NEVER SAY NEVER

Berton home to be restored

by Sourdough Sue Ward

In 1957, Dawson's prodigy, Canadian historian Pierre Berton, narrated a documentary film, *The City of Gold*, the viewing of which still thrills and mesmerizes those who challenge the Trail of '98. At its conclusion, Pierre says, "Well, that's my home town, and I doubt if I'll ever see it again."

Mid-afternoon of Thursday, September 14, under Dawson's only overcast sky of a long, hot summer, Pierre Berton joined representatives of the Klondike Visitors Association, Chuck Holloway and '89 Diamond Tooth Gertie Miss Kathy Elliott, City Mayor Peter Jenkins, Yukon Arts Council Local Representative Vice President Pauline Scott and a CBC camera crew on the sagging porch of the old Berton home. When Mr. Berton presented his cheque for \$50,000, the 1989 market price, he took the first step towards its restoration and the creation of a Canadian writer-in-residence complex. "My father would turn over in his grave," he chuckled, "if he knew the amount of this cheque. And he'd turn back again if he knew his son could afford it!"

Pauline Scott, on behalf of the Yukon Arts Council, accepted a "first donation to the House Library" - a reprint of Berton's *The Mysterious North* - which won the 1955 Governor-General's Award. It never appears easy for the big man with a big voice to be gentle, but he came close as he reminded everyone that his father was a devoted gardener who loved his flowers. Pierre brought back to Dawson hollyhock, delphinium and Arctic poppy seeds to re-enhance the ultimate restoration of his family home.

When completed, at the speculative price of \$100,000, allowing for removal of permafrost soil to bedrock with replacement of rock and gravel fill, the



DAWSON CITY, YUKON

VOLUME I, NUMBER 5

50 CENTS



Berton home will take its place on "the Writers' Block", as it sits opposite Robert Service's cabin and is a short distance from Jack London's cabin and Memorabilia Centre.

The Yukon Arts Council and the Klondike Visitors' Association has agreed with Berton that the house should not be a museum. Instead, it will be the permanent home for a writer-in-residence and family, brought to the Yukon by the Council.

Successful applicants will be given the home rent-free for six months or a year and will also be attached to Yukon College as resource people. The College, of which Berton is chancellor, maintains a campus in Dawson.

Though postponement, due to late plane arrival, cut down the number of well-wishers in attendance, it was obvious that everyone recognized the ongoing value of the event. A special vote of thanks is due the informal committee who encouraged Pierre's old school chum, John Gould, to bring the idea to fruition.

Pierre Berton, of all people, should have known none escapes the Spell of the Yukon. "There's a land - oh it beckons and beckons. And I want to go back - and I will". And we share his pleasureable homecoming.

Front Page Challenge panelists and crew pose on the Palace Grand Theatre stage following the taping of three shows for October and November airing. Included are (I to r): Alian Fotheringham, Betty Kennedy, Pierre Berton and Jack Webster.

PHOTO BY DAN DAVIDSON

Valley Plan Endorsed

by Dan Davidson

The Yukon government has decided to endorse with some changes the Klondike Valley Land Use Plan assembled after 16 months of study by a volunteer group composed mainly of Klondike Valley residents. The implementation strategy connected with this endorsement was available for reading and viewing on Saturday, September 16, in the Ancillary Room of the Robert Service School.

Maurice Byblow, Minister of Community and Transportation Services, was in attendance, along with senior planner Dy Robb, in order to get some initial reaction to the government's response and meet with the steering committee which had prepared the original proposals last September.

A government press release quotes Byblow as follows: "The local steering committee charged with completing the plan was able to reach clear consensus on most of the issues they dealt with. There is still considerable work to be done. A plan that truly serves people can't be prepared in an open and shut process. The steering committee has recommended that further, more detailed work be done in several areas in the Klondike Valley. We plan to start these local area plans this fall."

In a Saturday morning meeting with the

steering committee, Byblow outlined a draft proposal for the establishment of a group to plan the direction that should be taken in the area between the City of Dawson boundary and the Callison subdivision, which is one of the first areas over which the YTG hopes to assume control from the federal government.

In an interview recently, the minister indicated that he hopes it will take six to eight months to organize the committee report and obtain the block land transfer from the federal government. He said that the committee's reaction to his government's proposals was, for the most part, positive.

That asssessment is confirmed by Fred Berger, chairman of the steering committee. Berger is somewhat miffed that the government took a full year to deal with his group's proposals, but believes that in the end it seems to have worked out well.

"I'm happy," he said, "that it finally took place. I hope it will stop the hodge-podge development in the valley now." As far as Berger can see, most of the major recommendations of the steering committee report have been adopted in whole or in part. The new committee should, he expects, be in place within six weeks.

Attendance at the open house was not packed, but it was steady during most of the afternoon.

Building Boom

by Dan Davidson

The Dawson building boom continues this summer, with projects totalling some \$3.4 million under way by the end of July. City manager Allanah Tunnicliffe says that this figure stems from 66 separate building projects which have come through planning board approval.

The projects include both new buildings and renovations to existing structures. Four commercial ventures will cost \$1.2 million and eight government projects add in \$400,000, but the biggest slice of the pie is in residential construction, where 54 dwelling units are under way, being upgraded or restored.

Tunnicliffe says that this summer maintains a trend which has been evident for the last several years.

"Overall," she says, "the activity over the last few years has shown a steady increase."

The construction season here is still heavily dependent on the good weather of late spring, summer and early fall, but more and more projects are being extended through the winter, with exterior work in the summer giving way to interior work in the winter. The end result of all these things is a project record three times that of any Yukon community outside of Whitehorse.



Yukon Order Of Pioneers Centennial 1994

..AND LOTS MORE!

KLONDIKE VALLEY

LAND USE PLAN

IN DETAIL

by Dan Davidson

The territorial government's response to the September 1988 recommendations from the Klondike Valley District Land Use Plan Steering Committee appears to indicate that the 16-month study which produced the document was not wasted. Although the implementation strategy released on September 16 does hedge a little bit on some of the issues, most of the committee's recommendations have received support in the response document.

The original report listed 11 major areas where recommendations were made: implementation, mining and waste disposal, residential use, agriculture, forestry, commercial land use, refuse disposal sites, wildlife and fisheries, transportation and communication facilities, heritage and recreation.

With the promise to strike a new committee to develop a plan for the Dawson to Callison segment of the valley, the government has already made a step towards meeting the first recommendation. Other areas will follow in due time and the YTG document makes it clear that the steering committee's study process "provides the framework" for further land transfers and development plans.

While the government is not willing to stop the staking of new placer claims between Dawson and Rock Creek, it does support that initiative as far out as Callison, and leaves the door open to discuss the eventual southern boundary for this. The area from Callison to the Hunker Creek Road will be studied in this regard. The government also undertakes to put in place some mechanism or process for resolving disputes over land use as they arise.

The committee identified six main residential areas in and around Dawson, including the town, Rock Creek, Henderson's Corner, the Dredge Tailings area, the Bench above Lousetown and West Dawson. The government has begun and will be continuing "preliminary design work in potential residential areas outside the City of Dawson."

The area between Henderson's Comer and the Dempster cutoff is more contentious. Settlement of that area is being deferred until a wildlife study can be completed in 1992, and the YTG will be asking that the federal government refrain from issuing rural residential leases in that area until then.

Sunnydale, West Dawson and the south side of the Klondike Valley from Dawson to Henderson's Corner were identified in the report as prime agricultural land. It requested support for farming and market studies to determine what would be the best uses for the land. The YTG response undertakes to do these things in conjunction with the federal government.

The Yukon forest Service will be completing a mapping and inventory of the available resources in the area, in line with the report's recommendations.

Commercial land use needs in the valley will be monitored by the government as requested and the initial Dawson-Callison planning region will have a specific soning plan.

The committee made a number of recommendations about land sales related to surface and sub-surface rights on placer claims. It said these should be brought under the control of a local planning board and be sold according to public notice and auction procedures, with the claim holder enjoying "no advantage in acquiring surface rights to the claim because of ownership of that claim." The

territorial government will implement this policy on all lands over which it has control and request that the federal government do the same.

Lovett Hill will be examined as the probable site of a new refuse disposal site to serve both the city and the valley residents as recommended in the report.

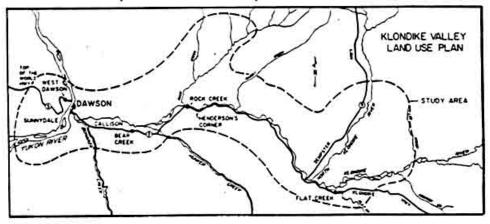
Wildlife and fisheries potential will be studied and protected along the Yukon River Bluffs, the floodplains of the Yukon and Klondike Rivers and in the valley east of Hernderson's Corners. "These areas," says the response document, "will be fully documented and their importance will be fully acknowledged in the review of land use proposals in or adjacent to the areas." The study east of Henderson's Corner should take 2-3 years to complete.

The govenment's reassurances on transportation are a little vague. The report was concerned with keeping all airport site options open for the time being, getting highway imporvement in the valley (including left turn lanes and a bicycle route), and building a proper road in to Sunnydale when it should be needed. Nothing is assured in the government response other than a "comprehensive assessment of long term access requirements for further development."

