

## The New School - a student's view

by Gordon Kerr

The New School. A subject that will spark a conversation in any group, young or old: How it has evolved from a whole lot of posts sticking out of our former baseball field into this sharp, modern/historic building in so many months; how it should attract more people to live in Dawson; how it will benefit the community.

Moving day has nearly arrived. Soon the students will be able to

move their belongings to the new school; start classes again in a fresh building, with all sorts of nooks and crannies to explore.

To some, the move will be very exciting. To others, "a school's a school". With the final costs over \$9 million, all sorts of things have been promised: bigger, better lockers, and enough of them for everyone; better classrooms; modern facilities, a sprinkler system that works and a trustworthy boiler room; on top of that, modern styling. **con't p. 2**

## New School Open At Last

After three years of effort and a couple of false starts, the new Robert Service School was finally ready to move into on May 16.

The building had actually been accepted as satisfactory by the Department of Government Services on May 11, but students were not permitted in the new area until it had passed an air toxicity test. This examination measured the remaining fumes from paint solvents, chemical dryers and adhesives used in laying the carpeting. Some parents had expressed a concern about this matter at meetings in March.

Intitial tests were taken on May 11, but were declared invalid when it was realized that painting was still going on. Final tests on May 16 revealed an air safe building and Area III Regional Superintendent Doctor Robert Smith declared the building open.

Students were given a two-day holiday so that staff could use the time to get classrooms into proper shape after the move for the first classes in the building on Tuesday, May 23.

This project has been in the works since the spring of 1986, when Lynn Pecknold, then principal of the school, called together a committee of concerned user groups to begin lobbying for a building to replace the present school, which was condemned and working under a 24 hour fire watch due to inoperative sprinklers.

After many months of negotiations, the new building took shape as a "community complex" which would amalgamate the school and public libraries and provide improved recreational and educational facilities for the community at large. The basic design of the new building was approved at public meetings in 1987.



Daniel Kerklywich and Vice Principal Shirley Pennell moving the art room. 'Bird's Eye' view of new school. photos by Dawne Mitchell, Mike Gates.

## C.A.T. STUDY FINDS ALCOHOL PROBLEM

by Dan Davidson

Alcohol and drug abuse tops the list of social problems in Dawson according to a study released earlier this month by the Community Action Team. In a survey

of Dawson opinions, the team interviewed a random sample of 392 citizens over nearly 350 selected alcohol abuse at a major problem while over 300 selected drugs as a problem. Suicide, family violence and child abuse came a distant third, fourth and fifth on the list, while teen boredom

and malnutrition hardly rated at all.

The results were no surprise to the Community Action Team, which was, after all, set up a little over a year ago to work with problems related to drugs and alcohol. The team

undertook the survey in order to see if their priorities really were important to the community at large.

Nearly 150 of those surveyed said that they knew ten or more people who had a drug or alcohol problem. The majority of

**NEW SCHOOL  
con't from p.1**

Construction began late that fall.

Smith, who was principal at R.S.S. in 1987-88, described the school in a letter to parents on May 16: "This new school is the most modern in the Territory. It contains state-of-the-art science labs (two of them), computer labs, art room, industrial education shops (three of them), home economics lab, and classrooms. The library is the best north of sixty."

Jim Montgomery, the present principal, reports that the elementary and primary students he has talked with seem to "love their new school. One grade three boy said, 'It's the best ever!' Even the high school kids don't mind saying they like it, which translated into English means that they really like it."

**ACTIONS TERM REPORT  
con't from p.1**

respondents indicated that they would make use of social service and other resources to help deal with these problems, but just about the same number did not feel that there was enough public awareness of what agencies did exist to help and a similar number felt there were not enough such agencies in the Klondike area. Another 79.85% of those surveyed said that drinking and driving was a serious problem in Dawson. In written responses, some suggested the need for an R.C.M.P. crackdown on offenders. So far the activities of the CAT have mainly involved sponsoring diversionary activities: several dry dances, co-financing of professional personal counselling through the Robert Service School, holding an out of town retreat for teens and sponsoring the Quest for Vision drug and alcohol

awareness program for junior high teens. In his presentation of the CAT survey results, chairman David Conley said the survey seemed to point to the need for more public awareness education and for a continued effort to provide alternatives to drug related behavior. Copies of the 27 page report are available through CAT members.

**STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE  
con't from p.1**

Our school will be the newest, most modern school in the Yukon, which is something the students should be very proud of, especially during sports competitions, when participants from other parts of the Yukon come to admire it.

At the moment, anticipation and curiosity are driving the staff and students mad while we wait for the signal from the Health Board that the air is not polluted, so we can proceed with the move, which has been set back several times. We hope to be in the new school by the time this article appears in print.

Although the main sentiment seems to be "Let's get out of this school and into the new one as quick as possible", some people will have fond memories of the original RSS. After all, it has been

standing since 1959. Sure, it's poorly equipped, uncomfortable, small and condemned, but many people have graduated from it and it's made a name for itself in the Yukon.

Personally, I'm enthusiastic about moving and as curious about the new school as everyone else. So, although I'll miss the good times we had in the old school, I'm looking forward to the next two years and I'm very glad I'll be spending them in the new school.

[Ed. note: Gordon's piece was completed before the move was officially approved.]



Students earn a Pizza reward for assisting with the move to the new Robert Service School. photo by Dawne Mitchell

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**The New Sun** a Guest Editorial by Pierre Berton

It occurs to me that my journalistic career began in Dawson when, as a boy of ten, I rode my bicycle down to the Dawson News to deposit my mother's copy with Harold Malstrom, the editor. Actually Harold was much more than an editor: he was owner, publisher, printer, circulation manager, advertising salesman and general factotum; and he had the stumps of his fingers, mangled in his linotype machine, to prove his dedication to his craft.

Harold was one of a long line of Klondike journalists going back to the legendary Gene Allen. It is good to see the tradition continued. Dawson's newspapers have always been lively -- one even reported the discovery of Noah's Ark on an Alaskan mountain. The first two -- Allen's **Klondike Nugget** and the rival **Midnight Sun** -- raced each other down river in July of 1898 in a mad dash to be the first on the scene. Both won. The **Nugget**, technically, was first: it appeared as a typed bulletin board sheet. The **Sun** was the first to get its printing press into action. Others followed -- the **Miner**, the **Daily News** and the short-lived **Gleaner**, which was quickly closed down for obscenity.

It's good to see that a new **Sun** has risen. If it's anywhere near as feisty as its predecessors, it deserves a long run. Certainly it's a symbol of Dawson's own revival -- a revival they said could never happen. Gene Allen and Harold Malstrom would certainly applaud.



With the help of half a dozen assorted cats and the whole Public Works crew, excepting Anna Hanulik (holding down the office), the **GEORGE BLACK FERRY** was held, or nudged, into the mighty, clear-flowing Yukon River, just in time for three o'clock coffee break, on Monday, May 15, as a sprinkling of tourists joined a cluster of locals, for the spring event in warm, clearing weather. She floats at anchor for 24 hours with the captain aboard, to guarantee the hull is sound and ready for what is expected to be one of her busiest summers ever. Drop down and shout 'hello' to Captain Dave Mierau. Photo by Sourdough Sue Ward

# Club Y News

In March of this year, Dawson's Recreation Department held a competition open to teenagers to find an individual to attend a youth leadership forum on drug and alcohol prevention. Though the competition did not inspire an overwhelming response, some unique and exceptional individuals did come forth to be interviewed.

The student chosen to attend the forum, to be held May 25 to 28 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, is Barb Margeson. Barb will be accompanied by Don Armitage of the Rec Department. Approximately 150 youths and youth workers from across Canada are expected to attend.

The forum's objectives are to identify strategies for positive living and the prevention of substance abuse. In

addition, it will provide an opportunity for teenagers to play a key role in the development of a community action plan document, useful to youth and youth groups involved in action on drug abuse.

"There are so many young individuals who are loaded with potential in this town. It is a shame they all can't attend this forum; but that is what Barb and I will be responsible for: to deliver the information and skills we acquire back into the community," says Armitage.

"We are looking for a student to attend the forum who was questioning a certain set of values; lifestyles that may begin as peer or social pressures. We need someone who is going to remain strong in their beliefs, to aid the community and themselves, long after the conference is over."



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## HERE COMES THE SUN

Welcome to the first edition of the Klondike Sun, the new kid on the block that we really hope is going to win all of your hearts before too long.

This exercise in collective insanity has many roots. It has been discussed off and on for a number of years, probably ever since the Dawson Daily News folded. Our co-editors and our elder statesperson have been yearning to try it since 1986. There was one major meeting in the fall of 1988 at which a number of people talked quite seriously with Yukon News publisher, Doug Bell, but that didn't really get off the ground.

