for his dogs. Helen died at 14, after contracting tuberculosis in Dawson, where she was attending school.

Across Mica Creek, on a high hill overlooking the valley, their father, Ira, also sleeps, in the undisturbed peace of the Pelly.

Eliza is adored by her numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Although her fine brown features are etched with lines of hardship and sorrow, her twinkling eyes and beaming smile reveal a quick wit and cheerful nature. Despite her dignified bearing, she is friendly and enjoys a joke immensely.

Less than five feet tall, Eliza could stand beneath her husband's out-stretched arm without touching it. Ira always called her "Short," a nickname still used by her many friends, who agree that in stamina, courage and patience, she is a giant. It would take a remarkable person to walk in the petite prints of her wandering moccasins!

Her ties with the past and with the traditions of her Tlingit people and the Crow clan are strong. With obvious pride, she recalls her ancestral background and Tlingit legends, these memories mingling with those of her personal life.

As Eliza watches the Pelly flow by, she recalls trading posts, stampeders, steamboats and settlements that have vanished. She remembers traveling along the river with pack dogs, poling boats, rafts, sleds. Now she sees vehicles speeding along the Klondike Highway through what used to be wilderness. Cars, campers and huge ore trucks roll down a long hill and over a bridge about a mile from her door. But except for a handful of adventurers each summer, the 460-mile river itself is deserted.

Both Eliza and her river have seen many changes. There is sadness hidden deep in the brown eyes that watch the waters rush by. But like the everlasting Pelly, Eliza's memories live on for her, as she will always live in its legends.

Link to a trapping video of Alex VanBibber: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jvQ_uJbFd-k

CURLY GRAHAM

From Don Frizzell – Aug 29, 2012

Curly died on Aug 21. He was working in his shop with a friend of his and left to go over to his house - on the same property. When he did not return as expected, the chap he was working with went to investigate and found him. He tried CPR but Curly was gone. I understand there will be a service on Saturday at Mt Mac, but I haven't heard a time. I am getting all this second hand, so better wait for the newspaper article to come out. Muriel and I will be in Dawson for the weekend so will not be able to attend. Curly has a sister, Marg Yeulett who was just recently admitted to hospital - she is in her 80's I think. He also has a brother on Vancouver Island someplace.

He was raised in Atlin in the 30's and his father was a minister there. He was to work for White Pass and took the boat from Atlin to Carcross, but it broke down enroute and finally got fixed with Curly's help. He was a couple of days late getting to Whitehorse and didn't get the job. He had

quite a few trucks and worked on the building of the Whitehorse Airport in the early 40's. After the war, he took his trucks to Edmonton for work for a few years and then returned to Whitehorse. He helped build the road from the Alaska Highway to Mt. Nansen to open up the Brown McDade mine and later pushed a trail through to Carmacks. He built a trail from Transport (old mile 687) to the Liard River for some exploration outfit. He has been on many other projects as well, but these are the ones I recall him talking about.

I think he told me that his first shop was where the City Hall is today. He first lived near the current location of the Klondike paddle wheeler. He moved many buildings around Whitehorse and loved to tell the stories of where and what these old buildings are today. He was also instrumental in building some of the streets in Whitehorse and Porter Creek.

He did some placer mining in the Burwash area and had some very large equipment up there for several years.

He did quite a bit of flying and fixing airplanes in his day and was in the process of starting up a charter flying and maintenance business with a partner, but the partner was killed in an unrelated airplane accident and he decided not to pursue those interests.

I got to know Curly in mid-1980 and he could always be found working on something in his large shop at #1 MacDonald Road. He had a bad fire in the shop which pretty much gutted the interior and he lost a lot of tools and repair manuals. He just cleaned up the mess, and kept on going. He would much sooner repair something than buy a new piece and was doing that right up to his passing.

He has several old Caterpillar machines in his yard and was planning to rescue 3 old machines from the Burwash area, as well as a D4 from the old Dawson Trail, and an old grader out at Marsh Lake. He hoped to put it all together in his yard and make a sort of museum out of it.

He has boxes and boxes of Caterpillar manuals and parts books, some going back to the late 20's. He also has a fairly complete microfiche setup that was current up until the time that Caterpillar no longer supplied the negatives.

I believe he was a certified mechanical and electrical engineer. If not he was certainly very knowledgeable in both fields.

After I had my heart operation, he used to come and pick me up twice a day for coffee. After I got back on my feet, I had coffee or lunch with him 3 or 4 times a week and it is hard to believe that he is gone. I used to kid him that he better live another 30 years to accomplish all the projects he was working on. He was living by himself in his home on MacDonald Road which was always neat and tidy. He was not on any medication that I was aware of. He went every couple of weeks or so for a B12 shot.

Regards

Don Frizzell frizzell*northwestel.net (In Whitehorse)

OBITUARY

Vernon Morning Star Vernon



GOSSE, Dianne

With heavy hearts, the family of Dianne Gosse announces her passing. With her loving husband at her side, she left this world on August 23rd, 2012. As she did with everything, she faced her cancer battle with determination and dignity. Her positive attitude and resolve to make the most of every day will continue to inspire all of us!

Predeceased by her parents, Frances and Percy, Dianne is survived by her loving husband, Raymond; daughters, Colleen (Delmar) and Sharon; stepchildren, Pamela and David (Gertie); grandchildren: Krysta (Anthony), Shane, Kiera, Brynn, Nik (Carrie), Darren (Kristalynn), and Selena; great grandchildren: Molly, Regan, Abigail, Evan, and Brianna; brother Wayne (Judy), extended family and friends.

The family extends their gratitude to Dr. Jennifer Byrnes for all of her caring support. Also thanks to “Chemo Team” at Vernon Jubilee Hospital.

In lieu of flowers, those friends wishing to make memorial contributions in memory of Dianne may do so to the BC-Yukon Cancer Society. For on-line donations, please visit the “Daffodil Tribute Garden” on the BC-Yukon Cancer Society website.

The Memorial Service will be held on Friday, August 31st, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. with Rev. Jeff Seaton officiating. A reception will follow in the tea room.

Arrangements have been entrusted to:
PLEASANT VALLEY FUNERAL HOME
(250) 542-4333

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Irene Taylor here
I have lost all my old email contacts so had this new email set up
ietaylor1935@gmail.com

REMOVED FROM THE LIST

BRADLEY, Lou
AB

lou*bradleyit.com

(In Yukon 1956 – 1996) Red Deer

FULLAGER, Heather (HANKINS) heather*okanaganengraving.com (In Whitehorse 1955-78) Vernon

SCHNEIDMILLER, Keith & Cheryl tuffyhse*telusplanet.net (Keith in Ross River 1972 & 1973) In Sundre, AB

TRIM, Doug dtrim*northwestel.net (In Yukon)

I have enjoyed receiving the Moccasin Telegraph. But for now I think I will pass on my subscription. I'll keep your email address in case I want to re-subscribe in the future. Best wishes for the coming year.

Love Nellie

DALE, Nellie nelliedale@hotmail.com (In Whitehorse)

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*Youth cannot know how age thinks and feels.
But old people are guilty if they forget what it was to be young.*

J. K. Rowling

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

From The Star Cook Book – Dawson 1942

Beet Luncheon Salad

- M. Stevenson

1 pkg lemon Jello
1 pint hot water
3 tablespoons vinegar
1 ½ cups diced beets
1 teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon scraped onion
1 ½ cups chopped cabbage

Dissolve the Jello in warm water. Add vinegar, salt and onion. Chill until slightly thickened. Fold in the vegetables and chill until firm. Serve on finely shredded cabbage or on lettuce.

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MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH

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