Under "heritage" the committee recommended preserving a segment of the famous tailing piles and doing something about the steamboat graveyard along the Yukon River. The government has not given any specific responses here outside of general reassurances. There are "no specific plans for the development of either the Dredge Tailings or the Steamboat Graveyard at this time...". There will be further investigation by both Heritage Branch and Parks Branch.

The committee's recommendations on recreation focussed on the creation of outdoor opportunities such as parks, specific sites and corridors. A proposal for a Klondike Heritage Park is implicit in the wording. The government will be examining this as part of an overall plan.

Some of the wording leaves room for the government to do with a great deal or very little and still live up to its committments, but on the whole members of the committee must share chairman Fred Berger's satisfaction with the response to their work.



DAWSON DAYCAMP POPULAR WITH KIDS

by Dan Davidson

One of the more successful programs promoted this summer by the City of Dawson has been the afternoon "Daycamp", based at Minto Park. Beginning July 3 and running until August 25, daycamp has seen an average of 15 children each day engaging in a variety of recreational activities. Boys and girls between the ages of six and 12 were welcome at the camp, which was conducted on a "user pay" basis, and employed two regular workers.

Don Armitage, who has spent the last year working for the City of Dawson on various youth-related projects, was in charge of the program, which he says was aimed at "really satisfying the creative outlet in the kids". Working with Ashley Wright, he led the kids in a fairly wide range of activities.

Minto Park itself provides a fair number of things to do now that its renovation and upgrading is pretty well complete. New swings, the "bigtoy" and the Fire Department's kids' engine have really helped to fill up the space and make it more attractive. Daycamp spent some time there, just as it spent the last hour of each day at Dawson's heated outdoor pool. With the hot weather that the town has had this year, that pool was a much appreciated oasis by the time the afternoon's other activities had ended.

These activities included hikes, walking tours of the town, visits to any of the local sites that the kids might enjoy, games like "marker and trailer", soccer and other ball games (including the enormous "earthball") in the park, as well as simple games of tag or hide 'n seek. On the more artistic side, there was candle making, T-shirt painting, work with papier mache and other crafts. Once a week, there were movies on the giant TV the Recreation Centre keeps at the Golden Age Club.

Daycamp provided a much needed service for working families and gave the kids a real sense of having something to do. Day-campers arrived each day eager to see their chums and get on with whatever was to be the day's activity.

A number of special activities were planned as well, including "The Great Canadian Klondike Cookout" at Art Fry's King Solomon's Mine diggings on August



23. This event was sponsored by the Recreation Centre's "Club Y", as well as the McDonald Lodge Seniors' Residence. Transportation was provided by Gold City Tours for a strictly nominal fee.

ARCTIC SISTERHOOD?

The following is an excerpt from the Eagle Historical Newsletter:

"Three senior ladies - Mike Dalton, Alaska Linck and Vuka Stepovich - floated the Forty Mile River in June. They celebrated the Solstice at the old town site of Fortymile, where they also celebrated the 98th birthday of Crystal McQuestin Morgan, who had been unable to join them due to an enforced hospital stay.

"Crystal was born at Fortymile, but was raised at Berkely. Her father was Jack McQuestin and her mother, who was half-Russian and half-Indian, was raised at Kokrine.

"While celebrating at Fortymile, the three seniors organized the 'Arctic Sisterhood'. They decided Alaskan men have started so many organizations, it was time for the women to have one of their own. Membership requires having been born at Fortymile or having lived in Alaska over 40 years."

Perhaps there are some Yukoners - or ex-Yukoners - who qualify for this interesting organization?

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- **Yo! -**♡ <u>Auntie Gloria</u>!♡

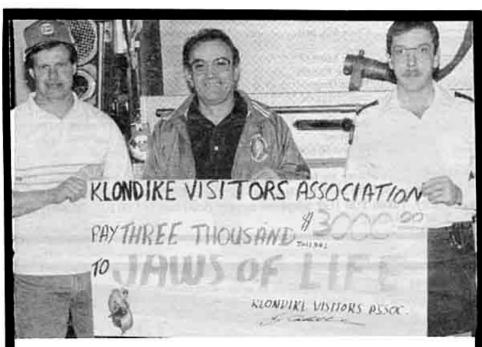
It's that time of year again...

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

(Hope that SEPTEMBER 22 was fabulous!)

> LOVE, CHERIE & MIKE

The City News



The Dawson Volunteer Firefighters Association have embarked on a fund-raising project to acquire a "Jaws of Life" machine for the community. They received a much-needed boost on September 22, when the Klondike Visitors Association presented them with a cheque for \$3,000. This represented the proceeds from ticket sales to the three tapings of Front Page Challenge at the Palace Grand Theatre September 15. Left to right: Barry Hunter (President of the Volunteer Firefighters Association, Giovanni Castellarin (chairman of the K.V.A.) and Fire Chief Dennis Montgomery

PHOTO BY MICHAEL GATES

CHAMBER CHATTER

A compendium of news from the Dawson City Chamber of Commerce:

The recent Annual General Meeting of the Dawson City Chamber of Commerce saw the election of Fred Berger as President, Vi Cambell as Vice-Chairperson, Allanah Tunnicliffe as Treasurer and Lyle Thompson as Secretary...a tremendous cross section of Dawson business people were also elected to the Board of Directors: A. Speer, L. Doucet, J. Reilly, L. Maruk, G. Long, P. Jenkins, B Gillis, G. Hakanson, K. Taylor, T. Malfair, R. Laking, B. Caley, and L. Briemon...First meeting of the Directors will take place on Sept. 13/89...First General Meeting will take place on October 4/89 at noon at the Downtown...

Are members happy with the proposed 9% Federal Sales Tax??? We're not sure!!! Ross Perkins will be the guest speaker at the November meeting to help us try and figure out how this tax will impact on each of us...Maurice Byblow, Minister of Community Services and Transportation will be having breakfast with members on Sept. 16/89. Will we be discussing the paving of Front Street and a new airport? You bet!!!...The year end fling in Tok is scheduled for October 13-15/89...The Fairbanks trip is tentatively scheduled for Oct. 27-27/89...

Everyone is depressed about the decision against using the Post Office Building as a post office, especially Lambert! What now???...The objective of the DCCC??? "...to promote and improve trade, commerce, and the economic, civic, and social welfare of the district"...ANYONE interested in furthering this objective is welcome/encouraged to join...Maddie Davis hurry back, we need you...



BICYCLES

by Palma Berger

Another bike accident. Cyclist Kathy Elliott took on a car and was laid low-right on the ground. She was scratched up, but was saved by the fact she was wearing leather. Her leather outfit was lost but her skin was saved. This is Diamond Tooth Gertie Kathy. The town went through a period of great angst as to what would happen to the Gertie show, but Kathy the trouper missed only one show, and with the aid of heavy make-up and keeping her distance from the audience was able to carry on.

But it brings to mind that this town seems to be getting more and bigger vehicles, more cyclists and the streets feel as if they are getting narrower.

CLEAN-UP SPARKS CONTROVERSY

by Dan Davidson

Opinion would seem to be divided inthe community as to the issue of the city's crack-down on unsightly premises. While some citizens of Dawson have been warned or ticketed under the town's bylaws and have resented the fact, others apparently applaud the practice.

This was evidenced by the receipt, at city offices, of a large stack of Polaroid snaps of various "eyesores" around the community. It was under the heading of "eyesores" that these photos made the agenda of the September 7 council meeting.

Chief administrative officer Allanah Tunnicliffe indicated to council and to those few present in the gallery that the pictures had been delivered anonymously. There was speculation in the discussion that followed as to the source of the pictures. Was it a resident who agreed with the Council's harder line on messes, or was it the work of someone who had already been ticketed as a result of the new policy? Was it a case of civic altruism, or misery loves company?

Earlier in the evening Gordon Woodley, one local businessman who had been warned to clean up the yard around his machinery repair business, Tired Iron, complained that the council's priority could result in Dawsonites living in a "plastic town".

"Why all the clean-up?" Woodley asked. "Because some tourist was belly aching about our shabby little town?"

Woodley expressed the viewpoint that there were too many laws now, that some should be struck from the books and that Dawson should be for "the little people who like to live here".

It seems likely that the debate will continue as time goes on.



Barry Hunter (left), president of the Dawson Volunteer Firefighters Association, presents a cheque for over \$740 to Norm Jensen, Yukon Co-ordinator of the Muscular Dystrophy Association of Canada. The money represents proceeds from the donations left in specially marked jars around town.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL GATES

Some cyclists ride as if they own the road (and some car drivers definitely do the same, too). But it is the cyclist who is most vulnerable. One notices the children more as they are more numerous, and appear and disappear en masse at the same hours every day.

A couple of young cyclists held a conference in the middle of the road, while cars had to go around them. Another young man dropped his bike on the road while he strolled over to talk to his friend. Traffic was coming from both directions at the time.

The bridge at dusk is a particular hazard. It is narrow enough at the best of times. But a cyclist taking his share of the bridge road cannot easily be seen. This can cause a motorist to suddenly slam on his brakes, and hope the driver behind him is prepared. This is not always the fault of the cyclist.

What the bridge needs is a cyclist addition to the side of the bridge! Do you all know where to write to lobby for that?