A further push came back in March, around a couple of tables in the Dawson Public Library. Two visiting authors, L.R. Wright and Tim Wynne-Jones, held writing workshops under the auspices of the Dawson Library Board. About half of the Klondike Sun Newspaper Society's present board was at one or both of these workshops and it was there that another group began to discuss forming a paper.

It seemed past time. Stringers for the two Whitehorse papers have no trouble at all finding words and pictures to fill a page or more apiece each week. It was time that some of that material became part of a local paper, along with ads, pictures and public service information.

The first meeting took place at Sourdough Sue Ward's place during mid-March. It was then that the decision was made to take a serious run at this task, the name was picked, and the approximate deadline date set. We surveyed the community and found that interest was keen. Lots of people wanted both to buy the Sun and advertise in it. Since then there have been many other meetings; first monthly, then weekly, then twice-weekly and so on. Finally, here we are.

Thank you's are in order. Thanks to the City of Dawson, for encouragement and assistance. Thanks to the Yukon Order of Pioneers, for the tables and chairs. Thanks to the Golden Age Social Club, for a place to put them. Thanks to our advertisers, who are paying for this. Thanks to the folks at the Whitehorse Star and the Yukon News, who gave us good advice and wished us well. Thanks to friends at the Faro Raven, who gave us some pointers when we were puzzled. Thanks to the Nuts, who don't quite believe we can keep this up, but are hoping for us.

Here are a few things you can do to make this work.

**Letters:** Yes, we do want them. Please keep them to one page of double-spaced typing. (If you want to write more than that contact us about doing a column.) Sign your name. We have to know who you are, though we will keep your identity a secret if you wish it. No profanity, character assassination or personal feuds, please.

**Articles:** We remain open to all kinds of suggestions. Some of the people who have graced our first issue will grow tired of meeting their deadlines eventually and will need replacing. Please type your article and skip a line after each line. This is called double spacing. It makes things easier to edit, read and re-type. We need your material a week before our publication date. Watch for our contributors' and advertisers' deadlines on this page or the next.

**Staff:** We need typists, brave souls who will dare to sit boldly before the flickering screen of a word processor for hours at a time and put words onto computer disks so we can put them on paper later on. Keyboarding is much easier than typing - honest. A few hours a week will not only provide a community service but build up your finger muscles and eye-hand coordination. Besides, you lucky folks get to read the paper first!

If your skills are more manual, we need layout people to take those strips of printed words and glue them on the make-up sheets. We also need people who would enjoy playing with letraset and graphics to make up fresh, original ads for our paying customers.

We probably need things we haven't thought of yet, so help us out. See you next issue.

## The Klondike Sun

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Editors.....Kathy Jones-Gates  
 ..... Dan Davidson  
 Advertising.... Madeleine Gould  
 .....Dawne Mitchell  
 Typing..... Chere Mitchell  
 Writers..... Palma Berger  
 ..... Dan Davidson  
 ..... Kathy Jones-Gates  
 ..... Dawne Mitchell  
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 Layout..... Diverse Hands

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**IN THE NEXT ISSUE:** Watch for the following stories and columns: A CHILDREN'S SECTION by SALLY DERRY; a special spread on the SCHOOL REUNION; PHOTOS GALORE THAT WE WERE UNABLE TO PUT IN THIS ISSUE: article by MIKE GATES - "WHO WAS THE FIRST YUKON WOMAN PIONEER?" CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS. ISSUE NUMBER 2 to be published JUNE 22nd.



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# FROM THE LEGISLATURE

by Art Webster

I offer my sincere best wishes for success to the Klondike Sun. It is not an easy task, as those responsible now surely know, to start such an enterprise, but take solace in the fact that the inaugural edition is always the toughest. Although there will be times when struggles to meet deadlines will test your patience and sanity, the support and encouragement of the community and the friendships made in pursuit of your common goals will be the incentives to keep the presses rolling.

The birth of the Klondike Sun says a great deal about the vitality of our community. It's the same vitality and energy that seized Dawson at the turn of the century, and which fostered the publication of a wide variety of newspapers.

Dawson, today, has rekindled that flavour of the past. The continuing activity on the creeks and the throngs of tourists create a bustle and prosperity which makes the air crackle with excitement. We are

enjoying the benefits of a new "rush" that draws people from all over the world to tread Dawson's streets of legend.