As to the road south of the bridge, this is a hazard for cyclists and joggers alike. Even if the drivers are careful, there are times of the day when the sun is so low it

shines into the eyes of the driver, momentarily blinding them. This road definitely needs a bicycle (and/or) jogging path. Do you all know to whom to write to lobby for this?

But at all times take care.

Because if you do have an accident your friends may be sympathetic. The mounties may be sympathetic, but they do have the law to enforce.

The other summer when my son zipped up beside a car stopped at an intersection, he hit another car crossing the intersection just ahead. He went over the top, knocked himself unconscious, and had to be taken by ambulance to the hospital. Much concern and sympathy was showered on him.

Next day he had to report the details of the accident to the R.C.M.P. He got as far as telling how he zipped past the car stopped at the stop sign, when he was interrupted. "What!? You failed to stop at the stop sign? That will be a \$25.00 fine, please."

If you fail to take care, not only your body may suffer, but also your pocket.

- Editorial —

by C. R. Mitchell

Autumn is generally the season I reserve for reflection, contemplation, renewal. These past few months have whizzed by so quickly, I find time to navel-gaze a precious commodity. A few thoughts have managed to congeal, however, and I thought I'd share them with you here.

Being a part of the production of this publication has been one of the most rewarding experiences in my life. I've had the opportunity to work with some fine, energetic, creative people, persistently sacrificing families and socializing to put this amazing little paper together every month, since May.

There's also been the chance to deal with Dawson's business community in the process of arranging for advertising and articles. The merchants of Dawson have been fantastic in their support of this struggling enterprise. They recognized the need for a local publication, and welcomed the opportunity to advertise with us.

However, some confusion persists about the nature of this group and our product. I take the space allotted me now to set the record straight once and for all. The name of the paper is the Klondike Sun. The name of the group is the Klondike Literary Society.

The Nutty Club deserves its due: these people consistently produced the Klondike Korner for Dawson City readers for a long time, doing the best they could with what they had. But the Klondike Korner was not a newspaper. And it wasn't intended to be.

We intend to be a newspaper - Dawson's own community paper, designed to reflect your views, cover your events, and - hopefully - to grow into a full-fledged bi-monthly, or - dare I say it? - eventually even a weekly. And we need your understanding and support to do it.

We need to formulate our own distinct editorial policy. That calls for INPUT. We belong to no one except our readership, and we must be secure in the knowledge that we are indeed serving you. One of the press's basic functions is to provide a forum for the expression of the morals and conscience of the society it exists within. Please do not hesitate to be a part of this - get involved NOW, while the Sun is still in its infancy, and be a part of helping to organize just what kind of community publication you want.

Time's awasting. I move to Whitehorse tomorrow. My time with the Klondike Sun is done - for now. But I know I'll never be able to stay away from Dawson for very long. When I come back, I hope to see this paper bigger and better than ever - and it will be, with your contribution.

Thank you, Dawson City. Thank you, Klondike Literary Society.





The Klondike Sun

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Diverse Hands

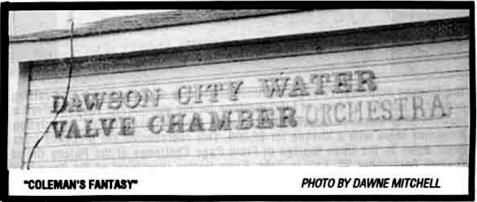
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President: Vice-president: Sec./Treas.: Directors:

Dan Davidson Sue Ward Kathy Jones-Gates Palma Berger

John Gould Madeleine Gould Dawne Mitchell Chere Mitchell Sue Ward

The Klondike Sun's offices are located in the back rooms of the Golden Age Club's Dropin Centre, comer of Fifth and Church in Dawson City. Mailing address is Bag 6040, Dawson City, Yukon Y0B 1G0; telephone number (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday): 403-993-6318.



குகுகுகுகுகுகுகுகுகுகுகுகு LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Citizens of the Town of the City of Dawson:

A group of us canoed from Carmacks to Dawson and then were fortunate enough to spend three days in your town. We were impressed with the hospitality extended to us and are grateful for all the help we received.

You are developing a winner. Keep up the good work.
With thanks,
The Six Canoe Company
Prince George and Richmond, British

Dear Editor:

Columbia

Congratulations on your bold and strenuous venture. We're very pleased to subscribe. Our best wishes for your success. Planning to see you next summer.

Rick and Linn Rehn Calgary, Alberta (Ed. note: Rick Rehn was Chief of Dawson's Fire Department.)

To the Klondike Sun:

Thank you for your help and support of the Discovery Days weekend.

Jan Gammie

Discovery Days Committee

Dawson City

Dear Editors:

Enclosed find a cheque for \$12 for which please enter my subscription to the Klondike Sun.

I feel a subscription to the Klondike Sun is the best way to keep in touch with happenings in Dawson City, where I had a fantastic time during my recent visit. In fact, this was the best vacation I've ever had. The only problem was that three days wasn't nearly long enough. On my next visit, which will be soon, I hope, I must allow more time to take in the sights.

I enjoy reading about Klondike life, both past and present, and I appreciate the photo coverage of the Discovery Days parade, which I missed. I'd like to see more photos used in the Klondike Sun, and I look forward to receiving future issues of your paper, which is not only recording history - but is also making it.

Yours sincerely, Kelth Foster, Regina, Saskatchewan



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WEBSTER'S WORDS

Art Webster, MLA for the Klondike

For years, students of Dawson City attended school in a building that was inadequate, outdated and unsafe. Early in its first term of office, my government made a commitment to replace it. But this new structure designed to meet the needs of the entire community did not just materialize overnight. It took a great deal of hard work by many dedicated individuals and groups to achieve this end, and I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge and to praise their efforts.

To begin, I would like to thank our Minister of Education, Piers McDonald, for his genuine interest in the community complex concept that was developed by our community and his determination to ensure funds were made available to complete construction as early as possible.

Thanks to architects Bemie Wood and Jerry Lee of the firm Wood-Gardner for being sensitive to the requests and, yes, demands put forward by Dawsonites concerning the design and layout of the school. The final product is a handsome and tasteful interpretation - one that reflects the architectural heritage of our community. The contractor, Jaemar Construction, is to be commended for its commitment to the project; to quality workmanship, to local hire, and to job completion on schedule.

There are many individuals to thank, far too many to mention here, but I would be remiss if several were not mentioned. They are residents who served on the Dawson Community Complex Committee, representing the interests and concerns of various user groups: Chairperson Jane Olynyk (Community Learning Centre), Joan Bilton (Recreation Board), Val Brickner (Library Board), Irene Szabla (Robert Service School Committee), Mayor Peter Jenkins and former manager Peter Dunbar (City of Dawson), Angie Joseph (Dawson Indian Band), Dan Davidson (Robert Service School Staff) and Akio Saito (Planning Board). Your valuable contributions are most appre-

Finally, I want to remind everyone that this structure is more than just a school for kindergarten to Grade 12 students. This is a community complex, containing a combined public/school library, an integrated performing arts/audio visual/auxiliary gym area, and home economics, shop, and computer facilities designed for use by all members of our community.

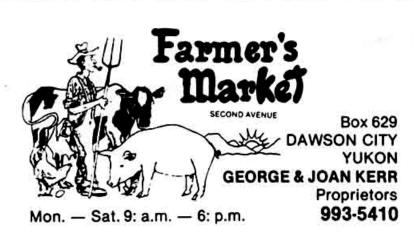
This is our community complex, for us all to enjoy. May it enrich our lives and be a credit to Dawson City for decades to come.



The Dawson Volunteer Firefighters Association, fundraising for a "Jaws of Life" was the recipient of a number of community donations on Sept. 22nd. The Legion donated a cheque for \$200; the School Reunion Committee \$500; and the "Fun and Awareness" committee, \$1,000. The total raised has now exceeded \$6,000.00. Left to right: Herb DeWald (Legion), Myrna Butterworth (Reunion), Fire Chief Dennis Montgomery, and Shirley DeWald (F & A).

PHOTO BY MICHAEL GATES







The Gaslight Follies entertained all summer at the Palace Grand.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL GATES



Jennifer Flynn and Shelley Hakonson attended Front Page Challenge in period costume.

PHOTO BY DAN DAVIDSON



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Was Shakespeare a Sourdough?

by Louise Ranger

"To winter or not to winter, That is the question."

Never mind questions about "being." If I were Hamlet I would have asked Willy why he didn't write any tragedies or comedies about winter in the Yukon - or more specifically Dawson. Although, now that I think about it, Shakespeare would have made a "cool" sourdough." But enough of these musings, "the winter's the thing."

This is for all those people who have made contact with that increasingly common life form - "the summer person." These people roll in like R.V.'s in the spring and abandon the north in the fall for destinations "outside," their pockets bulging with gold and a list of memories longer then the Friday bank line-up of a summer long weekend. But what happens to these "poor seasonals" when they face that dreaded moral dilemma..."should I stay the winter?" what can be said of these sole seasonal survivors of the summer

"Big deal," say some sourdoughs. And the majority of Dawsonites could rightly respond, "we've all done it." Yeah, but ...! Yeah, but ...! After 2 summers in Dawson, I now face spine chilling thoughts of winter in "the land of the midnight sun" a sun which conspicuously appears and disappears with the "summer people." How is one from "the land of the 7 Eleven" to cope with life in "the land of the midday moon?"