There is a difference, though, between then and now. Today, Dawson's prosperity has roots. When the gold in the creeks is all mined, historic Dawson will continue to draw visitors to the confluence of the Klondike and the Yukon.

Over the past four years, government has worked with the private sector to improve services and facilities and to diversify and strengthen our economy. The result is a community which is growing in strength and self-assurance. We can now plan our futures with greater confidence.

The arrival of the Klondike Sun is an expression of such confidence and a testament to the committed people who will reflect the many facets of local life in its pages. I expect it to be a continuing reminder of the reasons why we make Dawson City our home.

Congratulations on the publication of this first edition, and may it mark to beginning of a long and glorious run for the Klondike Sun.

## Congratulations

City Council is elated to welcome the KLONDIKE SUN.

The time is right for a proper newspaper, and the group of you that conceived the idea and have come together to form the backbone of the newspaper are to be commended. The history of our community is full of many famous individuals who began in the newspaper business. We are sure that this tradition will not be lost, and your pictorial of events around the area will be well received by all.

### Congratulations

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## Museum News

This year, the Dawson City Museum and Historical Society is attempting something new. We will be open two weeks early for limited hours. We have encountered numerous stumbling blocks along the way, but on May 20 we shall open the doors to the public. Admission rates, until June 1, have been reduced. It is a great time to visit the Museum before the summer visitors begin to arrive. Our Coffee Shop will start operation June 1, with "Raven Robin" running it. Rumour has it that cappuccino will be available, in addition to salads, soups, sandwiches and muffins. This past winter, the Board of Directors, staff and interested members have been actively working on a five-year organizational plan. Now that we are settled into the recently renovated building, it is time for the collection of

artifacts and archival material to move onto centre stage. For the next five years, the collection will be one of our main focuses.

One project will be the undertaking of an inventory and repacking of the Museum artifacts housed in Bear Creek and the Millen House, this summer. Financial assistance has been provided by the Yukon and federal governments. Leslie Piercy will supervise the project and two students of conservation from Ontario will be assisting her. Upon completion, the Museum will better understand its vast collection.

Thanks to the Canadian Council of Archives, the Museum will also have a professional photographer on staff for one month to lend some organization to our collection of over 5,000 photo images. There is much more work and organization to be undertaken by the Museum, but we feel everyone will

agree that the Dawson Museum has come a long way since it was established 30 years ago.

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# CLEAN UP NOW!

by Dan Davidson.

There will be a organized garbage clean-up held here on June 3. A small group of Dawsonites met on May 18 to discuss the formation of an environmental action committee to combat problems in the community. The meeting, held in the conference room of the Downtown Hotel, was called by Renata Schmidt, who recently made the news by spearheading a drive to have the quality of the air in the new school verified before students were moved into it.

While there were only seven people at the Thursday night meeting, the topics under discussion ranged very widely, covering every sort of ground from paper grocery bags and commercial packaging to the environmental impact of placer mining. Lack of

plans to recycle garbage was also mentioned along with a complaint about the shortage of public garbage cans on Dawson streets.

Schmidt had fumes from the garbage dump near the ski hill high on her personal agenda as a problem. She also raised concerns over the contents of the now closed metal dump site on the Klondike Highway outside town.


One newcomer to town referred to the effect generated by the tailings piles along the highway as being similar to "arriving on the moon."

After some discussion as to why people don't notice and protest, Berndt Schmidt offered this analysis: "Most people figure the air is clean, the sun comes up, you can see the moon and the stars and in most cases you can drink the water - so it's okay."

The general feeling of those at the meeting was that things are not okay. To begin generating some public interest in the environment, the group decided to tackle the garbage problem first. On June 3 the members plan to organize a clean-up day during which they will gather up as much garbage as they can, and take it to a central

location for disposal so that the pile will have a visible public impact before it is trucked off to the dump.

The committee members will be seeking the cooperation of the city offices in this project, which they believe will be to the ultimate benefit of all Dawsonites.



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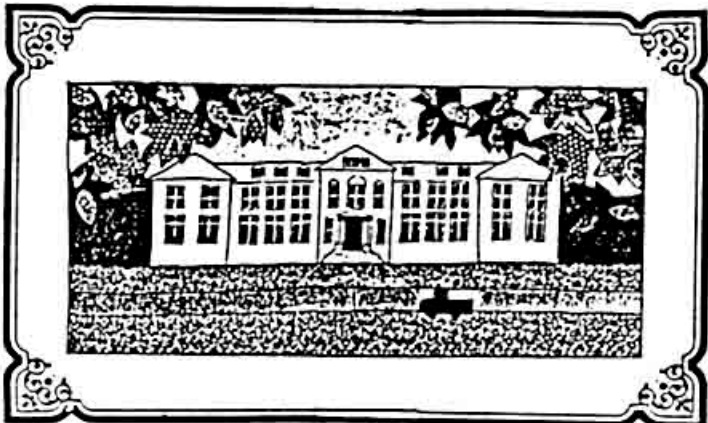
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The Dawson City Museum & Historical Society is a non profit organization.



# MUSEUM OUT OF THE RED

by Palma Berger

The Annual General Meeting of the Dawson City Museum and Historical Society was held April 28, 1989.

It was a well attending meeting. Out-of-town visitors were Jeff Hunston of Heritage Branch, Whitehorse and Dale Perry, formerly of Heritage Branch.

Each of the committees -- display committee, membership committee, finance committee, collections committee, newsletter committee, etc. -- presented their reports, and each sounded positive, while admitting the difficulties they have had.

One piece of good news was presented in the budget. After many years of struggle they have climbed out of the red. As Pauline Scott recalled, "Our workers used to be in a rush to the bank on paydays to

get in first before the account was emptied."

The collections committee has been cataloguing every item and arranging storage facilities. The inadequacy and inconsistency of the OTAB building raises concerns. Do you realize that 65 percent of all heritage materials held by Yukon museums is contained in the Dawson collection?

A five-year plan was presented in which it was admitted that the overall demands on the director/curator are way beyond what is realistic for a one-person operation. The plan also identified seven areas of emphasis to focus on and 24 goals to aim for over the next five years. This five-year plan is available to the public.

The director, Valerie Baggeley, reported the attendance figures for 1988 summer totalled 15,000. The Genealogy Service was widely used. The number of volunteer hours totalled 1,422

hours, which shows how much time and energy is donated by people towards the town's museum.

This was also emphasized by outgoing president Pauline Scott. Pauline was president for three terms. She listed the many areas of growth and improvements in the museum over the years. Pauline gave of her talents, but now feels the museum needs a president with a better understanding of collections and all that that entails. Pauline promises to continue to

be involved in the Annual Art Show.

The delicious snacks (cheese cake and coffee) could have been one of the enticements of the evening, but the interesting show on Herschel Island could have been another. In closing, the new board members are: Pat Hogan, Margot Anderson, Dennis Montgomery, Palma Berger and Bob Mitchell. The new president is Renee Mayes; secretary Cherie Thompson and treasurer Chris Sorg. Vice-president is Nikki Walsh.

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## School reunion attracts capacity crowd

by Dan Davidson  
As the Dawson Schools reunion project nears its June 2 target date, interest has mounted to the point that the event has grown out of the original venues it had planned to use and the committee is undecided as to where some parts of the program will actually take place. This is not a major concern, indeed, it is more of a thrill to Myrna Butterworth.

So far 250 people have registered for the event,

which will take in anyone who ever attended a school in Dawson City or the Klondike region. Aside from the current Robert Service School, these include the Dawson Public School, St. Mary's School, Moosehide School, Clinton Creek School and numerous smaller schools that were held for a short time on the goldfields.

Butterworth says that people have registered to attend from as far away as Norway, the states of Texas, California and Washington, as well as

many places in British Columbia and Alberta. There is one lady who says she attended Laura Berton's kindergarten class and about 10 others in their eighties.

Some of the comments on the registration forms are interesting. Most say the reunion is a great idea. One couple wrote, "glad you're giving us an excuse to come home and visit after 35 years." Former teachers are also returning. Butterworth particularly noted Harold Thompson, who was the superintendent of education when the Dawson Public School burned down on June 21, 1957, and who opened the first stage of what became the present school in January 1959 when the weather was -64 F. Thompson will be one of the guest speakers at the reunion. The majority of the crowd will be from Whitehorse. Some will be travelling to Dawson on a special charter bus which will leave on Friday morning and return to the city on Sunday afternoon. Anyone interested in that should contact Howard Firth.

Locals have been slow to register. She's had about 20 forms back of the 200 she sent out. Dawsonites traditionally return about ten percent so she's really not surprised. When all the heads are counted on June 2, she expects about 400 people to be present.