Sure, we're told by all kinds of sourdoughs, "stay, you'll love it!" Yes, we're assured "there's lots to do in the winter" so we'll never be bored - the land of volunteer opportunity. And of course, us "summer people" jump at the idea of getting to know people (though not necessarily in the biblical sense) during the good and bad parka months. O.K., O.K ... so it's quality of life! But show me

a northern philosopher and I'll show you someone with a back-up parka who cannot see the ice for for the snowflakes. Face it folks, it's damn cold in the town of the City of Dawson.

winter will not (hopefully!?) be spent in ≠ finally admitted to the order. Signifithe bush, with no running water or cantly, though he had worn it with a electricity, stoking a wood stove in a one flourish on the way into the first show, room crawl space, hunting moose and he did not wear it for the remainder of the snowshoeing for an hour into town evening. packing a sled for my weekly provisions Heckled by panel mates Alan Fother-(or is it monthly?). Anyway, that's a ingham and Jack Webster for being a little too real for a southerner like me. / member of a male chauvinist bastion, O.K., I'm a puppy! But, I will have to deal / Berton responded that he was in full with winter life above the Letterman lat- agreement with mystery guest Madeleine itude...David, that is...it's a joke!

But aside from the cold, the lack of could see no reason why women should light, the lack of fresh food, the lack of not be admitted. dependable transportation (oh, do stop!), burnoutus overvolunteeritis.

Sure, maybe my socks won't be warm theatre. enough, my boots treaded enough, my Aside from a technical problem with a parka long enough (do I need a hood?)! microphone link during the questioning Maybe I'll take nature's hint and hiber- of the first guest, the show went off nate the winter away. Really, how cold without a hitch. The first program opened can it get anyway? (ahhhhh, they're / with the Keeper of the Arctic Circle,

of ice is up to us - parkas that pass in the J Gould was there to be interviewed about midday night. Who knows what we'll / the YOOP. Whitehorse pilot Moe Grant make of it...whether it will be "the winter / represented early aviation in the Yukon, of our discontent" or our "midsummer's while Judy Gingell was there in her role night dream."

(Ed. note - Welcome to the paper, Louise. Ve haff vays to keep you busy.)

Berton defends women in YOOP

by Dan Davidson

Pierre Berton took off his Yukon Order of Pioneers sash at the Dawson Front Page Challenge tapings on September 15, Now I for one must admit that this / vowing to don it again when women were

Gould's attempts to join the YOOP and

The Dawson tapings of the nationally there's obviously something to this nor- / broadcast show were held before a packed thern haven! After all, what is it that / house at the Palace Grand Theatre. Many keeps you sourdoughs around, winter af- of the audience, especially the ladies, were ter winter? Don't tell me, let me dressed in period finery usually seen only guess...the sight of a "summer person" at the time of the annual Commissioner's freezing their a.s off as they try to make it Ball. The panel, made up of Berton, to meeting 12, day 3 of week 13, yet Fotheringham, Webster and Betty Kenanother victim to suffer from that / nedy, along with moderator Fred Davis, particularly Dawson malady...frozenicus / professed their great pleasure at being in Berton's home town and especially in the

back!...Frozen eyelashes from hell!) This Harry Waldren, followed by placer miner participaction stuff is probably the brain (former president of the Klondike Placer child of a tanned and tortured tropical Miners' Association and Mr. Placer retreat resident.

Miner of 1989); Norm Ross, representing I guess more than ever, the whole ball a story about gold mining. Madeleine as chairperson of the Council for Yukon Indians to talk about the Land Claims Framework Agreement and what it might mean. After much coaxing by the panel, she allowed that it was significant that the entire executive council of the CYI was made up of women, but she refused to say just what the significance was

NADELEINE GOULD

PHOTO BY KATHY JONES-GATES

Author Dick North, was leatured in story about the Mad Trapper of Rat River. Asked by Fotheringham how he had managed to get his two books about Albert Johnson into print before Berton got to the story, North replied, "Don't think I didn't worry about that." Dawson's own eccentric, Cap'n Dick Stevenson, was there to talk about the Sourtoe Cocktail and his plans for his weathered hide, which he intends should be stuffed when he has no further use for it and mounted in the lounge at the Westmark Inn here.

Sources indicate that Jack Webster finally drank one of the famous cocktails at the reception after the tapings.

While in Dawson, the panelists did the full tour, guided by Berton and Buffalo Taylor of Gold City Tours. They panned for gold, visited the Dome and took a quick trip through the goldfields.

Berton also took advantage of the trip to dedicate his old family home to a "writer-in-residence" project and have a book signing of his re-issued and revised Mysterious North at Maximilian's Goldrush Emporium on Front Street. Several dozen people showed up. They bought copies of the new volume and lugged along armloads of other Berton books to be signed by the author.

SUPPORT THE GOULD CASE

The Yukon Status of Women Council is applying to intervene in the case of Gould v. Yukon Order of Pioneers which will be heard in the Supreme Court of the Yukon Territory later this year.

This was the case in which Madeleine Gould, a pioneer from Dawson, won the right to be considered for membership in YOOP without regard to her gender. But YOOP is not prepared to accept the unanimous decision of the fivemember Board of Adjudication, and has appealed the case to the courts. It is expected to be the first court decision in Canada on the admission of women to men's clubs.

Gould will be represented by the Yukon Human Rights Commission at the hearing. The Yukon Status of Women Council has hired a lawyer, Gwen Brodsky, to seek permission to be heard in the case, and make arguments that will advance sound theories of equality for women, especially in light of the exemption clause found in our Human Rights Act.

The Status is thus launching a fundraising drive to raise money for our legal costs. We would like to take this opportunity to ask you to make a donation to this cause by sending your cheque to:

> Yukon Status of Women Council THE GOULD CASE #206, 203 Steele Street Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C5

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Downtown makes it six by default

by Dan Davidson

It would be nice to report that the Downtown Hotel male team ran away with this year's Great Klondike Internation Outhouse Race, making it six years in a row. That's how the record will read, of course, but the Downtowners admitted at the Sunday night awards ceremony that only a technicality prevented them being beaten by the Batroom, which came in just a few seconds ahead of the Downtown team's 10:22.

The Klondike Transport ladies' team ran first in their division with a time of 13:20, followed by Ross Mining at 16:35 and the towel wrapped crew from Guggieville at 23:12.

In the Mixed event, Ross Mining ran first with 11:39, followed by Mogul Gold at 12:53. The Gerties team ran in at 15:04, followed by Eddies Restaurant (17:20), Westmark Dawson (20:18), AAA/CAA (22:57) and Parks Canada (32:47). No one knows how long it took the teams from the Triple J and Tourism.

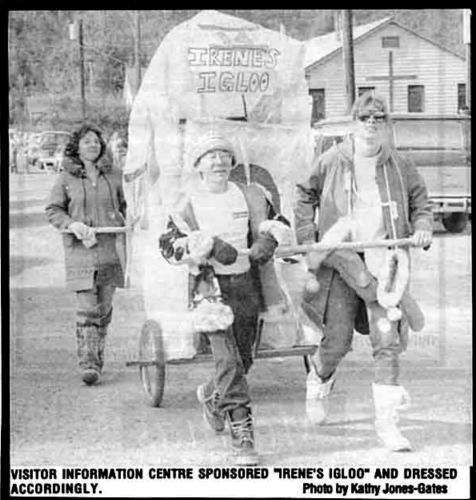
The day for the race turned out fine, being neither too hot or too cold for the effort. The LeMans' style start took the 17 teams out in two heats as the riders raced from Minto Park, took their places

on the toilet seats and cheered on the four runners who took them over the 1 1/2 mile course around the town.

Serious runners like the winners run in stripped down biffies which have no frills to flap in the breeze. Those in the race just for the fun vie to sport the most elaborate get-up. This year saw the Persistant Order Of Pioneers, along with a team in oversized top hats and another in winter togs pulling an igloo.

Other awards on Sunday night included Ross Mining's Best Dressed, Gatenby Mining's Most Humourous, Triple J Motel's Most Original and Roger's Rabbits Judges' Special.

"Roger's Rabbits" is the original name of the Batroom entry, and it appears that way on the final results sheet. The bat-people were disqualified when the judges realized that the composition of the team was illegal according to the rules of the race. The Rabbits were registered as a male team, but they lost a member and ended up running with a lady sitting on the biffy. She was eight months pregnant, which caused some wags to speculate about the legality of two passengers even before the other problem was noted.



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And they're off! The start of the 1989 Outhouse Race. Photo by Palma Berger



The Gatenby Mining team was awarded the "Most Humourous" prize.

Photo by Kathy Jones-Gates

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THE DOWNTOWN ALL-MALE TEAM COMPLETED THE COURSE IN 10:22.

PHOTO BY KATHY JONES-GATES

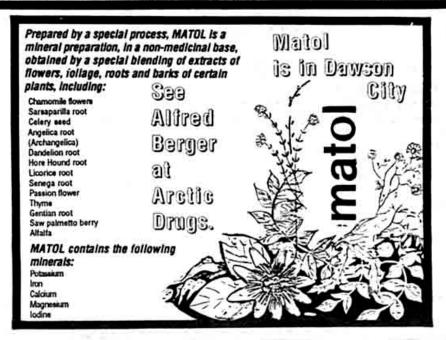


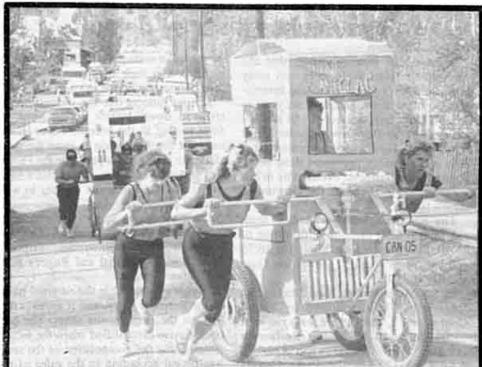
GUGGIEVILLE CAMPGROUND ALL "DRESSED DOWN" FOR THE GREAT RACE.

PHOTO BY KATHY JONES-GATES



THE "BATROOM" ACTUALLY WON THE EVENT BUT THE TEAM WAS DISQUALIFIED DUE TO ILLEGAL TEAM COMPOSITION. TEAM: ROSS PERKIN, ROGER PLAMONDON, DON WHITE, HUGH CONNELLY AND ALISON SLATER (8 MONTHS PREGNANT). THE DOWNTOWN HOTEL TEAM DONATED THE FIRST PRIZE MONEY OF \$250 TO THE WHITEHORSE TEAM, WHO TURNED IT OVER TO THE YUKON SPECIAL OLYMPICS. PHOTO BY KATHY JONES-GATES





THE PINK CANILLAC, SPONSORED BY KLONDIKE TRANSPORT, PLACED FOURTH OVERALL AND WERE FIRST IN THE ALL-FEMALE CATEGORY IN A TIME OF 13:20. TEAM MEMBERS WERE JUDY KELLY, MARIE WALSH, ROSE LAMB, KATHY LANGEVIN AND ANGELA RICHIE.

PHOTO BY KATHY JONES-GATES

TRIPLE J HOTEL WON THE "MOST ORIGINAL DESIGN" PRIZE.

PHOTO BY KATHY JONES-GATES

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MUSEUM AUCTION BIG SUCCESS

by Louise Ranger

The Museum's annual auction on September 17 turned out to be a big sell-out. Not only well attended with proceeds totalling over \$5800.00, the auction donations were of a high quality and numerous. Grant Hartwick proved to be an animated and witty auctioneer, and those in attendance appeared, at least, to be having "a swell time."

About 65 people attended, vying for those good deals. Up for grabs were art pieces as well as pieces of art (rumour has it that both Paula Hassard and Karen Dubois baked their cheesecakes "with loving hands, naked in their kitchen"), "Martha Black marblelite bookends" and Pierre Berton books, helicopter rides and Harlequin romances. But by far, the most popular items up for grabs had to be bundles, upon bundles of "dusters." As Grant put it, after auctioning off western novel bundle number 8, what better buy in the "land of literacy." Besides, if worse comes to worse, for \$5.00 you could "use them for kindling."

There were many "ooohs" and "ahhhs" as

Trevor Van Rumpt strutted his stuff as assistant. Known affectionately to Grant as his Geisha, nothing phased Trevor, whether modelling the latest fashions from Wild and Wooly or trying to pawn off yet another duster series (did you ever pay for any duster you acquired, Trevor?).

What Grant Hartwick lacked in professionalism (he sold the Canadian flag for a mere \$22.00!!). he more than made up for in spirit and wit. How many auctioneer's do you know who can imitate a vacuum cleaner...and a clogged one at that? All in all the atmosphere was informal and lively, with those in attendance occassionally (O.K. quite often) heckling the auctioneer. Lucky it's not a thankless job. After all. I think Grant was one of the few to leave the auction without a bundle of dusters.

The obvious success of this year's auction was due in part to the donations, those in attendance and to those who volunteered their time to help organize the event. Truly, "a good time was had by all" in support of a good cause.

by Dan Davidson

One might travel the Dempster Highway to Eagle Plains just for the view, for there is some truly spectacular scenery to be seen between the Klondike River Lodge turn-off to the northern road and Kilometre 371. With camping, hotels, gas, laundry and restaurant facilities, this lodge is strategically located at the halfway point of the road, where most ordinary travellers will want to stop before beginning the next leg of the trip.

It is also the home of several photographic displays, organized by the ubiquitous Dick North, who seems to leave little museums wherever he touches down in his Yukon travels.

The most famous of the Eagle Plains displays is devoted to the so-called "Mad Trapper", the elusive Albert Johnson. about whom North has written two books. The photographs are set up in the hotel's Millen Lounge. Taken together with captions and brief write-ups, the 40 photos and documents form a selfdirected display which carries the interested reader through the various phases of the career and trackdown of the mysterious fugitive.

Hotel manager Lome Terry says that the display attracts a fair amount of visitor interest. It has been with the hotel since the beginning of its existence in 1979 and is starting to show little signs of needing a touch-up here and there. Terry says the display is used in conjunction with the Alaska Films docu-drama style film, Challenge to Be Free.

North isn't too keen on this film, even if its original script was written by the Yukon government leader, Tony Penikett, in his earlier incarnation as a writer. He says the ending is quite inaccurate. Viewers will probably be reminded of the old Walt Disney "true-life adventure" films of the 1950s. It's a factual but somewhat light-hearted approach to a rather grim

subject, though North grants that it's a better choice than the much-loathed Death Hunt of the 1970s.

Terry says that he also runs a number of other films on northern themes, including one on the Lost Patrol, the members of which are buried in Fort McPherson, further on up the road at Km 557.

The Lost Patrol, subject of another North book, has its own display next door in the restaurant. It's not as extensive as the other, and is a bit more awkward to get at, what with having to lean over people's tables to read things, but it does give a rough outline of the story and show what policemen of the day would have looked like in their gear and on the

Two other displays line the corridors of the hotel, which lead to 32 rooms named after famous northerners. North collected a set of prints on the Great Reindeer Drive and also on the "Cat trains" associated with oil exploration on the Dempster Route during the 1950s. He

credits Dawsonite John Gould with taking most of the pictures that are featured in the latter set.

Terry says that he has, over the years, encountered a fair number of people who have some personal knowledge of the reindeer drive and who have returned to see the old scenes or fill in stories told them by their parents. No doubt they will be happy to see the publication of North's next book, which will be on that subject.



MUSEUM MERCI!!

On September 17, 1989 the Dawson City Museum and Historical Society held its annual auction. The event was well attended and proceeds totalled over \$5800.00. We'd like to thank all those who donated items to be auctioned, all those who helped the committee and all those who attended the auction.

Thanks go to:

***Gold Rush Inn; Alex Seely; Hougens Photo; Irly Bird; Air North; Shoppers Drug Mart; Dr. Helmut Schoener; McClelland and Stewart Pub.; Taku Hotel; Marina's; Qualita Dry Cleaners; Irene Crayford; Karen Dubois; Downtown Hotel; R.C.M.P.; Alive; Regina Hotel; Raven's Nook; Peter Wright and Associates; Canadian Air; Beringian Books; City of Dawson; Food Fair, A Stitch in Time; Paula Hassard; Midnight Sun Hotel; Trail of '98 Minigolf; Super-Valu; Triple J Hotel; Yukon Gallery; General Store; Eldorado Hotel; Monte Carlo; Gas Shack; Leslie Peircy; Trish Malfair; Art Webster; Stan Cohen Publishing; Pauline Scott; Kelly Douglas; Northern Wonders; Beaver Lumber; Guggieville; Unlimited Treasures; Wild and Wooly; K.V.A.;

Lillian Loponen-Stephenson; Gammie Trucking; Winton's Machine Shop; Deneau Publishers; Thomson and Iles; TransNorth Turbo Air; Dawson Sewing Centre; Deiter Reinmuth; Farmer's Market; Coffe, Tea and Spice; Arctic Inland Resources; Integraphics; Arctic Drugs/Norline Coaches; Pat Paton; Northwestel; Volunteer Fire Dept. Food For Thought; Klondike Nugget and Ivory; Nancy's; Nimbus Publishing; Arctic Cotton: Trading Post; Horwoods Office Supply: MacKenzie Petroleum; Stoddart Publishing; Pat Russell; Dick North.**

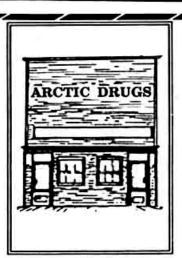
Thanks to the helpers:

***Robbie Van Rumpt; Dennis Montgomery; Val Baggaley; Louise Ranger; Trevor Van Rumpt; Nikki Walsh: Melanie Needham; Chris Sorg. ***

***And our wonderful auctioneer, Grant Hartwick.

Thanks also to all those who may have been missed on this list.

> Renee Mayes President D.C.M.& H.S.



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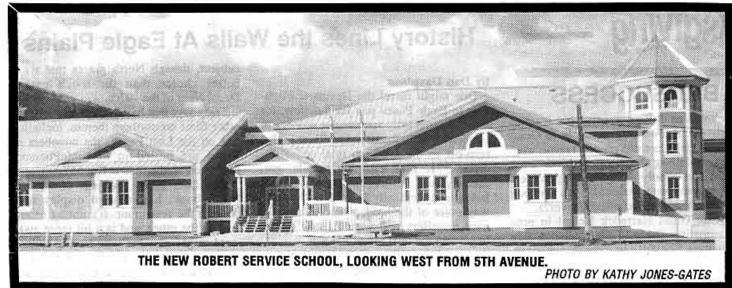




The Klondike Visitors' Association would like to thank the following for their assistance with the Great Klondike International Outhouse Race and the Klondike Mixed Slo-Pitch Tournament:

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> > A big Thank-You to all!