The agenda for the weekend is quite loose. Friday night will see registration and a wine and cheese party. Saturday will be full of tours of the town and goldfields as well as of the new school building and community library. There will be a dance and barbecue that night at the recreation centre.

Things will wrap up after a Sunday brunch about 1 p.m.

Souvenirs are a part of any gathering such as this, and the reunion is no exception. T-shirts featuring the Dawson Public School, the old Robert Service School and St. Mary's Public School are already selling well and can be obtained through either Myrna Butterworth in Dawson City or Tina Miller in Whitehorse.

# CONGRATULATIONS

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# "THE WEST" ENDURES

by Palma Berger

This year, on May 6, was the thirty-ninth anniversary of the Westminster Hotel being owned and operated by Fabian and Eileen Salois.

The hotel was purchased by Fabian's uncle, "Curly" Salois, in 1913. Fabian started in 1950 as partner with Curly. Then, in September, 1956, Eileen and Fabian bought him out.

Curly had a reputation for helping people out. Once, he had bought a house for a Bear Creek lady whose home had burned down. Art Fry recalled one occasion when Curly was surprised at being repaid. He had helped out a then-destitute B. Ferguseon, who had been blacklisted by the Gold Company. Unknown to the townsfolk, this gentleman had good connections in England. When his aunt died, he was left with a large sum of money. He surprised Curly by presenting him with a cheque for a large amount to repay what he owed over the years.

Fabian, too, continued this tradition of helping people out. Many of the workers for the Gold Company were left with little cash to face the oncoming winter. Fabian would support them until the Gold Company opened again the next year, and they would then settle their debts with him.

Once he was caught when a prospector would not pay his bill, but rather pleaded insanity, and got away with it. But next year, the 'insane' customer returned and invited Fabian out to see what he had in his pickup. It was a huge rock, an assay sample full of silver and lead that the prospector had picked up in the Sixtymile area. This he offered to Fabian as payment for what he owed. It may not have settled the debt, but it offered great amusement to his customers for years as they were invited to lift it.

The Westminster seems to have grown. The north end corner was once the offices of the KTM store, then it was a laundry. Where the cocktail lounge is now was Curly's residence, which had a solarium in front. What is now the beer parlour was the F & F Restaurant, owned by a pair of Finnish brothers. These once individual buildings were all connected up by Fabian.

The centre of the present hotel dates back to 1898. One can still see the engraved metal ceiling. Eileen says when they tore out the staircase, they found a San Francisco newspaper, dated 1901.



They have had many dignitaries pass through their doors. Although John Diefenbaker stayed next door at The Occidental, his staff and the Press Corps stayed with the Salois. The Chamber of Commerce luncheon held there one year had John Turner's mother as guest. She was then married to the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia. Arthur Laing, then Minister of Northern Affairs, and his brother, were treated to a blueberry breakfast, cooked by Yvonne Farr.

More recently, when the NDP celebrated a political victory at "The West", Art Webster made his first speech as an elected MLA there.

Eileen came here as a new bride from Sherbrooke, Quebec, in September, 1956. She recalls the hair-raising car trip across Canada. The roads were so bumpy that she lost many a shoe. Her shoes, as she said, arrived "unpaired", but later she got more used to the word "impaired".

Her first impression of Dawson? "Well, there was that awful old Northern Commercial warehouse that was leaning all to one side." Then, at the hotel, there was a long corridor, lit by a 40-watt bulb, in which the oldtimers sat smoking their pipes and using their spittoons lined up beside them. What did this brave lady, who had been an industrial nurse back in Quebec, do? She sat down and "bawled like a baby".

Enroute to Dawson, Eileen had had a scary experience with a bear, so she did not appreciate the good intentions of Black Mike when he presented her with a large bear steak in her first week here.

But Eileen adapted very well, and she and Fabian can tell many stories of the characters who frequented "The West" over the years. They can tell about Teddy Ashton, who always had a silk handkerchief. How Pete Brady ended up paying for the large plate of

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**THE WEST** con't from p.11 spaghetti he found himself wearing on his head... John Dall and Madame Zoom... Irishman Doc Matthew crying like a baby when another Irishman, Jack Kennedy, was shot...

They can tell of Chickadee MacDonald, who was left to mind the bar one evening, with the warning: "Don't give away any of the booze". He

didn't. Chickadee felt sorry for the customers that evening and gave them money to buy the booze. The money came from the till!

An evening at "The West" is always interesting.