SCHOOL SETS A

by Dan Davidson

Finally, more than three years after the planning for it first began, the revised edition of the Robert Service School has been officially opened for business. Ceremonies were held in the scoold gymnasium on September 16 before a large crowd of parents, students and other interested parties. Platform guests for the event included Piers McDonald, the Minister of Education, Art Webster, Klondike's M.L.A., Ted Harrison, mayor Peter Jenkins and Chief Angie Joseph.

The ceremony opened with the singing of the national anthem, led by the school choir which was organized a month early this year in order to practice for the occasion. Principal Jim Montgomery introduced the guests and turned the microphone over to Jane Olnyk, the chairperson of the local committee which assisted in the pre-consturction planning of the building. The committe was made up of members of the various user groups who had an interest in the building, and it took a united front approach to getting for Dawson the best school it possibly could. Both Olnyk and Art Webster cited the efforts of the committee in producing the school in its present form, a form substantially different from that initially offered by the Government Services Branch of the Y.T.G.

During his short speech Piers McDonald indicated that the new facility, which cost over \$10 million altogether, has had visitors from all over Western Canada, most of whom have raved about the building. People from governments in those places have contacted him later to tell him that the school sets a new high standard and, please, would he not do that again. That McDonald was very responsible for the realization of the committee's dreams was recognized by Mayor Jenkins, who presented him with a special service award from the City of Dawson.

Jenkins and Joseph unveiled the dedication plaque, which reads: To the citizens of Dawson, past, present and furture.

Another unveiling was equally significant. Ted Harrison was commissioned to do a painting of the new school. He accepted the fee offered, but then produced a canvas twice that size and worth which will hang in the school foyer. He admitted to taking "a few liberties with the colours." He has granted the school persmission to have a poster made from the picture, and those will be on sale later this year.

Of equal value and significance was the announcement from reunion chairperson Myrna Butterworth, that June's Dawson School Reunion had generated a surplus and that the profit of nearly \$5,000.00 was to be given over to the school committee to form the basis of a scholar-ship for Dawson graduates.

The painting and the scholarship were acknowledged on behalf of the student body by Atlin Bowie and Gary Zeller, members of this year's grade 12 class.

In a surprise move, school committee chairperson Jannice Johnson announced that the new ancillary room, a mini-gym and all purpose room which is one of the new features of the school, was to be dedicated to Joan Bilton, who had represented the Recreation Board on the

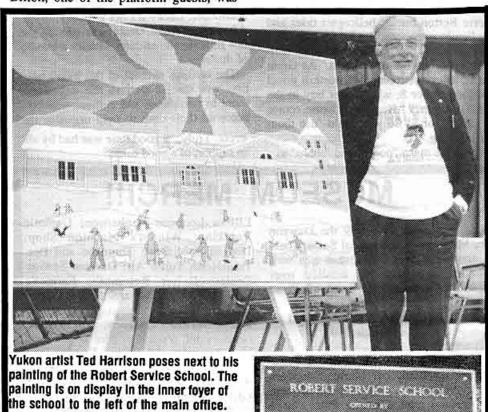
design committee, and has fought hard for recreation in Dawson over many years. Bilton, one of the platform guests, was

PHOTO BY CLAIR DRAGOMAN

nearly speechless as she received the plaque.

Tom Byrne, the summer season voice of Rovert W. Service, recited "The Spell of the Yukon" in commemoration of the school name.

Readers will recall that the classroom sections of the new school were actually occupied in May of last year. Work continued on the Ancillary Room alterations to the old school during the summer, and the parts of that building which were not to be recycled into the new school were slowly moved off the lot to other parts of town, where they are being turned into hotel rooms, carpenter ships and duplex housing units. Landscaping and playground construction was completed, as well as the final paint job. This ceremony marks the official opening of the new building as it sits alone on the lot.





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COLOUR IT GOLD

by Kathy Jones-Gates

The majestic old Commissioner's residence on Front street has received a new coat of paint...GOLD. The new coat of paint has received a mixed reaction from around the territory. For as long as most people recall, it has always been white. So why the change in colour???

Klondike National Historic Sites has as its commitment preservation and interpretation of the history of significant segments of Canada's past, as it relates to the Klondike Gold Rush. The Commissioner's residence is being considered for restoration in time for the forthcoming Yukon centennials in 1996-1998. One of the restoration components of any historic building is to try to determine the original features of a building, and that includes the exterior paintwork.

According to local Superintendent Al Fisk, a pooling of local assistance from Giovanni Castellarin construction foreman, coupled with the efforts of Guy Masson, a restoration architect with the Canadian Parks Service who took samples of the various paint layers from the building's wood surface, provided David Neufeld with "evidence" in his efforts to determine the chronology of painting done to the building's exterior.

Neufeld is Yukon Historian with the Prairie and Northern Region of the Canadian Parks Service in Winnipeg. His meticulous research of the Auditor Generals reports resulted in much more being known about the times and paint colours used on the Commissioner's Residence.

Until 1913-14 all work on the Commissioner's Residence, especially the exterior paintwork, was undertaken by government employees. However, in

1913-15 a T. Milne received a contract to paint the exterior gold. The contract was worth \$3,000. Neufeld indicated that the structure received three paint jobs. It was painted following the fire in 1906, and in 1913 a primer coat of red was applied and left on for a year. It was then painted gold, likely in the spring of 1915.

The Canadian Parks Service plans to restore the Commissioner's Residence to focus on the time when Martha and George Black occupied the place, 1912-16. It was painted gold when they resided there.

Fisk calls David Neufeld a "super sleuth" in tracking down the paint colours, and Neufeld feels his own efforts paid dividends when he discovered 2 colour slides of the building in the University of Alaska Archives in Fairbanks. The slides were taken by Ernest Patty. Patty lived in Dawson during the late 1940's and 1950's. When the Sisters of St. Anne occupied the building, he would show home movies there. The two slides show the building painted gold. In addition, corroboration of the gold colour was made by noted Dawsonite Pierre Berton during his visit here with Front Page Challenge recently.

In June 1954 the Sisters of St. Anne had the building repainted to its familiar white. It has remained white until this year, when a painting contract completed in August returned it to its former gold colour, with white trim and the green skirting boards. The gold, which blends in well with the glorious fall colours currently surrounding Dawson, was also reflected in the colours in portions of the interior. The reception and drawing rooms were clad in a lustrious striped gold wallpaper and the floor with deep gold carpets.

KLONDIKE PLACER MINERS ASSOCIATION - TENTH ANNUAL STEAK DINNER AND DANCE, 1989.

THANK YOU! The Klondike Placer Miners Assoc. (K.P.M.A.) would like to thank the following people and businesses who gave so generously of their time or made donations of goods and equipment. With your help the 10th annual K.P.M.A. Steak Dinner and Dance of July 28, 1989 was a huge success.

The City of Dawson-Mgr., Rec. Director, & Crew; Alex Seely-Keenocks Placers & Johnson-Matthey; Farmers Market; Dawson General Store; Robert Service School; Eldorado Hotel; Downtown Hotel; Triple J Hotel; Dawson City Gold Show; Alan Fry, Marion Schmidt; Dawn Sailer; Vicki Brown, Samantha Burns, and all; Todd Taylor, Ross Sailer, Pete Erickson; Mary Seely, Donna, Murray & Stephanie Crockett; Gordon & Brenda Caley; Sheila & Paul Favron, Olive, Bernie Walters; Arctic Inland Resources; Laser Holdings (Len Maruk); Klondike Sun; Jim Leary; Tina Miller; Yukon Jacks Band-Clint Carpenter.

Our thanks to Ruth Ann Risby and daughter and all others who stamped hands and gave out plates. To bartender Brandi Maude and son Mark, Dominique and all her volunteer helpers. To Monna Sprokreeff for looking after the potato salad and coffee, to Lynn Moiliet for looking after the cabbage salad and tomatoes. To Sandra Rodness, Kathy Burns and all the ladies who served the food. Also a special thanks to all the Ladies who brought sweets. Such generous contributions that were made to the sweet table was a real delight to young and old. Our thanks to the K.P.M.A. members and all the others who heoped set up and clean up, and in every other way. To David Millar, his Skagway Runners and all other volunteers for a job well done on security. Our steaks were well looked after by Jerry Klein and his Teck Crew, plus Lowell Bleiler, Don Cox and other willing volunteers. My special thanks to Mary and Alex Seely for all their help. If I missed anyone, please accept our apologies.

SPECIAL THANKS goes to those people and businesses who donated such wonderful door prizes. These make our evening events

very special.

Noreen and Art Sailor

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COMING OF AGE

by Joanne Smith

Alzheimer's disease is a brain disorder of unknown cause and is characterized by progressive and irreversible loss of intellectual function. Dementia is a part of Alzheimer's and describes a group of symptoms. It is not the name of a disease which causes the symptoms. Dementia means a loss or impairment of mental powers and comes from two Latin words, which mean 'away' and 'mind'. Dementia does not mean crazy - it was chosen by the medical profession as the least offensive and most accurate term to describe this illness.