Best wishes to Eileen and Fabian as they go into their fortieth year of operation!



Photo by Dawne Mitchell

The lineup, opening day at "The West"

## K.V.A. INCOME \$1.5 MILLION

The Klondike Visitors Association's annual general meeting on April 27 attracted more than 60 people. The financial statement from 1988 and the 1989-90 budget were introduced, in addition to reports from the committees. Established in 1952 to promote tourism to the Klondike region, it is doubtful that the founding members who struggled with a budget of four or five thousand dollars and a volunteer work force envisioned 1989 and a KVA with a \$1.5 million income and

\$1.4 million expenditure budget, in addition to a work force that includes three full-time employees and close to 100 seasonal staff.

The Marketing and Promotion committee has enjoyed a busy year, with decisions made on booklet publishing, having representation at various trade shows, authorizing new souvenir items to be purchased, hosting salmon barbeques and working with general manager Chuck Holloway on the Alaska marketing campaign. This campaign,

jointly funded by the KVA and the Yukon government for the past three years, has endeavoured to encourage our Alaskan neighbours to learn more about and visit the Dawson area throughout the year. All indications have shown that Alaskan visitation is on the rise. This has been helped by working with an Alaskan advertising agency, media blitzes, entertainment promotion by members of the Gertie's entertainment crew and direct contact by both Chuck Holloway and other KVA members. A new board of directors was voted upon, and following the meeting, they met to appoint the executive. Ralph Troberg is outgoing chairman; Giovanni Castellarin is the new chairman; John Hendley, first vice-chairman; Renee Mayes, second vice-chairman; John Weirida, treasurer; Irish Malfair, secretary. Directors are Denise Speer, Kathy Jones-Gates, Holley Krushniryk, Lenore Jenkins, Gordon Long and Peggy Amendola.

Besides the big revenue makers, Diamond Tooth Gertie's Gambling Hall and the Palace Grand Theatre evening shows, the KVA also sponsors various community programs throughout the year and summer visitor sites. Reports were presented by the Commissioner's Ball committee, the Yukon Goldpanning Championships, the Labour Day Weekend activities, which include the Outhouse Race, the Spring Carnival committee, the annual Dart Tournament and the non-revenue attractions committee; this latter report covered activities at the Jack London Cabin and Interpretation Centre, the Gold Room in the old Bank of Commerce, which has an uncertain future due to the new, private ownership, and the gold claim on Bonanza Creek.

**DID YOU KNOW:** that at the peak of it's publishing, the Dawson Daily News printed 15,000 copies a week?



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# Klondike National Historic Sites

## N'TL HISTORIC SITES.....

Visitor Activities staff for KNHS (Klondike National Historic Sites) work as Visitor Centre Attendants and Historic Part Interpreters (guides). This year, we are delighted to report that most of our staff are returning to us as experienced Attendants and Guides. We plan several changes to our programs this season and we hope that local residents will take the time to take part in the new activities. Do let us know what you think of the new programs and please pass on any comments you hear from visitors.

At the Visitor Centre on Front Street and King, the Canadian Park Service staff work with the Yukon Government Visitor Attendants to provide a wide variety of up-to-the-minute schedules, maps and information for our visitors as well as a choice of several audio-visual presentations. We welcome back Eileen Leier, Jeannine Brideau and Dawne Mitchell to the Centre.

Eileen, our Bilingual Attendant, starts May 24. Dawne is back on the 31st and Jeannine starts June 7. Several of our popular slide shows and movies are now on video, in French.

Make sure to check with the Visitor Centre (993-5566) for the latest information update on the times, dates and location of the various free activities we offer.

Welcome back to our Seasonal Guides: Rose Margeson, Maureen Peterson, Peggy Amednola and Carleen Sheerin. This is Carleen's seventh summer with us as a guide - congratulations, Carleen! Carleen and Peggy will start off the season offering limited daily activities May 25 to 31. June 1 to 21, we offer our Scheduled Tour programming, when Maureen and Rose join them.

During our Orientation and Training Week (June 12 to 16), we offer slightly reduced activities. A warm welcome back, too, to returning guides Brenda Baxter, Marvin Dubois, Glenda Bolt, Marcia Jordan, Carrie Haffey and Jay Armitage.