The person suffering from a dementing illness has difficulty remembering things, although he/she may be skilled at concealing this. Sometimes the onset is gradual. In fact, family members may not notice at first that something is wrong. Early memory problems are sometimes mistaken for stress, depression or even mental illness. In an illness in which the dementia is progressive, the person's memory will gradually become worse, and their troubles cannot be concealed. It becomes clear that the damage to the brain affects many functions, including memory, motor functions (co-ordination, writing, walking), and speaking.

It is important for those around a person with Alzheimer's or a dementing illness to remember that many of the person's behaviours are beyond their control. The changes that occur are not the result of an unpleasant personality grown old; they are the result of damage to the brain and are usually beyond the control of the

Next month, I'll cover how Alzheimer's disease is diagnosed and what some of the research has uncovered about possible causes and treatment.

Community News

ARTHER P

 A big thanks to KVA for a generous donation of show tickets to the Palace Grand. We had a great evening, starting with a barbeque at the Lodge, followed by the show. There were approximately 40 people at the dinner and 25 at the show.

• The Lodge has been quite busy this summer, with an average occupancy of eight people for the 10 rooms. Summer visitors included Patricia Lindgren and Leon Gerwasik, both from McCauley Lodge in Whitehorse. Of the eight residents, five of those have physical disabilities, such as blindness, hearing impairments, memory loss and confusion, and broken limbs.

 As of April 1, 1990, the Lodge will have some funds to hire a part-time person to do programming for seniors. Hopefully, we can expand seniors' services to include

exercise classes, workshops and card or game clubs! I would appreciate all ideas for the development of this area.

 The Lodge held a foot clinic in August, and given the positive response of the participants, we will hold another in October. The clinic offers soaking, cleaning, nail care and foot massage! Stay tuned. It is free, and we offer coffee, tea and goodies while you soak! Sorry - this is for seniors only.

 Big thanks go to Beryl Zaykowski for her donation of wonderful flowers from her garden. The residents treasure them!

 To John Wierda, thank you for the donation of delicious garden carrots and gigantic cabbage and cauliflower.

 Thanks to the Triple J for trays of finger food and delicious cake.

 Happy September Birthday greetings go out to Marion Hadley, Fred Caley and Jeanne Rudniski!

FIRE! Or was it?

by Palma Bergér

Well, that is that, thought most of the town...

The International Outhouse Race was over. The dedication of the new school was over; Front Page Challenge had been presented in the Palace Grand Theatre; a couple of people had got their moose....So, now we settle down ready for the approach of winter. The last excitement of summer was over.

The school principal, Jim Montgomery, prepared the last outdoor barbeque of the season. A sharp-eyed neighbour noticed smoke coming out of the gables at one end of Jim's house. But no sign of the Montgomery's. Jim's barbeque was at the other end of the house. Panic! The neighbour phoned the Fire Department. The neighbour's wife calmly ran outside and into the lane. The neighbour called to his wife in his deep voice, 'Where are you going?" "It's okay," the wife called back. The neighbour again yelled at his wife; this time he had lost his deep manly voice, and the voice was pitched a lot higher.

"Don't worry," called his wife, "I'm not going into Mongomery's!"

"Where <u>are</u> you going?" squeaked the manly voice of the neighbour at his uncontrollable wife.

"I'm going to see their neighbour!" called back the wife.

She calmly ran up the stairs to Grabowski's, flung open the door and yelled, "Tony! Patti! Are you home?" As quick as a wink Pattie appeared clutching baby in arms. "What's the matter?"

Calmly, the neighbour's wife explained the situation.

right and the railboom

"Oh, my God!" said Patti. Clutching the baby, she ran outside to view the serious situation of the neighbour's house on fire. By this time the police had appeared. So had Jim. The Fire Department had been notified.

When the neighbour called the Fire Dept., Fire Chief Dennis Montgomery answered the phone. Dennis had been

When the neighbour called the Fire Dept., Fire Chief Dennis Montgomery answered the phone. Dennis had been cooking the evening meal. "What?" he said, "a fire at Montgomery's?" Startled, he gazed around the kitchen, and could see no out of control fire. "Where did you say the fire was?" he quiried..."Oh, Montgomery's! Where do they live?...oh, that Montgomery's."

Quickly he responded and with fire sirens sounding the Fire Dept. descended on Jim Montgomery's in no time, to be greeted by a concerned but puzzled Jim.

In the meantime, Jim's wife Pat was having her anxious moments too. "The Fire Dept is coming here, you say? But I haven't vacuumed! There is a mess in the living-room. I haven't had time to vacuum!"

Hoses began to unravel along with her composure.

Jessica Montgomery arrived and explained that all the kids had left the Boardwalk to watch the fire. Loss of business for the Boardwalk.

"Where's my cat?" asked a worried Jessica.

"Oh, my floor," said her mother. It turned out though, her floor was a mess. Her boys had sent her a surprise parcel with some goodies inside. The goodies were hidden deep within a mountain of confetti. When she ripped the parcel open the confetti flew all over the living room.

Word got out that there was smell of something electrical burning. "Oh, my gosh," gasped Pat. "No" said she, as her expression changed. "That's good They put out electrical fires with foam. so they won't use water on my floor. Nothing will get wet. Oh good."

"Is my hampster all right?" continued Jessica.

The Boardwalk kids had gathered across the road at Crayford's. "Wow, look at the

truck. Look at that water! Are they going to turn it on the house?"

"Please no" quietly groaned Pat. "I haven't vacuumed the floor."

The firemen climbed up the ladder to the eaves from where the smoke was coming. Removing the grid, they flashed their lights into the recess revealed. Definitely smoke. They traced it back. Right back. To the barbeque.

It turned out that the smoke from Jim's barbeque had got up under the roof, smeaked along and came out the other end. All was well. No fire.

"Thank god," said Pat. "I hadn't vacuumed the floor." Pattie returned to her once again safe home. The firemen wound up hoses, and they and the police departed.

Jim, having been assured by the neighbour's wife, that the house had really had a close call with fire for a previous principal, eyed the house ruefully as he packed up the barbeque food and took it indoors:

"I hope I can live this down," he said.

Now, I for one won't ever repeat this story, and I trust all you who hear of it, won't say anything either.

(editor's note: Say anything? About what?)





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INSIDE / OUTSIDE

Tom Byrne enjoyed another busy season reciting the poetry and relating the life of the poet, Robert Service, at the Service Cabin on 8th Avenue. Dick North, who gained national coverage on Front Page Challenge for his book on The Mad Trapper, has once more entertained visitors from all over the world at the Jack London Interpretation Centre. Both have now headed south - to Whitehorse and beyond -

There are a couple of dates to go into the history books: our first snow of the season was falling when Dawsonites awoke Wednesday morning, September 20. The first frost of the season in Dawson was the morn-ing of September 15. However, the snow has melted, the trees are shrugging off their golden mantle of leaves, and we are currently receiving a mixed bag of weather conditions - rain, sun, frosty mornings... but no further snow flurries!

MARRIED!

Michael Kurth, son of Frank and Gerda, and Ursual Mundschin, daughter of Frank and Trudi, would like to thank the loving people who made our marriage so beautiful and unique: Canada Parks Service for the use of the Robert Service cabin; Tom Byrne for the idea, back in June; Vi Campbell for the very appropriate ceremony, her advice and hospitality; the people of Dawson: Margot Anderson, Linda Beirlmeier, Sally Derry, Al Fisk, Barb and Pat Hogan, Joanne Hunston, Rose Margeson, Gerard Parsons, Uta Reilly, Don Wilson, The Swiss Connection, Heinz, Claudia, Martin, Alexandra, Marco, Rachi, Merci Vielmal. Special thanks to Ursula Kurth-Parsons for arranging a million and one details which made August 28, 1989 a most memorable day for us. We love you.

A fond farewell to Laura Cave, returning to work in Toronto after a tremendous season as pianist at Gertie's. Her sensitive keyboarding attracted the Top Brass of Front Page Challenge Production and she has been asked to touch bases at CBC Toronto with a possible position as a rehearsal planist. Isn't it wonderful that an upcoming Canadian artiste can find recognition in The Klondike?

Beryl Zaykowski had her son, Raymond, and his family - wife Linda, and children Kim and Cathy, visiting from Ontarlo. They regularly visit Dawson during Discovery Days, joining in the various events and taking home some special "souvenirs" from their participation







by Palma Berger

Thanks to the people who helped solve my short wave radio problem. It seems that these solar flares that have been erupting so constantly this year cause magnetic storms which shoot ions into the atmosphere. These ions sure foul up the radio waves. They can cut your short wave radio reception and another time they can cause you to receive an unlikely TV station, however briefly. But they have been giving us brilliant northern lights. The flares, I am told, are going to be around for a few years.

This has been a great month for several Bear Creekers, as the well-digger has been up and digging down to water level for several households. Having running water is a feeling of real luxury.

It has been a month for barbeques. Sally Robinson held a farewell barbeque for Robin Morrison, who is leaving us for Whitehorse, where she will further her studies at Yukon College.

The Bergers hosted a barbeque for the members of the Eagle Museum when they were over for a visit to Dawson Museum. The weather was just great and the majority of wasps were away for the weekend.

Two huge flocks of cranes and a flock of geese flew over the other day, so maybe they know that winter really is coming. The ducks are saying nix to flying south; they are still enjoying the slough.

The weather has been unbelievably warm for a longer period this year. Here it is, mid-September, and the lilac bushes are blooming again, the peas have produced a second crop. The domestic raspberries just do not know when to stop producing. It is unreal.

Myrna and Les Butterworth had former Bear Creekers staying with them for a couple of days. Roy and Ilmi Butterworth, who used to live in the cabin now owned by the Hampls, when Roy was dredgemaster for YCGC.

Speaking of Les, once again he grew a plum tree that survived for two winters, until the hungry mice finished it off one winter. He replanted again last year, and while they bloomed, he did not get any fruit this year.

We were so proud when our plum tree and apple tree survived the -50 degrees last January. But there is a rabbit in the garden. He has helped mow the lawn. He has dug into the garden. He has helped himself to carrots. But he did not have to touch the plum tree. He took a twig off it. If he touches either the plum tree or the apple tree again, he is going to meet with an ignominious end. There will be no glorious rabbit stew to mark his passing in a dignified or worthwhile way. No when I am finished with him, his mangled body will be thrown to the dogs.

And I hope he reads this column, too!

K.N.H.S.

Our season is now nearly at an end. We'd like to say good-bye to our Visitor Activities staff and contractors and wish them all a safe and wonderful winter.

At the Visitor Center many thanks to Site Attendants Eileen Leier, Dawne Mitchell and Jeannine Brideau. To all our Historic Park. Interpreters thanks so very much: Carleen Sheerin, Rose Margeson, Maureen Peterson, Peggy Amendola, Brenda Baxter, Glenda Bolt, Marvin Dubois, Jay Armitage, Carrie Haffey, Marcia Jordan, Ella Patay, Vanessa Moi, Myriam Morrin and Marie-Claude Blais. Thanks so much for a job well done to our contractors: Tom Byrne at Robert Service Cabin, Jacki Johnson at Dredge #4 and Herb Dewald at the Old Post Office. It was great to work with Heritage North again this season out at Bear Creek. Thanks so much to Donna Stutter and her crew. Thanks to you all.

Until September 29, we are offering daily:

1:00 pm - leaving from the Visitor Centre the Town Core Walking Tour

2:30 pm - at the Palace Grand Theatre the Movie City of Gold

3:00 pm - a tour of the Palace Grand

Theatre 4:00 pm - a grounds and waterfront tour at the Str. Keno

After September 29, special tours may be arranged (if staff is available) by appointment by calling the KNHS office at 993-5462, Monday to Friday during office hours, and asking for Linda

Bierlmeier. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions about our Visitor Activities Programs please don't hesitate to contact us and talk to the Chief of Visitor Activities - Linda Bierlmeier.

We wish all Dawsonites and Visitors a great winter and the best of luck in 1990.

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KLONDIKE LIFE

Inside/Gütside

SURPRISE - SURPRISE!!! We are not sure who received the greatest surprise on September 11. Paying a welcome and unannounced visit back to Dawson was Jan (Brown) McCandless. Jan and husband Robert and son Devitt now live in Ottawa, where Jan works for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in their International Program, on a project to train Local Government Officials in China (a far cry from her work with both the City of Dawson and Whitehorse). Attending the recent meeting of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in Whitehorse, Jan visited with ex-Dawsonites Dan and Val Drummond in Haines Junction, and drove to Dawson to check up on how the town is progressing! Jan claimed to be somewhat stunned at the changes, and had to stop at Barb Hanulik's place for coffee and a chance to catch up on all the news and especially the building boom since she last visited four years ago.

Where have all the young people gone? Well, here are some: gone to B.C. for school are Jason Barber, Tony Berger and Sandra and Greg Kehoe, and Tarl MacKenzie. Charmane Grandy is off to... Newfoundland (or Nova Scotia?). Off to Yukon College are Cindy Braga, Noel Braga and Monique Brickner.

Linda Bierlmeier, Jan Gammie and Akio Saito recently returned from Austria, having promoted the 1990 World Gold Panning Champlonships, to be held in Dawson City. We say good-bye to Robin Morrison and son Sol. Robin is moving to Whitehorse to attend Yukon College. Aerobics will have to carry on without you, Robin.

Back on visit to Dawson was Joe Keenan. In 1947, Joe worked at Yukon Gold Placers. He remembers floating 90 miles from Thistle Creek to Dawson on a raft he built, to be able to fly out for his sister's funeral.

Congratulations to Len and Rona Miller who celebrated their Thirtyfifth Wedding Anniversary on the weekend of the Klondike Outhouse Race.

Mary Lunde was up for a very short visit.

WELCOME HOME! Brian and Holly Reeves, Charlssa, Jennie and Robert are home following a sixweek vacation spent almost entirely in England. Brian's Mom and Dad, Stan and Eileen Reeves, celebrated their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary on September 2. Holly reported that the weather was great, the beaches wonderful, and the Devonshire clotted cream "just yummy"!!!

Business people leaving are Lowry and Barbara Toombs. They leave Dawson for their new home at Crag Lake at Carcross. Lowry and Barbara have run Maximilian's on Front Street for five years, but will now be going into the wholesale end of the business. We will be seeing them up here now and again. Chris Sorg is taking over the management of Maximillians.



VISITOR'S FROM EAGLE ALASKA

by Palma Berger

The Dawson Museum had a return visit from the members of the museum at Eagle, Alaska at the beginning of the month. Elva, Jean, Doug and Cathie and their two children came over by boat and car.

On the business side of things they had a meeting with Val Baggaley, director, on how to clean and close down a seasonal museum. Pauline Scott of Parks took them on a behind the scenes tour of the Old Post Office, Palace Grand, and the Museum's stroage area at Bear Creek.

Peter Menzies gave them a workshop on volunteer management at which the Museum has had great experience. On the fun side they enjoyed the town, and had a Saturday night BBQ at Bear Creek at Berger's. Here they were joined by museum members and Dr. Richard Harrington, paleontologist from Ottawa Museum, and Ted Silberburg who was up here at the request of the Yukon Government to do a marketing study of Yukon museums. He is from Lord Cultural Resources Planning and Management Inc. of Toronto.

On the Sunday a potluck mexican fiesta was held in Minto Park for members and their families. For the children, there were games, and a pinata for them to smash and dive for the candies.

Glorious sunny weather helped in giving our visitors an enjoyable weekend.

NEWS FROM THE ROCK

by Marjie Mann

Rock Creek Correspondent

Ah - how about that crisp autumn air? Yet, summer was great, but now it's over and time to get back to reality. Yes, digging potatoes really reminds a Rock Creek resident of just why they call it Rock Creek. Wish my spuds were as big as some of those rocks - maybe we should change it to Boulder Creek...

Did you all know CFYT has made it to Rock Creek and Henderson's? Hurrah to Redneck Ray, who got it all together for us - and I don't think anyone is happier than Ray, who has been working on this for some time. The lines and equipment and stuff are over at our place, with the antenna on the outhouse roof - looks like someone with a TV is living in the outhouse!

Welcome to Britney Schmidt (did I spell that right, Wanda?), the beautiful little girl Wanda and John brought home from Whitehorse. I hear motherhood agrees with Wanda. Way to go!

The first night of Craft Night was enthusiastically attended by quite a few of the local gals on September 12. Gail Kreitzer hosted, and it was great to see her back after her year away. Gail says it's good to be home and she's happy to be working with the kindergarten kids again. Some of the happenings mentioned at Craft Night: Chris Sorg and son Sean will be batching while Nancy and Kyna head east to visit with family. Mitch and

Ron Ryant have a new roof and were looking forward to moving out of the camper and back into the house. Mitch's sister, Brenda, bids farewell. After a fun summer in Dawson, she's going to top it off with a three-month educational trip to Switzerland. Daryl Buckley will be working at the hardware store again starting in October. That will be a nice, familiar face to see! Jenny Docken is back in "civilization" after spending the summer with Bud and Gord Burns at their mine and Wendy Burns has gone to take her place. It was sure great to see all these friends again - tend to lose touch in the summer. Mind you, I didn't see a whole lot of craft work being done ...

Parents of kindergarten kids are looking forward to maybe having the bus bring the kids back home at lunch time. First-level approval has apparently been given - hope it goes all the way through!

Lots of work is happening around the Hogan house - siding, construction, etc. Poor Pat, though - he finally figured out he just couldn't do it all himself - and then had a heck of a time hiring help! However, he did get help and things are moving right along. Barb is pretty happy opening windows and everything!

Well, as the last of the RVs head out and the coloured leaves blanket the ground, we bid a fond *adieu* to the Summer of '89. And to the month's news. Bye for now.

- IN MEMORIUM -ROBERT JOHN CHRISTIANSEN

September 10, 1970 - September 18, 1988.

It seems like only yesterday
I seen your smilin face
And now you are gone from me
No one shall ever take your place
I've always cared and loved you son
Thru all the good and bad
You were my world, my pride and joy
The only son I had.

I know you're walking with the Lord and with your grandpa too
It takes away some of the hurt I feel
To know he's there with you.
They say the pain will ease in time
Oh how I hope it's true
Because it is so hard for me
To be away from you.

And when the Lord does call me
I will come and hold your hand
Then we shall walk together
You and I in the promised land.
But until then I have of you
All of the good memories
Of all the times we shared together
Which no one can take from me.

Love, from Mom