We are happy to report Jacki Johnson will be back with us as the Dredge #4 Attendant; Herb Dewald returns to hold down the fort at The Old Post Office, and Tom Byrne will be back at Robert Service Cabin, reciting poetry. Welcome back, all! We wish Atlas Tours the best of luck in their new location in the smaller storefront at Mrs. Tremblay's Store, and we welcome back Unlimited Treasures in the larger store. We hope that the government of the Northwest Territories will have a great season back again in our British Yukon Navigation office on Front Street.

In 1988, Glenda Bolt and Carleen Sheerin put together two marionette plays as their Special Interpretive Program (Robert Service's The Ballad of the Iceworm Cocktail and The Shooting of Dan McGrew). Public response to the programs was outstanding, so this season Glenda is writing a brand-new, original play and we are moving the show into a permanent summer location at Oakhall.

We will offer the Puppet Theatre presentations three afternoons a week for July and August. We are again lucky to have these marionettes on loan for the season from the Saskatoon Museum. This season, the Guide staff will be on site, with new hours, at Harrington's store. The Photo Exhibit, Dawson As They Saw It, will still be on display and guides will be able to chat with visitors about historic Dawson and give them information and directions. Harrington's store will be included on the Town Core Walking Tours.

Walking Tours have proved to be one of our fastest growing Visitor Activities. This season, we will offer:

- Town Core Tours up to four times per day. These tours leave from the Visitor Centre and take one and one-half hours. Included on the tour are KNHS buildings and privately owned buildings in the downtown area.

- Fort Herchmer Tours up to twice daily. They will start at the Commissioner's Residence and will include both floors of the Residence, as well as displays of the furnishings, the china, cutlery and photos.

- Campground Visits happen once a day at one of the campgrounds near town (Gold Rush, Yukon River or Guggieville). The guides take along brochures and maps to help visitors plan their stay.

- Roving Guides. The guide staff will take turns going out on the street to chat with visitors and offer assistance and suggestions for activities. This is a new program.

Out at Bear Creek, Heritage North will once again be offering Guided Tours of the sites for the Canadian Parks Service. We welcome Donna Stutter as the new Supervisor of the program.

This year, Environment Week is June 5 to 9. The Canadian Parks Service is part of the Department of the Environment. We plan an opening ceremony, with speakers and refreshments at the Visitor Centre at 2:00 p.m. Throughout the week, we will offer special showings of a selection of films that focus on our environment. Everyone is welcome.

DID YOU KNOW?: that the Bank of Commerce on Front street had the first indoor flush toilet system in Dawson City when it opened in 1901?

The Dawson City Music Festival would like to thank the following people for their continued support:

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... and all volunteers who helped make the weekend a great success.

A special thank-you to Len Maruk and Laser Holding.

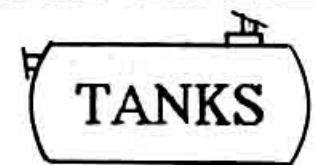
We look forward to seeing everyone at the 11th Annual Music Festival, July 22 and 23. Thanks again!



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The local Volunteer Fire Department and Club Y Youth Lounge joined forces to stage a Car Wash, May 13th. A total of \$600.00 was raised. The Fire Dept.'s share will be used towards the purchase of a "Jaws of Life" Machine; Club Y will use their share to purchase a Fooz-Ball table. At \$7.00 a vehicle for an inside-outside clean, it was the best bargain in town. Photo by Norm Carlson

## DAWSON INDIAN BAND SOCIAL PROGRAMS

Here is a description of some social programs:

**Community Education Liaison Co-ordinator;**  
The CELC position was set up to help provide a better understanding of native students and culture in the school system. The CELC acts as a liaison person, cultural co-ordinator, guidance counsellor and truant officer.

**Social Assistance Program:**  
The Social Development Program is set up to assist Band members who are having financial difficulties. The program sets up make-work projects and also assists with re-instatements, transfers and Band membership. The program also provides home care for Elders.

**Community Health Representative;**  
A Community Health

Representative is a liaison worker between the Native people, the resource agencies, community groups and health professionals. Some of the CHR activities are: school programs, Elders' home visits, mother/child visits, lodge visits, Well Baby clinic and Band day care activities and education. The CHR provides information and education concerning all areas of health. **The National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program:**  
The NNADAP worker provides the following services: cultural camps for youth and adults, information to treatment centres or other alternatives to clients' needs, interview and counsel clients with addiction or dysfunctional problems, assist in planning and implementing of various workshops, compiling and distributing addiction, recovery and various subjects information.

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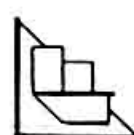
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